

## ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS AND PANELISTS

**Becky Fedak** is an engineer as well as the water and climate practice area lead at Brendle Group, an engineering and sustainability consulting firm. She is driven to find sustainable water management solutions that bring together all interests that rely on this vital natural resource. In addition to her involvement in water related projects throughout the country, while completing her graduate work, Becky founded Running Water International, a social enterprise in Kenya that addresses the water resource challenges of the developing world.

**Becky Safarik** is the Greeley Assistant City Manager responsible for the Community Building branch of the City, which among many responsibilities includes the Poudre River Initiative. She was involved in a novel approach to integrate a public/private partnership to integrate art into trail distance and story markers which were GIS-coded for emergency response, blending multiple objectives for aesthetic, safety, and user reference along the 21-mile stretch of the Poudre River Trail in Weld County.

**Eric Reckentine**, Deputy Director of Water Resources for the City of Greeley, is responsible for Greeley's raw water management and resource planning; the City's water rights portfolio and federal permitting projects. Originally from New York, Eric came to Colorado in 1994 as a geologist to continue work for a geotechnical and environmental engineering firm and worked on environmental assessment, remediation, and regulatory compliance projects throughout North America.

**Paul Lander** is a long-time conservationist and educator, who is currently teaching classes at CU on urban water and landscape sustainability. He is committed to creating a 'water culture to match the scenery', to paraphrase Wallace Stegner. His maternal great-grandparents were married in the City of Denver in 1888, but he missed being a 4th-generation Coloradan when his mother married a 3rd-generation North Dakotan.

**Deb Freeman** is an attorney at Trout, Raley, Montano, Witwer & Freeman. Her practice emphasizes regulatory compliance under NEPA, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and federal land management laws. Deb has assisted in the development of several broad-based resource programs designed to address the needs of federally listed species and other river values through collaborative efforts, including the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program, and the Upper Colorado Wild and Scenic Stakeholder Group Plan.

**Cindy Haren** is President and CEO of Western Dairy Association and has devoted her career and lifelong learnings to agriculture & more recently dairy farm families. Serving as a Colorado Water Quality Control Commissioner in the 1990's brought insight into how important quality of water is to all aspects of our lives. Currently serving on the Sustainability Council for the U.S. Dairy Industry brings opportunities and innovations among non-traditional partners. Family and ethics in business are Haren's top two values.

**Greg Kernohan**, manager of ecosystem services for Ducks Unlimited, grew up in Ontario, Canada where he learned to whitewater kayak, fish, and hunt. Greg has developed several multi-benefit projects using wetlands to recharge the South Platte alluvial aquifer and augment river flows for the benefit of agriculture, municipal, and industrial water needs. Greg recognizes the Poudre River's importance for meeting diverse water needs, but most enjoys the short-run of whitewater every year.

**April Getchius** has been the Town Manager of Timnath since 2013. Originally from Illinois, she is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Traipsing through the mountains with her husband who is a nature photographer has over the years given her a greater sense of the value of assets like the Poudre River. The planner in her also values the recreational and economic opportunities a great river provides to communities and their residents.

**Jeffrey Boring** is a Resource Specialist in Larimer County's Natural Resources Department. Jeffrey focuses on regional issues and serves as the County's Regional Trail Coordinator and represents the County on the South Platte Basin Roundtable. He enjoys working with people who care about Colorado's future and how water can serve multiple purposes. He's originally from Snellville, a small town in Georgia.

**Bruce Johnson** has focused his life on agriculture and water, starting as an Eaton boy earning national honors in 4H and FFA, and now as a real estate broker specializing in farms and water rights. He has served in leadership roles on a number of water boards and currently owns stock in three Poudre River Basin ditch companies. Bruce served on the Weld County Planning Commission and the Colorado Oil & Gas Commission. Twelve grandchildren scattered from Colorado to England also take up some of his time!

**James Pritchett** is agriculture economist at Colorado State University. He's spent a fair bit of time working on farm and ranch management issues, as well as lending a hand to rural communities in their planning and policy discussions. James and his family are avid users of the Poudre River - irrigating hay, fishing, inner-tubing and enjoying the occasional hot shower. Foremost among his goals, James wants to encourage productive and thoughtful discourse around the wise use of our water resources.

**John Stokes** is the Natural Areas Department Director for the City of Fort Collins. For the last several years John has been more closely involved in Poudre River related efforts. Those efforts have focused primarily on river health, in particular instream flows, as well as open space and recreation amenities. There is nothing John would rather do than to be outdoors - whether on a river or bird hunting with his German shorthair, Annie.

**Donnie Dustin** is the Water Resources Manager at the City of Fort Collins Utilities where he manages a group that administers, develops and protects the City's water rights and plans for future water needs of the Water Utility service area. While his job entails providing a reliable water supply for citizens from the Poudre, he and his family truly enjoy the beauty and recreation the river provides. He grew up in Maryland and played often in a "creek" nearly the size of the Poudre, which sparked his interest in water related matters.

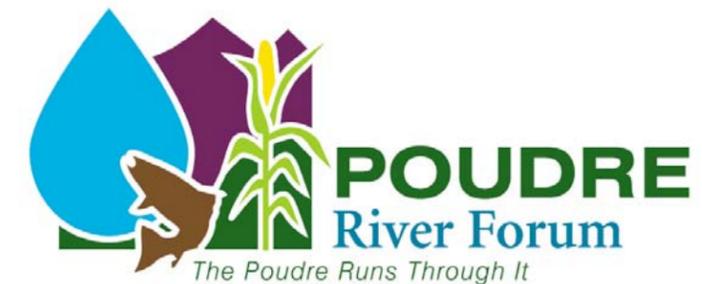
**Amy Beatie** is the Executive Director of the Colorado Water Trust, a job that she had been honored to hold since 2007. The Trust uses win-win collaborative projects to restore and protect the state's iconic rivers, of which the Cache la Poudre is one. She loves the Cache la Poudre River because of its rich history and its amazing community.

**Randy Fischer** is a Fort Collins native who recently retired from the Colorado House of Representatives after 8 years, where he chaired the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee and the joint House/Senate Interim Water Resources Review Committee. He crafted legislation on a diversity of water issues, including conservation and efficiency, conjunctive use of groundwater and surface water, and alternatives to ag "buy and dry." He is a registered professional engineer who worked on water quality issues throughout the world.

**Donna Brosemer** moved to Colorado in 2012 from Florida, where she worked with all levels of government on water and land use-related projects and policies. Her background in Florida prepared her (better than she expected) for the issues she deals with here as Government and Public Relations for Greeley Water. After spending a lifetime on the east coast, she and her husband are getting to know Colorado and the west, one road trip at a time. Remaining free time is spent with her two kids and four grandkids, with another due in April.

**Drew Beckwith** works at Western Resource Advocates, focusing on ways to keep water in our rivers, and even put more back in when possible. While camping at Ansel Watrous last summer, his 3 year old daughter caught her first fish, a highlight of the summer camping season. It's doubtful Drew has ever caught a fish in a river, despite caring so much about flowing water - there's a first time for everything!

**P. Andrew Jones** is a partner with the law firm of Lawrence Jones Custer Grasmick LLP, specializing in water law. Andy has a strong attachment to the Poudre River as a Fort Collins native, a CSU alum, and now a resident of Windsor. Andy has worked with agricultural, urban, and environmental water leaders to craft legislation to encourage ways to share water without the negative repercussions of drying up farms to supply cities with water.



## Welcome to the Second-Annual Poudre River Forum One River, Many Voices

January 31, 2015  
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. **We are very glad you are with us today!**

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/)

**Your Poudre River Forum Committee:** John Stokes, John Bartholow, John Bustos, Eric Reckentine, Brad Wind, Steve Malers, April Getchius, Robert Ward, Eric Brown, Jay Merrill, Zoe Whyman

*Facilitated by Colorado Water Institute at Colorado State University*  
The Colorado Water Institute, an affiliate of Colorado State University, exists for the express purpose of focusing the water expertise of higher education on the evolving water concerns and problems being faced by Colorado citizens.

### Hearty thanks to these sponsors of the Poudre River Forum and the Poudre Runs Through It Study/Action Work Group



# Poudre River Forum 2015 Program

9:00am - 10:00am

Registrant Sign In and Visit the Booths  
Coffee and Soft Drinks

10:00am - 10:20am

**One River, Many Voices** – Reagan Waskom, Colorado Water Institute

We have one river, we are many voices. This forum is a chance for voices all along the Poudre, both geographically and in terms of different values, to come together once a year, to learn more about the river and what various ones of us are doing on the river, and to commit to a working river/healthy river goal. Some of the questions we will be addressing include:

- Can agriculture thrive in light of the pressures of urban and small community growth?
- Can we meet the urban and agricultural demands on the river and still meet goals for improving the Poudre’s health?
- Can we deal with growth in ways that will not take more than the river has to give?

10:20am - 10:30am

**The Poudre Runs Through It: Ag/Urban/Environmental Water Leaders Rowing Together**

Eric Brown, who previously covered water news for the Greeley Tribune, and now is communications director for Colorado Corn has produced a piece based on interviews with members of the Poudre Runs Through It Study/Action Work Group telling about the relationships that have been built and the initiatives that have been launched—to make the Poudre River “the world’s best example of a hard working river that’s also healthy.”

10:30am - 11:40am

**If We’re Going to Grow, How Can We Grow in a Water Smart Way?**

Projected future water shortages are largely based on anticipated population growth. Without a magic wand for controlling growth, some believe we need to strategize ways we can reduce the urban footprint of new and existing development.

First, we will hear from domestic water providers who draw from the Poudre: What are our local municipal water providers already doing to conserve water? Are they successful? What are their goals for the future?

Second, we will hear some ideas from engineering and landscape industry professionals what some of their ideas are for optimizing water used in cities.

Finally, Representative Randy Fischer will facilitate a panel dialogue followed by audience interaction with panel.

- Citizens across the state have been saying we need better integration of land use planning with water supply planning. What are the challenges and possible solutions to such integration?
- During an August 6 legislative hearing there was disagreement about whether we need statewide policy to keep us accountable to reduce urban water use, or whether it is enough for each local water provider to set its own course? What are the pros and cons of each approach?

11:40am - 12:00pm

**Audience Dialogue/Q&A** - Facilitated by Rep. Randy Fischer and MaryLou Smith, Colorado Water Institute

12:00pm - 1:00pm

**Lunch - Keynote Address**

**Stores of River Cooperation - Can We Write One for the Poudre?**

Amy Beatie, director of the Colorado Water Trust, will share success stories about how the Trust works with water rights holders and communities across the state to improve river flows. She will discuss the challenges of pursuing healthy river goals while respecting the rights of those who use the rivers’ water for agriculture and urban living. She will relay that the Colorado Water Trust is working with the Poudre Runs Through It FLOWS initiative committee to begin exploring how these ideas might play out on the Poudre.



1:00pm - 1:15pm

**Break - Visit the Booths**

1:15pm - 1:20pm

**Looking Ahead to the Afternoon** - Reagan Waskom

1:20pm - 1:35pm

**Prospective Poudre Projects: Pursuing Permits**

Deb Freeman, well known Colorado water attorney, will present an objective overview of the various environmental analyses, regulatory reviews, and permitting requirements that apply to proposed water storage projects, such as the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISIP) and the Halligan/Seaman Expansion Project.

1:35pm - 2:15pm

**The Urban River: What Are We Doing to Embrace the Poudre as it Flows Thru Our Communities?**

Jeffrey Boring from Larimer County Natural Resources will facilitate panel discussion among representatives from the City of Greeley, the City of Fort Collins, and the Town of Timnath to find out about activities they are pursuing relative to the Poudre. What are they doing to improve the river’s health as it flows through their communities? How are they building on its potential as a destination for recreation and economic development?

**Panelists are**  
April Getchius, Town of Timnath  
Becky Safarik, City of Greeley  
John Stokes,  
City of Fort Collins Natural Areas

2:15pm - 2:55pm

**Here Today but Gone Tomorrow? Buying and Selling Water in the Poudre Basin**

James Pritchett, agricultural economist and assistant vice president for CSU’s Office of Engagement will facilitate a panel followed by audience dialogue focusing on the complex process of buying and selling water in the Poudre River Basin. Panelists will dialogue on what “drives” the market, how the price of water does/does not reflect its value, and if today’s market suits future needs. Lively dialogue is anticipated as panelists include a broad range of those closely involved with buying and selling Poudre water for different uses.

**Panelists are**  
Andy Jones, Lawrence Jones Custer  
Grasmick Law Firm  
Bruce Johnson, Real Estate Broker,  
Farms & Water Rights  
Cindy Haren, Western Dairy Association  
Greg Kernohan, Ducks Unlimited

2:55pm - 3:10pm

**Audience Dialogue Q&A** - Facilitated by James Pritchett

3:10pm - 3:30pm

**Closing/Audience Feedback - What Have We Learned from Diverse Voices Today? What’s Missing?**

Facilitated by Reagan Waskom and MaryLou Smith

3:30pm - 5:00pm

**CELEBRATION OF THE POUDBRE/POUDRE RIVER RAPIDS DIALOGUE**

- Poudre River Side Currents - an opportunity for further dialogue with some of the day’s presenters, and other Poudre-focused groups
- Free Beer from Odell Brewing Company
- Jazz by the Poudre River Irregulars
- Food/Alcohol-Free Punch
- Booth Drawings for Prizes (must be present to win)