

What did you learn today that encouraged you?

- That transferred water rights relate only to the consumptive use portion of the rights and buyer must maintain what was happening before rights were sold and water transferred out of the region.
- The frequency of monitoring by water commissioners.
- Jeni Arndt's journey into politics is a fascinating one, and I appreciate the perspective and dedication she brings to her work. I am encouraged to have politicians like her in our midst.
- I was encouraged by the collaborative, solution-oriented spirit of Jeni Arndt, Andy Jones, and Martin Carcasson. I was enlightened by the water commissioners as well.
- How much the priority system makes sense.
- I was really encouraged by the leadership that Representative Arndt has brought the Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee. It appears as if she is willing to step across the aisle and work with her counterparts for both productive legislation and reasonable compromise.
- I was really encouraged by Jeni's pep talk. Jeni seems to bring a perspective that you do not often see in the modern political arena. Her apparent willingness to work with individuals that she does not always align with to solve challenging water problems is exactly what Colorado needs to overcome the water challenges we will face in the future.
- I was encouraged by Representative Arndt. She is clearly engaged in water issues at the capital. We are lucky to have her.
- I wish I had a recording of Andy Jones presentation (and fantastic storytelling technique) about CO water law. Whether we invented and exercise the best system or not – it is extraordinary what we have and do accomplish with our water resources. Improvement will be complex but somehow, I was optimistic that the system can learn and evolve. Perhaps I am still naive.
- I was encouraged to learn how different municipalities are re-using water as part of their water management plan.
- 1980 – 2005, 25% loss in irrigation usage as percentage of whole, with about 75% of irrigated acres expected to be lost by 2050. That's concerning, even though the % of jobs in Ag is pretty low for the county. We can't lose sight of the fact that Ag is very important for Larimer County.
- I loved hearing from Jeni Arndt about how she bridges the subject of water with everyone she speaks with regardless of side. It's interesting to hear from someone involved in water on the political side.
- I thoroughly enjoyed Andy Jones' presentation on Colorado Water Law. It's encouraging to know we have such high caliber professionals ensuring compliance with water laws. Martin Carcasson's presentation was really enjoyable. I found myself thinking that he must have a great class and that you could learn a lot more from him.

What did you hear today that discouraged you?

- Carcasson's description of how our brains work and our bias toward tribal behaviors and communications sounded like 95% of the way our world communicates today – and seemingly at an increasing rate of argument and anger.
- Present and future water demands.
- The change in use policy that dictates, for example, if you only need 50 af you still have to take 110 af and return 60 af seems like a waste of resourcing and produces a need to over-engineer. I do understand and the science behind needing to do this so that use can be measured and because of timing of flows, but I am curious what other kinds of solutions could be found.
- I was discouraged that partisan politics can still stand in the way of sensible solutions.
- How one user taking their water out of the ditch can damage others.

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- While I was fascinated by the presentation that Professor Carcasson gave, I was discouraged that the science appears to support why we have become so polarized as a society.
- I think it is discouraging that sometimes agencies have to be forced by legislatures to really step and do the right thing as Jeni did with introduction and passage of the non-potable reuse bill. The bill seems to have forced CDPHE to create rules to meet the need of the public.
- The power (and desire) of the human brain (and likely many times mine too) to keep itself in the safe space of confirmation bias. To contentiously work through / around / with this hard wired aspect of our brain. I want to / need to practice re-wiring – I will learn more and be more effective in teaching, communication, and collaborative problem solving.
- I was discouraged to learn that C/BT cannot be used to exhaustion, while other non-basin supplies can be.
- How can we change anything when we have such a robust legal side to water?
- I had a difficult time following Jeni Arndt's presentation. I'm sure the government is complex and I just didn't feel like I came away understanding that process.

What did you learn today that surprised you?

- That over the years augmentation and recharge increased downstream flows on the Poudre, allowing for additional downstream diversionary rights to be created (supporting all the more the argument that peak flows should be captured and released during subsequent drought periods).
- Early runoff, may mean little agricultural water in later summer.
- I was surprised to hear how Mark Simpson and Jean Lever spoke about the rivers in their charge as "my river." This vocabulary of ownership indicates to me the stakes that each commissioner has in their own work.
- I was surprised by how low (or is it high?) that the call was on the Big Thompson this year.
- How others can make new water rights as your returns flows come back into the river downstream. It is like the dump saying we make a business on your trash you need to stop recycling.
- While the concept of reuse of water seems very promising, the fact that a large portion of our communities' supplies are made up of CBT makes it appear as if that wouldn't be an option for us because of the rule restricting reuse of that water.
- I was surprised to learn how few diversion points can go into administering water rights on a given river stretch during the majority of the year. I did not expect that only a few water right holders would be able to divert during the years dry spring and summer.
- Sadly, I was surprised by the fact that the Poudre & Big Thompson have commissioners that manage allocations on a daily basis.
- Continually amazed as I learn the layers of water law and administration. It is amazing it works (good or bad, still amazing for such a complex system). Which body plays what role and has jurisdiction – from the Legislature to the River Commissioners to the users (and loads of folks in between) ... the interplay between all of these layers is mind boggling to me – prior to this, I really had no idea. Now, I need to try to sort it out and understand it.
- I was surprised to learn that 62% of the South Platte is currently used for irrigation, down from 82% in 1980. I'm also surprised that amount isn't lower considering Colorado's growth.
- Nothing that stands out, I feel like this class was the extent of my knowledge about water in Colorado.
- I'm always surprised when reminded that the majority of our water is on the western slope and the majority of the populations on the eastern. That was the challenge for our predecessors, it is the challenge for us today, and will be the challenge for the future water leaders.

What did you learn today that you want to know more about?

- More detail on how flows are managed by the River Commissioners; Jean Lever was great and helped explain, but still assumed more prior knowledge than I have; it sounded like a “call” is initiated by the River Commissioner, not one of the water rights owners; not clear; confusing reference to “Native Flows” – wasn’t clear if that term is meant to carve out flows from transbasin or recharge amounts. I still have an unanswered question as to whether someone who buys water rights (assume a priority of 1) can or WILL have that priority changed if they change the use. I think I understand they would need to go to water court to change the use, but will the court permit the change but also change the priority? It sounded like “storage” will always result in a change to a less senior priority – what about a change from agriculture (irrigating crops) to irrigating lawns & gardens, or creating reservoirs, or changing to municipal tap water or non-potable water use? And must the buyer take the water (consumptive portion only) from the same gate that the original owner was using?
- Andy Jones presentation was engaging and informative. I usually have trouble staying interested when it comes to two things: law and history. But Andy's presentation was a great example of perfect use of a PowerPoint presentation and using storytelling to teach a concept. I would like to dive a bit deeper into our Colorado water history because of this.
- I want to follow-up on Andy and Martin’s presentations.
- How to turn what we learned from Center for Public Deliberation into practice.
- I would like to spend more time with regards to water law and how change cases are administered today and going forward.
- It was interesting to listing Mark and Jean discuss river administration. I think it would be interesting to sit in their shoes and learn the details of their day to day job including what a call would look like.
- The role and responsibilities of the Commissioners.
- I am curious to learn more about the “timing” of water. I am still a little curious how a water right is exercised / received by “calling” for water and how the ditch company (or whoever) can manage the timing. I also really appreciated Martin’s presentation and reminding us and guiding us to contribute toward shifting from adversaries to collaborators – critical skill for all of us!
- I would like to know more about how our brains work so that Wellington leaders can have better discussions on water use, re-use, and conservation. Perhaps take a class with Martin Carcasson.

Was there anything today that captured your attention to the extent that you could see yourself engaging in it further—to study it further, to play a leadership role in bringing it to the attention of others?

- River management by commissioners and exactly what rights and obligations are imposed on a party that does a “buy and dry” transaction to move water out of the region.
- Martin Carcasson's work is fascinating and important; I would like to spend a lot more time learning about this research and how to best engage diverse populations on issues of all shapes and sizes.
- I would like to pass on some of the information from Andy and Martin...potentially to my own staff and some other boards I am on.
- How to simplify the water collection, storage, and delivery system to ensure a sustainable system for the future, our water industry is following in the steps of the American steel and auto industries.
- I was intrigued by the changing leadership styles that we explored and the different ways to approach very challenging complex problems. I will be trying to incorporate those shifts in deliberative engagement into our home building business.

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- I really was interested in Martin's presentation. As a manager for several individuals and challenging projects, I have encountered some interesting challenges that are generally the result of individual's misperceptions of other individuals. Understanding that perceptions aren't always correct and finding methods to thoughtfully dispel the personal biases can go a long way in overcoming many challenges as a manager. I will continue to try and learn more about human nature to be a more effective leader.
- Perhaps the biggest takeaway was the discussion on "purple water". From a municipal application, I want to understand how we can maximize our existing water supply to lessen overall demand, while ensuring we meet return flow obligations. I want to find examples of gray water ordinances that can be used in our municipality.
- I learned a lot about Free River, Calls, Valid Calls, and Over Appropriation.; Would like to see more experimentation with subsurface irrigation, like we're going to see at Sylvan Dale Ranch, so that we can more effectively use the water we have at our disposal, without harming those who have senior rights.; Enjoyed learning more about an Argumentation Scholar.
- I always love hearing from Martin Carcasson.