



Floodplain Management Working Group Meeting Notes

June 24, 2021

Via Hybrid/Zoom at CWSD Office

In Attendance

Mitchell Blum, HDR Engineering
Lyndsey Boyer, Carson City Open Space
Debbie Burkett, Alpine County (Zoom)
Kathy Canfield, Storey County (Zoom)
Louis Cariola, Lyon County (Zoom)
Mujahid Chandoo, Michael Baker (Zoom)
Patrick Clancey, FEMA (Zoom)
Robb Fellows, Carson City Public Works (Zoom)
Shane Fryer, Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD)
Mark Gookin, Terraphase (Zoom)
Brenda Hunt, Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD)
Jeremy Hutchings, RO Anderson (Zoom)
Susan Jamerson, Washoe Tribe (Zoom)
Lori Leonard, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) (Zoom)
Mo Loden, Alpine Watershed Group
Debbie Neddenriep, Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD)

Dean Patterson, Churchill County (Zoom)
Rob Pyzel, Lyon County (Zoom)
Catrina Schambra, CWSD
Loren Secor, Washoe Tribe (Zoom)
Chris Spross, Churchill County (Zoom)
Candace Stowell, Alpine County (Zoom)
Christy Sullivan, Lahontan Conservation District (Zoom)
Georgia Vasey, Carson City Open Space
Courtney Walker, Douglas County (Zoom)
Erin Warnock, Nevada Division of Water Resources – Floodplain Management (Zoom)
Sara Watson, EPA (Zoom)
Rich Wilkinson, Carson Valley Conservation District (Zoom)
Janell Woodward, Nevada Division of Emergency Management

Member Round Robin Updates

Mitch Blum, HDR

Currently looking at Douglas County – Revision of Carson Valley Map. Also looking at Pine Nut map revision and learning the FEMA MIP system. HDR is also in the final stages of the Churchill County preliminary mapping before finalizing. Emergency Flood Forecast Model is next project in Douglas County.

Debbie Neddenriep, CWSD

Debbie wanted to mention the recent determination of the Carson River as navigable, so everyone is aware of this change. Click link to view the [USACE Special Public Notice](#).

Lyndsey Boyer, Carson City Open Space (CCOS)

Carson City has been understaffed for a long time, but we finally have a new person in the Natural Resource role. Their annual River Clean-up Day is happening next week. They will be looking for and mapping weeds, areas of erosion and picking up trash. They are seeing a huge increase in Eurasian milfoil in area around the Mexican Dam. First noticed in 2017, but it thrives during low water years. This is a Class A Noxious Weed and a real challenge to address in our watershed system. Carson City is currently working with CWSD on enhancing the Aquatic Trail and installing a portage at the Mexican Dam; Lyndsey is very excited about this project.

Georgia Vasey, Carson City Open Space, (CCOS)

Georgia is the new Senior Natural Resources person at Carson City Open Space. She started about a month ago. She recently earned her masters from UNR in Natural Resources & Environmental Science. She previously worked at the Golden Gate Habitat Conservancy for 5 years. She is excited to be here working in the riparian habitat of the Carson River and to be including in the working group.

Mo Loden, Alpine Watershed Group (AWG)

AWG will be hosting Creek Day in September, focusing on restoration and bank stabilization. CalTrans is widening and lengthening Markleeville bridge. Once CalTrans completes this project, AWG hopes to resume the Markleeville Creek Restoration. At this point, AWG does not believe CalTrans plans on removing the existing bridge abutments from Markleeville Creek.

Mark Gookin, Terraphase

Terraphase is conducting Conditional Letters of Map Revision in Reno area: Arroyo Crossing, Verdi, and Quilici Ranch. They are holding training for the City of Reno next week regarding interpreting HEC- RAS Model and utilizing in floodplain and emergency management.

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

Carson City is currently waiting on FEMA to deliver preliminary floodplain maps of Saliman /Voltaire Canyon LOMR to finish up that project. The Clear Creek/Prison Hill remapping project has started. Carson City has approved the new Drainage Manual that includes the LID Ordinance language. It is effective as of July 1, 2021 and will be posted to the carson.org public works page. The West Carson City drainage study will be presented to the Carson City Board of Supervisors in Mid-July. A proposed Basin between Ash Canyon and Kings Canyon is on the agenda for the July Carson City Board of Supervisor's meeting. Also working on the High-Water Mark project. Carson City would like to add signs and include a mural on the linear ditch trail at the 5th Street Freeway Overpass. He is working with CWSD on this high water mark project .

Lori Leonard, The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

TNC has been working on a 319H grant project focused on streambank stabilization and revegetation that started at the beginning of the year. They harvested 700 Cottonwood trees from a Truckee River restoration project and transplanted then to the River Fork Ranch preserve. Now they are working to keep them alive during this dry season. Different soils are a challenge, but so far, so good. This is an exciting project! River Wranglers helped with this project along with other community volunteers. This was funded thru Dream Tags. The plan is to provide education opportunities on these restoration efforts with River Wranglers and Sierra Nevada Journeys. Also, Home Slough area has steep banks and erosion issues. TNC is currently working with CVCD on Bioengineering project. They are reseeding with Creeping Wild Rye. The Willows are doing well. Next year, they are planting 2,000 native shrubs, also with Dream Tags grant.

Courtney Walker, Douglas County

Currently working on Ruhstroth ADMP; Smelter Creek Remap; implementation stage of Johnson Lane Master Plan; working with BLM to complete NEPA. Hopefully will be done next spring. Douglas County is constantly working to complete the Carson River Physical Map Revision. There is a LID project in Westwood neighborhood (Minden). They have a community outreach neighborhood meeting coming up July 14, 2021. The project will involve Douglas High School students, talking to maintenance staff re LID program on school grounds, the neighborhood workshop and implementation. We will be looking at maintenance of storm drains throughout the area and within the school grounds. Water quality sampling will be

conducted throughout the project to see if there is an impact on the algae bloom problem. Still working on LID & Floodplain Ordinances.

Sarah Watson, EPA

Sarah typed her update on the Carson River Mercury Superfund site into the chat notes.

10:21:06 From Sarah Watson, EPA : Updates from EPA re: Carson River Mercury Site:

1. Operable Unit 1 (OU1, source areas and old mill sites):

We will soon be releasing a public outreach video for residents who may live within the footprint of the Superfund site. This offers no-cost sampling at single-family residences by NDEP and EPA. NDEP and EPA will each do a press release for this and if appropriate for your entities, feel free to share on your social media.

2. Operable Unit 2 (OU2, river, floodplain, sediments):

EPA (the other Project Manager, Andy Bain) expects to release a Proposed Plan for the Carson River Mercury Superfund Site (CRMS) in late Winter 2021 and a Record of Decision by summer 2021. The public will have a minimum of 30 days to comment on the Proposed Plan and the Administrative Record, which EPA will advertise.

3. Sitewide (OU1 and OU2):

Please check out our GeoPlatform StoryMap if it may be useful information to you:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/4226e8cbc86f421eab0d359329b68f8f>

10:24:49 From Sarah Watson, EPA : Watson.sarah@epa.gov Bain.Andrew@epa.gov

Mujahid Chandoo, Michael Baker, Inc.

He is working on the FEMA funded Web Access project collecting data now. They have reached out to all counties for data and working to parse out the data now to determine best way to access information for stakeholders and other interested parties.

Louis Cariola, Lyon County

As a new employee at Lyon County, he has nothing to report except he is happy to be here. He will defer to Rob.

Rob Pyzel, Lyon County

Rob says he has to teach Louis not to delegate upward. Ha! Lyon County still looking for funding mechanism to implement regional stormwater recommendations from north and south ADMP – looking like a special assessment district may be the answer.

Candace Stowell, Alpine County Community Development

Candace started at Alpine County 2 months ago. It looks like revisions were done to the Floodplain Regulations about 2 years ago. Candace would like to meet with Brenda to see where they are at with CWSD. She says it looks like revisions were made but nothing has been done with it since 2019. She would like to get that moving again. Also, Alpine County is looking for a Planner II and a Planner III. If anyone knows someone who might be interested, please

send them her way. Brenda says she would like to meet with Candace, Debbie, and Ed to discuss Floodplain ordinances as well as LID issues soon.

Chris Spross, Churchill County Planning and Public Works

He did not have a specific update but is very interested in the Water Marketing Plan. Brenda let him know that a presentation will be made to his Board very soon and she will be calling him to address his specific questions before then. This item will also be discussed later in this meeting.

Christy Sullivan, Lahontan Conservation District

She is also interested in the Water Marketing presentation and would like to be present to learn more about the program. Brenda announced the presentation to the Churchill County BOC is scheduled for July 21, but CWSD can also come out and present to the LCD Board too, if she would like. Christy has been talking to Village for volunteers to help cleanup Lahontan trash problem. LCD will be working with kids on a recycling program this fall.

Loren Secor, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California

He is well into field season, and is currently working on post fire restoration, water sampling in Clear Creek, and East Fork River Project with NDEP 319 funding in South Gardnerville by the golf course. They are working on design revisions to make it more cost efficient. Will be working on bank stabilization in the coming months and more restoration in the fall.

Susan Jamerson, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California

She is currently working on BIA Grant (Loren's project) mapping tamarisk. It is a big project! Please share if you know of any infestations! They plan to map, remove and reseed. She would like more information about the Eurasian Milfoil infestation. She requested Lyndsey at Carson City send her information about Clear Creek and/or Pinenut Creek. Would love input on this invasive species project. Any hints on how to treat? They are starting a native nursery via grant. They are working on a sagebrush and pinyon pine restoration project. Also hiring for Specialist II for lots of field work.

Patrick Clancey, FEMA

Current project in Alpine County, eastern side of Bear Valley – not in Carson River Watershed. FEMA is in the middle of contract transitions, so new vendors will be in place soon. There may be delays in FEMA mapping products in the next couple of months due to the transition. Let him know if you have any issues. Hoping to wrap up Douglas County mapping project for the Carson River Physical Map Revision.

Rich Wilkinson, Carson Valley Conservation District

Rich entered his update in the chat notes:

10:39:22 From Richard.Wilkinson : Update for CVCD I apologize I cannot unmute my phone. Crews are currently spraying weeds until the end of July. We continue to reseed areas along the floodplain that we have treated for noxious weeds. We will be starting the Genoa River Restoration Phase 2 September 1st. We anticipate being out of the river by the end of December. If bids come in where we hope we will try and complete 5 project sites. As of today, we have reseeded over 2500 acres since we purchased our tractor and no till drill. Thank you!

Erin Warnock, Nevada Division of Water Resources, State Floodplain Manager.

Currently in High Water Mark planning meetings also. They are looking at applying for FY2022 HWM project. CWSD's project will be great example for their project, so they will be following the CWSD model closely. FAW update: Flood Awareness week is scheduled for November 14-

20, 2021. Will be meeting next week to establish vendors. This year they want to expand Flood Awareness reach to all Northern Nevada communities, like the Southern Nevada model. They have multiple training opportunities that offer CFM credit, so if you are interested contact her at ewarnock@water.nv.gov.

Debbie Neddenriep, CWSD

FAW update: CWSD partners with River Wranglers for our outreach and communications plan. In the current grant cycle, River Wranglers is planning on having one FAW event at each elementary school of all six watershed counties. Also, they are planning to have FAW events at middle schools in Churchill County, Lyon County, Carson City and Douglas County.

Grant Updates

A. NDEP Clean Water Act Section 319 (h) Updates –

A1 Watershed Coordination Grant

Brenda shared the success of the Water Connects Us All video. She shared that next up for Watershed-Literacy is to create 15 Watershed Moments' videos. These 30 second videos will demonstrate folks acting in ways that benefit the watershed (eg. using a car wash, picking up dog poop, recycling motor oil, curbing their chemical use, disposing of their human waste and trash responsibly, etc. She may be reaching out to individuals in the group to participate in these vignettes.

A2 Other CRC Partner 319 Grant Updates

Shane reminded group that CWSD can help with NDEP 319 grant applications and provide letters of support if needed. (319 grants are 50/50 match.) Through the Watershed Wednesday Forum, new working groups were suggested: (1) AG Working Group and (2) Recreation Working Group. The next newsletter will ask if you'd like to be part of these groups. CWSD is currently working with Chuck Schembre on the AG group scope. It will include goals such as soil health, water quality and partnerships. Trails groups will be part of the Recreation Working group, and goals will include water quality, accessibility, aquatic trail expansion, assistance and support for these groups. The Invasive Species Working Group will meet in July to discuss invasive weed and aquatic issues. Shane reminded our invasive species partners that all billing is due by the end of June. ***(Editors Note: We decided to hold off asking who wants to be involved in the new working groups until we have done some additional planning).***

B. FEMA MAS Projects Updates –

Ed James and Debbie Neddenriep are working on FEMA MAS 12 application. Projects include Southeast Carson City ADMP (inc. Prison Hill/Clear Creek); Buckeye Creek Mitigation; 6 Mile Canyon ADMP; East Carson City ADMP; and Carson Valley Physical Map Revision. They have finalized communication plan for MAS 10 & 11 and have sent out for County comments. She explained that for FEMA Cooperating Technical Partner grants, CWSD staff are the project managers who administrator and facilitate project outreach and outreach to county boards, while the county staff serve as project technical leads who review data for accuracy.

C. State Hazard Mitigation – HMGP and BRIC NOFOS

Janell Woodward, Division of Emergency Management (NDEM) Even though Janell was in the midst of a field exercise she called in to update the group about the status

of grant applications. BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities) used to be PDM (Pre-Disaster Mitigation). This year there was \$500 Million available in grants, but no limit was put on applications. They received \$3.6 Billion in applications. They have asked NDEM to manage expectations. Please do not be discouraged if you were not picked to receive a grant, please re-apply next year! Already have set aside \$1 Billion in funding next year. There are discussions in future about asking for a limit of applications, since rural states are at a disadvantage if there is not a set limit. She is starting weekly meetings on BRIC and assistance with applications. The first meeting is next week. Please email her at jwoodward@dps.state.nv.us if you would like an invitation or have any questions.

D. USBR WaterSmart-Water Market Development –

CWSD is currently making presentations to County GIDs and Water Purveyors for the USBR grant. CWSD has applied for another USBR grant to update the USGS model with more current data and inputs from the Water Marketing Plan.

E. Aquatic Trail Enhancements – NV State Parks Non-Motorized Trails Grant Application-

CWSD received a \$90,000 grant to extend the Aquatic Trail this year, starting with the Mexican Dam Portage. This is a big, exciting project! Shane also reported that the April 29 River Float was a success, although the river was very low – it worked out well, it was just very slow. There were a total of 25 people including community leaders on the float and a good time was had by all!

Douglas County Lands Bill Update:

Brenda reported that this bill allows Federal Lands to be sold for conservation easements. She mentioned an interview with Jacques Etchegoyhen that would be in the newsletter. The bill is well supported on its own; however, progress has been slowed because lawmakers have attached other Nevada land bills (one being the Fallon Naval Air Station request for more land) to it in a bundle. Shane and Katie Smith conducted an interview with Mr. Etchegoyhen that will be published in our Summer Newsletter. The [full interview](#) was conducted via Zoom and is available at Carson River Watershed YouTube Channel.

Next meeting:

We will hold quarterly meetings in the future. Brenda will email doodle poll to determine when quarterly meeting will be held.

Zoom Chat Notes:

10:12:36 From CWSD Com Room: jwoodward@dps.state.nv.us

10:15:36 From Erin Warnock, NDWR: I can go last and give FAW update at the same time

10:21:06 From Sarah Watson, EPA: Updates from EPA re: Carson River Mercury Site:

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footprint of the Superfund site. This offers no-cost sampling at single-family residences by NDEP and EPA. NDEP and EPA will each do a press release for this and if appropriate for your entities, feel free to share on your social media.

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10:24:49 From Sarah Watson, EPA: Watson.sarah@epa.gov Bain.Andrew@epa.gov

10:35:16 From sejamerson to CWSD(Direct Message): Hi Brenda/Shane - I have to jump off by 11am for another meeting. If you can let myself and Loren, give an update in a few minutes that would be great.

10:39:22 From Richard Wilkinson: Update for CVCD I apologize I cannot unmute my phone. Crews are currently spraying weeds until the end of July. We continue to reseed areas along the floodplain that we have treated for noxious weeds. We will be starting the Genoa River Restoration Phase 2 September 1st. We anticipate being out of the river by the end of December. If bids come in where we hope we will try and complete 5 project sites. As of today, we have reseeded over 2500 acres since we purchased our tractor and no till drill. Thank you!

10:40:23 From sejamerson: Richard, what seed mix are you using for the reseeded?

10:56:16 From Courtney Walker: I have to log off for another meeting. I would love to hear more about the Douglas County lands bill update!

11:00:33 From Richard Wilkinson: Seed varies with each site, but the bulk of the work is in production, so it usually involves pasture grasses which is paid for by the landowner

11:04:17 From Chris Spross: cspross@churchillcountynv.gov

11:04:52 From Patrick Clancey: Quick reminder if you are soliciting work through federal funds, make sure to keep 2 CFR 200 in mind

11:38:20 From Candace Stowell: Thank you