



Water Literate Leaders of Northern Colorado

May 8, 2024 | Speaker Biographies

STEVE MALERS | CEO and CTO, Open Water Foundation

Steve Malers is founder, Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Technology Officer of the Open Water Foundation (OWF), a nonprofit social enterprise that focuses on developing open source software and open data solutions to help organizations make better decisions about water. He is also a partner in TriLynx Systems, which provides a real-time environmental data management system focusing on flood warning. Steve grew up in La Junta, CO, has BS and MS degrees in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University, and is a Water Education Colorado Water Leader alumnus. He lives in Fort Collins and previously served on the Fort Collins Water Board. He is a member of the Poudre Runs Through It Study/Action Work Group. Steve has worked for over twenty five years developing and supporting Colorado's Decision Support Systems (CDSS) software. Steve lives in Fort Collins where 3 of the 6 Malers' family work in the water sector.

JODY SHADDUCK-MCNALLY | County Commissioner, Larimer County District 3

Jody was elected by a county-wide vote in 2020 as Larimer County Commissioner representing District 3, the southern portion of the County. Jody Shadduck-McNally is the first woman to serve in the District 3 seat. This area encompasses Loveland, Berthoud, Estes Park and surrounding areas. She lives in unincorporated Larimer County west of Loveland. She took office January 12, 2020. She serves the entire county as Commissioner. Jody loves to hobby farm with her chickens and bees, hiking in Rocky Mountain National Park, and spending time with her family and friends.

LAURIE KADRICH | Assistant County Manager, Larimer County

Laurie is the Assistant County Manager and former Director of Community Planning, Infrastructure, and Resources for Larimer County. She has a wide range of experience from both municipal and county levels of government to her positions. She oversees the Community Planning, Infrastructure, and Resources Service Area, assists with policy development for the County and serves as the staff liaison for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion work. Laurie has stewarded many projects, including the Solid Waste Master Plan, intergovernmental agreements in Larimer County, work on The Ranch Implementation Plan, and the Regional Transportation Project.

LESLI ELLIS | Community Planning, Infrastructure, and Resources Director, Larimer County

Lesli Ellis currently serves as Larimer County's Community Planning, Infrastructure, and Resources Director, coordinating and leading six departments. She also is the project sponsor for the County's Water Plan. Lesli has three decades of experience in service of and consulting with 40+ communities across the U.S. on long range plans and policies, codes, infrastructure projects, and open lands programs. She especially enjoys family time, gardening, and bicycling and hiking in beautiful Colorado.

JORDANA BARRACK | Executive Director, Mighty Arrow Family Foundation; Past Program Participant

Jordana is the Executive Director of the Mighty Arrow Family Foundation and manages operations for Mighty Arrow Family Office. This includes managing the day-to-day operations of the Foundation, overseeing both the Foundation's impact investment portfolio and grant making strategies. Previous to this role, Jordana served as the Corporate Secretary for New Belgium Brewing and studied water security issues for the brewery. She spent 10 years in the brewing industry, 7 years in the agricultural industry with Cargill's Specialty Canola Unit, and now blends land, water, food systems, and climate actions together through the Mighty Arrow Family Foundation.

In her spare time, she volunteers locally as a Larimer County Planning Commissioner, and with Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed as a board member. Nationally, Jordana is a steering committee member with FORA: the Funders for Regenerative Agriculture and is part of American River's Southwest River Counsel.

Water has always been a common thread through Jordana's career and personal passions. If not in the office, she can be found exploring rivers on a whitewater raft with her family or throwing pottery with Twisted River Creative.

CAROL COCHRAN | Founder, Horse & Dragon Brewing; Past Program Participant

Carol Cochran founded Horse & Dragon Brewing Company in May of 2014 with her husband, Tim. Their company is founded on 4 tenets: make great beer, treat everyone ethically, reduce your environmental footprint wherever possible, and be proactive members of your communities. Carol has a bunch of formal education, none of which prepared her for the rigors of running a small business focused on the triple bottom line. She firmly believes that if answers are to be found, they require us all working together to find 'em.

CLAIRE BOUCHARD | Director of Community Engagement and Communications, Community Foundation of Northern Colorado

Claire has lived and worked in the Northern Colorado community for twenty years – focusing on community engagement and increasing access to services for all residents through strategic communications and philanthropic grantmaking.

Her work across sectors and layers of the community has fostered a deep understanding of how our community works and where the challenges and opportunities lie in solving some of our community's most pressing issues. Claire graduated from the Water Literate Leaders course in 2023 and the Leadership Northern Colorado class in 2021.