

## COMPACTS & FEDERAL LAW

### I. Introduction

### II. Compacts

A. A quick journey back to high school civics class to review the Why and How of Art. 1, Sec. 10, Cl. 3 of the US Constitution.

B. What are compacts?

- Law of signatory states
- Law of US
- Contract
- Why is it important?

C. How do Compacts work?

- Relative to Colorado's use of its rivers
- Relative to Colorado's vested water rights

Hinderliter v. LaPlata & East Cherry Creek Ditch

- Addressing surplus and shortages through Compacts

D. The fallacy of new interstate transfers as a solution to water shortages

E. Examples of how Compacts work

- Arkansas
- Rio Grande
- Colorado/Upper Colorado

(S. Platte, Republican, Costilla, La Plata, ALP)

### III. Federal Law Issues

A. Interaction of Federal Law & Compacts

B. Examples of Federal Legislation that can impact water use practices

1. Wild & Scenic Rivers

2. ESA

3. Water Quality Laws

IV. Questions