



Drive | Lead | Succeed

V I R T U A L S E R I E S

Economic Development Council of Colorado

virtual!

Is the Ongoing Water Crisis an Economic Development Issue?

March 15 | 10 - Noon



Welcome! Thank you for attending today's session

While we wait for attendees to join, please introduce yourself in the chat section.

Include your:

- Name
- Organization or Company
- County you live and/or work in

Thank you!



@EDCofCO | #DLS2023 | #EDCCEvents



Kim Woodworth

Executive Director, EDCC

EDCCOnline.org

housekeeping items:

- All are muted for the general session for recording quality purposes.
- Ask questions! Type them into the CHAT section at the bottom of your screen.
- Provide your name and email address along with your question for follow up after session.
- Send questions to EDCC's Administrator bobbi.vandenhuevel@EDCCOnline.org if you have questions after today's session.
- Links to the recording, presentation, and follow up materials will be provided to today's attendees and located at https://bit.ly/VSI_Water
- And finally, follow today's discussion on our social media outlets [@EDCofCO](#), [#DLS2023](#), [#EDCCEvents](#)

- 
- A statewide, membership based, industry association that supports economic development efforts across Colorado.
 - Provide education, tools & resources, advocate for sound policy in support of economic development
 - We are rural and urban, public and private-sector, for profit and not-for-profit, and include individual communities, counties and regional organizations, local and state government, chambers of commerce, universities and private industry.

Who is EDCC?

Knowledge Vault

EDCC's Knowledge Vault is a virtual arsenal of valuable economic development related information that helps advise, educate, and stimulate economic development efforts across Colorado. The Vault is packed full of the latest trends, best practices, case studies, and near-term solutions to Colorado's biggest issues delivered by thought leaders across Colorado and beyond. As a member benefit, members can access this information anywhere, at any time.

Categories

Search



THOUGHT LEADERSHIP PAPER

Mapping the Supply Chain

Supply chain disruptions have been a key headline for more than two years. From electronics, to automobiles, baby formula, steel and toilet paper, we've experienced global shortages of the things that we use and expect everyday. At a...

[Read more...](#)



RESOURCES & WEBINAR

Mapping the Supply Chain

Thanks to disruptions and shortages, the term supply chain has become an everyday topic of conversation. But what exactly is the supply chain? How do you define it, conceptualize it, respond to it, and what resources are available to assi...

[Read more...](#)



RESOURCES & WEBINAR

Onboarding New Elected Officials & Leadership

If there was one lesson that came out of the pandemic, the power of collaboration and connectivity has led to incredible advancements in today's economy. EDCC continues its tradition of fostering a network of economic development...

[Read more...](#)



RESOURCES & WEBINAR

Informational Webinar – Opportunity Now Colorado Grant Program

HB22 - 1350 is an \$85 million program that provides seed and scale awards to applicants across Colorado. EDCC teamed up with Colorado Succeeds, Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT), and the...

[Read more...](#)

2023 Events Calendar

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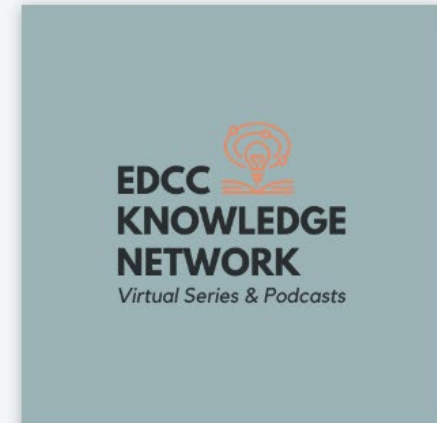
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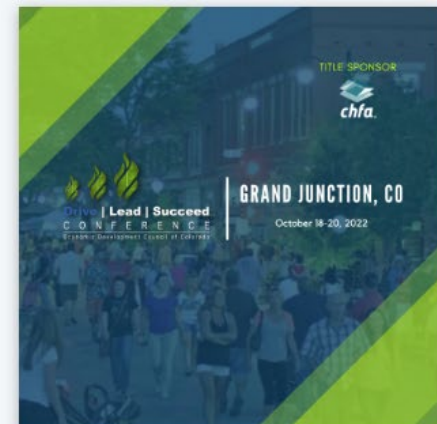
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James Eklund
Water Law Attorney
Sherman & Howard

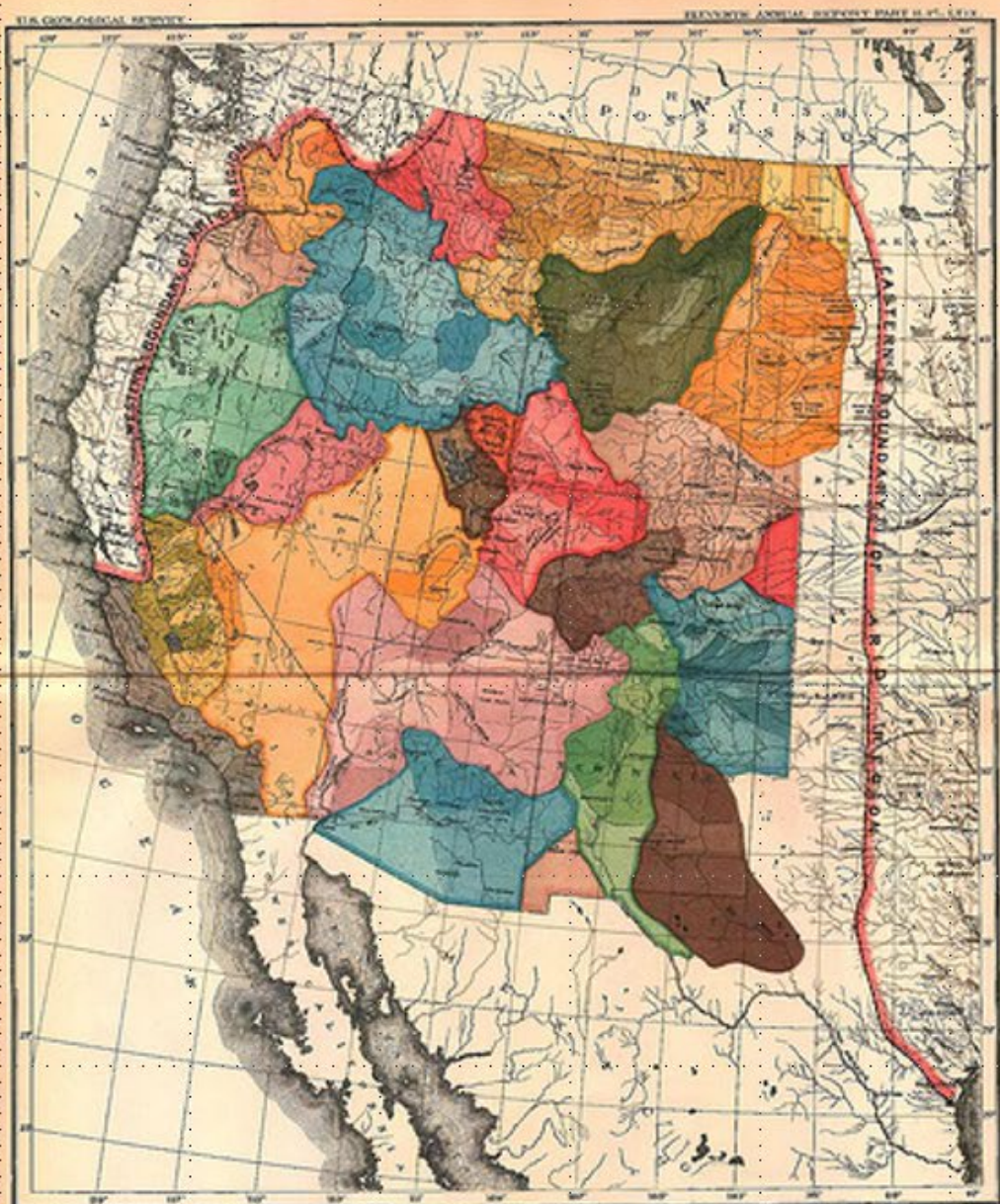




Travis Smith

Water Specialist

**National Wild Turkey
Federation**



100TH MERIDIAN

The imaginary line
metaphorically “*drawn
in the dirt.*”

John Wesley Powell
1878

“WHISKEY IS FOR
DRINKING
&
WATER IS FOR
FIGHTING”

- Mark Twain



JOHN WESLEY POWELL

Civil War Veteran
Geologist & Explorer

“In the absence of water
management based on
the best science,
endless conflict would
ensue.”

1878



Prior Appropriation Doctrine



Prior Appropriations

- Water belongs to first user who appropriates it for beneficial use
- User (appropriator) is guaranteed the right to continue to take water from that source as long as the water continues to be put to beneficial use
- Use of water in western states is governed by Doctrine of Prior Appropriation known as "Colorado Doctrine"
 - No one may own the water in a stream, all persons, corporations, municipalities have a right to use water for beneficial purposes
 - "First in Time – First in Right"

Michael Bartolo

Senior Research Scientist, Emeritus
Colorado State University





Eric Wallace

**Founder/Owner, Left Hand
Brewing Co.**

Emily Hunt

**Deputy Infrastructure
Director for Water
City of Thornton**



Municipal Water Supply Development Challenges

Economic Development Council of Colorado
Virtual Series: Water

March 15, 2023

Emily Hunt, Deputy Infrastructure Director – Water, City of Thornton

Municipal Water Supply in Colorado ... the basics

Water is available for critical uses, even in multi-year shortages

Source of Supply

- Water rights
- Wells
- Contracts

Raw Water Infrastructure

- Storage
- Pipelines
- Pump stations
- Tunnels

Treatment & Distribution Infrastructure

- Water treatment plant
- Tanks
- Pipelines
- Pump stations

Demand Management

- Metering
- Customer water efficiency

Thornton Water Supply Development



1956

Thornton incorporated

1970s

Develop additional Clear Creek & South Platte supplies

Mid 1980s

Two Forks begins to falter
South Platte water quality challenges

1986-1987

Water Supply & Storage Company acquisition

1963

Acquired Northwest Utilities
Clear Creek & South Platte supplies

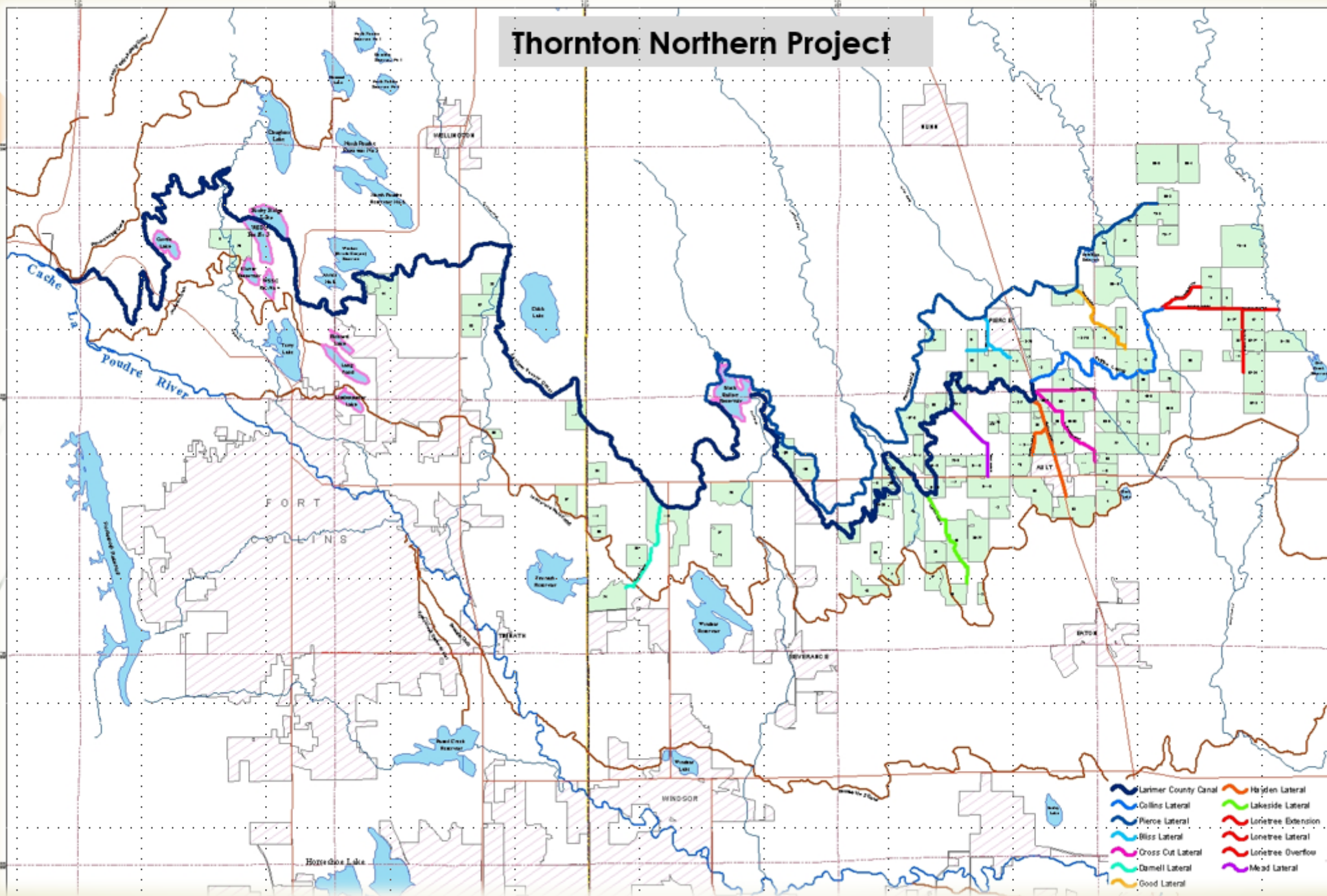
1982

Two Forks Reservoir Project

1985

Thornton divests from Two Fork.
Looks for higher quality supply

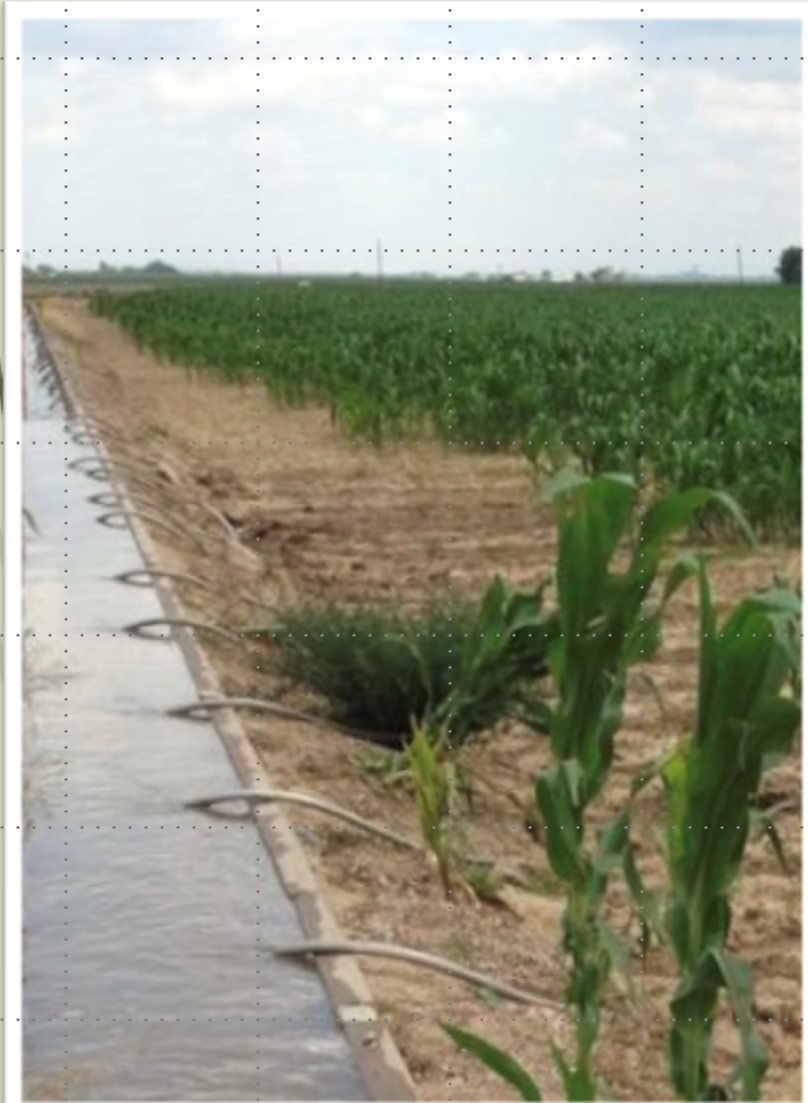
Thornton Northern Project



- Larimer County Canal
- Collins Lateral
- Pierce Lateral
- Bliss Lateral
- Cross Cut Lateral
- Damell Lateral
- Good Lateral
- Hayden Lateral
- Lakeside Lateral
- Lovetree Extension
- Lovetree Lateral
- Lovetree Overflow
- Mead Lateral

Thornton Northern Project
 WSSC Facilities
 1 inch equals 2 miles

Thornton Northern Project



1985 to 1987 Acquisition

- Acquired 110 farms, ~21,000 acres
- 284 shares of Water Supply and Storage Company (WSSC)
- Farmhouses, wells, and other assets

1985 to present Property Stewardship

- Continued irrigated agriculture
- Gradual conversion to self-sustaining and native grasses began in 2000s

1986 to 1998 Water Court

- Change WSSC shares from agricultural to municipal use
- Junior direct and exchange water rights

2014 to present Thornton Water Project

- 74 mile pipeline and conveyance infrastructure
- Phased water delivery beginning in 2027

2018 to present Northern Properties Stewardship Plan

- Data-driven and community-informed property management and long-term land use planning

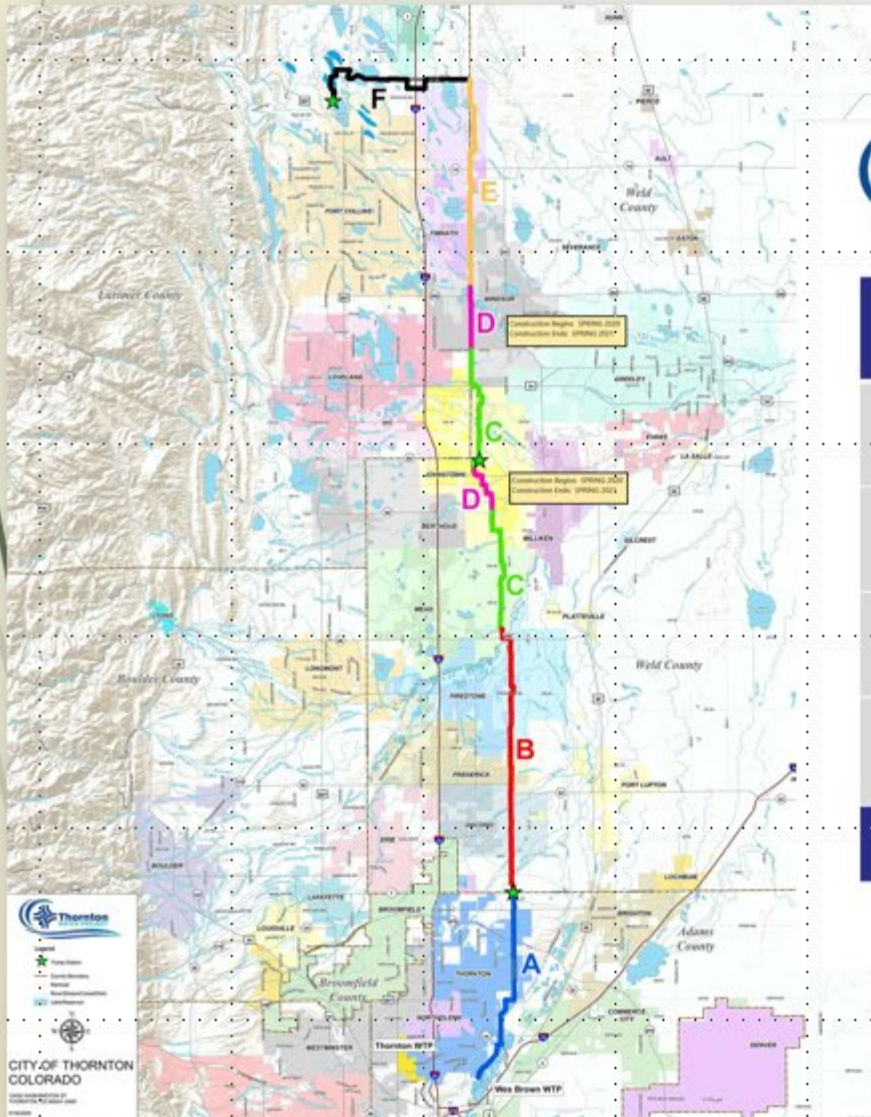
Thornton Water Project



TIMELINE

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Project Operational
Permitting and Land Acquisition							
Design							
Construction							
Restoration and Stewardship							

www.ThorntonWaterProject.com



Challenges – Larimer County 1041 Regulatory Process



Agriculture & Land Use

- Thornton Northern Properties Stewardship Plan



Poudre River

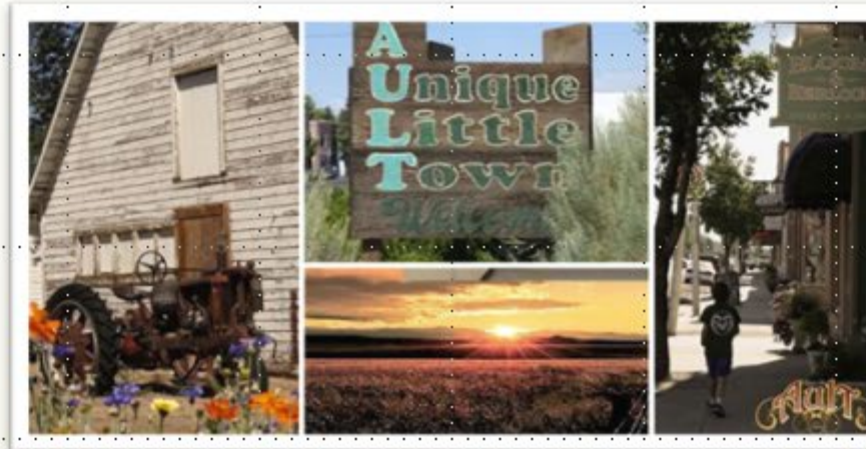
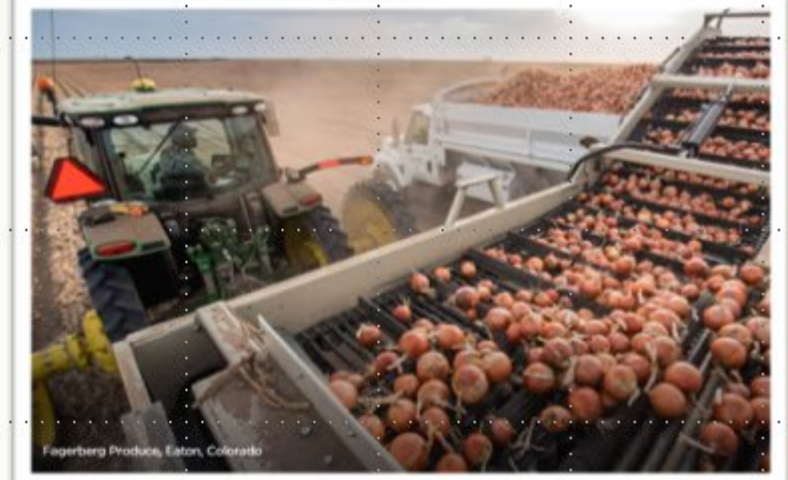
- **No change** in Poudre River flows
- Instream Flow partnership



Construction Impacts

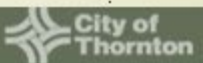


Wrap up



WITHOUT WATER *life would be* PRETTY DRY

THORNTONWATER.COM





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Q&A Session

Feel free to either submit questions in chat section or raise your hand

THANKS TO
OUR...

Featured Speakers



**James
Eklund**

Water Law
Attorney

Sherman &
Howard



**Travis
Smith**

Water
Specialist

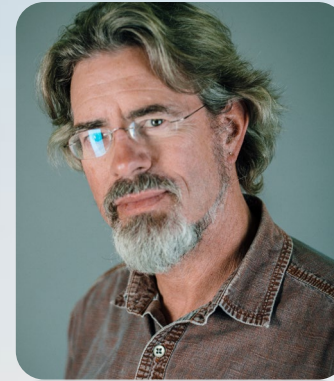
National Wild
Turkey
Federation



**Michael
Bartolo**

Senior
Research
Scientist,
Emeritus,

Colorado State
University



**Eric
Wallace**

Founder/
Owner

Left Hand
Brewing Co



**Emily
Hunt**

Deputy
Infrastructure
Director for
Water

City of
Thornton, CO

THANKS TO
OUR...

Volunteers!

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Transmission Assoc.



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- Please help us bring great programming to you! Link to survey in chat section: <https://forms.gle/MwZvpJyAqKvL1v9e7>

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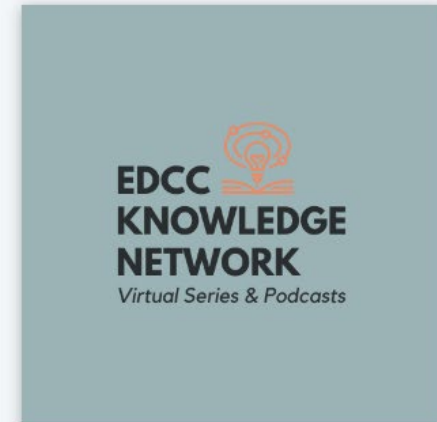
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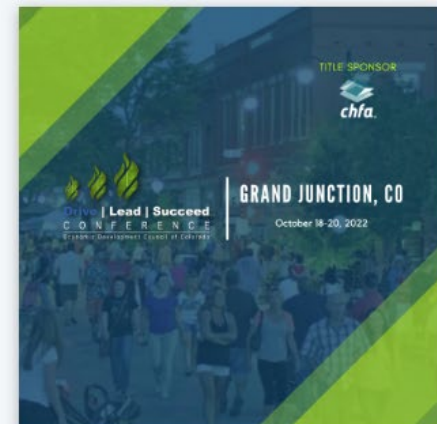
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- Additional Tools, Resources, and Network of Economic Development Professionals
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