

RICHARD D. LAMM
Governor



JERIS A. DANIELSON
State Engineer

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
WATER DIVISION IV

Thomas A. Kelly
Division Engineer
P.O. Box 456
Montrose, Colorado 81402
(303) 249-6622

January 20, 1987

Mr. Jeris A. Danielson
State Engineer
Division of Water Resources
1313 Sherman Street, Room 818
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Danielson:

On behalf of the office and field personnel of Irrigation Division Four, I submit herewith the Annual Report for 1986.

As in years past, it is important to give special recognition to the water officials and staff of Irrigation Division Four who have attended to the responsibilities of the division in a very professional manner.

This year Division Four is submitting an Annual Report without the final statistical summaries regarding the various activities and diversions during the 1986 water year. This is due to the in-house processing of the diversion records and various "bugs" that have shown up in the program and processing of these documents through the division Wang PC. It is important to note that this is the first instance where the annual records were totally generated within the division office, and I am pleased to report that the in-house activities to generate these records have run without a great deal of difficulty, and show tremendous potential as far as the use of the computer and the ability for Division Four to better manage all of its record and reporting data.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Kelly
Division Engineer

TAK:jk
Enc.

One final note: This year's report follows the general outline for annual reports as instructed in your October 24, 1983 memorandum.

RECEIVED

JAN 29 1987

WATER RESOURCES
STATE ENGINEER
DALLAS

ANNUAL REPORT

1986 - Water Year

Irrigation Division No. IV



TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
CURRENT WATER YEAR	1-7
Accomplishments for the Year	1-3
Community Water Users Involvement	3-5
Impact from Policies, Statutes and Administration Practices	5, 6
Administration Problems, Issues and Concerns.	6
Budget Impact	6, 7
1987 WATER YEAR	7-12
Problems and Concerns to Impact Division Operations	7, 8
Particular Problems and Concerns That Will Not Be Addressed	9
Projected Work Items Planned for 1986 for the Division Staff	9-11
Division Priorities in Terms of Goals and Objectives	11, 12
RECOMMENDATIONS	12-15
Water Administration.	12
Litigation Activities	13
Personnel Changes	13
Budgetary Priorities.	13-15
Administrative Practices.	15
STATISTICAL INFORMATION	16-19
Transmountain Diversions.	16
Water Diversions.	17, 18
Court Activities	19
TABLE OF ORGANIZATION	20

ANNUAL DIVISION ENGINEER'S REPORT

Irrigation Division Four

CURRENT WATER YEAR:

The following report outlines Division Four's water administration activities for the 1986 irrigation year and also identifies routine and anticipated water administration activities for 1987. This report is intended to highlight the activities that are considered unusual and beyond the normal responsibilities of Division Four staff. During 1986 water administration, staff workload distribution, water supply, budget attentions, and all other routine activities were addressed in the manner that was adequate to meet the overall duties of the division.

In viewing the past year's responsibilities for Division Four, there are several areas that warrant special attention and commendation. Initially, this office considers the storage reservoirs and dam safety repair activities to many of the jurisdictional dams within Division Four, an above average achievement. Through the Dam Safety Section and especially our local water officials and reservoir owners, the division has been able to repair and upgrade a great number of jurisdictional structures during the past year. A number of structures were rebuilt or repaired on Grand Mesa. These include the rebuilding of Grand Mesa No. 8, and also the beginning of reconstruction for the Overland Reservoir. Both the Grand Mesa No. 8 and the Overland Reservoir were repaired under the supervision of Western Engineers, Inc. from Grand Junction. Grand Mesa No. 8 has been accepted for storage and the Overland Reservoir is approximately half repaired and should be completed during the 1987 summer season. Work has begun on Lake Brennan (Irwin) to establish a proper spillway system under the supervision of the fish and game. Meridian Lake, above the Town of Crested Butte, has also been repaired to the point of acceptance by the Dam Safety Branch. The fish and game department has also begun repair on Spring Creek Reservoir, a restricted reservoir for many years. This work should be completed by the 1987 irrigation season. This is a recreational reservoir, but has been in a bad state of repair for quite some time. Another reservoir that has had major

repair work is the Buckeye Reservoir which was involved in a unique slurry trench cutoff wall, construction of a new outlet works structure, and also a new spillway. This was completed in the late fall and was conditionally approved for storage during this winter season. Miramonte Reservoir, a state parks reservoir, has been repaired, the abutment drains have been replaced, and the restriction on this particular structure will be lifted. An additional reservoir in the same area is the Gurley Reservoir. It was found to contain a number of sink holes as the elevation of the reservoir storage diminished and this irrigation company has employed an engineering firm to design and repair this structure. This reservoir is now set at a restricted level of zero storage, and it is likely that they will not be able to store water for the 1987 irrigation season; however, they are actively pursuing a repair program. Other reservoirs that have had some repair work or the beginning of long overdue attention during this year were Casto Reservoir No. 1 and the Craig Reservoirs. They have hired a licensed engineer to design the necessary repairs and it is anticipated that before another season has passed, these reservoirs will also be restored to their full capacity. This is an account of some of the major structures that have had specific attention. This office is pleased to report that the attention to and repair of restricted reservoirs have greatly improved during the past year. A number of smaller reservoirs has been so altered as to maintain elevations below the restricted storage level and these include Buckhorn Nos. 1 and 2, Mock and Coffey Reservoirs. A general overview of the dam safety improvement of Division Four during 1986 is such that there appears to be as much work accomplished during this year as perhaps has taken place in the last ten or twelve years. This is primarily the responsibility of the field commissioners who have worked very closely with the Dam Safety inspectors and a greatly improved communication between the Division Four water officials and the dam owners throughout Division Four.

Other areas of accomplishment for Division Four during 1986 involve the tremendous expanded use of the Division Four Wang personal computer. Mostly under the direction and guidance of Chuck David, the division has been able to utilize the PC in the division office for all types of record diversion and satellite monitoring as required by the satellite monitoring program. Incidence rates of "down time" on the satellite system fall generally within the time frames that have been defined by the State Engineer. This office is now monitoring 26 satellite reporting stations, eleven being operated solely

by the Division Four staff, the rest of them in cooperation with the U.S. Weather Bureau, the U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The effective use of this particular piece of equipment has not been without some concern and considerable frustration; however, the staff has been able to always accomplish the various responsibilities. At this writing the division diversion records are all entered and have been processed and printed on the first edit printing. We have found a number of program errors which are being corrected daily. Some of the programs that were submitted to the division office have been updated many times. This office understands the need to "debug" the programs necessary to generate this type of data and it is my opinion that the overall quality of the work at this point is above average. During this time we have trained two water commissioners in the input, correction, printing, and processing procedure for the diversion records and this allows these individuals certain additional responsibilities during the slow time of the year. The computer has become an important part of the division equipment.

This division continues to meet the necessary deadlines as required by the Water Court and was usually able to respond in a timely manner to all requests from the State Engineer's office, private consultants, attorneys, and water users. The association with the Division Water Court remains at a high level of cooperation. This year has seen a number of unique water augmentation plans and water transfer plans filed in Water Court. In several instances we have worked with the Denver office engineering section reviewing these cases. The Division Four Water Referee has had an opportunity to meet and work with some of the review section personnel.

One of the more significant water cases filed in Division Four during 1986 is the filing by the City of Aurora to divert through the Continental Divide a transmountain diversion out of the upper Taylor Park area. This application is similar to many of the present day transmountain diversions. A reservoir will be built at the base mountain of the beginning of the Continental Divide range. A tunnel will be drilled through the mountain and drop water into the Arkansas River above Buena Vista, Colorado. This reservoir is designed to collect excess runoff in the upper Taylor Park drainage basin, and also work in conjunction with an additional reservoir to be built on the East River directly upstream from the confluence of the East River and the Taylor River

at the beginning of the Gunnison River. This application was met with forty-three statements of opposition. An initial informal hearing was held last fall in Gunnison. The concensus at that time was that additional time be requested to work out differences of substance between the City of Aurora and some of the water users that had specific legal water related concerns about the construction of this project. Many of the statements of opposition involve the environmental or political aspects of this project, and these matters will probably not be addressed by the Water Court. A spring 1987 hearing is set to decide what direction this particular case will take in terms of the application by the City of Aurora. Additional augmentation and transfer filings have been made in Division Four. One of interest was made by ARCO in behalf of West Elk Coal Company in which a totally new methodology was proposed to determine if subsidence of a mined area over which tributary streams flow would cause impact to the stream systems. West Elk Coal has developed a methodology and a set of formulas based on streamflow on three different tributaries. It appears that this plan will be ready for a conditional decree within the next month or two. An important factor of this decree is to have the court retain jurisdiction in order to review additional data as it becomes available.

In reviewing the past irrigation season, water resources for the most part were more than adequate to take care of Division Four water decrees. Consequently, strict administration of most of the main streams and tributaries was minimal. Because of this, the water officials were able to spend more time looking at reservoir restrictions, improvement of headgate and measuring structures, and were not particularly impacted by the reduction in travel which allowed the division to finish the budget year without too great a variance from the budgeted funds. It is possible that during the first average, or slightly less than average, water supply year, some of these areas will suffer in attention because of water administration needs. The division office continues to improve communications between all groups concerning administration of water resources within Division Four. There are improved communications between the division office and the division water officials. Communication with the dam safety branch shows great improvement between the division office and the field commissioners.

Division Four office is the principal source for diversion data and water

decree information. Water user groups, conservancy districts, large canal companies, state and federal governments, land developers, attorneys, and consulting engineers are regular visitors to the field commissioners' homes and the division office. Their requests concern all aspects of water administration and water use throughout the division. The division staff is involved in "water meetings" with various entities concerning administration, dam safety, ground water needs, water diversion control structures, and other miscellaneous activities.

The association with the Division Water Court continues to require considerable time, mileage, and effort on the part of the division staff in order to evaluate and make recommendations through the consultation process. This year's caseload was approximately one-third less than 1985; however, the complexity of some of the water cases helped to make up for the lesser number of filings. The Water Court relies strongly on the recommendations of the field water officials and the association with the Water Court continues to be excellent. The Water Court normally accepts this office's recommendations without reservation. Again, as in years past, the importance of good accurate diversion records are emphasized. This need is very important relative to the change of water rights and plans of augmentation reviewed by the Water Court.

It is impossible to visit all diversion structures during the irrigation season. It is necessary that water user reports be identified as an official record and in some instances the water official must make choices as it relates to securing diversion records or attention to other water administrative concerns. Water Commissioners continue to experience increased demands and very often insufficient time to attend to all the responsibilities of their job. The water using public is requiring better diversion records, and in some cases, due to personnel and time limitations, little improvement in overall water diversion records was noted in 1986. During 1986, the division was not able to make significant progress in the mapping of irrigated acreage. In addition to that, budget limitations made it necessary to reduce field mileage and working time for the field staff. However, an inventory of the amount of measured irrigated acreage was made during the spring of 1986, and it was found that in some instances we have as much as ninety per cent of some of the water districts completely mapped and identified. It would not be difficult to complete several irrigation districts to the point that they

could be calculated for an annual consumptive use study. It is our hope to pinpoint several districts and perhaps have all the data available for these calculations.

In the past ten years, increases in division staff have been very limited and the field commissioners are not able to always keep up with new water rights. These new decrees have in some instances nearly doubled their field workload, and the commissioner staff and allocated time have not increased accordingly. Many of the new, along with some of the old, water rights are not identified in the annual diversion records. During the spring of 1986, the field staff was requested to increase their number of field diversion records by ten per cent. In some cases this appeared to be a reasonable request and this was accomplished. In other instances it was not quite reached; however, overall there was a modest increase in diversion records as far as the records on water rights located in Water Division Four.

Budget restrictions have limited off-season attention to water diversion records throughout the entire division. Because many of Division Four's personnel are part-time employees, and with the ongoing responsibilities assigned to the annual employees, attention to winter diversion records and administration has been kept at a minimum. The records resulting from these activities are considered marginal at best. Division mileage allocations have limited travel during the winter months for some of the full-time employees and this has resulted in the reduced work on special projects in the division. Salary allocations to part-time employees for the division met the minimum needs. Generally speaking, the salary budget allocations for Division Four have been adequate to complete the responsibilities during the past four or five years with some managing of allocations at the end of the fiscal year. With the new budget salary process whereby every employee must be identified to a specific amount of work for an entire fiscal year, it makes it more difficult to build an emergency situation into the budget management process. It should be pointed out that during the last five years, water availability was average or well above average. Consequently, the early or late administrative needs of the districts were not felt as in 1981 or 1977. As long as we can have average or better water supply years, it is my opinion that there is sufficient personnel at the current level to attend to the responsibilities of Irrigation Division Four. In the event of a less than

average year, then certain adjustments would be necessary either in the latter part of the irrigation season, or the time prior to the end of the fiscal year in May and June. These are aspects of the job that are difficult to forecast and the only manner in which it can be addressed is at the time of need.

Division Four experienced the retirement of two employees during 1986. Lester Whiting retired as Water Commissioner B in Water District 42, and Ralph Kelling retired as Assistant Division Engineer. Lester Whiting's position was filled by Jack Carter who was employed in Division One as special water commissioner for the Westminster water decree. He has proven to be an excellent water commissioner and capable of keeping the highly volatile Kannah Creek district under good administration. Ralph Kelling went on terminal leave the first of November and his official retirement begins the week of January 5th, 1987. Ralph has sold his home in Montrose and moved to a retirement home area in Tucson, Arizona. Additional personnel changes are being planned; however, they will involve the retirement of several of the long time water officials. It is my feeling that some job consolidation can be made where a full time employee would have a better workload throughout the entire year. These changes will be requested at the time of such retirements. There are several areas that water commissioner time management could be utilized in such a way as to better use the personnel in order to accomplish a higher quality job and have a more consistent type of annual responsibilities.

1987 WATER YEAR:

Water right filings continue to have time and budget impact throughout Division Four. This is not considered a negative impact; however, it requires planning and setting of work priorities by all employees. These activities affect the majority of the division staff and require additional field attention in the areas where heavy filings take place, i.e., Upper Gunnison Basin, parts of San Miguel drainage (Telluride area), upper Uncompahgre drainage, and many areas throughout District 40. The required special attention and administration of water right augmentation plans are adding additional workload to field personnel and division office staff. Additional concern to the division operations is the completion of the Ridgway Dam. The embankment was completed in the summer of 1986. Some outlet construction

work remains and this is being finished during the winter months. The Bureau of Reclamation initially planned to close the reservoir outlet system in early October so the contractor could construct the outlet works, install an emergency gate, outlet pipe, etc. Because of an extremely wet fall, they were not able to do this until the first or second week of November. Initially, it was their understanding that they could only bypass two to four cfs of water through their bypass pipe; however, further study indicated that this was erroneous and they were able to release approximately 45 to 50 cfs. The reservoir is filling slowly with approximately 9,000 acre feet stored. There was no impact on the downstream water users because of the closing of the reservoir in November. This office has been in contact with the Bureau of Reclamation concerning the establishing of a gaging station below the reservoir. They have consented to the installation of a satellite system which is to be attached into the instrumentation of the outlet release system. There is a dopler device that will convert soundings into flow and at the present time, it is this office's understanding that the Bureau of Reclamation will furnish all of the electronic equipment to attach one of the state satellite system monitoring devices. This type of system will be used in lieu of a gaging station. The manufacturer's specifications indicate an accuracy of 97.5 per cent or better, so it appears to be satisfactory. In addition to this the Bureau of Reclamation is beginning to determine water needs as opposed to their storage scheduling in the spring, and also reviewing the potential injury to downstream water users in the event they are unable to complete their construction work before the "call" on the Uncompahgre River comes from various ditches and canals. It is expected that they may be able to complete all their construction work prior to the beginning of the irrigation season; however, snowpacks and water demands will determine what will be necessary under any circumstance. The bureau has asked for specific flow needs during the period of April 15 throughout the spring runoff time. A meeting is being scheduled sometime in late January concerning the availability of water for storage. It is this office's position that the only time that we know water will be available for storage is during the high spring runoff, and it is my intention to emphasize the necessity of having available the natural flow of the Uncompahgre River during any period of time from the beginning of the irrigation season or calling period throughout the entire 1987 irrigation season.

An always present concern is the ongoing improvements of diversion records, measuring devices and diversion structures. Improvement seems to be appropriate in some areas throughout the division, and as a higher quality of diversion records are demanded, upgrading of these structures becomes more important. Winter diversion records will only be attended to on an as-needed or minimal basis. Hopefully, there will be some continued improvement. However, due to budget restraints and the lack of work-time for many of the division employees, winter administration activities will continue to be very limited. Other proposed winter activities, including the consumptive use mapping and the checking and entering of new water rights into the tabulation will be attended to as time and resources are available with the greater priority given to updating the Water Rights Tabulation.

Plans will be made during the winter season to improve the water administration activities for the 1987 irrigation season with particular attention given to the record-keeping and accounting procedures that relate to the large government reservoir projects (Currecanti units, Blue Mesa, Morrow Point and Crystal). It should be noted for the first time since the completion of these reservoirs, there is an attempt to identify the different types of water that have been used through these reservoirs. This office is also working closely with the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association in trying to adequately identify all of their surface water rights, and also storage water rights in the manner in which these water rights are used for these decreed purposes. This may be a good place to point out that owners of the 80,000 acres irrigated under the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association are in serious economic status. Many of the old established ranches and farms are now under the ownership of the Federal Land Bank or Southwest Production Credit Association. In some cases the repossessed owners are allowed to continue to reside on the farm places and if they are able to raise any capital are allowed to grow crops. One of their difficulties are making the payments on the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association water assessments and there are several rumors that nearly a quarter of all the assessments were not paid during 1986.

Division Four will continue to work toward improvement of water administration and diversion record-keeping throughout the 1987 season, to keep as current as

possible in the ongoing review and consultations of new water right applications with the Water Court, to pick up and conclude water right cases that are outstanding, to continue an ongoing instruction process with field personnel concerning their water administrative and record-keeping responsibilities, to be sensitive to the public concerns as they relate to the water user, and respond in an accurate and timely fashion.

During 1986 the office had two general staff meetings of the full time, and near full time employees. These were held in a private environment and each individual was encouraged to be very candid in all aspects of the discussion. A fifteen or twenty item agenda was developed by myself and all of the water commissioners were encouraged to participate in every aspect of this particular meeting. The input that was given through this type of meeting has been extremely useful in planning and weeding out certain thoughts and ideas in instituting new directions and programs. The division will continue this type of meeting, with the thought of having one prior to the beginning of the irrigation season, and at the conclusion of the irrigation season. Many of the activities that take place in the division in terms of records and administrative concerns and needs are usually on a one-time basis, and sometimes it is difficult to remember from one year to the next exactly how a particular problem was handled. I plan to establish sets of directions that will be reduced to writing in order that each of the water officials, including the office staff, can keep current on how the activities were attended to in past times. It is anticipated in 1987 that this office will receive a new assistant division engineer. It is hoped this will take place prior to the beginning of the irrigation season, and this new employee can be exposed to all aspects of the beginning of the 1987 irrigation season. Some change in water administration policies in Division Four will be made in 1987. The overall programs that were in place at the end of 1986 will be continued; however, additional emphasis will be placed on review and enforcement of reservoir restrictions. (It was noted earlier in this report that a great deal of activity has taken place in this area during 1986.) Division Four continues to have approximately 50 reservoir restrictions and this office will continue to monitor these on a regular basis throughout the 1987 season. It is recommended that the State Engineer's office through the Dam Safety Section consider a general dam safety seminar with the invitation issued to the owners of the restricted reservoirs within the division. The

problems involved in these restrictions cannot be solved at such a meeting; however, general directions can be given as to how to proceed in the necessary efforts to remove the reservoir restrictions. In 1987 all of the restricted reservoirs will again be "pegged" at their restricted elevation. This was done in the fall of 1985 and was very helpful as far as determining legal storage elevations during the 1986 irrigation season. It is also recommended that the Dam Safety field inspectors make every effort with the local water commissioner to meet with the water users at the time of their field inspections. This will allow access to questions about the status of each of their respective reservoirs. The division office will continue to make a monthly report to the State Engineer's office concerning restricted reservoirs and to all of the water districts that are affected by these reservoir restrictions.

During 1986, field inspections were made of all water right applications and a field report was included in the consultation process with the Water Referee. This particular aspect of the water right applications will be continued during 1987 and each of the water officials involved will be as thorough as possible on all applications to have first hand knowledge of the field conditions concerning the new water rights. The Division Water Court has been very receptive to the input from field commissioners and the division office staff. The division office has excellent communications between the Water Court, Water Referee and frequently is called upon by the Water Judge for input concerning water cases in which the water official or office staff has first hand knowledge.

The retirement of Assistant Division Engineer Ralph Kelling will require recruitment and replacement, hopefully, by the beginning of the irrigation season. Several other members of the division field staff are approaching age 70, and this office continues to consider replacements and realignment of personnel as these retirements take place. It was noted in last year's report that the turnover in water officials has been reduced greatly. It should be pointed out that this in part is due to the great downturn in general economy of the division. All types of employment are difficult to find, and many of the major employers have reduced or completely ceased operation. Personnel management continues to be an active concern of the division office. It is recommended that at the general division water commissioner meetings a more

specific attention be given to the PACE system. Every member of the Division Four staff has been reviewed and graded under this particular rating system as of 1986. It continues to be a rather cumbersome and difficult type of evaluation tool in my opinion. And in most cases, rather difficult to understand as far as many of the field personnel are concerned. It is recommended that consideration be given to a brief evaluation form which identifies to strengths, weaknesses, and a precise evaluation of the level of performance. Again, as in past years, it is hoped that the evaluation system of the state will have a positive impact on the personnel of Division Four.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Division Four continues to be underfunded in the area of operating and travel expenses. The total allocations of man-months for part time employees is near what is considered necessary to maintain the present level of water administration; however, there is no ability to address annual leave needs or the payoff as it relates to retiring employees. The budget does not allow for any additional needs such as special work during the winter season, and early spring or late fall administration. The operating budget has been pared slightly for several years and the division has acquired several additional stated owned vehicles which are approaching the age when they become quite expensive to operate and maintain. The office vehicle is in excess of 120,000 miles and is in need of several significant repairs, one of which is the overhaul of the transmission. It is recommended that these vehicles be considered in terms of replacement; however, it is understood that the present budget status is such that this is very unlikely. I would point out and recommend to other users of state vehicles that in one instance an old state pickup truck needed repair, the division office purchased parts and the water official involved in using the vehicle has made the repairs and affected several cost savings in the overall operation of this vehicle. It might even be helpful if the Division of Water Resources would consider a designated mechanic in each division. I understand that much repair work requires special tools and equipment; however, I believe that this office has at least two individuals who could repair most any vehicle we have with the ability to purchase parts as necessary. This may be a means by which the present fleet of vehicles could be utilized to a greater number of miles.

LITIGATION:

Division Four's policy is to minimize the necessity of litigation as much as possible through communication with the State Engineer's office, the Water Court, and various water user applicants. Again, as in past years, it is anticipated that only a few cases during 1987 may be subject to the needs of the Attorney General in litigation. The filings of the City of Aurora's transmountain diversions will require some attention from the Attorney General's office, and also a filing that was received on the last day of 1986 concerning the Natural Energy Resources Company also proposes transmountain diversions which may require additional Attorney General attention. There continues to be some increase in the number of protests to the Referee's Rulings and in some cases it will be necessary to request the Attorney General to represent the Division Engineer in these matters. The Water Judge has allowed the Division Engineer to represent the Division of Water Resources in some of these hearings; however, he continues to strongly urge the Division Engineer to be represented by the Attorney General in any matter that is considered legally complex.

In the spring of 1987 it will be necessary to replace Ralph Kelling, Assistant Division Engineer. It is recommended that an examination be announced for this position, and it is requested that this process be started as quickly as possible. There are a couple of rumors of possible water commissioner retirement and resignations; however, given the general economy of the division, this will only affect part-time employees who are able to secure better full time jobs. It is not felt that replacements for these positions will be difficult to obtain.

The major budgetary priority for 1987 is to obtain (at minimum) the present level of funding. Depending upon the irrigation season, it may be necessary to begin attention to water administration somewhat earlier than in past years. It is important that this particular possibility is identified because it is difficult to predict what the 1987 water supply will be at any location throughout the division. It is felt that Division Four's budgetary allocations for fiscal year 1986-87 in the area of operating and mileage are pared to the minimum amount necessary to attend to the responsibilities of this office.

During 1986 the division office was contacted by the Department of Administration concerning a construction or leasing of a state office building in Montrose. Various meetings and telephone conversations were held and at this time, it is my opinion that there will not be a state office building established Montrose. This could be wrong, but there appears to be a waning of enthusiasm for this effort. It should be pointed out that one of the Montrose County Commissioners has already indicated to me the need for the division office space for other county offices. Shortly after the beginning of the new term of the County Commissioners, I will be consulting with the Commissioners in relation to the division office space. Office space is marginally adequate. One of the more significant aspects of the office conditions is the inability to keep the area at a reasonable working temperature during the summer months. There seems to be a very minimum desire on the part of the County Commissioners to either heat or cool the offices in any consistent manner and it is tentatively my recommendation that if the state does not develop a contract for state offices, this office be considered for a more suitable office space at the conclusion of this year's lease. More concerning this particular aspect of the division will be sent in specific memos as information becomes available. I believe there is no doubt that the division office will at a future date, be required to find new offices as the county needs continue to grow. This change should also be considered under other circumstances as it relates to accessibility, space limitations, and overall healthful work environment.

Several minor legislative activities have been suggested for the 1987 legislative period. This office has sent letters to all the legislators representing the areas of Division Four briefly describing the function of the office, and also encouraging the legislators to feel free to call upon this office for any assistance that might help them become better acquainted with this particular phase of state work. The new legislators which numbered several within the Division Four area were particularly encouraged to call upon the division office for any type of introduction to this part of the State activities, and it is hoped that they will continue to be aware of this invitation as the legislative session begins. There is no recommendations made as far as legislation is concerned; however, each of the new and old representatives and senators are aware of our office location, telephone number and staff available.

The Division Four office continues to recommend ongoing formal and informal training programs that have been conducted during the past several years. It is recommended that follow-up seminars be held in areas of dam safety, computer instruction, ground water well permits, and other technical and semi-technical areas that relate to the division responsibilities. It is also recommended that the Division of Water Resources conduct annual seminars for the division secretaries to cover particular areas of their responsibilities, afford an opportunity to have contact with the State Engineer's office staff, and spending personal time with those responsible for the Division of Water Resources major branches.

The 1985 Division Four Annual Report noted the changing of the Division Engineer. This change concerned the appointment of myself as Division Engineer and the appointment of the former Division Engineer Ralph Kelling as Assistant Division Engineer. This change was accomplished with a minimal amount of difficulty; however, during the course of the 1986 season, there was evidence of considerable stress on not only the two principals in the matter, but also the entire division office. This undoubtedly had some affect on the work levels and performances; however, it has not been injurious to the overall performance of the division's responsibilities. Mr. Kelling is formally retired and has left the area.

During 1986, additional plans of augmentation were decreed; however, because of general abundance of water supply, there was little administration of these plans throughout the division. Each water district spent some time in identifying and inventorying the metered wells within their district, and also the active augmentation plans. This office has the ability to begin the administration of these plans in the event of a water-short year.

During 1986, some of the tributary streams to the Gunnison River placed "calls" on their tributary system. Specifically, the Surface Creek area and the Kannah Creek area were under administration for a portion of the summer and early fall. Early fall rains took care of all need for water administration and they continued during the remainder of the irrigation season. Water administration in late September and October was not necessary, and water commissioners were involved in keeping the diversion records and closing out the annual diversion year.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

1986 TRANSMOUNTAIN DIVERSIONS SUMMARY

<u>WD</u>		<u>NAME</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>RECIPIENT AND/ OR CLAIMANT</u>	<u>AMOUNT A.F.</u>
68	Inflow	Red Mountain Ditch	Mineral Creek	Ouray Ditch Co. Montrose, CO	No Diversion
68	Inflow	Carbon Lake Ditch	Mineral Creek	Pinon Ditch Co. Colona, CO	No Diversion
68	Inflow	St. John Ditch	E.Fk. Animas River	Charles, Gunn & Worley c/o W. Worley Olathe, CO	No Diversion Structure Not Usable
68	Inflow	Mineral Pt. Ditch	Burrows Creek, tr. N.Fk. Animas River	W. Gibbs Ouray, CO	No Diversion Structure Not Usable
40	Inflow	Leon Lake	Leon Creek	Floyd McPherson Cedaredge, CO	1,021
28	Outflow	Larkspur Ditch	Tr. Tomichi Creek Marshall Creek	Catlin Canal Co.	220
62	Outflow	Tabor	Tr. Cebolla Cr.	Colo.Div. Wildlife Monte Vista, CO	1,330
28	Outflow	Tarbell	Cochetopa	Cochetopa Land & Wtr. Saguache, CO	No Diversion
40	Outflow	Divide Cr. Highline Feeder Ditch	Clear Fk. Muddy Cr.	F.M. Starbuck, Mgr. Silt, CO	1,515

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

WATER DIVERSIONS BY DISTRICTS

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

WATER DIVERSIONS BY DISTRICTS

WATER COURT ACTIVITIES

No. Applications for Decrees	308
No. Structures Abandoned (Non-Contested)	160
No. Structures Abandoned (Contested)	37
Proposed Abandonments Deleted	95
No. Consultations with Referee	589
No. Decrees Issued by Water Court	336

Type of Decree

Surface Water	286
Ground Water	49
Reservoir	54
Transfer	0
Alternate Point	3
Change of Use	0
Plan Augmentation	7
In-Stream Flow	36
No. Structures in Decrees	545

Types of Structures

Ditches	362
Reservoirs	88
Wells	94

TABLE OF ORGANIZATION - PERSONNEL

IRRIGATION DIVISION NO. 4

Division Engineer - Thomas A. Kelly
Assistant Division Engineer - Ralph V. Kelling
Secretary - Jean Kurtz
Hydrographer - Charles G. David

Water District 28

WATER COMMISSIONER
John S. Garber

Water District 40

PR. WATER COMMISSIONER
*Richard L. Drexel

Water District 41

WATER COMMISSIONER
Crandall Howard

SR. WATER COMMISSIONER
*Robert H. Starr

Water District 42

SR. WATER COMMISSIONER
*Richard Belden

WATER COMMISSIONER
Jack Carter

WATER COMMISSIONERS

Tim Crosby
Willard N. Bull
Mack Gorrod
Henry LeValley
Albert Mahannah
Kenneth Mahannah
John L. McHugh
James Miller
L. Gregg Scott
Charles E. Stein
Stephen W. Tuck
Charley E. Woolley

Water District 59

WATER COMMISSIONER
*Edwin S. Hofmann

WATER COMMISSIONER
Robert Drexel

Water District 60

WATER COMMISSIONER
Lyman D. Campbell

Water District 61

WATER COMMISSIONER
Clinton L. Oliver

Water District 62

WATER COMMISSIONER
*Edwin S. Hofmann

Water District 63

SR. WATER COMMISSIONER
*Richard Belden

Water District 68

WATER COMMISSIONER
*H. Roger Noble

Water District 73

SR. WATER COMMISSIONER
*Richard Belden

WELL COMMISSIONER

*Dwayne Mansker

*Annual

**Ralph V. Kelling began terminal leave in anticipation of retirement November 1, 1986. He formally retired January 9, 1987.