



Education Working Group
Wednesday, August 26, 2015
9:00-11:00 AM
CWSD Offices,
777 E. William Street, Suite 110A
Carson City, NV

Attendees:

Linda Conlin, River Wranglers
Brenda Hunt, Carson Water Subconservancy District
Debbie Neddenriep, Carson Water Subconservancy District
Nicole Lutkemuller, Alpine Watershed Group (AWG)
Mary Kay Wagner, NV Div. of Environmental Protection (NDEP)
Courtney Walker, Carson Water Subconservancy District
Chris Katopothis, Nevada Division of Forestry
Niki Cutter, Bureau of Land Management
Rich Wilkinson, Carson City Open Space
Allison Gonzales, Nevada Department of Agriculture
Michelle Hochrein, Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California

1. Welcome & introductions

Ms. Conlin introduced herself and everyone introduced themselves.

2. The Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) USFS Forest Stewardship Program for Nevada input. (20 min)

Funding for this program includes a category for educational materials and workshops. NDF is interested in developing collaborative efforts toward this goal with our partner agencies and organizations, and offer the funding to facilitate such efforts. Your expertise and ideas are invaluable, and are needed to help develop projects that will produce the most benefit for the money spent. I'd like your input and ideas, about specific needs you recognize in Nevada, relevant to educating private landowners and the general public, on the topic of land stewardship.

Chris Katopothis, NDF described the program & how he thinks the education working group could assist in finding projects to fund in this area. Chris explained NDF has funding through USFS – Forest Stewardship Program to develop stewardship plans. NDF has Line item for Education Materials and Workshops. Rather than just buy stuff; he's looking to EWG for help injecting creativity and enthusiasm on ways to spend money. He was interested in helping fund demo projects or workshops that get people outside / engaged in learning. There is ~ \$70K available; he envisions the money to funding several 5 – 10 k projects. He mentioned it would be great if these projects involve landowners and provide hands on demonstrations. Chris suggested that a demonstration project could include noxious weeds, revegetation projects or any other kind of land stewardship program. Linda stated that similar projects were conducted in the watershed in the past, where people paid to attend a workshop and then provided the labor and it worked out great. Linda thought there is potential to create pollinator habitat while conducting a workshop with funding from NDF. Chris suggested that NDF may be able to pay for equipment and time. Funding amounts would depend on the projects. NDF is trying to tie projects into wildlife habitat, water quality, erosion control, or it could also have to do with working landscape and harvest. LID on private property may be eligible as well. Chris noted there was not a deadline and that these applications can be submitted anytime. He also noted these projects can be

implemented by NDF or cooperating partners. The funding is federal in origin, and there is no match required; however, a public private partnership is encouraged.

Action: Chris was going to check as to whether funding could be used in CA given it is the headwaters of the watershed.

3. Carson River Snap Shot Day Planning – October 16, 2015 (Mary Kay) (20 min)

- a. Calibration Day was set for **October 13, 2015, 1:30 pm** in CWSRD Conference Room
- b. Participants and Group Leaders
- c. Leader/ Teacher Training set for **October 7, 2015 at 3:30 pm** at Lloyd's Bridge (Carson River Park)

Mary Kay explained that Snapshot Day occurs the first Friday after October 15th every year and entails resource professionals leading groups of students who conduct field studies at 11 locations from the headwaters to the lower watershed (West Fork Carson River in Hope Valley; East Fork Carson River at Hangman's Bridge; Dresslerville (Washoe Site); Confluence of Carson River at River Fork Ranch; Brockliss Slough; Clear Creek at Fuji Park; Lloyd's Bridge at Carson River Park; Dayton Bridge; Ft. Churchill; and Frey Ranch) in the same time period. It is a great experience and gives youth an opportunity to get outside and experience potential resource careers. She noted it's best for 5th grade or higher students.

Snap Shot Day has been held in the Carson River for 9 years, 2015 is the 10th year. Snap Shot Day data is available from NDEP and a report has been in progress and will hopefully be finalized in the next year compiling and analyzing the first 10 years of data. Dates were set for training, calibration and EWG members volunteered to be project leads at Clear Creek (Rich W.), Lloyd's Bridge (Brenda and JP), Ft. Churchill (Linda), Dresslerville (Michele/Justin S.), and the Alpine County sites (Hangman's: Shane and Courtney and Hope Valley: Nicole L).

Calibration Day: October 13, 1:30 - 4:00pm

Teacher Training: October 7, 3:30 – 5:30pm

4. Planning for Conservation Tours (final report due to CWSRD by Dec. 1) (Linda) (15 min)

Conservation tours program has funding left to complete 1 – 2 more projects by the end of the year. Linda mentioned River Wranglers has done such a good job wrapping trees, her challenge is finding sites. Nicole suggested completing tree wrapping projects in the headwaters and Mary Kay said that could be a good idea and she would her superiors. Mary Kay suggested contacting the Lutheran Community Church in Carson City as CWSRD, NDEP and NDWR was giving a talk to them on October 23rd and perhaps they would be a group that would be interested in getting involved. Other EWG members suggested the following potential activities:

- willow staking project,
- a group to assist the DVCD,
- Contact the Healthy Communities Coalition although Linda suggested they she did work with them previously and they hadn't asked to come back after a long, hot day last year; the leaders & students were exhausted.
- Contacting Lynn Zonge about aquatic trail clean up.
- Any ability to plan an activity on Columbus or Veteran's Day when folks are off work?
- Contact Muscle Powered to do a river cleanup day/ trash mob. Debbie said she'd ask at 8/26 meeting. Rich suggested he would take watershed maps to that event.

Action: Linda to utilize suggestions as appropriate. Rich to take watershed maps to Muscle Powered trash mob events.

5. Water Education Group Resources Review (Brenda) (10 min)

The group was shown Water Education Group materials and asked whether they were interested in ordering any of the items. There may be grant monies available to purchase items such as these as SWAG. Mary Kay suggested we wait and really consider our SWAG purchases and suggested this topic be on the next agenda to discuss more in depth with ideas and examples of all potential SWAG.

6. Ethnographic Research Report Summary (Brenda) (10 min)

Brenda summarized the rough draft ethnographic research report completed by Melissa Shaw Granat. She noted that the internship time constraints limited our efforts and that additional research should be conducted in the future. The folks who did participate in the intercept surveys, cultural resource expert interviews, and focus groups had the following in common:

1. They really appreciated being asked
2. They really care about the river
3. There is a language barrier in that they do not receive information and would love such things as the Watershed map translated to Spanish
4. They spend a lot of time at the River; however there is not enough access for large family groups
5. They are concerned about pollution and safety issues for family so they don't go as often.

Brenda recommends looking further afield; and hopes to conduct more research and get information from these populations in Lyon County or Churchill County. There is a possibility of working with UNR language dept to get map translated, or use a translator that completed similar projects at Lake Tahoe. Debbie mentioned the WNC Latino club is very active and might be a good contact for this project. Nicki Cutler, BLM was unsure what materials are offered in Spanish through their office but would get back to the group and also find out if CR Watershed maps could be placed in the BLM Lobby.

Action: Nicki to check on BLM translated outreach materials, and whether CWSRD could have permission to place the Watershed map in the BLM office lobby.

7. Website Update (Brenda) (10 min)

The group was shown the updated version of the Community Resources and Youth Resources sub-navigation on CWSRD's Outreach and Education webpage, and were asked for input and content. Later in the week, Courtney plans to meet with a couple of teachers to align the Watershed Map with NV's content standards. This information will be updated on the website once that process is complete.

Debbie noted she still needed content for River Wranglers Trout in Classroom work, Lesson plans, and photos for page content and sliders. Mary Kay suggested the addition of additional streamside learning pictures/photos. BLM is working on acquiring conservation easements; Nicole suggested she can find out where and status.

Action: Debbie will Add "Kids!" Explore Your Watershed Links and make sure the Content Standards Open Resource/ Programs open in a new window. Ms. Conlin and Debbie plan to meet 8/ 27 to further determine content for Trout in the classroom, etc. Debbie will add a small blurb about ways to get involved with partners & will also add logos for RW, AWG, NDEP, NDF, State Parks, and TNC. Nicole to inform EWG regarding BLM easements.

- 8. Watershed Literacy Final Task. (Brenda) (30 min)** Please check out http://water.epa.gov/action/adopt/earthday_index.cfm and review/provide ideas on adaptation to Carson River Watershed

Due to lack of time this item was put off to a future meeting.

9. Brief Announcements/Three Minute Updates

a. Markleeville Creek Day (Nicole)

Nicole Lutkemuller reported that planning for Markleeville Creek Day (9/12) is in full force and gave everyone flyers. She mentioned a beaver dam will be removed in Hope Valley; and have gotten USFS permission since its 50 feet upstream of long-term monitoring site. She also mentioned fifty CCC members are joining the event. The Native Garden will be finished up at Hot Springs. She asked group that if anyone wants to help lead to let her know. Linda requested to have a flyer sent to her in JPEG format.

b. River Wranglers Round-Up (Linda)

Linda invited everyone to Round up at Dayton State Park on 9/27 from 2 pm – 5pm. She mentioned it will be a fun event with food provided by River Wranglers and that a silent auction is planned. She asked for everyone to RSVP to help better estimate how many people will be coming.

c. NVAPA Low Impact Development (LID) presentation (Brenda)

Brenda, Lynelle Garfield and Lynn Zonge will be presenting LID report to NV APA conference in a 1.5 hour session describing how LID could be a tool for stormwater management throughout Nevada. Lynell will be speaking from Reno will expand on MS4 permit / LID interactions. The presentation will focus on how to get LID into planning process.

d. NWRA Low Impact Development (LID) presentations (Water) (Brenda)

Brenda & Lynn Zonge will also present on the LID report at NWRA's upcoming focusing on the technical aspects and how to start using LID in designs.

e. NWMA presentation (Weeds) (Brenda)

Courtney will be doing a presentation on how CWSD works with our local CWMAs.

f. Update on Aug. 13 meeting re: Watershed-Literacy Survey (Brenda)

Brenda mentioned an August 13 meeting with Mary Kay, Linda and Courtney Walker, that identified next steps for the Watershed Literacy Survey.

g. 319 Grant application (Brenda)

Ms. Hunt let group know CWSD had put in a preproposal to work out next element of survey, what people don't know and where to go next. She wants to move forward to hone in on information; CWSD hopes to get funding to hire consultant to take this analysis to the next level. The application also requests funding to redo interactive map on website; provide new watershed signage indicating "You're Entering the Carson River Watershed" (in Cooperation with NDOT who might provide additional funding); and translate map into Spanish.

h. Map distribution (how, where)

Brenda asked the group to let us know who needs watershed maps so we can distribute them. Mary Kay suggested having at Dept. of Commerce, Chambers of Commerce. Chris K. said he would take some to the NDF lobby; Nicole L. suggested putting them in libraries.

i. Fall CRC field trip (Tour of Carson City Open Space Lands) (Brenda)

Brenda reported that the fall CRC tour is tentatively set for 10/14 or 10/15 depending on bus availability. It will be a four hour tour of Carson City Open Space and there will be space for 20-25 people.

She noted CWSD is tentatively planning Spring tour of Heenan Lake Fish Hatchery. Nicole L. suggested that would be a good time to discuss Washington fire and Brenda agreed.

Mary Kay asked who the intended audience; and Brenda responded CRC members. Mary Kay was also curious what the intended actions were and why are we doing these tours. Brenda explained that the tours are a melding of the old Conservation Tours, with feedback from the Get on the Bus Tour suggesting a desire to have more in depth trips. Linda mentioned CHS Julie Koop's classroom from Carson High School and suggested it would great if could they could meet tour at Ambrose.

Mary Kay reiterated she would like to see stewardship outcome as a result and would like to see people act as a result of tours. The tour will be advertised on the CRC list; Blog; FB page; and newspapers. **Action: Linda to arrange with Julie Koop regarding Ambrose.**

j. Fall CRC meeting, Sierra Room, Community Center, Oct. 21, 2015 9am-1pm

Brenda will be putting out agenda for the CRC meeting in Oct. shortly. The main speaker is Daniel Beard, formally a USBR director who wrote Deadbeat Dams. Other topics will include LID report; Survey; and Round Robin from all attendees. Debbie noted it will be through lunch and Linda suggested a brown bag lunch.

10. Other Items (5 min)

Linda mentioned USGS has updated maps and is getting rid of old maps. They would really like them to go to educators. There are gaps of maps they have run out of. If you want maps, contact Toby Wellborn (tlwelbor@usgs.gov or (775) 887-7671)

11. Set date for next meeting

The next meeting was set for 9/22/2015 from 9:00 am -11:00 am. **Rescheduled for November 16, 2015.**