



**Floodplain & River Management Working Group**  
**Meeting Notes**  
August 15, 2017  
1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

**Location:** Nevada Room at the Governor's Mansion, 606 Mountain St., Carson City, NV 89703

**Contact:** Brenda Hunt, 887-9005

**Attendees:**

Mitch Blum, HDR	Brenda Hunt, CWSD
Lyndsey Boyer, Carson City Parks, Rec., & Open Space	Ed James, CWSD
Craig Burnside, Carson Valley Conservation District (CVCD)	Michael Johnson, Churchill County
Aly Cheney, Alpine Watershed Group	Toni Leffler, CWSD
John Cobourn, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE)	Shyla Lemons, CCPW
Robb Fellows, Carson City Public Works (CCPW)	Steve Lewis, UNCE
Shane Fryer, Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD)	Brian Peters, Alpine County
Dan Greytak, private citizen	Duane Petite, The Nature Conservancy
Rob Holley, Dayton Valley Conservation District (CVCD)	Rob Pyzel, Lyon County
	Aaron Sever, The Nature Conservancy
	Jean Stone, NV Div. of Environmental Protection (NDEP)
	Sherman Swanson, University of Nevada-Reno
	Courtney Walker, Douglas County

1. Welcome and Introductions (5 min)
2. 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. FEMA Discovery and Floodplain Management Plan Update Meeting:
  - A. Project Overview of Discovery and Floodplain Management Plan Updates
    1. Michael Baker staff explained the purpose and background of meeting.
      - i. Gather information to do the Discovery Plan Update, the Discovery of flood hazards and associated flood risk and mitigation activities through data collection, stakeholder coordination, and meetings.
      - ii. Discuss the Floodplain Management Plan Update to continue to create a long-term vision and strategies for floodplain management to reduce flood damage impacts.
      - iii. Understand the needs of communities in the watershed by discussing flood risk, balance local needs with FEMA's resources, and plan for possible flood risk projects.
    2. Discussed Recent Flood Events including Alluvial fan and stormwater flooding and how they need to be integrated into Updated Discovery Plan and Floodplain Management Plan

3. The project timeline was described and the goal is to submit an updated Draft of the Floodplain Management Plan by August, 2018.

Meeting	Date
Discovery Kick-Off	August 15, 2017
Discovery Meeting Roll out draft discovery report	October 24, 2018 <b>Comments due December 1, 2017</b>
Discovery Final Meeting Final discovery report	December 12 – 15, 2017 or January 2 -5, 2018 <b>Work with FRM WG to determine next meeting</b>
RFMP Stakeholder Meeting	~ March 2018
RFMP Draft Summary Meeting	~ June 2018 – still work toward this.
Submit finalized draft of RFMP	~ August 2018

B. Present Potential Flood Risk Projects for Discovery Update

- i. Review existing projects – Johnson Lane Stormwater Drainage Study is now being done for the Area Drainage Master Plan (ADMP); Stephanie Way Detention Basin; Old Ruhenstroth Dam removal; both Carson City projects are still being considered.
- ii. Gathered Community Feedback (see Appendix A)

C. Prepare for Next Meeting

1. Working group members provided Data listed below for Discovery Update (See Appendix A for feedback results):

- i. Photos and high-water marks from recent floods – **please send all photos to Michael Baker (if you haven't already).**
  1. Data can be submitted via DVD or other removable storage, or by file transfer protocol (ftp). Data can be mailed or hand delivered to the 777 E. William Street, #110A, Carson City, NV 89701, or sent electronically using the following link: <https://eftp.mbakerintl.com/>
- ii. Any storm water or floodplain activities since last Discovery – Please explain those events
- iii. LiDAR and aerial topography acquired since last Discovery
- iv. Community demographics
- v. Most recent hazard mitigation plans
- vi. Any other flood hazard mitigation data

2. Working group members provided data to be used in the Floodplain Management Plan Update (see Appendix B)

3. 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. CRC FRM Meeting - finished business from 5/11/2017 (See Appendix C)

A. Floodplain Management Plan Suggested Actions update:

1. SA-30

- i. Flood Awareness Week Update - Katie Clancey explained that Flood Awareness Week (FAW) for 2017 is Nov. 12-17. Events include:

1. November 12 Meadowood Mall Flood Awareness Week Kickoff (Public);
  2. November 13 Educational Event for River Wranglers Work Day at Carson River (Private)
  3. November 14 Douglas County Community Center (Public)
  4. November 16 – Yerington Event (TBD)
  5. November 17 – Elko Event
  6. October – November 2017 Posters/ Handouts at (Cal – Ranch / Sportsman Warehouse) in Carson City - arranged by Robb Fellows
  7. Next, Katie described other outreach activities outside of that week –
    - a. February 2017 - NDWR and NDEP went to Elementary Schools
    - b. Spring 2017 Safety Day, Douglas County
    - c. Spring 2017 Earth Day in Fallon
    - d. August 2 National Night Out – Carson City
    - e. October 7-8 Minden Air Show
    - f. October 7-8 Alpine Aspen Festival.
- ii. Debbie Neddenriep announced the Floodplains as Community Assets videos series were finalized. The next steps are to make them available on public access television, and to present them to counties and community groups. The videos were funded by a FEMA grant. Open floodplains have been an important CRC message. They are supporting conservation easements and ag producers who provide the service of keeping floodplains open. The videos underscore that our floodplains are nature’s flood protection and provide a multitude of watershed health benefits. Developing our floodplains increases flood damages and risks, whereas keeping them open, limits risk, saving money and potentially lives. Feedback on the videos was very positive. It was suggested we send the videos to our local television stations. The videos will be integrated into the Carson Watershed-Literacy Campaign.
- B. Flood Damage Field Trip (John Cobourn) – Several sites were selected as possible sites. Possible ideas on how to theme the field trips included basing them on types of damages (Erosion/Channel Migration; Structures; and Infrastructure/grade controls). It was suggested that the Floodplain and River Management meetings could be held in different locations and include a field trip to a specific location. **Group needs to discuss who will plan and organize field trips** (See Appendix C for expanded notes).
- C. Finalized Stewardship Plan Submitted (Brenda) – The Stewardship Plan is turned in to EPA and waiting for review and approval. Brenda invited questions and wants to make sure she has everyone’s projects listed in the Plan. She would like to set up a digital tracking program in the future. She will ask for annual summary project update sheets. Maps are to be updated.
- D. Other – Next year is the 20-year anniversary of the CRC, and we would like ideas for a celebration. Maybe a spring or fall party with music, perhaps at Silver Saddle Ranch with river

walks, a canoe trip, etc. Brewery Arts, Minden Centennial Park, TNC River Fork Ranch, and Dangberg are other possible venues.

Steve Lewis – Mitch Blum talked about how floodway delineation upstream from Genoa Lane is not feasible because of interaction between East and West Forks. Consider cost benefits of delineating the floodway farther upstream.

Vermont paper for keeping floodplains open and develop an incentive plan to reward those people accepting floodwaters on their property. Celebrate a living river concept. Come up with different goals for reach of the system.

Use Mitch's model to prioritize reaches that are in need of protection. Determine where the greatest flood potential is and prioritize to protect areas. Ed noted it was designed to meet FEMA's 100-year floodplain. We may be able to identify high velocity or high depth areas.

Diversions are accumulating sediment and need to accommodate sediment through structures to maintain the base level. Shane mentioned the Hwy 88 bridge with a high rock bar which is impeding sediment movement downstream. Look at passages from a sediment standpoint and a recreation standpoint and whether we can do something that can be done for both. Consider what could be the best method, perhaps different for each diversion. FEMA may help with redesign of public structures. It is in the Stewardship Plan to consider a sediment transport study feasibility.

Shane suggested inflatable dams which can be adjusted for various flows. Debbie asked if that would be a permit issue. Shane responded that it would probably require ACE and State Lands approval. Perhaps there could be a demonstration dam where a landowner is willing to have an inflatable dam.

Identify themes for various reaches, like living river. Rapid assessment of different river reaches needs to be updated; perhaps looking at this method. Living river in the context of a dichotomy of naturally moving and as a conveyance of water through populated areas. Protection and values of riparian area and environment, etc. Keep meander beltways that are as close to natural as we can keep it. Engineering with nature's goals, like the Carson City freeway interchange, rather than against nature.

4. Schedule next meeting – Discovery meeting on Oct. 24; location TBD. Floodplain & River Management WG meeting near then.

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