



## Clear Creek Watershed & Forest Health Partnership

Organizational Board/Stakeholder Meeting

May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 12:00 - 1:30 PM MT

### Meeting Goals:

- Vote on WSRF service scopes from Kielty Diversified Projects and LRE Water
  - Select Partnership rep to sign agreements
- Learn about umbrella NEPA approach from Left Hand Watershed Center

### Agenda

12:00 PM Welcome, introduction of new attendees

Matt Piscopo – additional forest is moving through the budget at CSFS. Matt can offer technical guidance on forestry aspects, funding, outreach materials, lots of things!

Lisa Leben – CC County Special Projects Manager

12:10 PM Member & Partnership updates

- May 14 USFS Mitigation Workshop at Pickle Gulch Campground in Gilpin County
- Additional resources now live: [clearcreekpartnership.org](http://clearcreekpartnership.org)
- Partners: What are you learning/hearing in other meetings? What are your regular monthly meetings that you attend?

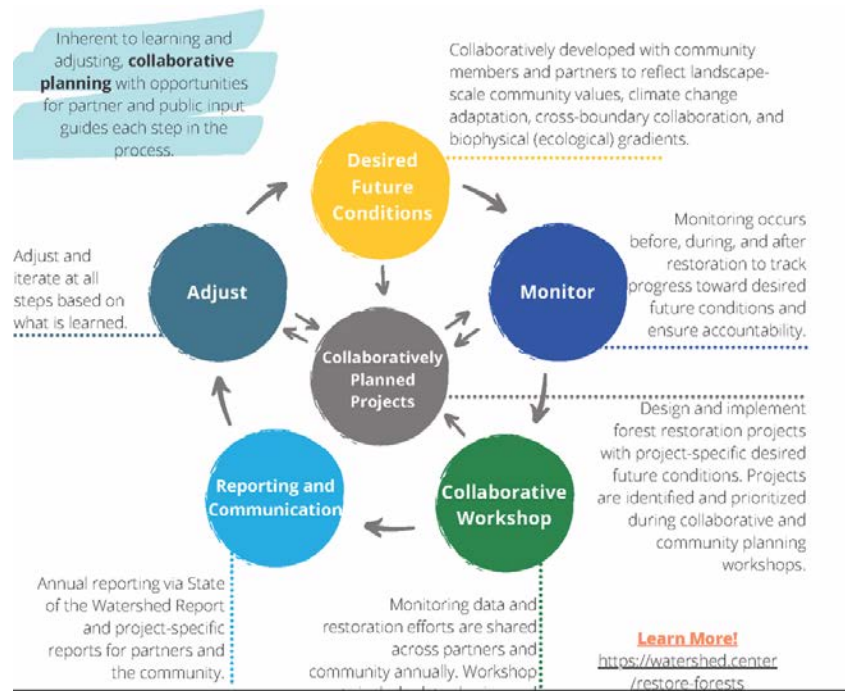
12:50 PM Grants Update

- WSRF work – Scopes from LRE Water and Kielty Diversified Projects
  - Discuss/Select CCWFHP signatory rep
  - Vote on Scopes – facilitated by Kelly Cline, City of Westminster

12:40 PM Left Hand Watershed Center on St. Vrain Watershed USFS Collaboration toward NEPA (Chiara Forrester)

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- Presentation & questions
- St Vrain Forest Health Partnership – 100+ agencies, fire/water districts, landowners, stakeholders working to increase the pace and scale of restoration in their 625,000 acre watershed.
  - Draw the CCWFHP boundary to include downstream water users
  - Vision: A healthy and resilient watershed that can sustain wildfire and other natural disturbances to protect communities, keep water supplies reliable, and support diverse flora and fauna.
  - Steering Committee, Science Team, Communications Team
  - Adaptive management plan/framework was used to develop the NEPA scope, some was copied into USFS materials for consistency and to use that investment of work.



- Adaptive Management plan set up to adapt into project scale discussions, to consistify communications between projects. Chiara recommends this adaptive management process especially as a basis for building trust with more skeptical community-members
- Jamestown project--47 private properties

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- Talking about water impacts is really important for engagement, as some folks claim they'd rather lose their house than cut down trees—the negative impact of not completing mitigation is more severe than cutting down trees. Also having success using their conceptual drawings to communicate why 'just let it burn without management' doesn't allow the ecosystem to return to a historical healthy natural condition.
- Desired future conditions—recreation and aesthetics are important
- Building Social Consent
  - Broadly—community captains, outreach tool, field tours/events, post-fire monitoring citizen science, documentary screenings, commissioner's tour, watershed days festival for downstream users, community planning meeting
  - Areas of momentum where communities really want restoration work to be done
- Annual State of the Watershed report and project-specific reports
- Conceptual models (drawings) or materials
  - CAN BE REUSED BY OTHERS with credit. Yay!
- St Vrain NEPA Outreach Efforts
  - Mailer to 4203 residents in the St Vrain watershed – ended up fueling a ton of engagement and contact.
  - Adaptive Management process is a guide for how on-the-ground managers can think about community values and desired conditions—to keep everyone on the same page about restoration methods and getting a cohesive effort.
  - USFS incorporated the Adaptive Management guide into their NEPA drafting, and notes that they will run all projects through the AM team. That's why they have a different scoping process, although the AM plan has laid a strong foundation for the USFS.
  - Shelly Stanley: How is the Partnership structured? Where's the primary funding, capacity, etc.?

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- Led by the Left Hand Watershed Center, driven by committees. Funded by CWCB, St Vrain Water Conservancy District, other grants through other partners.

- Outreach tool booklet

1:15 PM      Next Steps & Action Items

- May 14 workshop at Pickle Gulch – we hope to see you there!
- Finalize WSRF agreements and proceed with that work
- Matt Piscopo – project implementation support from CSFS

1:25 PM      Adjourn.