

Steamboat Springs, Colorado
November 30, 1953

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

Dear Sir:

I herewith present my annual report for Irrigation Division No. 6 for 1953.

Attached hereto are tabulations of water commissioner's ditch and reservoir reports.

The past year showed a below average water supply and a precipitation deficiency, particularly during later part of the irrigation season and continued through November.

A severe freeze occurred on June 26 covering the entire area which undoubtedly was the principal factor for a below average crop production. At this time temperatures ranged from 32 degrees at Meeker to 27 degrees at Craig and 25 degrees at Steamboat Springs. All alfalfa, fall wheat and other crops above ground were frozen or effected materially by same. During the balance of the season excess temperatures prevailed and conditions were otherwise favorable for agricultural activities.

Heavy runoff from melting snow started quite early, this was however slowed down during June and tapered off gradual so that the water supply for irrigation was far above earlier expectation.

All ~~stored~~^{reser} reservoirs used for irrigation were filled by July 1st, and first use of stored water for irrigation started on April 20, in District No. 44, May 20 in District No. 57, and on July 5th in District No. 58, and where available the use of storage water continued, in some instances, through October.

The first demand for direct irrigation was started in water District No. 43 on April 1st, District No. 44 on April 2, District No. 57 on April 1st and in District No. 58 on May 1st. The demand for water continued much later than the average. In District No. 43, to October 30, District No. 44 to October 28, District No. 57, October 29 and District No. 58, November 1st. In all water Districts some ditches where water supplies were available, were still irrigating meadow and pasture land as late as November 16.

The length of time for which water is used or needed for irrigation in this area is longer than the average number of days, as shown on the water commissioners reports. Their average is cut considerably by the fact that so many ditches divert from creeks where the water supply is limited and of a very short duration, particularly to junior appropriators.

Harvesting conditions were quite favorable for all crops, some lettuce and vegetable operations of about the usual acreage are still being carried on in the Yampa and Toponas area.

Pastures and range areas were below average due to the long dry period in late summer and fall.

Precipitation through July and August was well distributed and of sufficient quantity for good results. July averaged 1.94 inches; August around 2.0 inches. All dry land crops not previously effected by the June freeze were very nearly up to normal.

Through the entire months of September and October the total precipitation was less than 1.5 inches, practically all this occurred during the 2nd week of October.

Apparently no damaging effects on agriculture resulted in the fall draught. It made plowing and planting of winter wheat difficult, ranges dry and stock water scarce.

Numerous, but not serious administration problems arose and were disposed of without repercussion.

Stored water used in 1953

No. Reported	District No. 57 Use	Capacity-cu. ft.
3	Irrigation	37,233,706
6	Stock water	39,512,796
5	Out of order or not used	70,577,192
Total <u>14</u>		<u>147,323,694</u>

All were originally adjudicated for irrigation purposes.

No. Reported	District No. 44 Use	Capacity-cu. ft.
6	Irrigation	48,413,328
3	" did not fill	10,454,400
2	Stock water	7,144,000
<u>1</u>	Fish purposes	----
<u>13</u>		<u>66,012,128</u>

No. Reported	District No. 54 Use	Capacity-cu. ft.
2	Irrigation	18,791,232

No. Reported	District No. 58 Use	Capacity-cu. ft.
8	Irrigation	411,376,197
<u>2</u>	Domestic	<u>18,477,365</u>
<u>10</u>		<u>429,853,562</u>

Stored water utilized for the season in 29 reservoirs, total 13,400 acre feet.

Still water reservoirs No. 1 District No. 58 on June 30, had maximum gage reading of 60.5 feet, storage 6515.5 acre feet. The first storage release was on June 30th and the last release date Octo. 31. The gage reading on said date 30.5 storage 2468 acre feet.

Total released to ditches	2696.5	acre feet
Balance in storage	<u>2468.</u>	" "
Total	5164.5	" "

Total loss to reservoir in seepage during period June 30th to October 31, 153 days 1351 acre feet, average 9.00 cubic feet per second.

Respectfully submitted

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

Tabulation of Adjudications to Reservoirs, Irrigation Division No. 6

Reservoirs Adj. (Compiled from Court Decrees) Reservoirs (Reported by Water Commissioner 1953)

Water Dist. No.	No. of Reservoirs	Total Appropriation Acre feet	No. W.C. Report Reporteds	Assumed all to be used as adjudicated (1952 Report)	1047.58 1110.00 431.00 ----- 32.70 857.00 9490.00 ----- 12968.28
43	13	1047.8	13	6 for irrigation	1047.58
44	28	1965.41	2	" "	1110.00
54	3	470.00	0	" "	431.00
55	0	-----	1	" "	-----
56	1	32.70	14	" "	32.70
57	35	4431.11	8	" "	857.00
58	15 Absolute cond'l.	9798.91	12	For domestic use - 2	9490.00
	5	1860.50	40	" "	-----
	100	19602.21	20	" "	12968.28

Tabulation of Water Adjudication to Ditches in Irrigation Division No. 6

Water District No.	No. of Appropriations	No. of Ditches or Diversions	Total Appropriation Second feet	Reported by Water Commissioner 1953	
				No. Ditches	Avr. total Diversion
43	655	402	1323.63	70	606.60
44	258	247	792.82	20	401.12
54	46	46	222.55	49 (1952 Report)	124.00
55	5	5	40.33	2	20.00 No. report est.
56	16	16	17.20	12	15.00 " " 84%
57	145	92	498.09	48	194.95
58	587	378	1848.42	276	958.64
Total	1712	1186	5343.74	547	2321.31

Percentages of total appropriated water: 31%, 51%, 56%, 50%, 84%, 39%, 52%, 44%

TABULATION OF WATER COMMISSIONER'S CHARGES FOR YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 1953 IRRIGATION DIVISION NO. 6

Water Dist. No.	'No. Days Services'	'Payment for Services'	'Mileage Traveled'	'Payment Received For Mileage'	'Excess Mileage Traveled Miles'	'Average Received Per Mile in cents'
43	87	\$ 839.55	3979	\$ 250.88	393	6 3/10
44		2045.80	11929	555.97	3933	4 95/100
54	64	617.60	2655	185.85	---	7
57		on-44	9867	549.92	2011	5 68/100
58	205	1978.25	10957	533.05	3334	4 86/100
Totals		\$5481.20	39387	\$2079.49	3670	

Salary Allocation \$6000.00

TABULATED STATEMENT OF WATER COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL DITCH REPORTS FOR IRRIGATION SEASON 1953

District No.	'No. of Ditches Reported'	'Amount of Appropriation cu.ft.per sec.'	'Capacity of Ditches Sec. feet'	'First Day Water was used'	'Last Day Water was used'	'Average No. days water carried'
43	70	871.59	1339.00	4-1	10-30	103
44	90	492.97	665.00	4-2	10-28	108
54	46	111.89	259.00	5-15	9-10	42
55 - 56	No reports	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
57	48	300.90	379.40	4-1	10-29	108
58	267	1525.54	2756.00	5-1	11-1	73
Total	521	3302.89	5398.40	4-1	11-1	87

District No.	'Average Daily Amount Carried in Second feet'	'No. of Acre feet Used'	'Total No. Acres Irrigated'	Remarks:
43	606.60	177,259	22,151	
44	401.12	90,430	19,383	
54	162.00	14,010	9,230	
55 - 56	---	---	---	
57	194.95	50,957	12,344	
58	958.64	356,395	61,944	
Total	2323.31	689,051	125,052	No. Water Commissioners

TABULATED STATEMENT OF WATER COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL RESERVOIR REPORT FOR IRRIGATION SEASON 1953

District No.	No. of Reservoirs Reported	Area of High Water Line, acres	Capacity in cubic feet	Quantity of water in reservoir May 1st	Quantity of water in Reservoir Nov. 1st
				cubic feet	cubic feet
43	no report	--	--	--	--
44	6	180	48,413,328	48,413,328	0.0
54	2	32	18,791,232	5,196,258	2,677,416
55-56	no report	--	--	--	--
57	3	101	37,233,706	37,233,706	90
58	10	410	429,853,362	429,853,363	104,872,280
Total	21	723	534,291,627	520,696,655	113,549,696

Dist. No.	First day water used	Last day water used	Average No. days water carried	Average daily am't. carried	No. of acre feet carried	Total no. acres irrigated
				cubic feet		
43	--	--	--	--	--	--
44	4-20	9-15	85	17.83	3067	1160
54	7-13	7-20	18	9.00	344	
55-56	--	--	--	--	--	--
57	5-20	9-28	108	6.75	1494	460
58	7-5	11-1	37	60.17	6901	--
Total	4-20	11-1	49	93.75	11,806	1620

District

No.	Remarks
43	no report
44	Six out of the thirteen reservoirs reported used for irrigation 1953
54	One irrigation, one stockwater
55-56	--
57	Only three of the fourteen reservoirs reported used for irrigation 1953
58	Supplemental supply to ditches. All acreage included in ditch report.