

Colorado Division of Water Resources

2018 Annual Report

Water Division 5



“Water is the driving force of all nature”

Leonardo de Vinci

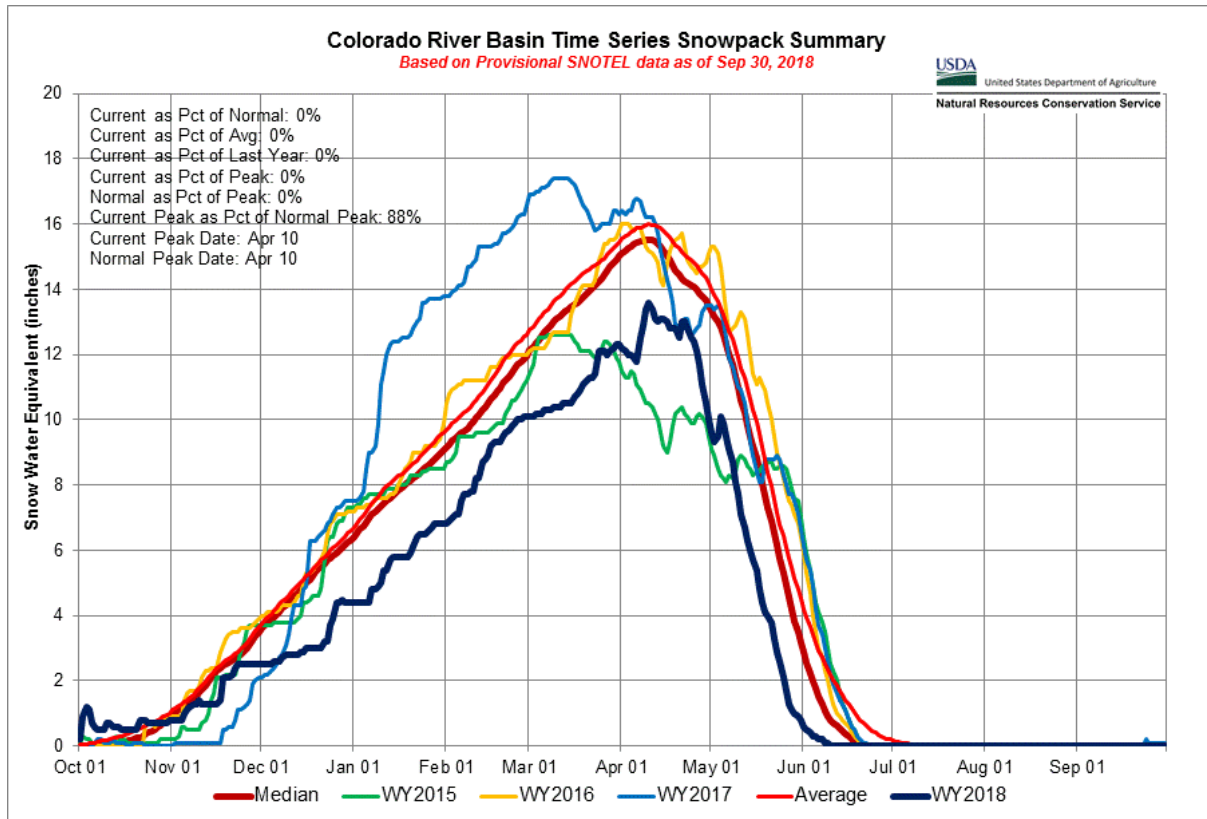
Colorado River Basin

Alan C Martellaro
Division Engineer

Surface Water Supply

“When the well is dry, we’ll know the worth of water.” Benjamin Franklin

The 2018 Irrigation Year began with near average stream flows, and slightly above average reservoir carryover storage. Dry conditions set in during the fall of 2017 and continued into winter. For the period of October 2017 through May 2018, only February and April had above average precipitation. The basin-wide snowpack on May 1 was 76% of average and was followed by a bleak May precipitation at 54% of normal. The progression of snowpack can be seen graphically in the Time Series Snowpack Summary graph below.



The resulting spring runoff projections became very dismal. The progression of the runoff forecasts for the Colorado River near Dotsero and the Colorado River near Cameo are depicted in the table below.

2018 forecast (most probable undepleted runoff), April-July in KAF

| | March 1 st | | April 1 st | | May 1 st | | June 1 st | | Average Undepleted |
|---------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|--------------------|
| | Flow | % avg | Flow | % avg | Flow | % avg | Flow | % avg | |
| Dotsero | 1200 | 86% | 1120 | 80% | 1040 | 74% | 1040 | 74% | 1400 |
| Cameo | 1660 | 71% | 1500 | 64% | 1560 | 66% | 1440 | 61% | 2350 |

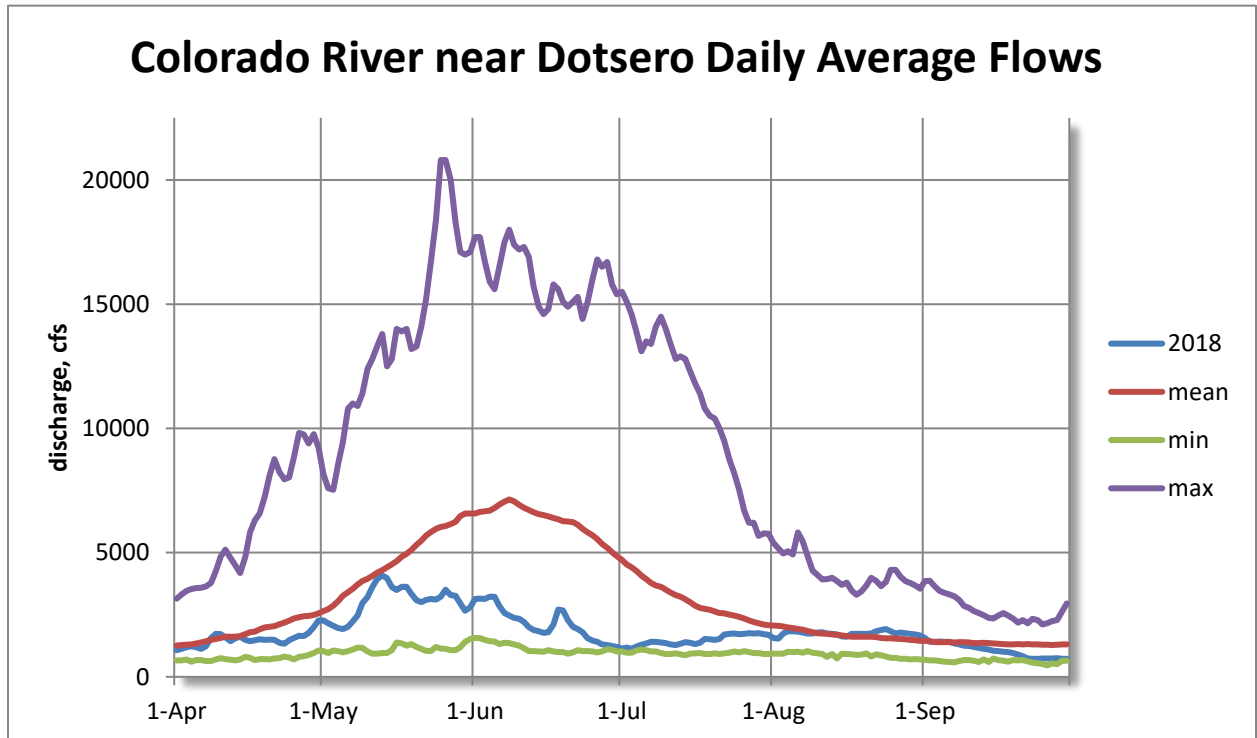
With summer temperatures above average and precipitation well below average, the resulting streamflow was impacted significantly. Precipitation basin-wide was below 50% of normal June, July, and September, May was 54%, while August was the wettest month of the summer at 82% of average. The below average runoff forecasted throughout the winter deteriorated in an actual runoff much below average for the mainstem and most of the sub-basins of the Colorado River. See the table below for a comparison of actual to historic average runoff.

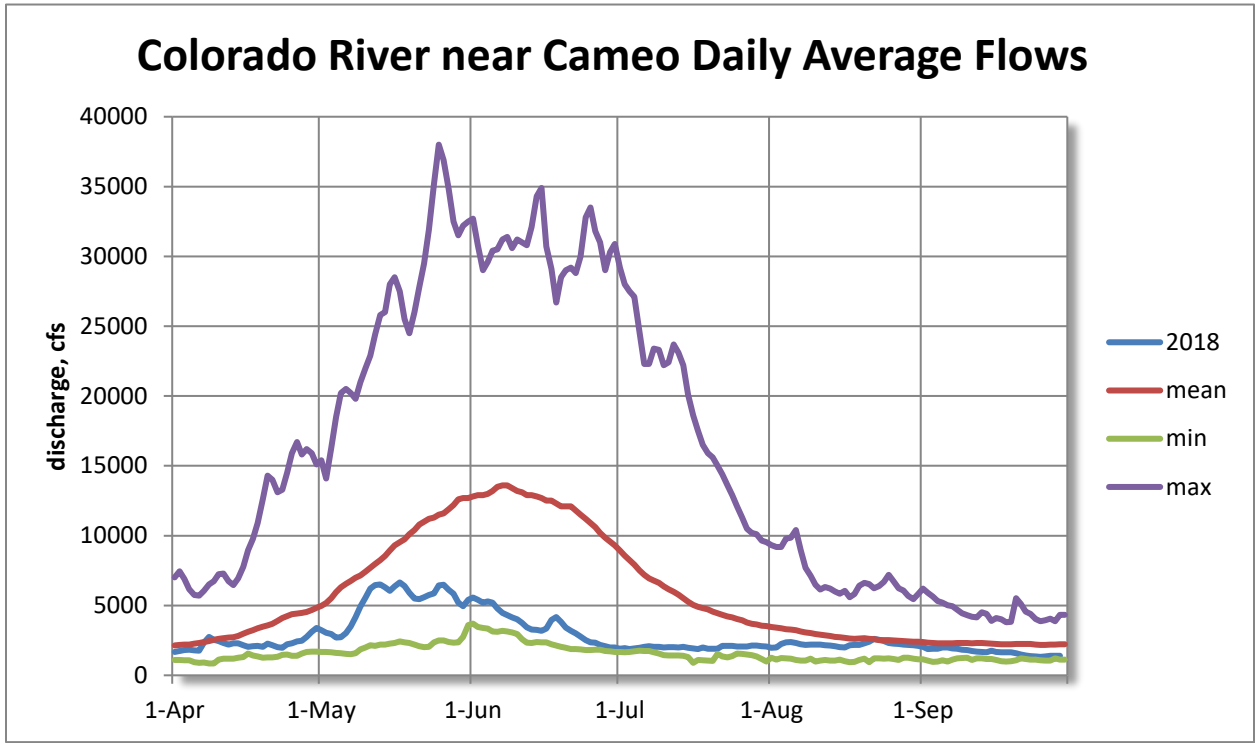
2018 Gaged (depleted) flows, KAF

| | April-July | | | April-September | | |
|---------|------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|---------|--------------|
| | Flow, KAF | %of avg | Historic avg | Flow, KAF | %of avg | Historic avg |
| Dotsero | 494 | 51% | 965 | 664 | 58% | 1,150 |
| Cameo | 792 | 44% | 1,817 | 1025 | 48% | 2,125 |

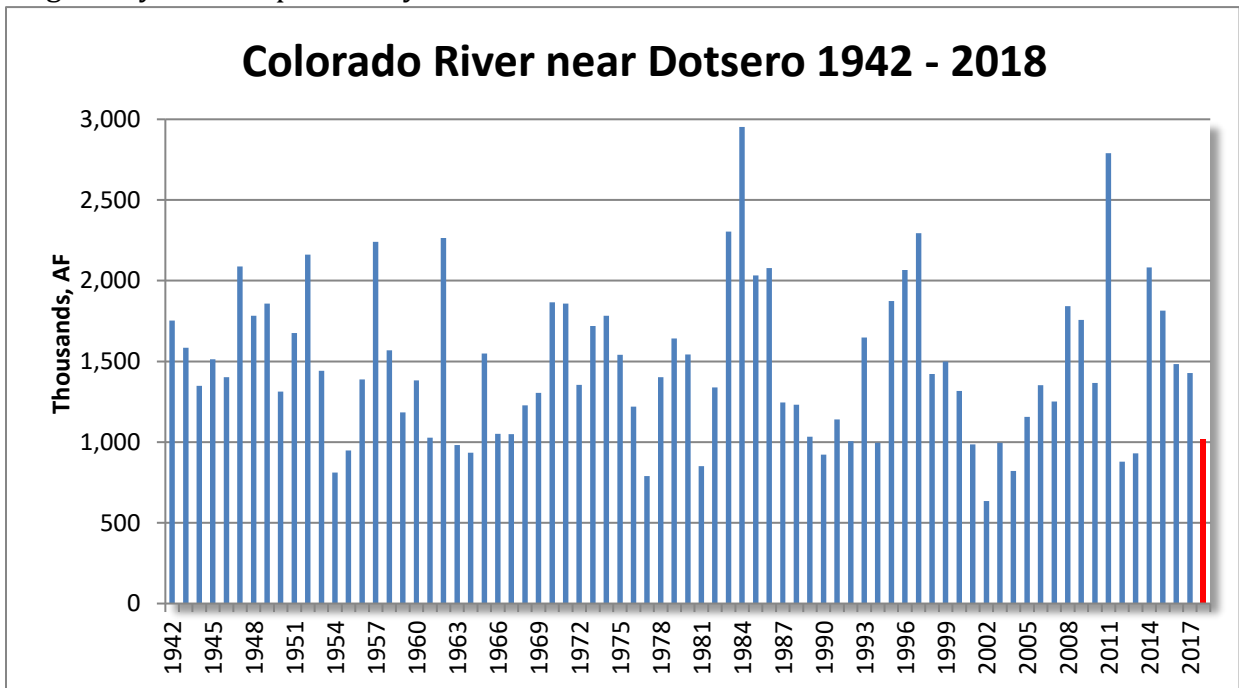
Reservoir releases July through September mitigated low flow conditions, not rainfall, and thus the percent of average April-September flows showed improvement as compared to the percent of average April-July flows.

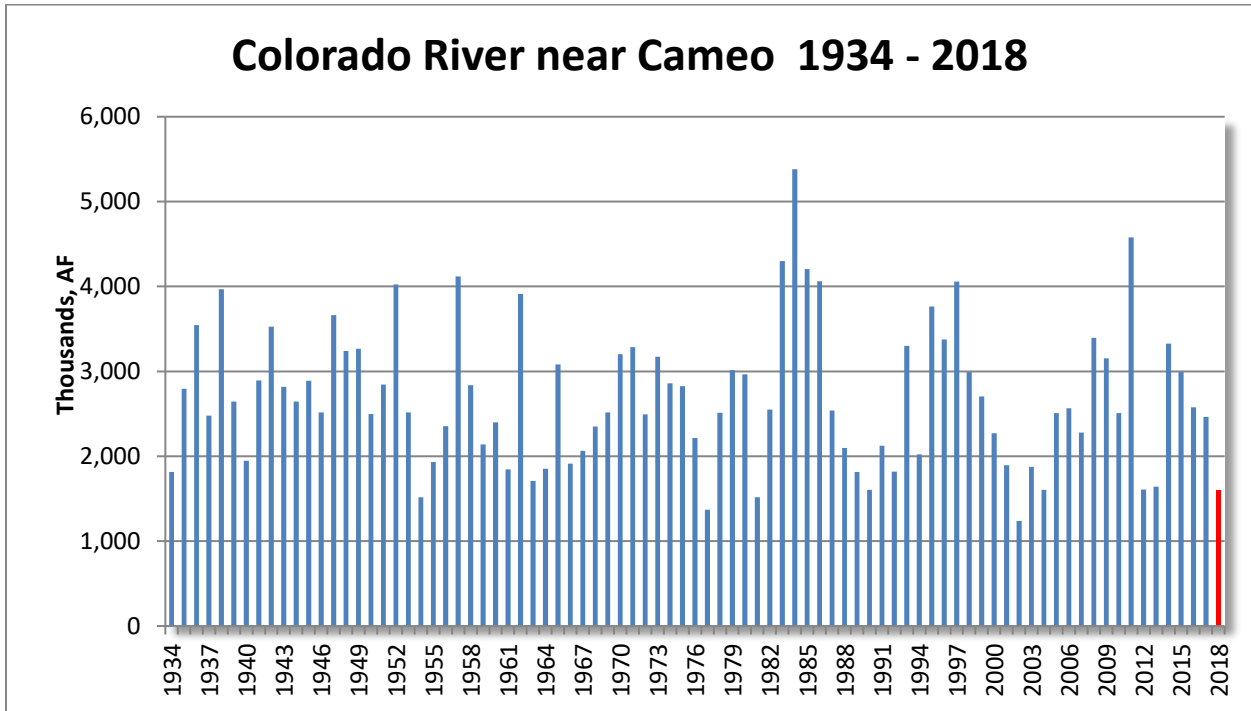
The following hydrographs of daily average flows for the Colorado River near Dotsero and the Colorado River near Cameo depict the well below average gaged flows for 2018. Note that both gages reported peak flows three weeks ahead of the mean, and gaged flows well below the mean for the majority of the season.





The 2018 irrigation season ended with gaged flow for the Colorado River near Cameo ranking as the 5th driest year in 85 years of record. The flow for the Colorado River near Dotsero ranked as the 16th driest in 77 years of record. Below are Colorado River near Dotsero and Colorado River near Cameo gaged flow histograms for comparison of the 2018 irrigation year with previous years of record.





The poor conditions throughout the 2018 season also had significant impacts on the reservoirs throughout Division 5. Storage in the basin’s major reservoirs began the water year at 113% of average on September 30, 2017. The water year ended at 92% of average storage on September 30, 2018, continuing to draw down in October. By the end of the irrigation year storage was 85% of average.

Storage Comparison of Major Reservoirs

| | 30-Sep 2012 | 30-Sep 2013 | 30-Sep 2014 | 28-Sep 2015 | 30-Sep 2016 | 30-Sep 2017 | 30-Sep 2018 |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Dillon Reservoir | 198,924 | 245,855 | 247,209 | 251,680 | 249,814 | 245,197 | 199,825 |
| Granby Reservoir | 333,593 | 371,008 | 522,187 | 500,314 | 487,231 | 518,992 | 463,575 |
| Green Mtn Res | 76,719 | 107,058 | 115,215 | 112,410 | 107,507 | 106,317 | 70,430 |
| Ruedi Reservoir | 66,071 | 86,080 | 87,909 | 81,779 | 77,901 | 80,421 | 64,620 |
| Williams Fork Res | 48,379 | 73,041 | 88,275 | 88,530 | 81,544 | 75,384 | 80,870 |
| Wolford Mtn Res | 31,711 | 44,523 | 65,992 | 44,931 | 53,363 | 56,872 | 37,055 |
| Total | 755,397 | 927,565 | 1,126,787 | 1,079,644 | 1,057,360 | 1,083,183 | 916,375 |

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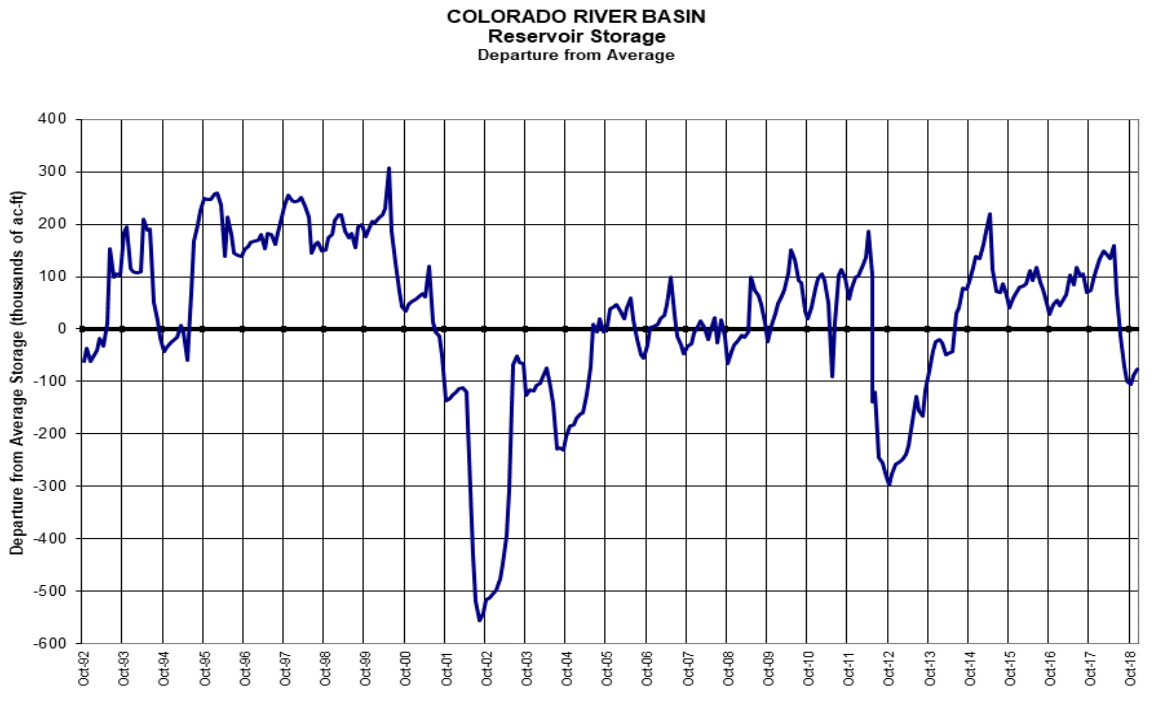
The table above depicts a comparative end of water year storage for Water Division 5’s six largest reservoirs with a physical capacity of 1,210,000 acre-feet.

With the abnormally dry year, several reservoirs throughout the basin that typically fill, did not fill. A positive note in 2018 was Wolford Mountain Reservoir operated without a dam safety storage restriction for the third year and physically filled on May 17, 2018 at 66,000 acre-feet and reached a maximum content on May 23rd at 67,140 acre-feet.

The table below lists key reservoirs in the basin and their maximum storage for the year.

| Reservoir Name | Capacity, af | Peak Storage, af | Peak Storage, Date |
|------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Dillon | 257,304 | 257,304 | 5/25 |
| Granby | 543,758 | 522,251 | 7/1 |
| Green Mountain | 153,639 | 148,535 | 7/4 |
| Homestake | 42,822 | 41,811 | 7/17 |
| Rifle Gap | 13,602 | 10,429 | 4/14 |
| Ruedi | 102,369 | 92,712 | 6/29 |
| Williams Fork | 96,822 | 96,822 | 6/16 |
| Wolford Mountain | 66,000 | 67,140 | 5/23 |
| Vega | 33,800 | 26,119 | 5/22 |

As can be seen in the departure from average graph below, storage dropped below average in late summer 2018 for the first time since prior to snowmelt runoff 2014. However, storage did not drop to the extreme lows of 2002 and 2012.



Graph above is Reservoir storage departure from average end of month storage for the last 26 years in Dillon, Granby, Green Mountain, Homestake, Ruedi, Vega, Williams Fork, Willow Creek, Wolford Mountain, and Shadow Mountain Reservoirs. The active capacity of these reservoirs is 1,230,000 acre-feet, and physical capacity is 1,315,000 acre-feet.

In summary, the 2018 Division 5 over-all runoff was well below average with sub-basins above Kremmling faring better than the Roaring Fork River and other sub-basins below Glenwood Springs. Reservoir storage did mitigate the conditions, but left many reservoirs at very low levels by the end of the 2018 irrigation season.

Surface Water Administration

Green Mountain Reservoir

During 2018, Green Mountain Reservoir was administered pursuant to the Green Mountain Reservoir Fill Protocol. A critical principle of the protocol is a "Fill Plan" prepared by the USBR, allowing the Green Mountain Power Plant to operate where storable inflows delivered to the power plant does not account against a paper fill of the reservoir. The initial 2018 Fill Plan allocated some Green Mountain inflows to power in excess of need to complete a fill of the reservoir. With inflows allocated to power, Denver Water and Colorado Springs Utilities diverted pursuant to their rights up to the amount of Green Mountain inflows allocated to power. The fill plan was modified on June 1st, allocating all inflow to storage. The modified fill plan did not impact Denver Water and Colorado Springs Utilities as noted below

By decree the Green Mountain Reservoir start of fill is declared between April 1 and May 15 of each year by the USBR. Generally, only the driest of years have an April start of fill, while most years' trend toward a May 15th start of fill. For 2018 the start of fill was declared on May 7, 2018 with 65,869 acre-feet in storage. Storage of 5,922 acre-feet between April 21st and May 7th start of fill was done under the senior refill right that had not been satisfied in 2017. Green Mountain Reservoir did not attain the physical fill of 153,639 acre-feet or a paper fill of 154,645 acre-feet in 2018. The maximum physical storage in the reservoir was 148,535 acre-feet on July 4, 2018. The end of first fill pursuant to paragraph II.A.3.b of the Green Mountain Reservoir Fill Protocol was declared on July 20, 2018 with 85,606 acre-feet stored during the fill season for storage of 151,674 acre-feet. This volume of storage does fill all allocated pools within the reservoir including, the Colorado-Big Thompson Project replacement pool, the Historic Users Pool, the Silt Project Pool, and the 20KAF contract pool, leaving only a portion of the unallocated power pool unfilled. However, 2018 was not a substitution year as 4,077 acre-feet was released in May as discretionary power, and thus Denver Water and Colorado Springs Utilities did not have a replacement obligation in 2018.

Shoshone Power Plant

The Shoshone Power Plant operated without any major outages. A call by the power plant was maintained throughout the winter of 2017-18. River flows exceeded power plant

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capacity for only 70 days in 2018, where the administrative call from the power plant was not enforced April 10 and 11 and then April 21 through June 27, a brief period of free river. The total call days by the Shoshone Power Plant during the 2018 irrigation year was 195 days.

Cameo Demand and Administration of OMID Check Case Terms and Conditions

Low snowmelt runoff, and extremely low late spring through summer rainfall caused a very early Shoshone call and a relatively early Cameo Call. The result was considerable demand on the basin's storage supplies. The Cameo Call was implemented on July 17, 2018 and remained on through the end of the irrigation season. By August 1st the 119.47 cfs junior Grand Valley Canal right was entirely being satisfied by releases from Green Mountain Reservoir's HUP, as the Grand Valley Water Users Association right for 730 cfs became the calling right. To delay the drawdown of the HUP, the Colorado River Water Conservation District assigned 4,162 acre-feet of Ruedi Reservoir storage, and Grand County assigned 1,000 acre-feet of its storage in Granby Reservoir for direct delivery to the irrigators in the Grand Valley. On August 31st with only 20,187 acre-feet in the HUP, the decision was made to set aside 3,320 acre-feet for depletions above Shoshone for the remainder of irrigation season and for winter depletions. This left 16,867 acre-feet that was allocated as 79.5% to the GVVUA and 20.5% to the GVIC to be used as they saw fit for the remainder of the irrigation season. The basis for this decisions is that the GMR Operating Policy of January 24, 1984 states that the 66,000 acre-foot HUP is deemed adequate to satisfy all non-industrial uses perfected prior to October 16, 1977. Further, the stipulation in 91CW247, the Orchard Mesa Check Case, has a non-curtailment clause, where so long as the conditions of paragraphs 3.b.(1)-(3) are met upstream HUP beneficiaries will not be curtailed to satisfy the rights of the Cameo Demand. The non-curtailment provisions were satisfied for 2018. Thus, the HUP releases could have been reduced stay within the HUP Draw Down Band or the Grand Valley irrigators could have more say in the timing of the releases. As stated above, the decision was made to allocate the remaining HUP storage and allow the Grand Valley irrigators the flexibility to use it when they wanted. The Grand Valley Canal depleted their allocation by September 17th, while the Grand Valley Water Users Association ran out on September 30th. Ute Water Conservancy District and others kicked in an additional 4,343 acre-feet from Ruedi Reservoir for direct delivery to the Grand Valley irrigators. Thus a total of 9,505 acre-feet from Ruedi and Granby to supplement irrigation in the Grand Valley, and yet the HUP was entirely released in 2018.

Note the HUP curve on Sep 29th has a slight increase, where 550 acre-feet of storage in the 100,000 acre-foot power pool that likely would be discretionary winter power releases were recolored as HUP water. The change was needed to provide sufficient storage in the HUP to cover depletions above the Shoshone Power Plant through October 31st, and leave 500 acre-feet for winter beneficiaries.

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**SUMMARY OF COLORADO RIVER MAIN STEM CALLS
2018 IRRIGATION YEAR**

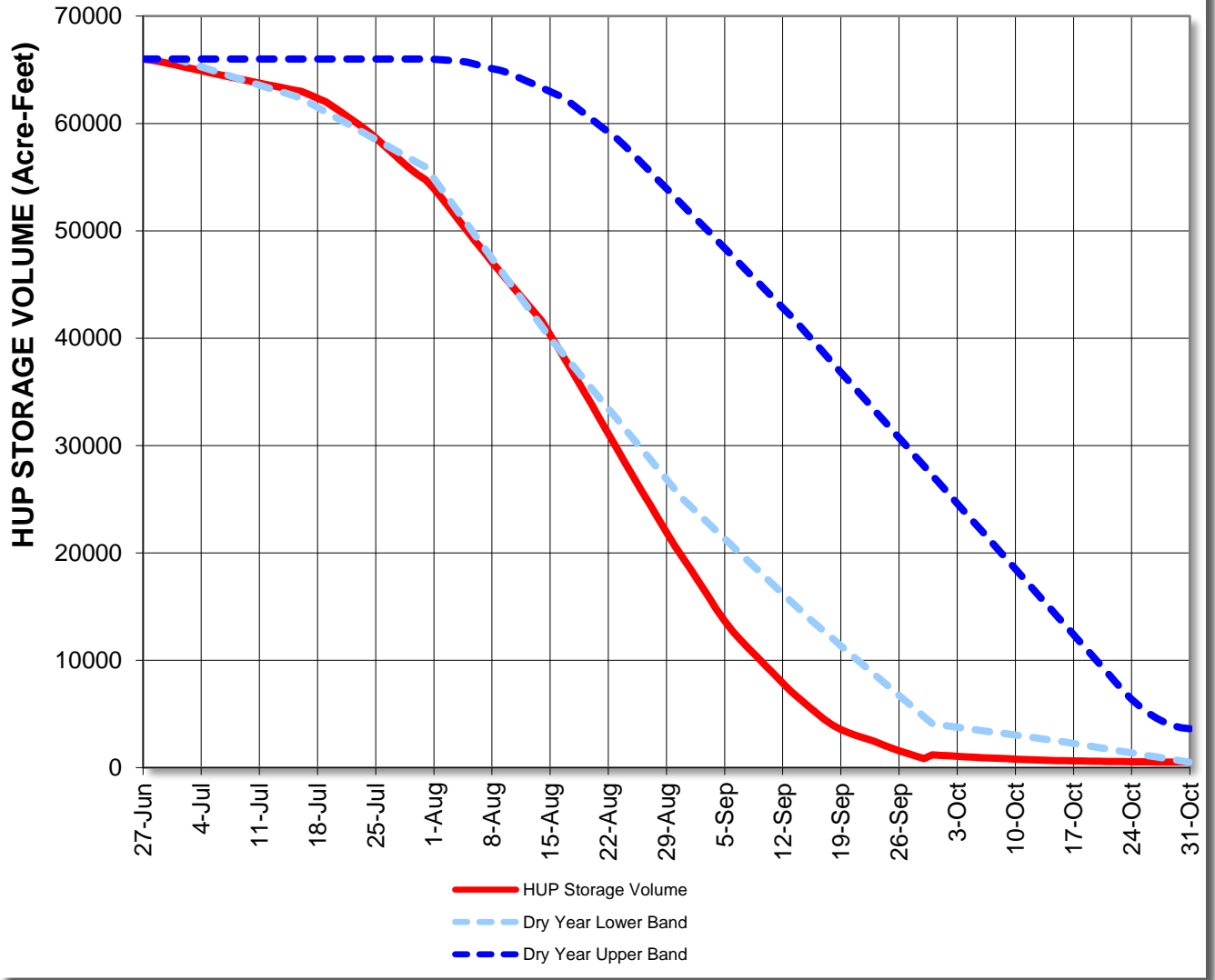
STATUS OF CALL AT THE SHOSHONE POWER PLANT
(As determined using the Colorado River near Dotsero gage)

| DATE ON | THRU | NO. DAYS CALL ON/OFF | CALLING RIGHT | DECREED AMT. | SWING PRIORITY | SWING PRIORITY ADMIN. NO. |
|----------|----------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 11-01-17 | 04-09-18 | 160 | Shoshone Power Plant | 1,250 cfs | ---- | 20427.18999 |
| 04-10-18 | 04-11-18 | 2 | Free River | --- | --- | --- |
| 04-12-18 | 04-20-18 | 9 | Shoshone Power Plant | 158 cfs | Junior Shoshone Power | 333023.28989 |
| 04-21-18 | 06-27-18 | 68 | Free River | --- | --- | --- |
| 06-28-18 | 06-29-18 | 2 | Shoshone Power Plant | 158 cfs | Junior Shoshone Power | 33023.28989 |
| 06-30-18 | 07-19-18 | 20 | Shoshone Power Plant | 1,250 cfs | Green Mountain Res. | 31258.00000 |
| 07-20-18 | 07-24-18 | 5 | Shoshone Power Plant | 119 cfs | GVIC Junior--- | 30895.23491 |
| 07-25-18 | 10-31-18 | 99 | Shoshone Power Plant | 1250cfs | --- | 20427.18999 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

STATUS OF CALL IN THE GRAND VALLEY
(As determined using the Colorado River near Cameo gage)

| DATE ON | THRU | NO. DAYS CALL ON/OFF | CALLING RIGHT | DECREED AMT. | SWING PRIORITY | SWING PRIORITY ADMIN. NO. |
|----------|----------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 11-01-17 | 07-16-18 | 258 | Free River | --- | --- | --- |
| 07-17-18 | 07-19-18 | 3 | GVIC | 119 cfs | Green Mountain Res. | 31258.00000 |
| 07-20-18 | 07-30-18 | 12 | GVIC | 119cfs | GVIC Junior---- | 30895.23491 |
| 08-01-18 | 10-09-18 | 70 | GVIC | 730 cfs | Grand Valley Water Users | 22729.21241 |
| 10-10-18 | 10-31-18 | 22 | Free River | --- | --- | --- |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

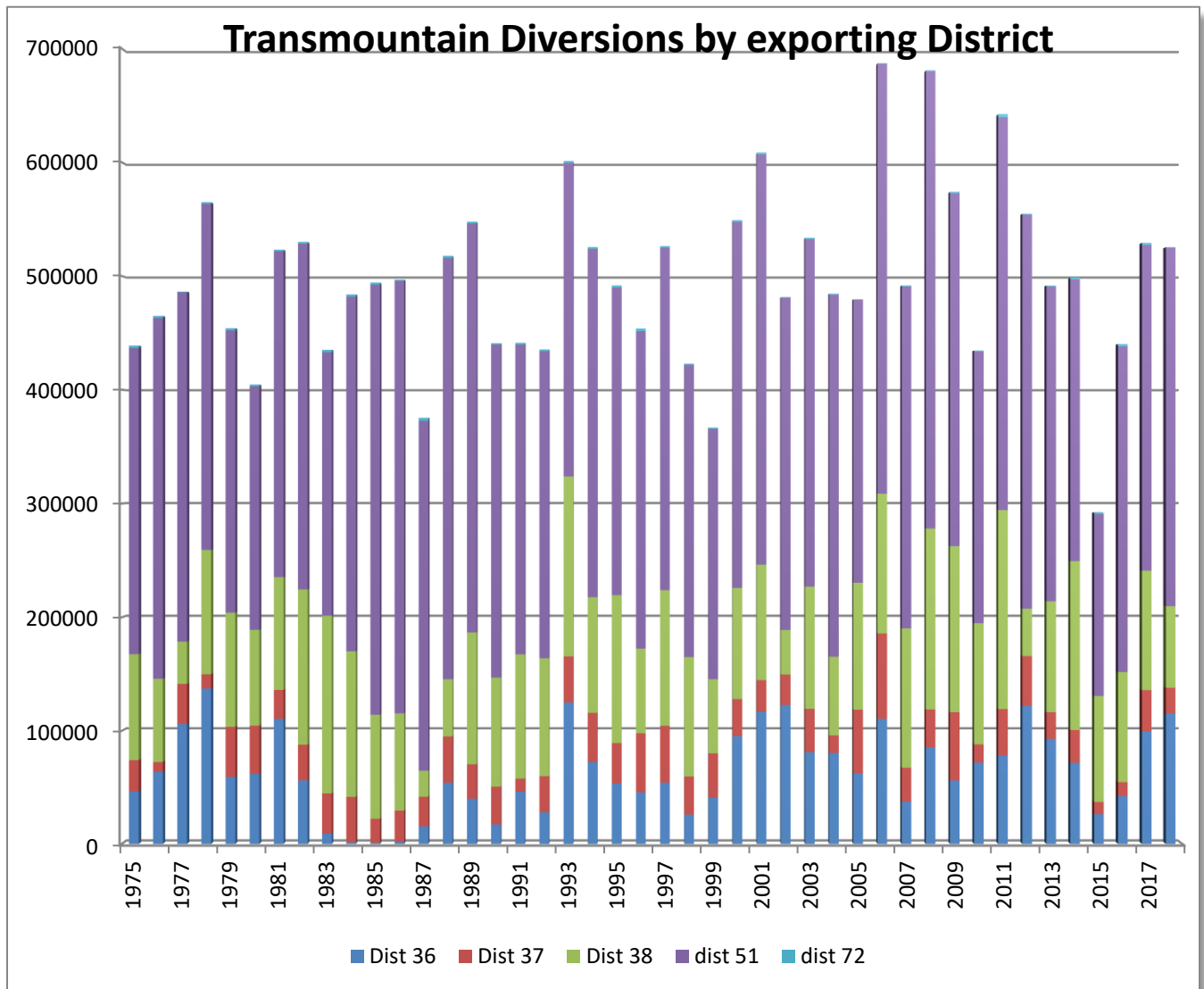
2018 GREEN MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR HUP OPERATIONS

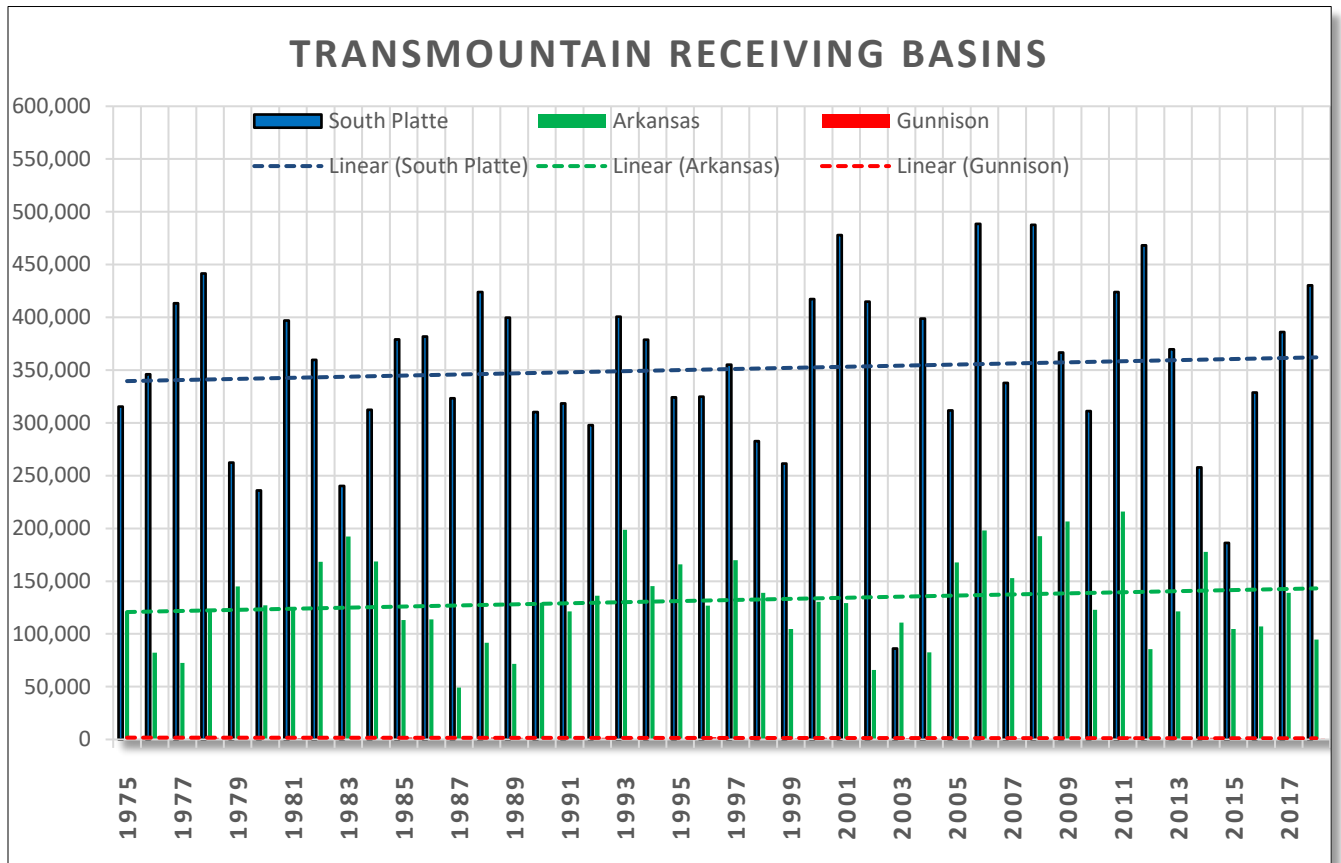


Transmountain Diversions

Transmountain Diversions from Division 5 are primarily delivered to the South Platte and Arkansas Rivers with a minor diversion to the Gunnison River. Total exports from Division 5 for 2018 were 525,422 acre-feet. The total was slightly less than the 529,209 acre-feet diverted in 2017. The total did exceed the 10, 20, and 30 year averages. With a below average water supply Transmountain diversions that have no to very little storage diverted well below historical averages. For example, Fry-Ark Project diversions through Boustead Tunnel in 2018 were 40,860 acre-feet, while the average since the project was fully operational in 1980 is 62,060 acre-feet. However, both the CBT and Blue River Diversion

Project diverted more than historical averages for they rely on large reservoirs with carryover storage, and had both the east slope demand and space to store diversions. The CBT diverted 258,761 acre-feet, where historical average is 231,322 acre-feet. Roberts Tunnel of the Blue River Diversion Project diverted 104,659 acre-feet in 2018, while the average is 59,950 acre-feet. The following three graphs provide three different displays of the Transmountain data from 1975 to present. The first is of the total exports from the Colorado River with a linear trend line indicating the increasing demand on these exports. The second breaks down diversion by water district. The third provides the total exported to the South Platte, Arkansas and Gunnison Rivers with linear trend lines. Diversions to the Gunnison are relatively small in relation to the South Platte and Arkansas and barely appear on the graph. Unlike the other basins, the trend has been a continued decrease in export to the Gunnison. A result of reservoir seepage, tunnel maintenance, and tighter administration.





Other surface water administration

The majority of Division 5’s surface water administration will always be curtailing water rights to satisfy local calls on the many tributaries with rights senior to those on mainstem. The calls administered for these tributaries can be found in the Division’s call chronology in CDSS. The total number of call changes recorded in CDSS on Division 5 tributaries for 2018 were 299. This does not fully represent the workload as calls that are changed more than once a day during the tail end of the snowmelt runoff are not recorded in the call chronology data. Calls for junior rights upstream of more senior calls, often deemed a “call within a call” or in the CDSS terminology “non-consumptive calls” are generally for exchanges and non-consumptive rights such as instream flows. The total of non-consumptive calls was 11.

There were only 6 administrative orders issued in 2018. Most orders were for installation of lockable headgates or measuring devices. However, one order was issued to a well and another to a groundwater pond.

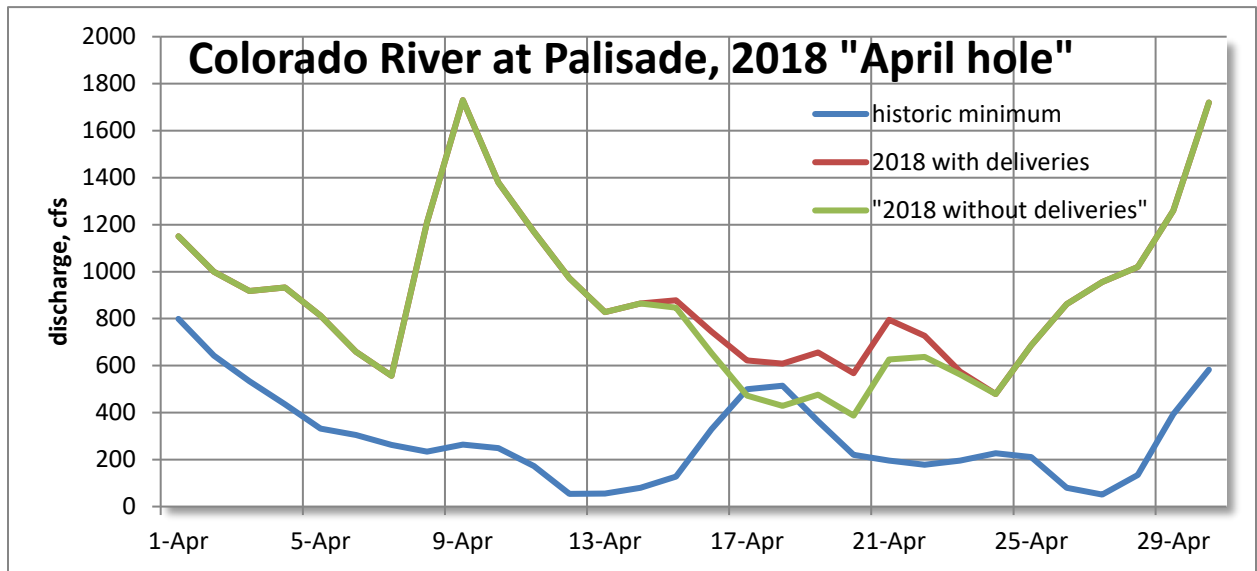
Augmentation plan administration activities included 71 written contacts to correct plan operations for lack of measuring devices, inadequate replacement source, expired contracts, and accounting. These were followed-up with 26 meetings and site visits. Only 3 deficiency letters were issued in 2018. A deficiency letter is sent to municipal providers

and to augmentation plan operators after no progress is made through less formal communication, and precedes a written order and curtailment.

A total of 14 administrative exchanges were approved pursuant to CRS §37-83-104 in Division 5 for the 2018 Irrigation Year. They include several that are annually approved for Denver Water, Winter Park snowmaking, Byers Peak snowmaking, two landscaping companies and a grow operation, and Grand County Road and Bridge. The remaining approvals were first or second time approvals for construction, or result of very dry 2018 conditions. Note the annually approved administrative exchanges for Clinton Reservoir and Goose Pasture Tarn were not issued in 2018 due to the abnormally low snowmelt runoff.

Endangered Fish Recovery Program

The Coordinated Reservoir Operations (CROS) program was established in 1995 as part of the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program. Preparation for CROS generally begins in March, to assure the “April Hole” of 2013 was not repeated, when flows measured at the Colorado River near Palisade gage dropped as low as 55 cfs. The USFWS would like an absolute minimum flow of 500 cfs in the 15-Mile reach, which is the benchmark used for the “April Hole.” For April 2018, 2,383 acre-feet were released from the remains of the 2017 HUP in Green Mountain to avert an “April Hole.” The graph below demonstrates the effort was successful.



The primary purpose of CROS is to enhance spring peak flows for a 10 day period in the 15-Mile section of the Colorado River immediately upstream of the Gunnison River. The “15-Mile Reach” is critical habitat for four endangered fish species: Humpback Chub, Razorback Sucker, Bonytail Chub, and the Colorado Pikeminnow. In years with sufficient snowpack, surplus inflows to the reservoirs can be passed on downstream to benefit these fish

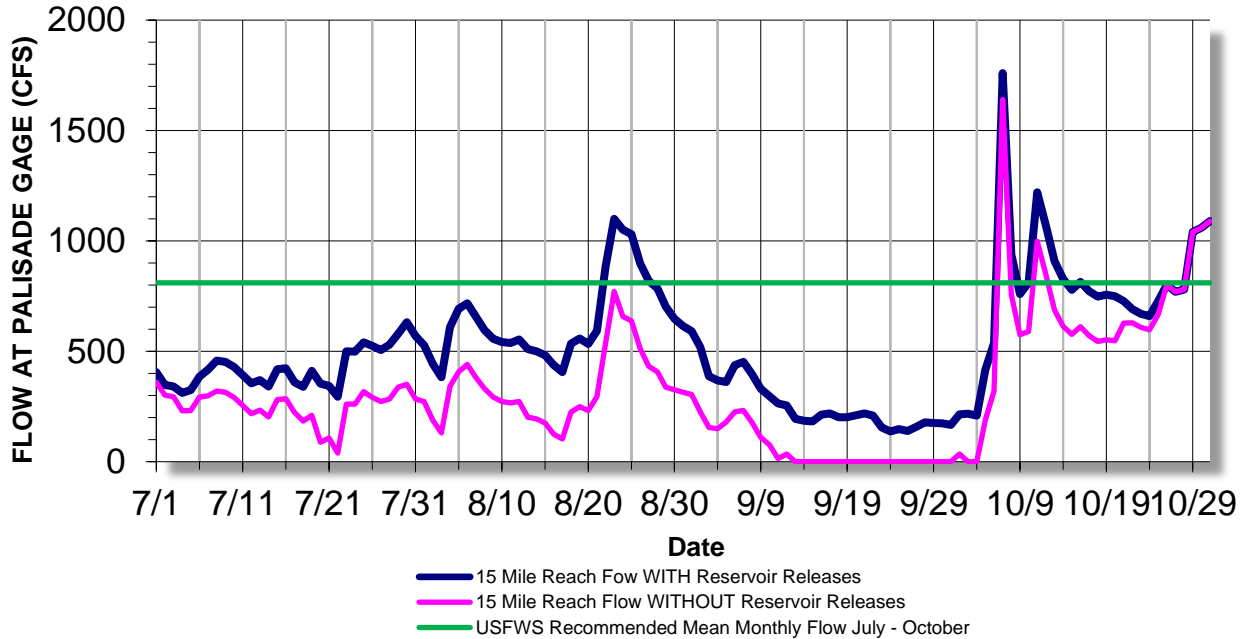
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without impacting reservoir yield. The goal is to time the bypass of storable inflows, release of storage, or other divertible flows at participating reservoirs and operators to enhance the peak at the Colorado River near Cameo gage, such that enhancement will result in flows that exceed 12,900 cfs, the minimum deemed to benefit the habitat, and flows that will not exceed 25,000 cfs, which is bank full in the Palisade-Grand Junction area. The decision to trigger CROS operations is made after managers of participating reservoirs are confident that bypasses at their individual reservoirs could be made prior to filling without impacting the yield of their storage rights, and the group determines CROS operations will fall within the acceptable range. Meetings usually become weekly as peak snowmelt runoff approaches.

CROS operations did not occur in 2018. On May 17, 2018 CROS was officially called off for the year as forecasted peak flows at Cameo were projected to be below 7000 cfs with very little flow enhancement available. The actual peak was 6,650 cfs and occurred the day after CROS was called off. See graph above for Colorado River near Cameo depicting the basis for cancelling CROS operations in 2018.

With the low snowpack and lack of spring and early summer precipitation, the USFWS set the Endangered Fish Recovery Program target flow for the Colorado River at Palisade gage at the dry year minimum of 810 cfs. As with the previous two years the target was set at one level for the entire late summer base flow augmentation period. Excluding a brief rainy period in August and most of October the actual flows were well below the target most of the augmentation period. The 5,000 acre-foot 4 out of 5 year pool in Ruedi Reservoir was not available for the recovery program in 2018. Because a surplus was not declared no releases from Green Mountain were made for the recovery program. A total of 25,250 acre-feet were released from recovery program pools. Additional water provided includes 6,438 acre-feet from the Palisade Pipeline, 3,000 acre-feet from ExxonMobil's Ruedi contract, and 18,800 acre-feet of Wolford Mountain Reservoir that had to be evacuated for operational purposes. Considering transit losses, the total of augmented deliveries in the 15-mile reach was 51,481 acre-feet. The timing of these deliveries is depicted in the graph below. Except for a period from late September to mid-October, and briefly in August the augmented flows were well short of the target. Without deliveries much of September would have had no flow at the Palisade Gage.

**IMPACT OF RESERVOIR RELEASES IN THE 15 MILE REACH
(As Measured at the Colorado River at Palisade Gage)
2018 SUMMER/FALL**



Water Court

For 2018 there were 275 new and 14 amended water court applications for a total of 289 applications. This is slightly less than the 296 filed in 2017. No Statements of Opposition were filed by the Division of Water Resources, and one amended application did not require a written consultation, therefore 288 consultations were submitted to the court. All consultations were filed with the court within the statutory 35-day deadline. In our continued effort to help expedite court cases nearly all consultations are filed within 7 days of the consultation meeting. No extensions of time were requested for filing consultations in 2018. No cases were re-referred to the Judge prior to consultation, thus no written recommendations to the Judge were sent to the court.

General water court activities in Division 5 followed our plan to assume the role as a technical advisor to the court, and a less litigious participant. In keeping with this plan no Statements of Opposition were filed, and only one Motions to Intervene was necessary in 2018. No protests to Referee Rulings were necessary. Division 5 staff did participate in trial at the request of the Water Judge, and the Division Engineer was subpoenaed to testify in a trial by both the Applicant and Opposition.

Finally, in 2018 some movement occurred in Case No. 13CW3077 and the Federal Blue River Decrees. Green Mountain Reservoir continues to be administered pursuant to the undecreed Green Mountain Reservoir Fill Protocol. A separate document, The Green Mountain Reservoir Protocol Agreement requires a decree finding that sections I, II and III of the Green Mountain Reservoir Fill Protocol are consistent with the Blue River Decrees. While the State and Federal cases remain pending, and because objectors are either in support or deemed unlikely to block a positive judicial finding, DWR continues to administer the fill pursuant to the protocol without a decree. Ultimately, final decrees in the pending water court application in state water court, and pending motion for a Federal Court finding that the Protocol must be adjudicated. In 2018, stipulations were reached with a number of opposers. Summit County and Orchard Mesa Irrigation District continue as objectors only to monitor the cases. In 2018, the nonfederal parties (the State is not a party to the Federal cases known as the Blue River Decrees) began meeting regularly to discuss how to move the cases forward. The concern is that the federal judge will refuse to hear the case either because the court lacks jurisdiction or the case lacks controversy to adjudicate. Should the Federal judge kick the case aside, the parties are working on stipulations and a re-write of the Protocol Agreement, allowing the State Court to determine that not only sections I, II, and III of the Fill Protocol are consistent with the Blue River Decree, but also section IV.

There was one Supreme Court Cases involving Division 5 water rights, pending for last. In 2018 the court issued a ruling in Case No. *2017SA220 Sam Allen v. State of Colorado*, confirming the water court ruling. The case involved ownership of Big Creek Reservoir Company shares, and whether the water court had subject matter jurisdiction over ownership. The water court found it was not a water matter, and that decision was appealed to the Supreme Court. DWR's primary interest is the scope of the Water Courts jurisdiction, ensuring the court does not get bogged down in other matters.

Groundwater

Well Permitting and Well Drilling activity in 2018 increased over the previous year. This continues a trend since the recovery from the economic down turn of 2007-08. Division 5 groundwater permit applications for exempt and non-exempt wells are reviewed and approved by staff in both the Division 5 office and the SEO Denver office. The following reflects the efforts of both offices. Well permitting activity increased during 2018 receiving 775 applications with 746 water well permits approved. The approvals including 650 production well permits, 90 monitoring/observation hole notifications, 4 dewatering well permit applications and 2 Geo-exchange Loop Field Construction and Test Reports received in 2018. This compares to 606 applications received and 596 permits approved in 2017. Furthermore, drilling activity also increased in 2018, with 349 Well Construction and Yield Estimate Reports received in 2018, an increase over 2017 where 295 Well Construction and Yield Estimate Reports were received

Colorado River Cooperative Agreement

Major negotiation of the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement (CRCA) concluded in 2013 with the signing of the Green Mountain Reservoir Protocol and Protocol Agreement, leaving full implementation conditioned on resolution of several agreements and water rights applications, and a federal court decree. The completed pieces to the CRCA include: the main CRCA agreement signed in 2011; the Green Mountain Fill Protocol and Green Mountain Protocol Agreement signed in 2013; a water court decree in Case No. 10CW298 by Grand County for RCID's on the Colorado River; a water court decree in Case No. 11CW152 by Denver Water, Grand County and the CWCB for a right of substitution using Fraser River diversions and Gross Reservoir in Water Division 1; Denver's "reverse exchange" decreed in Case No. 11CW21 allowing Dillon storage to be exchanged to the Moffatt Tunnel and Williams Fork Reservoir; and Shoshone Outage Protocol Agreement signed June 2016.

Case No. 06CW255 was decreed on January 18, 2018. The case is a claim for reasonable diligence for the storage right in Dillon Reservoir, and pursuant to the CRCA includes claims for the express purpose of implementing the CRCA allowing Dillon Reservoir to be used for West Slope purposes, allowing storage in any east slope reservoir in Denver's system, and can be used anywhere in the Denver Metro Area as that area is defined in the CRCA.

Outstanding issues continue to be a Federal Court finding in the "Blue River Decrees" recognizing the Green Mountain Fill Protocol within the scope of the decree, and State Water Court approval in 13CW3077. The final piece to the CRCA will be the construction of the enlargement of Gross Reservoir. With only a FERC permit remaining to be approved, final dam design was to begin in 2019, and construction completion by 2025. However, in mid-December 2018 environmental groups filed a law suit challenging the USACE 404 permit.

Division 5 Administration

Awards

The Division 5 Water Commissioner of the Year was District 38 Water Commissioner Bill Blakeslee for his efforts to administer several streams that are infrequently subject to a local call. Infrequent administration allows headgates and measuring devices to fall into disrepair, and communication to all require additional effort. The area also has many augmentation plans and small reservoirs that Bill has been very persistent with administrative efforts.

The Division 5 Rusty Shovel is awarded for above and beyond effort. This year the award was given to Edward Rubin. Eddie is the Lead Supervisor for the "Middle River," however, is always the first to take on any task that needs to be completed. In 2018, he took on the

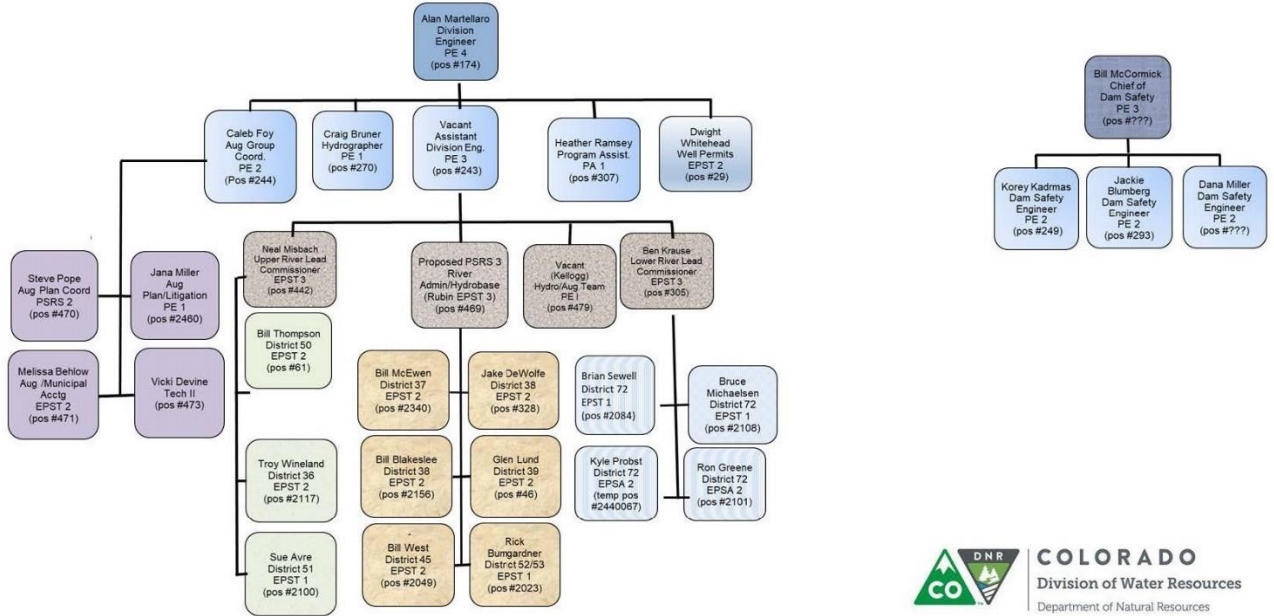
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main stem river administration, when the river administrator left Division 5. 2018 was a difficult year to take on this job and Eddie did an outstanding job.

Organization Chart

November 2018

DIVISION FIVE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



The 2018 Annual Report is respectfully submitted for the Staff of Water Division 5, by

Alan C Martellaro, Division Engineer
February 28, 2019