

Interdisciplinary Water Resources Seminar GRAD592

Fall 2017 Theme:

Water Management in Colorado

Monday, August 28, 2017 4:00 – 5:00 PM,
BSB Room 103

Overview of Online Tools and Databases at Colorado's Decision Support Systems (CDSS)

Steve Malers, Open Water Foundation

Biography:

Steve Malers is the founder and Chief Technology Officer of the Open Water Foundation (OWF), a 501(c)3 nonprofit social enterprise that focuses on developing open source software and open data solutions for water resources to help organizations make better decisions about water. He is also a partner in TriLynx Systems, which provides real-time data systems focusing on flood warnings. Malers grew up in La Junta, Colorado, has BS and MS degrees in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University and is a Colorado Foundation for Water Education Water Leader alumnus. He lives in Fort Collins and serves on the Fort Collins Water Board and Poudre Runs Through It Study/Action Work Group. A primary goal of OWF is to increase access to water data and information, and improve transparency in order to understand complex water issues involving urban, industrial, agricultural, environmental, and recreational water use. Malers has worked for over twenty years developing and supporting Colorado's Decision Support Systems (CDSS) software. Malers is currently working on moving CDSS software to open source licensing, developing tools to provide web-accessible water resources data products, and demonstrating how open data and tools are good business for water resources.



Abstract:

The lecture will provide an overview of available online tools and databases for Colorado's Decision Support Systems (CDSS) and Colorado water agencies, including:

- Colorado's Division of Water Resources' HydroBase Online, a database for water rights, diversion records, and other administrative data
- Map Viewer for spatial datasets
- Colorado Information Marketplace, an open data portal
- Web Services, tools for automated data access
- Electronic document access

- Urban water use efficiency data
- CDSS model datasets
- Various other data sources

These data sources and datasets form the data infrastructure necessary to understand and analyze complex water resources issues in Colorado, and will serve as a resource for remaining GRAD592 lectures. Steve will also discuss challenges and opportunities related to open data sharing and connecting datasets to understand complex water resources issues.

