

Partnership Success Looks Like

Incremental Progress

Collaboration and coordination with partners and public

Youth and higher education voice/participation

Funding

Measurable progress on projects on the ground

Sustainability of partnership and environment

Meeting environmental performance measures

Improved urban water quality for the entire watershed

More fishable, swimmable use for waterways

Economic development and social measures – relevance

Jobs

Clearly defined Scope of Work

Engaged and more informed public (and measurement of this)

Melded (mature) Partnership

Documented information exchange

Network

Share information

Move projects forward

Interactive platform for community input and outreach

Visibly and “cachet” from being part of the Partnership

Announcements

Share News!

Urban Waters Bike Tour

May 3 & May 17 (Free, Bikes available)

Register: www.yourwatercolorado.org/bike

USFS Community Forest and Open Space

Grant opportunity – RFA due Mid-May

Contact Claire Harper at 303-275-5178

South Platte Trash Inventory/Cleanup Dates

April 21(full), July 21, Sept. 29 2012

Contact Jon Novick at: 720-865-5468

Metro State College

May 1 and 2, University Water Festival

May 2, 4PM, OWOW Sculpture Dedication

Also, looking for internships/jobs

Contact Tom Cech at: tcech@mscd.edu

National Get Outdoors Day

June 9 – Denver City Park

Free, Community Event

www.getoutdoorscolorado.org

The Nature Conservancy/CUSP Hayman Volunteer Day

May 19, Register @ www.nature.org/colorado13ers

What Does the Coordinator Need to See or Do?

NOTES:

- Grow creatively in knowledge
- Host a Kickoff event at the River
- Identify opportunities for collaboration and reducing duplication/competition
- Read local City plans for watersheds, Greenways, etc.
- Create platform for information input and outreach
- Convene groups to define strategic priorities through collaborative planning
- Communicate with funding decision makers
- Mapping skills
- Analyze issues within the Watershed
- Look for corridor enhancements
- Understanding of the small steps to yield big change
- Engage politicians and funders in rally around the River
- Leverage resources by playing matchmaker among partners/projects
- Look for funding
- Separate projects by category, for example: education, riparian, drinking water, stormwater, forests and integrate and discriminate between them
- Meet all the partners to understand their needs and interests
- Be a messenger, coordinating and broadcasting success, opportunities and shared messages
- Champion the 6-8 projects, in order to get more resources
- 2012 Year of Water Events
- Communicate Project message, synthesize components, dream about what is possible.
- Promote projects from partnership to establish a track record
- Attend Conference, for example, Colorado Watershed Assembly
- Meet with Partners to learn what they do and their perspective
- Visit each partner, office or field
- See projects on the ground (tours)
- Read all relevant Urban Waters info on Denver Pilot
- Compile and coordinate information about all the work represented in the room
- Build bridges to community. Integrate watershed message into community events
- Identify Partner contacts, develop relationship w/them, identify and track projects/efforts in watershed
- Interview Agency, NGO, focus group representatives
- Participate in events, see what is happening
- Meet, collaborate, coordinate, implement
- Meet and talk to each partner
- Meet all the critical partners and tour the geography
- Meet and touch base with the other Urban Waters Partnerships Coordinators, build peer network
- Facilitate communication within group, learn what now exists
- Read up on what each group does
- Develop request for information from groups
- Go out to the River as much as possible
- Survey resources and look for opportunities
- Visit sites for key opportunities
- Visit the Hayman burn area to help understand the long-term impacts and challenges of wildfire in critical watersheds

What Does the Coordinator Need to Know?

NOTES:

- People, place, politics, partners
- Understand connections between urban and rural areas, provide equal voice
- Need to know key and major players
- Stakeholders and community needs/interests are different in the Headwaters versus the urban Areas
- How to build and nurture relationships and partnerships
- Ability to work with diverse groups and agencies
- Know what groups' vision is, what success is
- Some knowledge of water issues in the West
- What is expected of the Coordinator?
- Who the stakeholders are, background, where they fit
- Who community constituents are in the watershed
- Colorado water law, policy and players
- How the local government works
- Knows watersheds in the west and in the South Platte
- Environmental laws, how to facilitate, good writer, basic water knowledge
- How to promote a group and their activities.
- Training about how a watershed functions
- Knows Western water issues, laws etc.
- GIS capability and website development
- Expectations: What are they expected to accomplish in their 2-year time frame?
- Willingness and ability to learn.
- Funding sources, funding needs, who's doing what and where
- Best practices
- Grant writing
- Respectful communication
- Promote projects and opportunities
- How to communicate well
- Organize strategic, focused funding

How Can This Network Add Value and Benefit the Work Each Organization is Doing Now?

NOTES:

- Help identify different sources of funding (Grant opportunities and technical assistance) to support and accelerate/expand projects in this watershed
- Share lessons learned, what did not work
- Help share success stories with each other and the public
- Develop matrix of partner information (Cliff Notes style) with contact info, subject matter, emphasis areas, geography (where they work)
- Transfer of technical data and information, communicate this well and even educate
- Provides information on resources available in the network
- Connection of organization/agencies with communities and ongoing projects
- Opportunities for leveraging
- Possibility for agencies/organizations to interact with potential employment prospects

What are Potential Gaps that this Network Can Identify and Work On?

NOTES:

- Mapping the projects, who is working on what, who has what resources
- Communication to public and how to organize this
- Develop 2-year Business Plan or marketing Plan
- Video game or App
- An interactive mechanism/portal (website/newsletter/App/Wiki site) to share short summaries of ongoing projects and a map. This would give us the ability to provide and get feedback/input to projects
- Network lacks on appealing “brand” or visibility to public and officials
- Translate knowledge and actions of agencies and organizations into measuring behavior change (knowing what we accomplish)
- Develop a project inventory
- Identify who else should be at the table
- Common priorities for funding
- Fund common interests/priorities
- Network lacks a “Champion” who can speak for the entire South Platte
- Leverage ideas, funding, projects
- Rebrand Watershed
- Create a common message

What I Need to do to Help the Coordinator Succeed is . . .

NOTES:

- Make ourselves available for information
- Provide summary of my group/agency interests within the scope of the watershed partnership
- Communicate interests, purposes, capacities of my organization to coordinator (not just project-by-project or grant-by-grant)
- Provide background information and resources on what USGS does
- Share my stories
- Offer my time and resources
- Be responsible for my own great ideas
- Be willing to collaborate
- Introduce the coordinator to at least 3 key people in 3 different organizations involved in this partnership
- Provide field trip/on the ground tour of work on River
- Contribute information on funding and initiatives
- Participate and/or facilitate in collaborative planning
- Mentor
- Bring a champion to the effort
- Support with empathy and shoulder to cry on
- Communicate funding opportunities and active/upcoming projects to coordinator
- Provide background information
- Show all existing info from EPA
- Provide resource info and technical guidance and assistance as requested
- Share data, info and plans about my organizations work
- Communicate successes so far - share
- Share data and expertise freely