



SP CURE Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 21, 2023 – 9:00 am

Meeting Location:
Virtual Meeting

March Joint Meeting Summary

High Level Take-Aways

- The monitoring committee presented on this year's round robin, which looked at iron (Fe Dissolved/Total) and sodium (Na Dissolved/Total).
- At the 10-Year Roadmap Meeting, the Division provided an update on next steps, and they are calling it a "course correction" where they will be focusing on feasibility, in particular with nutrients.
- SP CURE met with the Division on March 1st to discuss our request to present at a WQCC meeting.
- SP CURE and BMW brainstormed a joint watershed group Confluence at the Confluence for this year.
- SP CURE will sponsor South Platte Renew's April 22nd river clean up event.

Action Items

- Dan to schedule meeting to discuss redirection of timing and include Erin, and Erin will forward to the CMF Nutrient Task Force.
- The monitoring committee will discuss an approach to presenting at the August Roadmap meeting.
- Beth to follow up with Aimee Konowal on potential Roadmap Meeting.
- Sarah/Beth to reach out to watershed groups regarding joint meeting for Confluence at the Confluence.
- Beth to coordinate with Erin Bartlett at South Platte Renew regarding SP CURE's sponsorship.

1. Discussion and Approval of February Meeting Summary

Curt Bauers made a motion to approve the February meeting minutes. Brian Tracy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. Round Robin – Monitoring Committee presentation of 2022 Round Robin

Erin introduced this year's Round Robin sampling event. Each year the Monitoring Committee does a sampling event where the same samples are analyzed by the labs we use to do our monthly water quality analysis for SP CURE and then compiles the results. This year, the committee analyzed for iron (Fe Dissolved/Total) and sodium (Na Dissolved/Total). Iron was chosen because nutrient treatment at some facilities may require use of iron in treatment processes.

Santiago provided a summary of this year's sampling event. The participants were Centennial Water and Sanitation District, City of Thornton, DDPHE, Metro Water Recovery, and Suncor.

The results were generally consistent across labs for sodium but varied more considerably for dissolved iron, with one noted outlier. Total iron results showed more agreement among labs than dissolved iron. The variability in dissolved iron could have been because the concentrations in both Sample A and B were low, nearly non-detectable. However, the concentrations were similar to levels seen in South Platte River samples.

Dan mentioned dissolved iron limits with anti-degradation values are very low, and it's a concern that we cannot accurately measure in this range when permit limits are, or will be, set here. Jordan thinks this may be of importance to share with other permit holders as they may be considering using iron for nutrient treatment.

South Platte Renew missed this year's event due to lack of a monitoring committee member. However, Nicole is now on the committee and will participate in future events.

Most sampling results were collected from commercial labs. We will do more digging and spend more time on this as the variability in results is a concern.

3. Regulation 31 – Debrief on Prehearing Conference and 10-Year Roadmap Meeting

SP CURE decided not to provide oral testimony. CWWUC, AF CURE, and many others are participating. There are over 40 participants, so they think the hearing will take three days.

Erin provided an update on the 10-year Roadmap Meeting. In the meeting, Nathan (Division) provided an update on next steps, and they are calling it a "course correction" where they will be focusing on feasibility, in particular with nutrients. They will still be implementing nutrient standards but delay effective date to align the stream/lakes nutrients together. In addition, they talked about a subgroup to discuss and address this. The Division is working on a framework/skeleton and then will reach back out.

The Division mentioned they do not have enough staffing on their DSV area. Christine asked if the Division will be adding other parameters to the 10-Year Roadmap. Arsenic and nutrients are the only ones left. We are not aware of any parameter additions.

Jordan appreciated Dan's comment in the meeting regarding chlorophyll-a fits into the redirection of timing. Jim is concerned about using Chl-a as a backdoor to nutrients, and the EPA is not happy that Colorado has not introduced nutrient criteria yet. SP CURE will continue to discuss this before the hearing. Could include CMF Nutrient Task Force. South Platte Renew did not request a delay and would need to include parties that did so they could represent. South Platte Renew commented on timing changes for nitrogen. The Division supported the edits, but the EPA came back strongly against the change. Dan to set meeting time and Erin will forward to nutrient task force. Invites can include Jim, Sarah, Erin, Gabe (CWWUC), Rhonda, and others.

The mechanisms for chlorophyll-a are TMDL or using the narrative. Unsure if Division is getting pressure for instream and reservoirs? Stated approach is to use TMDLs for chlorophyll-a. Jordan mentioned the next roadmap meeting the TMDL group will present on prioritization strategy.

4. Partnership opportunities – Debrief on meeting with Division, discuss next steps for outreach presentations

Christine, Jim, Jordan, and Beth met with Division - Jojo La and Aimee Konowal on March 1st. We discussed SP CURE's request to present at an upcoming WQCC hearing. We shared SP CURE background and current work (general) with meeting attendees. We described the arsenic study, history of past presentations, and our work with data and uploading data to the

DSN. Lastly, we discussed future opportunities for SP CURE, and the Division suggested presenting at a Roadmap meeting or Bimonthly Water Quality Forum meeting.

Jim thinks it's clear that they want any organization to only present on information that will be important for a hearing. They do not want organizations to share about themselves and their work. Christine agreed. We couldn't talk about what SP CURE is and what we do, there needs to be a greater purpose. "Using time appropriately" meaning that sharing "about us" isn't that.

Jojo deferred to Christine about presenting for the Water Quality Forum (WQF), whether that be at a bimonthly meeting or present at the retreat. Sarah asks if we hear from SP CURE, should we open it up for other watershed organizations? Dan mentioned watershed groups with control regulations present to WQCC annually. Maybe CMF could present due to statewide angle? CMF to consider/discuss on future call.

SP CURE envisions using the WQF as introduction to SP CURE and what we do. We could talk about particular parameter of interest and share that information. Jim is concerned that typical WQF tackles large issues that impact more people, the likelihood that SP CURE would be selected could be slim. Presentation to WQF may not be statewide issue, perhaps do a watershed update.

On next month's agenda, SP CURE will talk about the WQF retreat and how we are going to approach this. In addition, we could present at the Roadmap meeting in August. At the next monitoring committee meeting, they will discuss this (approach for these audiences).

Jordan – innovative source identification. If we present South Platte mainstem data, they may say "great" how does that move/change anything. Dan talked about longitudinal studies, coordinated monitoring, that this data will help us understand roadmap and source allocation of parameters like arsenic and selenium. Paint the picture for the entire basin.

The monitoring committee is working on the white paper and arsenic study is on hold. The committee does not have the workload availability to continue working on this.

Beth to follow up with Aimee Konowal and let her know we are thinking maybe August.

5. Confluence at the Confluence – Discuss partnership opportunities with BMW

SP CURE is back on planning for what we will do this upcoming fall Confluence at the Confluence. We want to explore partnership with BMW. In the past have co-hosted with BMW at least once. SP CURE has a recent focus on partnerships and visibility.

Steve Lundt joined the meeting to discuss partnership opportunities. At the BMW November Board meeting, they thought it would be good to have a meeting that involves all the Denver watersheds. They do not want to reinvent anything and realize that Confluence at the Confluence is an annual event that could host this topic. This could cover watershed wide issues like

- Lack of 208 agency
- Monitoring phosphorus from Chatfield downstream
- Data example, everyone has a dashboard these days. What are others doing?

Alternatively, we could do one Board meeting each year as annual meeting with other watershed groups. Perhaps the first year is at Confluence at the Confluence, and then it comes a future one-day meeting we plan for.

Historically we were doing similar work as others in the Denver area, and the Confluence at the Confluence started years ago to share information within watersheds. As time went on, we focused on other issues.

Planning group can include the different watershed groups – Cherry Creek, BMW, Dry Creek, SP CURE, and Bear Creek. Jordan mentioned it would be nice to loop in others basin stakeholders such members of South Platte River Urban Waters Partnership. They have a Water quality assessment tool – could highlight this dashboard. Past events have covered different dashboards and databases, but we can continue trying. Dashboards seem to be a hot topic.

Steve mentioned a three-year approach such as (1) intro (2) data and (3) policy. Something that carries on year to year.

In general, SP CURE members are supportive of this approach. Next step, make connections.

- SP CURE confirmed
- BMW confirmed (Steve to represent)
- Need to get others confirmed.

Sarah/Beth to reach out and see if they would like to join call (separate from Board meeting) to discuss potential partnerships. The invite will describe the event, what we want to do, and ask each watershed group to reply with three hot topics/what's on their mind. Contacts include Jane Clary, Russ Clayschulte, and Casey Davenport.

Do we ask the Colorado Watershed Assembly to be involved? Front Range annual conference. Jordan is representative for CWA.

6. Discuss Project Updates

- Colorado Monitoring Framework** – All member meeting went well. It was hosted in a hybrid format. Discussed communications from PFAS perspective, PFAS source sampling and permits, and AF CURE presentation on nutrient approach. Sampling and analysis plan for biosolids is on Division's website.
- CWQMC/CDSN** – Reg 85 data call is live, and data must be uploaded to AWQMS database by April 1st. Aurora was able to get ahold of Lynn although she has not responded to others. Jordan has been working with Lynn, and she is working on data calls. We are welcome to contact Jordan if we are unable to contact Lynn at DSN. DSN is looking to train additional staff (Tammy from Elephant Fish) to help, and they received a mini grant from CDPHE for this.
- BMW Watershed** – Group is updating watershed plan. Nonpoint source grant and implementation TMDLs should be incorporated into watershed plan.
- Monitoring Committee** – Received direction from Board to update SP CURE white paper. Committee reviewed white paper and identified where to refine/enhance.

7. Budget Update

The budget is up to date.

8. Other Topics and Announcements

- [Video](#) – 9 News: Metro Water Recovery is helping aquatic life in South Platte River thrive again
- South Platte River Clean Up – Sponsorship request for South Platte Renew's April 22nd event.

This is a family event and people bring kids. There are two locations this year's sixth annual river clean up. Sponsorships support will help pay for event and expand it to other communities. Jim is in favor of sponsoring because it aligns with SP CURE outreach goals. Curt agreed. Dan is available to sit at a table for SP CURE.

Jim made a motion to approve a \$500 River Protector sponsorship for the event. Brian seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Beth to coordinate with Erin Bartlett and send out ask for folks to attend. The monitoring committee will have white paper ready prior to this event. Board to review white paper prior to finalization.

9. Next Meeting Dates

April 18, 2023 – Virtual

May 18, 2023 – Virtual

June 20, 2023 – Virtual

SP CURE Board Meeting: March 21, 2023
Attendance Record

Present	Name	Organization
	Juliana Archuleta	Adams County
	Sherry Scaggiari	Aurora Water
	Zachary Trabold	Aurora Water
X*	Julie Tinetti	Centennial W&S
	Alan Polonsky	City and County of Denver
	Jon Novick	City and County of Denver
	Michael Probasco	East Cherry Creek Valley W&S
	Sara Brewer	East Cherry Creek Valley W&S
X*	Curt Bauers	FRICO
X*	Brian Tracy	City of Golden
X*	Jim Dorsch	Metro Water Recovery
X*	Jordan Parman	Metro Water Recovery
	Mark Koch	Molson/Coors
	Mark Cubbon	South Adams County W&S
X*	Gary Smith	South Adams County W&S
X*	Dan DeLaughter	South Platte Renew
X*	Nicole Laurita	South Platte Renew
X*	Eric Marler	Suncor Energy (U.S.A.)
X*	Caleb Owen	Thornton
	Shay Shih	Thornton
	Steve Materkowski	Mile High Flood District
X*	Christine Johnston	Xcel Energy
X*	Sarah Reeves	Coordinator, Brown and Caldwell
X*	Beth Albrecht	Brown and Caldwell
X*	Erin Donnelly	Brown and Caldwell
X*	Claire Likar	Aurora Water
X*	Santiago Ramirez	Thornton
X*	Steve Lundt	Metro Water Recovery

*Joined virtually/by phone