

# ROCC Dark Sky Committee Report

ROCC Business/Member Meeting September 19, 2024

## Background:

- DarkSky International certifications have set the standard in protecting the dark sky resource that residents of the area enjoy.
- Since 2017 the Dark Sky Committee has partnered with local jurisdictions (Town of Ridgway, Top of the Pines, plus others such as Ouray County and Ridgway State Park) to support Dark Sky certifications by DarkSky International.
- Actively involved to influence OC Planning Commission updates to Master Plan to include additional protections to Ouray County's Dark Sky Asset and Natural Resource.

## Accomplishments YTD:

- Continued to provide Dark Sky related contributions to the ROCC Ad Hoc Master Plan committee – Dark Sky language in first draft of OC MP
- Very successful joint Town of Ridgway and ROCC Dark Sky presentation event held with invited speaker Aaron Watson at the Decker Room, Ridgway April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Dark Sky outreach event held in silent partnership with Ridgway State Park Aug 31.
- Supported Ouray County work session that prioritized Planning Commission task to update Dark Sky protections in County LUC.
- Proposed Ouray County and Town of Ridgway Proclamation of June 2024 as a Dark Sky Month
- Presented concerns about Historic Fire House lighted green house at night to Ridgway Town council – Sept 11. ROCC may have to provide a formal concern to the Town if the issue is not resolved or Dark Sky International raises an issue.

## Upcoming Plans:

- Possible Planning for a Dark Sky event with the Town of Ridgway in conjunction with Ridgway's independent film Fest in Nov 2024.
- Ridgway State Park may need help with their Dark Sky certification effort and will be coordinating volunteers to help in a similar fashion to Town of Ridgway.
- Provide Dark Sky recommended protections to HOA's in Ouray County