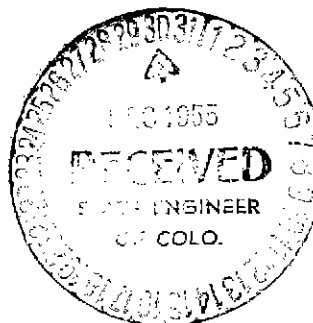


STATE OF COLORADO
IRRIGATION DIVISION NO. 2
PUEBLO

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

Nov. 30, 1955



SUBJECT:

Mr. J. E. Whitten
State Engineer
Capitol Bldg
Denver, Colo.

Dear Sir;

I herewith submit my annual report as Division Engineer of Irrigation Division No. 2 for the year 1955.

This has been a slightly better year for irrigation and crop production than for the past several years even though we started off with very poor prospects and little reservoir water. Snow-fall was again very short with ground water the lowest ever known.

Precipitation in Pueblo was reported to be 14.87 inches for the year and about 9.00 inches at Las Animas. The amounts vary greatly within short distances and an average over the entire valley will probably show somewhere near normal. As an example on May 18th the station at city reservoir shows rainfall of 2.12 inches. About a mile south I observed 4.75 inches and near Rye 11.5 inches of rain was reported for the same period.

During late May we had torrential rains over the lower reaches of the division which caused much damage to highways as well as great damage to headgates and dams. This damage will probably run close to a million dollars to ditch companies alone. The Catlin lost their diversion dam and the Fort Lyon lost their storage canal dam. The Highland Canal and the Nine Mile Canal on the Purgatoire river were both washed out.

The Fort Lyon Canal Co., has let contract for replacement at around \$350,000 and the Catlin bid for replacement is about

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268,000 dollars. The Highland Canal will require about \$102,000 and the Nine Mile repairs will cost around 40,000 dollars. In addition to this the Catlin lost a temporary dam in the August floods. They constructed means to divert through the Otero Canal headgate, at considerable expense, to save their crops.

The Red Top reservoir on Mustang Creek had its dam washed out by the May floods with considerable damage to ranches below. Work was started on replacement during the fall without proper plans being filed and approved by the State Engineer. Work has been ordered stopped until the requirements are complied with. All dam repairs are expected to be completed before next season.

These torrential rains which dumped as much as 11.5 inches in some places within a 24 hour period ran off very rapidly and did the ground water supply very little good except in the river bottoms, but did allow the storage of 244,493 acre feet in John Martin Reservoir. This relieved the river from the burden of district #67 for the balance of the year. This 244,493 acre feet was used down to 132,000 acre feet by Aug. 7th when more floods, mostly in the Purgatoire river drainage, brought the storage back to 152,510 acre feet by Aug. 13th. This was used down to 48,000 feet by Nov. 1st when gates were closed for the winter storage.

The total use of water from storage in John Martin reservoir for the season is reported to be 276,038 acre feet. Kansas used their share of the above 276,038 acre feet delivered at the State Line. The Water Commissioner reports 221,000 acre feet used to irrigate 71,481 acres of land for the whole of District No. 67.

Other than that in May, rainfall was rather scarce until late July. However, August was better and crops which survived until

then finished in good shape. Crops generally were better than last year and the prices were good except for livestock which has dropped considerably. Several severe local storms in August caused considerable damage and filled all stock tanks on the prairie and most of the small out of the way reservoirs, thus reducing the flood waters in the river to the detriment of the junior decrees.

There were only 6,178 acre feet in storage in John Martin reservoir on April 10th when run was started. Run ended April 16th at noon with reservoir empty. The river was administered on decrees until May 19th when there was found to be enough water in the reservoir for the Compact Commission to take charge.

Other reservoirs entered the season in most cases with practically no water. There was no winter storage and only very few days of summer storage from rains in most reservoirs.

Trans-mountain diversions amounted to 43,333 acre feet. Diversions were shut off in late August and were not resumed until late October because of shortage of water for Wester Slope decrees.

Cooperation from most water users is very good considering the shortages. One notable exception is the open violations from the city supply of the town of Beulah. This supply consists of a well along side of Middle Creek which they have found to be inadequate so they have run a perforated pipe out into the creek bed to divert the underflow. Objections were made by decree owners and an attempt was made to shut off the pipe. Great public pressure was brought to bear and even a plea that the school would have to be shut down unless water was supplied. Numerous times the diversion was opened by unknown persons and is still being opened although the water board admit water is not needed from the creek at this time. The

matter was taken up with the District Attorney and no help could be obtained.

The Beaver Park injunction is still in effect and nothing has been done to reach a conclusion.

Suit was filed to force the diversion of water from Macy Creek to furnish decrees on North Macy Creek in District 13 but no hearing has been had.

A temporary injunction was issued to allow an undecreed ditch to divert water from a seepage spring, tributary to Texas Creek, in District No. 13. Upon hearing before the court this injunction was dissolved.

Irrigated acreage amounted to 507,470 with the use of 1,483,500 acre feet of water or 2.7 acre feet per acre of land.

Another Hydrographer is badly needed at all times but especially during the periods of passing water by La Junta for District No. 67.

Wells and stock tanks are taking more of our surface supplies as new works are completed. The decreed ditches are slowly waking up to this and will bring concerted action when they are fully aware of the damage being done to their rights.

Tabulations are attached showing Trans-mountain diversions, contents of reservoirs each month and the water used on acreages for each district.

Thanking the Denver office as well as all Water Commissioners and their Deputies for their cooperation during these trying times, I remain,

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. Snyder
Division Engineer, Division No. 2.

TABULATION of WATER COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL REPORTS
 For Irrigation Season of 1955.
 IRRIGATION DIVISION No. 2.

Dist. No.	First day water was used from natural stream	Last day water was used from natural stream	Number of acre. Feet water used by canals for Season	Total number Acres irrigated 1955
10	Nov. 1, 1954	Oct. 31, 1955	21,785	10,789
11	Mar. 14, 1955	Oct. 15, 1955	140,344	24,942
12	Nov. 1, 1954	Oct. 31, 1955	315,929	20,030
13	Apr. 9, 1955	Oct. 31, 1955	33,080	18,934
14	Nov. 1, 1954	Oct. 31, 1955	207,706	108,374
15	Nov. 1, 1954	Oct. 31, 1955	23,947	5,377
16	Nov. 1, 1954	Oct. 31, 1955	73,199	50,847
17	Nov. 1, 1954	Oct. 31, 1955	334,240	158,231
18	Apr. 14, 1955	Sept 30, 1955	14,535	6,425
19	Nov. 1, 1954	Oct. 31, 1955	88,663	28,761
49	Apr. 11, 1955	Oct. 31, 1955	8,240	2,985
66	Jan. 2, 1955	Sep. 10, 1955	841	294
67	Nov. 1, 1954	Oct. 31, 1955	220,991	71,481
Totals			1,483,500	507,470

TRANS-MOUNTAIN DIVERSIONS
Irrigation Division No. 2.
1955.

Month	COLUMBINE	EMING	WURTZ	BUSK-IVANHOE TUNNEL	TWIN LAKES TUNNEL	LARKSPUR	TOTALS	CARLTON TUNNEL
Nov. 1954					460		460	47
Dec. 1954					90		90	520
Jan. 1955					82		82	738
Feb.					56		56	707
March					63		63	770
April				134	500		634	731
May	409	210	577	1250	7770	10	10226	752
June	564	165	589	2170	16120	4	19612	700
July	89	42	142	1070	5820		7163	695
Aug.	78	0	49	269	2730		3126	708
Sept.	0	0	0	202	82		284	643
Oct.							0	574
Totals	1140	417	1357	5095	33773	14	41796	7585

All quantities are in acre feet

CONTENTS OF MAJOR RESERVOIRS in IRRIGATION DIVISION No. 2.
Dec. 1, 1954 to Nov. 1, 1955 Values in Acre Feet.

	Dec. 1,	Jan. 1,	Feb. 1,	Mar. 1,	Apr. 1,	May 1,	June 1,	July 1,	Aug. 1,	Sept 1,	Oct. 1,	Nov. 1,
Fountain Valley #2	405	31318	376	354	276	225	1024	1075	222	426	552	332
Fountain Valley #3	27	27	34	27	26	27	27	27	27	36	32	27
Callahan	47	47	47	47	47	47	64	64	47	47	47	47
Monument	193	196	196	186	210	231	429	225	222	225	219	219
Sugar Loaf	5356	5290	5271	5304	5127	5074	8862	11399	8175	6974	6904	6834
Twin Lakes	13388	13511	13616	13739	13722	14056	26685	34744	27014	16855	15591	15680
Clear Creek	523	808	1181	1608	2038	2102	4259	4878	4528	4586	4403	4323
Skaguay	1303	1303	1303	1303	1303	1303	1609	2776	2743	2852	2669	2247
Mt. Pisgah	605	605	605	605	605	605	863	863	863	1000	1000	1000
Brush Hollow	538	538	538	538	589	735	1431	1431	1203	1456	1456	1632
City of Colo Spgs	* 1274	1241	1176	1081	974	938	1367	2472	2868	3520	4197	4373
Deweese-Dye	0	0	0	0	0	0	1835	1613	751	751	303	308
Teller	0	0	0	0	0	0	1494	1386	1634	1621	1550	1482
Lake Henry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Meredith	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beckwith (Hayden)	86	74	70	62	55	43	502	759	672	629	539	493
Mtn. CR&I#2&3	*12491	12057	10511	10691	12105	12263	11858	12062	11399	12113	11805	11505
Coler	0	0	0	0	0	0	1194	2105	1990	2071	1838	1800
Cucharas	0	0	0	0	0	0	19600	17940	13520	15254	14132	13520
Huerfano Valley	0	0	0	0	0	0	1207	1100	971	1260	1054	971
Holita	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	111	67	67	67	37
Dotson	0	0	0	0	805	1481	1945	1587	1436	1945	1832	1737
Dye	0	0	0	0	0	0	1271	961	306	0	0	0
Holbrook	0	0	0	0	0	0	4290	3204	1865	223	129	0
Horse Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4411	578	0
Adobe Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seven Lakes	0	598	664	1208	0	2897	4333	3920	0	2112	1828	1069
Model	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1300	0
Hermosa	0	870	870	870	803	875	897	897	897	897	897	897
North Lake	* 870	870	870	858	803	875	897	897	897	897	897	897
Monument Lake	* 953	953	810	810	777	777	1746	1948	1948	1948	1948	1948
Nee No Shee, Nee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gronda & Sopha	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nee Skah, or Queen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Two Buttes	9900	9718	9000	8893	8829	8639	36024	36387	30744	33663	10036	9909
Thurston	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
John Martin	0	375	2729	4902	6045	0	243870	221575	148134	119712	66339	49670
Totals	47006	48529	48997	52216	54336	49421	378686	366915	263954	236654	151695	133288
Mun. Mfng & Power	16891	16424	14670	14743	15962	16156	18671	22260	21845	23401	24324	22770
Irrigation	30115	32105	34327	37473	38374	36162	360005	344655	242109	213253	127371	110518