Division III

Hooper Hot Water Swimming Pool Well
Appropriation Date 1922

1999

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"There is no such thing as normal, average, consistent, uniform, predictable, stable, typical, regular or ordinary conditions in the field of hydrology. These adjectives are myths used to deal with the unknown."

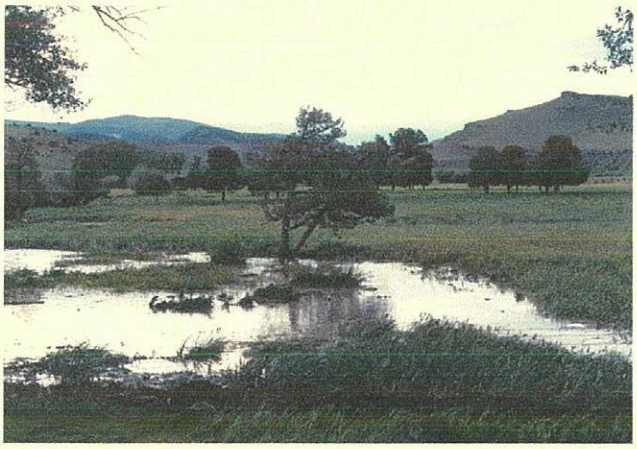
-----the Division III staff

CURRENT WATER YEAR

Water Administration

The fall of 1998 provided unusual rainfall and good early snow and then the winter proceeded to be as dry as anyone could remember. We suffered through the warm, dry, windy winter and started April 1999, with a forecast for most of our streams between 50 to 75% of normal runoff. Snowstorms during the whole first week of April increased the snow water equivalent from 4 to 7 inches over the entire Continental Divide. The weather then returned to warm and dry conditions until the first week of May, when massive snowstorms repeated the April performance. By the May 1 NRCS forecast, the predicted runoff ranged from 80 to 110% across the basin and water right and Compact administration proceeded accordingly. The Division III staff settled into what was to be a "normal" year.

About the time the runoff was beginning to recede, the "summer monsoon" set up and provided above-normal rainfall throughout the summer and early fall. This precipitation created much above-normal streamflow, particularly on the Rio Grande, and dramatically changed Compact administration and provided virtually a full supply for most water right owners in the basin. Of particular note, the August flow at the Rio Grande near Del Norte gaging station was the highest flow ever recorded in the 110 year history of the gage for that month. This rainfall also spoiled much of the second cutting of alfalfa and the grain crop over the entire San Luis Valley. Coors only purchased about 15 to 20% of the normal contracted barley and most of the second cutting of alfalfa had to be sold as grinder hay. Some streams operated without a call for several weeks during the summer and fall. Most junior reservoir storage rights came into priority at some point during the irrigation season. Call records for all major streams are available in Appendix A, River Calls, Irrigation Year - 1999.



A significant storm event occurred on July 25, 1999, on three small tributaries of Saguache Creek. A very intense, small diameter thunder cell stalled over the Ford, Middle, and Jack's creeks drainages and caused those streams to overtop their banks, flooding a couple of homes, washing out numerous roads and destroying a significant amount of property. The flood waters overtopped State Highway 114 for several hours, which was closed for part of that time. The flood peaked at the Saguache Creek gage at approximately 1200 cfs which was the highest instantaneous flow in the 89-year history of this gage. Fortunately it was of very short duration and the flood peak attenuated very quickly in the willows and native hay

meadows and did not cause any further damage in the areas downstream of the immediate area.

Overall the streamflows around the valley were excellent and, with the rain, provided an excellent water supply. The higher than expected Compact obligation on the Rio Grande was difficult to overcome, but we were still able to allow approximately 5,150 acre-feet of recharge diversions after November 1 and still meet our targeted deliveries.

A thorough field investigation of every active structure on Saguache Creek and its tributaries was conducted during the fall of 1999. The location of each headgate was confirmed by GPS, photos taken of each headgate and measuring device and the condition of each structure recorded. This effort took six long days and was the first comprehensive review of that system in many years. Consequently, 48 headgate or flume orders were issued to owners of water rights that will have to be completed by the beginning of the irrigation season 2000. This effort will greatly enhance the ability of the Water Commissioner to properly administer and monitor diversions in District 26.

The Division Engineer spent the first weekend in May 1999 in La Junta monitoring the flooding on the Arkansas River and helping the Division II staff man the gage when the remote sensing equipment was rendered useless by the high water. The outside wire gage was read every 30 minutes for most of two days to track the peak flow as it passed the La Junta area. That information was relayed to the Division II office, the Corps of Engineers and the National Weather Service to ensure they were aware of the timing and stage of the flood as it passed. A number of people were involved in the effort and it was exciting to see all of those people pull together in a very difficult time. It was a bittersweet experience for the Division III Division Engineer to be able to help warn the people of his hometown and surrounding area while also witnessing the damage caused by the flooding.

Rio Grande Compact Administration

As was mentioned in the previous section, the administration of the Rio Grande Compact was an incredible challenge. The dramatic change in the precipitation patterns in the early spring created a year of constantly increasing forecasts causing the curtailment of diversions to be changed numerous times. The history of those changes is detailed in Appendix A, Compact Administration, 1999 Rio Grande Compact Report. The continual increase in the index supplies led to regular and routine communications with the water users on both rivers, and the need to revise our plan for administration throughout the irrigation season about every 10-days, especially on the Rio Grande.

The Rio Grande mainstem saw an unprecedented change in forecasted index supply over the late spring and summer. The abnormal winter of 1998-1999 was as warm and dry as most residents of the Valley had ever seen. The effects of La Nina worked to direct most storms around the southwestern part of the state and by April 1 we had less than 50% of normal snow pack. Diversions were allowed early because we thought there couldn't be enough of a change in the weather to make up for the dry conditions. Conejos system diversions were allowed to begin on March 9 and the Rio Grande diversions started on March 14, after deliberations with all of the users on the river. Then, as if all the cumulative hopes, snow-dances, and prayers came together at the same time, major snowstorm events the first week of April and the first week of May provided enough snow-water content to provide a near normal forecast by May 7. As if that weren't enough to deal with concerning the necessary changes to Compact administration, the monsoon rains started in

June and the projected forecast supply started an unending upward spiral through October. The increase in the forecast index supply each month caused substantial increase in the curtailments and extraordinary coordination with the users on both rivers. Many late nights were spent planning and trying to forecast the ever increasing supplies and trying to decide what needed to be done to keep up with deliveries. Both rivers had specific targets for their deliveries and we considered those goals as we set up the river accounting throughout the entire year. The Conejos system wanted to underdeliver approximately 10,500 acre-feet in order to use part of the credit they had built up over the previous three years. The Rio Grande wanted to pay back the 10,500 acre-feet of indebtedness they had incurred over the same period. The preliminary numbers indicated that the Rio Grande slightly exceeded their delivery goal and the Conejos was not able to underdeliver the amount they desired. Overall, it would appear that Colorado overdelivered approximately 7,500 acre-feet after all the adjustments have been made. If that projection holds true and evaporation rates are consistent with past years, Colorado will start January 1, 2000, with a credit of approximately 17,700 acre-feet. The 1,300 acre-feet of evaporation from the Colorado credit in Elephant Butte is considered in that calculation.

Colorado began 1999 with a credit of 11,500 acre-feet. New Mexico began the year with 153,100 acre-feet of credit. There was significant rainfall in the Middle and Lower Rio Grande Valleys that helped New Mexico dramatically in the efforts to meet Compact obligations and the needs of the Rio Grande Silvery Minnow. The release of water from Rio Grande Project Storage totaled approximately 734,000 acre-feet, which is a reflection of the significant rainfall throughout the summer in the area within the Rio Grande Project. Typical releases the last few years have been approximately 10% higher than 1999. Total Project Storage at the beginning of 1999 was 1,741,000 acre-feet and ended the year at 1,751,000 acre-feet. These storage amounts are incredible when one realizes that the evaporative losses drafted the Project another 251,000 acre-feet for the year. This was the 21st year in a row that the Rio Grande Project has been allotted a full supply.

Again this year, the Commission has had turnover in key personnel. Herman Settemeyer from the TNRCC office in Austin replaced Conrad Keyes, the long time Engineer Adviser for Texas. Apparently, there will no longer be a local engineer adviser in the El Paso area.

Costilla Creek Compact Administration

The Costilla Creek Compact Commission met in Costilla, New Mexico, on May 6, 1999. Ken Knox represented Hal Simpson, the Commissioner from Colorado, because of a death in Mr. Simpson's family. Another large turnout occurred because of the controversy over the administration of the Creek and the position that the two States have taken. The meeting was very lively and controversial statements were made by various parties. The meeting ended on a less than desirable note.

New Mexico has had a large turnover in their Costilla Creek Compact Engineer Adviser position in the last four years that has made the efforts to resolve the administration issues on the Creek and the drafting of the Watermaster Operating Manual very difficult. January 28, 2000 marked the resignation date of the fourth Engineer Adviser since Eddie Trujillo officially retired in 1998. This turnover has frustrated Colorado's best efforts to address and resolve a number of difficult issues on Costilla Creek. Even with this difficult environment, and after months of work by the Engineers and Legal Advisers, the Commission released the draft Watermaster Manual for public comment on

December 17, 1999. Norman Gaume, D. L. Sanders, Bernie Rodriquez, Sally Hatcher and Steve Vandiver were involved in numerous meetings that finally produced a document that addresses virtually all outstanding issues and areas of disagreements. Only one issue of disagreement remains between the two States; both States' positions on that issue were stated in the draft. That issue will have to be resolved after the public comment and review period and before the meeting in May 2000.

Communications did improve over last year, which helped Colorado keep track of the water supply and administration. Even then, the information was at times less than desirable, not timely, and it was necessary to ask for adjustment to be made to the administration of, and the communication from, the Watermaster. We look forward to having the Manual as a guide for the Watermaster to administer the Creek.

Fortunately, this was a very good water year in the Costilla Creek drainage and most users had an adequate supply. Water flowed to the Rio Grande for many days during the peak of the runoff and it is estimated that a few thousand acre-feet of water did reach the river.

Amigos Bravos and the Riviva el Rio Costilla, along with other entities, are continuing to demand instream flows and regulation that fall outside the Compact and their issues have yet to be satisfied.

The ditch structure review was finished last year and the owners of the substandard structures have been notified. A number of new structures were ordered and/or installed in ditches that were deficient.

The Division Engineer, who is the Engineer Adviser for this Compact, spent an inordinate amount of time and energy on the administration of Costilla Creek in 1999. This effort was very worth while if the Watermaster manual is approved by the Commission and is used by the Watermaster as the guide to the administration of the Creek. The State of Colorado has limited input into the supervision of the Watermaster and even less input into the day-to-day activities. This will be the next issue of concern once the Manual is approved for use.

Closed Basin

The Closed Basin Project delivered 20,387 acre-feet to the Rio Grande in calendar year 1999. The entire delivery met water quality standards in the Rio Grande Compact and therefore was creditable to Colorado's delivery to the Stateline. The Project produced 25,636 acre-feet, which was delivered for the various purposes outlined in the enabling legislation and the decree.

The Project continues to be plagued by iron bacteria contamination, commonly known as biofouling. This biofouling continues to reduce the output capacity of the wells by a large percentage. The U. S. Bureau of Reclamation continues to work with a number of consultants to rid the wells of the contamination, but has met with limited success that is usually short lived.

The Project produced a maximum flow of 51 cfs at the Parshall flume in 1999, but the mean flow for the calendar year was 32.8 cfs. These figures are approximately 25% less than last year. This deteriorating situation is of serious concern to the USBR, the State of Colorado, the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, and the water users on both rivers. The Project was pumped at maximum sustainable capacity during several periods in the year. Testing and rehabilitation of the contaminated wells reduced pumping levels and therefore the overall output of the Project. Water quality was maintained at adequate levels to meet

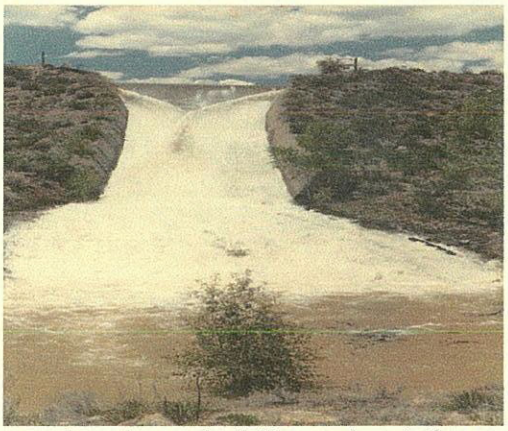
Compact standards and the amount of water produced was still a considerable help in meeting the obligations to the Stateline. The Allocation Committee for the Project set the initial allocation at 60/40 early in the year and it remained there for the entire year. Of the 20,387 acre-feet of creditable water delivered to the river, 8155 acre-feet were credited to the Conejos and 12,232 acre-feet credited to the Rio Grande. The 11-year cumulative allocation expressed as a percentage of the total is 61.3% for the Rio Grande and 38.7% for the Conejos.

Project deliveries made during 1999 were as follows:

- 1,860 acre-feet to the Blanca Wildlife Habitat Area
  - 800 acre-feet mitigation delivery
  - 1,000 acre-feet Tabor Division of Wildlife TMD exchange
  - 60 acre-feet from San Luis Lake during drowning victim search
- 3,389 acre-feet to the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge
  - 3,108 acre-feet mitigation delivery
  - 281 acre-feet from San Luis Lake during drowning victim search
- 20,387 acre-feet (creditable) to the Rio Grande
- 25,636 acre-feet total pumped volume

Reservoir Operations and Dam Safety

Due to the above normal runoff throughout the basin, most reservoirs were able to store under their priority storage rights in 1999. Appendix A, Reservoir Storage Summary, Irrigation Year – 1999, shows the maximum and minimum storage levels for the major irrigation reservoirs in the San Luis Valley. As shown in this table, most of the reservoir



storage levels varied throughout the year as they gained from priority storage, direct flow storage, exchanges and Compact storage. Carryover storage in Sanchez Reservoir in District 24 is the highest in recent history.

As was mentioned in the last two annual reports, Rio Grande Reservoir (Farmers Union), the only mainstem reservoir on the Rio Grande, once again experienced damage to the outlet structure during the 1999 runoff season. This damage occurred even though the reservoir was operated according to the agreed upon operating procedures. The turbulence at the exit point of the regulating gates is so excessive that it damaged the steel outlet structure as well as the concrete floor and walls of the tunnel below. This situation is still not well understood and several different things were done to try to relieve some of the pressures that are created in that area. The damage was discovered during June and as soon as the runoff receded, evacuation of the reservoir was started. This was especially unpleasant given the approximately 28,000 acre-feet of water in storage in the reservoir. Approximately 11,000 acre-feet of that total was out-of-priority Compact water that was stored earlier in the summer to help with our delivery obligation. That water was released to the Stateline significantly driving up the index supply and the corresponding obligation. The remaining 16,000 acre-feet was San Luis Valley Irrigation District water

that was exchanged to Santa Maria and Continental Reservoirs in an agreement with the Santa Maria Reservoir Company. The outlet works at Rio Grande Dam underwent a major repair in 1997 to correct vibration and erosion damage. These repairs performed poorly, resulting in extensive damage occurring in the summer of 1999. The San Luis Valley Irrigation District, owners of the dam, contracted for additional repairs. Steel plating was replaced in the ceiling of the downstream gate chambers. Pressure grouting was used to fill in the voids between the chambers and the rock tunnel walls. Cavities in the concrete immediately downstream of the gate chambers were filled in with new concrete. The outlet tunnel cross-section was enlarged and smoothed near its downstream end in an attempt to improve the outlet capacity and hydraulic characteristics. The repairs were costly and time consuming. It is hoped that the new work done downstream of the gates will provide better flow characteristics, thus allowing water to more efficiently leave the chamber area and reduce some of the turbulent flow. Storage was resumed in late December and again shortened the storage season for the District. This fact could obviously effect their water supply in a potentially very dry year the basin may be facing in 2000.

Storage in Trujillo Meadows Reservoir was restored in early 1999 after it was drained and repaired in late 1998. The repairs were fairly successful and a resurvey was done to establish a current area-capacity table. This new survey reduced the capacity by 44 acre-feet from sediment accumulations in the upper part of the reservoir basin. The water was exchanged to Platoro in late summer of 1998 and subsequently recaptured by April 1, 1999.

La Jara Reservoir was also drained in 1999 to allow the replacement of portions of the gate structures that were allowing significant seepage. The water, owned by the Division of Wildlife, was released to La Jara Creek and helped provide a full water supply for many ditches on the Creek. The La Jara Creek drainage had a short snow pack; therefore, this operation was extremely beneficial to the diverters on this system. It will most likely take several years to restore the water that was released because of the small drainage area. This reservoir is a very good fishery and will be sorely missed until enough water can be stored to prevent winterkill.

All of these actions were preceded by contact with the Division of Wildlife and the Water Quality Control Commission according to the MOU with those agencies.

Dam safety inspections in Division III were conducted by Frank Kugel, the former Dam Safety Field Engineer shared with Division 7. Eleven dams had annual safety inspections performed by the Field Engineer.

The Dam Safety Program continues to await the outcome of the Extreme Precipitation Committee. This committee is developing new standards for modeling extreme precipitation for elevations above 7500 feet. Hydrology studies and new enforcement actions on existing Class I and II dam spillways have been postponed pending the outcome of this committee.

Stream Administration

Stream administration was an incredible ordeal on several streams this year and it took extraordinary effort by many staff members to keep up with the ever-changing streamflow conditions. From the flood event on Saguache Creek to the incredible increase in the index supply on the Rio Grande described above, it took many extra hours and ingenuity to react to the events in the basin this year.

The new decrees coming out of the court require much more time, attention and

accounting than ever before. No new resources in either travel or man-months have been allocated in many years and the staff can not adequately administer or manage the basin in a manner they believe is required. We continue to press for the need for those additional resources. Diversion records also continue to have to be revised and refined to ensure that all decrees are being properly accounted for.

Hydrography

The Hydrographic Branch in Division III has the responsibility of providing quality and accurate 'real time' stream flow data and historic record of streamflow in and around the San Luis Valley of Colorado. This includes the Rio Grande and the Conejos Rivers and their tributaries, as well as those streams tributary to the Closed Basin.

The number of stream gaging stations that the branch operates has grown significantly in the last year. The Rio Grande Decision Support System is responsible for the addition of thirteen new stations that we will develop records for, and ten administrative stations that will be operated and maintained to provide real time data. To assist us in this large addition of work, Frank Kipple, who is a contract employee of one of the RGDSS consulting firms, has undertaken much of the field work for these gages, as well as assisting with records production. With the addition of these gages, the Division III Hydrographic Branch is in the process of producing yearly flow records for fifty-six gaging stations for the 1999 Water Year.

The Hydrographers of Division III are also assisting the Hydrographic Branch in Division IV with their streamflow records, and, as the cableway staff authority, Craig Cotten has assisted several divisions with plans for the construction or repair of their cableways.

Due to the need for an updated satellite monitoring system and the increasing workload of the IT Branch, Scott Veneman took a proactive step in designing a new records computation program for use by all hydrographic branches Statewide. This program that Scott developed has already been put to use by Division III as well as other Divisions throughout the State, and has been a virtual lifesaver in the development of streamflow records that can no longer be computed using the VAX.

Satellite Monitoring

The Satellite Monitoring System Repair Facility in Division III is responsible for the maintenance, repair, and calibration of all electronic data collection and telemetry equipment in Divisions III, IV, and VII. The facility provides technical support and assistance to field engineers and technicians in these divisions for system installation, field maintenance, and modifications. Approximately 30 percent of one full-time position is spent operating the facility.
In addition to the everyday repair and maintenance duties, several other functions were performed by the facility. Three satellite systems were installed in Division III. One installation was at La Garita Creek near La Garita. The other two were for RGDSS and were installed at Centennial Canal near Monte Vista, and the North Branch of the Conejos River near Conejos. Four new satellite systems were installed in Division VII. The facility oversaw the installation, programming, decoding, and data conversion of 19 additional satellite systems under the RGDSS contract. Troubleshooting, maintenance, and repair for these stations were provided by the facility. There is presently one more RGDSS site to be installed.

Construction Projects

The installation of a bank-operated cableway at the San Antonio River East of

Manassa, Colorado, was completed during 1999 by the hydrographic branch. This project was done to allow for high flow measurements to be made safer and without having to perform traffic control procedures as was done in the past when measurements were made from the highway bridge. All the new gaging stations and satellite monitoring equipment for RGDSS, with the exception of the satellite monitoring equipment on the Romero Ditch in District 22, were installed and operated during the spring and summer of 1999 by a private contractor with assistance from the Division III Hydrographic Branch.

Closed Basin

The Hydrographic Branch in Division III is charged with fulfilling the terms and conditions of a cooperative agreement between the State of Colorado and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. This agreement provides for streamflow measurement and data collection on the Closed Basin Project. It is the responsibility of the Hydrographic Branch to measure, record, and disseminate flow information to the Bureau of Reclamation and to other public entities. In addition, the Hydrographers are consulted on certain areas of concern regarding streamflow and measurement within the project.

The current agreement is the third five-year agreement between the State of Colorado and the Bureau of Reclamation regarding the Closed Basin Project. This agreement went into effect in October of 1999 and will continue until September of 2004.

WATER ISSUES

Since the 1998 water initiatives were defeated, the Stockman's Water Company issue has been very quiet. No application has been filed and there is no word as to the status of this potential filing.

The court cases involving the San Luis Valley Canal and the Prairie Ditch are still in negotiations with parties in the case. These cases involve adding recharge as a beneficial use and the applicants are trying to establish future credit to pump against by the wells under those systems. These cases remain very controversial and may end up in court if the issues can't be resolved.

Several large augmentation plans and change of water rights were filed in the court this year. These will require a great deal of staff time to evaluate and draft terms and conditions to prevent injury to the vested right on those drainages.

The US Forest Service reserved rights cases were amended again in 1999 and a proposed draft decree has been circulated for several months and is in final draft.
The draft decree has been approved by the main objectors and the attorney general's office, and they are waiting final approval from the remaining objectors. If the decree is approved, it will address the issues in Division III and will give the USFS what they want as well. Since their amendments asked for more water than originally applied for, they have agreed to give up their original priority date and accept a 1999 date for the rights if they are approved. A number of unique concepts were used to negotiate this case and it will surely avoid a lengthy trial.

The administration of the Compacts remains a never-ending process wherein we try new ideas to make more effective use of our entitlements and still meet our obligations. These documents provide a constant opportunity to refine our skills and knowledge in their administration and are a challenge each day of the year.

The potential conversion of the Great Sand Dunes National Monument to a National Park was also a large issue at the end of 1999. A great deal of information and data was

requested by the congressional delegation to help them define the issues surrounding this proposal. We will continue to be involved in this effort as long as information on water is required.

ON-GOING PROJECTS

RGDSS

The Rio Grande Decision Support System project was a very large part of Division III activities in 1999. Most of the staff was heavily involved in various aspects of the project, including identification of irrigated acreage, acquiring GPS locations for most active diversion structures, identifying key diversion structures, describing canal and drain layouts, and rectifying water rights and well permit files. The hydrographic staff and Frank Kipple, a contract employee, installed 13 new gages and 21 DCP's during the year. Most were able to be used during the 1999 irrigation season and were very helpful to the staff in monitoring flows and diversions that we had not been able to before. Various other contracts are moving along very swiftly, including the drilling of the confined aquifer monitoring wells, consumptive use modeling, refinement of the ground water model, and the computer enhancement necessary to tie all this data together.

Rio Grande Silvery Minnow

The Rio Grande Silvery Minnow, for such a small fish, has created an unbelievable amount of chaos in the State of New Mexico and throughout the rest of the Rio Grande Basin. At the end of 1999, at least seven separate lawsuits have been filed in regard to the Minnow, its critical habitat or the sources of water supply for the recovery of the fish. It has created gridlock in the Middle Rio Grande Valley in New Mexico. Numerous groups are attempting to find ways to accommodate the fish without destroying the existing uses of water on the river. The recovery team was inactive during 1999, but is scheduled to resume working on the implementation plan early in 2000.

Costilla Creek Compact Watermaster Manual

The Costilla Creek Compact Watermaster Manual took on a whole new life in 1999. A number of meetings involving the legal and engineering advisers to the Commission were held to negotiate the expected performance criteria of the Watermaster. Many very difficult subjects were discussed and all but one was resolved. The Commission will obviously have to confer on this issue since it involves some of the very basic principles of water law, administration and benefits of the Compact. The draft document was released for public comment on December 17, 1999, and the Commission will consider adoption at the annual meeting in May.

Upper Rio Grande Water Operations Model

The Upper Rio Grande Water Operations Model, being constructed by the Federal resource agencies in New Mexico is progressing. A pilot model of the Chama River was completed and tested, providing a basis for the Rio Grande mainstem portion of the model to be built on. As of this writing, the first completed model of the Mainstem portion of the system is ready for use and will be presented in the next few weeks to seek approval to use it this irrigation season.

Alamosa River Restoration Project

The Alamosa River Restoration Project is taking root and plans are being made to rehabilitate reaches of the river to help restore the riparian areas and the channel that was drastically damaged in the early 1970's. Restoration work has been completed on four of the reaches of the river.

Rio Grande Restoration Project

The Rio Grande Restoration Project is proceeding very slowly because of the lack of consensus by effected landowners and the turnover of personnel in the San Luis Water Conservancy District. Now that the District is fully staffed again it is hoped that the project will move forward. CWCB will be working with the District staff to move the project forward into 2000.

ON-GOING ISSUES

USA vs. Elephant Butte Irrigation District

The mediation efforts involving the United States of America versus Elephant Butte Irrigation District et al. failed at the end of 1999. The federal court became frustrated at the lack of genuine progress in the case, stayed the mediation effort and set up a litigation schedule for hearing outstanding motions and filing briefs. The court has not yet decided whether Colorado and others can intervene in this case. Project operations is still a major issue for Colorado and we continue to press our concerns and efforts to achieve full party status. A litigation schedule has been set and Colorado and Texas will find out if they will be allowed to intervene in the near future.

Water Court Activities

Activity in Water Court has increased in both the number of cases filed as well as the time spent to resolve cases on the docket for the third straight year. 57 cases were filed in 1999, compared to 40 cases filed in 1998. Appendix A, Water Court Activities, contains a breakdown of the Court activity for the year. The long awaited filing by Stockman's Water Company, owned and managed by Gary Boyce and Jeris Danielson, was not filed in 1999, as was promised by them. This is the fourth year that the case, which is similar to the AWDI case, was supposed to be filed but wasn't. No information is available on the status of the proposal.

Pat McDermott continued to handle the bulk of the day to day Water Court activity, while Craig Cotten and Mike Sullivan handled some of the caseload. They reviewed the applications and supplied recommendations to the Division Engineer for inclusion into the Consultation Report to the Referee. The staff spent a lot of time working with applicants and attorneys to prevent injury to other water users by crafting appropriate terms and conditions. However, the time spent on negotiations has led to very few applications having to go before the judge.

We continue to have excellent working relations with the Water Referee, William Martinez, and the Water Court and feel that, although we have increased our workload in this area, the job is well done.

Carol Redding has taken over the responsibilities of Water Court Clerk as part of her duties as Clerk of the Combined Courts.

INVOLVEMENT IN THE WATER USER COMMUNITY

As always, we strive to be as involved as possible in the Water User Community. Our staff attends the regularly scheduled meetings of the Rio Grande Water Users Association, the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, the Conejos Water Conservancy District, the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, the Closed Basin Operating Committee, the Trinchera Irrigation Company, and all other Water User group meetings that we are invited to attend.

Additionally, the staff has given presentations to various elementary and high schools around the Valley. The Water Commissioners make themselves available and attend many of the ditch company meetings held in their districts.

We have actively participated in the San Luis Valley Wetlands Focus Group, in the Rio Grande Silvery Minnow Recovery Plan, the Southwestern Willow Fly Catcher Recovery Technical Advisory Team, the Bureau of Land Management Rio Grande Corridor Plan, the RGDSS Advisory, Upper Rio Grande Water Operations Model Advisory and Technical Teams, and many other public forums which require input on water issues.

The staff of Division III participated in a number of public forums relating to water. These include presenting a paper at the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute on the administration of the Rio Grande Compact, teaching a session of the Water Leadership Class sponsored by the Rio Grande Water Conservation District and presenting a speech to the Colorado Water Congress on groundwater issues in the San Luis Valley.

PERSONNEL/WORKLOAD ISSUES

Well Administration and Permitting Activities

Well permitting continued to increase with exempt permits issued from the Division III office. The departure of veteran Well Commissioner, Dennis Felmlee, slowed permitting somewhat. Other staff has been able to keep up with the demand during the slower months.

More water users have been visiting the office for guidance on rectifying their existing water right/permit portfolios. Many users are going to Water Court to have replacement, supplemental, or alternate point of diversion wells adjudicated.

One Cease and Desist court action was required this year when a water user attempted to use a household well for commercial piscatorial purposes.

Division III personnel attended briefings by the Board of Examiners for well drillers and provided comments on the proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations for Well Construction.

Water Records and Information

The Water Commissioners continue to rely more heavily on the computer to perform their duties. The availability of gage information, from the computer each morning, allows the Commissioners to make and implement decisions regarding diversions early in the day. The new administrative gages in District 20 have greatly assisted in "setting the river" and delivery of water to the users. This information, published daily in the stream administration sheet that is available to the water users, allows for more efficient allocation of this valuable resource. It also keeps the water users more informed about the conditions on the river each day.

Diversion records went smoothly this year. The Water Commissioners have a good handle on the toolkits, which makes developing the diversion records an easier task. This year, the Division again copied the final diversion records in the Division Office, resulting in the information being available to the public by mid-January 2000, as well as alleviating some of the workload for the Records branch in the Denver office.

Personnel Changes

DENNIS FELMLEE

Dennis Felmlee, Division III Well Commissioner, changed careers in September 1999. He left his position with Division III to assume the Manager position with San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District. Joe McCann, Deputy Water Commissioner on the Alamosa River and La Jara Creek, is doing the work until the position is filled. Pat McDermott is helping when Joe has questions. Joe and Pat have made it easier to cope with Dennis being gone and the position being left open.

FRANK KUGEL

Frank Kugel, Dam Safety Engineer, left Division VII to assume the duties of the Assistant Division Engineer in Division IV. Frank was also the Dam Safety Engineer for Division III. Since his position has not been filled, he has been helping out with dam issues that require attention. We appreciate all the help Frank has given us over the years and would like to thank him for his attention to our dams in the past.

CRAIG COTTEN

Craig Cotten, lead hydrographer is responsible for all the streamflow records produced in Division III and oversees a staff of three. Craig was promoted to PE II during 1999 in recognition of his duties and his staff authority in cableway systems design and maintenance.

Training Activities

In January, Jerri Baker attended training on the new COFRS system in Denver. Mike Sullivan received training on the new system in February. Also in February, Divisions III and VII held a joint training session in South Fork. Frank Kugel provided training on dam safety and Steve Vandiver and Ken Beegles provided water administration training. Jerri attended the Annual Assistant Meeting in Denver in August, where training was provided on COFRS, fiscal rule changes, changes in travel, and updates in personnel rules and human resources. At the Annual Fall Water Commissioner Meeting, Steve Sims and Ken Knox educated Division III on the abandonment procedures in preparation for the 2000 abandonment. Steve Baer, Water Commissioner on the Rio Grande, attended the Flood and Drought Conference in Denver. He brought very interesting information back to share with Division III.

Workload Issues

We continue to try to diversify the staff experience by involving them in as many issues and situations outside their primary responsibilities as time allows. Many of the water commissioners have been assisting in the RGDSS efforts by working with the contractors on irrigated acreage, ditch, canal, and drain locations, locating headgates by GPS, and rectifying permit/rights files.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

1999 Division III Excellence Award

In April, the Hydrographers – Craig Cotten, Scott Veneman, Stan Ditmars – were recognized for their excellence in performance of their hydrographic duties and for the dedication shown to the goals of Colorado's Hydrographic Program. Division III records were submitted by stated deadlines, even though the Hydrographic Branch worked with other divisions on their records, participated in the RGDSS project, helped train other Hydrographers around the state and worked on numerous other projects.

Craig, Scott and Stan are prime examples of the type of person necessary for the success of Division of Water Resources.

Water Commissioner of the Year

Wayne Williams was recognized as Water Commissioner of the Year for 1999. Wayne was recognized for his efforts in providing consistent and diligent administration of water rights in District 35. District 35 is a difficult district to administer with its multitude of alternate points of diversion and exchanges that occur. Wayne's efforts at close communication with all of the entities in District 35 and the good rapport he has fostered with the water users in District 35 makes him an asset to Division III.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Water User of the Year

Gerald Gray and Skip Crowe were nominated by Water Commissioner Art Rivale for recognition as Water Users of the Year because of their willingness to work with other water users on San Luis Creek to optimize the use of water on that system. Mr. Gray and Mr. Crowe have allowed upstream junior users to benefit from the water by allowing them to irrigate their hay meadows early.

Ditch Superintendent of the Year

David Muniz, Ditch Superintendent of the Capulin, McCunniff and Valley Ditches in District 21, was nominated for recognition as Ditch Superintendent of the Year in Division III. Water Commissioner Joe McCann, nominated Mr. Muniz for his willingness to work with the Commissioner and for his assistance through the years. Mr. Muniz has fostered excellent communication with Joe and exhibited a true desire to make the administration of transfer water much easier.

KEY OBJECTIVES AND GOALS

Many of our key objectives and goals are on-going from year to year, but they form the basis for what we do and how we do it. The following are our key objectives for the year 2000.

1. Administer the Rio Grande and Costilla Creek Compacts in a manner that ensures the entitlements of Colorado under each Compact are fully realized and utilized and that Colorado's obligations are met.
2. Operate the Division III office in a manner that allows us to stay within our budget, including the development of a budget process acceptable to the State Engineer for the utilization of Compact funds for Compact related expenses.
3. Implement the provisions of the Long-Range Plan.
4. Continue to develop and implement the quality assurance/quality control program for Division III data, including historic diversion records, water rights information and ownership information.
5. Provide training to our staff in the use of the computer applications available to us; in particular word processing, spreadsheets, communications, databases and the forthcoming Hydrobase and Well Evaluation Tools.
6. Correctly issue well permits on a timely basis under the well permit decentralization program.
7. Constantly improve the quality of our hydrographic and diversion records and meet all deadlines for the completion and submittal of final records.
8. Coordinate with water user groups, individuals and other State and Federal agencies on issues such as endangered species, instream flows, Compact administration, Interstate litigation and Water Court

applications, in order to maximize cooperation and minimize disputes.

9. Work with CWCB, the SEO, and the consultants on the RGDSS project to ensure that the system meets the needs of the users and that it is correctly done.
10. Continue to implement Principal Centered Leadership.
11. Identify any problems with and improve water administration at every level in the organization.
12. Try to help restore the travel, personnel services and the operating budget that has been proposed by the New Century Colorado group to be cut substantially.
13. To effectively accomplish the Water Court process responsibilities with efficiency to provide terms and conditions that will practically and effectively deal with impact to other vested rights.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES IN 2000

Several activities will affect our workload in the coming year. Foremost is the continuation of the RGDSS study. The Division will be continuing to work with the consultants by providing information on the operations of each District. The Division will also be spending some time correlating the well permit records with the Water Court records to eliminate the "double counting" of wells in the Division. Additionally, the Division will continue to determine actual locations of headgates and structures using the available GPS technology.

The Division anticipates the Rio Grande Project quiet title litigation will again require a significant amount of the Division Engineer's and the Attorney General's time.

The administration of the Compacts will again be one of the most important duties. Administration in 1999 was difficult due to the circumstances we were faced with in both basins. The early snow reports and spotty snow conditions seem to be pointing toward an extremely dry year for 2000.

A major activity in 2000 will be to continue to familiarize ourselves with the new level of technology available to both our Water Commissioners and the Alamosa office staff. With the impending shift to Hydrobase, new user interfaces, RGDSS, a new satellite monitoring program, use of the Internet and the Intranet, and new hardware with which to use it, we anticipate spending considerable time getting everybody trained and comfortable with the new systems.

A real concentration on quality water administration and record keeping will be one of the top priorities of 2000.

Another activity scheduled during 2000 is the location of a new office for the Division III staff. The search has been ongoing for approximately five years, but it seems there is a light at the end of the tunnel. We hope to be in our new space by the next writing of this report.

INNOVATIVE ADMINISTRATION TECHNIQUES

At the request of the State Engineer, we will attempt to describe a few techniques to solve problems that we have or are working on to address problems that do not lend themselves to normal remedies.

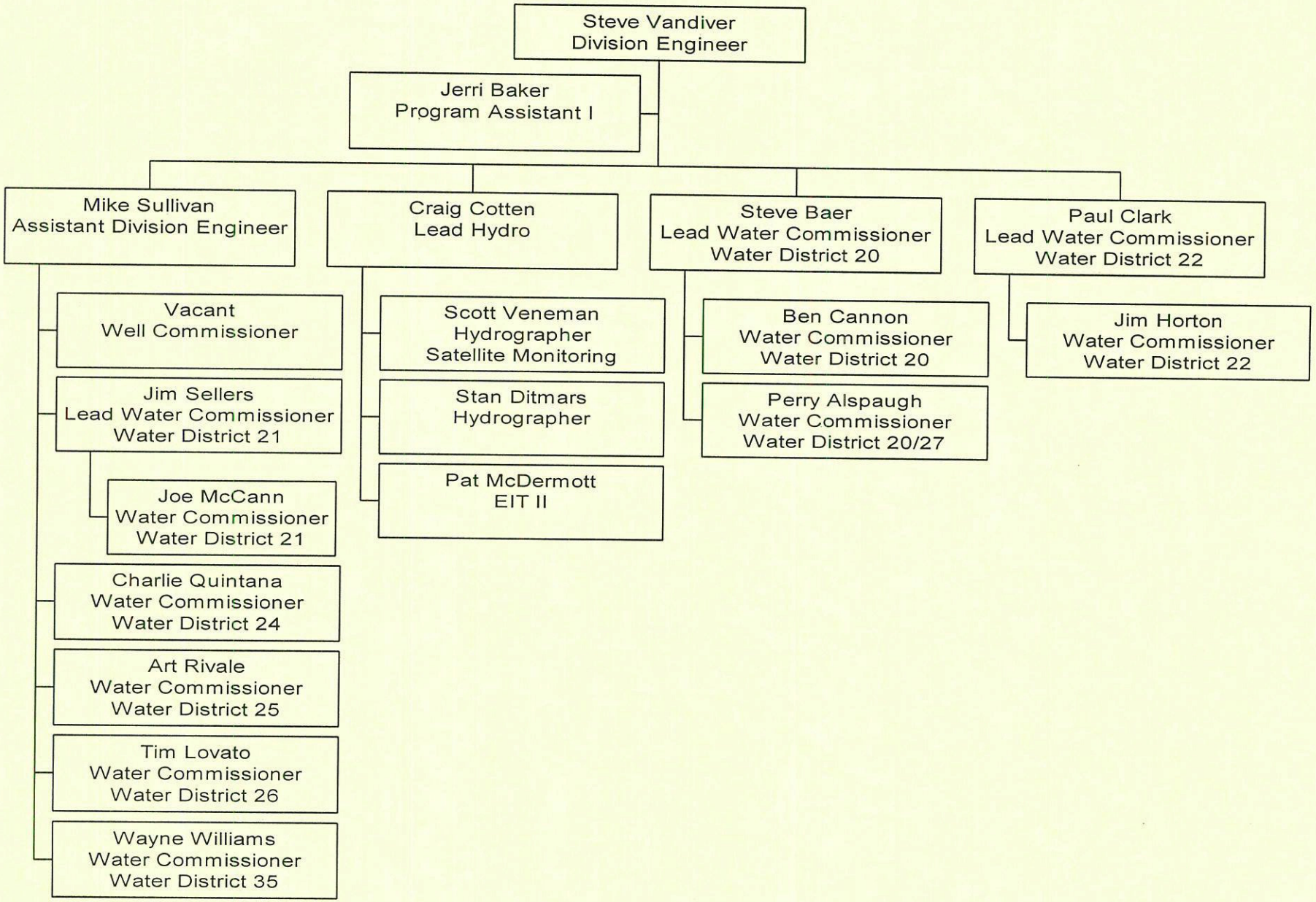
1. The outlet gate structure in the dam at Rio Grande Reservoir has suffered damage on several occasions apparently due to unusual turbulence conditions in certain ranges of flow. Through the joint efforts of the San Luis Valley Irrigation District, the users on the Rio Grande, other reservoir owners, and Division of Water Resources, operating criteria has

been developed to release flows outside of the damaging range of flow and protect the downstream vested rights. This criterion ensures that no senior users downstream or our ability to deliver Compact water to New Mexico is impacted by this release restriction.

2. During extremely dry winter months there are areas in the San Luis Valley that are prone to domestic wells going dry and stock unable to be watered. After several different scenarios were suggested and failed, we will amend our normal Compact administration in some cases when possible. We will try to let specific ditches divert small amounts of water now and pay the Compact back later in the spring by giving up a part of their irrigation supply.
3. Similar to that, we are working with ditches that want to divert earlier than the majority wants the irrigation season to start. We are allowing the diversion of what, in the past, has been Compact water under terms and conditions that require repayment later in the season to the extent there is a Compact curtailment.
4. We are currently in the brainstorming process of trying to achieve in-stream flows on the Alamosa River in an area that is typically dried up in the winter by reservoir storage. Along with a number of other entities, we are trying to identify the possibility of a pool of water that can be stored in the summer and released in the fall and winter to keep a live stream. Currently, it does not seem possible or practical; however, we are identifying areas of common ground that may be used as a basis for an agreement between the reservoir company and the direct flow users to accomplish everyone's goals.
5. We are currently working on an operating plan that would allow the use of a post-Compact reservoir to "pre-store" Compact water that would normally be run to the Stateline to try to minimize the over- or under-delivery of our obligation.
6. The use of private irrigation reservoirs to control flooding. With the agreement of a reservoir company, we are trying to re-regulate the peak of the hydrograph in high years to prevent flooding of vulnerable areas downstream.

MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS OF 1999

The most important events of 1999 for Division III were the implementation of the RGDSS studies and the amazing water issues on the Rio Grande. These two events had the greatest effect on operations in Division III and will not be quickly forgotten.


Steve Vandiver
Division Engineer
Jerri Baker
Program Assistant I
Mike Sullivan
Assistant Division Engineer
Craig Cotten
Lead Hydro
Steve Baer
Lead Water Commissioner
Water District 20
Paul Clark
Lead Water Commissioner
Water District 22
Vacant
Well Commissioner
Jim Sellers
Lead Water Commissioner
Water District 21
Joe McCann
Water Commissioner
Water District 21
Charlie Quintana
Water Commissioner
Water District 24
Art Rivale
Water Commissioner
Water District 25
Tim Lovato
Water Commissioner
Water District 26
Wayne Williams
Water Commissioner
Water District 35
Scott Veneman
Hydrographer
Satellite Monitoring
Stan Ditmars
Hydrographer
Pat McDermott
EIT II
Ben Cannon
Water Commissioner
Water District 20
Perry Alspaugh
Water Commissioner
Water District 20/27
Jim Horton
Water Commissioner
Water District 22

APPENDIX

A

WATER ADMINISTRATION DATA SUMMARIES

Storage Water

RIVER CALLS

IRRIGATION YEAR - 1999

District	Most Senior Priority Curtailed	Most Junior Priority Served	Calling Right in Spring
20 Rio Grande	#216-A Rio Grande Canal	1903-63A Rio Grande Reservoir	#204 San Luis Canal
21 La Jara	#7 McCunniff Ditch	1957-18 L.E. Shawcroft & Sons Ditch	#56 Hardtack South Branch
21 Alamosa	#3 Alamosa Creek Canal	#110 Terrace Reservoir	#1 El Viejo Ditch
22 Conejos	#1 Guadalupe, Romero and Manassa	#190 Christenson Ditch	#32 La Sauces Ditch
22 San Antonio	#3 El Coda Ditch	#196 Eight Mile Ditch	#24 Rincones Ditch
24 Culebra	1934-14 Gambino Atencio Ditch	#1951-4 Lobato Ditch	#11 Cerro Ditch
26 Saguache	#12 Stubbs Gallegos Ditch	All Rights	#65 Werner Clark Ditch
27 La Garita	#13 Biedell No. 10 Ditch	All Rights	#2 Biedell Ditch No. 10
27 Carnero	#18 La Magote No. 2	1988 C. Ditch	#21 Green Ditch
35 Trinchera and Tributaries	#85 Trinchera Canal	#93 Fred Etter Ditch	#38 1/4 Notlley Ball Ditch

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

WATER ADMINISTRATION DATA SUMMARIES

Compact Administration

1999 RIO GRANDE COMPACT REPORT

Preliminary Figures

		A.F.
1.	Adjusted Rio Grande Index	914,200
	*Adjusted Rio Grande Delivery	355,400
	Required Rio Grande Delivery	347,800
	Less Paper Credit per agreement	5,000
	Net Required Rio Grande Delivery	342,800
2.	Adjusted Combined Conejos Index	313,300
	**Adjusted Conejos Delivery	109,000
	Required Conejos Delivery	119,100
	Less Paper Credit per agreement	5,000
	Net Required Conejos Delivery	114,100
3.	***Total Delivery at Lobatos	464,400
	Total Required Delivery at Lobatos	466,900
	Less Paper Credit (See Compact)	10,000
	Net Required Delivery at Lobatos	456,900
	Margin	7,500

4. Rio Grande Curtailment

Delivery Target	(% of Index)	Estimated Curtailment of Ditches	(% of Index)
January 1 - March 14	100%	January 1 - March 14	100%
March 15 - May 7	10%	March 15 - May 7	0%
May 8 - July 13	17%	May 8 - July 13	12%
July 14 - July 21	20%	July 14 - July 21	17%
July 22 - August 5	33%	July 22 - August 5	30%
August 6 - September 2	40%	August 6 - August 23	Vol. Bypass
September 3 - October 18	50%	August 24 - September 2	30%
October 19 - December 31	40%	September 3 - October 18	40%
		October 19 - 31	30%
		November 1 - December 31	0% (recharge)

5. Conejos Curtailment

Delivery Target	(% of Index)	Estimated Curtailment of Ditches	(% of Index)
January 1 - March 8	100%	January 1 - March 8	100%
March 9 - April 6	0%	March 9 - May 7	0%
April 7 - May 7	10%	May 8 - June 15	20%
May 8 - August 25	20%	June 16 - 30	0%
August 26 - October 4	28%	July 1 - August 5	35%
October 5 - December 31	0%	August 6 - 25	0%
		August 26 - 31	30%
		September 1 - December 31	0%

*Includes 12,232 a.f. of the creditable Closed Basin Project production.

**Includes 8,155 a.f. of the creditable Closed Basin Project production.

***Includes all the creditable Closed Basin Project production (20,387 a.f.).

WATER ADMINISTRATION DATA SUMMARIES

Storage Water

RESERVOIR STORAGE SUMMARY

IRRIGATION YEAR - 1999

				AMOUNT IN STORAGE (AF)				
				MINIMUM		MAXIMUM		
WD	ID	RESERVOIR NAME	SOURCE STREAM	AF	DATE	AF	DATE	END OF YEAR
20	3532	Beaver Park	Beaver Creek	3636	06/30/1999	4490	04/30/1999	3767
20	3536	Continental	North Clear Creek	1019	10/31/1999	10337	06/30/1999	1019
20	3554	Rio Grande	Rio Grande	80	10/31/1999	50595	06/30/1999	80
20	3558	Santa Maria	North Clear Creek	7846	11/01/1998	21444	10/31/1999	21444
21	3582	La Jara	La Jara Creek	0	08/10/1999	3583	05/18/1999	0
21	3583	Terrace	Alamosa River	2864	11/01/199	9812	06/28/1999	7358
22	3574	Platoro	Conejos River	20155	11/01/1998	40175	07/04/1999	29834
24	3576	Sanchez	Culebra Creek	33222	11/01/1998	48874	07/01/1999	46133
35	3529	Mt. Home	Trinchera Creek	1703	10/18/1999	9245	06/27/1999	2192
35	3530	Smith	Trinchera Creek	1590	11/01/1998	5572	03/01/1999	2138

WATER ADMINISTRATION DATA SUMMARIES

Transmountain Diversion Summary - Inflows/Outflows

TRANSMOUNTAIN DIVERSION SUMMARY - INFLOWS

Recipient				10-Year Average		Current Year		Source		
WD	ID	Name	Stream	AF	Days	AF	Days	WD	ID	Stream
20	917	Don LaFont #1 Ditch	Trib Red Mtn Creek	18	15	0	0	78	4,670	Trib Piedra River
20	918	Don LaFont #2 Ditch	Trib Red Mtn Creek	150	53	0	0	78	4,671	Trib Piedra River
20	919	Pine River	Weminuche	492	75	1105	74	31	4,638	N.F. Los Pinos
20	920	Tabor	Trib Clear Creek	940	152	1425	84	62	774	Cebolla Creek
20	921	Treasure Pass Ditch	S.F. Rio Grande	118	33	367	85	29	4,669	Wolf Creek
20	922	Weminuche Pass Ditch	Weminuche	922	41	3402	66	31	4,637	Rincon LaVaca
20	923	Williams Creek Squaw Pass	Squaw Creek	359	76	746	102	78	4,672	Williams Creek
26	702	Tarbell	Saguache Creek	446	57	1703	91	28	4,656	Cochetopa Creek

TRANSMOUNTAIN DIVERSION SUMMARY - OUTFLOWS

79	N/A	Hudson Branch Ditch	Huerfano	99	25	299	62	35	657	Medano
79	N/A	Medano Ditch	Huerfano	915	55	368	46	35	658	Medano

WATER ADMINISTRATION DATA SUMMARIES

WATER DIVERSION SUMMARIES FOR VARIOUS USES - IRRIGATION YEAR 1999

WD	TRANS-MOUNTAIN OUTFLOW	TRANS-BASIN OUTFLOW	MUNICIPAL	COMMERCIAL	INDUSTRIAL	RECREATION	FISHERY	DOMESTIC & HOUSEHOLD	STOCK
20	0	25560	7798	227	481	0	2704	121	0
21	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	0	0	2479	0	0	0	0	6039	0
24	0	0	228	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	0	0	308	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	667	0	381	1189	303	0	0	43	0
Total	667	25560	11234	1416	784	0	2704	6203	0

WD	AUGMENTATION	EVAPORATION	GEOTHERMAL	SNOW-MAKING	MINIMUM STREAMFLOW	POWER GENERATION	WILDLIFE	RECHARGE	OTHER
22	20083	0	0	0	0	0	0	141	0
24	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4386	0
35	385	0	0	0	0	80	0	225	20,862
20	3231	150	0	0	0	884	7474	25615	34,775
21	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	117	63,065
Total	23745	159	0	0	0	964	7474	30484	118,702

WATER ADMINISTRATION DATA SUMMARIES

WATER DIVERSION SUMMARY IRRIGATION YEAR - 1999

WD	Structures Reporting			Others		Estimated			To Irrigation		
	With Record	No Water Available	No Water Taken	No Information Available	Wells, Ditches and Reservoirs with No Record	Number of Water Commissioner Observations	Total Diversions -AF-	Total Diversions to Storage -AF-	Total Diversions -AF-	Number of Acres Irrigated	Average AF per acre
20	267	17	23	34	7,462	10,540	807,794	71,555	762,936	363,909	2.10
21	106	1	5	1	925	5,418	186,572	4,493	122,116	68,833	1.77
22	150	0	16	6	1,573	6,303	286,304	15,559	262,086	87,844	2.98
24	90	0	9	6	356	4,036	111,233	34,748	76,220	33,504	2.27
25	149	8	21	38	517	1,330	58,915	0	58,915	16,932	3.48
26	177	6	54	17	1,255	1,625	54,145	0	53,837	20,975	2.57
27	49	2	6	5	1,200	1,257	34,801	0	30,810	6,630	4.65
35	114	3	36	3	564	7,350	99,478	11,084	64,929	29,836	2.18
Total	1,102	37	170	110	13,852	37,859	1,639,242	137,439	1,431,849	628,463	2.28

WATER COURT ACTIVITIES

January 1 - December 31, 1999

Water Court Applications in 1999 - Type of Claim

Type of Claim	Number of Cases	Number of Structures
Underground Water Right	4	47
Surface Right	9	14
Storage Right	1	1
Plan for Augmentation	7	53
Exchange	0	0
Change of Underground Water Right	17	43
Change of Surface Right	0	0
Change of Plan for Augmentation	3	178
Complaint for Declaratory Judgement	2	3
Verified Complaint	1	1
Petition to Correct Location	1	1
Finding of Diligence	5	7
Diligence - Make Conditional Absolute	7	9
Total	57	357

Note- Some applications in 1999 contained more than one type of claim or action (e.g. Change of Water Right and Plan for Augmentation). The type of claim was tabulated above under only one category of application.

Type of Decree Entered in 1999

Type of Claim	Number of Cases	Number of Structures
Finding of Diligence on Conditional Rights	2	16
Cancellation of Conditional Rights	0	0
Conditional Right Made Absolute	1	1
Conditional Right Adjudicated	0	0
Surface Right Adjudicated	4	14
Underground Right Adjudicated	5	17
Storage Right Adjudicated	2	4
Right of Exchange Adjudicated	1	N/A
Plan for Augmentation Adjudicated	3	22
Change of Surface Right Adjudicated	2	4
Change of Underground Right Adjudicated	9	11
Complaint for Declaratory Judgement Resolved	4	5
Petition Resolved	1	1
Total	34	95

Number of Open Cases as of December 31, 1999:	95
Number of Cases Dismissed in 1999:	3
Number of Cases Withdrawn in 1999:	0
Decrees Issued by the Court in 1999:	34
Cases Closed in 1999:	37

DIVISION III

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

1999

	Water Year	Calendar Year
Number of structures observed	1,102	1,102
Number of surface rights	2,516	2,516
Number of reservoirs	395	395
Number of wells	12,642	12,642
Number of observations	37,859	37,859
River measurements	814	814
Ditch measurements	269	269
Dam inspections	11	
New water rights administered		34
New plans of augmentation		3
Wells administered	12,642	12,642
Applications for decrees		57
Decrees issued by Water Court		34
Consultations with the Water Court Referee		431
Water Court Appearances		50
Meetings with water users	452	410
Meetings to resolve water related disputes	74	68
Public assistance contacts	42,356	39,873
Well permits issued	571	540
Miles driven by staff	218,372	252,425
Professional and Technical Staff	7	6
Clerical Staff	1	1
Water Commissioner FTE (Full/Part-Time)	4/5.75	4/5.75