

1953

STATE OF COLORADO  
IRRIGATION DIVISION NO. 2  
PUEBLO

F. C. SNYDER  
IRRIGATION DIVISION ENGINEER  
BON DURANT BLDG.,  
P. O. BOX 1423

Nov. 30, 1953

SUBJECT:

Mr. M. C. Hinderlider  
State Engineer  
Denver, Colo.

Dear Sir;

I herewith submit my report for the year 1953 as  
Division Engineer of Irrigation Division No. Two.

The highlight of the year was probably the fire  
which entirely destroyed the Central Block where we had  
our offices and in which we lost all our records and equip-  
ment. The alarm was turned in at 3:40 A. M. August 29th  
and I am told the walls started falling in by 4 A. M. when  
it was too hot to get inside of the building with hoses.  
Of the three people known to be in the building at the time,  
two made their escape. The third, eighty-eight year old  
Mr. O. G. Pope, although being warned did not escape. His  
bones were later found directly below his bedroom. By 8:30  
A. M. only fragments of the walls were left standing and  
these were knocked down during the morning while water was  
poured on the burning debris for the balance of the day and  
part of Sunday.

We obtained temporary quarters in the North Side  
Water Works offices until we found rooms in the Bon Durant  
Building where we have quarters of sufficient size to take  
care of our present needs, but will be too small for our  
purposes when we get furniture and equipment to build up  
the office again.

We are now working with a few pieces of borrowed

furniture and no records. We need copies of decrees probably more than any one thing. These will be difficult but not impossible to replace. Concerning the records, most are duplicated and copies are on file in the Denver office. An index of decrees or copy of card index would be of great help until the decrees can be replaced.

We will be accumulating records and will need book cases and files for their preservation. We also need a typewriter and adding machine very badly to take care of the normal business. Desks, table and chairs are also needed together with the necessary small items to round out our office equipment.

We continue in the drought period which has prevailed with for the last three years/ the soil becoming more dry and the reservoir storage water less and less. Precipitation entirely inadequate for our normal needs and ground water lower and lower. There were only a few days of storage for any reservoir last winter and none for the later ones. All being very low and some dry to begin the season, we had a small storage supply for this year's use.

Snowfall at the headwaters was not good and run-off was much below normal. A cool spring retarded the snow melt and no rain helped. A warm dry June caused the run-off from the snow to end earlier than usual. During the summer we had only a few rains which caused much run-off in the form of floods and they were not of general distribution.

Good use was made of the small quantities of storage water and crops were surprisingly good where available water

was not spread over too much acreage. Prices remained good in most instances and returns should be fair to good.

The John Martin Reservoir was turned out for ditches in District No. 67 April first and declared dry at 2:30 P. M. April 18th having run out about 20,500 acre feet they had in storage on April 1, 1953. There were two times they had enough water entering the reservoir from floods of the Purgatoire River to take over the administration for a short time. The reservoir went into the storage season Nov. 1, 1953 with no water and a demand for 100 second feet of domestic water which could not be furnished from the low river flow. The prospects for winter storage is very poor in this as well as all other reservoirs in the Division.

The storage on Nov. 1, 1953 is at a new low again this year with only 52,228 acre feet of which 17,849 acre feet is for <sup>municiple</sup> manufacturing and power leaving only 34,439 acre feet for irrigation of which 9972 acre feet, approximately 30% is in Two Buttes Reservoir, which is too low on the river to be of any use along the main stream. The 34,439 acre feet is about 3.0 % of total capacity of reservoirs as against 4.2 % in storage last year.

Precipitation at Pueblo was 8.30 inches or about 72 % of normal. 7.03 inches of this falling during the five growing months of April to August inclusive.

Precipitation at Caddoa was inches.

Precipitation at Las Animas was inches

Small damage from hail was reported this year.

Litigation concerning the Beaver Park Company was

was still continuing as of last year. The court injunction in effect preventing water officials from interfering with their storing and using all available water.

Trans-mountain diversions amounted to 49,016 acre feet or about 77.5 per cent of last year's production.

Total diversions of canals and ditches were 1,533,264 acre feet which served 479,362 acres or about 3.2 acre feet per acre irrigated.

Another Hydrographer in this Division is badly needed especially during the periods when it is necessary to pass water to District 67 and it is hoped one can be assigned to this Division before the coming season.

Cooperation was splendid between water users and officials, which is very commendable during such trying times.

Tabulations of reservoir contents, trans-mountain diversions and summary of Water Commissioner's reports of ditches are attached.

With many thanks for the cooperation of the Denver office force, I am,

Respectfully submitted,



Division Engineer  
Irrigation Division No. 2.

CONTENTS OF MAJOR RESERVOIRS IN IRRIGATION DIVISION No. 2.  
 Dec. 1, 1952 to Nov. 1, 1953 Values in acre feet

	Dec. 1,	Jan. 1,	Feb. 1,	Mar. 1,	Apr. 1,	May 1,	Jun. 1,	July 1,	Aug. 1,	Sept 1,	Oct. 1,	Nov. 1
Fountain Valley #2	295	606	1244	1622	1622	1685	1622	1075	391	239	225	164
Fountain Valley #3	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	36	36	29	27	41
Callahan	47	47	64	64	55	47	47	47	47	47	47	47
Monument	202	202	210	214	266	210	219	216	235	216	210	220
Sugar Loaf	5094	5238	5403	5403	5490	5382	6385	10958	10853	8349	5839	5251
Twin Lakes	23877	24719	25277	25027	25162	25912	22147	34808	27237	21678	13176	13092
Clear Creek	320	1301	1856	2102	2156	2046	2347	1705	735	394	711	649
Skagway	* 2382	2522	2580	2690	2402	2333	2314	2128	1826	1640	1517	1429
Mount Pisgah	837	924	959	966	966	966	966	966	966	966	626	626
Brush Hollow	613	698	698	730	1542	2128	2128	1188	603	617	608	608
City of Colo. Spgs*	4701	4607	4478	42000	4022	4126	4173	3859	3554	3427	3044	2776
Deweese-Dye	2198	2994	3837	3874	3837	3550	3787	3377	3297	2701	1786	1706
Teller				233	215	185	203	239	923	E 900	E 694	E 694
Lake Henry		1809	4900	4900	4476	4370	3770	2251	1057			E
Lake Meredith	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beckwith (Hayden)	378	405	417	394	417	378	405	386	375	390	325	308
Minn. C F & I #2&3	11466	10221	11373	12185	11906	11850	12446	11493	12123	12918	10936	12163
Color	948	890	890	902	902	948	948	833	833	833	724	672
Cucharas	0	0	0	0	0	0	412	0	1348	1204	880	169
Huerfano Valley						n 100	108	180	504		57	92
Holita	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Valdez	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dotson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dye	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Holbrook	0	1356	2318	2295	2226	2159	1928	613	112	117	0	0
Horse Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adobe Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seven Lakes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madel	216	216	1208	1300	1056	95	1828	0	1056	1300	0	0
Hermosa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Lake	788	761	647	592	517	499	647	891	897	897	870	809
Monument Lake								Full				E 800
NeenoShe Gronda Sopahl	1323					0		0	0	0	0	0
Neeskah or Queen			2288	2601	2418	2245	8448	0	0	0	0	0
Two Buttes	11894	10607	11536	11536	11250	8321	4388	4426	14234	10036	9972	0
Thurston	0			1535	1288	1288	1312	878	0	0	0	0
John Martin	2287	8715	14195	18303	20398	0	0	1170	0	2547	0	0
Totals	69893	78865	96405	99495	104616	80850	78617	82807	74312	74643	52338	51594
Municiple, Manfg & Power	20285	19001	19968	20569	19749	19756	20528	19204	19233	19715	17091	18649

TRANS-MOUNTAIN DIVERSIONS  
Irrigation Division No. 2.

1953

MONTH	COLUMBINE	EMING	BUSK-IVANHOE	TWIN LAKES TUNNEL	LARKSPUR	WURTZ	TOTALS
	Acre-Feet	Acre-Feet	Acre-Feet	Acre-Feet	Acre-Feet	Acre-Feet	
Nov. 1952	0	0	0	2230	0	0	223
Dec.				234			234
Jan. 1953				257			257
Feb.				215			215
Mar.				215			215
April				239			239
May	0	154	493	3740	0	431	4818
June	906	689	2450	22950	196	1360	28551
July	133	204	1460	8570	21	191	10579
Aug.	4.4	73.4	389	2822	0	22.6	3311.4
Sept	0	0	0	374	0	0	374
Oct.				14.5			14.5
Totals	1043.4	990.4	4792	39853.5	217	2004.6	49030.9
		1120.4					

TABULATION of WATER COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL REPORTS  
For the Irrigation Season of 1953

IRRIGATION DIVISION No. 2.

Dist. Number	First day water was used from natural stream	Last day water was used from natural stream	Number acre feet water used by canals for season	Number acres can be irri-gated	Total acres irrigated. 1953
10	Nov. 1, 1952	Oct. 31, 1953	31,476	13,304	10,139
11	Nov. 1, 1952	Oct. 31, 1953	165,356	E 35,000	30,519
12	Nov. 1, 1952	Oct. 31, 1953	344,422	24,418	17,971
13	Apr. 7, 1953	Sep. 30, 1953	32,963	25,039	23,766
14	Nov. 1, 1952	Oct. 31, 1953	231,337	116,841	107,275
15	Mar. 1, 1953	Oct. 31, 1953	16,779	9,989	5,470
16	Nov. 1, 1952	Oct. 31, 1953	62,566	64,478	41,021
17	Nov. 1, 1952	Oct. 31, 1953	397,462	253,408	158,012
18	Apr. 24, 1953	Aug. 24, 1953	2,970	3,950	2,030
19	Nov. 1, 1952	Oct. 31, 1953	69,790	71,322	11,216
49	May 3, 1953	Oct. 20, 1953	8,095	2,760	1,280
66			680	1,760	230
67	Nov. 1, 1953	Oct. 31, 1953	169,368	105,770	70,433
<hr/>					
Totals			1,533,264	728,039	479,362