Agenda

Desired Goals and Outcomes

- Knowledge sharing regarding the key challenges and opportunities to foster a more sustainable Colorado River, including new perspectives
- Trust building within the CO River Basin NGO water transactions community to strengthen relationships and opportunities for greater collective progress
- New context to help our work continue to evolve and remain relevant moving forward

Agenda

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21:
5:00pm: Informal Dinner (Beaver Street Brewery, 11 S. Beaver Street, Flagstaff, AZ)
If you arrive in Flagstaff by suppertime on Monday, join us for dinner at Beaver Street Brewery. We have tables reserved under “River Network” and dinner is on-your-own.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22:
7:00am: Breakfast (Drury Inn – 300 South Milton Road, Flagstaff, AZ (or on your own))

8:15am: Introduction and Meeting Goals – Nicole Silk (River Network)
Goals for the meeting and highlights of the agenda. Expectations for participant engagement. Introductions.

8:45am: The Evolution of Water Transactions – Ted Kowalski (Walton Family Foundation) and Andrew Purkey (AMP Insights)
How we work on environmental water transactions within the Colorado River Basin has evolved over the last ten years. How has this field changed and what has enabled this transformation? How are water transactions different today? What’s next?

9:45am: A Bright Spot: Demand Management and the Role of NGOs – Mary Kelly (CK Blueshift) and Season Martin (Martin & McCoy)
With climate change and the aridification of the Colorado River Basin, demand management and water markets could be an important tool in moving towards a resilient Colorado River. As the Upper and Lower basins investigate their Demand Management programs, what is the role of NGOs?
10:45am: Break

11:00am: Indian Water Rights and the Colorado River Basin – Jason John (Navajo Nation)
The Colorado River Basin Tribal Water Study promises to provide greater clarity regarding tribal water rights across the basin. What is the tribal perspective on the future of the Colorado River? How can conservation organizations collaborate with tribes for aligned interests? What are the keys to building and maintaining trust? How does the Ten Tribes Partnership view conservation groups?

12:30pm: Discussion and Lunch - How is tribal engagement relevant to your work? What could you do to engage the tribal community where you work? What other communities could you be engaging with to enhance your work? What challenges do you anticipate?

1:45pm: Pulse Check: What is Holding Back Your Progress?
What additional support is needed to accomplish your vision? How is this supplementary work ‘mission critical’?

2:00pm: Funding Options: Farm Bill, Water Funds, WaterSmart, New Funders – Farm Bill (Melinda Kassen, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership), Water Funds (Nancy Smith, The Nature Conservancy), and WaterSmart Grants (Avra Morgan, Bureau of Reclamation)

3:15pm: Break

3:30pm: Small Group Discussion: Separate into interest areas and discuss what would be possible if new funders got involved and how we can work together to attract them, then share results.

4:45pm: Workshop Feedback - Nicole Silk (River Network)
What did you like about this meeting today? What will you take home?

5:00pm: Adjourn

6:30pm: Happy Hour & Dinner (Criollo Latin Kitchen - 16 N. San Francisco St., Flagstaff, AZ)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23:

7:00am: Breakfast (Drury Inn – 300 South Milton Road, Flagstaff, AZ (or on your own))

8:00am: Field Trip Departure from Drury Inn: Kim Schonek (TNC), Tour Guide of the Verde Valley

9:00am: Stop 1: Hauser Farms - Jody Norris, John Ford, Claudia Hauser and Zach Hauser
Hauser Farms has taken a collaborative holistic approach to farm and river conservation. We’ll learn about their conservation easement to protect their land, how they are improving irrigation efficiency and the role of drip irrigation and their headgate, and how crop selection, federal programs, and corporate funders fit into their success. How was trust built What lessons are transferrable to other projects in the basin and what lessons from other projects are relevant here?
11:30pm: **Stop 2: Sinagua Malt House** – Kim Schonek and Chip Norton
*How does this malt house fit into the story of agricultural evolution in the Verde Valley? How does this business model work? How does it help the river? How does crop switching and understanding changes in agricultural markets help us get to scale with water transactions? What lessons are transferrable to other projects in the basin and what lessons from other projects are relevant here?*

12:30pm: **Stop 3: West Clear Creek**
*Lunch and swimming hole (sack lunches)*

2:00pm: **Stop 4: Wingfield #1 Pipeline and West Clear Creek Stakeholders Group** – Linda Buchanan, Irene Rezzonico and Jess Mulcaire
*Small scale agriculture combined with conveyance system improvements, scaling solutions to tributary solutions, and working together to achieve water security. How was trust built? What lessons are transferrable to other projects in the basin and what lessons from other projects are relevant here?*

3:30pm: **Stop 5: Shield Ranch and Creating Community-Wide Support** – Kim Schonek moderates with speakers including Yavapai Apache Nation, local brewer, local mayor, Verde River Exchange.
*How was trust built, both between conservation NGOs and ag, and between the tribe and the community? What is pushing this effort forward? What lessons are transferrable to other projects in the basin and what lessons from other projects are relevant here?*

**Break / Networking** - *Walk along the river, mingle, relax*

**BBQ Dinner** - *Babe’s BBQ*

7:00pm: **Depart for Flagstaff**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24:**

7:00am: **Breakfast** (Drury Inn – 300 South Milton Road, Flagstaff, AZ (or on your own))

8:15am: **Overview of Today’s Agenda** - Nicole Seltzer (River Network)
*Overview of day and what to expect*

8:30am: **Lightning talks: How Does Groundwater Fit into the Picture?**
- *Arizona* - Jocelyn Gibbon (Freshwater Policy Consulting, LLC) and Rachel O’Connor (Environmental Defense Fund)
- *California* - Amy Campbell (The Nature Conservancy – California)

9:30am: **Group Discussion:** *What are the lessons for you? How does groundwater relate to your work and your solutions for restoring and maintaining the rivers of the Colorado?*

9:45am: **Case Study: Sustaining Flows for the Gila River** - Martha Cooper (The Nature Conservancy – New Mexico)
The Gila River was ranked this year as one of America’s Most Endangered Rivers. How was the governor convinced to veto a major diversion project that would have further dewatered this river? Who was involved and why did it work? What are the opportunities for water transactions on the Gila?

10:15am: **Group Discussion:** How can advocacy and anti-project campaigns support our goals? Do you partner with advocacy organizations, and if so, how?

10:30am: Break

11:00am: **Advice for California – Building an Environmental Water Transaction Network**
– Amy Campbell (The Nature Conservancy – California)
*The Nature Conservancy in California, together with Cal Trout and Trout Unlimited are building a new water transactions network to better connect practitioners pursuing transactions across the state.*

11: 25am: **Group Discussion:** What advice would you give them for success?

11:45am: **Workshop Feedback** - Nicole Silk (River Network)
*What did you like about this meeting? What will you take home? What would you change next time?*

12:00pm: Adjourn