



Leadership Team Meeting Minutes
At City of Thornton - April 8, 2009

MONITORING COUNCIL AND DSN HISTORY

The main purpose of the April meeting was to reconnect with the general membership and bring everyone current with Council and Data Sharing Network activities. The meeting began with a recap of the Monitoring Council and DSN Project. Barb discussed the initial \$15 EPA grant to develop a water quality monitoring site map that would contain only meta data. She discussed the transition into the first non-point source grant and the development of the current Data Sharing Network with interactive map, and the Data Swaps'. The organizational structure of the Monitoring Council was also discussed (Leadership Team, Technical Advisory Committee, Mentoring Committee and Outreach Committee) and all members present were encouraged to participate with at least one committee so that no one person is committing a lot of time.

CONFERENCE CALL

The conference call could not be initiated. Apologies to those who tried to call in to the meeting and could not connect.

DSN DEMO

Slides were presented that illustrated screens from the Data Sharing Network. A discussion followed regarding how to use templates to upload data to the network, and to set up paths to download data. Training is available for anyone who would like to begin entering water quality data (including biological) to the network. Contact one of the Coordinators at cdsn@mtngeogeek.com. Tutorial materials are also available on the website at <http://www.cwqmc.coloradowatershed.org>.

ENGAGING THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP

The group brainstormed on ways to keep the general membership apprized of Council activities that would be helpful but not an overload of information that would not be read by most members. Some felt that email updates were a good way, provided they were brief summaries and those that were not interested could be removed from the list or just delete the email. One suggestion was to consider Webinar. Fort Collins stated that they are interested in getting updates and are interested in getting their river data to STORET and DSN may be a good way for them to do that. Another suggestion was to hold occasional meetings at the Watershed Assembly in order to promote west slope

participation. The discussion turned to having a regular newsletter. There was much discussion about the frequency of the newsletter; monthly, quarterly, or as needed. One member suggested that the website contain a glossary of terms that many members may not be familiar with. He mentioned possibly linking the glossary to Wikipedia. Barb mentioned that it was critical for the success of the DSN is to partner with USGS. Trout Unlimited stated that they preferred information via newsletter.

COORDINATORS

Lynn Padgett and Jeff Literal introduced themselves as the new coordinators and discussed their background and relevant experience as it relates to this position. They can be contacted at the email address above.

WEBSITE

Lynn mentioned that a new website would be set up with a new domain. Changes to the website were discussed. The current website is still active and can be accessed at the website address above. Phil Russell mentioned that the guidance documents are not always consistent with information on the website. Lynn will correct the inconsistencies.

DSN MAP

Karl Herman would like to see a water quality status map layer incorporated into the map.

NATIONAL MONITORING COUNCIL CONFERENCE

Cathy Tate of USGS provided a handout (attached) with information regarding the upcoming conference. The “Save the Date” notice and the call for abstracts will be coming out soon. The conference theme will be “Monitoring Water Quality from the Summit to the Sea.” Cathy mentioned that help is needed to procure conference sponsors, and to come up with ideas for field trips and off site dinner venues.

NEXT MEETING

May 13, 2009 at a site TBD.