COLORADO COLLEGE EV120 & THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN LAND LIBRARY

JUNE 2016
We arrived on Monday, June 6th and pitched our tents in the corrals. The next day we hiked up to the top of Reinecker Ridge to practice navigation and landscape photography.
Our course, titled “Visual Environmental Communication”, encompasses a variety of subjects from climate change science and observational drawing, to GPS navigation and graphic design. The goal of the course is similar to the goal of Climate Odyssey; to practice the skills required to communicate climate change information in a visually engaging way.
Though no two days are the same in such an interdisciplinary course, we did practice observational drawing for at least part of each day we spent at Buffalo Peaks Ranch. CSU professor Erika Osborne (right image, gray hat) visited on Thursday and gave a presentation about her career as an environmental artist. She also shared some drawing tips before joining us for dinner and s'mores.
A visit to the Windy Ridge Bristlecone Pine Scenic Area just above Alma, CO was a highlight.
After a snowy hike up we spent an hour drawing the majestic bristlecone pines residing at 12,500 feet. Some of these trees have clung to this ridge for more than 1,000 years.
We completed a few hours of service work clearing out corrals for future campers and enjoyed a delicious dutch oven chili dinner.
We were treated to stunning sunsets every night once the afternoon storms cleared. The sky on our last night at the Ranch was particularly spectacular.
It was an inspiring week and we can’t wait to return in July!