

# **Metro Roundtable Meeting Summary**

Thursday, November 8th, 2018, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Denver Water  
1600 W 12th Ave  
Denver, CO 80204

## **Members in Attendance:**

Barbara Biggs, Casey Davenport, Chris Douglass, Dan DeLaughter, Dave Nickum, Devon Buckels, Jamie Hartig, Janet Bell, Julio Iturreria, Larry Mugler, Lesley Sebol, Lisa Darling

## **Guests:**

Scott Schreiber, Bill Miller, David Hay, Kathy Olson, Carol Ekarius, Stephen Brant

## **CWCB:**

Megan Holcomb, Diane Kielty, Lacey Williams

## **Metro Roundtable Business Meeting**

### **1. Welcome/Introductions**

### **2. Approval of October 2018 Meeting Summary (Action Item)**

All in favor - Approved

### **3. Agenda: additions or changes (Action Item)**

1. Addition of update on Stream Management Plan, South Platte downstream of Chatfield, to Environmental/Recreation Committee update.
2. All presentations will be moved to the beginning of the meeting.

### **4. Public Comment**

Rocky Mountain Association of Geospatial Professionals Urban and Regional Information Systems Asset Management workshop will be Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> at DU – Cost \$100. Flyers were provided. At the end of January there will be several events where Lacey will be asking for help to staff.

### **5. WSRF (Hunt)**

1. Steve Malers - Report on the South Platte Data Platform  
Provides visualizations for context and perspective on SPB issues. All the data is Opensource so you can find data sets. They selected a few stories important to people using advisory committee input. They can change the content over time. The initial stories created focus on the SPB & Metro IPPs, water entities and hydrology. Each story provides background context and interactive visualizations that are simple to keep the reader focused. The stories are linear and you can click on dots to get more information. Is there interest for a Phase 2? How will the data be maintained going forward (will there be data infrastructure investment)? Would MRT members be open to link these stories to your organization's website?

Steve encouraged members to use these stories as an outreach tool and for presentations. If members have ideas on how to improve the stories, please give Lacey your input. There are many reasons to populate IPP data across the state. There is a great deal to work with to create more stories going forward. The stories have been helpful and CWCB plans to share this platform with the other RTs.

2. Horse Creek Presentation - CUSP stream restoration projects, Carol Ekarius, Executive Director, Coalition for the Upper South Platte  
This project grew out of the Hayman Fire of 2002. In 2010, Trout Creek and Horse Creek were still eroding with very little revegetation. They performed a watershed-wide assessment and laid out a strategic approach to planning with several alternatives. They dug out basins as temporary structures as a fire mitigation strategy to give the area time to heal as they did work. The channels were intended to collect sediment. The system came back over time and is now a single system channel. This system is handling flow so well that they decided to eliminate a piece of the project in the upper reach where there

were culvert crossings planned in the upper reach. They dropped two bridges from the project. A final third bridge will be addressed. They asked the other contributing entities how much money they would like to have returned given the reduced scope of work. They all agreed to place the money back into the CWCB fund.

CUSP has several initiatives underway. They are doing an Abandoned Mine Plan in the Fairplay/Alma area. Several mines are still very problematic. The goal would be to control the metals through BMP run-on/run-off controls. They're working toward removal of historic diversion dams (CSU) at bottom of 11-mile planning process. A Baseline study in the South Platte Enhancement Area is underway. The Upper South Platte Partnership is ramping up on fire restoration areas and developed and submitted an avoided wildfire carbon protocol. If they get this approved, it will be used statewide as standard protocol. Coalitions and Collaboratives (COCO) is working on additional carbon market and ecosystem service initiatives. Post-fire conference – [www.aftertheflames.com](http://www.aftertheflames.com). They are doing a steep ground implementation project on slopes greater than 60% grade. This is a concept that comes from Norway.

Could the carbon market potentially fund these restoration projects? Yes, this would involve buying carbon credit as offsets.

## **6. Committee Updates**

### **1. PEPO (Davenhill)**

1. Draft of Basin Education Action Plan. The state is engaged in a statewide plan. This plan acknowledges there will be more guidance in time. They have a calendar of events for 2019. There are many organizations doing education and outreach in the SPB. Also, there is significant funding in the South Platte Basin Regional Water Development Task Force effort. This will be the MRT focus for the foreseeable years. We want to be in a position to be supportive of this effort.

Focus is on support for the website. Get it updated and capable of housing basin documents. They are asking for funds to make sure the investment in the platform is protected and improved. Casey would like to send this to CWCB tomorrow and asked for the support of this RT.

Dave Nickum moved to approve the Basin Education Plan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Julio Iturreria  
All in Favor - Approved.

### **2. Environmental/Recreation Committee (Nickum)**

1. Stream Management Plan (SMP) Grant - Stephen Brant, Boulder Creek  
The first proposal was submitted to CWCB last week. They're asking for a Letter of Support from MRT. SMP is for a 9-mile reach from Eldorado Springs to the confluence with Boulder Creek. The flow becomes significantly decreased in this lower 9-mile stretch. It has big seasonal swings and 20 diversion structures with consumptive and non-consumptive users including Xcel, Eldorado Springs Water and serves municipalities and industrial users. This low and no-flow reach has high conservation interest.

They are proposing to assemble and analyze existing information on water quality, hydrology and stream condition. This will be followed with a review to include concept-level designs for improvements and identifying additional channel and habitat improvement opportunities. Analysis will be performed while conducting community outreach to build awareness. The plan will assist with monitoring and mitigation for the SPB IPP Moffat Firming Project.

MRT approved directing this project to advance to a formal application.

The Stream Management Plan application was submitted. Is MRT comfortable with writing a Letter of Support? Yes. Please get a draft letter to Barb immediately.

2. **Stream Management Plan, South Platte downstream of Chatfield - Scott Schreiber, Trout Unlimited**  
The study received \$10,000 from MRT, \$20,000 from the State and TU put in \$10,000 for a total project cost of \$40,000. Recommendations to maintain, protect and enhance Chatfield Reservoir. Data sets were readily available. They gathered information that already existed from water years 2001 – 2017 for gage data. Biological and Ecological data sets came from 6 sources from 1996 forward. A target recommendation was developed based on this flow information. Water temperature data shows warming. Hydrological analysis show high flows are similar in both frequency and magnitude from Chatfield downstream to Burlington Ditch. Biological/Ecological analysis shows that overall it is fairly good considering urbanization in area. Primary recommendation is to eliminate days of zero or near zero flows. Next recommended step is to develop protocol for releases and coordination among users for releases. A draft report will go out next week. One of the next actions is moving water past the Burlington Ditch and eventually down to Adams county.

7. **CWCB Update (Holcomb)**

SWSI is still on track to release snapshots of the costing tool. It is fully ready. There will be tech webinars on how to use the various tools. As we approach July of 2019 the information will be slowly released leading up to that time. There will be a working group with each RT represented. An implementation working group meeting will be held once a month from January through June to provide feedback on implementation of SWSI and the next update to IPPs in advance of statewide RT meeting in September. If you're interested in this working group let Barb know. They hope to have 3 people from each RT.

8. **IBCC Update (Darling/Bennett)**

There was a meeting in Durango with the topic of funding the CWP as its focus. There are currently five categories in the Plan. They recommended adding a sixth category on Colorado Compact Obligations. There was agreement. A Keystone Walton and Gates Foundation group will potentially move forward a referendum on a tax to fund the plan. This is not a CWCB effort. There will be a Management Committee and Advisory Committee to help move this forward. Anyone interested should get in touch with CWCB.

In the 2019/2020 budget CWCB is requesting \$30M in funds as a proposal to fund the CWP.

9. **South Platte Basin Regional Water Development Task Force - Update (Darling)**

1. They have received two proposals and will be conducting interviews on November 16<sup>th</sup>. They will keep us informed.

10. There will be no December 2018 MRT meeting.

11. **Meeting Schedule**

1. South Platte Basin Roundtable Meeting – Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 4:00 pm, Southwest Weld County Bldg., 4209 Weld County Rd 24 ½, Longmont
2. Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund Hoorah! – Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Skylark Lounge, 140 S. Broadway, Denver, CO 80209
3. Metro Roundtable Meeting – Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Denver Water, 12th Ave., Denver, CO 80204
4. Cherry Creek Watershed Conference – Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 7:00 am – 3:00 pm, CU Denver South Campus, Lone Tree, [www.cherry-creek.org](http://www.cherry-creek.org)
5. South Fork Republican Restoration Coalition Meeting – Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm, Burlington Community Center, 340 S. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Burlington, CO, [Informational Flyer](#)
6. South Fork Republican Restoration Coalition Meeting – Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm, The Grainery at 26681 US-36, Idalia, CO, [Informational Flyer](#)