

Division 1 Annual Report



A Taste of the Republican River Basin
Water Districts 49 & 65
Photo by Brandi Baquera

Irrigation Water Year 2021

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WATER SUPPLY AND ADMINISTRATION

Water Supply Conditions - Irrigation Year 2021 (November 1, 2020 - October 31, 2021)

November 2020 through January 2021

Conditions during the first three months of Irrigation Year 2021 in Division 1 started with dry conditions throughout the basin with 50 to 70% of average precipitation on the easterly plains, and near 70% of average precipitation in the mountainous and foothill areas during the months of November 2020 through January 2021. Scattered precipitation events throughout the mountains resulted in end of month snowpack at 85% of average at the end of November, 80% of average at the end of December and 75% of average at the end of January 2021, as reported by the USDA NRCS. Temperatures were well above average during the months of November, December and January at 1-5 degrees Fahrenheit above average in the mountains and foothills and 3 to 7 degrees Fahrenheit above average on the easterly plains, as reported by NOAA.

Basinwide trends of above average temperatures and below average precipitation continued through the months of November, December and January, resulting in continued drought conditions throughout the South Platte River basin. Much of the basin from the mountains and foothills to the plains experienced drought conditions rated by the USDA Drought Monitor of D3 (extreme drought), with portions of Douglas and Jefferson Counties experiencing a drought rating of D4 (exceptional drought). The one exception is in the northerly most portion of the basin in portions of Larimer, Weld and Morgan Counties experiencing a drought rating of D2 (severe drought) and D1 (moderate drought).

River flows at the two key index gages on the South Platte are used as a measure of conditions of the South Platte River basin, the Kersey gage located downstream of the City of Greeley below the confluence of the Cache la Poudre River, and the Julesburg gage located just upstream of the Colorado and Nebraska state line. During the November through January period the Kersey gage was near average, ranging from 93% to 102% of the normal long term average. Given basin wide above average temperatures, below average precipitation and competition by depleted reservoirs for diversions from the streams, the Julesburg stream gage located near the state line was well below the

long term mean during the months of November through January ranging between 16% and 28% of the long term mean daily flows.

With the continued trend of below average precipitation, well above average temperatures and below average streamflows, the reservoir levels throughout the basin experienced below long term average storage levels throughout the basin ending the month of January at 93% of the historical average. However, the overall average does not reflect the well below reservoir storage levels in the lower elevation reservoirs throughout the basin that are generally empty to near empty. Reservoir levels throughout the basin were below the long term full capacity at an estimated 51% full at the end of November, compared to the historical 60% full historical average, ending the month of January at 65% of overall full capacity compared to 70% of full capacity as reflected in 32 index reservoirs throughout the South Platte River basin.

With the typical reservoir fill season generally beginning November 1 and continuing through April 1, reservoir calls controlled the South Platte River during the winter. The calling water right starting November 1 for much of November was the Jackson Reservoir fill with a priority date of 1902 or 1907 call, located at the Jackson Reservoir Inlet Canal near the Town of Masters controlling the upper portion of the South Platte River during the months of November, December and the first half of January. During the last half of January, the upper portion of the South Platte River was controlled by a 1909 call at the Burlington Canal located in Commerce City near the intersection of Highways I-70 and 270 for the filling of Barr Lake. The lower portion of the South Platte River was controlled by the North Sterling Reservoir fill 1922 call located at the North Sterling Canal near the Town of Hillrose during the month of November and first-half of December. During the last half of December through January the lower portion of the South Platte River was controlled by a Prewitt Reservoir fill right with a priority date of 1910 call located near the Town of Merino. The lower portion of the South Platte River was controlled by a Julesburg Reservoir 1995 fill call during the months of November and December, with no calls below the Prewitt Inlet Canal during the month of January.

February through May 2021

Fortunately the months of February through May experienced a reversal of the previous multi-month trend of above average temperatures and below average precipitation, to much needed trends of

below average temperatures and above average precipitation. Temperatures were below average for the months of February, April, and May ranging from 3 to 10-degrees Fahrenheit below the long term average for those months. The exception to below average temperatures basin wide was during the month of March with the mountains and central plains near average and the easterly plains 1 to 2-degrees Fahrenheit above average.

Fortunately the trend of below average precipitation and snowpack throughout the basin was finally reversed during the months of February through May. The mountains and much of the basin experienced above average precipitation ranging from 150% of average during the month of February, 125% during the month of March, 80-100% of average during the month of April, and 130% of average during the month of May.

The seasonal above average snowpack in the mountains and foothills throughout the months of February through May resulted in a February 1 snowpack of 76% of historical average, increasing to 90% of average on May 1 and 159% of average on June 1. This much needed increased precipitation resulted in a brighter stream flow projection for the basin, with the March 1 NRCS Streamflow Forecast of 70-89% of average throughout the basin updated to a June 1 Forecast of 90-109% of historical average streamflows throughout the South Platte River basin.

As might be expected from the much welcomed above-average precipitation conditions described above, the USDA Drought Monitor for northeast Colorado improved for much of the basin experiencing drought conditions. Improvement of drought conditions resulted in a USDA Drought Monitor rating of D2 (severe drought) throughout much of the southern portions of the basin and a rating of D1 (moderate drought) during the months of February into March, and finally a rating of no drought conditions throughout the entire basin during the month of May.

The flows in the South Platte River at the Julesburg and Kersey index gages were variable throughout this quarter of the 2021 Irrigation Year. The below average temperatures, above average precipitation resulted in a delay in snowpack meltout in the higher elevations contributing to streamflows, however these conditions also resulted in lower demand by irrigators during the February through May period. The delayed snowpack meltout and delayed irrigation demand allowed junior reservoirs to fill, junior recharge rights and direct flow rights

to divert during this time period. Several large precipitation events spread throughout the February through May months resulted in fluctuations in streamflow conditions throughout the basin. February and April flows at the Kersey gage located near the Town of Kersey were below average at 54 and 56%, respectively. However, flows at the Kersey gage during March and May were at 115 and 111% of average. Diversions to continue to fill plains reservoirs and diversions of junior recharge rights along with delayed snowmelt runoff to the stream resulted in below average flows near the state line at the Julesburg stream gage ranging between 25 and 65% during the months of February through the month of May.

The lower than average temperatures basin wide delaying the snowmelt and the above average precipitation presented lower demands than normal from senior diverters resulting in more junior calls during the months of February through the month of May.

The upper portion of the South Platte River basin was controlled by a call at the Burlington Canal, located in Commerce City near the intersection of Highways I-70 and I270, with a priority date of 1909 and 1910 reservoir fill for Barr and Prospect Lakes during the months of February, March and April. The middle portion of the South Platte River was controlled by a 1910 Prewitt Reservoir fill call at the Prewitt Reservoir Inlet Canal located near the Town of Brush during the month of February through the first one-third of March. The remainder of March and April found the middle portion of the South Platte River below the Burlington Canal and the state line controlled by more junior reservoir fill rights circa 1922 and senior recharge rights circa 1972 and 1974. The month of April conditions resulted in the South Platte River Compact, which is a call placed at the state line with a priority date of June 14, 1897, calling out water rights in the lower portion of the South Platte River in water district 64 bounded upstream by the westerly Washington County Line downstream to the state line. The Compact Call was placed on April 5 through 7 and again April 26 - 27. The remainder of April required more junior bypass calls at the state line, ranging from circa 2003 early in the month going more senior to circa 1980 by the end of April to allow adequate flows of 120 cfs at the state line to be managed. With snowmelt runoff ramping up during the month of May, the calls on the South Platte River were controlled on the upper end by a Cheesman Reservoir 1889 call and a Chatfield Reservoir 1977 and 1984 storage right, with no calls below Chatfield Reservoir to the state line during the

month of May. This was the first time that the 1984 storage right in Chatfield Reservoir had been exercised, after the recent reallocation of a portion of the previous flood pool by the USACE.

The much welcomed reversal of the trend of below average precipitation and above average temperatures to above average precipitation and below average temperatures resulted in overall storage in the South Platte trending from well below average to ahead of normal storage levels throughout the February through the month of May period. The end of month storage contents in the 32 index reservoirs, as a percent of long term average, was; February - 95%, March - 101%, April - 102% and May - 113%. The end of May logged these reservoirs at storage of 92% of full capacity, compared to the long term average of 82% of full capacity.

June through August 2021

The trend of above average precipitation and snowpack and below average temperatures came to a quick halt in June. During the month of June temperatures were 2 to 5-degrees Fahrenheit above average, with portions of the month setting record high temperatures. Above average snowpack quickly melted out with rapid snowmelt during the first portion of June resulting in all snowmelt completed by June 13th. The entire basin remained warmer than normal with temperatures through the end of August 2 to 5-degrees Fahrenheit above average. Precipitation in the mountainous and foothill regions was 50 to 60% of average during the months of June through the end of August, with the eastern plains near 75% of average during the months of June and July, and less than 30% of the historical average during the month of August.

With the continued pattern of below average precipitation and above average temperatures throughout the basin during the months of June through the end of August, drought conditions worsened in portions of the basin. Drought conditions went from a rating of no drought conditions at the end of June to a USDA Drought Monitor rating of D0 (abnormally dry) in portions of the mountains in Larimer and Park Counties as well as portions of counties adjacent to the Colorado northern state line by the end of August. Additionally, areas in the northeasterly plains were experiencing a rating of D1 (moderate drought) in Yuma and Washington Counties at the end of August.

With snowpack depleted by early to mid-June, increased demand for water by water users, and above average temperatures and below average precipitation throughout the basin, native streamflows were well below average on the South Platte River. Streamflows on the South Platte River at the Kersey gage near Denver during June through August were below average ranging between 73% and 89% of average. Streamflows downstream at the Julesburg gage near the state line were well below average, ranging between 24% and 61%. Native streamflow throughout most of the tributary streams was near normal, resulting in little to no senior calls on the tributaries during the months of June through the end of August.

The rapid above average snowmelt during the first portion of June, with conditions quickly changing to warmer than average temperatures and below average precipitation, increased demand for direct flow irrigation water throughout the basin. This increased demand for water and above-described warmer and drier conditions resulted in calls going more senior throughout the basin during the months of June through the end of August. As snowmelt ramped down during the month of June, the first portion of June was controlled with only calls for water on the upper portion of the South Platte River with an 1889 Cheesman Reservoir and a 1908 direct flow or bypass calls at the Burlington Canal diversion located downstream of Denver. As flows dropped rapidly during the month of June more senior calls on the lower portion of the South Platte River controlled with priorities ranging from circa 1888 to 1936 at the Sterling Ditch or Harmony #1 Canal located downstream from the City of Sterling. Flows were adequate during the month of June at the state line, resulting in no South Platte Compact call being placed during the month of June. As warm temperatures and below average precipitation continued, calls went more senior during the months of July and August. The first portion of July was controlled with a 1909 direct Burlington Ditch from July 1 through July 8, going more senior with a priority call at the Western Ditch located near the City of Evans ranging from 1886 to 1881 from July 8 through July 18th, controlling the upper portions of the South Platte River. After July 18th, the South Platte River was controlled by a call on the lower portion of the river by a call or bypass call at the Sterling #1 Ditch ranging from circa 1897 to 1888. The South Platte Compact call was placed on July 5, remaining for the remainder of July through August 26th, impacting water district 64 on the South Platte River from the westerly boundary of the Washington County line downstream administered at the Colorado state line with a

priority of June 14, 1897. The first half of August was controlled by an 1888 call at the Lowline Ditch near the City of Sterling. During the last half of August, there was a direct call or bypass call at the Western Ditch with priorities ranging from circa 1871 to 1881.

Although increased temperature during the month of June resulted in rapid snow meltout of the mountain snowpack, the cool and wet conditioned experienced in late winter and early spring maintained reservoir levels throughout the basin at above average storage levels. Reservoir levels measured at 32-indexed reservoirs throughout the South Platte River basin ending the month of August at 113% of the long term average, representing reservoir storage capacity of 66% of full, above the long term average of 59% for the end of August.

September and October 2021

The previous months trend of above average temperatures and below average precipitation throughout the basin during the months of September through the end of October. Temperatures during the month of September were 7 to 10-degrees Fahrenheit above average in the mountains and 3 to 7 degrees Fahrenheit above average in the foothills and plains. Temperatures during the month of October were 1 to 3 degrees Fahrenheit above average throughout the South Platte River basin. Although the first snow of the season occurred during the middle of September, the overall precipitation throughout the basin was below average during the months of September and October. Precipitation was below average with 50 to 70% of average precipitation in the mountains during September and 20% of average during the month of October in the mountains and foothill regions. Precipitation on the eastern plains was 30% of average during September and 50% of average during the month of October.

Drought conditions throughout the basin continued to intensify during September and October, with most of the basin with a USDA Drought Monitor rating of D1 (moderate drought). Pockets with a rating of D2 (severe drought) developed in portions of Washington, Yuma, Larimer, Weld, Boulder, Adams and Jefferson Counties; with a rating of D3 (extreme drought) in portions of Washington County.

Flows at the Kersey and Julesburg index gages continued the pattern of well below average streamflows during the months of September and October with the Kersey stream gage below

average at 59 and 79% of average during the months of September and October. Flows at the Julesburg gage were at 50% of average for the month of September and 41% of average for the month of October.

Above average temperatures and below average precipitation continued the trend of senior calling water rights on the South Platte River and tributaries during the months of September and October. The upper portion of the South Platte River was controlled by an 1871 priority bypass call at the Western Ditch located near the Town of Platteville for much of September, with the Burlington Canal call coming on September 24 with a priority of 1909. The lower portion of the South Platte River was controlled by a direct call or bypass call at the Lowline Ditch located near the City of Sterling with calling priorities from 1882 going more junior to a 1936 priority by the end of September. The South Platte Compact Call was administered from September 14 through September 22, controlling the lower end of the South Platte River in water district 64 from the westerly County Line of Washington County to the Colorado and Nebraska state line. The month of October was controlled by a 1909 direct flow call at the Burlington Canal located near the intersection of Highway I-70 and Highway 270 upstream and a 1936 Prewitt Reservoir Inlet Ditch located near the Town of Hillrose controlling the lower portion of the South Platte River.

Despite the warmer than average temperatures and below average precipitation, reservoir levels on average throughout the basin remain above average. Reservoir levels as measured at 32 indexed reservoirs throughout the basin were at 115% of average at the end of October, representing 62% of full storage capacity at the end of October above the 1981-2010 average of 53% at the end of October. November 1 typically represents the beginning of the reservoir filling season, however the warm temperatures and dry conditions may see continued demand for direct flow irrigation use as well as some demand for reservoir releases into November unless the conditions change. The South Platte River basin reservoir storage at the end of October 2021 is in a much better condition than the end of October 2020.

The following charts provide a quick reference and summary of the stark differences experienced from the start to the end of the 2021 Irrigation Year.

**U.S. Drought Monitor
Colorado**

November 3, 2020
(Released Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	83.71	74.08	24.39
Last Week 10-29-2020	0.00	100.00	100.00	87.26	75.91	21.82
3 Months Ago 08-03-2020	0.00	100.00	85.88	58.79	26.64	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2020	31.72	68.28	51.19	20.11	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2019	0.00	100.00	99.29	80.35	52.88	2.64
One Year Ago 11-03-2019	18.73	81.27	58.24	27.41	0.00	0.00

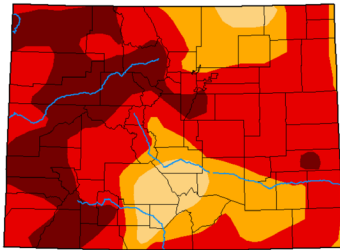
Intensity:
None D2 Severe Drought D3 Extreme Drought D4 Exceptional Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry D1 Moderate Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/about.aspx>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu



**U.S. Drought Monitor
Colorado**

November 2, 2021
(Released Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	4.44	95.56	76.77	30.45	6.93	0.00
Last Week 10-26-2021	4.44	95.56	74.89	29.73	11.13	1.96
3 Months Ago 08-03-2021	56.64	43.36	34.52	20.61	20.96	6.38
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	83.73	75.17	27.60
Start of Water Year 10-01-2020	12.72	87.28	46.42	26.30	15.05	3.91
One Year Ago 11-03-2020	0.00	100.00	100.00	83.71	74.08	24.39

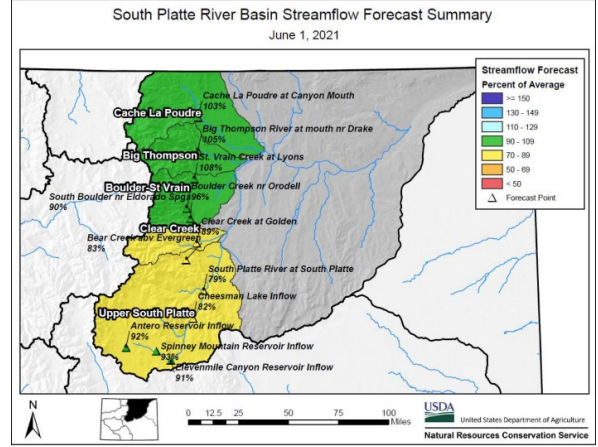
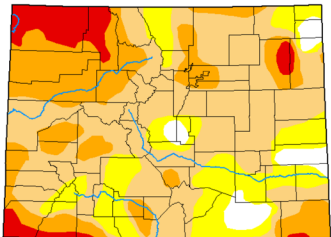
Intensity:
None D2 Severe Drought D3 Extreme Drought D4 Exceptional Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry D1 Moderate Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/about.aspx>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu



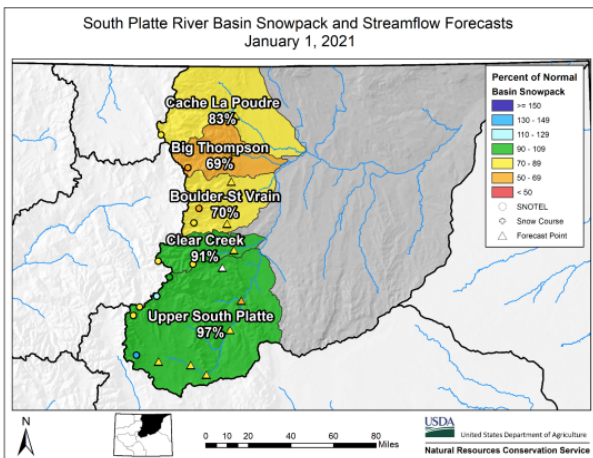
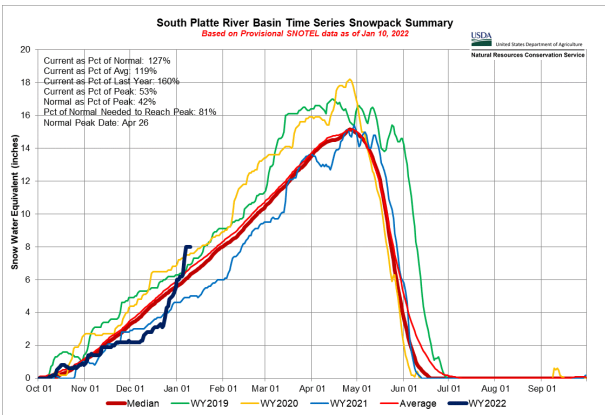
WELL ADMINISTRATION

South Platte River Basin

The South Platte Well Team continued its work with approximately 6,500 wells that fall within the scope of the South Platte Well Measurement Rules. The Team has continued to work on the third phase of compliance with the Well Measurement Rules, in conjunction with the 2020 Abandonment process, which involve wells that could not legally divert water and are believed not to have the capability to be operational. The Team worked to ensure wells with expiring totalizing flow meter tests remained in compliance with the Rules and wells with expired tests came back into compliance with the Rules.

In 2020, the Team undertook working through a process to develop diversion records for wells via Well Measurement Rules data and augmentation plan meter reading reporting. The process continued and expanded in 2021 with the team processing approximately 16,000 meter readings and ultimately published diversion records for 1,565 wells for water year 2020. Work is underway to publish diversion records for more wells for water year 2021.

Efforts continued throughout 2021 in the administration of the South Platte Measurement Rules, including the Well Team conducting approximately 57 installed flow meter verification field tests, processing approximately 575 submitted measurement tests into DWR's database, the field inventory of approximately 200 wells, inspection for compliance of 550 wells filed as inactive in accordance with the Measurement Rules, and responding to many questions from water users. Approximately 20 wells were also identified as non-existent as efforts of staff field inspections. The well team certified 5 new well meter testers and



recertified 14 certified well meter testers. These efforts support the requirements of the South Platte Well Measurement Rules, and other Basins Ground Water Measurement Rules, that measurement devices be verified by a person qualified (“certified”) by the State Engineer.

The well enforcement program continued administration by sending out approximately 105 Notice of Violation and Cease and Desist Orders. Additionally, the team mailed out 268 Notices for Expiring Flow Meter Tests and 100 flow meter correction factor notifications.

The Well Team also provided a great deal of support for the 2020 Abandonment List. Ultimately, a list was prepared of 1,190 water rights that were included on the initial 2020 Abandonment List in accordance with State Statute. The Well Team reviewed approximately 249 statements of objection involving wells listed on the initial 2020 Abandonment List and has assisted in providing guidance to the public regarding the 2020 Abandonment process and timeline.

Republican River Basin

The Republican River Well Team continued their efforts of administering the Republican River Basin Groundwater Measurement Rules (Rules) in 2021, including conducting approximately 262 well measurement device verification field tests, field inventory of approximately 860 wells, and field inspection for compliance of approximately 243 wells filed as inactive in accordance with the Rules. The well team assisted with Well Tester certification classes, and conducted in-field follow-up recertification of approximately 25 certified well testers. These efforts support the requirements of the Republican River Compact Area Well Measurement Rules, and other Basins Ground Water Measurement Rules, that measurement devices be verified by a person qualified (“certified”) by the State Engineer.

Well Team enforcement efforts continued with the Greeley office and Republican field crew distributing approximately 88 Notice of Violation and Orders to Cease & Desist, 1 Order to Remove Unnecessary Obstruction to Streamflow and 963 Notices for Expiring Meters.

The Republican River well team continues work related to the Republican River Compact, including monitoring and verifying the accuracy of the currently operating Republican River Compact Pipeline; verification and coordination of

measurements of the official delivery measurement flume for the Compact Pipeline; and publishing official diversion records of all high capacity wells within the Republican River Ground Water Measurement Rules boundaries. The well team staff continued to assist the State Engineer in Public Meetings and outreach in Advisory Committee meetings being held as part of the Republican River Compact Use Rules rulemaking process. The State Engineer filed the proposed Republican River Compact Use Rules with the Water Court on January 11, 2019, assigned Water Court Case No. 2019CW3002. Throughout the year the Case has progressed with the hope that the court will soon enter a judgment approving the proposed rules. As drafted, the rules would allow the state to administer surface water and groundwater wells for compliance with the 1942 Republican River Compact.

In coordination with the State and Division Engineer’s offices, the Republican River staff worked closely with the USGS on three stream flow compact gages and the Bureau of Reclamation regarding the administration of stream flows through Bonny Reservoir.

In addition, the Republican River well team has been busy assisting the Designated Basins Team in the administration of well permit volume limits by investigating dozens of wells and posting and documenting Orders on 15 wells that exceeded their annual limitation in the 2021 Irrigation Year. These Orders are being administered by the Designated Basins Team in Denver, and require the reduction of the annual pumping limits for the 2022 Irrigation Year by the amount over-pumped in 2021.

WATER USE AND OPERATIONS ACCOUNTING TEAM

The Water Use and Operations Accounting Team (Water Accounting Team) handles the numerous water user daily water use and operations accounting that is submitted to our office monthly in accordance with the terms and conditions of Water Court Decrees. Along with other decreed or administratively required documentation such as projections, dry-up reporting, etc.

Currently, there are estimated to be 1,900 decrees in Water Division 1 that include a plan of augmentation, of which we currently receive monthly submittals for approximately 569 decreed augmentation plans providing their daily measured water operations.

This past year the accounting team continues to be heavily involved with the Water Information Team in the implementation of the CDSS Accounting Uploader tool. The tool allows water users to upload their accounting directly to the State's site which is then archived. This provides immediate feedback to the water user that their accounting has been uploaded and it relieves back office stress of handling large amounts of incoming data. The tool has also been used to determine whether plans are late in the submitting and can provide a template response if needed. Efforts of transitioning submitting plans to utilize the tool began late in 2020. To date there are 266 individuals providing accounting (some water engineers or consultants may supply accounting for multiple water users); of that 266, 64% are utilizing the CDSS Accounting Uploader tool.

The Water Accounting Team also provides technical support to the Water Commissioner diversion record process by building and embedding DWR sheets in the Water User's accounting. These sheets pull pertinent accounting information into the relevant water class coding to aid Water Commissioners in their efforts to publish diversion records. For the 2021 water year, 70 DWR sheets were built or updated for the benefit of the pertinent Water Commissioner.

Additionally, the Water Accounting Team was involved with the Chatfield Reallocation project. This project has been in development for over 30 years and currently involves eight (8) entities along with Denver Water in an expansion of storage in Chatfield Reservoir. DWR is responsible for administration of the storage of water in Chatfield Reservoir including the additional space the project allows. DWR's accounting team was involved with the development of the joint tool "Chatfield Reallocation Accounting" which each participant can simultaneously access to input their pertinent information (i.e. requested inflow for storage, requested releases, requested allocation of evaporation, etc.) so that daily administration of the reservoir can be conducted in a near real time manner. The use of a Google Sheet has proven to be highly effective in a group collaboration for this project's daily accounting. The Reallocation pool was initially only utilized by entities storing non-native, fully consumable water; however, with unsuspected stream conditions two of the entities were also able to store direct diversion water for the first time. This was instrumental in ensuring that the Chatfield Reallocation met certain environmental conditions (reestablishment of trees and plant life) but also tested the collective

Chatfield Reallocation Accounting, which was proved extremely successful.

Finally, the team has continued efforts towards tracking fully consumable returns to the stream and subsequent diversion by exchange or by direct use. This also includes fully consumable water leased after initial use. This continues to be a challenge, but worthy of undertaking.

COMPACT ADMINISTRATION

Division One is responsible for administration of the State of Colorado's obligations under the South Platte River Compact, the Republican River Compact, the Laramie River Decree, and the Sand Creek Agreement (1997 Addendum) to meet the requirements of those respective documents.

Under the terms of the South Platte River Compact, if there is not 120 cfs in the South Platte at the state line between Colorado and Nebraska between April 1 and October 15, Colorado will curtail all diversions in the Lower Section of the river, in water district 64 located upstream at the westerly line of Washington County downstream to the state line, with priority dates junior to June 14, 1897. There were 65 days of South Platte Compact call during the 2021 Irrigation Year, which is a significant decrease in comparison to the 133 number of days recorded in Irrigation Year 2020.

During Irrigation Year 2021, the Republican River Compact was administered by staff in both Division One and the Denver Office in conjunction with the Republican River Water Conservation District and delivered a total of 6,771 acre-feet to the Colorado/Nebraska state line. The Republican River Compact Administration approved a final resolution on August 24, 2016 establishing Colorado's permanent approval of the Republican River Compact Compliance Pipeline and beginning January 1, 2017 the operation of the pipeline became subject to the terms and conditions of the final resolution.

The Republican River Compact Use Rules filed by the State Engineer in January 2019 were litigated at trial in January 2022, with the Rules being adopted in March 2022. The purpose of the Rules is to provide the procedures by which the State Engineer will evaluate, approve, and administer plans for compliance to ensure that Colorado's use of water meets the requirements of the Republican River Compact and the terms and conditions of the Final Settlement Stipulation in *Kansas v. Nebraska & Colorado*, No. 126 Original (December 15, 2002),

approved by the United States Supreme Court on May 19, 2003.

During Irrigation Year 2021 Division One personnel regulated all diversions in the Laramie River basin in compliance with the terms of the U.S. Supreme Court decree in *Wyoming v. Colorado*. Division One personnel received a notice from Wyoming on May 18, 2021 that the irrigation demand in Wyoming reached 40 cfs and is calling for water under the terms of the Sand Creek Agreement.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The COVID pandemic continued to impact our normal business, with limited hours open to the public in our Greeley and Sterling Offices and staff primarily working from home. The Division One staff continues to handle COVID related obstacles with humility and patience while maintaining the highest services to the public. Staff continued to collaborate internally, with water users, and the public through telephone, email and virtual meetings maintaining a high level of service and communication. Division 1 staff worked with leadership and HR to develop approved variances to allow one or two staff members in the office to maintain necessary business functions such as incoming and outgoing mail, as well as variances to conduct safe and approved well tester certification and recertification testing. Field staff continued critical field work in a safe and approved manner adhering to safety protocols and measures.

Division One personnel continued to be active and involved in many issues important to the water community, albeit virtually due to COVID. When requested or needed, Division One personnel attended, participated and presented at ditch company meetings, conservancy district meetings, groundwater management district meetings, Colorado Water Congress, and in numerous meetings with water users and the general public. In addition, Division One personnel continued to assist the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) with snow survey measurements.

Meetings of the South Platte Basin Round Table, post wildfire mitigation and recovery meetings (Larimer County, South Platte River Basin, and Colorado River Basin), and Republican River Water Conservancy District were also regularly attended by Division One personnel. This past year, Division One staff also continued to participate in regular meetings of the Colorado Water Plan South Platte Basin Update Committee.

Outside of office work, Division One personnel performed outreach that included guest lecturing to an introduction to hydrology class at Front Range Community College and leading a classroom and field trip for students in the Southwest Conservation Youth Corps through the Alma Foundation. In the Republican River Basin Division One personnel spent time volunteering as an EMT, coaching youth sports, and supporting the Yuma County Rodeo Fair Queen program. The Division One chapter of the Colorado Water Officials Association continued to contribute to its scholarship fund, in memory of former Division Engineer W.G. Dugan Wilkinson, and awarded another \$500 scholarship to a deserving student in the Watershed Science program at Colorado State University.

Additionally, after more than 20 years located in our Downtown Greeley office, we moved to a new location in southwest Greeley. The old office is missed, but the new office is more efficient and has the bonus of its own parking lot and landscaping. The Division 1 team is excited to share the new office space with others as we transition out of Covid concerns.

DIVISION 1 AWARDS (2021 IYR)

Water Commissioner of the Year	Jorge Vidal
Employee of the Year	Yvonne Lorenz
Bricks & Mortar	Dawn Ewing
Bricks & Mortar	Shanna Coleman
Bricks & Mortar	Brent Schantz
Bricks & Mortar	Russell Stroud
Above & Beyond	Matt Rusch
Above & Beyond	Kyle Bobst
Above & Beyond	Josh Adams
Above & Beyond	Travis Tyner
Above & Beyond	Patrick Tyler
Above & Beyond	Liam Cummins
Above & Beyond	Kallie Bauer
Special Recognition	Numerous

Table 1 - Water Court Activities and Staffing

Water Court Activities - Calendar Year 2021

New Applications made to Water Court this Year	255
Referee Rulings Reviewed	216
Decrees Issued by Court this Year	265

Table 2 - Staffing (As of March 2021)

Accounting Team	4	
Dam Safety Engineers	3	
Full-Time Water Commissioners	19	
Hydrograph Team	5	
IT Professional		1
Permanent Part-Time Water Commissioners	1	
Program Asst. II, Office and Data Administration	4	
South Platte and Republican Well Team	8	
Vacant Positions	5	
<u>Water Resource Engineers and Compact Compliance</u>	<u>5</u>	
Total Staff	55	

Table 3 - Transmountain Diversions Into Division 1 (Imports into Division 1)

Tranmountain Diversions Into the South Platte River Basin in Colorado			
Irrigation Year 2021 (November 1, 2020 - October 31, 2021)			
	WDID	IY2021 (acre-foot)	Source
Grand River Ditch	304601	12,977	Colorado
Alva B. Adams Tunnel	404634	252,280	Colorado
Moffat Tunnel	604655	43,291	Colorado
Berthoud Pass Ditch	704625	393.98	Colorado
August P. Gumlick Tunnel	704650	0.00	Colorado
Straight Creek Tunnel	704682	151.7	Colorado
Vidler Tunnel	704626	17.97	Colorado
Harold D. Roberts Tunnel	8000653	101,282	Colorado
Boreas Pass Ditch	2304611	118	Colorado
Wilson Supply Ditch			Laramie
Deadman Ditch			Laramie
Sand Creek Ditch System			Laramie
Bob Creek Ditch			Laramie
Laramie-Poudre Tunnel			Laramie
Skyline Ditch			Laramie
Cameron Pass Ditch			N. Platte
Michigan Ditch			N. Platte
Aurora Homestake Pipeline	2304490	42,060	Colorado/Arkansas
Hoosier Tunnel	2304612	8,305	Pass-through to Div. 2

Corey DeAngelis Division
Engineer
PE IV
#230

