

November 24, 1947.

Mr. M. C. Hinderlider,
State Engineer,
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to present herewith my annual report for Irrigation Division No. 6, for 1947.

There was more than the usual amount of snow during the winter and far above the average rainfall during the summer months. The unusual amount of snowfall during April, and early part of May, in most parts of the Yampa, Elk, White, and Little Snake river water sheds and considerable less melting produced a heavier than average and later than usual runoff. Colder temperatures prevailed well into late spring. The water content of the snow at the beginning of the irrigation season was about one and one half times the average water content. The stream flow records show above normal high water and continued above average over a longer period of time.

The stream flow continued well above average throughout the irrigation season. Sufficient water for direct irrigation being available for all demands except in a few isolated areas. The continued cool temperature in late spring and early summer months had a diverse effect on hay crops, although sufficient irrigation water was available, frequent seasonal rains and above normal precipitation.

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The hay crops in some areas were reported to be about 75% of the normal yield. Grain, potatoes and vegetable crops were not materially effected by low temperatures. Very favorable weather conditions prevailed for harvesting the crops.

Administration of decrees in the several water districts were carried on with less than the usual amount of complaints from water users.

Thirty ditches, the majority of which were in District No. 58 were served with notices to install ~~or replace~~ permanent Parshall flumes. Several new headgates were also ordered, all of which are installed with two exceptions ^{for which} ~~and~~ time extended to complete them before high water next spring.

Following are brief statements pertaining to each water district:

District No. 43

Reports to the effect that the irrigation water supply was good for the entire season even in the ordinarily otherwise short areas. Hay crops above normal yield. No reservoirs were reported as having been used for irrigation. Direct irrigation from April 15th, to October 30th. Heavy demand over ^{by} approximately August 15th.

District No. 44

Conditions both ^{as} to water supply and crop yields were reported for the most part above normal. Three reservoirs were reported used for irrigation, storing and using 1060 acre feet of water. Direct irrigation reported from May 1st, to October 12th, heavy demand over ^{by} approximately August 1st.

District No. 54

Above normal conditions prevailed in water supply and below normal hay yield. One reservoir was used for irrigation, ^{providing} ~~diverting~~ 300 acre feet for supplemental supply to 800 acres of land.

District No. 57

All crops were reported normal except hay which was about 75% of average yield. The hay got a late start and continued cold weather retarded proper growth. Less than the usual amount of irrigation water was used in daily diversions and for a shorter irrigation season. Too much rainfall through the growing season for good crop results. Fourteen reservoirs were reported as follows; one used for irrigation, six others filled but were used for stock water only, three reservoirs not filled, four reservoirs unfit for use and were not allowed to fill. Heavy demand for direct irrigation being between the dates of approximately May 15th, to August 1st.

District No. 58

A change in Water Commissioner was made July 15th, and accomplished without any administration difficulties. The length of the irrigation season was considerably below the average with less in amount of daily diversions. Heavy demand for direct irrigation being between the dates of May 15th, to August 15th. Water commissioner reported ten reservoirs, six of which were used for supplemental supply, one domestic, two filled and not used.

The Stillwater Reservoir No. 1 filled on July 1st, to 60 foot gauge height; the gate was immediately ordered opened to gradually reduce storage to 45 feet. A reading again on October 29th, showed gauge height of 45 feet, the maximum allowable storage. No water was released from the Stillwater Reservoir for irrigation during the season. Crop conditions were fair, hay crop below normal, grain, and potatoes were not irrigated but about normal yield. Less than onehalf the usual vegetable

acreages were planted, the entire Elk River area being eliminated. Shipping reports however indicated about the usual number of cars of lettuce and spinach shipped from the Yampa area.

Respectfully submitted,

B.T. Chase
Irrigation Division Engineer
Division No. 6

TABULATED STATEMENT OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
ANNUAL DITCH REPORT FOR THE IRRIGATION SEASON OF 1947

District No.	Number of Ditches Reported.	Amount of appropriation Cu. ft. per second.	Capacity of Ditches second feet.	First day water used from natural stream.	Last day water used from natural stream.	Average number of days water was carried.
43	106	879.08	1081.00	4-15	10-30	73
44	82	428.02	609.50	5-1	10-12	56
54	43	Omitted	Omitted	5-10	9-1	48
55 & 56	No reports					
57	58	301.13	390.00	4-19	11-11	80
58	321	1522.06	2073.60	4-1	11-1	75
Totals	610	3130.34	4154.10	4-1	11-11	66

District No.	Average daily amount carried in second feet	Number of Acre feet used.	Number of acres that can be irrigated	Alfalfa.	Natural Grasses Timothy & clover	Cereals
43	513.00	176,761	23,740		23,740	
44	325.00	38,782	34,672	9415	5,025	1760
54	165.50	17,580	9,390	1285	4,840	535
57	199.47	40,622	17,403	1080	11,441	230
58	1297.08	226,728	68,836	1345	40,034	3629
Totals	2500.00	500,473	154,041	13125	85,080	6154

District No.	Market gardens.	Potatoes.	Cabbage.	Pasture.	Spinich.	Lettuce	Berries	Total irrigated
43								23,740
44								16,200
54		36						6,690
57								12,751
58	2	179	15	10,586	1323	650	10	57,773
Totals	2	215	15	10,586	1323	650	0	117,160

District No.	Remarks
43	Kind of crops not listed, however total acreage shown as can be irrigated is all in Hay, majority of which is natural grass
54	Water commissioner omitted appropriation amount and capacity of canals, otherwise complete report.
44, 57 & 58	Complete ditch reports in all respects.

TABULATED STATEMENT OF WATER COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL RESERVOIR REPORTS
FOR IRRIGATION SEASON OF 1947

District No.	Number of reservoir's reported	Area of high water line acres	Total capacity cubic feet	Quantity of water in reservoir May 1st, cubic feet.	Quantity of water in reservoir Nov. 1st, cubic feet.
43	(No reservoir report)				
44	6	not given	59,335,722	59,335,722	00
54	2	32	18,771,232	9,156,212	3,830,066
55 & 56	(No reservoir report)				
57	14	317	149,402,794	149,402,794	00
58	10	347	407,542,147	272,642,471	222,535,984
Totals	32	696	635,051,895	490,537,203	226,366,040

District No.	First day water was used.	Last day water was used.	Average number of days water carried	Average daily amount carried cubic feet	Number of acre feet reservoir water carried
44	6-1	8-1	30	22.00	1320
54	7-10	8-10	30	5.00	300
57	5-8	8-23	108	2.00	432
58	6-24	8-19	12	28.00	972
Totals	5-8	8-23	45	57.00	2824

District No.	Natural Alfalfa.	Grass.	Cereal.	Potatoes.	Pasture.	Spinich	Total irrigated.
44	125	50	50		150		375
54							00
57		200					200
58		80	80	12	60	12	244
Totals	125	330	130	12	210	12	819

District No.	Remarks
44	Water comm. report does not show avr. daily amt. carried this figure is estimated. Three out of six reservoirs reported were shown as being used for irrigation.
54	All acreage reported under Willow Creek Ditch
57	One of fourteen reservoirs reported, used for irrigation
58	Complete on all reservoirs used for irrigation