CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT
Administrative Committee

A healthy watershed that meets the water needs of all users

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

DATE: **November 24, 2026**

TIME: **10 am**

LOCATION: **CWSD Conference Room or via Zoom**
777 E. William Street, Ste. 209
Carson City, NV 89701

Via Zoom: Use this Zoom Link or call (669)900-9128. ID:823 7717 3181; Passcode: 866988

AGENDA

***Please Note**: The Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD) Board may: 1) take agenda items out of order; 2) combine two or more items for consideration; and/or 3) remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion related to an item at any time. All votes will be conducted by CWSD Board of Directors. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate individuals with limited ability to speak, write, or understand English and/or to those with disabilities who wish to join the meeting. Please contact Catrina Schambra at (775)887-7450 or email: catrina@cwsd.org at least 3 business days in advance so that arrangements can be made.*

1. Call to Order the CWSD Administrative Committee
2. Roll Call
3. For Discussion Only: Public Comment - Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under public comment until scheduled on the agenda for action at a later meeting.
4. For Possible Action: Review Nominations and Recommend Andy Aldax Award Winner(s)
5. For Discussion Only: Public Comment - Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under public comment until scheduled on the agenda for action at a later meeting.
6. Adjournment

Supporting material for this meeting may be requested from Catrina Schambra at 775-887-7450 (catrina@cwsd.org) and is available on the CWSD website at https://www.cwsd.org

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

The undersigned affirms that on or before 10 am on November 19, 2026, a copy of the *Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda* for the November 24, 2026 meeting of the Carson Water Subconservancy District Administrative Committee, per NRS 241.020 was posted at the following locations: CWSD, 777 E. William St., Ste. 209, Carson City, NV 89701; the CWSD website: https://www.cwsd.org and the Nevada Public Notice Website: https://notice.nv.gov/

Catrina Schambra, Office Manager, CWSD	November 19,2026 10 am **Date & Time of Posting**

CARSON WATER SUBCONSERVANCY DISTRICT
Administrative Committee

TO: Administrative Committee Members

FROM: Reed Cozens

DATE: November 24, 2025

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #5 – For Possible Action: Review Nominations and Recommend Andy Aldax Award Winner(s)

DISCUSSION: The Andy Aldax Carson River Watershed Award was created in 2007 to honor Andy Aldax, a CWSD Director from CWSD's inception in 1959 until 2012. The award recognizes individuals and organizations for significant contributions in promoting and achieving the Carson River Watershed Vision Statement.

To be considered for this award, nominees must:

1. Have demonstrated a commitment to Carson River Watershed conservation activities for 10 years or more; and,
2. Have produced accomplishments toward the goals outlined in the Carson River Watershed Vision Statement; and,
3. Be an organization, landowner, community member, or employee of a federal, state, or local entity living or working in the Carson River Watershed.

Nominees for the 2026 Andy Aldax Award(s) are:

1. Ed DeCarlo
2. Ed James
3. Don Jardine (Posthumous)
4. Settelmeyer Ranches

Letters of recommendation for Andy Aldax Award nominees are attached.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Recommend winner(s) for the 2027 Andy Aldax Award.

November 2, 2026

To: Carson Water Subconservancy District

It is my pleasure to nominate Ed DeCarlo for the Carson Water Subconservancy District 2027 Andy Aldax Award for Exemplary Service. My admiration of him grows the longer I know him and discover the amazing talent and commitment he has to the natural environment.

His passion for nature began early in life. This led him to a 16-year career for the U.S. Forest Service on the Carson Ranger District. He was involved in a multitude of projects including:

- Implementing forestry projects including dead tree salvage and thinnings that promoted healthy forest and protected the water resources of the Carson River.
- Assisted with Carson River flood mitigation support.
- Assisted with interagency coordination for mine redemption that affected water quality.
- Coordinated land acquisitions in Clear Creek and the Carson Range in the Carson River Watershed.

After his time with the Forest Service, Ed moved to the Bureau of Reclamation. Again, he was involved with land actions that protected Carson River water quality.

By 2012 Ed thought for a moment that it was time to retire, but this didn't last long. He continued to treasure land and water resources by:

- Volunteering with the Great Basin Institute for 8 years.
- Volunteering with Sierra Nevad Journeys for 5 years.

With both experiences he began passing on his knowledge and love for the natural world with upcoming generations of young students.

Currently, we have him right where we want him. For the past 5 years Ed has been on the board of River Wranglers. He serves as a co-chair. He is a year-round volunteer that we rely on to take up the cause of outdoor enrichment for students of our watershed. Our executive director, Rebecca Feldermann, has expressed her admiration for Ed.

- "Ed brings a unique array of experiences that complement the goals River Wranglers and enhance our programming with students and community members. His kindness, patience, knowledge, and enthusiasm elevate our program and is a key component of encouraging lifelong stewardship of our beautiful Nevada outdoors".

When he is not volunteering, Ed can still be found out in nature. He enjoys fishing, paddle boarding, rafting, and hiking. He traveled to all 50 states, many on his motorcycle, always looking for the hidden beauties in nature.

He is inspired by the mantra of the first head of the U.S. Forest Service. "The greatest good for the greatest number, in the long run".

Considering Ed's long standing and exceptional service during his career and in service to his community, he is very deserving of the 2027 Andy Aldax Award.

Best regards,

Phyllis Atkinson

Phyllis Atkinson
River Wranglers Board Member
775-846-4240

Nomination for the CWSD Andy Aldax Award for Exemplary Service in Conservation and Protection of the Carson River Watershed

November 3, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with profound respect and gratitude that we nominate Ed James for the Carson Water Subconservancy District's Andy Aldax Award for Exemplary Service in Conservation and Protection of the Carson River Watershed. For nearly three decades, Ed has devoted his professional life to protecting the Carson River, strengthening its communities, and building the partnerships necessary to ensure the watershed remains healthy and resilient for future generations. Few individuals have had a greater impact on the Carson River Watershed or embodied the spirit of service, leadership, and stewardship that this award represents.

As General Manager of the Carson Water Subconservancy District from August 1998 until his retirement in February 2026, Ed served as a tireless advocate for the watershed and the people who depend upon it. His work was never limited to managing programs or securing funding. Instead, he brought people together, inspired collaboration, and helped create a shared vision for the future of the Carson River Basin. Through his leadership, CWSD leveraged grant funding at an impressive ratio of more than 6.5 to 1, bringing critical resources into the watershed to support conservation, restoration, flood management, monitoring, and public education efforts.

Ed understood that protecting a watershed requires both science and community engagement. He established programs that connected people to their river, including the Carson River Get on the Bus Tours, educational newsletters, public outreach videos, and the CWSD website. He recognized the importance of helping residents understand watershed issues and cultivating a sense of shared responsibility for the river's future. His efforts have educated thousands of community members and fostered a deeper appreciation for the Carson River and its resources.

Throughout his career, Ed championed collaboration as the cornerstone of successful watershed management. He worked alongside agricultural producers, local governments, tribal representatives, conservation organizations, and federal and state agencies to advance solutions that benefited the entire basin. His partnerships with organizations such as NRCS, USGS, FEMA, BLM, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and every county within the watershed strengthened regional cooperation and produced lasting benefits for communities and natural resources alike. His leadership of the Carson River Coalition helped ensure that watershed planning remained integrated, forward-looking, and inclusive of diverse voices and perspectives.

Ed's commitment to protecting communities from flood hazards was equally significant. Under his guidance, CWSD became a FEMA Cooperating Technical Partner and conducted numerous flood studies and map revisions that improved floodplain management and public safety throughout the watershed. He also supported critical hydrologic data collection, including funding for ten USGS stream gages in 2022 alone, recognizing that effective management depends upon sound science and reliable information.

Beyond CWSD, Ed dedicated more than two decades of service to the Nevada Water Resources Association, serving on its board from 1999 through 2023. He played an instrumental role in strengthening the organization, helping guide it through challenging financial times and supporting professional development and education for Nevada's water community. His influence has extended far beyond the Carson Basin, benefiting water resource management throughout the state.

What sets Ed apart, however, is not simply the extensive list of accomplishments he leaves behind. It is the way he approached his work. He consistently brought optimism, integrity, and genuine care to every project and partnership. He never stopped looking for new ways to serve the region, improve watershed conditions, and support the people working to protect Nevada's precious water resources. The talented and dedicated team at CWSD today stands as a reflection of his leadership, mentorship, and belief in the power of collaboration.

Ed's contributions have been recognized through numerous honors, including the Golden Pinecone Sustainability Award, Floodplain Manager of the Year Award, Wendell McCurry Excellence in Water Quality Award, and the Nevada Water Resources Association Lifetime Achievement Award. Yet perhaps his greatest achievement is the enduring legacy he leaves across the Carson River Watershed: stronger partnerships, a healthier watershed, more informed communities, and a shared commitment to stewardship that will continue long after his retirement.

For 28 years, Ed James has dedicated himself to advancing the vision of a healthy and sustainable Carson River Watershed. His career reflects the same commitment to community, conservation, and service that Andy Aldax exemplified throughout his life. It is difficult to imagine an individual more deserving of this recognition. We wholeheartedly and enthusiastically nominate Ed James for the CWSD Andy Aldax Award for Exemplary Service in Conservation and Protection of the Carson River Watershed.

Ernest C. Schank
Mike Workman
Reed Cozens
Catrina Schambra
Lindsay Budija
Debbie Neddenriep
Brenda Hunt
Kelly Nicholas

Charles Dobson
Board of Supervisors, Alpine County District 1 Supervisor
PO. Box 158 Markleeville, CA 96120
775-790-7655

November 6, 2026

Catrina Schambra, Office Manager and Secretary to the Board
Carson Water Subconservancy District
catrina@cwsd.org

Dear Ms. Schambra,

I am pleased to nominate **Donald M. Jardine** for the Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD) 2027 Andy Aldax Award. While this award will recognize Don posthumously, it demonstrates our recognition of his many years of commitment and thoughtful stewardship of the Alpine and Carson River watersheds.

Don spent the majority of his adolescent and adult years living and working in Alpine County, including serving as an elected member of the Alpine County Board of Supervisors from 1987-2020. During that time, he was appointed as a representative on a wide range of commissions and committees including the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, the CWSD and the Alpine County Watershed Group.

Formally recognized by the Nevada Legislature in 1959, the CWSD was amended by the legislature in 1999, expanding its composition and membership to include other parts of the Carson River hydrologic basin, including Alpine County. This established two formal seats for Alpine County on the CWSD board, one which Don held from 2001 until his retirement in 2020. During that time Don worked tirelessly to learn more about the watershed as a whole and the unique needs of its surrounding communities, to advance educational opportunities and outreach and whenever possible to secure grant funding through the BOS, but mostly to volunteer without complaint on an unfathomable number of local projects.

One of his many accomplishments came to fruition this year. After years of negotiations with the Forest Service and the State of California — and with Don's fervent support — Alpine County was able acquire the former Markleeville Guard Station site specifically for stream restoration on Markleeville Creek providing public benefit to the Carson watershed overall. This project, for the most part, was completed in 2026.

Don embodied the spirit of proactive environmental stewardship and inspired others in our communities to care for and commit to the protection of our local public resources. His historical knowledge of the area was unrivaled. Don was well versed in the Alpine Decree and was always willing to share the history of the decree and the impact on the Carson River watershed.

I wholeheartedly recommend him for this award, and only wish he was here to receive it himself. He was a true champion for the Carson River, and this recognition will insure his legacy is not forgotten.

Your thoughtful consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Charles Dobson*

Charles Dobson

Dear Evaluation Committee,

It is with great pleasure that the Carson Valley Conservation District nominates Settelmeyer Ranch for the prestigious Andy Aldax Award. For nearly a century and a half, the Settelmeyer family has exemplified the values of agricultural stewardship, conservation leadership, community service, and resilience that this award seeks to recognize.

Established in 1880, Settelmeyer Ranch stretches from the southern reaches of Carson Valley to the expansive floodplain of the Carson River. Originally founded as an attempt to grow fruit in Nevada's high desert environment, the operation evolved over the decades to include a variety of crops such as garlic, onions, and carrots. Through innovation, perseverance, and a deep commitment to the land, the Settelmeyer family transformed the ranch into a successful hay and cattle operation. For five generations, they have adapted to changing economic and environmental conditions while maintaining a steadfast commitment to agricultural excellence.

The Settelmeyer family's dedication extends far beyond their ranch boundaries. Their leadership and service to conservation have had a lasting impact on the Carson Valley and the State of Nevada. The family has been actively involved with the Carson Valley Conservation District for decades. Arnold Settelmeyer served as Chairman of the Board, laying the groundwork for future generations of leadership. His daughter, Annalyn Settelmeyer, managed district operations for many years, while his son, James Settelmeyer, followed in his father's footsteps as Chairman of the Carson Valley Conservation District.

James Settelmeyer's passion for conservation and agriculture led him to serve as a Nevada State Senator, where he championed legislation supporting Nevada's agricultural communities and natural resources. Building on this commitment, he was appointed by Governor Joe Lombardo in 2023 to serve as Administrator of the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. In this role, he has worked to strengthen the department's effectiveness and advance responsible management of Nevada's natural resources. Continuing the family's tradition of environmental stewardship, Annalyn Settelmeyer serves as Bureau Chief for Sustainable Materials Management with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, helping shape programs that support environmental sustainability throughout the state.

The Settelmeyer family's dedication to land stewardship is evident throughout their ranching operation. Through bank stabilization, habitat enhancement, and conservation-minded land management practices, they have improved the health of the Carson River corridor while supporting wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities such as hunting and fishing. Their efforts demonstrate a balance between productive agriculture and responsible natural resource management.

Throughout its history, Settelmeyer Ranch has endured and adapted to significant challenges, including catastrophic flooding, drought, and wildland fires. During the historic flood of 1997, the ranch's fields acted as a natural floodplain, absorbing and slowing floodwaters and helping protect surrounding infrastructure from severe damage. This event exemplified the important role that working agricultural lands can play in supporting community resilience and watershed health.

For nearly 145 years, the Settelmeyer family has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to agriculture, conservation, and public service. Their legacy of stewardship has benefited the Carson River, Carson Valley, and the people of Nevada for generations. They embody the values of leadership, dedication, and conservation excellence that the Andy Aldax Award was created to honor.

For these reasons, the Carson Valley Conservation District proudly and enthusiastically recommends Settelmeyer Ranch for the Andy Aldax Award.

Sincerely,

Carson Valley Conservation District Staff