

Steamboat Springs, Colorado

November 26, 1951

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

Dear Sir:

I herewith present my annual report for Irrigation Division No. 6 for 1951. Included are tabulations of water commissioner's ditch and reservoir reports.

Very few complaints were received the past season and these were of trivial importance. No complex administrative problems arose and the regular routine administrative activities were carried on in the normal manner.

The water supply both for direct irrigation and storage were adequate for most all demands throughout the irrigation season with the exceptions of those ditches receiving their supply of water from some of the smaller tributaries and in areas particularly, of the lower elevations. It was noted that these particular streams were at their low stage three to four weeks earlier than normally.

Non-irrigated or dry land crops in large areas suffered considerably. Some as low as a 50% of normal yield, due to the lack of precipitation at the proper time.

All storage reservoirs used for irrigation were filled early in the season. Water stored in the Stillwater Reservoir No. 1, was not needed for irrigation the past season. River supply seemed ample for all needs. Water was ordered released, however, from a gauge height of 61 feet in July to a gauge height of 38 feet, to relieve the pressure on the leakage through the moraineal dyke, these seepage conditions do not seem to be showing any marked improvement even though an attempt has been made in a very limited way by the district, to make some repairs.

The Simon Reservoir No. 1 and the Gardner Park reservoir, as well as all of the smaller individually owned reservoirs were beneficially used to supplement direct flow irrigation.

Construction was completed on the McChivvis reservoir dam in District No. 58, with the exception of partial completion of the rip rap along the high water line and the spillway crest paving and protection.

The Enlargement of the D. D. & E reservoir dam in District No. 44 was completed with exception of the gate lifting device.

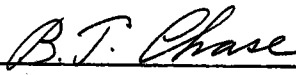
Instructions were given in both cases that these reservoirs were to store no water until all construction was completed. These dams were constructed under approved plans and specifications and were under direct supervision of the local Soil Conservation Engineer.

The vegetable crops, particularly lettuce and spinach that has been quite predominate in the upper Yampa River area over past several years, has been declining gradually until it is now at about 25% of its one time maximum acreage. It is evident and is probably being realized by the growers that the uncertainty of these crops being affected both by varied weather and marketing conditions is responsible for the decline in the acreage.

Another factor which has contributed to lessen the pressure and demand upon irrigation water, is the large scale conversion of former hay meadow land which required several acre feet of water per acre annually, to various grain crops which in some cases were not irrigated at all and others only lightly.

The western third of this division was drier than normal, receiving only a small percent of the average rain fall and all dry land crops were almost a total loss. Cloud seeding was carried on in this area, the exact location of generators is not known, however extensive inquiry revealed no favorable comment from those participating and it can not be found where any beneficial results were obtained by such activity.

Respectfully submitted


Irrigation Division Engineer
Division No. 6

TABULATED STATEMENT OF
WATER COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL DITCH REPORT FOR
IRRIGATION SEASON OF 1951

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
43	62	764.84	953.00	4- 1
44	104	540.42	601.00	4- 23
54	48	103.85	261.00	5- 10
55 & 56	No report	—	—	—
57	58	296.32	371.00	4- 14
<u>58</u>	<u>284</u>	<u>1577.25</u>	<u>1796.70</u>	<u>4- 18</u>
Total	556	3282.68	3982.70	4- 1

	Last day water used from natural stream	Average number of days water carried	Average daily amount carried in second feet	Number of Acre feet used.
42	10-15	90	476.10	133,978
44	9-27	77	238.78	58,812
54	10-1	51	153.00	15,460
55 & 56	No report	*-	—	—
57	10-31	80	184.37	39,200
<u>58</u>	<u>11-15</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>1055.19</u>	<u>169,426</u>
Total	11-15	73	2107.44	416,876

	Total Irrigated.
43	21,200
44	20,124
54	7,023
55 & 56	No report
57	12,349
<u>58</u>	<u>57,366</u>
Total	118,062

TABULATED STATEMENT OF WATER COMMISSIONER'S
ANNUAL RESERVOIR REPORT FOR THE IRRIGATION SEASON OF 1951

District No.	Number of reservoirs reported	Area of high water line acres	Total capacity in cubic feet	Quantity of water in reservoir May 1, cu. ft.
43	No reservoirs reported			
44	11	209	63,176,128	17,385,328
54	2	25	18,791,232	10,605,794
55 & 56	0 No reports			
57	14	372	149,224,699	64,148,746
58	12	440	429,853,562	429,853,562
Total	39	1016	661,045,621	521,993,430

	Quantity of water in reservoir Nov. 1, cu. ft.	First day water was used	Last day water was used	Average number of days water carried
43	No report			
44	00	5- 1	9- 10	78
54	3,730,066	7- 20	8- 15	25
55 & 56	No report			
57	00	5- 2	9- 22	102
58	175,004,057	6- 20	10- 11	31
Total	178,724,023	5- 1	10- 11	236

	Average daily amount carried cu ft per sec.	Number of acre feet reservoir water carried	Total Irrigated by reservoir only
43	00	00	00
44	14.58	2337	1160
54	6.00	300	00
55 & 56	00	00	00
57	7.50	1656	460
58	45.57	2592	00
Total	73.65	6885	1620