



THE POUUDRE RUNS THROUGH IT STUDY ACTION WORKGROUP

Water Literate Leaders

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Poudre Runs Through It (AKA -- PRTI)

- **Why** = “World’s best example of a healthy, working river”
- **Who** = ~30 individuals
 - Environmental, municipal, agricultural, business
 - Fort Collins, Timnath, Windsor, Greeley
- **When** = since 2012
 - Meet 5 times per year, sub-groups more often
- **What** = float ideas; seek win-win solutions
 - “We could do that if ...”
 - Spend little time on divisive topics
- **How** = Informal, ~consensus-based

PRTI Initiatives

- **Forum** – Annual public education & discussion convocation
 - ~275 participants
- **Flow Augmentation**
 - Led by Colorado Water Trust
 - Goal – achieve some level of minimum flows while protecting water rights
- **Gage the River** – Installed 2 educational river flow gages
- **Diversion Improvements**
 - Adding fish passage and/or flow measurement, other
- **“Transient” Flow Study** – relieve abrupt spikes and plunges
- Other educational endeavors: Osher, history animation, ...

Opportunities

- Networking
- Mission / Structure / Function
 - Clear and uplifting vision
 - Convene, incubate, catalyze, and/or act?
- More public education
- More strategic education!

& Challenges

- ‘Hats’
- River Health?
 - Zero flow; poor water quality; species declines
 - “A healthy working river supplies the goods and services demanded of a complex society while maintaining ecological integrity and resilience.”
- Water law complex; does little to protect “public trust”
- Funding

