Welcome to the
Third Annual Poudre River Forum!

Cultivating Connections for a Healthy, Working River

February 5, 2016 | 9am - 4pm | The Ranch Events Complex

Thank you for joining us today as we gather together on the topic of the Poudre River—lifeblood of our communities. We will learn more from and about its diverse stakeholders and explore the continuing challenges and opportunities for collaboration.

The Forum is brought to you by the Poudre Runs Through It Study/Action Work Group (PRTI) and its Poudre River Forum Committee. PRTI is facilitated by Colorado Water Institute, an affiliate of Colorado State University.

Poudre River Forum Committee
John Bartholow | Eric Brown | Rob Johnson
Corey Odell | Eric Reckentine | Zoe Shark
John Stokes | Robert Ward | Brad Wind
Gailmarie Kimmel, Coordinator

We are grateful to this year’s Poudre River Forum Sponsors who are listed on the back of this program.
# Poudre River Forum 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>VIEWS OF THE Poudre</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>WELCOME AND OVERVIEW</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>ANIMATED HISTORY OF THE Poudre</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>NEXUS OF AGRICULTURE AND THE Poudre River: CURRENT REALITIES AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>YEAR IN THE LIFE OF A DITCH COMPANY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>BUFFET LUNCH</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reagan Waskom** currently serves as the Director of the Colorado Water Institute and the Chair of the CSU Water Center. Reagan has been member of the CSU Department of Soil & Crop Sciences for 29 years, conducting statewide educational and applied research programs on water quality, water quantity, water policy and natural resource issues related to water use. In addition, he oversees the CSU Extension Water Outreach program and personnel.

**Rod Weimer**, Farm Manager, Fagerberg Produce near Eaton, was awarded the 2015 Precision Agriculture Farmer of the Year Award. The largest onion producer in the state, it’s estimated that Fagerberg annually packages enough onions to meet the entire U.S. demand for a week. In addition, Fagerberg also raises corn, wheat and dry beans. Fagerberg’s operations have long been recognized for sustainability measures, particularly water efficiency. A subsurface drip irrigation system (~40% percent water savings, less fertilizer and other chemicals, and no waste water runoff) was installed in 1998 - the first of its kind in the state. The company continues to expand its amount of acres under drip irrigation. The Fagerberg family’s presence in Weld County dates back to 1882.

**Luke Lind** is President and CEO for J&F Oklahoma Holdings Inc., the company that owns the livestock within the JBS Five Rivers Cattle Feeding feedlots headquartered in Greeley. In Weld County alone, JBS Five Rivers’ two feedlots at full capacity can house a total of 167,000 head of cattle, with those feedlots depending greatly on reliable, local water sources for their operations, as well as for area farmers to grow the feed needed to sustain their livestock. Luke, a Colorado State alum, is an Eaton native.

**Casey DeHaan**, owner of Great Western Dairy, offers, “I have had the privilege of dairy farming in Colorado since 2004 when I started on a rented dairy farm near Greeley milking 400 cows. Currently I am on two farms, the main one in Ault where we milk 4000 cows and the other in Kersey where we milk 1000 cows. To supply part of the cows’ feed needs, we farm about 700 acres of corn and alfalfa.”

**Amy Kafka**, the “Strawberry Queen”, is the creator and visionary behind Garden Sweet, a prominent sustainable farm in the Fort Collins community growing a wide variety of vegetables, berries, and flowers. Garden Sweet produce is enjoyed locally through their CSA program (Community Supported Agriculture), on-site Farm Stand, and being Fort Collin’s only “Pick-Your-Own”.

**Tom Trout** is an agricultural engineer specializing in irrigation water management, was with the USDA-Agricultural Research Service for 32 years, and retired as research leader from the Water Management Research Unit in Fort Collins in 2015. He has worked in the Punjab basin in Pakistan, the Snake River basin-ID, the San Joaquin Valley-CA, and the Central Great Plains-CO. He is a graduate of CSU and continues to collaborate with its Civil and Environmental Engineering Dept. His recent research has been in measuring crop water requirements and consumptive use, determining crop yield response to deficit irrigation, and determining how to best use limited irrigation water.

**MODERATOR: Luke Runyon** is Harvest Public Media’s reporter based at KUNC in Northern Colorado. He joined the Harvest team in March 2013, and has reported on Colorado’s growing dairy farms, changes in agricultural technology and cannabis cultivation. He frequently files stories for the public radio programs Morning Edition, All Things Considered, Marketplace, Here & Now and Weekend Edition. His work has been recognized by the Colorado Broadcasters Association and Public Radio News Directors, Inc.
1:15 p.m.  **Afternoon Panel**

**“CHALLENGES OF PURSUING WATER PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES: KEY INGREDIENTS AND LESSONS FOR SUCCESS”**

There are several large, complex, and controversial water projects proposed for the Poudre River basin. Panelists will explore what it takes to get to “yes” under challenging circumstances, and often with diametrically opposed views. Case studies include the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program, the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement, the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, the Moffat Collection System Project, and the Windy Gap Firming Project.

**Patrick O’Toole** has served as the Family Farm Alliance’s President since March 2005. O’Toole is a cattle and sheep rancher and hay grower with strong backgrounds in irrigated agriculture and Wyoming politics. Pat is on the Board of Directors for Solutions from the Land, Partners for Conservation and the Intermountain West Joint Venture. Pat and his wife, Sharon, live on a ranch near Savery, Wyoming that has been in her family since 1881. It straddles the Wyoming-Colorado border and has long afforded Pat the opportunity to view some unique water issues first hand. Carbon County, Wyoming holds the headwaters of the Little Snake River, a Colorado River tributary, and the North Platte River, a tributary of the Missouri. The family has strived for generations to nurture a healthy landscape and sustainable production of food and fiber. Usually the practices that benefit the livestock also benefit the wildlife. The native hayfields are flood irrigated, which provides habitat for birds and recharges the aquifer so the stream runs year-round. Five miles of Battle Creek run through the Home Ranch, and has been recognized as an Audubon Bird Area. The Ladder Ranch is a 2014 Leopold Conservation Award winner. O’Toole is an Advisory Board member on AGree—an initiative that tackles long-term food, conservation and agriculture policy issues.

**Daniel Luecke** is an environmental scientist and hydrologist who has worked for more than forty years on water resources, aquatic habitat protection, and other environmental issues. He was an original member of the negotiating groups that established the Upper Colorado and the Platte Recovery Implementation Programs. Most recently he has worked with U.S. Justice Department, western water judges, and Colorado environmental organizations.

**Amelia (Mely) Whiting** is legal counsel for Trout Unlimited, where she focuses on projects to protect, reconnect, and restore Colorado’s coldwater fisheries and their habitat. She has practiced water, public lands, and environmental law in Colorado for over 25 years. She is currently involved in a number of stakeholder efforts, including Learning by Doing, the Windy Gap Bypass and the Upper Colorado Wild and Scenic Stakeholder Alternative, and the River Projection Workgroup, which covers several basins in the Southwest. Mely was born in Montevideo, Uruguay.

**Dave Little** recently retired from Denver Water as its Director of Planning after 34 years of service. Dave led many environmental negotiations on water supply development and operations, endangered species, wild and scenic river designation and forest management. One of his more recent efforts was the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement and Learning by Doing: a wonderful example of how divergent interests, when willing to acknowledge each other’s concerns and to work tirelessly to find common ground, can focus their collective energy and ample talents for the benefit of the environment.

**Pete Taylor** is Professor of Sociology at Colorado State University. In addition to undergraduate and graduate student teaching, he does research on natural resource and environmental governance and has published extensively on community-based forest management in Mexico and Guatemala. His current research focuses on environmental flow cooperation on the Colorado River in Colorado and on agricultural water issues in the Colorado River Basin. He is Co-Editor-in-Chief of *Society and Natural Resources: An International Journal*.

**MODERATOR: Kevin Duggan** is a senior reporter with the Fort Collins Coloradoan. He has nearly 20 years of experience covering government and natural resource issues in Larimer County as a reporter, editor and columnist. He has written extensively on topics related to the Poudre River, including the Northern Integrated Supply Project. In 2009, his package of stories on NISP and the proposed Glade Reservoir received first place for environmental reporting in a contest sponsored by Colorado Associated Press Editors and Reporters.
Special thanks to

2016 Poudre River Forum Sponsors

$5,000
Poudre Heritage Alliance

$2,000
Boyd Irrigation Company
City of Greeley Water and Sewer
Northern Water

$1,000-$1,500
Bishop-Broden Water Consultants
Cache La Poudre Water Users Association
City of Fort Collins Natural Areas
KUNC (in-kind)

$500-$750
A. Bruce Johnson & Associates
Anderson Consulting Engineers
Caring for Our Watershed
Colorado Corn
Colorado Livestock Association
Colorado Water Institute
CSU Water Center
In-Situ, Inc.
Paragon Consulting Group
The Nature Conservancy of Colorado
Town of Windsor
Vranesh and Raisch, LLP
West Range Development

$250-$300
BHA Design
Brendle Group
BreWater
Buena Vida Farm
Central Colorado Water Conservancy District
Downtown Development Authority
Ducks Unlimited
FlyWater
Fischer, Brown, Barlett & Gunn
Hach
Logan Simpson Design
Northern Feed and Bean
Robert Ward
Save the Poudre

In-Kind
Mountain Whitewater Descents
Northern Feed and Bean Odell Brewing Co.
POUDRE RUNS THROUGH IT STUDY/ACTION WORK GROUP

Steering Committee
John Bartholow | Jeffrey Boring | Dan Brown | John Stokes | Dale Trowbridge

Work Group Participants
Diana Aungst | Tim Brown | Ray Caraway | April Getchius | Scott Hummer
Jennifer Kovecses | Ken Kehmeier | Mark Koleber | Steve Malers | Brad Modesitt | Richard Raines
Eric Reckentine | Jim Reidhead | Matt Robenalt | Troy Seaworth | Mark Simpson | Susan Smolnik
Bob Streeter | Zach Thode | Robert Ward | Wade Willis | Brad Wind

Conveners / Facilitators
Reagan Waskom | MaryLou Smith | Jay Merrill

Previous Work Group Participants
Brian Bledsoe | John Bustos, Jr. | Sean Cronin | Wynne Odell | Doug Robotham | John Sanderson
Bill Sears | Rich Shannon | Steve Smith | George Varra

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 a wide diversity of organizations with interests in the Poudre River.

Organizations Affiliated with Poudre Runs Through It Work Group Members

Big Thompson Watershed Forum | Cache La Poudre Reservoir Co.
Cache La Poudre Water Users Assoc. | City of Ft. Collins | City of Greeley | City of Thornton
Coalition for the Poudre Watershed | Colorado Ag Water Alliance
Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts | Colorado Conservation Exchange
Colorado Dry Bean Assoc. | Colorado Foundation for Water Education
Colorado Open Space Alliance | Colorado Water Congress
Colorado Water Innovation Cluster | Community Foundation of Northern Colorado
Ducks Unlimited | East Larimer County Water District | Embrace Northern Colorado
Ft. Collins Conservation District | Ft. Collins Downtown Development Authority
Ft. Collins Downtown Business Assoc. | Ft. Collins Housing Authority
Ft. Collins-Loveland Water District | Ft. Collins Natural Resources Advisory Board
Ft. Collins Water Board | Larimer County Farm Services Admin. | Legacy Land Trust
Lower Poudre Augmentation Co. | Lower Poudre Canyon Assoc. | Metro Roundtable
North Front Range MPO | Northern Water | North Weld County Water District | Open Water Foundation
Participant in Halligan/Seaman Water Mgt. Project | Pheasants Forever | Poudre Heritage Alliance
Poudre River Trail Corridor Inc. | Poudre River Trust | Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
Rocky Mountain Flycasters | Save the Poudre | South Platte Basin Roundtable | The Nature Conservancy
Town of Windsor | Trout Unlimited | UniverCity Connections | Water Supply & Storage Co.
Weld County Underground Water Users Assoc.
Thanks to these contributors to the operations of
Poudre Runs Through It Study/Action Work Group

$2,000
City of Fort Collins Natural Areas
City of Greeley
City of Thornton

$1,000
City of Fort Collins Water Utilities
Community Foundation of Northern Colorado
Downtown Development Authority
Larimer County Natural Resources Department
The New Cache La Poudre Irrigating Co.
Town of Windsor

$500
John Bartholow
Mountain Whitewater, Inc.
Town of Timnath
Trout Unlimited / Rocky Mountain Flycasters

$250
Seaworth AG Enterprises, Inc.

Added thanks to John Bartholow for sharing his photos of the Poudre River.