

December 8, 2005

At the October 20th meeting of the Water Committee of the Watershed Collaborative we discussed the need to form both a Technical Subcommittee (to work on “what” to include in a Roaring Fork River Watershed Plan) and a Development/Implementation Subcommittee (to work on the legal, institutional and financial issues of “how” we would develop and implement a Roaring Fork River Watershed Plan across multiple jurisdictions with a variety of stakeholders). An initial Technical Subcommittee is already at work. Now we would like to invite your participation in the Development/Implementation Subcommittee.

One of the reasons the Watershed Collaborative has not institutionalized is because its original participants recognized the value of respecting the divergent views and decision-making processes of the various institutions with a stake in the economic and environmental health of the Roaring Fork Watershed. To date, we have been successful in crossing agency and jurisdictional boundaries because of the active participation of the majority of the decision makers in the Valley. We will need representation from each of those groups on the Development/Implementation Subcommittee, if the watershed planning effort is to succeed.

The best date is **Friday the 16th**. So let's **plan on meeting at the Pitkin County Schultz Health & Human Services bldg, in one of the main floor conference rooms that day, from 9am - 11am**. Again - the bldg is about 1/4 mile from the roundabout, up Castle Creek Rd. You will turn right at the sign for Aspen Valley Hospital.

I will put together an outline of topics for discussion at this initial meeting (which I think will need to focus on how we get the Roaring Fork Watershed Plan developed at this point). I would appreciate receiving any thoughts you might have for the "agenda" [this](#) week.

Also - it would be nice to have representation at this initial meeting from the missing "decision makers" in the Valley. If you can help me to convince some additional people to join us, that'd be great. Just have them get in contact w/me and we'll get them on the list.

Once again - thanks to everyone for making time to get this subcommittee kicked off this month!

In addition to getting the Development/Implementation Subcommittee formed, we'd also like to discuss some “first steps” at the December meeting. One of those “first steps” might be getting other members of the Collaborative to consider arranging for the Roaring Fork Conservancy (RFC) to give an abbreviated version of the RFC/Stream Health Initiative/Nature Conservancy overview presentation to their Boards, Councils, etc. (as Randy Russell arranged for Garfield County), to begin to get conceptual “buy-in” from the decision makers. We might also discuss the issue of a “staff” position further. If you have any other thoughts, please let me know.

Thanks!

-- Rose Ann Sullivan