**For Immediate Release**

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**Yampa Ag Producers’ Water Future Workshop**

**Steamboat Springs, CO** – A Yampa Basin Ag Producers’ Water Future Workshop will take place on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Steamboat Springs Community Center at District at 1605 Lincoln Avenue, Steamboat Springs, CO 80487. The Colorado Water Plan encourages the use of “alternative transfer methods” to keep water in agriculture while addressing the anticipated gap in future water supply given projected population growth. What does this mean for agricultural water users in the Gunnison Basin? Irrigators will hear about opportunities for cost sharing of efficiency improvements, water leasing programs, and concerns about “use it or lose it” at this workshop hosted by the Community Agricultural Alliance and the Colorado Ag Water Alliance. Other sponsors include the Yampa Basin Roundtable, Colorado Cattlemen’s Association, CSU’s Colorado Water Institute, Colorado Corn, and Rocky Mountain Farmer’s Union.

Brief presentations will be followed by dialogue in which agricultural producers will have a chance to discuss challenges and barriers to these opportunities. Those presenting include Carlyle Currier from the Colorado Ag Water Alliance and Colorado Basin Roundtable, State Engineer Dick Wolfe, Division Engineer Erin Light from the Division of Water Resources, Zach Smith from the Colorado Water Trust, Brian Hodge from Trout Unlimited, Phil Brink from Colorado Cattlemen’s Association, MaryLou Smith and Greg Peterson from CSU’s Colorado Water Institute, and others.

The event is free and includes lunch, but those planning to attend are encouraged to RSVP for a lunch count[**www.yampaag.eventbrite.com**](http://www.yampaag.eventbrite.com)

T**he Colorado Ag Water Alliance**

The Colorado Ag Water Alliance (CAWA) is comprised of agricultural leaders from across Colorado representing major facets of production agriculture. CAWA’s goals is to empower Colorado agricultural producers to make the most informed and viable decisions regarding Colorado water.