



CRC Education Working Group Meeting Notes

February 22, 2023

In person & via Zoom Meeting

In Attendance

Lindsay Chichester, UNCE
Rebecca Feldermann, RW
Sarah Fichtner, NDWR
Shane Fryer, CWSD
Brenda Hunt, CWSD
Ed James, CWSD
Rachel Kiefer, AWG
Lori Leonard, TNC

Kelly Nicholas, AmeriCorps
Max Robinson, CWSD
Catrina Schambra, CWSD
Erin Smith, RCI
Christy Sullivan, LCD
Courtney Walker, Douglas County
Kim Zuch, State Parks

Round Robin Updates

CWSD staff introduced themselves. Shane Fryer announced his early retirement date of June 30, 2023. He will remain active in the watershed as well as contracting with CWSD to finish current projects.

★ **Rebecca Feldermann, RW** – Not much happening over the winter due to the snow, but RW is getting back out there with Trout in the Classroom, Douglas County school FAW event and upcoming Churchill County Ag in the Classroom. More event info later in agenda.

★ **Erin Smith, RCI** – Here today to see what everyone has been doing. Will be updating Carson City on Community Source Water Protection Plan. She wants to highlight all work that's been done so far. She will be updating as this project moves forward. Also updating literature and education pamphlets.

★ **Courtney Walker, Douglas County** – So crazy to hear Shane is retiring! We are so jealous! Construction projects in Douglas County have been halted due to snow and it looks like more is coming this week.

★ **Lindsay Chichester, UNCE** – Launched Pollinator Ambassador Program. More later in agenda.

★ **Rachel Kiefer, AWG** – Participated in January 26 Eagles & Ag Photography Session at Douglas County Community Center. AWG was only group with table. Lots of photography vendors and Ed James was keynote speaker. AWG is planning events for year.

Upcoming Events:

- **Ag in the Classroom** - Minden Elementary School. Cassi Koerner (CWSD Director) is helping to coordinate this event. Looking at May 30, May 31 or June 1. In planning stages now. This is a big event with 15-20 tables. Please keep in mind to participate. (**Editor Note: May 30 confirmed date**)
- **Earth Day Outreach** – No one attending from local tribes today, but Cale Pete – Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, had mentioned in an earlier meeting that they would welcome community participation at their Earth Day event. CWSD will reach out to both the Washoe and

Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribes for more info and share. **(Editor Note: FPST Earth Day Event at Oats Park on April 22. Contact**

- **Carson River Watershed Forum** - April 18-19, 2023, in Ruvo Hall at Governor's Mansion. We are so lucky to get Ruvo Hall again during the Legislative Session! Shane shared proposed schedule which is very preliminary for group input:

	Tues Apr 18	Speaker(s)
8:30 a.m.	Start at 8:30 to give longer breaks?	
9 a.m.	CRC - History and Guiding Principles	Brenda
9:30 a.m.	Review of ADMPs - Panel	Moderator: Ed? Max,? Speakers: Courtney, Kathy Canfield, Debbie, Brianna, Louis
10:15 a.m.	BREAK	
10:30 a.m.	Regenerative Ag	Joe Frey, Nik Nooman
11:15 a.m.	Regenerative Ag	Joe Frey, Nik Nooman
12 noon	Lunch	
12:30 p.m.	Keynote/Lunch/DCNR Direction	James Settlemeier
1 p.m.	Collaborative Governance	Loretta Singletary
1:30 p.m.	Wetlands (or whatever he prefers)	Willy Steve - FPST
2 p.m.	River Fork Ranch	Lori Leonard
2:30 p.m.	BDAs	Julie Fair
3 p.m.	BREAK	
3:15 p.m.	Planning - Panel: RFMP update, 30-year Drought, WF Vision, Int Watershed	Moderator: JP? Bunny? Brenda? Speakers: Dave Simpson, Danny McClure, Ed, Debbie
4:00 p.m.	Closing	CWSD Staff
4:30pm	Extend to 4:30 to give longer breaks?	

	Wed Apr 19	Speaker (s)
8:30 a.m.		
9 a.m.	Intro/Watershed Literacy Sizzle Reel/Web Viewer	Shane
9:30 a.m.	Environmental Education Under Threat - Panel	Moderator: Lindsay Chichester - Speakers: Rebecca, NDEP, AWG, NVWR, Sierra Nevada Journeys, Brenda/Shane
10:15 a.m.	BREAK	
10:30 a.m.	Flood After Fires	U.S. Forest Service
11:15 a.m.	USGS Upper and Middle Carson Groundwater Modeling	Ramon N and Max
	TCID /USBR - Lahontan Operations During High Water	TCID? USBR? Churchill County?
12 noon	Lunch	
12:30 p.m.	Keynote: National Weather Service - Climate Change? Weather	Chris Smallcomb
1 p.m.	River Forecast	Tim Bardsley
1:30 p.m.	Low-Impact Development	Courtney Walker
2 p.m.	Preferred Topic - What they have planned, water quality, any river projects	Cale Pete, Rihanna Jones - WTNC
2:30 p.m.	Carson Valley River Projects	Rich Wilkinson
3 p.m.	BREAK	

3:15 p.m.	Funding - Panel	Moderator: Governor's Grant Office Speakers: NRCS, Conserve Nevada, FEMA, NDEP, NV Forestry, NFWF/FBLM/US Forest Service
4:00 p.m.	Closing	CWSD Staff
4:30pm		

Lindsay Chichester is not available to participate and Brenda asked her if she had someone else to suggest as moderator for Environmental Education Under Treat Panel discussion. Lindsay will let her know. Brenda went over schedule. Group consensus to have longer breaks and more time to talk after speakers. Build in networking time. AWG suggested Clint Celio as speaker or someone from UNR Living With Fire Team. Courtney thinks it looks good but asked for draft to be emailed to group for help in future planning.

- **Get on the Bus Tour** – CWSD has not had one since 2018! Hope to plan for June if funding allows. This would be a 2-day tour of the watershed starting in Alpine County all the way to Lahontan. Will send update when we know if we can start planning.
- **TNC Events** – Will add to notes, per Lori.
- **Carson City Events** – Not in attendance today.
- **AWG events** – Note: AWG is working to hire a 3rd fulltime employee this year so will be able to attend and participate in more events.
 - March 14, Career Day at Douglas High School. Will email info to group.
 - Grover Hot Springs Walk in planning stage
 - June 16 & 17 Alpine County Music Festival, AWG fundraising event
 - September 23, Markleeville Creek Day
 - October Planting Day in planning stage
- **RW Events** -
 - March 1st, Trout release with CC Meneley ES, Mitch Park Pond in Gardnerville, 9:30am
 - March 3rd, Trout release with Carson Montessori, East Silver Saddle Ranch in Carson, 9:30am
 - March 7th, Trout release with Pinion Hills ES, Baily's Pond in Carson, 9:45am-12:45pm
 - March 10th, Trout release with Fritsch ES, Baily's Pond in Carson, 9:15am-12:30pm
 - March 15th, Trout release with Gardnerville ES, River Fork Ranch in Genoa, 10:00am-1:00pm
 - April 5th, CCRWD w/Hugh Gallagher ES, Rolling A in Dayton, Event complete by 1:00pm
 - April 27th, Ag in the Classroom, Churchill County Fairgrounds, 5th grade classes (all day)
 - April 29th, Genoa Western Heritage Days, River Fork Ranch. Time TBD
 - May 4th, CCRWD w/SSES, Ft. Churchill State Park, Event complete by 1:00pm
 - May 15th & 16th, CCRWD w/Numa ES, Rambling River Ranches in Fallon
 - May 19th, Riverview ES Farmer's Market Outreach, Dayton, 9am-12:00pm
 - June 1st, Neighborhood Workshop in Douglas County, DCSW LID Project, Time TBD
- **LCD Events** -
 - April 15, Tree Sale
 - April 27, Ag in the Classroom
 - December 1st Deadline for NACD Poster Contest: "One Water" Theme
- **NDWR Events** -
 - Will be at Fernley Festival next week. They are finishing Story Maps to get into classrooms. Nevada River Story Maps and River Fighter Video Game links in chat. Planning a March FAW event. Hoping to keep outreach presence, even with less staff.
- **River Fork Ranch Events** -

Docent Program starting this Spring
Science & Speaker Series will be the 4th Thursday of each month

Grant Updates-

a. 319(h) Grants Application Planning:

Brenda reported Education and Outreach is looking grim for future funding. There have been changes to the process by EPA and the funding awards have been delayed. In the past we have received our funding awards by November and here we are at the end of February and have not been notified of any funding awards. The future funding looks to be “implementation on the ground projects.” CWSD Watershed Coordination Program was thought to be project funds to coordinate the implementation of the Stewardship Plan in the past. It is now considered program funds, not project funding. Program funds are much less available.

Over the next three years, will be a transitioning of the NV funding. NDEP is applying for a waiver for this to be phased in during the next 3 years. EPA/NDEP will be meeting on February 28 to determine funding awards. There has been a lot of staff loss in NDEP and they are understaffed.

We will all need to be actively looking for other funding opportunities going forward. There are lots of new people in EPA from other states who do not know the area and may not be clear on what we do. Brenda would like to set up a tour for the new EPA/NDEP people so they can learn what we all do with our watershed plan and why it's so important.

Lori Leonard stated River Fork Ranch would be happy to partner with Educational Outreach and on the ground projects.

b. Watershed Coordination Implementation

i. Westwood Neighborhood LID:

LID/Education through implementation projects are a perfect fit for these new funding guidelines! Courtney reported on this 2-year 319 grant that ends June 2023. She gave background on project. October was the installation of the projects. 75 students in 3 classes involved in project. Students really engaged and care about the project. She would like to continue this successful educational outreach. A Neighborhood Workshop is scheduled for June 1. This will be a great tabling outreach opportunity.

ii. I Am Carson River Watershed Campaign:

Watershed Literacy campaign has wrapped up. Next up will be snipping 30-second clips of videos to get free TV & radio spots. We will be continuing social media outreach and focus more on using the assets we've already created. Partners are welcome to use in their work also.

iii. Web Access Viewer Update for Stewardship Plan Tracking:

Shane showed a pre-recorded presentation on the Web Access Viewer for Stewardship Tracking and gave a demonstration of the survey 123 input form.

c. FEMA Grant Updates

Becca reported on a River Wranglers FAW event on February 14 at Pau Wa Lu Middle School in Gardnerville. Debbie, Max, Kelly and Becca ran 3 stations from 7:50am – 2:10pm. It was a great day with lots of positive response from the teachers and students.

Debbie reported that the Walker River Flood Hazard Risk Study includes FAW outreach and High-Water Mark Signs projects.

Chat Notes & Links:

- 09:45:08 From Lindsay Chichester : Ed was a keynote speaker
- 09:57:33 From Lindsay Chichester : I see I am listed as moderator. Unfortunately, I will be out of town on those dates.
- 09:58:21 From Rachel Kieffer, Alpine Watershed Group : Later end time. More discussion on talks that happened and coffee has kicked in :)
- 10:02:08 From Becca : I am fine with either, to be honest. I like the idea of having more chat time after talks have happened :)
- 10:02:29 From CWSD Conference Room : Reacted to "I am fine with eithe..." with 👍
- 10:02:39 From LCD : 8:30 works
- 10:02:52 From CWSD Conference Room : Reacted to "8:30 works " with 👍
- 10:02:56 From Erin Smith : I am also fine with either time.
- 10:03:01 From Lindsay Chichester : My only feedback for the ranchers is to manage their time better.
- 10:03:21 From Lindsay Chichester : The December meeting got off agenda...
- 10:04:14 From kzuch : I like the idea of longer breaks and more time to talk after the presentations.
- 10:05:26 From Lindsay Chichester : I heard one speaker went long, and the it pushed them all back, and they scrambled to fit in the time slot and not go over too much... So whoever manages the schedule, just needs to be mindful of the timeslots
- 10:07:11 From CWSD Conference Room : Reacted to "I heard one speaker ..." with 👍
- 10:07:18 From CWSD Conference Room : Reacted to "I like the idea of l..." with 👍
- 10:12:24 From Lindsay Chichester : Flood after fires - a great speaker would be CLint Celio in Alpine County, or someone from the UNR Living With Fire Team
- 10:52:19 From LCD : I have an appointment. Thank you for all that you do!
- 10:55:49 From Sarah Fichtner, Nevada DWR : <http://nevadafloods.org/outreach/flood-fighter-nevada-classroom-curriculum>
- 10:56:08 From Sarah Fichtner, Nevada DWR : <http://nevadafloods.org/index.php/education-resources/C7>
- 11:29:14 From Becca to CWSD(Direct Message) : I think this is super cool and will happily test to help out. Great job! :)
- 11:30:28 From Lindsay Chichester : Thanks, gotta go!

Next Meeting: May 24, 2023, 9:30-11:30am