

The Mola Lab at Colorado State University

A Forest and Rangeland Stewardship Bee Ecology and Extension (FRSBEE) Research Group



The Mola Lab at Colorado State University is a research group specializing in bee and pollinator conservation and ecology. We use population genetics, field methods, spatial data, and more to uncover unknown components in pollinator life history and address applied conservation challenges.

Exciting projects include rearing bumble bee species in the lab, using radio telemetry to find wild bumble bee nests, and using nesting blocks to study solitary bee populations. Our lab also specializes in outreach and extension – making use of the dizzying array of beautiful insect species to get people from all ages and walks of life curious and excited about conserving pollinators in Colorado and beyond!

Our work is done in prairies, forests, urban environments, mountain meadows, and everything in between. We strongly value creating a fun and supportive working environment and view ourselves as fortunate stewards of an ecologically sustainable future.



A student learns how to hold a male bumble bee at an outreach day in Denver.

Donations to the lab allow us to purchase new field equipment, update our teaching and outreach materials, host educational events, support student travel, or tackle more ambitious projects like improving our rearing facilities or training the next generation of entomologists by creating new positions for students and research associates.

Please reach out to Dr. John Mola at john.mola@colostate.edu if you're interested in supporting our work or would like to learn more. We thank you for your time and consideration!