

From Mountaintop to River Bottom: Restoring New Mexico's Watersheds

*September 30 - October 2, 2008
Uptown Marriott Hotel, Albuquerque, New Mexico
2101 Louisiana Boulevard, NE*

Draft Agenda – Subject to Change

Day 1: PLENARY: Building Alliances Across Boundaries

- 7:30 – 8:00: *Registration*
- 8:00 – 8:15: **Welcome**
Introduction on the purpose, agenda, creation of the Watershed Forum
- 8:15 – 9:30 **Collaboration Across Boundaries: State Agencies and Citizen Groups**
Department Heads discuss collaboration between agencies and with citizen groups
Ron Curry – New Mexico Environment Department Secretary
Joanna Prukop – New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Secretary
Bruce Thompson – New Mexico Department of Game & Fish Director
Miguel Flores – United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 Director
(Invited)
Miley Gonzalez – New Mexico Department of Agriculture
John D'Antonio – Office of the State Engineer
- 9:30 – 9:50 **Restoring New Mexico's Watersheds from Mountaintop to River Bottom**
Susan Rich, Watershed Coordinator, Forest and Watershed Health Office, New Mexico Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department Forestry Division
- 9:50 – 10:10 **Forest Restoration and Water Savings: Myth or Reality?**
Ken Smith, Director New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute
- 10:10 – 10:30 *Networking Break*
- 10:30 – 10:50 **Tribal Watershed Management: Santa Clara's Upper Watershed**
Alvin Warren, Santa Clara Pueblo
- 10:50 – 11:35 **Watershed Management from the Agricultural Perspective**
Janet Jarett (Farmer in Los Lunas, Miguel Santistevan (New Mexico Acequia Association), Watson Castillo (Ojo Encino Ranchers Committee)
- 11:35 – 12:00 **Experiences of Two Watershed Groups – Ruidoso River Association and the Cimarron Watershed Alliance**
Dick Wisner (Ruidoso River Association), Mike Bain (Cimarron Watershed Alliance)
- 12:00 – 12:45 *Lunch Provided*
- 12:45 – 1:35 **Keynote Speaker – Brad Lancaster**

Brad Lancaster is the author of two award-winning books on rainwater harvesting in the Southwest.

- 1:45 – 2:35 **Watershed Group Needs & Sustainability**
 A panel of diverse watershed group members and agency staff discuss some of the challenges and opportunities facing watershed groups, Julia Stafford – Cimarron Watershed Alliance, Lou Naue – San Francisco River Association, David Groenfeldt – Santa Fe Watershed Association, Chris Cudia - NMED
- 2:35 – 3:05 **The Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy for New Mexico in Watershed Conservation and Management**, D. J. Case & Associates, New Mexico Department of Game of Fish
- 3:05 – 3:30 *Networking Break*
- 3:30 – 4:00 **From the Mountaintop – Forest Landscape Restoration Act**
 Scott Miller – Natural Resource Staff Director for Senator Bingaman
- 4:00 – 5:00 **To the River Bottom – Using the Clean Water Act to Promote Water Quality**
 Nelly Smith, EPA Region 6, Abe Franklin – New Mexico Environment Department Surface Water Quality Bureau, Rachel Conn – Amigos Bravos, Scott Bulgrin – Sandia Pueblo
- 6:45 – 8:00 **Social Session** – social with appetizers on the outside deck with poster presentations

Day 2: WORKSHOPS: Watershed Wise Work: Sharing Our Knowledge

- 7:30 – 8:00: *Registration*
- 8:00 – 9:00 **Watershed Wise Work¹: People, Policy and Nature**
 A panel that discusses Successes and Challenges in Watershed Work
 There are three main things that WS groups are working through - people, policy and bureaucracy, all while working with the uncertainties of nature. How have some groups handled these topics, and what can other groups learn from their experiences? Speakers include Larry Allen (Malpai Borderlands), Martha Schumann (The Nature Conservancy), Steve Glass (Cuidad Soil & Water Conservation District) and Bill Zeedyk (Zeedyk Ecological Consulting).

9:05 – 10:05 **Workshop Session 1:**

| Track 1: Watershed Group Assistance | Track 2: Forest Friendliness | Track 3: Promoting results & collaboration |
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| How to Form and Sustain a Watershed Group Barbara Johnson - Rio Puerco Alliance, Jan-Willem Jansens - Earth Works Institute | Developing Prescriptions for Forest Restoration , Lawrence Crane, Bernalillo District Special Projects Coordinator, Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department Forestry Division | Monitoring for Watershed & Forest Health – Rich Schrader, Eytan Krasilovsky, and Brad Lamb, EPA Region 6 |

¹ The title “Watershed Wise” is inspired by Earth Works Institute’s Watershed Wise Communities program.
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10:05 – 10:30 *Networking Break* 10:30 – 11:30 **Workshop Session 2**

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| Track 1: Watershed Group Assistance | Track 2: Forest Friendliness | Track 3: Promoting results & collaboration |
| Integrating the Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy into Watershed Management Plans D.J. Case & Associates, NMDGF | Prescribed Fire and Community Forest Planning: Developing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan in the Gila Don Weaver, retired USFS Prescribed Fire as a Tool for Forest and Watershed Restoration John Lissoway, Wildland Fire Associates | Resolving Environmental Conflict in Collaborative Forestry Projects Gordon West and Todd Schulke (invited), Center for Biological Diversity |

11:30 – 12:25 *Lunch Provided & Riparian Council Awards*

12:30 – 1:30 **Workshop Session 3**

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| Track 1: Watershed Group Assistance | Track 2: Forest Friendliness | Track 3: Promoting results & collaboration |
| Funding Your Watershed Project: Sharon Daugherty, EPA Representatives, the Quivira Coalition, <i>Water Trust Board Rep or Recipient?</i> | The Role of Entrepreneurship in Forest Restoration: Mila Allen of Mt Taylor Millworks (Invited), Naomi Engelman,, New Mexico Forest Industry Association | Collaborating to Secure Water for River Ecosystems – Rio Bonito: Mike McGee, BLM Roswell Field Office |

1:30 – 1:45 *Break/Transition*

1:45 – 2:45 **Workshop Session 4**

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| Track 1: Watershed Group Assistance | Track 2: Forest Friendliness | Track 3: Promoting results & collaboration |
| Meet the Funders: Karen Menetrey NMED, Jeremy Kruger State Forestry, Denise Fort (Water Trust Board), Private foundation and agency funders | Innovations in Biomass Utilization Carmen Austin – Southwest Sustainable Forest Partnership Utilizing Biomass from Forest Restoration for Erosion Control Coordinator for State Forestry Krista Bonfantine, New Mexico Recycling Coalition | Riparian Restoration: Water Harvesting, Gully Treatments, and Natural Channel design Bill Zeedyk, Steve Vrooman, Craig Sponholz, Van Clothier, etc. |

2:45 – 3:00 *Break/Transition*

3:00 – 3:15 **Open Topic Break Out Sessions: Organizing & Instructions**

3:15 – 4:30 **Open Topic Break-Out Sessions**

Options 4-7: to be determined by participants at forum

4:30 – 5:00 **Open Topic Report Back, Wrap Up, and Field Trip Overview**
Discuss outcomes of break-out groups, compile action items and potential initiatives

Day 3: FIELDTRIP: Restoration in the Jemez & Rio Grande Watersheds

8:00 – 8:15 Orientation for folks to get on the bus
8:15 – 9:10 Load up buses and travel
9:10 – 10:10 Santa Ana Bosque and Gradient Restoration Facility projects
10:10 - 11:50 Load up buses and travel to Fenton Lake
11:50 – 12:45 Lunch at Fenton Lake State Park
12:45 – 1:45 Fenton Lake Presentations
1:45 – 2:30 Travel to Walatowa Visitors Center
2:30 – 3:30 “Respect the Rio” presentations at Walatowa Visitors Center
3:30 – 5:00 Travel back to Marriott hotel