



# River Corridor Working Group

## Meeting Notes

Wednesday, November 17, 2015  
2:30 PM – 4:30 PM  
CWSD Conference Room

### Present:

Mitch Blum, HDR, Inc.  
Jacque Etchegoyhen, Legacy Land & Water  
Robb Fellows, Carson City Public Works  
Rob Holley, Dayton Valley conservation District (DVCD)  
Brenda Hunt, Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD)  
Ed James, CWSD  
Toni Leffler, CWSD  
Shyla Lemons, Carson City Public Works  
Steve Lewis, UNCE  
Rob Loveberg, Lyon County  
Terri Pereira, Churchill County Planning  
Karin Peternel, Douglas County  
Jean Stone, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP)  
Mary Kay Wagner, NDEP  
Courtney Walker, CWSD  
Stephanie Wilson, EPA

1. **Welcome and Introductions** - Introductions were made around the room.
2. **Announcements** (everyone)
  - a. **CRC Meeting follow-up** – Brenda reported that there were 45-50 people in attendance at the Carson River Coalition (CRC) meeting with Daniel Beard, author of “Dead Beat Dams” as guest speaker. In 2016, Winter/Spring CRC forum is going to be education and outreach based. A full CRC meeting will be held in fall 2016.
  - b. **319 Grant Proposals Update** – Brenda reported that CWSD received 319 grant funding to be used for: 1) Communication and Outreach Survey results workshop and presenting the survey results, the communications strategy and vetting this with the EE implementers in the Carson River Watershed. 2) Updating the online watershed map to give content control. 3) Translate watershed map into Spanish within the next six months. 4) Working with NDOT to get watershed signage put up at all the major roadways which read “Entering the Carson River Watershed” and “Leaving the Carson River Watershed.” We will do signage in Nevada first and try to work with CalTrans to get them in California.

Ed reported that CWSD also received funding for design of the Virginia/Rocky Diversion bank stabilization project in Douglas County. We are working on consensus

of all parties. The area is on tribal lands so hopefully the Tribe will get the money to construct the project

No one else reported receiving 319 grant funding.

- c. **Watershed MS4 update** – Ed reported that RCI looking for additional funding to complete the MS4 update.
- d. **FEMA MAS 6 Update** – Ed reported that CWSD got funding for MAS #6 which will include:
  - Ramsey Canyon in Lyon County,
  - Goni Drainage in Carson City,
  - Stephanie Lane study for retention/detention basin in Douglas County, and
  - inundation maps in Carson City on the alluvial fans coming off the mountain range.

In January 2016, CWSD will start working on a grant proposal for MAS #7 so we are looking for projects to submit for funding.

- e. **Floodplain Model procedure and protocol update** – Ed reported that as the model is developed it is important to determine how counties will update it and how often. The model will be housed with CWSD with a list of qualified firms to run the model. Every couple of years there would be a complete run to make sure it is running right. Having the model available should streamline planning process in the counties and protect the floodplain. Emergency Management and Fire Districts can use the model for planning resource allocation and location. The protocol will likely be included in any floodplain management oriented ordinance updates in the future. The new FEMA maps are in the 90-day comment period in Lyon County.

### 3. Stewardship Plan Project Identification and Prioritization (See Attached tables!)

- a. **Determine if all completed projects are on existing list.** –Completed, current, proposed projects – get back to Brenda by Dec. 5 so that she can update that section.
- b. **Each entity to bring top five projects associated with river rehabilitation, floodplain conservation and/or water quality. (Only new floodplain projects not listed in Floodplain Mgmt. Plan or Discovery Report).** – Brenda asked the group to write projects down for their areas and rank them. She is looking for the top three projects and determine how they meet the requirements of the Stewardship Plan objectives. All projects will directly or indirectly relate to water quality. These projects will help

meet EPA objectives. Identify critical areas (Alpine County, Carson River to Lahontan, or Churchill County below Lahontan). Each person was given forms to fill out to gather information about what projects are most important and explain how they meet water quality objectives. Identifying projects in the Stewardship Plan helps support grant applications.

Churchill County – Terri - 1) The Floodplain Management Project - It has been suggested for 20 years that they create a diversion in the stretch between Lahontan Reservoir and Diversion Dam to shunt water toward Sheckler Reservoir. 2) At the Sagouspi Dam from Bafford Lane Bridge the elevation goes up which creates flooding. 3) One sediment removal project is usually done per year. Churchill County is waiting for equipment from TCID. Bank stabilization is done by Lahontan Conservation District. SHIPO requirements won't allow for removal of dam. The area needs to be dredged. May need an integrated approach to present problems to SHIPO. This is a project of six phases for which information was sent to all agencies. 4) There is a Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program around Naval Air Station-Fallon but not along the river, except on Frey's conservation easement. The county owns TDRs but haven't used any yet; they could be used for an increase in density but no building is going on so there is no market for them.

Lyon County – Rob Loveberg– 1) The TDR program is moving building out of the floodplain; however, the TDR portion is in jeopardy of going away (agenda 21) because of a lack of understanding by county officials. It would be greatly beneficial to the floodplain and integral to the incentives to move density out of the floodplain. 2) Lyon County is currently working with developers on a drainage and water quality treatment project that would be part of River Park Subdivision to try to require them to do some design work and implementation, with the county doing maintenance after the fact. 2) Working on LID standards.

Douglas County – Karin – 1) Virginia/Rocky Diversion for revegetation – CVCD works with the landowners on private land along the river below Cradlebaugh Bridge. Jacque mentioned a private landowner (Park Family) who wants to do bank stabilization between Muller Lane and Genoa Lane and is more than willing to work with the county. There may still be money in Q1 if the economy improves and more bonds are sold. The family would like to sell conservation easements along their entire property. 3) There is a parcel on Waterloo which could be a project. 4) There is an issue between Douglas County ordinances which hampered a Low Impact Development (LID) project. Mary Kay suggested involving the River Wranglers for students work days to do river stabilization projects as match. 5) DRI offers instructions to teachers for making "green boxes" to teach about on terminal watersheds and floodplains which could be used with all Douglas County third grade students. DRI is conducting

three workshops on the “green box” on how to use the boxes.

DVCD – Rob Holley – Work day graduates are now on the DVCD Board and the perception of the river has changed because of it. 1) Water quality projects are in various states of progress. 2) Next priority is to take projects that they finished monitoring with 319 money and identify what can be done. There is a potential site on the south side of the river near the Vidler property to do monitoring of material flowing downstream, where is it caught by the Chavez Ranch. 3) Floodplain rehab is needed from the Santa Maria Ranch to the end of Chaves Ranch upstream of Hodges. 4) DVCD would like to implement uncontrolled livestock access to the river near Ft. Churchill. 4) Regarding noxious weed control, they have equipment to clear land with NIF/WIF project funding (\$180k) under the Desert Terminal Lakes grant program.

Steve Lewis noted that there have been many education efforts with little effect and the Open Space Initiative didn’t fly.

Carson City - Robb Fellows – 1) Carson City has been working on the Goni watershed next to Lompa Lane along the freeway with an effort to hold more water and have a longer detention time to clean up water quality before it goes into the freeway system. 2) A subdivision of 400 homes is being built at Schulz Ranch off Topsy Lane where a few retention basins are being installed to discharge into Clear Creek.

- c. **Determine if recommended future projects listed in existing Stewardship Plan Sections 8.1.4 and 8.3.3 that have not been completed are still valid priority projects.**  
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  - d. **Generally prioritize entity projects brought forth into high, medium, low projects (*Similar to Discovery Report process*). –**
4. **If time allows: Member reports on Floodplain Mgmt. Plan progress & updates on suggested actions: -**
- a. **Update on SA-8: *Low Impact Development* (Brenda/Ed) -**
  - b. **Update on SA-14: *Secure funding for and conduct watershed-wide unsteady state modeling to identify flood water storage requirements and to look at the cumulative effects of watershed development* - FEMA MAS 1-4 projects (Mitch/Ed/) -**
  - c. **Update on SA-5 *Plan for and mitigate cumulative effects of watershed urbanization, and SA-11 *Implement and enhance county ordinances for floodplain protection** (Mitch/Ed/Brenda). -**

- d. **Progress on SA-7 *Retention of floodplain lands for flood storage* (mapping acreage) (John/Steve)** – Overlay the floodway over the map to see if there are additional target areas.
  - e. **Update on SA-33 Annual Flood Awareness Week (Rob/John/Courtney)** – Lots of successful events.
5. **Schedule Next Meeting** – Brenda will Doodle the group to set a date in January 2016.