

**Colorado Ag Water Alliance
Looking to the Future for Irrigated Agriculture in Colorado
Regional Workshops**

The Colorado Water Plan aims to address the water needs of cities, agriculture and the environment in light of projected shortages. Agriculture is a focus; all the basin roundtables and the IBCC expressed that while water for other needs will come partly from agriculture, we must guard against large scale dry-up. Instead, the Plan promotes alternative transfer methods as an alternative to “buy and dry.”

What does this emphasis on alternative transfer methods mean? What’s the motivation for farmers and ranchers to participate in leasing or improve irrigation efficiency? What are the barriers? Colorado Ag Water Alliance is hosting a series of workshops throughout the state to share information and foster dialogue among agricultural producers.

Brief, highly focused presentations will outline the basics, followed by opportunity for Ag producers to ask questions and engage in dialogue about what they see as opportunities and barriers—and how those barriers and opportunities might best be addressed.

**Gunnison Basin Workshop
May 3, 2016 11:30—1:30
Delta-Montrose Technical College
Agenda**

- 11:30 **Welcome from CAWA**—*Carlyle Currier, CAWA board and west slope rancher* What is CAWA?
What Does the Colorado Water Plan Say about Agriculture?
- 11:45 **What Does the Gunnison Basin Implementation plan say about Agriculture? What does that mean for Ag producers?** —*Frank Kugel, Gunnison Basin Roundtable Member*
- 12:00 **What Might Motivate Producers to Engage in Leasing or Irrigation Efficiency Improvements?**—*MaryLou Smith, Colorado Water Institute, Colorado State University*
- 12:10 **Opportunity: No Chico Brush and Irrigation Efficiency Improvements in the Gunnison** —*Perry Cabot, Colorado State University*
- 12:25 **Opportunity: Water Leasing and Water Markets**—*Aaron Derwingson, The Nature Conservancy*
- 12:40 **Barrier? “Use it or Lose It—Perceptions and Reality”**—*Dick Wolfe, Colorado Division of Water Resources, State Engineer*
- 12:55 **What Do Colorado Ag Producers Think about Ag Water Leasing?** Survey Results—*Phil Brink, Colorado Cattlemen’s Association*

1:10 **What Do YOU (ag producers here today) think about these opportunities and barriers? What would it take for you to be interested in participating?**
Questions/Opinions/Ideas

Dialogue facilitated by MaryLou Smith and Greg Peterson

1:45 Adjourn