

# Shepherding Water in Colorado for Compact Security

**Colorado Water Institute and  
Getches-Wilkinson Center  
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# Goals for Today

- **Get perspectives about:**
  - **Need for conserving water to improve Colorado River Compact security**
  - **Challenges of shepherding conserved water**
  - **What's necessary to make shepherding happen**
- **Consider whether additional discussion or action is appropriate**

# Shepherding in Context

- Just one component of a larger discussion
  - Risk of Colorado River Compact curtailment
  - Is a water bank in Lake Powell or other Upper Basin reservoirs part of the answer?
  - How would a bank work?
  - If Colorado shepherds some conserved water, what happens to it in Utah?
- These are all important questions, but today just focusing on shepherding in Colorado

# Assumptions for Today

- At some point, we will want to shepherd water within Colorado for Compact security
- Conserved water will be made available voluntarily (not involuntary curtailment)
- Looking at Colorado, not other states

# What We Won't Address Today

(but will need to at some point)

- Potential sources of Compact security water
- Sources of compensation for conservation
- What type of change of water right approval is needed?
- Shepherding Colorado water through other states
- How is the conserved water managed in Lake Powell or other reservoirs