



**Colorado Foundation**  
*for* **Water Education**

*Your State. Your Water. Your Future.*

2015 Inaugural Water Fluency  
Program Results

# HEADWATERS

COLORADO FOUNDATION FOR WATER EDUCATION | FALL 2015

## **GREAT AMERICAN RIVER**

*Our relationship  
with the Colorado,  
redefined*

HEADWATERS  
fall 2015

YOURWATER  
COLORADO.ORG



**CFWE: dedicated to helping Colorado  
“speak fluent water” since 2002**

# why water fluency?

- The timing is right
- Colorado's Water Plan will be finalized at the end of the year and more difficult decisions about water management issues are to come
- We offer immersion in the language and concepts of water as well as tools for navigating the culture, complexity and future of water management and policy issues
- Targeted toward elected officials, professionals new to water or working in water-adjacent fields, community and business leaders



water fluency



# PROGRAM DESIGN

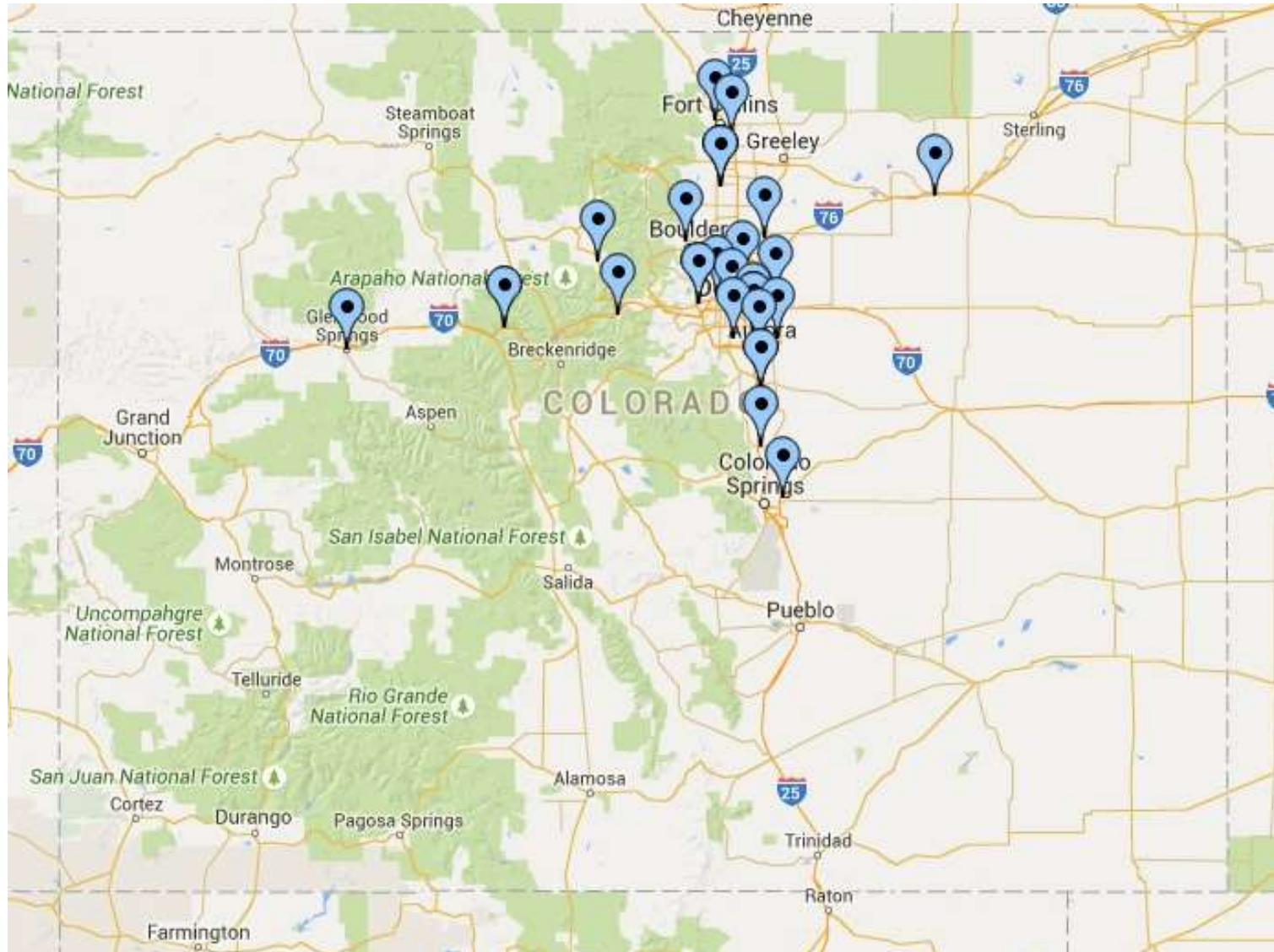
- Four training sessions
- Three site visits
- Readings
- Online content (video lectures, discussion forums, quizzes)
- Reflections between sessions
- Certification!

# curriculum core topics

- **Colorado's water resources:** the role of water in society, the economic value of water, ties to public policy, emerging issues
- **Legal and institutional frameworks:** water law and administration, project planning and approval, interbasin projects and agreements
- **Water resource management:** watershed health, environmental protection, water quality, natural disasters
- **Colorado water for the future:** assessing supply and meeting demand, ecosystem values, conservation and land use, alignment of resources and policies



# course participation



# How did we do?

## Participant Feedback:

- “I didn't even know what I didn't know when the course began! This course gave me a strong foundation for many of the issues I have encountered in my job.”
- “The quality of the speakers, and the insight they provided, really blew me away....”
- “It provided just the right overview of water use in Colorado and the issues surrounding water use and delivery. I feel very informed and feel able to inform my public about water issues.”
- “I think this is a great course and an exceptional organization!”



# usefulness of program components

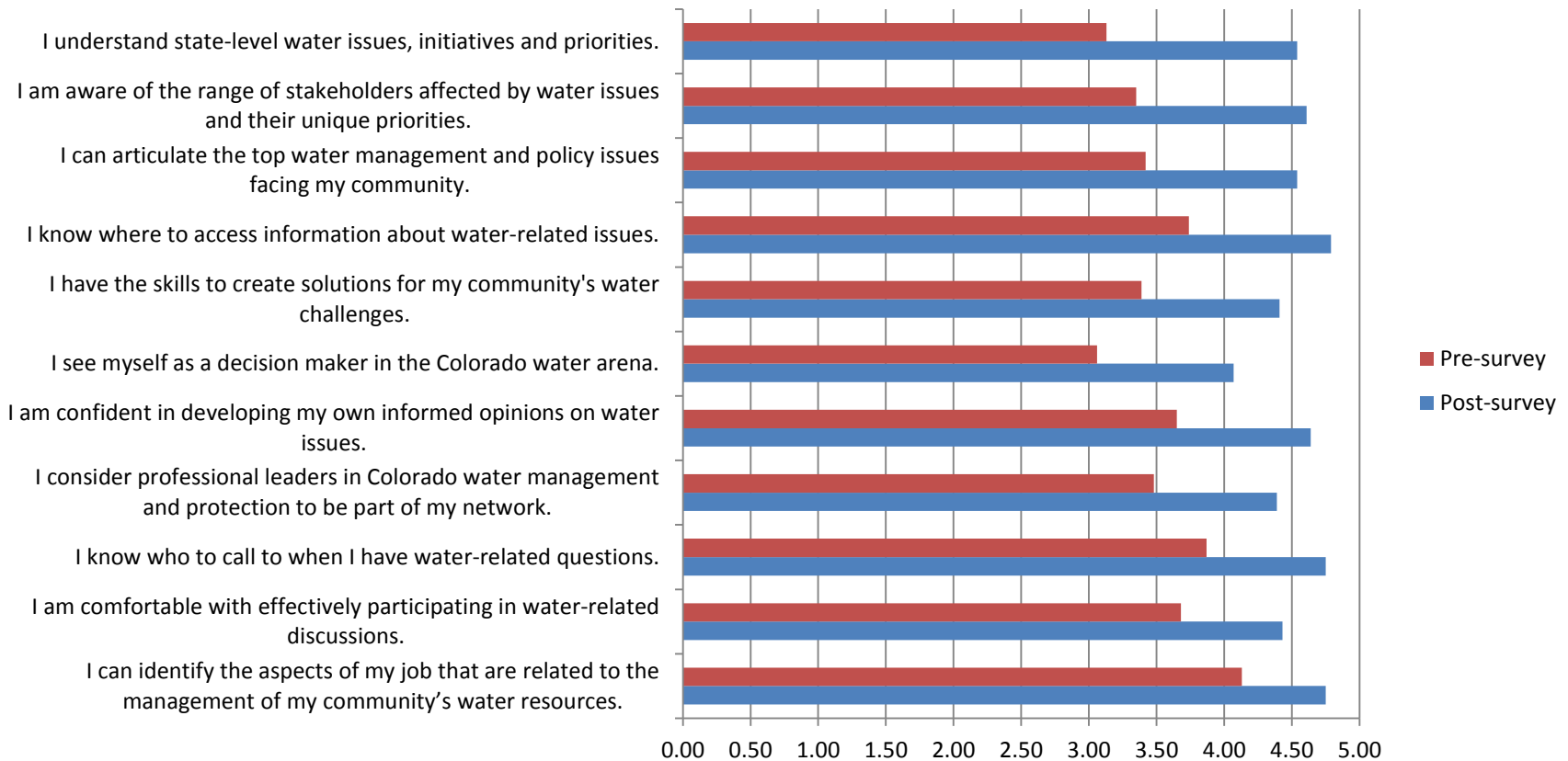


In-person interactions and site visits were a favorite



# pre/post-test results

Self-rated, scale of 1-5 (1=Not at all, 5=Yes, definitely)

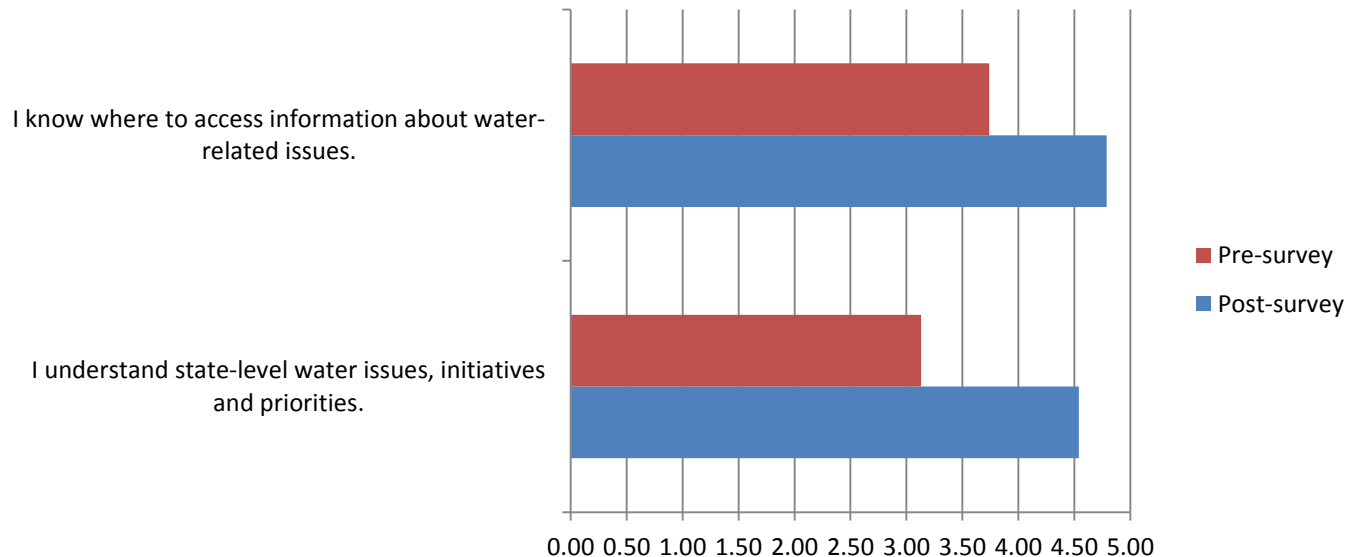


**PROGRESS TOWARD  
DESIRED OUTCOMES**

# knowledge and understanding

- **Goal:** Participants will demonstrate accurate knowledge and understanding of water resources and water management issues in Colorado.

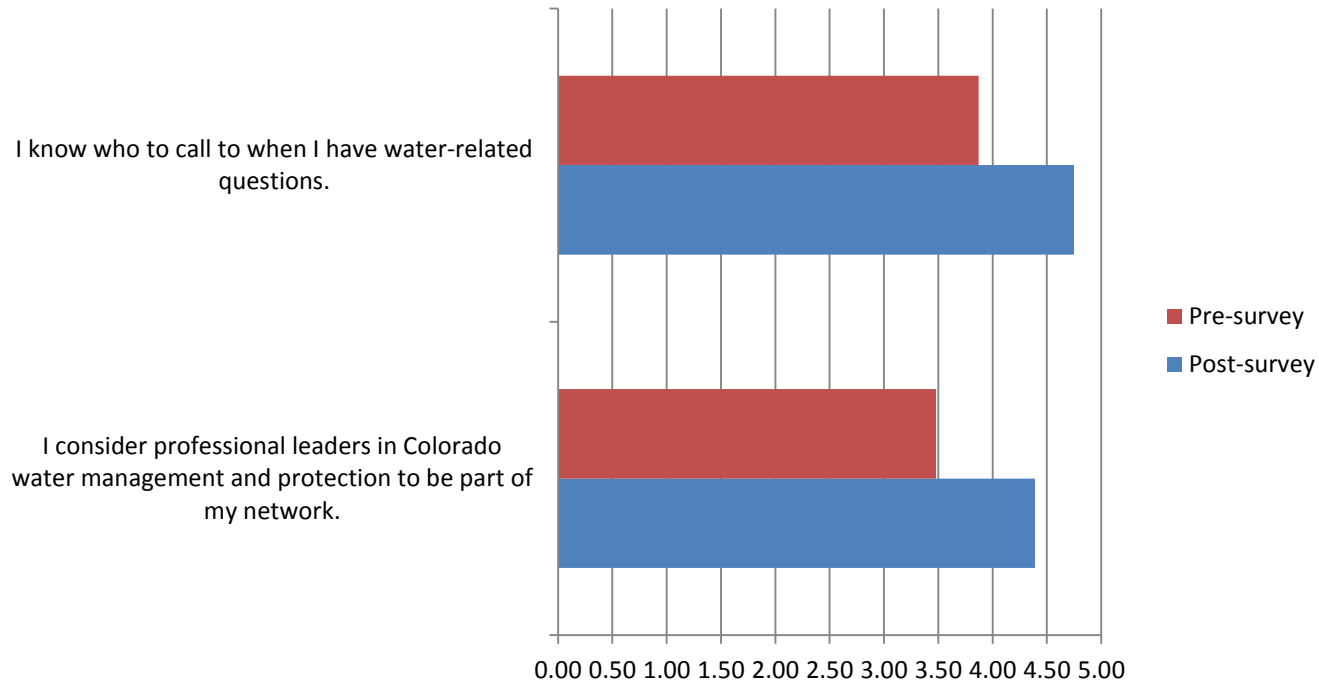
**Self-rated, scale of 1-5  
(1=Not at all, 5=Yes, definitely)**



# expanding professional networks

- **Goal:** Participants will develop and expand professional networks.

**Self-rated, scale of 1-5  
(1=Not at all, 5=Yes, definitely)**

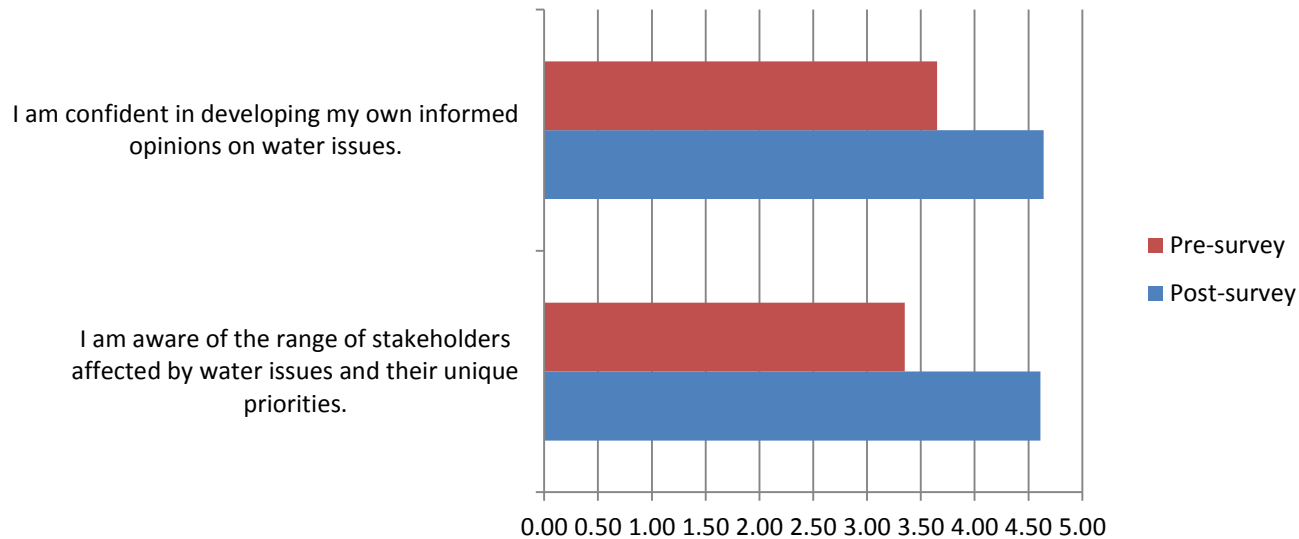




# informed opinions

- **Long-Term Goal:** Participants will develop informed opinions on water-related issues by synthesizing relevant information across a wide range of disciplines.

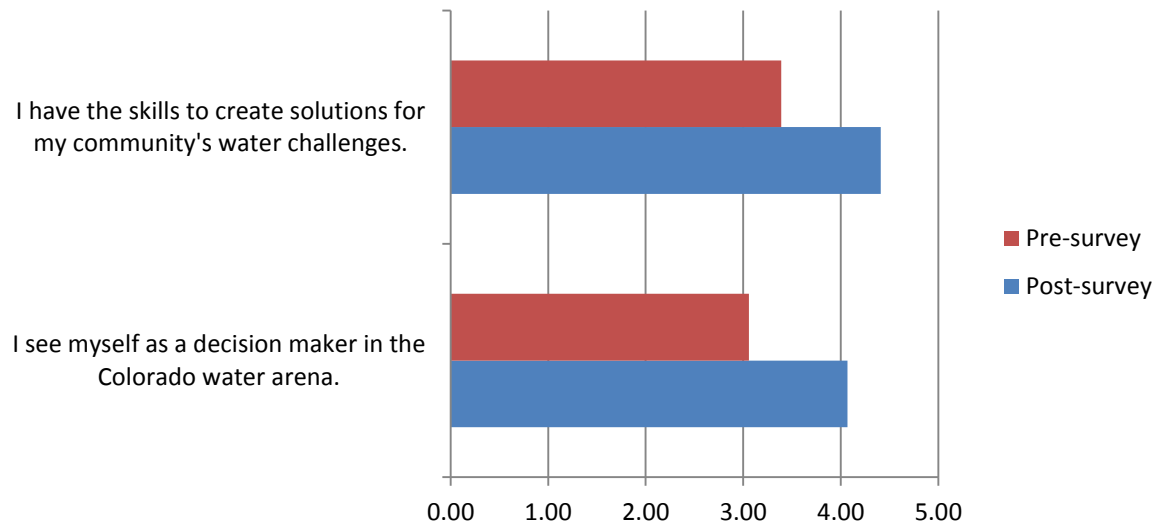
**Self-rated, scale of 1-5  
(1=Not at all, 5=Yes, definitely)**



# developing creative alternatives to water-related conflicts

- **Long-Term Goal:** Participants will analyze current and historical water-related conflicts in Colorado and develop creative alternatives toward resolution.

Self-rated, scale of 1-5  
(1=Not at all, 5=Yes, definitely)



# Thank you to our partners:



Special District Association of Colorado  
*Supporting Community-Based Government*



**COLORADO**

Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources



# Questions?

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