



CRC Education Working Group Meeting Notes August 23, 2023 In person & via Zoom Meeting

In Attendance

Name	Title	Acronym	Organization
Lindsay Chichester	Douglas County Extension Educator	UNCE	University of Nevada, Douglas County Extension
Rebecca Feldermann	Executive Director	RW	River Wranglers
Sarah Fichtner	Floodplain Mapping Coordinator	NDWR	Nevada Division of Water Resources
Brenda Hunt	Watershed Program Manager	CWSD	Carson Water Subconservancy District
Ed James	General Manager	CWSD	Carson Water Subconservancy District
Rachel Kieffer	Headwaters Coordinator	AWG	Alpine Watershed Group
Lori Leonard	Preserve Manager, River Fork Ranch	TNC	The Nature Conservancy
Danny McClure	Water Resource Control Engineer, PE	LRWQCB	Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board
Debbie Neddenriep	Water Resource Specialist II, CFM	CWSD	Carson Water Subconservancy District
Max Robinson	Water Resource Specialist I	CWSD	Carson Water Subconservancy District
Catrina Schambra	Administrative Assistant	CWSD	Carson Water Subconservancy District
Erin Smith	Resource Specialist	RCI	Resource Concepts, Inc.
Courtney Walker	Stormwater Program Manager	Douglas	Douglas County

Round Robin Updates

Danny McClure, Water Resource Control Engineer, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board – LRWQCB has been developing the [West Fork Carson River Vision Plan and released a draft in July](#). The comments on the draft are due by midnight tonight. [Click here for more information](#).

Lindsay Chichester, Douglas County Extension Educator –NRCS will hold a Minden Local Work Group Meeting on Tuesday, September 5 at 3pm at the East Fork Fire Protection District Office (and via Teams) regarding USDA conservation program under the Farm Bill. [Click here for more information](#). Douglas County is in the process of updating their Strategic Plan and holding Public Workshops for community input. September 19, 4-7:30pm at Community Center in Gardnerville. [Click here for more information](#).

Rachel Kiefer, Headwaters Coordinator, Alpine Watershed Group – Markleeville Creek Day is Saturday, September 23, 8:30-11:30 starting at Turtle Rock Park. [Click here to view flyer](#). Event in coordination with Great Sierra River Cleanup, National Public Lands Day & the first Alpine County Washoe Mountain Gathering. The Washoe Mountain Gathering will be Saturday and Sunday at Grover Hot Springs (in North camp area) with ceremonies, dancers and vendors. Hoping to draw 300 community members to the event. Shuttle service from Turtle Rock Park will be available. Also, AWG is excited to increase their staff with 2 AmeriCorps members with the California Climate Action Corps program starting September 26 through the middle of August 2024!

Courtney Walker, Stormwater Manager, Douglas County – The [Douglas County Strategic Plan](#) will have storm water management and road work as a priority. Flooding fits in with that. Also, the Floodplain Management Plan update is in progress.

Erin Smith, Resource Specialist, Resource Concepts, Inc. – Carson City Source Water Protection Plan has just been completed and is going to the Board of Commissioners in September. October 7 from 10am-12:30pm will be the 2nd Annual Carson City Source Water Assessment Day to be held in the parking area at the top of the Kings Canyon Trailhead. CCPROS, CCPW, RW, CWSD, RCI and Muscle Powered will all be participating in this

family friendly event. Also, two new NDEP nonpoint source staff members have been added at the Bureau of Water Quality Planning: Chris Fritsen (Branch Supervisor) and Chriss LaCasse.

Lori Leonard, Preserve Manager, River Fork Ranch – She is working with CWSD and Courtney Walker to design a High-Water Mark Sign for River Fork Ranch. A picture from the 2023 flooding will included on the sign.

Upcoming events at River Fork Ranch:

- [Science & Nature Speakers Series - 4th Thursday Every Month Thru October:](#)
August 24, 6-7pm - Topic: [Renewal Energy in Nevada](#)
- August 26, 1-2pm [Nature Journaling](#) – A Family Event focusing in Sunflowers
- September 9, 1-2pm – [Wildlife Photography with Camera Traps](#)
- September 16, 10am-12:30pm – [Story Songs of the Carson Valley](#)

Sarah Fichtner, Floodplain Mapping Coordinator, Nevada Division of Water Resources – The most recent outreach was a “Water Palooza” event on the last day of school demonstrating the CWSD Flood Model. They are putting together a flyer on the Walker River area. If anyone has pictures of Walker River flooding that they can use, please share. They are moving along with the High-Water Mark signs in Carson City and other areas including parks.

Rebecca Feldermann, Executive Director, River Wranglers – They is not much on the calendar yet for the new school year. Summer events included Nevada Outdoor Experience & Camp Carson activities at their site. She attended Dayton Farmers Market twice, but engagement was extremely low. She participated in National Night Out, Sheriff’s Night out and the 4H Summer Camp. The Cantaloupe Festival is this weekend and she will be participating in that event. She wanted to announce the Western Nevada Boys & Girls Club won 3rd Place in the Nation for their Climate Change efforts in Wetlands Cleanup! More River Wranglers events coming up:

- September 16 & 17, Dayton Valley Days
- TBD: Carson City Co-op Home School Event
- September 28, 9am-noon, Silver Sage Middle School Fall Festival (Great event – 1500 people last year!)
- October 2, Source Water Assessment, Eagle Valley Middle School
- October 13, Snapshot Day (More on that later.)
- October 26, Boo-nanza at Mills Park (with CWSD)

Debbie Neddenriep, Water Resource Specialist II, CWSD – March through June was very busy with outreach events reaching 2600 kids and 650 adults, including school related events with River Wranglers. This Fall CWSD will be participating in only about 12 events, due to losing a staff member.

Upcoming Events:

- **Snapshot Day – Friday, October 13**

Rebecca reported last year that Snapshot Day included 3 schools at 4 different sites and she is hoping to expand that this year if she can get enough volunteers to make it happen. **Please let her know asap if you can participate as a leader so she can move forward in scheduling.** Cale Pete, Environmental Manager, has confirmed the Washoe Tribe will participate. Rachel Kieffer said AWG or Friends of Hope Valley may be able to participate at Hangman’s Bridge in Alpine County. She will look for volunteers. Rebecca will reach out to Kristen at Fort Churchill State Park to see if the site is available for a student event and if so, Silver Stage Elementary students will go there. She will share a map of available locations with the group. Last year the 4 sites were: River Fork Ranch (2); Carson River Park; and Dresslerville. The goal this year will be at least 4 stations and about 30 minutes each for sampling. Remember also, this is an opportunity for direct contact students for other topics too, such as the Enviroscape or Flood Model, pelts, weeds, etc. There will be a **leader training day at Carson River Park on October 9, 3:30 – 5:00pm.** Calibration Day will be October 11 at the CWSD office. Rebecca will send info to Brenda for the group. Please participate and spread the word to your colleagues for as many volunteers as we can get! If participants are available and the schools allow, a Pre-Snapshot Day in-class presentation would be great!

- **FEMA Outreach:**

Debbie reported the following upcoming events.

August 25 & 26	Cantaloupe Festival	Churchill County
August 29	SE ADMP Public Meeting	Prison Hill Area, Carson City
September 23	Markleeville Creek Day	Markleeville Park, Alpine County

September 28	Fall Festival	Silver Stage Middle School, Lyon County
October 7	Source Water Assessment	Kings Canyon, Carson City
October 12	SE ADMP Public Meeting	Virginia City, Storey County
October 13	Snapshot Day	Locations TBD
October 24	Map Outreach	Markleeville, Alpine County
October 26	Boo-nanza	Mills Park, Carson City
October (TBD)	Ag in Classroom	Douglas County
November 14	Map Outreach	Gardnerville Douglas County

- **Soil Health/Regenerative Ag Workshop in Douglas at UNCE offices:**
Lindsay reported this is on hold at this point due to losing the staff member who was coordinating the event. There is a new person who will be taking over but for now, the new date and location is TBD.
- **319(h) grants update and other events including trails, etc.**
Brenda reported that CWSD received a grant from State Parks for the Mexican Dam Portage Project. RCI was chosen to design the project. The project will be done in phases. Eventually, it will allow a great Carson River float from Cradlebaugh Bridge, Portage around the Mexican Dam and then take out at Morgan Mill. Ed explained that CWSD received two awards from State Parks. The initial phase covers the design of the portage and the permitting process. Construction costs to be determined by available grant funds. CWSD will possibly need to apply for another grant to cover that phase of the project.

Grant Updates-

- **Westwood Neighborhood LID**
Courtney Walker reported the grant was extended for this project and they plan to expand the project area with students this Fall. She will be meeting with students when school starts. River Wrangler will be participating in the project and CWSD will help where possible. Brenda suggested Lindsay Chichester may involve horticulture outreach with the pollinator plant selection. Lori Leonard stated River Fork Ranch is looking to expand its planting area, so please keep her in the loop.
- **CRC Coordination & Stewardship Plan Implementation-Education Outreach Aspects**
Brenda reported that NDEP awarded a grant for the Watershed Program Coordination for another year. She is now the sole staff for this program now. Kelly will be back next month and complete another AmeriCorps term of 11 months and Shane will be a part-time contractor to help out during this year. In 2015 a Watershed Survey was sent to residents to determine their knowledge of the watershed. The results of this survey were used to develop the Watershed-Literacy Plan that same year. The I AM CARSON RIVER campaign, the Watershed Interactive Map, etc., all came out of the survey in an effort to educate the community. It is time to re-survey to gauge the impact of our efforts. The campaign PSA's will continue through the coming year and in Fall 2024 CWSD plans to send out another survey. Over 800 people responded in 2015. Brenda is requesting input from the group for questions they want included in relation to their projects. CWSD will be working with a professional survey company as before. Brenda will be sharing information on this project as it develops.

Brenda reported the June 13 & 14 "Get on the Bus!" Watershed Tour was well attended and everyone really enjoyed it! She gave an overview of the itinerary and shared reviews and ideas from the exit survey. CWSD hopes to have another in 2024, and every year forward. Please contact Brenda with ideas and/or if you would like to participate next year! Click here for [GOTB 2-Day Bus Tour Program](#), here for [GOTB Speakers Bios](#), and here for [GOTB Tour Survey Results](#).

- **208 Water Quality Planning Grant**
Brenda reported soil samples will be collected in September and new ranches have been added to project.
- **CWSD Weed Grants**
Max reported CWSD is updating the Noxious Weed Abatement Program. A meeting is scheduled with participating counties to discuss possible changes and he will report details at the next meeting.

Please send any event info to Brenda to be included in Eblasts and Newsletter.

Adjourned 11:27am.

Next Meeting: November 29, 2023, 1:30 - 3:30pm

Chat Notes & Links:

9:29 AM{/b} - Meeting started

Courtney Walker 9:34 AM

The link in the email does not work, the link on the agenda does. Might take a little bit for people to figure that out.

Debbie Neddenriep, Carson Water Subconservancy District 9:40 AM

Lindsay, who is the NRCS contact for those meetings?

Lindsay Chichester 9:42 AM

Here is the info Debbie: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAFARMERS/bulletins/36b60d3>

Here is more information about the strategic plan in Douglas County:

https://www.douglascountynv.gov/government/board_of_county_commissioners/strategic_plan

Debbie Neddenriep, Carson Water Subconservancy District 9:49 AM

Thanks Lindsay!

Debbie Neddenriep, Carson Water Subconservancy District 10:04 AM

Rebecca, add us to this event! Hooray.

Lindsay Chichester 10:10 AM

I can help at a Douglas County site

Debbie Neddenriep, Carson Water Subconservancy District 10:13 AM

Is Snapshot am only? I'll be heading out of town.

Lyndsay, are gnats pollinators?

Lindsay Chichester 10:15 AM

Fungus gnats are! :)

Erin Smith 10:20 AM

I have to step out of the meeting for just a few minutes.

Erin Smith 10:28 AM

I'm back.

Sarah Fichtner, Nevada DWR 11:08 AM

Be right back

Debbie Neddenriep, Carson Water Subconservancy District 11:11 AM

I need to review questions related to floodplain / flooding and potentially add more.

Brenda, I need to chat about Floodplain Management Plans in Carson River and Walker River

Sarah Fichtner, Nevada DWR 11:13 AM

Back

Debbie Neddenriep, Carson Water Subconservancy District 11:15 AM

When we get to item 3c.

11:27 AM{/b} - Meeting ended: 1h 57m