



Contact: Brenda Hunt or Shane Fryer, 887-9005, brenda@cwsd.org or Shane@cwsd.org

Meeting Purpose:

CRC Floodplain Management Working Group is a broad stakeholder group within the Carson River Watershed that works together to implement the suggested actions in the Regional CR Floodplain Management Plan.

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1. Member Introductions and Round Robin updates via Zoom (*Include Projects, Programs, Events and Ideas such as specific restoration/stabilization projects*); save comments of CWSD FEMA Mapping comments for section below. (All Attendees) (100 mins)

In Attendance Via Zoom

Mitchell Blum, HDR Engineering

Lyndsey Boyer, Open Space Manager for CC

Kathy Canfield, Storey County

Mujahid Chandoo, Michael Baker

Holly Farnham, CWSD

Robb Fellows, Carson City Public Works

Sarah Fichtner, NDWR

Shane Fryer, CWSD (In Person)

Mark Gookin, Terraphase

Brenda Hunt, CWSD (In Person)

Jeremy Hutchings, Douglas County

Ed James, CWSD

Rachel Kieffer, AWG

Lori Leonard, TNC

Kaylee Maples, CWSD, AmeriCorps

Debbie Neddenriep, CWSD

Dean Patterson, Churchill County

Carlos Rendo, NDWR

Eric Simmons, FEMA

Candace Stowell, Alpine County

Christy Sullivan, LCD

Georgia Vasey, CCOS

Courtney Walker, Douglas County

Erin Warnock, NDWR – Floodplain Manager

Member Round Robin Updates

Carlos Rendo:

Flood after Fire 2/9/22 at Topaz lodge. High water marks project continuing on with City of Reno. It will commemorate 25-year anniversary of 1997 flood and 5-year anniversary of 20187 flooding.

Lori Leonard, The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

Lori described restoration project at River Fork Ranch in Douglas County. TNC will be looking for volunteers in spring to do planting, etc.

Jeremy Hutchings, Douglas County

Working with Ed and Deb on different studies. [Studies are CV Floodway to complete physical map revision, Smelter Creek LOMR, Clear Creek LOMR, Carson Valley Flood Forecasting, Buckeye Creek Detention Basin Design]

Courtney Walker, Douglas County

The Smelter Creek LOMR has been completed. It's good news that more people are going out of floodplain and just a couple are going in. There will be a flood after fire workshop at Topaz Lodge for residents in Tamarack Fire area. NWS is also setting up a gage to provide precipitation data in Slinkard fire area to help county keep an eye on potential mud flows in burn scar area. Working through Johnson Lane Environmental assessment with BLM [in order to build a couple drainage structures].

Robb Fellows, Carson City Public Works Floodplain Manager (CCPW)

End of November, the LOMR went into effect for Voltaire/Saliman in the south part of Carson City. Working on high

water mark outreach project. Contract likely to go to CWSD board in February. Held Kick off meetings with selected contractor for two area drainage master plans: Southeast Carson City Area Drainage master plan / Kimley Horn and East Carson City Area Drainage master plan / Michael Baker.

Lindsey Boyer, Open Space Manager for CC

Working with Shane on Recreational Trail Program (RTP) Grant. They recently received 2 sizable grants funded by SNLPMMA for Prison hill loop trail and water rights acquisition along Buzzy's ranch. Those will come into fruition in the next couple of years. Interpretive signs were installed in new section of trail by the river: Bird wings spans and farming practices. Shout out to Kaylee who helped design these. Shane asked where loop trail was. Lyndsey explained sections of loop trail will be added between Kuntz Lane and 5th Street.

Rachel Kiefer, Alpine Watershed Group

It is their off season; however, river monitoring will continue, Hope valley restoration work will continue. AWG has applied for 2 post Tamarack Fire water quality restoration grants. They may be doing Aspen Monitoring. They hope to continue monitoring of blue algae in Red Lake and are in discussions with Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control board about funding. AWG will be working with American Rivers on Beaver Analog project in Faith Valley. Their next meeting on March 8, 2022, will discussing grazing and agriculture in the West Fork of the Carson River to assist with the Lahontan Water Quality Board's West Fork Vision plan.

Christy Sullivan, Lahontan/Stillwater Conservation Districts

She's working with folks on Frey ranch to conduct regenerative agriculture project. It will be good to see what is going on in Fallon with the cattle and the river. She'll report back on progress. They'll be putting up fence for the cattle in the next few days. They're working down on the river as hands on, so to speak.

Eric Simmons, with FEMA

Happy to cooperate with CWSD to fund project that benefit Flood plain and reduce flood risks.

Mark Gookin, Terraphase

They are working on multiple floodplain remapping projects. He expressed to Lyndsey how he enjoys hiking around Carson City trails.

Mitch Blum, HDR

Wrapping up the physical map revision in Churchill County. Trying to move forward on Douglas County Floodway and seem to be coming to a resolution. Possible modeling issues that should work out. Flood forecast model is coming along. They have rainfall data for the 1997, 2016, and 2017. They are working through the process of getting the events in. They will be moving forward with the hydraulics model after that. They'll be in touch with FEMA.

Candace Stowell, Alpine County Community Development

Still working for finalize draft model floodplain ordinances and have a meeting next week with County engineer. Just received an email from Eric Simmons at FEMA that the preliminary maps for the West Fork Carson River and Bear Valley will be issued 3/31/22. They want to work with CWSD and FEMA to get maps rolled out to the officials, etc. Will present draft model floodplain ordinances at 2/24/22 planning commission meeting. From there, the county will need the green light from California DWR. Once approved, they will present to supervisors for approval.

Sarah Fichtner, NV

Flood after Fire (FAF) Workshop coming up (2/9/2022 at Topaz Lodge) and High-water mark project in Reno is coming along. She's working on a bunch of deliverables for Grant Projects.

Erin Warnock, NV DWR, State Floodplain Manager

Also working on FAF at topaz lodge in February. Working on 2 different grants from FEMA. Some deliverables would be community assistance visits (CAVs), essentially known as an audit. She'll select 2 counties to do assistance visits. Putting together a training in April for Managing Community Development in the NFIP. FEMA Class 273 is the target class. Type 0273 in the course box: <https://training.fema.gov/emicourses/schedules.aspx>. **(PLEASE NOTE: Since our meeting, Erin has learned a different set of trainings will be offered. Please contact Erin Warnock: ewarnock@water.nv.gov, for more information)**

Dean Patterson, Churchill County

Main floodplain project has been the remapping project that Mitch just covered.

Debbie N.

Just wanted to mention any Bank Stabilization projects will require a new USACE permit. CWSD is working with

stakeholders to create a general permit. There will be a meeting Friday at 9:00 am.

Ed James,

Work in progress to create a general permit, if you do any project on the river. This permit will affect routine maintenance for irrigation delivery.

Rich Wilkerson, (Rich not present, Brenda Hunt provided information Rich sent in)

Trying to finish up a number of projects in Genoa area. They need paid laborers for Bio Engineering Treatments. If anyone knows anyone, please let him know. The heavy equipment has been taken care of they only need the hands-on help.

Shane Fryer, Brenda Hunt, CWSD

Update on Recreational Trails Project to get enhancement and expansion of the Aquatic Trail through Carson City. CWSD is working with NV State Parks on two awards. Currently the awards and work are going through a required SHPO compliance. Hopefully we'll be under contract soon and able to look at signage and the placement of the portage. Staff is working on a 208 plan scope of work and the creation of a CRC- Agricultural Working Group. CWSD will hold a virtual forum this year. March 28-29, 2022 target dates.

Mujahid Chandoo, Michael Baker, Inc.

They presented to their stake holders on East Carson City ADMP. They worked with Debbie to get the business plan together.

2. NDWR (Erin) & Flood Awareness Week 2021 Update (Carlos) (10 minutes)

Flood Awareness debrief meeting led to more virtual tasks this year, due to covid. Additionally, the group voiced a desire for more in person events next year. She mentioned the swift water rescue training as something they would like to provide next year. They want more ideas and events planning in each local area and to see more materials delivered to schools. Working to make flood awareness ad campaign for the CRW more robust. Looking at expanding or changing flood coloring contest to a video contest. They want to continue to creatively use Floodplains as Community Assets and other videos they have created. They're looking for a QR Code that is scannable to take you to important information. Plan to work with Silver Jackets group, and CWSD and Storey County on High water mark projects.

3. Grant Updates (30 mins)

A. FEMA MAS 10, 11 and 12 Projects (Debbie)

The funding rounds we call MAS (Mapping Activity Statement). MAS 10, Churchill County is completing physical map revision. For MAS 11, Ruhenstroth area drainage master plan was wrapped up with a public meeting and presentation to CWSD and Douglas County boards. Clear Creek LOMR in South Carson City is progressing; they've started on hydrology, This study encompasses areas in Carson City, Douglas County, and Washoe Tribal lands. As Mitch mentioned, the forecast model is moving forward. Smelter Creek LOMR results will be presented to CWSD and Douglas County boards. Mas 12 includes VC/6-Mile Canyon ADMP, Southeast Carson City ADMP, East Carson City ADMP, Buckeye Drainage Design, and address comments to complete Ramsey LOMR and Carson Valley PMR. Contractors were selected and contracts will be presented to CWSD board in February or March. Kimley Horn was selected to conduct Southeast Carson City ADMP and Michael Baker was selected to study East Carson City ADMP. JE Fuller was selected for the Buckeye Drainage Design project; and Lumos/ JE Fuller was selected for VC/6-Mile Canyon ADMP. Potential projects for Mas 13 have been identified: Expand Discovery for several counties; Silver Springs ADMP; Fish Springs/Pinenut Culvert Study; Ash Canyon Flood Hazard Evaluation; Outreach; and if possible create a CRS crosswalk in Floodplain Management plan. Expect to start on grant application in the next month or two.

B. 319 Projects

- Watershed Coordination Grant Update (Brenda/Shane)
 - Stewardship Plan Tracking/GIS project web viewer contractWe'll be also hiring an engineering firm to create a web viewer for stewardship plan projects. It's a three phase project. Phase I is the project viewer, Phase II is a partner portal for entering

project information to update the viewer, and Phase III is a query capable database where CWSD, NDEP and our partners will be able to seek digital data to answer questions regarding planning goals for Water Quality and other management measures. The RFQ will be out in 6-8 weeks.

- Watershed Moments Campaign

Watershed Moments Campaign: First Watershed Moment *Bag It* launched early Jan. Click links to see the press release, film and newsletter articles. Received good traditional media coverage in Carson Now, Reno Gazette Journal and Record Courier. Social Media blitz on Facebook and Instagram and associated pet store gift cards give away for the winners of the drawing through January. Next video *Recycle Your Motor Oil* is to launch Feb. 9 and looking to launch, *Use a Car Wash* in March. We'll be launching one film per month for the whole year. Hoping to have some bilingual people to give a Spanish version of these videos, as well. We need our partners help to get these out to the public and your constituents!

- Douglas County Stormwater Project (Courtney)

DC received grant funding from NDEP to conduct Low Impact Development project in Minden. This project is in cooperation with Douglas High School and Westwood community. Maintenance staff from school and County Public Works, and the Town of Minden are helping with this project. Multiple high school classes are assisting to complete portions of the project, for instance the English classes are putting together the presentations, CAD drafting class is creating draft designs, and Geosciences class is designing landscape techniques. There has been great teacher participation.

C. 208 Water Quality Planning (Brenda/Shane)

- Scope of Work overview and next steps

208 planning includes development of an Agricultural Working Group, piloting soil health and water quality best management practices, completing a best practices document for the Carson River Watershed including case studies. Scope of work nearly completed and finalized with NDEP. Have a few ranchers in Douglas County and Churchill will allow us to monitor their current soil health/water quality practices and potentially implement some pilot practices as well.

D. NDEM Grant Application – Drought Resilience (Ed)

CWSD is going to create a 30-year Drought and Climate Resilience for entire watershed shed from Alpine County, CA, to Churchill County, NV. USGS is contracted to update Upper and Middle Carson River models to inform this plan. Water purveyors will be an integral part of this plan as will each County to assist with their water resource planning. CWSD will be looking to hire a consultant to put the plan together. It's a 3-year project. It will consider water needs and look at drought and climate change. A critical part will be to make sure downstream users are not affected by upstream demands.

4. Carson River Mercury Superfund Site (CRMSS)(Brenda/Ed) (20 mins)

A. Update on US EPA's CRMSS Interim Proposed Plan: Read the [Proposed Plan](#) (only 20 pages so worth the read!) and summary [brochure](#), review the [Administrative Record](#) (site files) and view EPA's interactive [Story Map](#) online at the links provided. Carson and Mercury Site: Interim Plan from EPA released in Oct. 2021 with only 30 days to respond. CWSD requested an extension until Feb. 14th and a virtual public meeting. Both were granted by USEPA. (See points A-D below for more information). The plan focuses on the human health issues due to the high levels of mercury in the soil and in fish and waterfowl tissue. The EPA, with NV Division of Environmental Protection, are want to make sure people don't ingest the mercury (kids digging in dirt, eating of fish, etc.) by implementing a robust outreach plan.

CWSD put together a comment letter on the interim plan and brought it to our board for review on January 19, 2022. The letter has been amended to include the board's requests. CWSD is extremely concerned that local governments are being denied federal disaster aid from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for federally declared disasters within the CRMSS. This issue is not addressed in the interim plan and needs to be resolved prior to any approval of the plan. Other concerns include the plans lack of attention soil stability during flooding, new construction activities and any new permitting and monitoring requirements, and the need for a coordinated effort to provide funding to ensure projects can address not

only the mercury, but water quality and riparian area enhancement within the CRMSS.

- B. USEPA to host Virtual Public Meeting – February 1, 6:30 – 8:30pm Link: Join the meeting online at <https://usepa.zoomgov.com/j/1604119316> or by telephone at: +1 669 254 5252 / Meeting ID: 160 411 9316.

All CRC members effected by the Carson River Mercury Superfund Site are encouraged to attend this meeting! EPA will be going over the plan and excepting verbal public comments on record. Please attend!

- C. CWSD draft comment letter highlights: CWSD has completed a DRAFT comment letter that was reviewed by our board at our January meeting. The letter is a detailed review of the plan and highlights our main concerns up front. Anyone is welcome to use the letter as a template. See **DRAFT** letter attached.

- D. Public comment period extension

The public comment period for the Carson River Mercury Superfund Site Interim Plan has now been extended again to Feb. 28, 2022. Please get your comments in before the deadline! Send to: Andrew Bain EPA Remedial Project Manager 75 Hawthorne Street, SFD-82 San Francisco, CA 94105 (800) 231 – 3075 | bain.andrew@epa.gov

5. Next Quarterly Meeting April 27, 2022, 1:30 – 3:30pm. Please save this date!