

STATE OF COLORADO  
IRRIGATION DIVISION NO. 2  
PUEBLO

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

Nov. 30, 1957



SUBJECT:

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

Dear Sir;

I herewith submit my report as Division Engineer of Division No. 2 for the year of 1957.

A very welcome change in the water supply has occurred for the first time in five years with an adequate supply for all irrigated sections. Water supply changed from fair to excellent during April and May when the snowpack increased up to 300 per cent of normal and rains drenched the lower reaches. Stream flow through Pueblo for the year was more than twice the normal amount, three times last year's amount and just a little higher than the two previous high years on record.

Cool temperatures during the snow melt period resulted in delayed run-off and relatively low peak flows made for an extremely favorable distribution over a longer period of time. Rainfall in the irrigated areas cut the demand during the summer. Storage in reservoirs increased from 60,293 acre feet to the present favorable carry-over as of Nov. 1st of 494,324 acre feet. Practically all reservoirs in the Division are full or approximately filled.

Due to the moisture content of the ground, with a normal snowfall and full reservoirs, the outlook for the season of 1958 is for all reservoirs to top out before the peak flow and great damage from flood waters may be experienced all the way to John Martin Reservoir. John Martin reservoir stands a very good chance of filling to the flood stage for the first time.

Precipitation for Pueblo amounted to 21.21 inches which is just about twice the average and a little over three times last year's. This high precipitation condition will probably hold true for the entire Division.

Due to heavy rains which started on May 15th at 5 A. M. storage was allowed in all reservoirs by 2 P. M. May 15th and was continued to Aug. 21st., before it was necessary to make a river call.

John Martin Reservoir started the season April 1st with 3,892 acre feet in storage. Storage was continued until April 13, to 11,855 acre feet when runs were started. Reservoir was declared dry at 7 A. M. April 22nd. On May 16, at 7 A. M. gates were closed and storage was continued until August 7, to a total of 290,744 acre feet at which time runs exceeded inflow. The contents were reduced by excess runs over inflow to 220,053 acre feet on Nov. 1st when gates were closed for winter storage.

The law suit of the Beaver Park Company remains in the same status as last year, nothing having been done by the court. However, the subject has been in question before the Arkansas Valley Ditch Association almost every meeting.

On Nov. 27, 1956, the DeWeese Dye Reservoir gates were illegally closed and storage started. This was found by the Water Commissioner of District No. 13 on Nov. 30th., and orders were issued to pass the water to senior decrees. This they refused to do until the matter was appealed to the Division Engineer and later to the State Engineer. On Jan. 7, 1957, I received notification that a restraining order by the court had been issued against our interfering with the storage water in the reservoir. A hearing was held Jan. 9, 1957, and on the request of the attorney for the Arkansas Valley Ditch Association the restraining order was dissolved. Gates were opened by the company Jan. 11, 1957, and the reservoir was dry Jan. 19th.

Investigations of the above case brought out the fact that certain decrees transferred by the court as listed by former water officials were in fact in error. There were certain duplications which gave transfers that were never decreed originally. Then there were decrees that were

supposedly transferred from waters decreed to contents of those ditches which was found to be out of the water originally decreed to the ditches and not additional water. This cut their decrees down by 3.57 sec. ft. as formerly allowed. They have protested this to both the Division Engineer and the State Engineer and have now applied to the court for a determination of interpretation of the transfer decrees.

On May 14, 1957, they demanded 1.22 sec. ft. of water in addition to that allowed by the Commissioner which was denied on May 22nd. On July 5th an appeal was made to the Division Engineer which was denied on July 10th. The appeal dated July 15, 1957, was then taken to the State Engineer who upheld the decision of the Division Engineer. They have now made an appeal to the court for 1.22 sec. ft. of water under their transfer decrees and seemingly are not contesting the 2.35 sec. ft. consisting of the duplications in their decrees as transferred.

Appeal was made to the State Engineer of the Division Engineer's ruling on diverting water from Macy Creek to North Macy Creek in Custer County, District No. 13, to fill decrees on North Macy Creek. A hearing was held July 29th in the State Engineer's office which was continued until Sept. 12th for a field investigation. The State Engineer, Assistant Attorney General and several other interested parties made this trip. No decision has yet been rendered.

Irrigated acreage has risen from 490,000 acres last year to 507,303 acres this year, using 2,307,940 acre feet of water or 4.55 acre feet per acre.

Trans-mountain water diverted from the Western Slope amounted to 44,936 acre feet. Considerable more could have been obtained if storage space had been available.

The total available supply of water was 2,741,349 acre feet being made up of the 2,307,940 acre feet used plus the 434,031 acre feet stored.

Crop production was greater than for many years due to the abundant water supply. Prices were good but are lowering. Considerable difficulty was experienced during the fall by excess ground moisture and fall rains retarding the harvesting of crops. Sugar beet tonage was up, as also was the sugar content, but many beets may be caught in the ground by a severe freeze.

Since wells and pumps were not much used or needed, the water table was allowed to recover. Stock ponds were all filled and in most cases remain full.

Tabulations are attached showing the trans-mountain diversions, reservoir contents each month and water used for each district.

Thanking all water officials and especially those in the Denver office for their splendid cooperation, I am,

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. C. Snyder".

Division Engineer, Division No. 2.

CONTENTS of MAJOR RESERVOIRS in IRRIGATION DIVISION No. 2.  
 Dec. 1, 1956 to Nov. 1, 1957 Values in Acre Feet.

	Dec. 1, 1956	Jan. 1, 1957	Feb. 1, 1957	Mar. 1, 1957	Apr. 1, 1957	May 1, 1957	June 1, 1957	July 1, 1957	Aug. 1, 1957	Sept. 1, 1957	Oct. 1, 1957	Nov. 1, 1957
Fountain Valley #2	376	569	1180	1521	1685	2404	3557	5373	4898	5076	5046	5135
Fountain Valley #3	8	9	8	3	3	8	71	137	223	218	161	209
Gallahan	15	15	15	3	3	15	702	702	702	599	599	599
Monument Reservoir	247	244	250	235	241	225	395	316	247	279	225	169
Sugar Loaf	4976	4976	4976	5140	5041	4453	3038	17344	17416	17514	16601	15192
Twin Lakes	8388	8138	8456	8282	8372	9050	14336	54267	54198	44919	38281	35976
Clear Creek	5462	5486	5435	5433	5430	5397	6270	11444	11232	11104	11006	10914
Mount Pisgah	363	363	363	363	363	363	1643	2471	2471	2471	2471	2471
Skagway	309	309	309	309	309	309	2864	2864	2864	2864	2864	2637
Brush Hollow	1333	1313	1333	1333	1431	2293	3471	3070	2664	2528	2988	3167
City of Colo. Spgs.	2380	2202	2096	1985	1093	2034	2966	5869	6076	6121	5781	6003
DeWeese-Dye	64	176	0	0	0	0	3862	4322	4322	4382	4105	3887
Teller	0	0	0	719	0	0	1862	1862	2653	2653	2477	2311
Lake Henry	0	0	0	0	0	746	6541	9158	9158	9158	0	6318
Lake Meredith	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3267
Beckwith (Hayden)	255	278	274	262	215	506	939	939	939	939	939	939
Minn C Rd #2 & #3	11837	12117	11343	11820	12104	12232	12196	12110	12276	12060	10790	10988
Color	822	811	779	724	724	1325	2673	2786	2786	2786	2597	2692
Cuchares	955	928	676	580	561	772	9820	22520	22520	22520	21050	20000
Huerfano Valley	0	0	0	0	0	158	2297	2297	2112	1618	1476	1365
Holiba	0	0	0	0	0	0	432	432	432	426	305	100
Dotson	0	0	0	0	0	0	2164	1945	1945	1945	1850	2033
Dye	0	0	0	0	0	0	3697	3394	3947	3524	3356	3319
Holbrook No.	0	0	0	0	0	0	5238	5741	5720	5370	5021	5114
Horse Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	10824	25658	24975	25026	23456	21688
Adobe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	51118	66386	64478	61464	66646
Seven Lakes	0	0	664	860	664	279	2191	6201	6201	6201	4533	622
Model	0	578	531	485	439	664	6201	897	897	897	156	4333
North Lake	582	1616	1674	1674	1585	1674	1948	1948	1948	1948	1948	160
Manument Lake	1616	1616	1674	1674	1585	1674	1948	1948	1948	1948	1948	1948
Nee No Shee, Nee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gronde & Sophia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1657	1321	1321
Nee Skah (or Queen)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14180	10876	13874
Two Buttes	18971	13533	18423	18095	17985	20083	23928	24435	20083	14180	10876	15874
Hurstston	0	0	0	0	0	960	1407	1599	2271	1664	1065	960
John Martin	0	647	1854	2982	3804	0	50744	133577	282276	250250	225098	220143
Totals	59459	59808	61139	63308	62552	67092	189174	431423	592063	536228	489370	494324
Wm. Wnfg & Power	23508	23619	22667	22930	22184	24113	29814	37918	38079	37780	35065	35342
Irrigation	35951	36189	38472	40378	40368	42979	159360	393505	553984	498448	454305	458982

TRANS-MOUNTAIN DIVERSIONS  
Irrigation Division No. 2.

1957

Month	COLUMBINE	EWING	WURTZ	BUSK-IVANHOE TUNNEL	TWIN LAKES TUNNEL	LARKSPUR	TOTALS.
Nov. 1956						206	206
Dec.						68	68
Jan. 1957						92	92
Feb.						56	56
Mar.						72	72
April						86	86
May		44	45	58	1310		1457
June	466	594	1380	2286	14338		19064
July	617	479	962	2864	10604		15526
Aug.	34	120	212	292	5470		6128
Sept.		105	22		1377		1504
Oct.		25			652		677
Totals	1117	1367	2621	5500	34331		44936

In acre feet.

Some of the above credits were lost for lack of storage space  
Considerable more could have been run if space in storage  
had been available.

TABULATION of WATER COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL REPORTS  
For Irrigation Season of 1957.

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 1957.
10	Nov. 1, 1956	Oct. 31, 1957	42,594	10,491
11	Mar. 1, 1957	Oct. 31, 1957	173,988	25,615
12	Nov. 1, 1956	Oct. 31, 1957	332,861	20,903
13	April 1, 1957	Oct. 31, 1957	72,475	21,268
14	Nov. 1, 1956	Oct. 31, 1957	354,657	104,382
15	Nov. 1, 1956	Oct. 31, 1957	32,884	5,249
16	Nov. 1, 1956	Oct. 31, 1957	107,076	49,001
17	Nov. 1, 1956	Oct. 31, 1957	831,839	158,161
18	Feb. 4, 1957	Oct. 31, 1957	18,069	5,590
19	Nov. 1, 1956	Oct. 31, 1957	114,769	31,956
49	Jun. 17 1957	Oct. 9, 1957	3,114	2,245
66	Jan 20, 1957	Oct. 28, 1957	1,916	560
67	Nov. 1, 1956	Oct. 31, 1957	216,698	71,882
Totals			2,307,940	507,303