

2015 North Platte Basin Roundtable Education Action Plan

Approved: March 24, 2015

Background Information:

Since 2010, the North Platte Basin Roundtable has worked with the Public Education, Participation and Outreach Workgroup (PEPO) and the Colorado Foundation for Water Education (CFWE) to strengthen their education and outreach activities. As the result, the North Platte Basin Roundtable developed a functioning Education & Outreach Committee tasked with creating an Education Action Plan (EAP), the first version of which was approved in January of 2011. The EAP details the educational goals and tasks most effective for the basin roundtable. It identifies roundtable member education activities that promote a well-informed and high-functioning basin roundtable. It also defines public participation objectives and appropriate implementation methods.

During 2014-16, the PEPO Workgroup of the IBCC and the Basin Roundtable Education Liaisons will be working with their basins to implement EAPs that reach out to decision makers and stakeholders of their Basin Implementation Plan (BIP). It will let the decision makers in the basin understand how they are represented, the status of the basin's consumptive and non-consumptive needs, planned projects, current river operation and opportunities and constraints associated with different hydrologic cycles. Where appropriate, this effort can also help roundtables' outreach to potential project proponents for the new projects and methods needed to meet future water needs to determine if they are interested in being partners or the lead entity. Components, activities and results of implementing the EAP can be considered for inclusion in the Section 4.1. of the North Platte Basin Implementation Plan.

1. Roundtable Involvement

- A) Names and affiliations of Education & Outreach Committee members:
1. Deb Alpe (Education Liaison, CSU Extension)
 2. Kent Crowder (NPBRT Chair, Jackson County Administrator)
 3. John Rich (IBCC & NPBRT)
 4. Carl Trick (NPBRT)
 5. Deb Heeney (NRCS)
 6. Kay Meyring (NPBRT)
 7. Barbara Vasquez (NPBRT Recorder and Environmental Representative)
 8. Ty Wattenberg (CWCB)

2. Educational Priorities &

3. Implementation Strategies

Overall goals of the E&O Committee: To educate the basin public on solutions-oriented water supply planning			
OBJECTIVES	TASKS	LEAD(S)	TIMELINE
North Platte Basin Roundtable Outreach to Stakeholders and	Submit written NPBRT and BIP progress reports distributed to PEPO, CWCB and Jackson County Star. Continue to post	Education Liaison with E&O Cmte assistance	On-going

Decision Makers regarding North Platte BIP	All RT meetings scheduled in the Jackson County Star inviting the public to attend. Provide NPBRT and BIP updates during community meetings such as the North Park Stockgrowers Annual and Winter meetings.		
	Provide input to design of North Platte Basin Fact Sheet being developed by CWCB	E&O Cmte and all roundtable members	Completed
	Distribute Colorado Water Plan and BIP pamphlets and Basin Fact Sheet in community.	Education Liaison with E&O Cmte	Ongoing
	Deliver speaker's bureau utilizing presentation materials and updating or customizing the presentation to meet interests of stakeholder groups within and potentially outside the NP Basin.	E&O Cmte and all roundtable members	Ongoing
	Host a community outreach workshop to seek stakeholder input for implementing the BIP and State Water Plan.	E&O Cmte	Ongoing
	Host community water education workshop(s) to better engage stakeholders in water law and issues relevant to the North Platte River Basin	E&O Cmte	July 2015
	EAP \$2000 in state funds will be requested to support educational efforts such as workshop marketing, facility use fees, educational materials and speakers, refreshments, travel for NPBRT members to deliver presentations within and outside the North Platte River Basin. Monies will be used by June 15, 2015.		

4. Partnerships

Educational groups and efforts already existing in the North Platte Basin as potential partners:

- Jackson County Outdoor Education Network
- North Park Conservation District
- Jackson County Water Conservancy District

- North Park School District
- CSU Extension
- North Park Stockgrowers/ Cattlewomen/ Fair Board
- DNR
- OMP
- CPW
- Jackson County
- Town of Walden
- BLM
- USFS
- ANWR

5. Reporting

The North Platte Basin Education Liaison and members of the Education Committee will submit regular PEPO reports to share progress, resources and challenges upon request or as deemed appropriate. This item is noted above as one of our educational priorities and strategies for outreach.