



2011 CAWA Ag Water Summit

"Agriculture is the Backbone - Water is the Lifeblood"

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Thomas M. McKee Building at The Ranch, Loveland, CO

Wednesday, November 30

- 5:30 PM** – Welcome Reception hosted by the CAWA and the IBCC (Embassy Suites, Loveland)
Moderator – John Stulp, Governor Hickenlooper's Office/IBCC
Dignitary Speaker - Commissioner John Salazar, Colorado Department of Agriculture

Thursday, December 1

7:30 AM – Registration

8:00 AM - Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Charlie Bartlett, CAWA Chair/Colorado Corn Growers
- John Stulp, Governor Hickenlooper's Office/IBCC

8:15 AM – Keynote Speakers

- Moderator - John Stulp, Governor Hickenlooper's Office/IBCC
- Mike King, Colorado Department of Natural Resources
 - Tony Frank, Colorado State University

9:00 AM - Panel – **Moving Ag Water Policy Forward**

- Moderator - Robert Sakata, Sakata Farms
- Alex Davis, Vranesh and Raisch, LLP
 - Jennifer Gimbel, Colorado Water Conservation Board
 - John Salazar, Colorado Department of Agriculture
 - Senator Gail Schwartz, Colorado General Assembly
 - John Stulp, Governor's Office/IBCC

10:00 AM - Break

10:30 AM - Panel – **Getting it Done: Developing Water Storage and Delivery Projects**

- Moderator - Gene Manuello, Colorado Cattleman's Association
- Carl Brouwer, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District
 - Rod Kuharich
 - Eric Kuhn, Colorado River District
 - Travis Smith, San Luis Valley Irrigation District

11:30 PM – Lunch

Moderator -Terry Fankhauser, Colorado Cattleman's Association

- Rick Knight, Colorado State University, "Irrigated Agriculture: Provider of Environmental Benefits in a Dry Climate"

1:00 PM – Concurrent Sessions

1a: Facilitated Dialogue on Agriculture Working Productively with Municipalities

Moderator - Carlyle Currier, Colorado Farm Bureau

Facilitator - MaryLou Smith, Colorado Water Institute

- Darius Allen, Alamosa County Commissioner
- Alan Hamel, Pueblo Board of Water Works
- Frank Jaeger, Parker Water & Sanitation District
- Jon Monson, City of Greeley
- Mark Pifher, City of Aurora
- Rachel Richards, Pitkin County

1b: New Technology for Agricultural Water Efficiency

Moderator - Mark Sponsler, Colorado Corn Growers

- Chris Arnold, John Deere
- Trevor Boomstra, Rubicon Systems America, Inc.
- Justin Loeffler, Valmont Pivot
- Chandler Mazour, Monsanto

1c: South Platte Well Measurement Rules

Moderator - John Stencel, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union

- Dave Nettles, Colorado Division of Water Resources
- Corey DeAngelis, Colorado Division of Water Resources

2:00 PM - Concurrent Sessions

2a: Facilitated Dialogue on Agriculture Working Productively with Environmental Groups

Moderator – Chris Kraft, Western Dairy Association

Facilitator - MaryLou Smith, Colorado Water Institute

- Greg Kernohan, Ducks Unlimited
- Drew Peterzell, Trout Unlimited
- Jennifer Pitt, Environmental Defense Fund
- Rachel Richards, Pitkin County
- John Sanderson, The Nature Conservancy
- Bob Streeter, Colorado Wildlife Commission
- Gary Wockner, Save the Poudre: Poudre Waterkeeper

2b: Barriers to Alternatives to Agricultural Water Transfers

Moderator - Mel Rettig, CAWA

- Todd Doherty, Colorado Water Conservation Board
- Andy Jones, Lawrence Jones Custer Grasmick LLP
- Bruce Lytle, Lytle Water Solutions
- Mark Pifher, City of Aurora
- James Pritchett, Colorado State University

3:00 PM - Break

3:15 PM – Closing Session - **Recent Litigation and Rules Impacting Ag Water**

Moderator - Don Shawcroft, Colorado Farm Bureau

- David Robbins, Hill & Robbins, P.C.
- Steve Sims, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck
- Dick Wolfe, Colorado Division of Water Resources

4:30 PM – Closing Remarks

Moderator - Ralph Curtis, Colorado Cattleman's Association

- Craig Beyrouthy, Colorado State University
- Charlie Bartlett, CAWA Chair/Colorado Corn Growers

5:00 PM - Adjourn

Highlights of the 2011 Ag Water Summit will be available on the CAWA website shortly after the event.
Please visit **www.coagwater.org** for details.

The 2011 CAWA Ag Water Summit will be available as a webcast
sponsored by Barn Media at **www.ihigh.com/barnmedia**



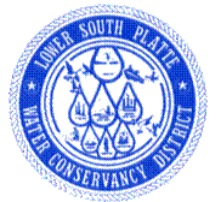
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Colorado Ag Water Alliance

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

Colorado Ag Water Alliance – Water Principles

November, 2011

www.coagwater.org

Colorado's Strategic Water Supply Initiative (SWSI) report executive summary states; "If Colorado's water supply continues to develop according to current trends, i.e., the status quo, this will inevitably lead to a large transfer of water out of agriculture resulting in significant loss of agricultural lands and potential harm to the environment. Providing an adequate water supply for Colorado's citizens, agriculture, and the environment will involve implementing a mix of local water projects and processes, conservation, reuse, agricultural transfers, and the development of new water supplies, all of which should be pursued concurrently."¹

We, the membership of the Colorado Ag Water Alliance, also recognize inevitable losses to agricultural sectors - a cornerstone of the state's economy, reduced ability to supply food and energy resources to a growing population, and serious economic losses to communities in rural Colorado, should the status quo continue.

In recognition of these perspectives, we offer the following water principles for reference and consideration:

- Make full and efficient use of existing surface and ground water supplies and reusable return flows while developing new water storage projects and expanding existing infrastructure.
- Develop solutions/approaches to reverse the heightened legal, regulatory and political challenges that suppress projects that would increase water availability for all Colorado beneficial users.
- Prioritize the development of new water supply systems, including those opportunities originating beyond state boundaries, to provide for Colorado's needs beyond the foreseeable future.
- Encourage development of cooperative and innovative approaches that maximize the beneficial use of Colorado's water resources for the present and future without compromising property rights and the State's established Prior Appropriation Doctrine.
- Colorado's water principles must include increasing overall water availability to all of the state's water users in order to enhance business development, maintain quality of life, maintain and recruit jobs, and promote innovation.
- While conservation is a responsible water use practice in municipal and industrial use, it should be recognized that water conservation in agricultural uses may reduce delivery to downstream water users and cause negative environmental impacts.
- Recognize that agriculture water, through use and reuse, provides for exponential benefits to the entire ecosystem beyond abundant and safe food production. Removing or reducing agriculture water uses will limit stream flows, affect downstream water availability, restrict wildlife habitats, reduce nutrient cleansing, and reduce critical food and energy production. Colorado water principles must acknowledge and embrace this fundamental contribution by agriculture to the state and its ecosystem.

¹ <http://cwcbweblink.state.co.us/weblink/0/doc/144066/Electronic.aspx?searchid=2c16c041-d0b2-4ec5-ac42-8b95aa0c04e3>