

XWVN:

CROSS-WATERSHED NETWORK



An overview by Lindsay Murdoch

2015 SER-SW Annual Conference in Tucson, AZ



How can we

(as ecological restoration practitioners)

**design and use our social networks  
to enhance watershed health in the  
arid West?**

# Networking as *Investment*



- Social Capital [n]-
  - “Investment in social relations with expected returns”

□ “access to resources through network ties”

(1999 N Lin)

# What does social capital look like?

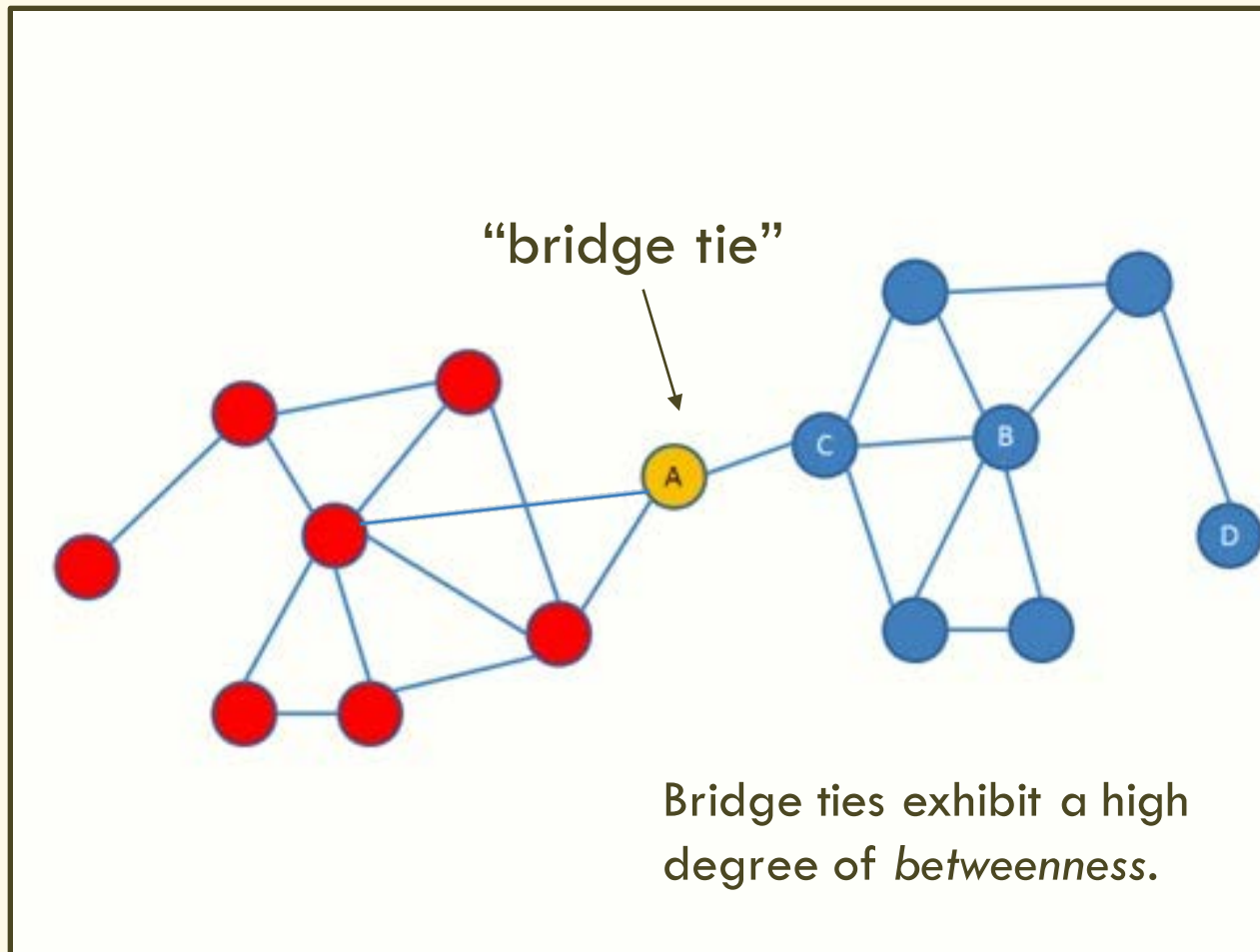
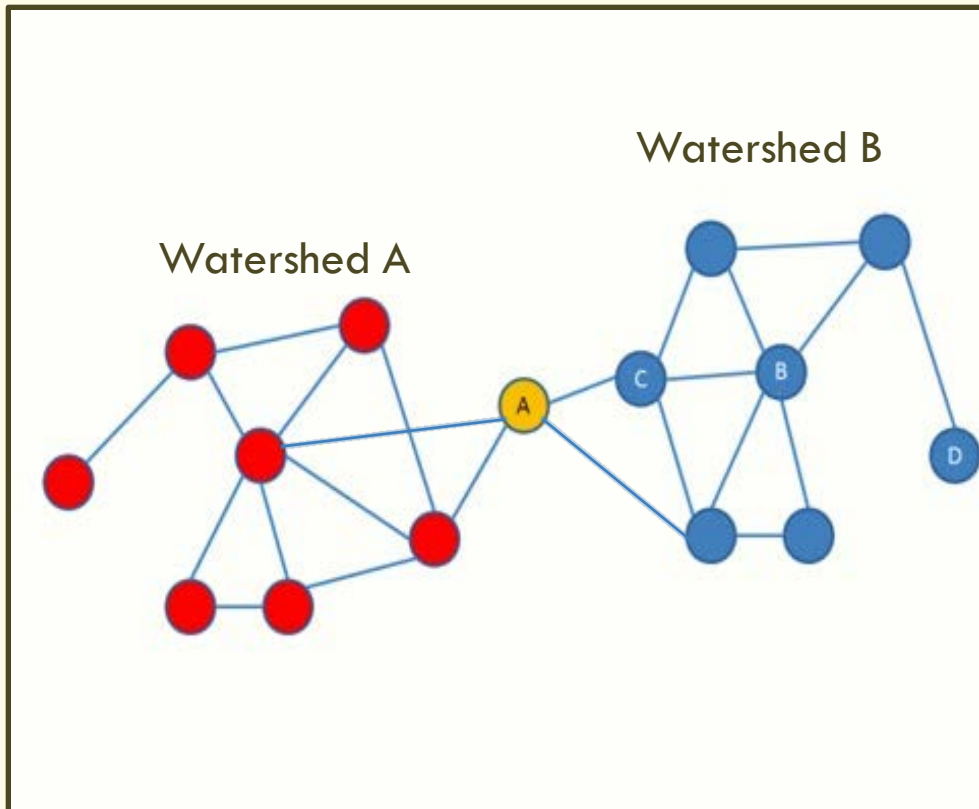


Image source: Sellars, Mark A. “Social Network Analysis” 30 May 2011

# Implications for our work



By increasing opportunities for practitioners to build bridge ties [connect with peers across watersheds], we can **facilitate information sharing** and **promote innovation** among watershed practitioners in the arid West.

# Who is doing this?

...the Cross-Watershed Network, of course!

Collaborative problem solving  
Cross-boundary relationship building  
Peer-to-peer information exchange  
Professional networking  
Match.com for practitioners  
Landscape scale  
Collective Impact



# Founded in 2012 on two core beliefs:

1. Every practitioner has valuable lessons-learned to share
2. These lessons have important relevance in neighboring watersheds



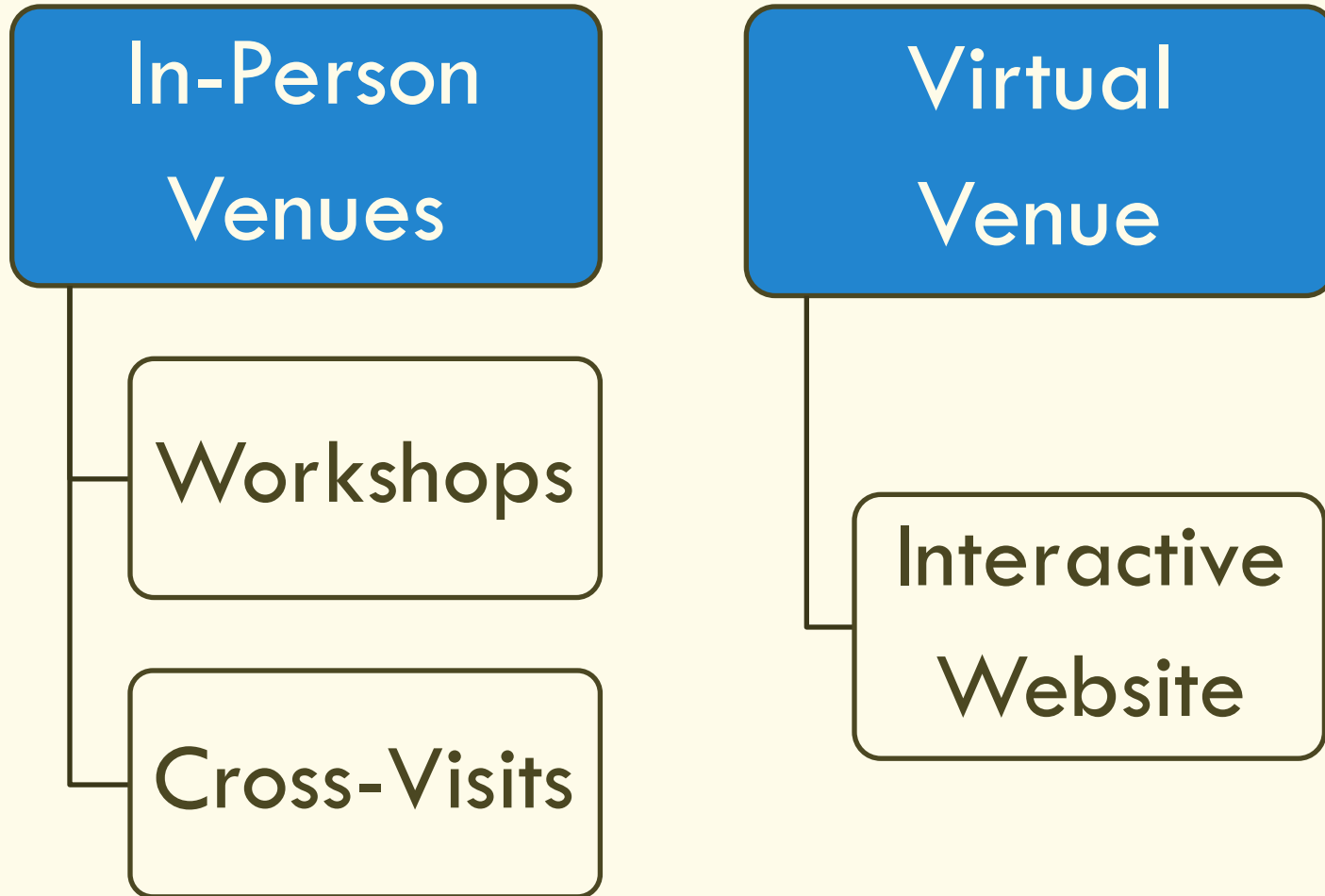
# Our Mission is...

- To help watershed practitioners in the arid West maximize their effectiveness and impact through *information sharing, collective capacity building, and collaboration* across watersheds.

“Practitioners” include *anyone* working toward healthy watersheds in the West



# How it's done...



# Workshops

- New host watershed every year
- Designed in order to facilitate knowledge sharing and collaborative problem solving
- Always include a field-day portion (weather permitting)



2014 Workshop hosted by Escalante River Watershed Partnership

# 2015 Workshop hosted by ARKWIPP



- Two days of lesson sharing
- *Seeding and Revegetation*
- 60+ Practitioners
- Collaborative problem solving





# Cross-Visit Incentive Fund

- Coordinated site-visits across watersheds
- Based on concept: *Some things can only be fully-understood in the field*
- Travel-cost & planning assistance
- Follow-up



2014: Colorado Riverfront Commission hosted Arizona Leadership Council to exhibit its String of Pearls project

# Website



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Search XWN website content:

## Get Involved

Whether you are searching for general or very specific technical information, want to locate and connect with a peer, or want float an idea; the Cross Watershed Network is the place to be.



[XWN Forums](#)

You can join discussions, register for workshops and field trips, connect with practitioners, share what you know, and tell us how the Cross Watershed Network can be of value to you.

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Get in the flow - tell us who you are, what you're looking for, and get involved!

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# Website: interactive features

**Find Your Peers**

Fill in at least one area in form below to search all Cross-Watershed Network Participant Profiles

Participant Name

Click titles to expand choices.

HUC2 Watershed Region ▼

Affiliation Type ▼

The below options are regarding Peer's Expertise

Collaboration / Planning / Facilitation ▼

Fundraising ▼

Research / Science / Monitoring ≡

- Aquatic biology
- Biology
- Botany
- Economics
- Environmental Engineering
- Entomology
- Environmental Science
- Fisheries Management

- Find & connect with your peers
- Upload documents to thematic & geographic groups
- Post Events on the Events calendar
- Contact a Linker

# From the Audience

- Share your experiences from XWN programs

SHARE LIVESTOCK WATER REQUIREMENTS WITH ANNA

CAN PROVIDE RIPARIAN RESTORATION PLANNING FOR DAVID

VOLUNTEER GURU CAN HELP SPARKY

TEACH CHRIS ABOUT ABOUT SWFL HABITAT

HELP DAVID DEVELOP MONITORING PLANS

SHARE NEW NRCS PROGRAMS WITH GLEN

**BE A LINKER**