



**South Platte River Urban Waters Partnership
Quarterly Partnership Meeting**
Thursday, May 4, 2017 from 1:30-4:00 pm
Daniels Fund Room 126, 101 Monroe Street, Denver, CO

Meeting Summary

Agenda

- Natural Capital Resource Assessment Update
- Water Quality Assessment Update
- Presentations on Research and Initiatives from Local Academic Institutions
- Partnership Updates

Natural Capital Resource Assessment Update

Dana Coelho provided an overview on the purpose and expected outcomes and current status. The primary objectives of this effort are to develop: 1) an asset map of the natural resources present in the watershed (within 3 subareas) that describes their economic value and 2) a prioritization tool that helps determine how to focus investments. The contractor recently shared the ecosystem services assessment. There will likely be a request to SPRUWP partners for case studies of various ecosystems, and a stakeholder meeting will be scheduled in September to get input on the “final” product. More information is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/urbanwaterspartners/south-platte-natural-capital-project>.

Water Quality Assessment Update

Stacey Eriksen provided an update. The Water Quality Assessment is meant to share basic information in an understandable format with links for more detailed information. It can be used by the public to understand the safety of nearby water bodies, by educators to demonstrate the benefits and impacts of restoration projects in order to obtain more funding, and serve as a resource for the state legislature. The tool includes data from 2009-2014 and draws from a range of data sources, such as EPA, USGS, Denver Environmental Health, Groundwork Denver, and other contributors to the Colorado Data Sharing Network. New data continues to be added on nutrients and pharmaceuticals and personal care products. More information is available at: http://thewaterconnection.org/wq_tool/.

Presentations on Research and Initiatives from Local Academic Institutions

The following presentations were provided and are available on the SPRUWP website.

- **Impacts of increased temperature on the Colorado River and CO water supply** - Brad Udall, Colorado State University.
- **Overview of One World One Water Center (OWOW) and highlights of faculty/student projects relevant to the S. Platte River** - Thomas Cech, Metropolitan State University of Denver. Examples include E.coli research on Bear Creek, collaboration with Charles University in Prague to compare the South Platte River and the Elbe River, Water Theatre Troupe, and a partnership with the Denver Botanical Gardens.

- **Impact of urban water conservation and reuse on receiving water body nutrient quality** - Sybil Sharvelle, Colorado State University.
- **Developing a Decision Support Tool for Urban Water Management** - Terri S. Hogue, Colin Bell and Katie Spahr, Colorado School of Mines. Note that the team is looking for volunteers to serve on its Advisory Committee.

Partner Updates

- **Denver Public Works** staff Donny Roush will be leading a tour of the watershed with classroom teachers and will highlight key initiatives.
- **Aurora Water** convened a recent dialogue focused on how to encourage the private sector to be involved in NEPA Streamlining efforts.
- The **Forest Service** is hosting a delegation from Israel to learn about US watershed and ecosystem planning efforts. Senior leadership from DOI will be visiting Denver to learn about green infrastructure efforts.
- Pranietha Mudliar, University of Denver, is doing a study related to urban water conservation and is interested in conducting brief phone interviews with partners. People who are interested can contact her at pranietha.mudliar@du.edu or 614-377-3608.

Participants

Audubon Society of Greater Denver	Karl Brummert
Aurora Water	Mike McHugh
City and County of Denver, Public Works	Bill Berg
City and County of Denver, Public Works,	Lisa Cherry
City and County of Denver, Public Works	Ashlee Grace
City and County of Denver, Public Works	Donny Roush
Colorado School of Mines	Colin Bell
Colorado School of Mines	Elizabeth Gallo
Colorado School of Mines	Terri S. Hogue
Colorado School of Mines	Katie Spahr
Colorado State Forest Service	Keith Wood
Colorado State University	Sybil Sharvelle,
Colorado State University	Brad Udall
Consensus Building Institute	Laura Sneeringer
Denver Environmental Health	Jon Novick
Metropolitan State University of Denver	Thomas Cech,
The Nature Conservancy	Chris Hawkins
Rocky Mountain Land Library	Joe Davidson
University of Denver	Pranietha Mudliar
US EPA	Stacey Eriksen
USFS	Dana Coelho