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**DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES**

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February 24, 1994

Mr. Hal Simpson  
State Engineer  
Division of Water Resources  
Room 818  
1313 Sherman Street  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Hal:

On behalf of the staff of Division III, I submit herein the Annual Report for 1993.

I would like to express special thanks to the Division III staff as well as you and your staff for the help and support in fulfilling the various responsibilities of water administration in our division.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven E. Vandiver  
Division Engineer  
Division III

Robert M. Plaska  
Assistant Division Engineer  
Division III

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1993

ANNUAL REPORT

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

DIVISION III

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# STATE OF COLORADO

## DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES WATER DIVISION THREE

Office of the State Engineer  
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*Insert in  
Ann  
Reports  
Div 3  
Dm 5*

DATE: May 19, 1994  
TO: Jody Grantham  
FROM: Bob Plaska, Assistant Division Engineer  
Division III  
SUBJECT: Diversion Data for Irrigation Year 1993

Listed below are the Division III diversion numbers for IY1993 broken down by the categories you requested.

Irrigation	1,389,447 AF
Storage	145,899 AF
Stock	997 AF
Municipal	8,219 AF
Domestic	4,794 AF
Industrial	322 AF
Commercial	1,953 AF
Recreation	686 AF
Recharge	14,393 AF
Wildlife	9,821 AF
Other	39,393 AF
Augmentation	6,345 AF
TOTAL IRRIGATED ACRES	566,540 AF

RP:jb/BOB:divdata.94

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## I. WATER ADMINISTRATION

The Rio Grande Basin in Division III experienced a mixed bag for runoff in 1993. The Sangre de Cristo and south San Juan ranges produced much above normal flows while the northern San Juan range produced a near normal runoff. Poorly timed precipitation events in August and September provided a difficult harvest season for the entire valley. Precipitation in August set a new monthly record for the period of record in Alamosa of 5.40 inches. The year started out with an above average forecast runoff for the Rio Grande and Conejos but extremely low precipitation in June and July caused very low flows during July and early August. The 1993 runoff provided a situation wherein all water rights were in priority for a short period of time in the early spring on most streams for the first time in many years. Concurrent to that event the Compact delivery obligations were being met on both the Rio Grande and the Conejos River. Considerable reservoir storage was accomplished during that period which was available to the owners throughout the rest of the summer and provided much above normal storage carryover in the reservoirs valley wide. The Rio Grande Compact obligation was met for 1993.

### A. Current Water Year - 1993

#### 1. Accomplishments

##### a. Water Administration

Colorado's obligation under the Rio Grande Compact was met in 1993 by curtailment of decreed water rights, Closed Basin Project deliveries, return flows and winter flows on both the Conejos and the Rio Grande. The Rio Grande did not experience any

curtailment of diversions of decreed water rights during the entire irrigation season nor the months of November and December. Precipitation events as well as runoff provided deliveries into the Rio Grande Project storage in Elephant Butte and Caballo reservoirs in New Mexico in excess of the releases and they remained quite full throughout the year. In fact, storage in those reservoirs on 12/31/1993 totaled 2,108,000 acre feet. It appears that Colorado and New Mexico have over-delivered their obligations for 1993 and both should have an accrued credit to start 1994 (see II, paragraph f, for the Rio Grande Compact performance summary for Colorado for 1993).

Calls for water rights on the Conejos River were honored beginning on April 19, 1993 and March 30, 1993 on the Rio Grande. No curtailments of flows were necessary for Compact purposes on either river throughout most of the runoff season. The Conejos curtailment was not necessary until July 11, 1993 and then it varied depending upon the situation throughout the rest of the summer. On September 16, 1993 no Compact curtailment was required on the Conejos from then to the end of the year. On the Rio Grande no Compact curtailment was necessary throughout the entire season and early winter months. A summary of the curtailments can be found under the portion of this report II, paragraph f.

On April 28, 1993 the Rio Grande Water Conservation District Allocation Committee made their initial decision for the allocation of the yield of the Closed Basin Project. A 60/40 Rio Grande-Conejos allocation was agreed to by the Committee. That

allocation remained in effect until July 14, 1993 when the Rio Grande members of the Allocation Committee requested that the Project production be reduced since the Rio Grande no longer needed contribution from the Closed Basin Project to meet their annual obligation. At that time the Conejos was allocated 100 percent of the remaining Project deliveries which were intentionally reduced by limiting the number of wells pumped during that portion of the year. That 0/100 percent allocation stayed in effect until October 1, 1993 when, after the request of the Conejos, the Allocation Committee agreed to return to the 60/40 split of the Project production for the remainder of 1993. The Project was kept at the reduced levels of production until mid-November when the production rate was gradually increased until by the end of December approximately 60 cfs was being delivered to the Rio Grande. This operation was done to ensure that the Project could produce reasonable amounts at the beginning of 1994. The variable allocation throughout 1993 resulted in a split of the Closed Basin Project production of approximately 54 percent Rio Grande/46 percent Conejos for the calendar year.

Because of the large amount of tributary inflow and return flows below Alamosa the Rio Grande system was administered to prevent appreciable flows from going beyond the ditches below Alamosa since no Compact delivery was required other than those flows. This was done with some success during the year but raised a difficult problem in trying to administer senior rights on the lower end of the river and fine tune our deliveries with those

return flows and tributary inflows. Several inadvertent shortages as well as operational bypasses were seen on the lower end of the river during early summer, and adjustments had to be continually made to achieve proper administration of the senior rights on the lower end of the river. The bypasses of water occurred because of both man-made and natural fluctuation in the river, and instances when several ditches turned down water they were entitled to when others couldn't pick it up. This is the second year in a row that the shortage/bypass problem has occurred and because of the many different administrative concerns on the river it is quite difficult to smooth the flows in the lower reaches to achieve maximum efficiency. Both administrators and water right users along the river continue to work on this problem recognizing that as the Closed Basin Project comes on line we will see more and more of this type of condition.

At the end of the season the winter recharge decree was honored because of our status on Compact deliveries on the Rio Grande and all six ditches used water after November 1, 1993. Despite the relatively warm November and December period approximately 10,457 acre feet of water was delivered to the recharge ditches under their decree. This operation is felt to be a very important effort to stabilize the aquifer systems in the San Luis Valley and to increase aquifer storage at the end of the year after the draft from irrigation wells has been completed. Additional work needs to be done which will allow increased recharge diversions during cold weather periods.



The Closed Basin Project continued to deliver good quality water to the Rio Grande in 1993 which was creditable under the Compact and thus reduced curtailments of direct flow water rights on both the Conejos and the Rio Grande. As the amount of water continued to increase as different stages of the projects were completed it has had a noticeable effect on our administration of the Compact and the amount of water that is deliverable to the ditches. As of this writing all five stages of the Project are complete and operational. Many operational concerns remain over several aspects of the project and as more is learned it will become easier to control. 1994 will be the first full year that the Project can produce as a completed system and we look forward to learning how it can be operated most beneficially. We anticipate that the delivery of water from this Project will have a significant impact on Compact administration and will be of great help to us in minimizing the impact of the Compact on the users in Colorado. As the Project has come on line we have recognized a number of problems that have arisen in the accounting and administration of the water delivered from the Project, but we have been able to successfully address those problems; they have not been of major significance. To date the Compact water quality standards have been quite easily met. We expect the Project can continue to be operated within the prescribed standards and that non-creditable deliveries can be minimized by good operation and maintenance of the facility and monitoring by the different entities involved in its administration. Other purposes of the

Project as provided in the enabling legislation have received major benefits, especially the mitigation of impacted wetlands as described in the mitigation plan for the Project.

Preliminary deliveries during 1993 are as follows:

1,600 acre feet	Blanca Wildlife Habitat Area (800 acre feet of the 1,600 acre feet was delivered by exchange for the DOW)
4,376 acre feet	Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge
31,300 acre feet	to the Rio Grande (all creditable)

Deliveries were also made to San Luis Lake to maintain the 890 surface acres which continues to hold the TDS levels in the lake at an acceptable level. As of the last tests TDS in the lake was approximately 369 ppm down almost 200 ppm from this time last year. This continuing cleanup of San Luis Lake is making it a viable recreational facility and storage vessel for Project water which can be delivered to the Rio Grande when it is needed. During 1993 the Colorado Division of Parks designated this area as a new state park with a campground and recreational facility at San Luis Lake that will take advantage of the permanent pool. Water delivered to and from the lake is as follows:

2,374 acre feet	delivered to San Luis Lake
5,715 acre feet	pumped from San Luis Lake

A considerable amount of natural inflow from Sand and Big Springs Creeks helped freshen the lake and created a need to pump water from the lake through the pumping plant into the conveyance channel. We continue to be involved with both the Bureau of

Reclamation and the Rio Grande Water Conservation District in the operation of the Closed Basin Project and to maximize the benefits therefrom.

Several personnel changes occurred in 1993 which affected the Division III office. Stan Ditmars, whom we had hired on a temporary basis the past two years as a technician, was hired on a permanent basis on August 1, 1993. He was able to immediately be a productive employee because of his previous experience. He works in the hydrographic branch and has become a valuable addition to our office. Bruce Whitehead, Senior Water Resource Engineer who had worked in the Alamosa office since December, 1982, transferred to the Durango office as the Assistant Division Engineer in mid-July of 1993. He left with a considerable amount of expertise and knowledge of the hydrographic program and the San Luis Valley hydrology and is sorely missed. Pat McDermott was hired to fill that vacant position as an Engineer C. He came from former employment with both the cities of Thornton and Aurora public works departments and is going to provide a valuable assistance in water accounting, Compact administration, and hydrographic work because of his previous experience with those two cities. Joe McCann was again hired as a deputy in District 21 on a temporary basis to fill the vacancy there during the runoff. The hiring freeze has finally been lifted and we hope to have that position filled before the 1994 runoff begins. Also, Scott Veneman has assumed new responsibilities for the maintenance and operation of the satellite monitoring system for the southwest quadrant of the state. With

this shift he now does hydrographic work approximately 70% of the time and does repair and maintenance to Sutron equipment approximately 30% of his total time. This will streamline our activities in this area and should provide good service for the Sutron systems to the adjacent divisions, as well as Division III. Craig Cotten has been assigned overall supervision responsibilities for the hydrographic branch.

The contract between the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation and the Division of Water Resources for the rating of measuring structures within the Closed Basin Project was continued in 1993. We were able to hire Stan Ditmars as a permanent employee partially with monies as contemplated under the contract. This will help stabilize our situation with personnel under that contract and provide for better service to the Bureau. We have, of course, used all of our hydrographic staff at one time or another to do the hydrographic work for the ratings of the structures named in the contract.

The administration of augmentation plans in Division III took considerable time and effort in 1993. With shifts in staff assignments and a renewed effort to commit the time and resources to complete an accounting of these plans it was accomplished, particularly in Districts 20 and 22 where most of our augmentation plans are decreed. A concerted effort was made to address the provisions of each plan. Perry Alspaugh took special interest in this area and for the first time we have a comprehensive accounting of the water involved in each of the District 20 plans. Sincere

appreciation goes out to the Commissioners in both those Districts for their efforts in this area.

Platoro Reservoir on the Conejos River was used extensively for reregulation of direct flow rights and for use as a conservation reservoir by the Conejos Water Conservancy District. A portion of the 1993 omnibus bill in Congress finally allowed the conversion of the operation and maintenance to the Conejos Water Conservancy District and the payout of the construction costs of the reservoir. It also provided for minimum flows below the reservoir which may cause some concerns for the Conejos water users. The District was able to fill the reservoir in late June and therefore greatly increased their water supply for 1993 and future years. The District, which is the sponsor for the reservoir, allocated the project water which they deemed available for 1993. The direct flow storage operation is being allowed on an interim basis prior to its decree being granted by the water court. It was readily apparent that water stored under both accounts will, in most years, provide a much more reliable and dependable supply for the users on the Conejos River system. During 1993 approximately 4,150 acre feet of project water was purchased by the ditches on the Conejos and released during the irrigation season. Also fourteen ditches elected to store a portion of their direct flow rights; approximately 6,710 acre feet were released later in the season to those ditches. The releases were down this year because of the much above-normal runoff and precipitation which occurred throughout the year. As the Conejos users expand their

storage potential it will create a completely different water supply system on the Conejos than has been historically available for the water right holders there. A total of twenty-eight ditches received either project or direct flow storage or both in 1993. Water court case, 90CW48, is the District's application for this direct flow storage. It has yet to be heard by the water court, but we expect that to be done some time in 1994 after the District's operational model is completed by consultants for the District.

Water court activity decreased during 1993 as far as the number of cases filed in the Division III water court. Forty-three cases were filed which involved 109 structures. Forty-eight cases were terminated in 1993 involving 233 structures. No major cases were litigated but oral arguments and briefing were completed in the AWDI case (86CW46) on appeal with the Colorado Supreme Court. We are awaiting a final decision in the case. A complete summary of water court activity is contained in II,D later in this report. In that summary is a spreadsheet of historic water court data which provides information for water court activity in all seven Divisions.

b. Dam Safety

Dam safety inspections in Division III were conducted by Frank Kugel, the Dam Safety Field Engineer shared with Division VII. Three dams were repaired resulting in one restriction listed and another avoided. Twenty-eight dams were inspected by the Field Engineer and six inspected by the Water

Commissioners, including two Class II dams. Of the twenty-seven engineer inspections, nine were Class I, twelve were Class II, three were Class III, three were Class IV, and one was nonjurisdictional.

Two dam safety incidents highlighted an otherwise normal dam safety inspection season in Division III. The highest reservoir storage levels in the past seven years produced seepage-related problems at both Rio Grande and Continental Dams. During a routine visit to the 111-foot high Rio Grande Dam, debris flows were observed on the left abutment 25-90 feet downstream of the left embankment groin. These flows were in an area over-steepened during a previous repair project. Storage in the reservoir was restricted until repairs were completed. Repairs consisted of the installation of horizontal and French drains in the abutment, construction of a rockfill stability berm, and improvements to the seepage monitoring system.

The second dam safety incident occurred at Continental Dam, where seepage exited high on this 92-foot high embankment. Repairs completed in 1988 were designed to intercept the historic seepage path through the left abutment contact. Instead, seepage flows were observed entering the reservoir bank at the upstream edge of the liner system. This seepage then passed through the left abutment, underneath the left groin drain, and reappeared on the downstream slope forty-two feet below the dam crest. The owners and their engineer performed very close monitoring during this period to determine the mechanism of seepage

in order to develop a prudent repair plan.

c. Hydrographic Program

DUTIES

The hydrographic branch in Division III has the responsibility of monitoring and recording the streamflows in the San Luis Valley of Colorado. This includes the Rio Grande and Conejos River and their tributaries, along with those streams tributary to the Closed Basin. The branch operates and maintains forty-six gaging stations in and around the valley, as well as administering eight transmountain diversions that bring water into the valley from other basins. Thirty-five of these stations are equipped with satellite monitoring equipment that relay information to our office every four hours. A water year record (October 1 through September 30) of daily flows is developed for forty-one stations. The other thirteen stations are used as administrative stations. In addition to the water year record, a calendar year record is developed for eleven stations.

Seven of the stations operated by the branch are Rio Grande Compact stations. The Rio Grande Compact governs the apportionment of Rio Grande flows to Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas. These seven Compact stations are operated under Compact guidelines and are used to determine the amount of Rio Grande and Conejos River flow that Colorado is entitled to and how much is delivered to the stateline to meet our obligation. The Closed Basin Project outfall is also calculated to determine the contribution from the Project to the Lobatos flow.



### CLOSED BASIN

The hydrographic branch is involved in a cooperative agreement between the United States Bureau of Reclamation and the Colorado Division of Water Resources regarding the Closed Basin Project. The Project consists of well fields and pipelines connected to a forty-two mile long canal. This canal runs adjacent to two lakes and through several wildlife areas and finally into the Rio Grande. The canal takes water from the Closed Basin area of the valley, delivers some to the lakes and wildlife areas, and delivers the majority of the water to the Rio Grande. It is the responsibility of the hydrographic branch to measure flows and collect data at eleven sites throughout the Project and to then forward information to several entities. The hydrographers also make recommendations in the operation of the Project and are consulted on certain areas of concern within the Project.

### CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The hydrographers have been involved in many construction projects this past year. A new gaging station was constructed on the Rio Grande at the Alamosa-Rio Grande County Line. The hydros were involved in the design of a new administrative station on Sangre de Cristo Creek this past summer. Hydros also installed satellite systems at three sites and a datalogger system at one site this year. In addition, many sites have been rehabilitated recently. The Rio Grande near Lobatos gaging station was plated with steel to deter vandalism and the cable on the cableway at this site was replaced. The Los Pinos

near Ortiz cableway was replaced, and one side of the Rio Grande at South Fork cableway was replaced. Also, materials have been purchased and plans made to repair two cableways and ten gaging station roofs in the coming year.

d. Ground Water and Well Permitting

1993 was a busy year for the ground water section in Division III. Over 360 permit applications were processed through our office using the division pre-review procedures which were established over a year ago. This program has been a true success as the time taken to issue an average permit has been cut by over fifty percent.

Additionally, ninety-two field inspections were accomplished. Some of these inspections were for enforcement actions which were brought either by the Division III office or by the Denver office. Due to these inspections, two well drilling licenses were suspended and one irrigation well was ordered plugged and abandoned.

In a continuing effort to better understand the geology and stratigraphy of the San Luis Valley, three more wells were geologically logged by Well Commissioner Dennis Felmlee.

Commissioner Felmlee and engineer, Pat McDermott, have undertaken an extensive review of ground water irrigation practices on selected parcels which have not been irrigated in many years. We expect to see various enforcement actions because of these investigations.

e. Water Records and Information

The completion of the 1993 diversion records was, as always, a major accomplishment which closed out the year. This year the records for all but one district were entered on computers located in Water Commissioners homes or offices. This decentralization of the data entry helped to ease congestion in the Division III office and increased the efficiency of the Commissioners by eliminating a lot of computing time.

The number of records continues to increase each year which reflects an effort to report more structures and to try to provide more concise records for the more complicated administrative situations. The Water Commissioners for the entire Division are to be complimented for an outstanding job of producing as complete a set of diversion records as has ever been published by Division III. The challenge in the future will be to continue to increase our level of reporting within the constraints of the available resources.

f. Special Projects

All of the protests to the 1990 abandonment list were handled by the Water Court during 1993. The abandonment decree which concluded not only the protested cases but the other unprotested cases were signed by the Judge midyear and that issue is behind us for another decade.

The Omnibus Bill that was passed by the U. S. Congress in 1993 finally transferred the operation and maintenance responsibilities of Platoro to the Water Conservancy District.

Work continues on a planning model being done by a consulting engineer for the District as well as the transfer and installation of equipment that will allow for remote operation of the reservoir from the District's office in Manassa. The Division III office has been intimately involved in the rule making for the operation of the reservoir within the District and offered input into the construction of the model by the consulting engineers. We continue to be involved in the Conejos' augmentation plan and appropriative right of substitution cases that are before the water court, to help complete the tools necessary for an effective and efficient operation of the Conejos system.

The Division III office is continuing to stay involved with other state and federal resource agencies in an attempt to educate them as to Colorado water law. We have met with several federal agencies this past year and have several others scheduled for 1994. All water conservancy district, water conservation district, as well as most water user meetings are attended by water resources personnel.

The training program has continued to work well for the employees of the Division III office of the Division of Water Resources. On several occasions portions of the staff have been involved in training and have felt like this is a very productive and important of their career training. Primary emphasis has been on their personal skills, computer training, as well as some cross training in the Denver office and elsewhere. We believe the program is essential to the agency for long term health.

Division III staff continues to be involved in the development of recharge projects around the San Luis Valley. The San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, the Rio Grande Water Conservation District and several ditch companies have become involved in formal projects to construct recharge facilities to enable them to more efficiently deliver ditch water into the aquifers for use by wells at a later time. We have participated in the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District Plan by providing assistance, funds, and help with installation of Parshall flumes and data loggers for monitoring the aquifers as the recharge project is operated. A substantial amount of water was delivered to at least two formal recharge areas. We continue to work with ditch companies to maximize the amount of water that can be recharged to the aquifers when time and water allows. SB200 funds have been used to purchase some of the monitoring equipment so that we can better understand the aquifer systems.

The Division Engineer for Division III continues to be the Engineer Advisor to the Colorado Rio Grande Compact Commissioner. He has been heavily involved in a number of issues throughout the Compact reach of the Rio Grande in an attempt to protect Colorado's interests under the Rio Grande Compact. Particular issues include the effect of the Endangered Species Act and recreational interests constantly wanting additional water from Colorado to enhance the rafting flows through the Rio Grande canyon. At least two endangered species will be designated by final rule in 1994 on the Rio Grande in New Mexico, and we've yet to determine what impacts

that will have on Colorado, the Rio Grande Compact and water supplies in the San Luis Valley. There are a number of ways this could impact Colorado. An additional duty which the Engineer Advisor has been involved in is the DesignWright's task force to address the possibility of ecosystem management for the Rio Grande Basin. This was an attempt to identify different types of management scenarios which might allow for additional uses or to enhance certain aspects of the river system. We feel this was a good opportunity to address Colorado's interest under the Rio Grande Compact, but wanted to be involved in any attempt to enhance other aspects of the use of the river.

The staff from Division III has been involved in the National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) program with the U.S.G.S. Both Bob Plaska and Steve Vandiver are involved in the Liaison Committee which advises the U.S.G.S. as to how the program can proceed in a productive way. Water quality sampling took place during 1993 both from surface and ground water sources. The initial data collection has been completed as of this date, and we understand the report is being drafted as to this "snap shot" of Colorado's water quality in the Rio Grande Basin.

And lastly the Division Engineer has spent time trying to develop a process for a comprehensive accounting of ground water diversions in the Rio Grande Basin. Historically, very little information has been available which would provide an accounting of ground water withdrawals. We are attempting to formulate a program to try to initiate some ground water monitoring. Some water users

have been skeptical of this process, but we feel like the importance of this issue can be conveyed to the water users wherein they might take an integral part in that process. With two major aquifers providing sources for significant ground water withdrawals it is quite important that we continue to strive toward the goal of a comprehensive ground water diversion accounting.

Two awards were given at the 1993 Fall Water Commissioner's meeting to honor those in the water resources arena in the San Luis Valley for their contributions to our operations here. Wayne Williams was chosen as the Water Commissioner of the Year. Wayne is the Water Commissioner in District 35 which covers the Trinchera Creek drainage plus all streams north and west of Fort Garland around Mt. Blanca to the San Dunes area. He has been instrumental over the last several years in changing the operations of District 35 into a much more efficient and comprehensive administrative scheme and is to be complimented for his diligent efforts. Floyd Getz, Manager of the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, was awarded the Manager of the Year award. Floyd is a long time participant in San Luis Valley water issues and has been very helpful to our agency by his innovative and constructive solutions to various problems and concerns. This past year he has been instrumental in getting the District's recharge facility between Del Norte and Center into operation. He has worked very hard with the Rio Grande Canal, the Bureau of Reclamation and the State of Colorado through the Water Conservation Board and the Division of Water Resources to construct, operate and install instrumentation

to provide a good monitoring system for their aquifer recharge plan in that area. He also worked very closely with the District 20 water commissioners in the administration of the District's augmentation plan for small wells within the District.

2. Milestones in Water Issues

We are still awaiting the Supreme Court decision in the AWDI case, 86CW46, which was appealed from the District Court's ruling in 1993. Oral arguments took place May 25, 1993 and final briefing was concluded shortly after that. We continue to look forward to completing that long litigation.

One of the most exciting milestones to occur in 1993 was the completion of the Closed Basin Project. All construction and testing was completed by the spring of 1993 and the construction office of the Bureau of Reclamation closed in September. The office building continues to house the operation staff of the Bureau of Reclamation as well as the Rio Grande Water Conservation District employees. Virtually all wells are operational in the entire project. Several wells are unable to be pumped at their full capacity because of the need to mix different quality water in order to achieve water quality standards provided in the Rio Grande Compact. In 1993 the Project was not pumped at full production throughout the year because of the reduced need by the Rio Grande for their portion of the production. Tributary inflow and return flows provided much of the water to meet the Rio Grande's Compact obligation; therefore, the Project was managed to ensure that it was not pumped when it was unnecessary. The water furnished by



this project will continue to be a very important tool in meeting our Compact obligation as well as provide mitigation for the environmental concerns associated with the Project. We work very closely with the Rio Grande Water Conservation District as well as the Bureau of Reclamation in an attempt to optimize the utilization of that resource to accomplish the Project goals. New demands on this system are being sought by various entities downstream on the Rio Grande, and water interests continue to work with them to try to meet whatever needs are possible without jeopardizing Colorado's interest in the Closed Basin Project.

The San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District continues with their recharge plan in the Closed Basin. The monitoring wells for the Project have been completed. Some instrumentation has been installed to continuously record water levels in those wells. In 1993 a sizable volume of water was introduced onto the recharge area throughout the year to begin the process of trying to effectively manage the aquifers in that area and to determine what response they have to the introduction of this recharge water. The State of Colorado, through the Division of Water Resources, continues to provide some monies for the monitoring equipment because of our interest in making sure that observations are taken accurately and consistently throughout the process and to learn more about the characteristics of the aquifer system.

With the Conejos Water Conservancy District taking over the operation and maintenance of Platoro Reservoir we have continued to remain involved with them to ensure that flows are discharged

through the reservoir to meet the demand downstream as well as the Rio Grande Compact obligation. Several accounting procedures have been initiated by our office in an effort to ensure that the reservoir is managed properly. Since this type of operation is new to the District employees we remain committed to helping them in the challenge of learning how to operate the reservoir effectively for the District and legally for the State of Colorado's interests.

Division III water commissioners have made efforts to update and improve the quality and quantity of the number of diversion records that are produced by them. Division III has made substantial gains this year in the number of structures reported as well as the accuracy and detail of those diversions. The Water Commissioners are to be commended in their extraordinary efforts to properly document the flows in the structures within those districts. It has been very exciting because this effort fits in nicely with many of the goals in the long range plan as well as provide much better information to those who use the diversion records.

The State of Texas continues to be quite concerned about the relationship between the Costilla Creek Compact and the Rio Grande Compact and is seeking answers to many questions involving those two documents. It is very important Colorado protect her interests under both compacts in this situation. Because of the fact that all of the water rights on the Costilla Creek system pre-date the Rio Grande Compact we feel there is a very good legal basis for our position.

The Tres Rios case, 91CW29, was completed during the spring of 1993. The case provided a renewed look at the operation and construction of the Rio Grande Compact. The decision was rendered by the court that any new appropriation that would affect the Rio Grande mainstem would have an impact on pre-Compact rights and that without an augmentation plan or under very special circumstances provided for in the Compact there could not be new diversions on the river. The matter was quite complicated and was a very controversial issue. The case was not appealed by either party to the Supreme Court.

### 3. Involvement in the Water User Community

The staff of Division III continues to be quite involved in the community. Various staff members have spoken to service groups around the valley, taught classes in grade school, high school and colleges and, of course, been involved with all water user groups throughout the year. Virtually all water user association, conservancy district and conservation district meetings are attended by one or more of the Division staff to provide input and factual data concerning water resources in the San Luis Valley as well as to answer questions about the issues of the day. This process is very helpful to not only water resource personnel as administrators but the water user community in providing them the information they need to make good judgements on the decisions with which they are faced.

4. Water Issues Not Addressed

Virtually all water issues that we were aware of which demanded attention were addressed at least in part during the year. Many of the items mentioned above in I.A.2. have not been completed and will be ongoing issues which will be addressed over a period of time. We intend to address all of these issues but many are large and involved and will take some time to complete.

5. Workload Changes/Administration Limitations

This year we have seen several workload changes which have affected our staff. The most notable changes are briefly discussed below.

a. Increased Administration in Water District 20

We continue to undertake efforts to increase the level of administration on the mainstem of the Rio Grande and its tributaries. With less native water needing to be delivered to the state line because of the Closed Basin Project, new issues continue to arise as to how to best administer the river to ensure all water rights are getting the water to which they are entitled. It is quite complicated and varies dramatically on a day-to-day basis especially when large changes are being made in reservoir releases or natural flows are experiencing large variations.

b. Hydrographic Records

With the continuation of the Closed Basin Project contract for rating of the flumes and Division III assuming new responsibilities for the operation and maintenance of Sutron equipment, we have had to make staff changes and increased our

personnel slightly by combining a number of different sources of money to provide fulltime employment for another FTE. Previously mentioned in this report were the additions of new hydrographic staff. We continue to look at our gaging program to ensure that the data needed for historical perspective currently by many agencies is being obtained in an accurate and timely manner. We have continued to meet the various deadlines for submitting finalized inflow records to the U.S.G.S. and the State Engineer's Office for publication. The requirements demand that the record work be done very effectively and efficiently in order to meet those deadlines. Division III has met those deadlines for many years and is able to continue to do so by the utilization of additional staff and extra hours in an effort to complete those deadlines.

c. Work Load Changes

We continue to see our work loads change depending upon the year and the need for different types of work within Division III. Items like PDQ's and Long Range Plans take tremendous amount of resources which have to be factored into the overall work load of all employees. Our budget remains constant; therefore, no new, large scale programs can be implemented. We still must fit the needs of the public, the State Engineer's Office, and our needs into that budget.

B. Coming Water Year - 1994

1. Key Objectives and Goals

For the coming water year we have identified eight key objectives which we will focus on. These key objectives are listed below followed by a tabulation of other objectives we will strive to attain.

a. Administer the Rio Grande Basin to Insure the Colorado's Obligation under the Rio Grande Compact is Met

To accomplish this objective we will strive to administer the water rights on the Rio Grande and Conejos River to deliver the required flows at the lower Compact gages on both rivers. This will require the coordinated efforts of the water commissioners, hydrographers, and the water user community as a whole. We will continue to account for our Compact deliveries every ten days and will distribute this to the water user community. We will incorporate the operation of the Closed Basin Project into our decision making process when determining the amount of curtailment of water rights which is required to meet our obligation.

As always, the major limitation in our attaining this objective is the variability of the runoff from the basin and the vagaries of Mother Nature. If the forecast is incorrect it can result in the over or under-delivery of our obligation. While we can modify the forecast numbers we use throughout the year, it still is the major source of uncertainty in our administration of the Compact.

b. Improve the Quality of our Hydrographic and Diversion Records

We take great pride in the quality of the records produced by the hydrographic section in our office. We continue to strive to enhance the quality of these records. This year we will be adding additional satellite monitoring sites to assist in our record production. We will strive to meet all the deadlines required for the Rio Grande Compact and for record publication.

Diversion records are another area we are striving to continually improve. This year we will continue to identify structures previously unreported or not recorded properly in the past. We also plan on standardizing our reservoir accounting in order to produce more meaningful and useful records.

Assuming that our present staffing levels and budget allocations are not changed, we see no limitation which would keep us from accomplishing this objective.

c. Cooperation with Sister Agencies and Water User Groups

Our plan is to continue the communications we have developed with key people in the various state and federal agencies. We also plan to attend the regular meetings of the conservation and conservancy districts, as well as other water user groups, to answer questions and advise them of issues regarding water resources.

d. Operate the Division III Office and Perform our Duties within our Budget

We will allocate our budget in order to maximize the use of our resources. We will track expenses and monitor them on a monthly basis to insure we are within budget. If necessary, we will prioritize our duties to get the best return for our investment of resources.

Our biggest concern in the area is what the impact of Amendment I and the large budgets for schools and prison needs will have in fiscal year 1994-1995. If our operating budget or staffing level is cut we will have to cut back on our present level of services. Also, we will be very cognizant of the Fair Labor Standards Act and will work to get the water commissioners just pay for the work done.

e. Maintain and Enhance our Customer Focus

We plan on training additional staff in the proper procedures for filling out well permit applications. We also plan on training all of the office staff in the use of the various databases available on the office computers. This training should allow us to answer questions and provide data to the public in a more timely and efficient manner. A problem which may affect our achieving this objective is the scheduling of these training activities, especially during the busy summer period.

f. Employee Training

We plan to offer as much training as we can to our staff within the limits of the budget and work load constraints. We will utilize the money available from Denver through the



training coordinator to achieve part of this objective and will supplement those funds with money from our own budget, if available. In-house training will be offered in such areas as: hydrographic records, diversion records, and use of division databases.

We feel the only limitations on attaining this objective are money and time. Certainly any reduction in budget translates into the need to prioritize what we do.

g. Implementation of the Long Range Plan

The Division of Water Resources has completed their Five-Year Long Range Strategic Plan for our agency. The plan sets out a number of issues and tasks to be completed by the DWR staff in the next five years. Division III will undertake those tasks and include them in the work schedules of appropriate personnel.

h. Improve Quality of Water Rights Listing and Historic Diversion Records

As part of the long range plan, as well as the need to have good quality control and quality assurance of Division III's records, we have already undertaken a comprehensive review of the water rights listing and the historic diversion records to ensure that those records are of good quality. A number of errors have been found throughout the years in both documents. Those are being corrected as they are found but the new process will be a comprehensive review of both those data bases.

2. **Major Activities Affecting Water Administration**

There are several major issues which could potentially affect our administration practices in the upcoming year in

Division III. The first is what effect Amendment One will have on our budget process for fiscal year 94-95. No one is sure how this amendment will ultimately impact our Division but surely there will be some effect. We will utilize whatever funds are available and make whatever adjustments are necessary to maximize our administration under those conditions.

The second major issue facing the Division this year will be how we handle the implementation of the Fair Labor Standards Act. If we are granted supplemental requests to cover the expenses of overtime work by the commissioners we will utilize those monies to pay for the extra work the commissioners do outside of the 40 hour week. We are quite sure that we will not be fully funded for this effort; therefore, we will be having to limit the number of overtime hours worked by water commissioners and other staff. This may limit the amount of the administration of water rights which we have accomplished in the past.

The third issue is the administration of the Closed Basin Project. Since its completion in 1993 we are looking forward to continuing to learn how, in conjunction with the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, to operate it properly and administer the water which is produced by that project. We have yet to see what the completed Project will produce on a sustained basis and how the unconfined aquifer will react to continued pumping. There is, at the present time, a shortage of snow and we are looking at the potential for a fairly low water year. We may or may not pump the Project at full production this year to allow us to be able to

determine what its capabilities actually are.

Platoro Reservoir will continue to challenge the Division III staff and the Conejos Water Conservancy District Board. The question of how it can best be utilized to maximize the water supply for the Conejos users, as well as what the equitable allocation of the water supply in the reservoir will be are all very interesting and challenging subjects. We continue to feel that with the District's new responsibilities for Platoro operation we are faced with a good opportunity to finally use the reservoir to manage the water supplies of the Conejos in a more effective manner.

The subject of endangered species strikes fear into the hearts of water users and administrators alike. Two species have, or will be, listed in a final rule this year on the Rio Grande in the middle Rio Grande Valley in New Mexico, and we have yet to determine what possible recovery plans or accommodations will have to be made for them and their effect on Colorado. We would like to believe that we could remain untouched by these issues, but as more and more species are listed we are not optimistic that we can prevent a change in the historic administrative regime of the river.

There are a number of land owners who are trying to either revive or use for the first time wells which have not been used historically or have had limited use in the San Luis Valley. These plans will cause essentially new drafts on the unconfined aquifer which may potentially cause impacts to adjacent land

owners, water right holders, or even the Closed Basin Project. We will be addressing a number of different plans that have come to our attention and may initiate litigation in those cases which we believe will cause injury to existing vested rights.

We will continue to look for structures which have not been administered, non-decreed impoundments, and drains and sloughs which are decreed in Division III in order to ensure that those are being administered properly and in priority with the other sources of water to which they are tributary. This effort will only come as resources can be available and we can efficiently adjust other schedules to accomodate this. It is a time consuming project to identify these structures and to understand them well enough to administer them properly; therefore, as we have the time and resources available to us we will initiate those plans.

II. WATER ADMINISTRATION DATA SUMMARIES

A. Transmountain Diversion Summary - Inflows/Outflows

A. TRANSMOUNTAIN DIVERSION SUMMARY -- INFLOWS

		Recipient				10-Year Average		Current Year		Source		
WD	ID	Name	Stream	AF	Days	AF	Days	AF	Days	WD	ID	Stream
20	N/A	Weminuche Pass Ditch	Weminuche	1,496	74	0	0	0	31	4,637	Rincon LaVaca	
20	N/A	Pine River	Weminuche	680	91	250	49	250	31	4,638	N.F. Los Pinos	
20	N/A	Williams Creek Squaw Pass	Squaw Creek	284	67	441	71	441	78	4,672	Williams Creek	
20	N/A	Tabor	Trib Clear Creek	958	142	1,060	169	1,060	62	774	Cebola Creek	
20	N/A	Don LaFont #1 Ditch	Trib Red Mtn Creek	56	43	0	0	0	78	4,670	Trib Piedra River	
20	N/A	Don LaFont #2 Ditch	Trib Red Mtn Creek	251	87	0	0	0	78	4,671	Trib Piedra River	
20	N/A	Treasure Pass Ditch	S.F. Rio Grande	229	44	113	28	113	29	4,669	Wolf Creek	
26	N/A	Tarbell	Saguache Creek	147	20	109	15	109	28	4,656	Cochetopa Creek	

B. TRANSMOUNTAIN DIVERSION SUMMARY -- OUTFLOWS

16	N/A	Hudson Branch Ditch	Huerfano	186	51	0	0	0	35	657	Medano
16	N/A	Medano Ditch	Huerfano	1,053	64	1,063	61	1,063	35	658	Medano

II WATER ADMINISTRATION DATA SUMMARIES

B. Storage Water

RESERVOIR STORAGE SUMMARY

IRRIGATION YEAR - 1993

<u>WD</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>RESERVOIR NAME</u>	<u>SOURCE STREAM</u>	<u>Amount in Storage (AF)</u>					
				<u>AF</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AF</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AF</u>	<u>END OF YEAR</u>
20	3532	Beaver Park	Beaver Creek	3,645	11/01/92	4,488	6/18/93		3,734
20	3554	Rio Grande	Rio Grande	688	11/01/92	46,987	6/26/93		20,934
20	3558	Santa Maria	North Clear Creek	5,044	11/01/92	17,018	9/30/93		16,145
20	3536	Continental	North Clear Creek	0	8/19/93	15,960	6/11/93		871
21	3583	Terrace	Alamosa River	4,071	11/01/92	11,129	7/01/93		6,800
21	3582	LaJara	LaJara Creek	1,620	11/01/92	4,692	6/06/93		2,590
22	3574	Platoro	Conejos River	24,287	11/01/92	53,607	6/24/93		41,834
24	3576	Sanchez	Culebra Creek	20,026	11/01/92	37,136	6/30/93		34,697
35	3529	Mt Home	Trinchera Creek	2,450	11/01/92	11,388	6/28/93		4,772
35	3530	Smith	Trinchera Creek	2,397	11/01/92	6,980	5/28/93		4,137

II. WATER ADMINISTRATION DATA SUMMARIES

C. WATER DIVERSIONS

WATER DIVERSION SUMMARY  
IRRIGATION YEAR -- 1993

WD	Structures Reporting			Others		Estimated Number of Water Commissioner Visits	Total Diversions -AF-	Total Diversions to Storage -AF-	Total Diversions	To Irrigation		
	With Record	No Water Avail	No Water Taken	No Info Avail	Ditches and Reservoirs with No Record					Total Diversions	Number of Acres Irrigated	Average AF per Acre
20	290	3	18	7	197	8,978	-AF-	-AF-	670,134	323,392	2.07	
21	89	0	5	0	28	3,955			149,967	59,673	2.51	
22	120	0	0	1	83	4,659			264,054	86,645	3.05	
24	75	0	4	6	6	2,279			77,565	29,429	2.64	
25	96	3	23	2	39	1,275			67,260	18,057	3.72	
26	70	5	52	5	101	1,105			52,713	17,640	2.99	
27	38	6	1	0	18	1,050			21,924	5,064	4.33	
35	66	3	32	10	33	6,175			85,830	26,640	3.22	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>29,476</b>			<b>1,596,681</b>	<b>145,899</b>		
									<b>1,389,447</b>	<b>566,540</b>		

ROBERT W. OGBURN  
JUDGE OF THE WATER COURT

~~STEPHAN EXX ATENCIO~~  
~~WATER REFEREE~~

CAROL S. REDDING  
REFEREE OF THE WATER COURT

GEORGE W. WOODARD  
Water Referee

II. WATER ADMINISTRATION DATA SUMMARIES

D. WATER COURT ACTIVITIES

# WATER COURT-DIVISION 3

ALAMOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE • ALAMOSA, COLORADO 81101

(303) 589-9107

January 14, 1994

Mr. Steven Vandiver  
Division Engineer  
422 Fourth Street  
P. O. Box 269  
Alamosa, CO 81101

Dear Steve:

Enclosed please find information concerning the end of the calendar year.

Number of applications received from January 1, 1993, through December 31, 1993: 93CW1 through 93CW43.

Types of claims received from January 1, 1993, through December 31, 1993:

- 60 Wells
- 11 Ditches
- 3 Springs
- 1 Basin
- 3 Reservoirs
- 1 Diversion
- 1 Drain
- 22 Recharge pits
- 2 Ponds
- 1 Ditch w/2 priorities (2 count)
- 1 Ditch w/3 priorities (3 count)

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109 TOTAL

Number of cases terminated from January 1, 1993, through December 31, 1993: 48.

Structures terminated from January 1, 1993, through December 31, 1993:

- 56 Wells
- 21 Springs
- 6 Reservoirs
- 2 Pipelines
- 1 Creek
- 141 Ditches
- 3 Ditches w/4 diversions (4 count)
- 1 Ditch w/2 priorities (2 count)

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233 TOTAL



Mr. Steven Vandiver  
January 14, 1993  
Page 2

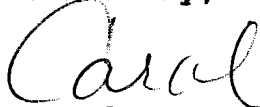
The number of cases pending as of December 31, 1993, is 53.

I am enclosing the following additional information:

1. Report on cases by docket number, applicant, type of case, number of claims and type of claims.
2. Report on cases showing type of cases, case number and applicants.
3. Report for yearly statistics -- 1993.
4. Report for all cases, statistics through 1993.
5. Revised Report, 3 year average for all water courts.
6. Revised Report, 4 year average for all water courts.
7. Revised Report, 5 year average for all water courts.
8. Revised Report, Statistics for all Water Courts from FY 1969-70 through FY 1992-93.

If you have any questions concerning the tabulations and enclosures, please give me a call.

Sincerely,



Carol S. Redding  
Clerk of the Water Court  
Water Division 3

csr

Enclosures

xc: file  
Judge Robert W. Ogburn  
Referee George W. Woodard  
Judge John Kuenhold  
Ben Duarte

Prepared by: Carol Redding, January 13, 1994

REPORT 1

<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Type of Case</u>	<u>Number of Claims</u>	<u>Types of Claims</u>
930001	Belinson, Michael A. & Helen S.	WUNDR	1	well (1)
930002	Reed, Larry G.	WCHNG	1	well (1)
930003	Hebnes, Katherine U.	WUNDR	1	well (1)
930004	Alexander, Joseph W.	WDILF	1	ditch (1)
930005	Sierpina, Victor and Michelle	WCHNG	2	ditches (2)
930006	Goodman, James R. and Betty L.	WCHNG	1	well (1)
930007	Saguache Central Holding Co.	WDILF	1	reservoir (1)
930008	Galyen, John A.	WUNDR	1	well (1)
930009	Wright, Gloria R..	WCHNG	2	wells (2)
930010	Howsley, Louis S. , Jr.	WCHNG	2	wells (2)
930011	Binkley, Virginia S. & Edward S.	WDILF	1	reservoir (1)
930012	Kekich, Gary Paul	WSURF	1	spring (1)
930013	Rio Grande Basin Conservation District	WSURF	1	basin (1)
930014	Lower La Garita Ranch	WSURF	2	ditch w/2 pri. (2)
930015	Centennial Farms	WCHNG	6	wells (6)
930016	K & M Farms	WCHNG	14	wells (14)
930017	The McDonald Ditch Co., Inc.	WCHNG	1	ditch (1)
930018	DeGani, Galen M. & Beverly J.	WSURF	3	dithces (3)
930019	DeGani, Galen M. & Beverly J.	WSURF	1	spring (1)
930020	Strong, Maurice F.	WDILF	1	ditch (1)
930021	Graves, Charles W. & Patricia D.	WUNDR	7	wells (7)
930022	Quintana, J. Andres	WCHNG	1	ditch (1)
930023	McClure, George W. & M. Joyce	WUNDR	1	well (1)
930024	Smith, Myron L.	WCHNG	4	wells (4)
930025	Martinez, Orlando A.	WDILF	1	spring (1)
930026	Off, Howard B.	WUNDR	5	wells (5)
930027	Perrin, T. W. & Buna	WUNDR	1	well (1)
930028	United States of America	WCHNG	1	well (1)
930029	Magna - Jeff White	WSURF	1	ditch (1)
930030	Bond-Metz Farm, Inc.	WCHNG	2	wells (2)
930031	Metz, Kenneth W. & Peggy	WUNDR	1	well (1)
930032	Archuleta, Edward & Shirley J.	WUNDR	1	well (1)
930033	White, J.	WSURF	1	diversion (1)
930034	Garcia, Thomas G.	WAUGH	3	ditch (1) & ponds (2)
930035	Graham, Charley D. & Penny Priscilla A.	WUNDR	1	well (1)
930036	Myers, Everett W. & Linda L.	WUNDR	1	well (1)
930037	Myers, Everett W. & Linda L.	WCHNG	2	wells (2)
930038	Myers, Everett W.	WCHNG	2	wells (2)
930039	McNitt, Richard F. & Alana G.	WCHNG	1	well (1)
930040	Conejos Water Conservancy District	WAUGH	2	reservoir (1) & drain
930041	Mann, Raymond L. & Wilma Fern	WUNDR	1	well (1)
930042	Rio Grande Water Conservation District	WDILF	22	recharge pits (22)
930043	San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District	WOTHR	3	ditch w/3 pri. (3)

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109 (Total Claims Filed)

## 1993 FILINGS FOR WATER DIVISION 3 - BREAK-DOWN BY CASE TYPES

<u>Type of Case</u>	<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Applicant</u>
WAUGH	930034	Garcia, Thomas G.
	930040	Conejos Water Conservancy District
	----	
	2 (TOTAL)	
WCHNG	930002	Reed, Larry G.
	930005	Sierpina, Victor and Michelle
	930006	Goodman, James R. and Betty L.
	930009	Wright, Gloria R..
	930010	Howsley, Louis S. , Jr.
	930015	Centennial Farms
	930016	K & M Farms
	930017	The McDonald Ditch Co., Inc.
	930022	Quintana, J. Andres
	930024	Smith, Myron L.
	930028	United States of America
	930030	Bond-Metz Farm, Inc.
	930037	Myers, Everett W. & Linda L.
	930038	Myers, Everett W.
	930039	McNitt, Richard F. & Alana G.
	-----	
	15 (TOTAL)	
WDILF	930004	Alexander, Joseph W.
	930007	Saguache Central Holding Co.
	930011	Binkley, Virginia S. & Edward S.
	930020	Strong, Maurice F.
	930025	Martinez, Orlando A.
	930042	Rio Grande Water Conservation District
	----	
	6 (TOTAL)	
WOTHR	930043	San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District
	----	
	1 (TOTAL)	
WSURF	930012	Kekich, Gary Paul
	930013	Rio Grande Basin Conservation District
	930014	Lower La Garita Ranch
	930018	DeGani, Galen M. & Beverly J.
	930019	DeGani, Galen M. & Beverly J.
	930029	Magna - Jeff White
	930033	White, J.
	----	
	7 (TOTAL)	

<u>Type of Case</u>	<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Applicant</u>
WUNDR	930001	Belinson, Michael A. & Helen S.
	930003	Hebnes, Katherine U.
	930008	Galyen, John A.
	930021	Graves, Charles W. & Patricia D.
	930023	McClure, George W. & M. Joyce
	930026	Off, Howard B.
	930027	Perrin, T. W. & Buna
	930031	Metz, Kenneth W. & Peggy
	930032	Archuleta, Edward & Shirley J.
	930035	Graham, Charley D. & Penny Priscilla A.
	930036	Myers, Everett W. & Linda L.
	930041	Mann, Raymond L. & Wilma Fern
	-----	
	12 (TOTAL)	

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43 TOTAL CASES FOR 1993

Key: WAUGH - Water Augmentation  
 WCHNG - Water Change  
 WDILF - Finding of Diligence/  
 To Make Absolute  
 WOTHR - Water Other  
 WSURF - Water Surface  
 WUNDR - Water Underground

**WATER COURT-DIVISION 3**  
ALAMOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE • ALAMOSA, COLORADO 81101  
(303) 589-9107

YEAR	CASES FILED	NUMBER OF WELLS	NUMBER STRUCTURES	CASES TERMINATED	STRUCTURES TERMINATED	Page vi.
1993						
January	06	4	3 ditches	3	15 wells	
February	03	3	1 reservoir	1	6 springs	
March	03	2	1 reservoir, 1 spring	8	1 well, 6 ditches, & 3 ditches with 4 diversions = 11	
April	04	20	1 ditch w/2 priorities, 1 basin	2	10 springs	
May	04	--	5 ditches & 1 spring	4	4 ditches	
June	01	7	--	8	8 wells, 2 springs, 125 ditches, and 3 reservoirs (total: 138)	
July	03	5	1 ditch	2	16 wells, 2 pipelines & 1 reservoir	
August	02	5	1 spring	1	2 ditches	
September	04	4	1 ditch	8	4 wells, 2 ditches, 1 creek & 1 reservoir	
October	05	3	1 diversion, 1 ditch & 2 ponds	3	1 well, 2 springs, & 1 reservoir	
November	05	6	1 reservoir & 1 drain	1	1 ditch	
December	03	1	22 recharge pits & 1 ditch w/3 pri. (25)	7	11 wells, 1 spring, 1 ditch, & 1 ditch w/2 pri. = 15	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>60</b>	11 ditches, 3 reservoirs, 3 springs, 1 basin, 2 ponds, 1 diversion, 1 drain, 22 recharge pits, 1 ditch w/2 pri. (2), & 1 ditch w/3 pri. (3) total = 49 structures	<b>48</b>	56 wells, 21 springs, 6 reservoirs, 2 pipelines, 1 creek, 141 ditches, 3 ditches w/4 diversions (4), & 1 ditch w/ 2 priorities (2) total = 233 structures	

REPORT 4

prepared by: Carol Redding  
01-18-1994

WATER DIVISION NO. 3  
ALAMOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
ALAMOSA, COLORADO 81101

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
JUDGE OF THE WATER COURT

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
CLERK OF THE WATER COURT

Year	Cases Filed	Number of Wells	Number of Structures	Quadrennials	Cases Terminated	Structures Terminated
1969						
December	02	02	--	--	--	--
1970						
January	--	--	--	--	--	--
February	01	01	--	01	--	--
March	03	02	05	--	01	--
April	03	08	--	--	--	--
May	05	08	03	--	--	--
June	04	06	01	--	--	--
July	04	06	01	--	--	--
August	01	02	--	--	--	--
September	11	22	--	--	--	--
October	05	06	06	--	--	--
November	06	08	--	--	--	--
December	10	14	07	--	--	--
1969 & 1970 TOTALS	55	85	23	01	01	--

WATER DIVISION NO. 3  
ALAMOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
ALAMOSA, COLORADO 81101

DONALD G. SMITH,  
JUDGE OF THE WATER COURT

CARLA R. GILLELAND,  
CLERK OF THE WATER COURT

	Cases Filed	Number of Wells	Number of Structures	Quadrennials	Cases Terminated	Structures Terminated**
TOTALS						
12-31-74	3378	11857	270	35	1453	4523 Wells 65 Other

**WATER DIVISION NO. 3**  
ALAMOEA COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
ALAMOEA, COLORADO 81101

DONALD G. SMITH,  
JUDGE OF THE WATER COURT

CARLA R. GILLELAND, Shawcroft  
CLERK OF THE WATER COURT

TOTALS	Cases Filed	Number of Wells	Number of Structures	Quadrennials	Cases Terminated	Structures Terminated
12-31-75	3532	12096	321	45	2512	7934 Wells 132 Other



WATER DIVISION 3  
ALAMOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
ALAMOSA, COLORADO 81101

Robert W. Ogburn  
XXXXXXXXXXXX  
JUDGE OF THE WATER COURT

CARLA R. SHAWCROFT  
CLERK OF THE WATER COURT

TOTALS	Cases Filed	Number of Wells	Number of Structures	Quadrennials	Cases Terminated	Structures Terminated
12-31-76	3675	12343	385	48	3104	10,050 Wells 201 Other
12-31-77	3840	12542	438	59	3300	10,519 Wells 277 Others
12-31-78	3998	13863	520	87	3465	11,572 wells 300 others (not included are structures in the 73 cases re-opened ar 135 cases re-closed)
12-31-79	4097	14069	550	89	3781	12,220 Wells 357 Others (not included are structures in the 84 cases re-opened & 145 cases re-closed)
12-31-80	4229	15430	594	included in #of wells & other structures	3921	12,715 Wells 402 others (not included are structures in the 179 cases re-opened & 242 cases re-closed)
12-31-81	4427	15804	2106	"	4065	14,002 wells, 445 others, (not included are structure in the 3 cases re-opened & 3 cases re-closed)
12-31-82	4672	17475	3081	"	4185	14,161 wells, 523 others (does not include any structures in any re-opened re-closed cases)

**WATER DIVISION 3**  
ALAMOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
ALAMOSA, COLORADO 81101

ROBERT W. COBURN  
JUDGE OF THE WATER COURT

Carol S. Pedding  
CLERK OF THE WATER COURT

(includes quadrennials)

YEAR	Cases Filed	Number of Wells	Number Structures	Cases Terminated	Structures Terminated
TOTALS	4768	18861	3145	4370 (this does not include reopened & reterminated cases and structures)	16,041 wells and 600 others (this does not include reopened and reterminated cases and structures)
12-31-83	4945	21581	3368	4534 (this does not include reopened & reterminated cases and structures)	17,034 wells & 733 others (this does not include reopened and reterminated cases & structures)
12-31-84	5023	21726	3475	4726 (this does not include reopened & reterminated cases & structures)	19,988 wells & 849 others (this does not include reopened and reterminated cases & structures)
12-31-85	5069	22554	3534	4881 (this does not include reopened & reterminated cases & structures)	20803 wells & 1110 others (this does not include reopened and reterminated cases & structures)
12-31-86	5127	22686	3629	5001 (this does not include reopened & reterminated cases & structures)	21,592 wells & 1,952 others (this does not include reopened and reterminated cases & structures)
12-31-87	5162	22847	3663	5087 (this does not include reopened & reterminated cases and structures)	22696 wells and 2167 others (this does not include reopened and reterminated cases & structures)
12-31-88	5214	22931	3765	5145 (this does not include reopened & reterminated cases and structures)	22780 wells and 2260 others (this does not include reopened and reterminated cases and structures)
12-31-89	5262	23165	3917	5196 (this does not include reopened & reterminated cases & structures)	22977 wells and 2315 others (this does not include reopened and reterminated cases & structures)
12-31-90	5297	23202	4083	5248 (this does not include reopened & reterminated cases & structures)	23080 wells and 2386 others (this does not include reopened and reterminated cases & structures)
12-31-91	5352	23287	4137	5294 (this does not include reopened & reterminated cases & structures)	NO Longer reporting (wells did not balance) Omit from reporting

CAROL S. REDDING  
CLERK OF THE WATER COURT

# WATER COURT-DIVISION 3

ALAMOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE • ALAMOSA, COLORADO 81101  
(303) 589-9107

YEAR  
TOTALS

page v.

YEAR	CASES FILED	NUMBER OF WELLS	NUMBER STRUCTURES	CASES TERMINATED	STRUCTURES TERMINATED
12-31-93	5395	23347	4186	5342	No Longer reporting (wells did not balance) Omit from reporting

REPORT 5 prepared by: Carol Redding 1-18-1994

STATISTICS FOR 3 YEARS FOR THE WATER COURTS SHOWING NUMBER OF CASES FILED, NUMBER OF CLAIMS & AVERAGE OF CLAIMS PER CASE

DIVISION NUMBER	FY. 1990-91		FY. 1991-92		FY. 1992-93	
	CASES	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	CASES	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	CASES	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE
1	158	6.06	164	8.14	172	6.67
2	52	4.62	77	4.22	88	5.15
3	40	9.45	44	4.48	48	2.92
4	151	2.73	165	2.67	256	2.14
5	307	2.64	353	4.15	339	2.94
6	154	1.86	87	4.94	121	2.10
7	55	2.02	75	2.96	95	1.48
	917	3194	965	4413	1119	3681

	DIVISION 1		DIVISION 2		DIVISION 3		DIVISION 4		DIVISION 5		DIVISION 6		DIVISION 7	
	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE
TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	494	4.94	217	4.13	132	4.13	572	4.13	999	4.13	362	4.13	225	4.13
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	3440	6.96	1018	4.69	715	5.42	1401	2.45	3269	3.27	971	2.68	474	2.11
AVERAGE NUMBER OF CLAIMS PER CASE FOR ABOVE FY'S	6.96		4.69		5.42		2.45		3.27		2.68		2.11	

REPORT 6 prepared by: Carol Redding 1-18-1994

STATISTICS FOR 4 YEARS FOR THE WATER COURTS SHOWING NUMBER OF CASES FILED, NUMBER OF CLAIMS & AVERAGE OF CLAIMS PER CASE

DIVISION NUMBER	FY. 1989-90			FY. 1990-91			FY. 1991-92			FY. 1992-93		
	CASES	CLAIMS	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	CASES	CLAIMS	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	CASES	CLAIMS	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	CASES	CLAIMS	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE
1	264	1012	3.83	158	957	6.06	164	1335	8.14	172	1148	6.67
2	82	640	7.80	52	240	4.62	77	325	4.22	88	453	5.15
3	53	175	3.30	40	378	9.45	44	197	4.48	48	140	2.92
4	203	347	1.71	151	412	2.73	165	440	2.67	256	549	2.14
5	331	1881	5.68	307	809	2.64	353	1464	4.15	339	996	2.94
6	157	351	2.24	154	287	1.86	87	430	4.94	121	254	2.10
7	120	265	2.21	55	111	2.02	75	222	2.96	95	141	1.48
	1210	4671		917	3194		965	4413		1119	3681	

	DIVISION 1		DIVISION 2		DIVISION 3		DIVISION 4		DIVISION 5		DIVISION 6		DIVISION 7	
	CASES	CLAIMS	CASES	CLAIMS	CASES	CLAIMS	CASES	CLAIMS	CASES	CLAIMS	CASES	CLAIMS	CASES	CLAIMS
TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	758	299	185	775	1330	519	345							
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	4452	1658	890	1748	5150	1322	739							
AVERAGE NUMBER OF CLAIMS PER CASE FOR ABOVE FY'S	5.87	5.55	4.81	2.26	3.87	2.55	2.14							

REPORT 7

prepared by: Carol Redding  
1-18-1994

STATISTICS FOR 5 YEARS FOR THE WATER COURTS SHOWING NUMBER OF CASES FILED, NUMBER OF CLAIMS & AVERAGE OF CLAIMS PER CASE

DIVISION NUMBER	FY. 1988-89			FY. 1989-90			FY. 1990-91			FY. 1991-92			FY. 1992-93		
	CASES	CLAIMS	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	CASES	CLAIMS	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	CASES	CLAIMS	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	CASES	CLAIMS	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE	CASES	CLAIMS	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE
1	262	1057	4.03	264	1012	3.83	158	957	6.06	164	1335	8.14	172	1148	6.67
2	79	451	5.71	82	640	7.80	52	240	4.62	77	325	4.22	88	453	5.15
3	40	99	2.48	53	175	3.30	40	378	9.45	44	197	4.48	48	140	2.92
4	226	434	1.92	203	347	1.71	151	412	2.73	165	440	2.67	256	549	2.14
5	362	989	2.73	331	1881	5.68	307	809	2.64	353	1464	4.15	339	996	2.94
6	208	440	2.12	157	351	2.24	154	287	1.86	87	430	4.94	121	254	2.10
7	94	162	1.72	120	265	2.21	55	111	2.02	75	222	2.96	95	141	1.48
	1271	3632		1210	4671		917	3194		965	4413		1119	3681	

	DIVISION 1		DIVISION 2		DIVISION 3		DIVISION 4		DIVISION 5		DIVISION 6		DIVISION 7	
	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE FOR ABOVE FY'S	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE FOR ABOVE FY'S	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE FOR ABOVE FY'S	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE FOR ABOVE FY'S	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE FOR ABOVE FY'S	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE FOR ABOVE FY'S	TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	AVG. CLAIMS PER CASE FOR ABOVE FY'S
TOTAL CASES FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	1020	5.40	378	5.58	225	4.40	1001	2.18	1692	3.63	727	2.42	439	2.05
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED FOR ABOVE FY'S	5509	5.40	2109	5.58	989	4.40	2182	2.18	6139	3.63	1762	2.42	901	2.05
AVERAGE NUMBER OF CLAIMS PER CASE FOR ABOVE FY'S	5.40	5.40	5.58	5.58	4.40	4.40	2.18	2.18	3.63	3.63	2.42	2.42	2.05	2.05

STATISTICS - WATER COURT FILINGS

prepared by: Carol Redding  
01-14-1994

	DIVISION 1	DIVISION 2	DIVISION 3	DIVISION 4	DIVISION 5	DIVISION 6	DIVISION 7
FY 1969-70	159 261	60 181	18 36	177 308	185 374	32 60	234 310
FY 1970-71	1133 2375	258 531	160 543	138 217	181 210	31 50	133 149
FY 1971-72	5645 13327	3251 7732	2433 9475	886 1598	1148 1804	213 486	498 575
FY 1972-73	492 1005	543 1984	583 1285	687 783	501 770	275 441	207 298
FY 1973-74	297 10888	156 2588	113 691	441 664	420 611	176 178	167 294
FY 1974-75	285 4121	148 366	133 223	382 889	379 622	154 164	131 170
FY 1975-76	329 885	212 908	140 235	188 215	486 317	170 259	114 249
FY 1976-77	363 1782	217 825	165 370	291 395	278 603	145 296	216 291
FY 1977-78	716 1579	268 1483	176 1290	330 681	478 789	305 368	135 201
FY 1978-79	450 6006	229 3771	139 307	380 582	377 673	161 246	140 343
FY 1979-80	399 1556	136 875	83 264	342 439	507 1063	238 430	194 299
FY 1980-81	520 1821	240 978	178 2109	449 613	453 1427	316 441	165 402
FY 1981-82	482 1456	241 2931	218 3290	327 711	500 1332	303 808	167 229
FY 1982-83	429 1262	185 747	192 726	397 691	481 1588	241 852	176 268
FY 1983-84	402 1450	141 884	92 3944	245 367	421 1335	220 686	167 275
FY 1984-85	608 4517	202 1235	171 323	531 1032	706 2222	217 561	245 628
FY 1985-86	471 1856	122 1139	51 118	227 566	672 1303	210 365	117 207
FY 1986-87	341 1476	114 537	38 1008	275 548	345 683	162 250	107 218
FY 1987-88	322 1490	95 522	65 249	254 432	501 1483	146 281	95 190
FY 1988-89	262 1057	79 451	40 99	226 434	362 989	208 440	94 162
FY 1989-90	264 1012	82 640	53 175	203 347	331 1881	157 351	120 265
FY 1990-91	158 957	52 240	40 378	151 412	307 809	154 287	55 111
FY 1991-92	164 1335	77 325	44 197	165 440	353 1464	87 430	75 272
FY 1992-93	172 1148	88 453	48 140	256 549	339 996	121 254	95 141
	14863 64622	7196 32326	5373 27475	7948 13913	10711 25348	4442 8984	3847 6497
	4.35	4.49	5.11	1.75	2.37	2.02	1.69

II. WATER ADMINISTRATION DATA SUMMARIES

E. River Calls

District	Most Senior Priority Curtailed	Most Junior Priority Served	Calling Right in Spring
20 Rio Grande	#184 South Fork Highline	All Rights	#216A Rio Grande Canal
21 LaJara	#7 McCuniff D.	#1957-18 L. E. Shawcroft & Sons D.	#7 McCuniff D.
21 Alamosa	# 1 El Viego D.	#113A San Jose D. 2	#9 Valdez D.
22 Conejos	# 2 Heads Mill	All Rights	#66 NorthEastern D.
22 San Antonio	# 7 Los Pinos	All Rights	#11 Sincero
24 Culebra	#1934-2 Canon D. 1	All Rights	#29 Acequia De Los Cedros
26 Saguache	# 11 Fullerton D. 1	All Rights	#14 Hearn D.
27 LaGarita	# 5 Home D. 1	All Rights	#7 Home D. 1
27 Carnero	#13 Holland D.	#61 Johnnie Smith D. 1	#11 Shown D.
35 Trinchera	#3 Sangre de Cristo Creek #8 1/2 Trinchera Creek #13 Ute Creek	All rights	#32 Seyfried Stribling

Because of the idiosyncracies of the administration scheme in District 25 no such information could be obtained which made sense.



II. WATER ADMINISTRATION DATA SUMMARIES

F. Compact Administration

**1993 RIO GRANDE COMPACT REPORT**  
**Preliminary Figures**

- 1. Adjusted Rio Grande Index ..... 655,150 a.f.  
    \*Adjusted Rio Grande Delivery ..... 194,100 a.f.  
    Required Rio Grande Delivery ..... 184,300 a.f.
- 2. Adjusted Combined Conejos Index ..... 441,800 a.f.  
    \*\*Adjusted Conejos Delivery ..... 205,600 a.f.  
    Required Conejos Delivery ..... 224,784 a.f.
- 3. \*\*\*Total Delivery at Lobatos ..... 399,700 a.f.  
    Total Required Delivery at Lobatos ..... 399,084 a.f.  
        [Less 10,000 af (See Compact)]  
    Margin ..... 616 a.f.
- 4. Rio Grande Curtailment

Delivery Target	% of Index	Delivery Target	% of Index
January 1 - March 29	100	January 1 - March 29	100
March 30 - April 20	14	March 30 - December 31	0
April 21 - May 6	10		
May 7 - May 31	8		
June 1 - June 15	4		
June 16 - December 31	0		

5. Conejos Curtailment

Delivery Target	% of Index	Estimated Curtailment of Ditches	% of Index
January 1 - April 18	100	January 1 - April 18	100
April 19 - May 5	35	April 19 - July 10	0
May 6 - May 31	32	July 11 - August 30	20
June 1 - June 10	30	August 31 - September 7	80
June 11 - August 30	20	September 8 - September 15	100
August 31 - September 7	80	(voluntary)	
September 8 - September 16	100	September 16 - December 31	0
September 17 - December 31	1		

\*Includes 16,893 a.f. of the creditable Closed Basin Project production

\*\*Includes 14,386 a.f. of the creditable Closed Basin Project production

\*\*\*Includes all the creditable Closed Basin Project production (31,279 acre feet)

III. OFFICE ADMINISTRATION AND WORKLOAD MEASURES

A. PERSONNEL

1993  
DIVISION III STAFF

Office Staff

Steven E. Vandiver	Division Engineer Professional Engineer IV
Robert M. Plaska	Assistant Division Engineer Professional Engineer III
Sue Edling	Administrative Assistant III
Patrick J. McDermott	Engineer-in-Training II
Craig Cotten	Engineer-in-Training I
Scott Veneman	Engr/Physical Science Tech I
Dennis Felmlee	Engr/Physical Science Assistant II
Stanley Ditmars	Engr/Physical Science Tech I

Water Commissioners and Deputies

Steve Baer	Engr/Physical Science Tech I, District 20
Ben Cannon	Engr/Physical Science Assistant II, District 20
Perry Alspaugh	Engr/Physical Science Assistant II, Districts 20/27
Jim Sellers	Engr/Physical Science Assistant II, District 21
Joe McCann	Engr/Physical Science Intern, District 21 (temporary)
Paul Clark	Engr/Physical Science Tech I, District 22
Jim Horton	Engr/Physical Science Assistant II, District 22
Charlie Quintana	Engr/Physical Science Assistant II, District 24
Art Rivale	Engr/Physical Science Assistant I, District 25
Timothy Lovato	Engr/Physical Science Assistant II, District 26
Wayne Williams	Engr/Physical Science Assistant II, District 35

III. OFFICE ADMINISTRATION AND WORKLOAD MEASURES

B. ACTIVITY SUMMARY

WATER DIVISION NO. 3

1993 CALENDAR YEAR

ACTIVITY SUMMARY

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
Professional and Technical Staff	5.00
Clerical Staff	1.00
Water Commissioner FTE (Full/Part-Time)	5/11.0
Decreed Surface Rights	**2,577 total
Surface Rights Administered (water diverted this year)	844
Number of Decreed Wells	**23,258
Plans for Augmentation	1
Consultations with Referee	88
Water Court Appearances	68
Meetings with Water Users	223
Meetings to Resolve Water Related Disputes	165
Contacts to Give Public Assistance on Water Matters	28,159

\*\*Approximate

III. OFFICE ADMINISTRATION AND WORKLOAD MEASURES

C. ACTIVITY SUMMARY

WATER DIVISION III

ACTIVITY SUMMARY

1992-93 FISCAL YEAR

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>FISCAL YEAR TO DATE</u>
Professional and Technical Staff	5.00
Clerical Staff	1.00
Water Commissioner FTE Assigned (Full and Part-time)	5/11.0
Decreed Surface Rights	**2,430
Surface Rights Administered	*
Wells	**23,202
Plans for Augmentation	1
Consultations with Referee	139
Water Court Appearances	185
Meetings with Water Users	532
Meetings to Resolve Water Related Disputes	372
Contacts to give Public Assistance on Water Matters	58,514

\*Contact Dennis Petersen

\*\*Approximate