

**Colorado Ag Water Alliance** 

" Commited to the preservation of agriculture through the wise use of Colorado's water resources"

## For Immediate Release

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## Gunnison Ag Producers' Water Future Workshop

**Delta, CO** – A Gunnison Basin Ag Producers' Water Future Workshop will take place on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Delta-Montrose Technical College in the Enterprise Room. The Colorado Water Plan encourages the use of "alternative transfer methods" to keep water in agriculture while addressing the anticipated gap in future water supply given projected population growth. What does this mean for agricultural water users in the Gunnison Basin? Irrigators will hear about opportunities for cost sharing of efficiency improvements, water leasing programs, and concerns about "use it or lose it" at this workshop sponsored by the Colorado Ag Water Alliance with assistance from Colorado Cattlemen's Association and CSU's Colorado Water Institute.

Brief presentations will be followed by dialogue in which agricultural producers will have a chance to discuss challenges and barriers to these opportunities. Those presenting include Carlyle Currier from the Colorado Ag Water Alliance, Frank Kugel from the Gunnison Basin Roundtable, State Engineer Dick Wolfe, Perry Cabot from Colorado State University Extension, Aaron Derwingson from The Nature Conservancy, Phil Brink from Colorado Cattlemen's Association, and MaryLou Smith from CSU's Colorado Water Institute.

The event is free and includes lunch, but those planning to attend are encouraged to RSVP for a lunch count <u>https://gunnisonag.eventbrite.com</u>

## About the Colorado Ag Water Alliance and the Colorado Cattlemen's Association

The Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) is comprised of agricultural leaders from across Colorado representing major facets of production agriculture. CAWA's goals is to empower Colorado agricultural producers to make the most informed and viable decisions regarding Colorado water. The Colorado Cattlemen's Association is the premier cattlemen's association that serves as the principle voice and advocate for Colorado beef production by ensuring a dynamic and profitable industry that promotes growth and opportunity for future generations. Colorado Water Institute at Colorado State University is facilitating dialogue among agricultural producers as part of their USDA funded project *Moving Forward on Agricultural Water Conservation in the Colorado River Basin*.