



Education Working Group Meeting Notes
Thursday, April 27, 2017
9:00 – 11:00 AM

CWSD Conference Room
777 E William St., #110
Carson City, NV 89701
(775) 887-2290

CRC Education Working Group Vision:

A Carson River Watershed community that believes their behavior impacts watershed-wellness and applies their knowledge to act in ways that benefit the Watershed as a whole.

Attendees:

Bunny Bishop, NDWR
Lyndsey Boyer, CC Parks, Rec. & Open Space
Lindsey Chichester, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE)
Linda Conlin, River Wranglers
Shane Fryer, Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD)
Sean Hill, Sierra Nevada Journeys (SNJ)
Brenda Hunt, CWSD
Joanne Kittrell, DNCR
Caleb Kondor, PLPT
Toni Leffler, CWSD
Sarah Muskin, AmeriCorp Member with AWG & RW
Cale Pete, Washoe Tribe
Kristin Sanderson, Nevada State Parks
Mary Kay Wagner, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP)
Kim Zuch, Nevada State Parks

1. Welcome & introductions –
2. Update on Environmental Education 2017-2018 (Linda)
 - A. River Wranglers is in the process of selecting a new coordinator
 - B. Funding for an AmeriCorps Inter will continue
 - a. CWSD may share an AmeriCorps position with River Wranglers.
3. Update on Watershed-Literacy Phase II grant
 - A. Watershed Signage –
 - a. CWSD has been working with NDOT to get right-of-way permits for signage program.
 - b. The next step is for NDOT to make signs (as match) and then CWSD to bid/contract to install the signs.
 - c. Two signs at each location: entering watershed and exiting to other watersheds.
 - d. 24 signs total Hwy 50 and Kingsbury Grade already has signs.
 - e. Will need permit for every roadway
 - f. Hope to use these as leverage to get CALTRANS to create signs for CA.
 - g. Complete in 2018, maybe by the end of 2017.
 - h. Largest part of Phase II of Watershed Literacy Implementation grant.
 - i. CWSD will have to figure out the maintenance agreement with NDOT.
4. Update on Watershed-Literacy Phase III grant –

- A. RFQ draft for Watershed Health Campaign – Received funding from NDEP for Healthy Watershed Campaign
 - a. Draft RFQ presented
 - b. Description of services = CWSD's deliverables to NDEP.
 - c. Want to co-host with CWSD website instead of a stand-alone.
 - d. A stewardship pledge which can be used to measure positive impacts on the watershed with feedback on individual actions.
 - e. Create a behavior change.
 - f. Concept: Tahoe Keepers website course answering 10 questions to get proof of training certificate. Then stickers etc.
 - g. Would like to have REVIEW proposal presentations to a small committee and asked for volunteers for the committee. Steve, Duane. Shane benchmark cobrand with 4-5 businesses throughout the watershed. Markleeville included as part of the watershed. Link on website, create content to put on website to co-brand. Joanne thought State Parks might be a collaborator too. Use business advertising charge equivalent as match. Gavin asked if signs would be available for download or for purchase. Brenda – cost will depend on what consultant will create.

- B. RFQ Geomorphology 101 presentation for planning and public works staffs throughout the watershed.
 - a. To get elected officials, planning and public work staffs to understand processes when rivers are running and risks of alluvial fans.
 - b. Have a budget of \$10,000.
 - c. Concept: video presentation to share at Board/staff, etc. and place on CWSD website.
 - d. Concept: Reader's digest version with invitation to have more in-depth presentation/training.
 - e. Encourage officials to understand a "living river" concept.
 - f. Hope to put out RFP soon.

5. CWSD Program Updates

- A. Discovery and Floodplain Management Plan
 - a. CWSD received funding to re-do the Discovery Process again and to update the FPM Plan.
 - b. Hired Michael Baker International as consultant.
 - c. Previous Floodplain Mgmt Plan has been approved by CWSD and counties in 2008 and updated in 2013.
 - d. FEMA has a process called Discovery Process which specifically looks at types of projects that are FEMA related.

- B. Flood Awareness - Third week in November 13-17.
 - a. This year flooding is so acute so we will have a broader campaign than just during that week.
 - b. John Cobourn to advertise in Reno.
 - c. CWSD to advertise with FEMA funding in the Carson.
 - d. Floods have caused many more people to visit the nevadafloods.org website.
 - e. New ACOE game Flood Fighters branded for Nevada.
 - f. Won't be involved in Nevada Day Parade this year
 - g. Consider Sierra Nevada Forums to talk about flooding.

C. Invasive Species –

- a. 2017 rains have created a lot of weeds.
- b. High winds and saturated ground have caused delays in spraying.
- c. CWSD has \$15,000 to go to partners.
- d. Pesticide review by BLM almost complete. \$6,000 now possible \$125,000 for future.
- e. NFWF grant compliance has been difficult to work with.

D. Get on the Bus – June 6-7, 2017 –

- a. Speakers are set for the bus tour.
- b. Some similar sites with new ones too.
- c. See program

C. CRC Tours

- a. Flood Damage Tour – John Cobourn wants to do half-day tour to see erosion and caved banks for the flood damage – perhaps in August. MK may be able to drive a NDEP van.
- b. Fallon-Lahontan Flooding Mitigation Tour – Tour by Ernie Schank of huge project.
- c. Rafting Tours – East Fork float on ~~June 22 or 23 (Thurs.-Friday)~~ Revised July 6th

E. Carson River Watershed Management Forum –

- a. Reported that there were nearly 100 attendees.
- b. Surveys sent out late so there wasn't a lot of feedback (approx. 26).
- c. Working Group Comments – MK thought two-days is good for a once a year event with lots of issues to address. Foyer and parking was great. Easy on the CWSD staff for logistics. Possibly lunch could be catered in one of the meeting rooms. Food trucks? Permit requirements. Someone could coordinate food trucks – ask Joel Dunn.

6. Round Robin Updates on Member Programs (including upcoming events)

A. CRC River Corridor Working Group– May 11, 2017 (1:30 – 3:30pm) –

- a. Great Basin Bird Conference – May 17-21, 2017 –
- b. Spring Wings Days – May 19-20, 2017 –
- c. Elks Club with AWG/Fly Casters May 10, 2017 –
- d. Storm Drain Marking Johnson Lane – May 20, 2017 –
- e. Weed Warrior – May 23-24, 2017 –
- f. AWG monitor training - June 3, 2017
- g. Get on The Bus – June 6-7, 2017 –
- h. Markleeville Creek Day - Sept. 9, 2017
- i. Aspen Festival - Oct. 7-9, 2017
- j. Snapshot Day: Oct. 20 (first Friday after Oct. 15)

B. Alyse Wyman moved to Carson Valley recently. Has watershed and ecology experience, working with AWG and River Fork Ranch.

C. UNCE office in Minden - Reinventing your landscape –

- a. May 3 on energy and water conservation (tree placement in yard),
- b. June 14 (drainage and erosion control, encouraging infiltration, rain barrel harvesting approved by Legislature.)

- D. Ft. Churchill campground flooded impacting visitor use and programming. Lots of weeds. Possibility of canoe programs if river conditions will allow. Dayton opens this week.
 - a. Grant for RW from Bessie Minor Foundation to provide program at Mormon Station, Ft. Churchill, Lahontan, and Dayton Park - based on Once Upon a Trail book
 - b. Hike program May 21 at Dayton with CR History Trunk. Parks.nv.gov website has list of events.

- E. MK Project WET pre-K thru 2 workshop guide on website which can be downloaded or get hard copy.

- F. Lyndsey reported that open space repairs in progress.

- G. Washoe Tribe Earth Day on May 6

- H. Safety Day emergency preparedness on May 13.

- I. Stormwater utility is going May 4 for vote with County Manager optimistic.

- J. EPA concerns
 - a. listening session on water rule changes for the EPA link on CWSD website to regulations.gov. Written comments by May 15. Listening session – register to be one of the 1,000 lines with 150 speakers.

- K. River Wranglers – trout releases with 4-5 schools. Thanks to Lynn, Lindsey, Kim. Concentrating in classroom work that stormwater runoff effects quality of life of fish that will be released.
 - a. May 20 Stephanie Lane 1-3 to mark storm drains there.
 - b. Next week conserve CR work day with FFA in Fallon and 250 elementary students at Frey Ranch and Venaracci Ranch.
 - c. Scout badge day on June 3 at Ft.Ch.

- 7. Grant opportunities
 - a. NDEP planning on announcing by mid-July, due mid-Sept.
 - b. NDA grant requests for weeds by mid-June.
 - c. Natural Heritage will not have funding for weeds.
 - d. Parks Trails Grant the beginning of the year and is done for this year. Motorized and non-motorized trails grant next year.

- 8. CWSD newsletter by end of June –
 - a. article on storm strain stenciling on Stephanie Lane.
 - b. Send event dates!

- 9. Set date for next meeting – Thurs., June 15, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.