

Addressing Water for Agriculture in the Colorado River Basin

Planning for Water Research, Extension, and Education

USDA Planning Grant Project 2011-2013

Led by Colorado Water Institute at Colorado State University

Project Team: Water institute directors and university faculty from the 7 U.S. Colorado River Basin States

A two year planning grant funded to CSU by USDA-NIFA

Intended to prepare the way for subsequent funding for identified pilot projects and/or other initiatives

The purpose of this grant is to:

- **Understand what agricultural water users and managers in the CRB think and how they feel about the status of water for agriculture.** Is it under pressure? If so, from where, and what do they want to do about it? Are they interested in working with other sectors to help other sectors get their needs met as a means of reducing the pressure on ag water? If so, under what terms?
- **Identify potential partners and opportunities** to help agricultural water users and managers meet their goals for their water.
- **Identify promising pilot projects or other initiatives** that could help ag water users and managers address obstacles (legal, institutional, technical, social and other) that may stand in the way of identified opportunities.
- **Prepare a subsequent multi-year project proposal or multiple smaller proposals** to implement identified pilot projects or initiatives.

Project Objectives/Corresponding Deliverables

Objective 1: Gain understanding and identify concerns, opportunities and impediments via **interviews, survey, and workshops**

Objective 2: Develop **GIS layers pinpointing the institutional framework** for agricultural water management via extensive data collection and participatory mapping exercises

Objective 3: Foster communication via interactive **website**

Objective 4: Prepare a **multi-year proposal (or smaller proposals) to implement pilot projects** or initiatives and provide an integrated approach to research, teaching, outreach and policy engagement

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Other members of the Project Team include:

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