Welcome to the First Annual

**Poudre River Forum**

February 8, 2014 | The Ranch Events Complex

Thanks for joining us today as we gather together on the topic of the Poudre River—lifeblood of our communities. We will **celebrate the river, learn more about it, and explore its opportunities and challenges**.

**Our theme is The Poudre: Working River/Healthy River.**

The Forum is brought to you by the **Poudre Runs Through It Study/Action Work Group**, made up of about 30 agricultural, municipal, business, recreational, and environmental stakeholders who have been meeting since 2012 to teach one another about their diverse perspectives on the Poudre and to launch collaborative actions that meet multiple goals. Read more at [www.cwi.colostate.edu/thepoudrerunsthroughit/](http://www.cwi.colostate.edu/thepoudrerunsthroughit/).

Understanding the water rights of agricultural and municipal diverters, learning about where the water in the Poudre comes from and what it does for us, and digging into details about ecological factors such as flow, temperature, fish and sedimentation, are all a part of getting the wide angle view of the Poudre. Only by traveling all these waters—the working aspect as well as the health aspect—will citizens have the background to form sound decisions about the Poudre’s future.

**So let’s dig in. We are very glad you are here with us today!**

*Sponsored by The Poudre Runs Through It Study/Action Work Group
Facilitated by Colorado Water Institute at Colorado State University*

**Thanks for Financial Contributions to the Poudre Runs Through It and the Poudre River Forum from:**

- New Cache la Poudre Irrigating Company
- City of Fort Collins Natural Resources
- Larimer County Natural Resources
- City of Greeley Water and Sewer
- BioHabitats
- Community Foundation of Northern CO
- City of Fort Collins Water Utility
- Northern Water
- Bohemian Foundation

**Your Poudre River Forum Committee:** John Stokes, John Bartholow, John Bustos, Bill Sears, Brad Wind, Steve Malers, Beth Plombon, Zoe Whyman, MaryLou Smith
# Poudre River Forum

**February 8, 2014**

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<td>9:00 - 10:00</td>
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<td>Coffee and Soft Drinks</td>
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<td>10:00 - 10:15</td>
<td><strong>Kickoff</strong> - Reagan Waskom, Colorado Water Institute</td>
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<td>10:15 - 10:45</td>
<td>Facilitated Dialogue of the Poudre Runs Through It Study Action Group Steering Committee about the Working River/Healthy River Concept</td>
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<td>10:45 - 11:45</td>
<td><strong>Working River</strong> Series of Spring Runoffs: Quick but Critical insights into the Poudre River</td>
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<td>Where Does Water in the Poudre Come From/Where Does it Go? - Mark Simpson, Poudre River Commissioner</td>
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<td>The Importance of Agriculture in the Poudre River Basin - Bill Brown, Fischer, Brown, Bartlett &amp; Gunn, P.C.</td>
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<td>Water for Cities and Towns - Lee Rozaklis, AMEC Earth and Environmental Inc.</td>
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<td>Water for Industry - Matt Bailey, Odell Brewing Company, Northern Colorado Brewers Association</td>
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<td>Water for Recreation and Tourism - Jim Clark, Fort Collins Convention and Visitor’s Bureau</td>
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<td>11:45 - 12:00</td>
<td>Audience Q&amp;A</td>
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<td>12:00 - 1:15</td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong> Greg Hobbs, Colorado Supreme Court Justice – How Prior Appropriation throughout the West Got Its Start on the Poudre River and How It’s Still Evolving to Consider Both Healthy River/Working River Needs</td>
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1:15 - 1:30  Break -- Displays

1:30 - 2:30  HEALTHY RIVER
Series of *Spring Runoffs: Quick but Critical insights into the Poudre River*

- **Flow: The Master Variable that Shapes, Maintains, and Supports River Zones** – Sara Rathburn, Colorado State University
- **Riparian Vegetation along the Cache La Poudre River** – Dave Merritt, U.S Forest Service
- **Fish in the Poudre’s Transition Zone** – Boyd Wright, Colorado Parks & Wildlife
- **The Poudre’s Water Quality Challenges and Responses** – Joe Kunovic, City of Greeley Water and Sewer
- **River Health: Themes Across a Landscape** – Jen Shanahan, City of Fort Collins Natural Areas

2:30 - 3:15  Floods and Fire: Extraordinary Challenges for the Poudre River -- Facilitated Panel Dialogue with Eric Reckentine (City of Greeley Water and Sewer and Coalition for the Poudre River), Todd Boldt (Natural Resources Conservation Service), Nolan Doesken (Colorado Climate Center), George Wallace (Ag Producer, North Poudre Irrigation Company) Facilitated by Ken Kehmeier (Colorado Parks and Wildlife)

3:15 - 3:30  Break -- Displays

3:30 - 4:15  Facilitated Audience Dialogue

4:15 - 4:30  **Pulling it all together: Where Now?** – Reagan Waskom, Colorado Water Institute

4:30 - 6:00  CELEBRATION OF THE POUDRE
Poudre River Irregulars Jazz Band-- thanks to generous financial contributors!
Beer donated by Odell Brewing Company
Soft Drinks, Chips and Salsa
Participants were chosen for their expertise related to the Poudre River, including those from the agricultural, environmental, municipal, industrial, recreational, business, development, and other sectors. Another factor in the selection of participants was the intent to include individuals associated with the wide diversity of groups. The following list includes the names and affiliations of the participants:

- Bartholow, John - Ecologist, Retired USGS - Fort Collins
- Bledsoe, Brian - Hydrologist, Colorado State University - Fort Collins
- Boring, Jeffrey - Resource Specialist, Larimer County Natural Resources Department - Fort Collins
- Brown, Dan - Attorney, Fischer, Brown, Bartlett & Gunn, P.C. for Cache La Poudre Water Users Assoc. - Fort Collins
- Bustos Jr., John - Retired, US Forest Service - Fort Collins
- Caraway, Ray - Executive Director, Community Foundation of Northern Colorado - Fort Collins
- Getchius, April - Town Manager, Town of Timnath - Timnath
- Hummer, Scott - Manager, North Poudre Irrigation Co. - Wellington
- Kehmeier, Ken - Sr. Aquatic Biologist, Colorado Parks & Wildlife - Fort Collins
- Koleber, Mark - Water Supply Director, City of Thornton - Thornton
- Maiers, Steve - Chief Technology Officer, Open Water Foundation - Fort Collins
- Modestit, Brad - Owner, Mountain Whitewater Descents - Fort Collins
- Odell, Wynne - Partner, Odell Brewing Company - Fort Collins
- Reckentine, Eric - Deputy Director of Water Resources, City of Greeley Water and Sewer - Greeley
- Reidhead, Jim - Retired - Fort Collins
- Robenalt, Matt - Urban Redevelopment & Public Finance, Fort Collins Downtown Development Authority - Fort Collins
- Sanderson, John - Director of Conservation Science, The Nature Conservancy - Fort Collins
- Sears, Bill - President, American International Investment & Trading Co. - Laporte
- Seaworth, Troy - Farmer, Seaworth Ag Enterprises - Wellington
- Shannon, Rich - Vice President, Pinnacle Consulting Group - Real Estate Development - Fort Collins
- Simpson, Mark - Poudre River Commissioner, State Engineer’s Office - Loveland
- Smolnik, Susan - Water Resources Engineer, City of Fort Collins Utilities - Fort Collins
- Stokes, John - Natural Areas Department and Poudre River Sustainability Director, City of Fort Collins - Fort Collins
- Streeter, Bob - Retired, US Fish & Wildlife, Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited & Colorado Division of Parks & Wildlife - Fort Collins
- Trowbridge, Dale - General Manager, New Cache La Poudre Irrigating Co. & Cache La Poudre Reservoir Co. - Eaton
- Willis, Wade - Parks & Open Space Manager, Town of Windsor - Fort Collins
- Wind, Brad - Deputy Manager, Northern Water - Berthoud

Steering Committee

- Bartholow, John - Ecologist, Retired USGS - Fort Collins
- Brown, Dan - Attorney, Fischer, Brown, Bartlett & Gunn, P.C. for Cache La Poudre Water Users Assoc. - Fort Collins
- Stokes, John - Natural Areas Department & Poudre River Sustainability Director, City of Fort Collins - Fort Collins
- Trowbridge, Dale - General Manager, New Cache La Poudre Irrigation Co. & Cache La Poudre Reservoir Co. - Eaton
- Robotham, Doug - Colorado Water Project Director, The Nature Conservancy - Denver

Conveners/Facilitators

- Waskom, Reagan - Director, Colorado Water Institute, Colorado State University - Fort Collins
- Smith, MaryLou - Policy & Collaboration Specialist, Colorado Water Institute, Colorado State University - Fort Collins
- Thomson, Beth - Graduate Student, Department of Sociology, Colorado State University - Fort Collins

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Organizations with which Poudre Runs Through it Work Group Members are Affiliated

- American Canoe Association
- American River Association
- American Water Resources Association (AWRA) - CO Section
- Big Thompson Watershed Forum
- Cache La Poudre Reservoir Co.
- Cache La Poudre Water Users Association
- City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Dept.
- City of Fort Collins Natural Resource Advisory Board
- City of Fort Collins Utilities
- City of Greeley Water & Sewer Department
- City of Thornton
- Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed
- Colorado Ag Water Alliance
- Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts
- Colorado Conservation Exchange
- Colorado Dry Bean Association
- Colorado Foundation for Water Education
- Colorado Open Space Alliance
- Colorado Water Congress
- Colorado Water Innovation Cluster
- Community Foundation of Northern Colorado
- Embrace Northern Colorado
- Fort Collins Conservation District
- Fort Collins Downtown Development Authority
- Fort Collins Downtown Business Association
- Fort Collins Housing Authority
- Fort Collins Natural Resources Advisory Board
- Fort Collins Water Board
- Larimer County Farm Services Administration
- Legacy Land Trust
- Lower Poudre Augmentation Co.
- Lower Poudre Canyon Association
- Metro Roundtable
- National Audubon Society
- New Cache La Poudre Irrigating Co.
- North Poudre Irrigation Co.
- North Front Range MPO
- Poudre Canyon Fire District
- Poudre Heritage Alliance
- Poudre River Trail Corridor Inc.
- Poudre River Trust
- Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
- Rocky Mountain Flycasters
- Save the Poudre
- The Nature Conservancy
- Town of Windsor
- Trout Unlimited
- UniverCity Connections - Poudre Group
- Weld County Underground Water Users Association
- Water Supply & Storage Company