Water Sharing Agreements

Partnerships in Times of Drought

Kevin Rein, P.E. Deputy State Engineer Colorado Division of Water Resources



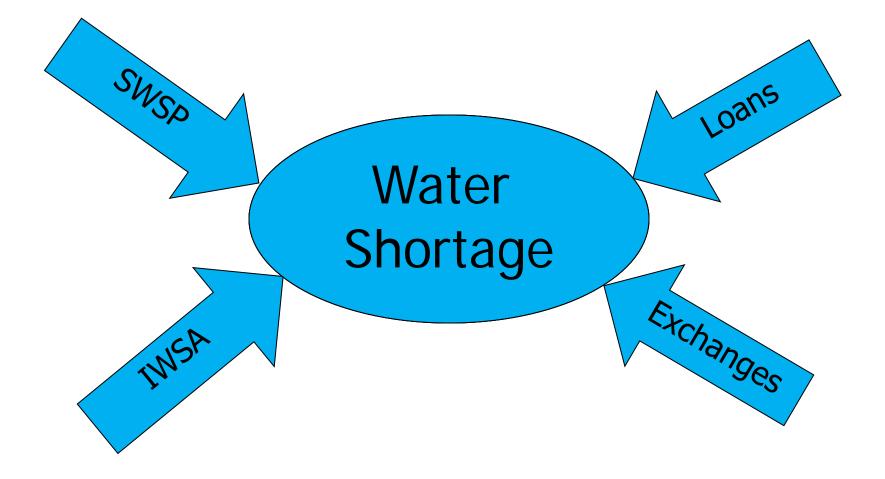
Today's Discussion

- Background
 - Water supply shortages
 - Available tools
- Implementing solutions

Water Supply Shortages

- 2002, 2012
 - Agricultural
 - Municipalities
 - Domestic wells

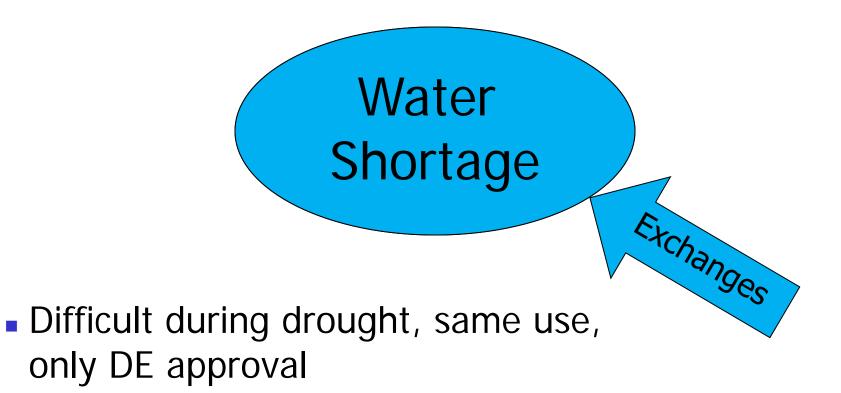
- Substitute Water Supply Plans
- Interruptible Water Supply Agreements
- 37-83-105 loans
- Administrative exchanges

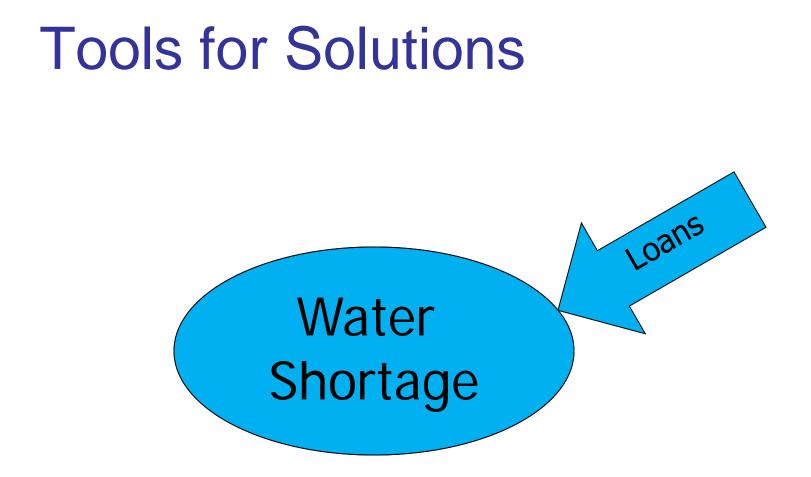




 Water court application, public notice, longer approval; or limited duration, public health and safety need







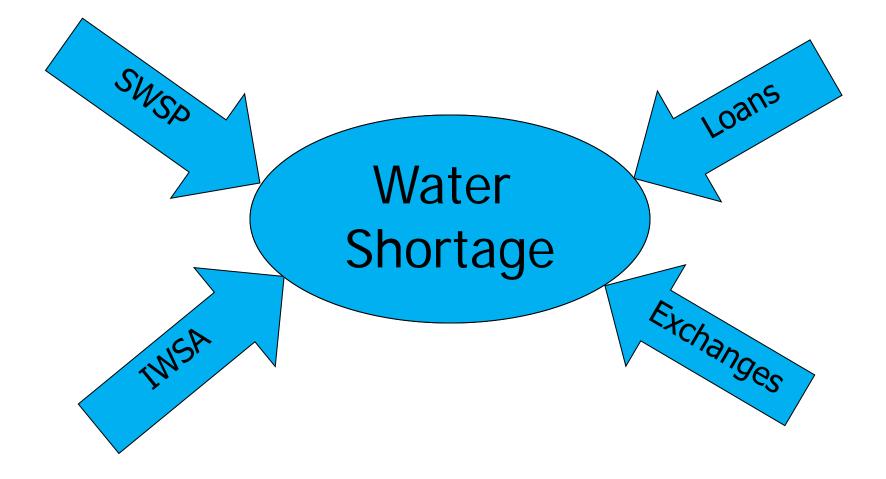
 37-83-105, expedited approval, three year in ten, if ISF – nonconsumptive

- Solutions often require
 - Changing water right
 - Taking water out of priority
- During water shortage!

During water shortage

- Inherent urgency
- Sensitivity is heightened/exposed
- Competition for water
- Bad time to injure/expand use
- Drought solution or deprivation of water?
- May be delayed impacts, for years to come

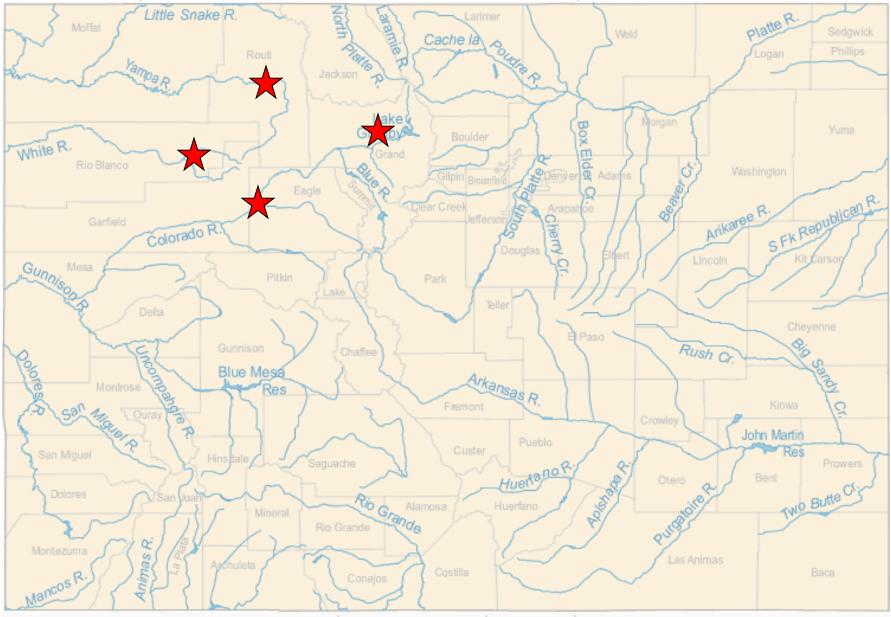
Cooperation?



- Common between tools
 - SEO/DE involvement
 - Communication, DWR and applicants
 - Communication with other parties
 - Potentially injured
 - Potential cooperators

- Early communication
 - SEO/DE administrative/injury concerns
 - Cooperators opportunities
 - Other water rights
 - Identify injury concerns
 - Opportunities to address concerns

2012, Four ISF Loans, 37-83-105





Stagecoach Reservoir – ISF Loan

Parties:

- Colorado Water Trust
- State Engineer and Division Engineer
- CWCB
- Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District
- Tri-State
- City of Steamboat Springs

Stagecoach Reservoir – ISF Loan

