



**COLORADO
WATER CENTER**
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF NORTHERN COLORADO**

Water Literate Leaders of Northern Colorado

April 12, 2023 | Speaker Biographies

LINDSAY ROGERS | Water Policy Analyst, Western Resource Advocates

Lindsay joined Western Resource Advocates in 2021. Previously, she spent five years as the Colorado Basin Program Manager at WaterNow Alliance, focused on advancing sustainable water policies and programs in the West by working directly with municipal water decision makers. Lindsay serves on the Board of Colorado WaterWise and as the Land & Water Chair on the City of Edgewater's Sustainability Board. By facilitating local and state-level policy development and providing direct project support, Lindsay helps communities and utilities pursue innovative and tailored water-saving strategies such as graywater ordinances, waterwise landscaping programs, and better integrated water and land-use planning. Her successes in Colorado and Utah create momentum across the Colorado River Basin and show what is possible when it comes to safeguarding rivers and conserving limited water supplies.

TODD HANLIN | Water Resources Manager, City of Loveland

Todd Hanlin has served as Loveland's Water Resources Manager since December 2020. Originally, from Wyoming, he holds a Bachelor and Master's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Wyoming. Todd and his family moved south in 2000 fleeing Laramie's harsh winters. Todd's previous experience is all in the consulting world where he accumulated 35 years specializing in water resources engineering, infrastructure development and tribal water right settlement negotiations.

SHANE HALE | Town Manager, Town of Windsor

Shane is a fourth generation Coloradoan, a Navy veteran, husband, and father of two. He has been working in Colorado local government for 20 years, which includes time as an intern in Poncha Springs, Town Manager for the Town of Grand Lake, City Manager for the City of Cortez, and his current position as Town Manager in Windsor. With a lot of time working on the western slope and a passion for fly fishing, he works to balance the need to preserve water as a natural resource while realizing that water serves as one of the building blocks for economic prosperity.

MARIEL MILLER | Water Conservation Manager, City of Fort Collins Utilities

Mariel Miller is the Water Conservation Manager for the City of Fort Collins Utilities. She has spent the last five years developing and implementing programs, policies, and plans to manage water demand through efficiency and conservation and now oversees a team of water conservation professionals focusing on this work. Mariel works collaboratively across City departments and in partnerships with community members and organizations to advance effective, equitable, and forward-looking approaches to water conservation. Her diverse background includes over 15 years of work in local government where she has served in complimentary roles as a land use planner, sustainability coordinator and public works director. She received a Bachelor's in Environmental Science and a Master's in Public Administration with an emphasis in Environmental Policy.

JEN DIAL | Water Resources Manager, City of Fort Collins

Jen Dial received a B.S. in Physical Geography from Texas State University and master's degree in Geography (focusing on Snow Hydrology) from the University of CO. She has always loved and appreciated water whether it be playing in the rivers and gulf coast in Texas or the snow filled mountains of CO. After graduation she accepted a job with the City of Greeley as their Water Resources Analyst and over the course of 11 years worked her way up to the Water Resources Manager. After commuting from Fort Collins the entire time while working at Greeley, she was excited to accept the Water Resources Manager position at the City of Fort Collins where she can work for the city she lives and loves. Jen Dial has been with Fort Collins Utilities for 8 months working with a great team to manage the City's water rights and continue development of long-term water supply planning. In her free time she enjoys hiking and skiing with her husband and golden retriever Jasmine.

MEAGAN SMITH | Deputy Director of Public Works, Town of Wellington

Meagan Smith is the Deputy Director of Public Works at the Town of Wellington, where she oversees the Water and Wastewater Utilities, including long term water supply planning. Meagan previously spent five years with the Water Resources Division at Fort Collins Utilities, where her work focused on assessing the impacts of climate change and other risks on the Utilities' ability to meet demands in the near and long-term future. Meagan has a B.S. in Biosystems Engineering from Oklahoma State University and an M.S. in Water Resources Engineering from Colorado State University.

RICHARD RAINES | Water Resources Manager, Tri-Districts

Richard Raines is the Water Resource Manager for the East Larimer County, Fort Collins-Loveland, and North Weld County Water Districts which are collectively known as the Tri-Districts. He is in his 13th year with the Tri-Districts and is responsible for the management of the water rights portfolios and raw water supplies for each district and the coordination of diversions at the Soldier Canyon Filter Plant. Richard has worked in water rights and water supply since 1992 and has worked in Fort Collins and the Front Range since 1997.

JESSICA THRASHER | Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Engagement Program Manager, Colorado Water Center

Jessica Thrasher is the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Engagement Programs Manager at the Colorado Water Center. She has a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Southern Methodist University and a master's degree in International Development Anthropology from Colorado State University. Jessica previously worked at the Colorado Stormwater Center and developed the Language Justice Initiative and the Bilingual Residential Rain Garden Pilot Program. She is dedicated to fostering collaboration, innovation, and inclusion of diverse perspectives to build an equitable, sustainable water future for all. Jessica has also attained the following certifications: Permaculture Designer, Rainwater Harvesting Practitioner, Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL) and Stormwater Control Measure Inspection and Maintenance.