



CRC Education Working Group Meeting Notes

May 25, 2022

In person & via Zoom Meeting

In Attendance

Kevin Baughman, NVRWA
Lyndsey Boyer, CCOS
Christopher Burke, NVRWA
Sarah Fichtner, DWR
Shane Fryer, CWSD
Brenda Hunt, CWSD
Ed James, CWSD
Rachel Kieffer, AWG
Elana Ketchian, RCI

Lori Leonard, TNC
Debbie Neddenriep, CWSD
Catrina Schambra, CWSD
Martina Schambra, CWSD AmeriCorps
Chuck Schembre, NDEP
Christy Sullivan, LCD
Nancy Upham, CCMOS
Georgia Vasey, CCOS
Courtney Walker, Douglas County

1. Introductions

2. Round Robin Updates

★ **Shane Fryer, CWSD** - Introduced new CWSD AmeriCorps, Martina Schambra.

★ **Courtney Walker**, Douglas County Stormwater Manager - NDEP Westwood Douglas High School LID Project. Working with students. Geoscience class w/soil amendments, rocks, etc. for soil drainage. Medallions and drainage signs used for outreach to community. Has been very successful - Wrap up this school year. Will be starting up again in Fall. She is working w/ 3 solid teachers that are into the project and happy to have students involved in real life project! Brenda asked can we have pics and blurb for our summer newsletter? Issues w/student pics. She will put together short article and pic of drain medallion. Highlight controversy with letter? Douglas County politics got involved in non-point source pollution letters from students. DC Farm Bureau took issue w/ letter content. Sent letter to school district against project. Courtney wrote letter back to defend project. Brenda suggested unexpected hiccups need to be addressed to group. Chuck Schembre said AG has been identified as #1 non-point source in the country. Need to educate public. Nancy Upham asked to please share info for support.

★ **Elaina Ketchian**, RCI Environmental Tech reported on Riverview Elementary School; 100+ students 3rd - 6thgrade. Really- good event. Was invited by Patty w/Healthy Communities Coalition. Included farmers' market. Chuck asked for RCI education connection for grant program: Source Water Program.

★ **Christopher Burke**, NV Rural water (NVRWA) - He is new to position. thanks for invite!

★ **Lori Leonard**, TNC- River Fork event included presentation on Bear management. She was concerned about possible controversy but it was great program. Working with River Wranglers & Sierra Nevada Journeys. 75 students came to Ranch Butterfly Workshop /Citizen Scientist Event. June 4 is National Trails Day (Nature Walk); June 9 is RW & SNJ Family STEM Night at River Fork Ranch. June is Pollinator month: NDW - Bats of NV. She will send info to the group.

★ **Kevin Baughman** -Executive Director NRWA - He is new to position, NRWA has lots of new employees! Discussed NRWA. Happy to be part of group.

★ **Christy Sullivan**, Lahontan Conservation District - Did a Conserve Carson River Workday with River Wranglers. Reached over 400 students! There were 5 interactive stations and a BBQ at the

end. Rebecca at RW is doing astounding job! The Tree Sale sold 1500 trees mostly wind breaks & erosion control types but had 20 different varieties. Sold bare root trees @ \$3.50 each.

★ **Georgia Vasey**, CCOS - Monitoring season for her. RW collaborated on a trash pickup on Prison Hill. Great program with 5th graders. Ranchers doing botany walks. Georgia will be leaving August 1 to go back to school.

★ **Lyndsey Boyer**, CCOS - Hiring Volunteer Coordinator. Job Description in chat. Lots of requirement. Please share widely. Pollinator Month in June. Events scheduled:

- W/ Great Basin Beekeepers – 6/25/22, 9-11 Pollinator Parade at Farmers market in Carson City. Wear a costume!
- National 2nd city in Nevada Carson City is BEE CITY USA!
- Proclamation, Library Display, Books on Pollinators
- June 9th Landscaping for Butterflies - Adams Pub in June.

Hoping for guided hikes too. Still planning. Debbie wants to bring models to events and seed pkts!

★ **Sarah Fichtner**, DWR - Met w/Chuck Schembre & Silver Jackets re: training w/ teachers, SNJ project latest, curriculum for Flood Fighter rodeo game. Could not get a teacher to take on the pilot project. Teachers very stressed right now. Doesn't want this to be burden to teacher, but helpful. Still in works. High Water Mark sign unveiled in Reno last week. (See pics.) Chuck Schembre suggested she introduce Watershed University with Nevada Silver Jackets team: 2-day training w/ education for Floodplain Management; 3rd day - Outreach events great way to teach people. At Reno Riverfest gave out backpacks with lots of swag. Clubs and afterschool programs suggested for outreach connections. UNR also Project Wet. Lori asked where is the HWM sign? HWM in Reno is in Wingfield Park. TNC new mural with trout on it – on top of mural. Georgia & RW mentioned that Cara Dorado a new Science curriculum teacher is very excited to collaborate with us. Enthusiastic to add student activities to curriculum. (See chat & pics.)

★ **Nancy Upham**, Churchill County CCMOS – Weeds class ongoing will send info to CWSD for eblast and newsletter.

★ **Chuck Schembre**, NDEP - Introduced himself to group & gave his background. He works with 319h grants at NDEP. Soil conservation practices is of interest to him. Soil Health partnership being ongoing project. Project Wet: EPA has webisodes for water professional – Wants to do Nevada centric programs like NEMO in past. Professionals opportunity for education outreach. State Level stuff: Non-Point source pollution - Best Practice Handbook Update to 1994 version. Working group starting up. /looking for those to join.

★ **Rachel Kieffer**, AWG = lots of outreach during Earth Day at South Lake Tahoe. Tuesday July 12th walking tour mtg 5:30-7 pm. Will send info to Brenda for eblast.

Chuck mentioned looking into funding RW for AWG events which are in CA. NV funding - match for 319 thru CWSD. Upper watershed would be great if we can do this. If CA residents brought into NV for events should definitely be funded. He will investigate this.

★ **Debbie Nedderniep**, CWSD - FEMA Grants cover FAW and Outreach Projects

- East Carson City Drainage study to neighborhoods
- Storey County June 21st Piper's Opera House
- Ramsey Canyon/Silver Springs
- Southeast Carson City ADMP in August
- Douglas County / Buckeye Drainage Design
- Funding for RW to go to one Elementary in each county of the Watershed.
- Public outreach- Dayton Valley Days in Sept.
- Carson City & Douglas County High Water Mark Project. Work beginning today on Trail #1 Fremont for Mural Project. HWM signs at Morgan Mill and Carson River Park. When unveiled will have event with stations, speakers, etc at sites. She will send updates. Interpretive Signs will have QR codes too.

★ **Ed James**, CWSD – Discussed current projects. Talked to HDR re models. Meeting w/Douglas County staff in mid-June to discuss ability to run real-time models in future – same time as

weather warnings. Discussed 30-Year Water Plan and described goals: to identify conflicts in future that will affect water users. To have the tools to use to resolve issues. Climate change and what-if scenarios. Trying to get ahead of the curve on how to mitigate impacts. Discussed Humboldt and Walker issues. Looking for more people to join this working group.

★ **Brenda Hunt, CWSD** – asked all to send info on their projects to add to meeting notes.

3. Upcoming Events:

June is Pollinator Month. Wednesday, June 9 will release Pollinator Watershed Moment video. UNCE will be hosting Pollinator events also. Trying to coordinate with them and their events for June. Upcoming Events: Please send events info for our newsletter in June. 3rd week of June target date for publication. Markleeville Creek Day is Sept. 17th (Saturday) - CWSD wants to film Watershed Moment “Engage Your Watershed” during this event. AWG will send info to Brenda.

4. Grant Updates-

a. *319(h) Grants Application Planning:*

319(h) GFO will be released this summer. CWSD will be applying. Chuck says no delay due to Birgit leaving. \$800,000 available last year, should be about the same this year. He has seen no updates. Truckee River now has a Watershed, so will be able to apply for NDEP funding now. Truckee Plan is conditional Plan by EPA. Not sure what that means to funding.

★ **Debbie Neddienrip, CWSD** – CWSD applying for Round 13 of FEMA funding now. \$700,000 - \$800,000 available. (\$30,000 included for outreach funding). Let CWSD know if you need Letters of Support for any of your funding/grant applications.

b. *Watershed Coordination Implementation*

i. **I Am Carson River Watershed Campaign:**

★ **Shane Fryer, CWSD** – There are so far 2,264 views of Martina’s Explore Your Watershed Reel on Instagram! Douglas County Public Access Channel is rumored to be back up; he will check on that. Pollinator Video is in June. Please support. If you have reels, you'd like to share we can repost - Share and support group efforts. Give away have been successful. Explore your Watershed giving state park annual pass! Ticket for raffle if you share reel. Seeds for Pollinator month. Press release /press kit available on our website each month. Please share with your PIOs. July topic is “Recreate Responsibly.” Cities are having issues with blackwater dumping and it is affecting water quality. August is Weeds, September is Litter, November is Curb Chemical Use and December will be a highlight reel of all to wrap up the year. What’s next? Will follow-up with survey (From 2015 a re-survey) and will seek funding to update Action Plan.

ii. **Westwood Neighborhood LID:**

Courtney discussed above

iii. **Outreach Communication:**

★ **Martina Schambra, CWSD** – newsletter update: Deadline for article submission is June 10th.

iv. **Stewardship Plan Web Access Viewer:**

★ **Brenda Hunt, CWSD** – Web Access Viewer for Stewardship Plan Tracking/Tables. Lots of SOQ’s were submitted for the project. In selection process now. Phase I will be finished by the end of year. Very exciting project! Querying will provide data for reporting purposes to us and our funders.

3 Levels of Users:

- ① view only
- ② User access for partners QAQC -Add data (will review)
- ③ Query level (still in construction theory)

c. *FEMA and USBR Grant Updates*

★ **Debbie Neddenriep**, CWSD -

- Flood Awareness Week is November 13-19, 2022
- FAW Planning Mtg June 2nd @ 9AM
- CWSD will have library display.
- AG in the Classroom will be starting in Douglas County led by Courtney Walker. Will include model demo's and Chuck Schembre soil demo video.
- AG Working Group (208 funded- came thru in March) includes workshop, local studies, AG best practices/soil health. Drafting Mission Statement now. Proposing first meeting in June.

d. *208 Water Quality Planning Grant:*

★ **Brenda Hunt**, CWSD discussed the connection between soil health and water quality, the grant goals and tasks including creation of a CRC Ag Working Group; working with producers to determine 3 demo/pilot areas throughout the watershed to implement regenerative/soil health practices; completing a best practices white paper; and hosting a soil health/regenerative ag workshop.

e. *NV State Parks RTP Grant:*

★ **Shane Fryer**, CWSD – RTP: 5/26/22 9 am to going over grants. 1 ½ years behind in compliance process!

5. Other Items:

★ **Brenda Hunt**, CWSD – National Resource Conservation Service National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) – We've used the Adaptive Stewardship Plan as basis to gather information to meet the objectives for the NWQI. We cross referenced other plans and NRCS – Jim Gifford has submitted our findings to NRCS National Office. Waiting to see if accepted. Will be another source of funding. Initially, project area is limited to four HUCs in the Carson Valley. How much funding will be available is unknown, but could be a significant source. Another program, Conserve Nevada is the second rendition of the Question One Program. Regulations are being put in place now. Brenda to ask whether Brandon Bishop could come to our next meeting.

Next Meeting: August 24, 2022, 9-11am (Hybrid Meeting = In person and virtual)



