

Promising Developments

- **Catlin Lease-Following Pilot Project**
- **Northeast Colorado Water Cooperative**
- **State/Univ. of Colo. Workshop (Oct)**
- **Colo. Water Institute ATM conference (Nov)**
- **EDF/WestWater study on economics**
- **Formation of working groups on:**
 - **Front Range municipal supply type ATMs**
 - **Colorado River Compact insurance type ATMs**

Legal Tweaks

- Extend protection against loss of historical consumptive use statewide

Colo. Rev. Stat. § 37-92-305

(c) In determining the amount of historical consumptive use for a water right ~~in division 4, 5, or 6~~, the water judge shall not consider any decrease in use resulting from the following:

[land conservation program, water bank, water conservation program, land fallowing program]

Legal Tweaks

- Water Bank Statute – eliminate limitation to stored water

Colo. Rev. Stat. § 37-80.5-102

The water bank program created by this article is intended to simplify and improve the approval of water leases, loans, forbearance agreements, and exchanges, including interruptible supply agreements, of ~~stored~~ water within each river basin, . .

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Legal Tweaks

- Water Bank Statute – allow use for Compact compliance and shortage response

Colo. Rev. Stat. § 37-80.5-102

It is also the purpose of the water banks to . . . assist the State of Colorado and water rights holders in meeting interstate compact obligations and to manage the risks associated with water shortages.

Other Legal Tweaks



- Include interstate Compact compliance as a **beneficial use**
- Provide for **shepherding** of water to facilitate Compact compliance