

# Be Careful of What You Wish For...Climate-Responsive Water Management From the Ground Up Goes Big-time?

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## Presentation for CPASW 4 - Summary Slide

- In Colorado and much of the Western U.S., ability to respond to climate predictions requires ability to transfer water more flexibly than is traditional (see: [http://www.ogp.noaa.gov/mpe/csi/econhd/1999/howe\\_2004\\_attach.pdf](http://www.ogp.noaa.gov/mpe/csi/econhd/1999/howe_2004_attach.pdf)).
- Pressures to move agricultural water to competing uses are severe now and will likely become more severe with climate variation and change.
- In agriculture, working with the established “pathway” is critical, as recently shown (and see <http://iri.columbia.edu/outreach/meeting/CPASW2005/Presentation/JWiener.pdf>)
- Advocacy of needed changes required involvement in the political processes established to pursue water management changes and better information, since climate is one of the many stressors/opportunities affecting agriculture.
- Climate responsive management cannot easily be separated from management per se, so the suite of issues is considerably more complex for decision-support.
- 3 needed legal forms of water transfer were identified, and a set of principles recommended to avoid unwanted surprise and defeat of innovations.

