

**Summary¹ of:
Colorado Water Quality Forum Planning Retreat
The Village At Breckenridge
July 21-22, 2016**

In advance of the Retreat, rationales for 10 proposed work groups were submitted by various members of the Forum. The rationales were circulated to all persons who have requested to be on the Forum's email distribution list and were also posted on the Forum's website.

On Day 1 of the Retreat, each rationale was reviewed and discussed by those in attendance in order to clarify the intent, scope, and timing needs of each of the proposed work groups. Recognizing that not all of the work groups that were proposed could be formed due to limited resources, attendees of the Retreat broke into small groups and discussed which of the proposed work groups are a priority for the 2016-2017 year. Small groups were asked to consider how ripe the issue is, the geographic scope of the issue, whether broad stakeholder participation is anticipated, what sort of data is necessary and whether it's available, and the urgency of the issue and the consequences if the issue is not addressed this year. Additionally the small groups were asked to discuss whether the issues proposed to be handled by a work group could be handled in another manner or postponed for future years.

The small groups were then asked to report out, and the full group began to identify together the priority work groups and issues for 2016-2017. It was preliminarily agreed that of the 10 work groups proposed, only the following would move forward for 2016-2017: the Permit Issues Forum; MS4 Issues Forum (will be held in conjunction with quarterly Stormwater Council meetings); Reg #85 Nutrients work group; 303(d) Listing Methodology and Aquatic Life Policy 10-1; and a Temperature Technical Subgroup. Additionally, it was agreed that if funding becomes available a Regulation #84 work group may also begin meeting. It was agreed that the Priority Setting Process work group would use the regularly plenary session meetings for discussion and that a formal work group would not be formed this year due to competing priorities. It was agreed that neither of the proposed work groups regarding antidegradation would move forward this year, but that the issues raised in the rationales would be addressed in the Permit Issues Forum.

The full group revisited this preliminary agreement the following morning, and final agreement on these work groups and briefing topics is reflected in the 2016/2017 Water Quality Forum Work Plan (attached).

In addition to significant discussion regarding the water quality priority topics and work groups for 2016-2017, there were presentations regarding Water for People, OneWater Concept, and Mine Clean up activities.

¹ Please note that this summary was prepared 4 months after the retreat, and therefore represents the best recollection of the Steering Committee at that time.