



Education Working Group
Meeting Notes
Monday, November 16, 2015
9:00AM – 10:00 AM
CWSD Conference Room

Present:

Linda Conlin, River Wranglers
Hannah Drummond, Alpine Watershed Group (AWG)
Sarah Green, AWG
Brenda Hunt, CWSD
Toni Leffler, CWSD
Kristin Roaldson, Resource Concepts Inc. (RCI)
Mary Kay Wagner, NV Div. of Environmental Protection (NDEP)
Courtney Walker, CWSD
Kim Zuch (formerly Clawson), Nevada State Parks

1. Welcome and Introductions - introductions were made around the room.

2. Watershed Literacy Tasks:

- a. Please check out http://water.epa.gov/action/adopt/earthday_index.cfm and review/provide ideas on adaptation to the Carson River Watershed – Brenda explained about adapting the EPA "Ten Things You Can Do to Make a Difference in Your Watershed" list for the Carson River Watershed. Ideas included:
- No more than three links maximum to be as specific to the CR watershed as possible.
 - #3 something specific to terminal watersheds
 - #4 identify best practices around the house/ranch/farm with lots of pictures as examples
 - #7 move up to below #5 to do your part to protect your source water source
 - Combine wetlands and water monitoring event with participating in public lands days or water quality monitoring event.
 - Rather than obtaining funding adopt a pathway, water body, or stream reach to help keep it clean.
 - This is long and not inviting to read so simplify it.
 - Already on our website is watershed pledge page and what you can do page broken down per topic. Set it up to be cleaner with less words and merge with what is already there. Simple three things.
 - Catch phrases like “surf your watershed.”
 - List all the ways to get involved in our watershed: WQ Monitoring, hands-on work day with links.
 - Use camera icon to show pictures of examples of things to do.
 - Integrate the 10 Things list into the existing website

Action: Courtney will email links to the CWSD web pages to the group.

Education Working Group
11-16-15 Meeting Notes

- b. **Children's Museum Update** –Courtney picked up stuffed animal birds and will go to the Children's Museum and work with Lu on how to display them. They were donated by the Audubon Society and can be used as match...about \$7-8/ea. Turbidity display is moving forward and will be coordinated with Lu also. MK suggested taking photo documentation after display is completed.

3. Watershed Literacy Implementation Plan (Phase II grant): -

- a. **Environmental Education Forum - Late Feb./early March** – Brenda explained that NDEP approved funding for the next Watershed Literacy grant, and she will meet with Mary Kay to develop a work plan and budget. She had plans to hire Responsive Management again. This would include putting on a forum and having Responsive Management come to present the survey and focus on messages to particular audiences.
- b. **Needs assessment/gap analysis/communications strategy** - Work with forum participants/educators on where they think there's gaps, communication strategy, etc. See how results compare to their education programs. Consistent messages used throughout the watershed. Then figure out, from a Stewardship Plan perspective, how to get people to report on their efforts so that Brenda can report to EPA on how everyone is doing. Come up with an easy way to report back to CWSD what is being done so that Stewardship Plan can be updated. Get a sense of what is going on throughout the watershed. We are doing a lot in this watershed which is not being reported. Utilize people-power to fill gaps.

Need to determine date for forum – preferably not a Mon. or Fri. 8:30a – 3:30p and include lunch – March 9, 2016. – check for other conferences to avoid conflicts – contact Tina Triplett to find out NWRA scheduled events.

- c. **Watershed map translation** - Courtney reported that she received a quote of less than \$1,000 to translate the watershed map into Spanish. It would be 1/3 longer so graphics may need to change.
- d. **Explore your watershed online interactive map update** – RDM Infinity is getting a Scope of Work together to revise the interactive map to match the current printed map and include the timeline.
- e. **Carson River Watershed boundary highway** – NDOT is interested in doing watershed boundary signs both entering and leaving the Carson River Watershed and is offering their time and manufacturing the signs as match (approx. \$100,000). The sign is expected to be quite large since it will be posted on all highways where you are driving over 55 mph. The signage may not have graphics but a simple “Entering the Carson River Watershed” and “Leaving the Carson River Watershed” messages. NDOT will create the signs in their shop, and we are responsible for installing them at the various locations. Brian from Horizon

Education Working Group
11-16-15 Meeting Notes

Construction will be hired to place them. NDOT will produce extra signs as replacements in case the signs are damaged. We will need to figure out where to store the extra signs.

4. **CRC SWAG ideas** – We want useful, thoughtful SWAG that is of good quality. CWSD can promote the SWAG on its website. SWAG is good to hand out to kids and at events. We already have lip balm, wildflower seeds, and thumb drives. If we order more lip balm, we need to include the website on the label. One idea is reusable water bottles/cups, but kids in classrooms can only have closed containers at their desks. Temporary tattoos. Water drop pins. Doggie poop bags. Magnetic bag clips. Action: Everyone is to bring SWAG as examples to next meeting.
5. **Brief Announcements/Three Minute Updates** –
 - a. **Markleeville Creek Day follow-up (AWG)** – Sarah showed the nice article in “Watershed Connection” (formerly “The Flow”). A total of eight projects were accomplished and volunteers included about 45 California Conservation Corps (CCC) members. Sarah also reported that the Aspen Festival was also really successful and over 700 people came through the event.
 - b. **River Wranglers Round-Up follow-up (Linda)** – Linda reported that River Wranglers partnered with Nevada State Parks at Dayton State Park where her office is located. The event brought in a lot of people who were new to River Wranglers. There were lots of activities to learn about various aspects of the watershed. The Carson River Work Days included seven events so far with the next one on Thurs., 11/19/15 at the Ft. Churchill State Park in Churchill County in cooperation with Silver Stage High School. The events have received great support from the Future Farmers of America (FFA) high school students. Some of the events have had to be moved indoors because of the inclement weather.
 - c. **LID Presentation follow-up (Brenda)** – Brenda has done presentations with Lynn Zonge of RCI and Lynelle Garfield of the City of Reno around the watershed. Brenda has talked with most of the planning commissions throughout the watershed. Churchill County amended their landscape ordinance to encourage LID elements, and Michael Johnson, Churchill County Planner, will incorporate more suggestions from CWSD when the subject is addressed again. The Lyon County Planning Commission was very interested. Douglas County did not want Brenda to give a presentation because they are already in support but want to address specifics later. Carson City is going to implement LID in their Hwy. 50 designs, but LID will not be included in downtown improvements because of concerns about maintaining them because it is the parade route for the Nevada Day Parade. Alpine County has a demonstration project at the county buildings. Linda mentioned that Scarcelli Elementary School in Carson Valley had an issue with rain water draining into their courtyard and causing a mess there, so maybe we can partner with them to improve the area.
 - d. **Snapshot Day follow-up (Mary Kay)** – Mary Kay reported that Snapshot Day went well. They

Education Working Group
11-16-15 Meeting Notes

did not do a couple of the usual locations because there was no flow this year. Churchill County schools came to help at Ft. Churchill. Silver State Charter School wasn't available to do Deer Run, but it shouldn't have too great an impact since we are doing Lloyd's Bridge and Dayton Bridge. Brenda thought Carson Montessori might be interested in doing Deer Run in the future. We need to do more recruiting. Mary Kay made nice certificates for the participants. There was good student and adult participation and great team leadership. Brenda suggested that we need to coordinate with the Carson City School District to avoid conflict with the Carson City Family Wellness Day (no school). Next year Snapshot Day will be on Oct. 21, 2016. Action: Kristin will talk with Joe Cacioppo regarding school scheduling.

- e. **Fall CRC field trip follow-up (tour of Carson City Open Space Lands) (Brenda)** – On Oct. 6, 20-25 people toured the Carson City Open Space lands in two vans. We received good feedback on surveys. There were a few repeat attendees from other tours and a couple of folks from the Carson City Planning Commission, one of whom also came to the CRC meeting. Folks from Lyon County with the Walker River Conservancy came to get ideas about open space in Lyon County.
 - f. **Fall CRC Meeting follow-up (Brenda/Courtney)** – Over 30 people attended the fall CRC meeting which featured guest speaker Daniel Beard. There were 8-10 people from Churchill County and folks from State Parks. There were lots of new people, including some from the general public. Meeting notes will be provided.
6. **Set date for next meeting – Next EWG meeting on Thurs., Dec. 10, 9-11am** – Focus on planning the round table. Action: Invite other agency representatives to help plan to help people feel more invested. Perhaps invite Leeann Mila from Alpine County and the USFS Ranger who spoke on the bus (Anna Lowell?). Bring contacts to include in emails to the next meeting.