



Law, Governance and Management of the Colorado River

GRAD 592 Fall 2022

**Reflections on the 100th
Anniversary**

the Colorado River Compact

**Jennifer Gimbel
Colorado Water Center
August 22, 2022**

Course Overview

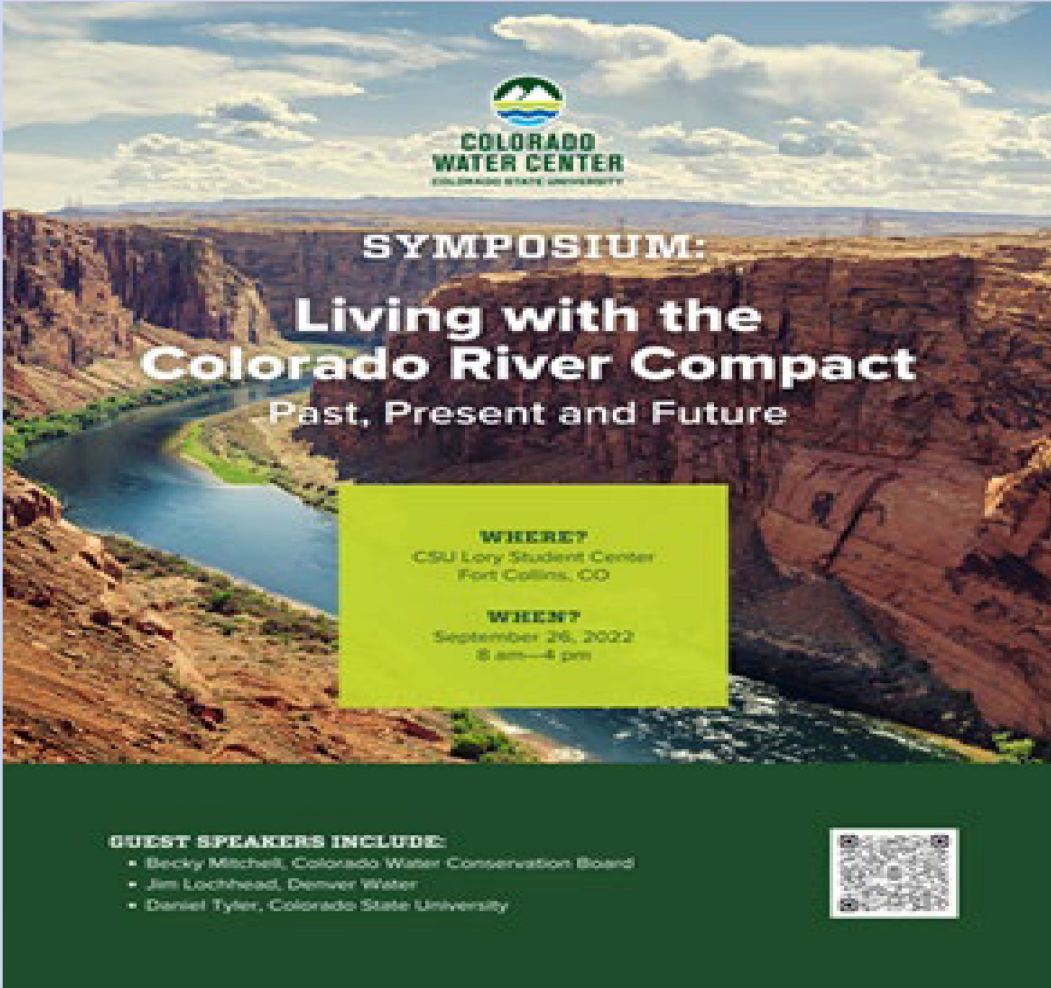
- History
- “Law of the River” and River Management
- Climate Change and the River
- Native American Perspective
- Northern Colorado Perspective
- Western Colorado Perspective
- Policy for the State of Colorado
- Upper Basin States’ Perspective
- Lower Basin States’ Perspective
- Environmental Perspective



Course Requirements

- Attend seminar in person and sign-in: 60% of grade.
- Final project: 40% of grade. Paper (2-4 pages): comparison and discussion of another river basin system (national or international) with the Colorado River system and what lessons learned (pros and cons) from the Colorado River system could be applied to your chosen project system. Papers are due December 5 with class presentations.
- Read the assignments before each class.
- Attendance on Nov. 28 and Dec. 5 mandatory.

September 26 - Attend Symposium



COLORADO WATER CENTER
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY


SYMPOSIUM:
Living with the Colorado River Compact
Past, Present and Future

WHERE?
CSU Lory Student Center
Fort Collins, CO

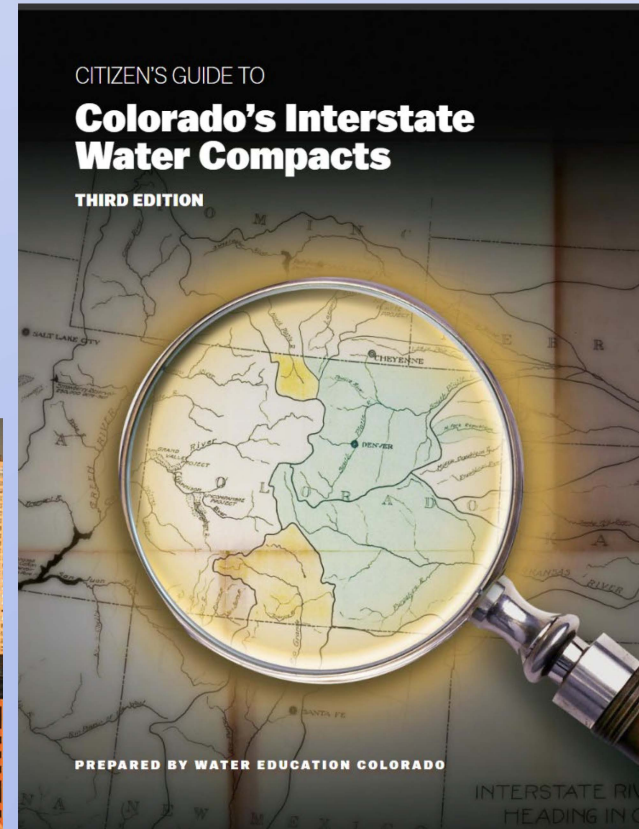
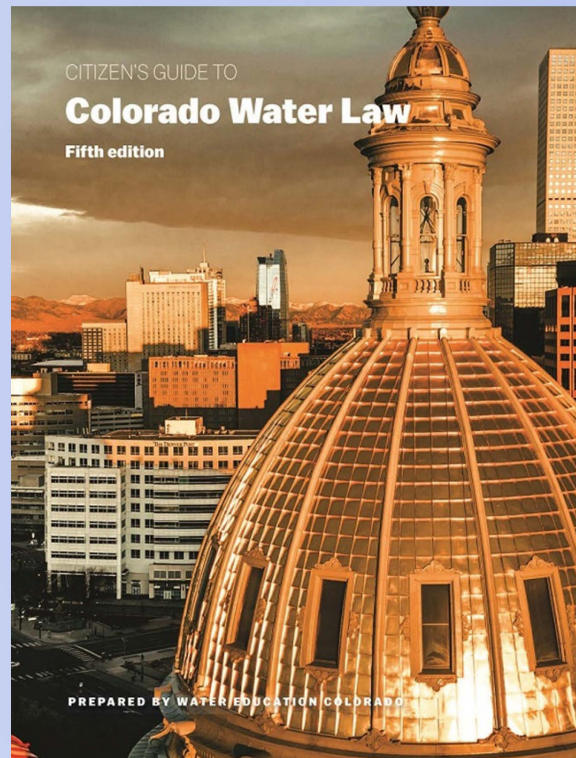
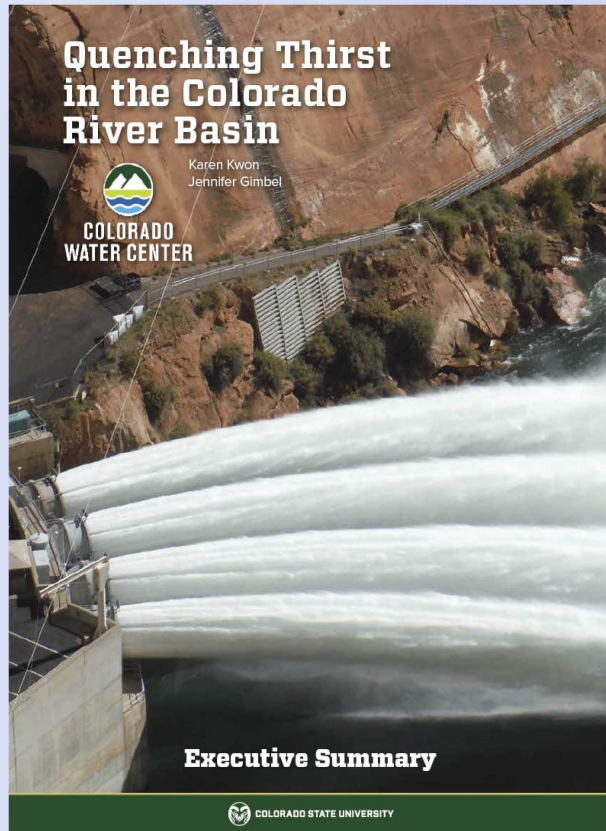
WHEN?
September 26, 2022
8 am—4 pm

GUEST SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

- Becky Mitchell, Colorado Water Conservation Board
- Jim Lochhead, Denver Water
- Daniel Tyler, Colorado State University



Reading Materials



John Wesley Powell

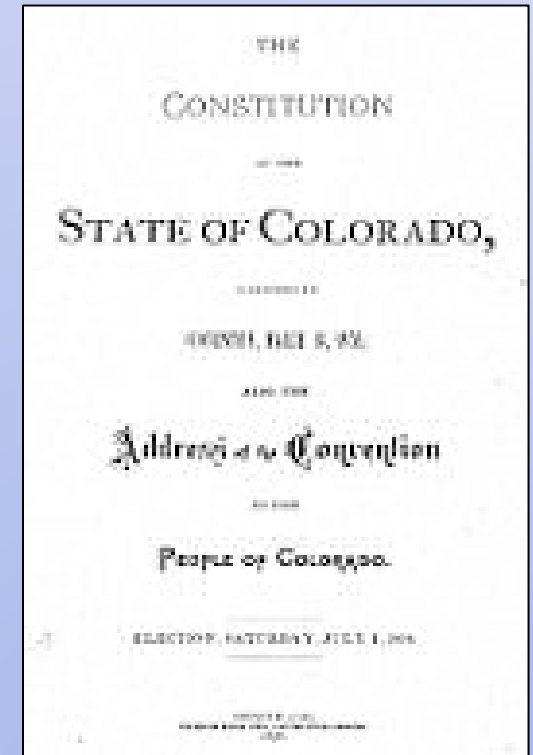


1876 – Colorado becomes a state

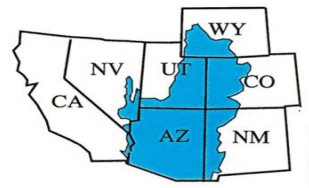
A strict Doctrine of Prior Appropriation is adopted in the state constitution.

"The right to divert the unappropriated waters of any natural stream to beneficial use shall never be denied."

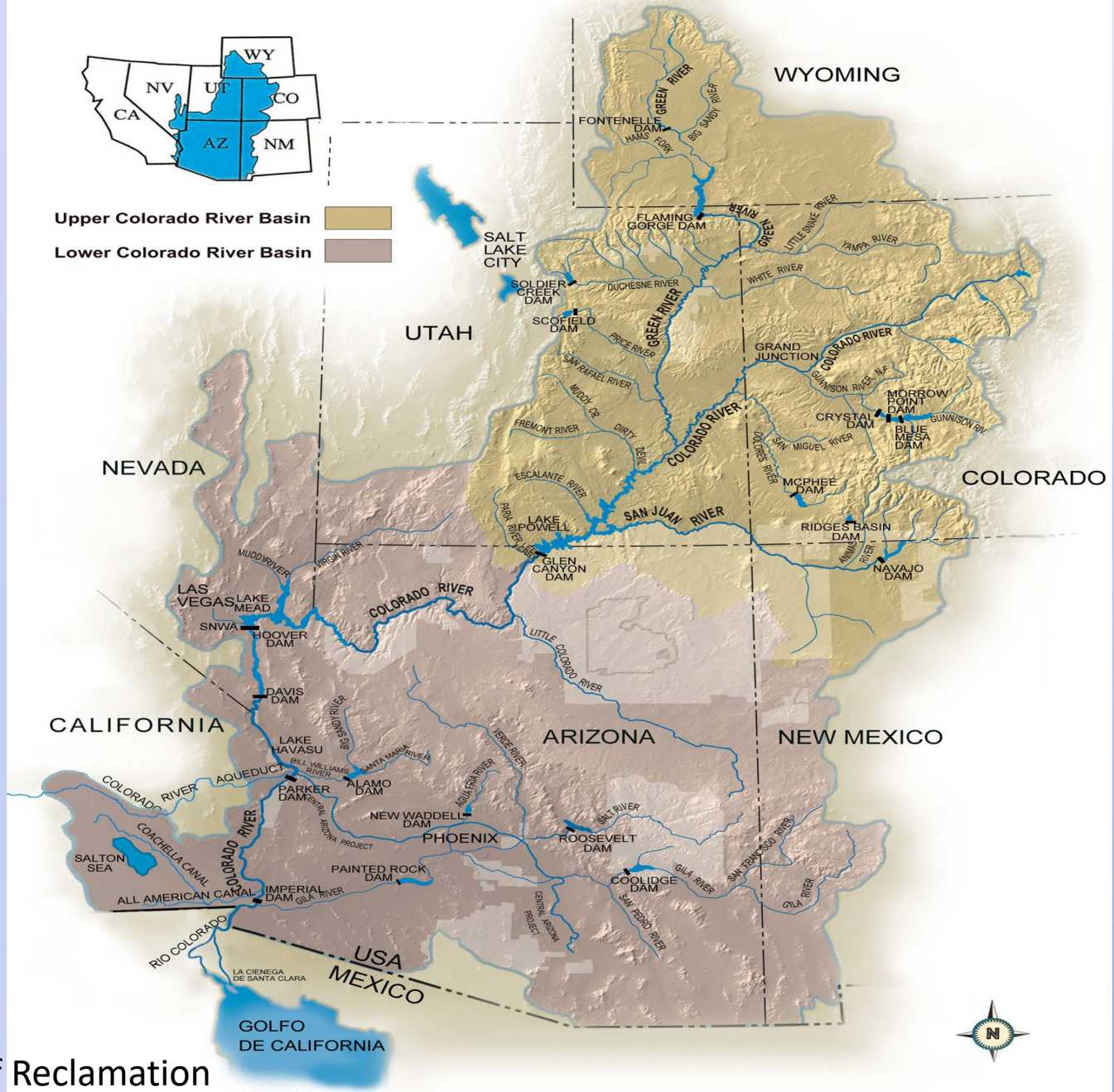
Colorado Constitution 1876



Colorado River Basin



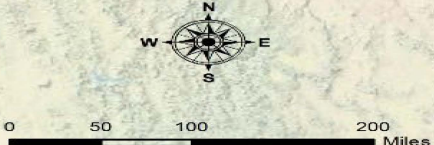
Upper Colorado River Basin 
Lower Colorado River Basin 





Legend

- Hydrologic Basin
- Adjacent areas that receive Colorado River water



Whiskey's for Drinkin' Water's for Fightin'



Controversies Between States



Article III Section 2 of Constitution: Interstate controversies Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution grants each state the right to seek redress from legal wrongs before the Supreme Court.



Maxim

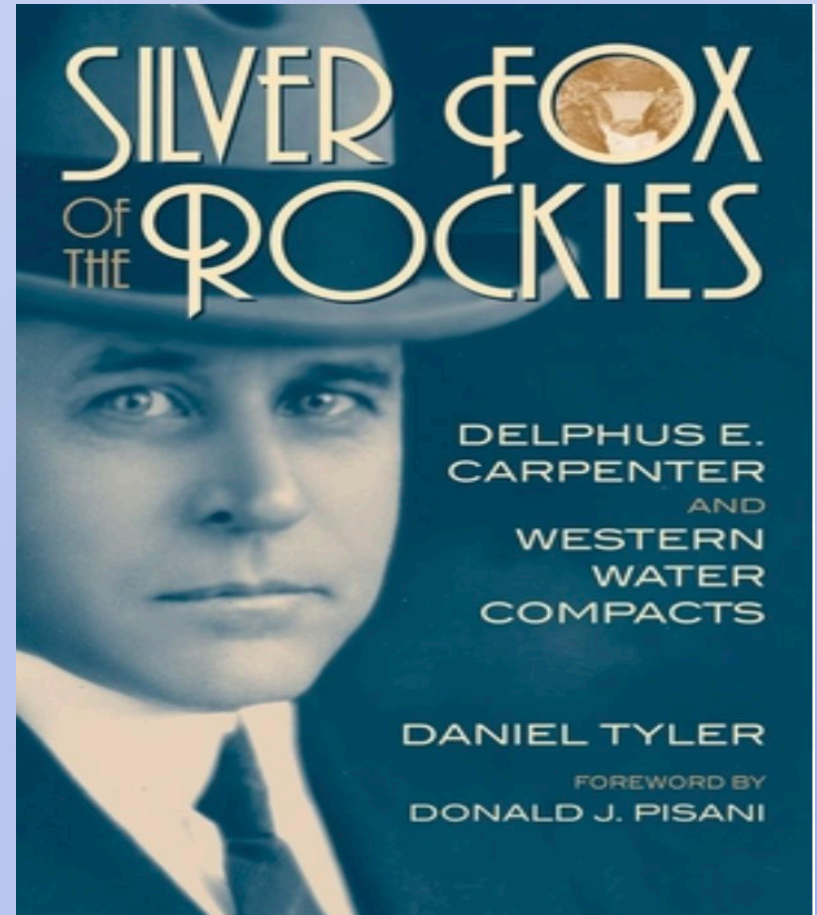


I'd rather be upstream with a shovel than downstream with a water right.

Delph Carpenter



www.lib2.colostate.edu



University of Oklahoma Press, 2003

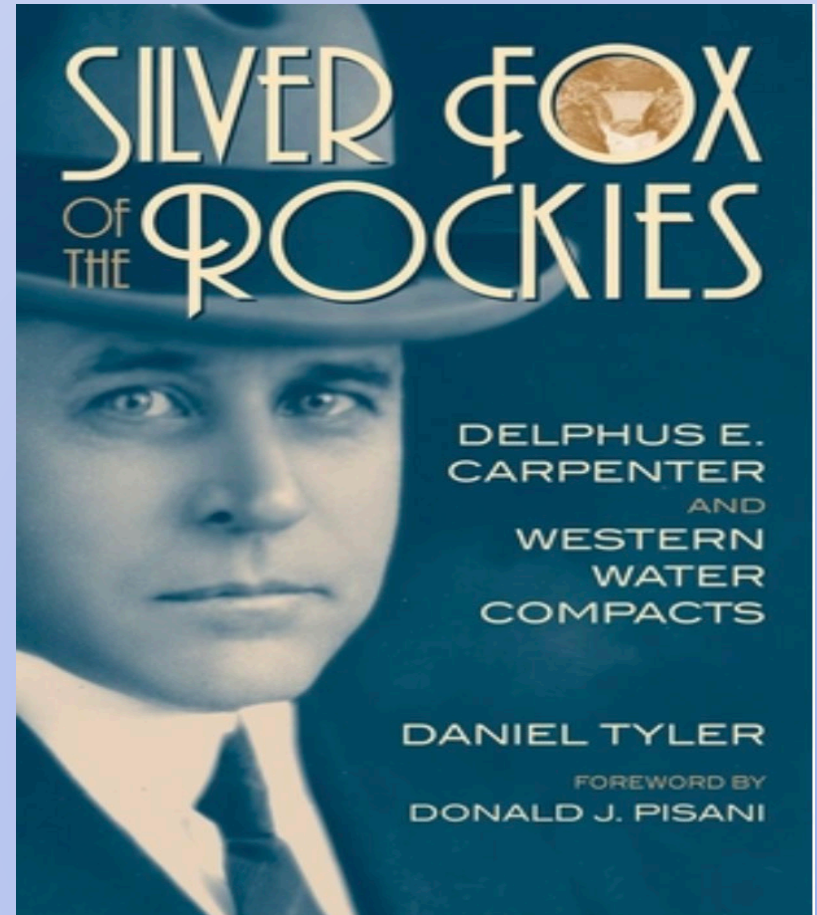


Article I, Section 10 in U.S. Constitution (Compact Clause) provides that states may enter into agreements with approval by Congress.

Delph Carpenter



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University of Oklahoma Press, 2003

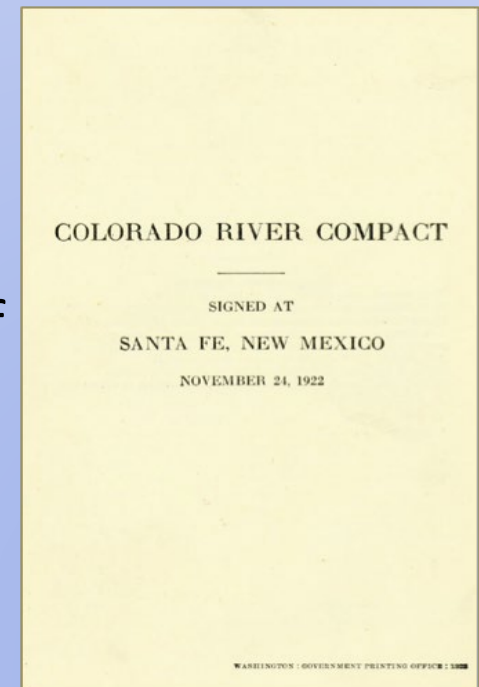
Signing CR Compact-1922





Purposes of the Colorado River Compact

- Equitable apportionment of the Colorado River System
- Establish relative importance of different beneficial uses
- Promote interstate comity and remove causes of present and future controversies
- Secure agricultural and industrial development of the Basin
- Storage of river flow
- Protection from floods



Colorado River Compact, 1922

