



ADVANCING THE LEGACY

8833 Ralston Road  
Arvada, CO 80002  
303.431.6422  
info@coloradocattle.org  
www.coloradocattle.org

## Colorado Cattlemen's Association

<b>Date:</b>	June 28, 2019
<b>Name of Grantee:</b>	CCA Ag Water NetWORK
<b>Name of Water Project:</b>	Agriculture Water Collaborative
<b>Type of Report:</b>	Final Report

This project utilized multiple, proven outreach methods to engage and inform ag water right holders and non-ag water interests about contemporary ag water issues. The project helped dispel confusion around ag water issues and raise the level and depth of understanding among the ag and non-ag water communities. The educational tools will be strategically utilized to synthesize a factual, comprehensive body of resources that will be presented both in live venues around the state and also accessible on demand for all Colorado citizens to access at any time.

The project will influence ag water decision-makers in all river basins, with special focus on the Colorado, Rio Grande, and South Platte River Basins. The locations of workshops, tours and meetings will be identified with the goal of reaching as many individual ag water right holders and ditch company members as practicable. We will engage with non-ag water interests through these efforts to facilitate sharing of perspectives and needs among the disparate water groups. The Ag Water Decision Support Tool being developed by CCA Ag Water NetWORK will be tested by ag water right holders and refined.

### **This project accomplished the following objectives (see TASKS for details):**

- Ten (10) workshops in the following basins: 6 CRB & tributaries, 1 Rio Grande, 2 South Platte, 1 Arkansas.
- Seven (7) or more Colorado agricultural industry conference attendance and tradeshow participation.
- Five (5) Ag Water Tours (3 full-day tours and 2 mini-tours).
- Three (3) Webinars on ag water-related topics.
- Two (2) Videos based on individual ag water topics of importance.
- Six (6) Publications covering ag water-related subjects along with interviews, website creation and updates and social media.
- One (1) Lease Screening Tool Testing and Refinement which gives ag water right holders the ability to assess the leasing potential of their water right(s) and better understand the ATM principles.

From 2018-2019, CAWA completed ten (10) regional workshops around the state for producers, three (3) day-long tours and two (2) mini-tours for legislators, city council members, conservationists, water resources specialists, and other people outside of the agricultural community to learn firsthand how water is used in agriculture, two (2) high-quality, succinct and easy-to-understand videos covering ag water topics of interest and importance to ag water stakeholders, and six (6) articles will be published related to ag water issues.

For 2018-2019, Colorado Cattlemen's Association completed three (3) webinars on ag-related topics including South Platte Storage Study, What Municipalities look for in a Lease, and Rio Grande Water Conservation District (RGWCD) Subdistrict No. 1 Water Management Plan. Links to the webinars can be found on [www.agwaternetnetwork.org](http://www.agwaternetnetwork.org). The lease screening tool was tested and refined for usability. The link to the screening tool can be found at [www.agwaternetnetwork.org](http://www.agwaternetnetwork.org).

The biggest issue with outreach to the ag community is scheduling a time and place that producers will be able to attend. We've tried to circumvent this by hosting workshops only from November to March outside of the irrigation, hunting, and calving season, and going to locations that are near irrigated regions. Another issue is completing videos in a timely fashion. Trying to coordinate during the irrigation with a film crew and multiple irrigators is difficult. Where we could plan a workshop 3-4 months away, it takes much longer to start planning a video. Some other issues was having enough funding to complete the lease screening tool in the fashion to make it usable and functionable to water rights holders.

Overall, this project continued water education throughout Colorado, especially the agricultural community. The overwhelming comment throughout this grant period was the appreciation from water rights holders that we (CAWA and CCA) come to them to present information rather than them coming to us. We travelled throughout rural communities and heard positive comments about knowledge gained and connections made.

Please see attachments for agendas, summaries of meetings and visit [www.agwaternetnetwork.org](http://www.agwaternetnetwork.org) for links to webinars and the lease screening tool. Follow this link for the video link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZRgoFGDrLeE8p99yha0CLnNjc3GDPSo9/view?ts=5bf3477a>. Other videos will be published soon.



ADVANCING THE LEGACY

8833 Ralston Road  
Arvada, CO 80002  
303.431.6422  
info@coloradocattle.org  
www.coloradocattle.org

## Colorado Cattlemen's Association

<b>Date:</b>	June 28, 2019
<b>Name of Grantee:</b>	CCA Ag Water NetWORK
<b>Name of Water Project:</b>	Agriculture Water Collaborative
<b>Type of Report:</b>	Final Progress Report

### Tasks

#### Task 1- Ag Education Programming

Deliverable	Ten (10) regional workshops around the state for producers. The focus is on irrigation improvement projects and conservation. At a minimum, three (3) webinars covering ag water topics of interest and importance to ag and non-ag water stakeholders will be conducted. There will be three (3) day-long tours and two (2) mini-tours for legislators, city council members, conservationists, water resources specialists, and other people outside of the agricultural community to learn firsthand how water is used in agriculture. Completion of two (2) high-quality, succinct and easy-to-understand videos covering ag water topics of interest and importance to ag water stakeholders. Six (6) articles will be published related to ag water issues.
-------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Progress to date:

#### Tours (5 of 5 completed)

Event	Date	Attendees (#)	Total Cost	Cost per Attendee	Survey Results*
Lower Arkansas (full-day)	2/27	56	728.34	13	4.7
Cow-Calf (short)	6/29	19	0	0	4.5
Sterling (full-day)	7/12	61	2,684.25	44	4.8
Little Thompson (full-day)	8/27	54	2,365.06	43.80	4.8
Produced Water (short)	9/27	24	0	0	4.8

\*Average rating to the question "Overall, this was a helpful and informative event." 1 = strongly disagree, 5 = strongly agree

**Workshops (10 of 10 completed)**

Event	Date	Attendees (#)	Total Cost	Cost per Attendee	Survey Results*
Mancos	1/30	75	893.00	12	4.5
Yellow Jacket	1/31	36	893.00	25	4.2
Rifle	3/5	77	1,358.47	18	4
Montrose	3/20	30	1,086.92	36	4
Longmont	11/5	63	1,291.58	21	4.4
Glenwood Springs	11/7	70	1,513.20	22	4.2
Burlington	12/12	60	2,202.00	37	5.0
Meeker	1/17	122	2,695.47	22	4.7
Nucla	1/24	36	1,646.35	46	4.8
Keenesburg	3/5	60	985.00	16	4.7

\*Average rating to the question "Overall, this was a helpful and informative event." 1 = strongly disagree, 5 = strongly agree

**Videos (3 of 3 completed)**

Event	Date	Total Cost
Seaworth's Farm	1/30	2,200
5 Ditches Project	6/1	3,000
Ditch Inventories	6/1	1,500

**Articles (6 of 6 completed)**

- 1) "What is a LEMA?" Groundwater Conservation in Kansas
- 2) "Recent Studies in Deficit Irrigation in Colorado"
- 3) "Studies on Produced Water and Irrigated Crops"
- 4) "The Dry-Up in Crowley County"
- 5) "Stream Management Plans and Agriculture"
- 6) "Should Coloradoans Care about the Water Level in Lake Mead?"

**Webinars (3 of 3 completed)**

- 1) South Platte Storage Study
- 2) What Municipalities look for in a Lease
- 3) Rio Grande Water Conservation District (RGWCD) Subdistrict No. 1 Water Management Plan

**Task 2 – Ag Water Decision Support Tool Refinement**

Deliverable	The ag water decision support tool (currently under development) will be promoted, tested among ag water right holders statewide, and refined based on user interface metrics and user feedback received. The ag water decision support tool is an online resource that is being built specifically for Colorado ag water right holders. The tool is designed to provide a convenient and simple means for ag water right holders to assess a variety of attributes related to their ag water rights; including but not limited
-------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	<p>to, adjudication information, values associated with leases and purchase prices, likelihood of ATM participation availability, infrastructure considerations, and other features. The tool is based on user inputted data (location, type, size and age of water right(s), method(s) of irrigation, proximity to other potential non-ag water interests, and other criteria in comparison with ag water right features that are known to be most favorable for accommodating a lease arrangement. It is based on attributes of successful ag water leases around Colorado that are currently ongoing. Users will be provided with both a numeric ranking and a narrative description regarding their score, as well as semi-customized information pertaining to their river basin, along with links to other resources. The AWN advisory group, in cooperation with the state, will consider further tool additions that complement the overarching aspects of this project and the existing work of AWN and CAWA.</p>
Progress to date	<p>This has been completed. To see the final completed project visit <a href="http://www.agwaternet.org">www.agwaternet.org</a>. The website has been edited to make it more user friendly and easier to use as well as attributes have been added to aid in producer information.</p>



# Colorado Ag Water Alliance

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



**June 29, 2018**

**Ag Water Tour:  
Irrigated Meadows  
and Cow-Calf  
Operations**

**9:00 AM – 10:30 AM**

**@Woodward Hi-Altitude  
Cattle**

**64058 Highway 285  
Bailey, CO 80421**

**9:00: Welcome – Greg Peterson, CAWA  
and Terry Fankhauser, Colorado  
Cattlemen's Association**

**9:15: Tour of Woodward Hi-Altitude  
Cattle by John Woodward**

**10:30: Wrap-up**

**Register at:**

**<https://woodwardwater.eventbrite.com>**

**Space is limited and this event is free!**





# Colorado Ag Water Alliance

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

## **Ag Water Tour: Sterling**

Tour Itinerary: July 12, 2018

- 8:30 Registration at Lower South Platte Water Conservancy District office
- 9:00 Welcome and Introductions from Greg Peterson, CAWA  
"Water Administration in the Lower South Platte" Corey DeAngelis, Division of Water Resources
- 9:30 Drive to Smart Recharge site near Atwood and tour site  
"Recharge Ponds, Recharge Credits, and the Environment" – Joe Frank, Lower South Platte Conservancy District
- 10:30 Drive to Sterling No. 1 Ditch and tour diversion and ditch system with Gene Manuello, local farmer
- 11:45 Tour of North Sterling Reservoir and tour with Jim Yahn, North Sterling Irrigation District
- 12:15 Lunch at North Sterling Reservoir with presentation by former Agricultural Commissioner Don Ament on "The Platte River Recovery Implementation Plan and Ag"
- 1:15 Drive to Manuello Farms with presentation by Joe Brummer from CSU on "Why do farmers grow alfalfa and hay?"
- 1:45 Tour of Manuello farms by Gene Manuello
- 2:15 Return to Lower South Platte Conservancy District office with presentation by Wilma Trujillo CSU Extension on "Farming and Adaptation to Climate Extremes"
- 3:00 End of tour

**Register at**

**<https://sterlingwater.eventbrite.com>**



# Colorado Ag Water Alliance

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

## **Ag Water Tour: Water Quality & Nutrient Management**

Tour Itinerary: August 27, 2018

- 8:30 Registration at Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District Office
- 9:00 Welcome and Introductions from Greg Peterson, CAWA  
"Agriculture, Water Quality, and Best Management Practices" by Bill Hammerich, Colorado Livestock Association, and Mark Sponsler, Colorado Corn Growers Association
- 10:00 Drive to Olander Farms
- 10:15 Tour of Olander Farms by Steve Olander
- 11:00 Drive to M&M Farms
- 11:15 Tour of M&M Farms by Bill Markham
- 12:00 Lunch at M&M Farms with presentation by Daren Harmel, USDA-ARS, on "How Clean is Clean Enough?" and Grady O'Brien on "The Salinity Loop in the South Platte"
- 1:15 Drive to Lempka Farm
- 1:30 Tour of Lempka Farm and Filter Strip with Larry Lempka and Erik Wardle, CSU.
- 2:15 Drive back to Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District Office
- 2:45 End of Tour

**Register at**

**<https://thompsonwater.eventbrite.com>**





# Colorado Ag Water Alliance

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



**Learn how water recycled from oil and gas operations can be used in agriculture!**

**September 27, 2018**

**Ag Water Tour:  
Produced Water and  
Agriculture**

**5:30 PM – 7:00 PM**

**@Seaworth Farms**

**2707 E County Road 70  
Wellington, CO 80549**

**5:30: Welcome – Greg Peterson, CAWA**

**5:45: Tour of Seaworth Farm and water  
recycling plant by Richard and Troy  
Seaworth**

**7:00: Wrap-up**

**Register at:**

**<https://seaworth.eventbrite.com>**

**Space is limited and this event is free!**



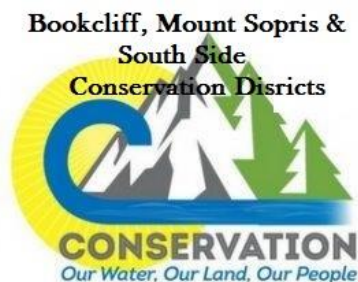
**Colorado Ag Water Alliance**  
"Committed to the preservation of agriculture through the wise use of Colorado's water resources"

## **Stream Management Plan Workshop: Longmont**

### **November 5<sup>th</sup>**

### **9:00AM-1:00PM**

- |                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>8:30-9:00</b>      | <b>Registration</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>9:00-9:10</b>      | <b>Welcome and Introduction</b> – Sean Cronin, St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District, and Greg Peterson, Colorado Ag Water Alliance                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>9:10 – 9:30</b>    | <b>"What do Stream Management Plans Have to do with Ag?"</b><br>– Greg Peterson, Colorado Ag Water Alliance                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>9:30 – 9:50</b>    | <b>"St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District Stream Management Plan"</b> - Sean Cronin, St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>9:50 – 10:00</b>   | <b>Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>10:00 – 10:15</b>  | <b>Jim Yahn, Manager of the North Sterling and Prewitt Reservoirs, and Chair of the Colorado Water Conservation Board</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>10:15 – 11:30</b>  | <b>Panel Discussion: Irrigators and Stream Management Plans</b><br>-Greg Higel, Farmer in Alamosa, CO<br>-Terry Plummer, Superintendent of the Left Hand Ditch Company and Jessie Olson, Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group<br>-Jesse Kruthaupt, Rancher in Gunnison, CO<br>-Facilitated by Greg Peterson, Colorado Ag Water Alliance |
| <b>11:30 – 12:00</b>  | <b>Serve Lunch</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>12: 00 – 12:45</b> | <b>Break-out Sessions/Working lunch</b><br>-Group discussions with facilitators<br>-Groups report-out discussions                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>12:45 – 1:00</b>   | <b>John Stulp, Special Policy Advisor to the Governor for Water and former Commissioner of Agriculture</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |



**Colorado Ag Water Alliance**  
"Committed to the preservation of agriculture through the wise use of Colorado's water resources"

**Ag Water Workshop: Glenwood Springs**  
**November 7, 2018**  
**Glenwood Springs Branch Library**  
**6PM-8:45PM**

- |                    |                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>6:00 – 6:15</b> | <b>Welcome and Introduction</b> - Greg Peterson, Colorado Ag Water Alliance                                                                         |
| <b>6:15 – 6:30</b> | <b>Bookcliff, Mount Sopris &amp; South Side Conservation District Annual Report</b>                                                                 |
| <b>6:30 - 7:00</b> | <b>"Strategies for Water Scarcity in the Grand Valley"</b> - Mark Harris, Grand Valley Water User's Association and Luke Gingerich, J-U-B Engineers |
| <b>7:00 – 7:15</b> | <b>Serve Dinner</b>                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>7:15 – 7:45</b> | <b>"Experiences from Leasing Water on High Altitude Ranches"</b> – Jesse Kruthaupt, Upper Gunnison Rancher and Trout Unlimited                      |
| <b>7:45 – 8:15</b> | <b>"Tailwater issues and ditch improvements"</b> – Mike Camblin, Rancher from Maybell, CO                                                           |
| <b>8:15 - 8:45</b> | <b>"Stream Management and Retiming Irrigation"</b> – Bill Fales, Carbondale Rancher                                                                 |



# Colorado Ag Water Alliance

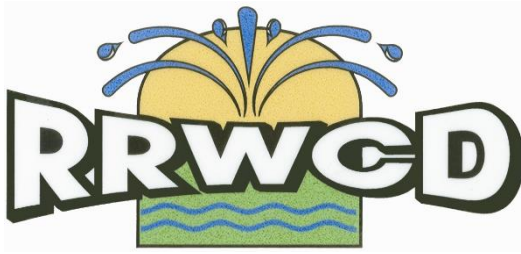
"Committed to the preservation of agriculture through the wise use of Colorado's water resources"

## Stream Management Plan Workshop: Nucla

January 24<sup>th</sup>

9:00AM-1:30PM

<b>8:30-9:00</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>9:00-9:10</b>	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> –Greg Peterson, Colorado Ag Water Alliance
<b>9:10 – 9:30</b>	<b>"What do Stream Management Plans Have to do with Ag?"</b> – Greg Peterson, Colorado Ag Water Alliance
<b>9:30 – 10:00</b>	<b>"AWN watershed mgmt. planning outreach and training initiative"</b> – Phil Brink, Colorado Cattlemens Ag Water NetWORK
<b>10:00 – 10:10</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>10:10 – 10:40</b>	<b>Stream Management in the Rio Grande Basin</b> – Heather Dutton, San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District
<b>10:40 – 11:10</b>	<b>Stream Management in the Upper Gunnison</b> – Frank Kugel, Upper Gunnison Water Conservancy District
<b>11:10 – 11:40</b>	<b>Serve Food</b>
<b>11:40 – 12:10</b>	<b>Stream Management on the Colorado River</b> – Paul Bruchez, Kremmling Rancher
<b>12:10 – 1:00</b>	<b>Break-out Sessions/Working lunch</b> -Group discussions with facilitators -Groups report-out discussions
<b>1:00 – 1:30</b>	<b>Closing Comments and Update on San Miguel Stream Management Plan</b> – Kenny Heldman and Celene Hawkins



**Colorado Ag Water Alliance**  
"Committed to the preservation of agriculture through the wise use of Colorado's water resources"

**Ag Water Workshop: Groundwater Conservation**  
**Burlington, CO**  
**December 12, 2018**

8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:15	Introduction: Deb Daniel, Republican River Water Conservation District, and Greg Peterson, Colorado Ag Water Alliance
9:15 – 10:00	"Master Irrigator Program on the Texas Plains" – Steve Walthour, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District
10:00 – 10:45	Presentation by Chad Godsey, Godsey Precision Ag
10:45 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 12:00	"The LEMA in Northwestern Kansas," Ray Luhman, Kansas Groundwater Management District, and producers Roch Meier and Brett Oelke
12:00 – 12:45	Lunch
12:45 – 1:15	Presentation by Cory Gilbert, On Target Ag Solutions
1:15 – 1:30	"Valuing Land and Conserving Water" - Jerry Lebsack, Premier Farm Credit
1:30 – 2:30	"Reversing Groundwater Depletions in Nebraska," John Berge, North Platte Natural Resources District, and Leo Hoehn of Hoehn Farms
2:30 – 2:45	Closing Comments

**Thank you to our sponsor**

**coloradoCorn**  
Administrative  
Committee





## WHITE RIVER WATER EXPO

### Agenda

**Date:** January 17, 2019

**Time:** 9:30 – 4:00

**Location:** Fairfield Center, Meeker, CO

**9:30** Coffee, Registration, and Expo Open

**10:00** Welcome & Introduction of Program

**10:15** Colorado River Compact and Prior Appropriations Doctrine

Peter Fleming, General Counsel - Colorado River District

Christopher Geiger, Partner - Balcom and Green Law Firm

**10:45** Colorado River Compact & Demand Management

Andy Mueller, General Manager - Colorado River District

Brent Newman, Interstate, Federal & Water Information Section Chief - CWCB

**12:00** Lunch with RSVP

**12:30** District Annual Meeting

CD Report & 2019 Plans

Poster Contest awards

**1:00** Keeping and Utilizing Your Water Rights

Sarah Dunn, Partner - Balcom and Green Law Firm

Susan Ryan, Water Referee for Division 5

**1:30** Break – Visit Expo

**2:00** Integrated Water Management Plans (IWMP)

Greg Peterson, Exec. Director - Colorado Ag Water Alliance

Erin Wilson, Principal Owner - Wilson Water

**3:00 -** Wolf Creek Reservoir Proposal

Brad McCloud, Senior Project Manager - EIS Solutions

**3:30 -** White River Studies Timelines and Processes

Alden Vanden Brink, Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District

Callie Hendrickson, White River and Douglas Creek Conservation Districts

**3:50** – Wrap-up and visit Expo booths

**4:00** – Close



# **Water Quality Workshop: Impacting Your Farm's Bottom Line**

**March 5, 2019 - Keenesburg, Colorado**

## **AGENDA**

- 4:00–4:15**     **Welcome: Water Quality as a Component of the Colorado Water Plan - What Are We Facing in the South Platte Basin**  
*Mark Sponsler, Colorado Corn Growers Association*  
*Nicole Rowan, Program Manager for the Clean Water Program, Colorado Water Quality Control Division*
- 4:15–5:00**     **Panel 1 – Water Use to Date; Reuse and a Changing Environment**  
*Estella Moore, Nonpoint Source Management Workgroup Leader*  
*Troy Bauder, CSU*  
*Dick Parachini, Former Water Quality Control Division*  
*Moderator: Erik Wardle, CSU*
- 5:00–5:20**     **Break – Dinner**
- 5:20–6:20**     **Panel 2 Lessons from the Field**  
*Larry Lempka, Irrigator from Larimer County*  
*Byron Weathers, Irrigator from Yuma County*  
*Sondra Pierce, Irrigator from Weld County*  
*Mike Weber, Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservation District*  
*Moderator: Daren Harmel, USDA-ARS*
- 6:20–6:30**     **Break**
- 6:30–7:45**     **Panel 3 – Water Quality is a Bottom Line Issue**  
*Marc Arnusch, Irrigator from Weld County*  
*Gene Backhaus, State Resource Conservationist, NRCS*  
*Phil Brink, Brink, Inc.*  
*Kenan Diker, Colorado Department of Public and Environmental Health*  
*Moderator: Cindy Lair, Colorado Department of Agriculture*
- 7:45–8:00**     **Wrap-up and Closing Comments**  
*Casey Davenport, Colorado Watershed Assembly*  
*Greg Peterson, Colorado Ag Water Alliance*





# Colorado Ag Water Alliance

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



*Colorado  
Watershed  
Assembly*

[www.coloradowater.org](http://www.coloradowater.org)



# Colorado Ag Water Alliance

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



## **Ag Water Workshop: System Conservation and Drought**

**Montrose – March  
20<sup>th</sup>**

**Holiday Inn Express  
Montrose**

**1391 S. Townsend  
Ave, Montrose, CO  
81401**

**6PM-8:30PM**

**DINNER IS  
PROVIDED**

**What is System Conservation?**

**Where is the program going?**

**What does the Ag Community need to  
know and do?**

**The Colorado Ag Water Alliance is hosting this  
meeting to answer these questions and better  
understand the System Conservation Pilot  
Program and what this means for Ag.**

**RSVP at**

**[www.agwater-  
montrose.eventbrite  
.com](http://www.agwater-montrose.eventbrite.com)**