

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

DIVISION NO. 6

1973 ANNUAL REPORT



CONTENTS  
 DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES  
 DIVISION NO. 6  
 1973 ANNUAL REPORT

	page
I. Introductory Statement	1
II. Personnel	3
III. Water Supply	4
A. Forecast	4
B. Precipitation	4
C. Flooding	5
D. Water Budget	6
E. Ground Water	6
F. Transmountain (Transbasin)	7
G. Reservoir Storage	7
IV. Agriculture	12
V. Compacts	13
VI. Dams	13
A. Reservoir Projects	13
B. Stock Dams	13
VII. Water Rights	14
A. Tabulation	14
B. Referee's Findings and Decrees	14
VIII. Organizations	14
A. Conservancy Districts	15
B. Ditch Companies and Water and Sanitation Districts	15
IX. Water Commissioner's Summary	16
X. Division Engineer's Summary	18
A. Direct Flow Diversions	19
B. Storage Report	19
XI. Recommendations and Suggestions	20
Proposed Legislation for Monumenting Water Rights	21
Duties Assumed by 1042 Water Commissioner	23

## DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

### DIVISION NO. 6

### 1973 ANNUAL REPORT

#### I. Introductory Statement

The Yampa, North Platte, Green, Little Snake and White River drainage basins comprise Division No. 6 which includes the major portion of the Northwestern corner of Colorado. Elevations range from 14,000 feet in the Eastern portion to around 5,000 feet in the West including rugged mountains, irrigated valleys, farmed mesas, desert ranges and the beautiful canyon country of the Yampa and Green River. The annual precipitation varies from seven inches annually in the western winter ranges to over 40 inches in the high mountains with about 20 inches in the crop producing portions of the Division. The bulk of the precipitation is in the form of snow during the winter months with some areas having summer precipitation enough to support small grains and some dry land hay.

Primarily the irrigation is on mountain meadows producing hay and irrigated pasture. This acreage is approximately as follows for various drainages: Yampa River - 100,000 acres, White River - 37,000 acres and 120,000 acres for the North Platte drainage. Dry farming in the North Platte drainage is practically nonexistent due to the short growing season and a minimum elevation of 8,000 feet. The dry crop acreage in the Yampa basin is approximately 131,000 acres and the White River drainage has approximately 17,000 acres. Dry land crops consist of wheat, oats and barley. The land is generally summer fallowed which for the most part means only 50 per cent of the land is in production annually.

The population in Division No. 6 is sparse with most of the population being in Craig, Steamboat Springs and Meeker. Steamboat Springs is showing the most rapid increase in population due to the recreational development, however, Craig's population is growing with advent of the construction of power plants in the area.

Agriculture is the major industry in the Division, mainly livestock production. However, recreation is becoming a very essential part of the economy with Steamboat Springs area being the center of activity. The ski resort at Steamboat Springs is the main attraction, although summer recreation brings many tourist into the area.

A steam generating development utilizing huge coal deposits is in production at the Colorado-Ute Hayden Plant. A 250 mega watt addition is under construction at the present. Other plants are being studied for the White and Yampa drainages. Public service of Colorado at the present time freights coal from three local strip mines to their East slope plants.

Development of new subdivisions in the area has been on the decrease during the past year. There has been very strict state and county regulations concerning water and sewage enforced. Although some decline may be credited to the scarcity of funds for financing.

II. Personnel

## A.

NAME	POSITION	DISTRICT	MONTHS		MILEAGE
			WORKED	BUDGETED	
Wesley E. Signs	Division Engineer		Full Time		\$ 92.92
Daries C. Lile	Asst. Division Engineer		Full Time		\$ 355.06
W. Kent Holt	Hydrographer		Full Time		State Truck
Linda L. Fox	Secretary		Full Time		
Roy D. Steffen	1042 Water Commissioner		Full Time		\$ 430.22
Clarence Johnson	Water Commissioner 1	43	12	12	State Scout
William Murray	Deputy Water Commissioner	43	5 1/2	5	\$1431.70
Ben E. Cordle	Water Commissioner 1	44	4 1/2	7	\$1064.12
Neil Black	Water Commissioner 1	47	8	11	\$ 443.50
Samuel Ray	Deputy Water Commissioner	47	0	3	-----
Donald C. Gilroy	Water Commissioner 1	54	5 1/4	6	\$ 592.24
Jack Leonard	Water Commissioner 1	55-56	3 1/4	9	\$ 640.72
James E. Sellers	Water Commissioner 1	57	7 1/2	7	\$ 917.18
Charles Gregory	Water Commissioner 1	58	7 3/4	8	\$ 780.94
Billy Milner	Water Commissioner 1	58	6 1/4	5	\$ 365.90
Eric H. Wagner	Deputy Water Commissioner	58	1		-----
	Engineering Technician	47	0	8	-----
R. Wayne Light *	Water Commissioner 1	58	7	8	\$ 621.76

\* Contract Agreement for Professional Services

### III. Water Supply

A. The water supply forecast was up slightly in the area with an above normal snowfall in the basin. The runoff predications were:

<u>Watershed</u>	<u>Per Cent of Average</u>
Elk River	105
North Platte River	129
White River	109
Yampa River	112

The snow melt was late in March on some of the lower drainages. The Yampa River at Steamboat estimated flow for water year 1973 is 398,000 A.F.

B. Above normal precipitation through out the summer and fall kept the stream flow high, but made harvest of hay and wheat crops difficult.

C. Flooding was limited to the very low meadows during the peak runoff with no damage of consequence being reported. However, flooding did occur in Meeker and Rangely due to heavy ice jamming during the winter.

III. Water Supply  
 D. Water Budget - Water Year 1972

DRAINAGE BASINS

	Yampa Riv. at Maybell	Little Snake Riv. at Lily Park	White Riv. near Watson, Utah	North Platte Riv. at Northgate
Drainage Area Sq. Mi.	3,400	3,700	4,000	1,400
Irrigated Acres	90,000	12,000	37,000	120,000
Irrigation Diversions A.F.	310,000	36,000	268,000	479,000
Municipal Diversions A.F.	4,600	---	---	---
Industrial Diversions A.F.	4,300	---	---	---
Transmountain Diversions A.F.	2,300	---	1,900	1,900
Estimated Irrig. Depletion A.F.	117,000	16,000	48,000	156,000
Estimated Munc. Depletion A.F.	1,000	---	---	---
Estimated Ind. Depletion A.F.	2,300	---	---	---
Change in Res. Storage A.F.	-(decrease) 1,800	---	+(increase) 1,315	+(increase) 330
Surface Outflow A.F.	908,800	361,000	422,700	237,300
Basin Yield A.F.	1,029,600	377,000	473,915	395,530
Basin Yield AF/SQ. Mile	303	102	118	283



### III. Water Supply

E. Ground water use as a domestic supply is becoming more important. However, it is extremely difficult to obtain an adequate supply outside of the valley aquifers. The difficulty rises with both the quantity and quality obtained from deeper sources. Aquifers with potential for development are the Browns Park, Green River, North Park and Coalmont Formations.

Problems concerning well applications and the construction of wells were referred to Roy Steffen, Water Commissioner. Over 60 wells were inspected during the year to determine if they were being drilled and completed properly.

F. Transmountain Diversions (Transbasin)		A.F.
Stillwater Ditch	Yampa River c/o Stillwater Ditch Co.	2,784
Sarvis Ditch	Service Creek	0
Four Counties Ditch	Fish Creek	0
Michigan Ditch	Michigan River	2,028
Cameron Pass Ditch	Michigan River Mountain Supply Co.	322

III. Water Supply  
 G. Reservoir Storage

DIST.	NAME OF RESERVOIR	SOURCE	NOV. 1	MAY 1	OCT. 31
			Acre Feet		
43	Beaver Lake Reservoir	Vaughan Creek	4.41	4.41	4.41
43	Big Beaver Creek Reservoir	Big Beaver Creek	6000.0	7657.9	6000.0
43	Big Lick Reservoir	Big Beaver Creek	7.8	502.93	400.0
43	Cabin Lake Reservoir	Vaughan Creek	16.0	16.0	16.0
43	Gregor Reservoir	Vaughan Creek	47.0	47.0	47.0
43	Keystone Reservoir No. 3	Price Creek	--	13.9	3.5
43	Lady Lake Reservoir	Vaughan Creek	4.41	4.41	4.41
43	Larson Reservoir	Nineteen Mile Creek	61.9	61.9	61.9
43	Lunney Reservoir	Nine Mile Draw	51.7	82.12	41.6
43	McHattton Reservoir	Coal Creek	0	0	0
43	Proctor Reservoir	Curtis Creek	0	6.66	0
43	Seventh Lake Reservoir	Vaughan Creek	7.45	7.45	7.45
43	Stump Lake Reservoir	Vaughan Creek	10.23	10.23	10.23
43	West Miller Reservoir	West Miller Creek	13.2	77.8	29.8
43	West Stewart Reservoir	West Stewart Creek	1.3	13.3	13.3
43	Wilson Reservoir	East Flag Creek	--	25.0	0
44	Anderson Reservoir	Cottonwood Creek	0	10.0	0
44	Biskup Reservoir	Biskup Gulch	0	44.0	0
44	Bunker Lake Reservoir	Bunker Creek	20.0	191.0	113.0
44	Cove Lake Reservoir	Morapos Creek	0	46.2	46.2
44	Cove Reservoir	Morapos Creek	0	67.7	67.7
44	D.D. & E. Reservoir	Hullett Draw	0	1408.0	0
44	Dresher Reservoir	Long Gulch	0	240.0	200.0
44	Dunckley Dubeau Reservoir	Willow Creek	112.0	112.0	112.0
44	Elgin Reservoir	Unnamed trib. Yampa River	--	--	--
44	Elgin Reservoir No. 2	Unnamed trib. Yampa River	--	--	--
44	Freeman Reservoir	Little Cottonwood Creek	137.0	137.0	137.0
44	Konopik Reservoir	Clear Creek	0	13.0	0
44	Pitney Reservoir	Corral Gulch	0	11.0	0
44	Poose Creek Reservoir	Poose Creek	227.0	227.0	227.0
44	Ralph White Reservoir	Fortification Creek	605.0	605.0	605.0

DIST.	NAME OF RESERVOIR	SOURCE	NOV. 1	MAY 1	OCT. 31
			Acre Feet		
44	Roby Reservoir	Morapos Creek	0	26.0	0
44	Seller's Crowell Reservoir	Willow Creek	22.0	106.0	106.0
44	Shafer Reservoir	Willow Creek	20.0	81.0	81.0
44	Waddle Creek Reservoir	Waddle Creek	10.0	39.0	39.0
44	Wilson Reservoir	Good Springs	68.0	68.0	68.0
44	Wyman Reservoir	Second Creek	--	--	--
47	Addison Reservoir	Buffalo Creek	23.0	41.5	41.5
47	Aqua Fria Reservoir	Beaver Creek	75.0	550.0	0
47	Bennett Reservoir	Trib. Beaver Creek	--	80.9	80.9
47	Big Creek Lake	Big Creek	1363.0	1434.0	668.0
47	Boettcher Reservoir	Lake Creek	265.0	757.0	574.0
47	Brands Reservoir	Trib. North Fork North Platte	--	48.1	0
47	Buffalo Reservoir	Buffalo Creek	351.0	351.0	351.0
47	Burns Reservoir	Burns Draw	19.7	39.3	39.3
47	Butte - East Delaney Lake	Off Stream	244.0	136.0	56.7
47	Butte - South Delaney Lake	Off Stream	179.0	275.0	126.0
47	Carlstrom Reservoir	Michigan River	--	--	--
47	Case No. 1 Reservoir	Illinois River	0	117.0	0
47	Case No. 2 Reservoir	Illinois River	60.0	98.0	56.0
47	Case No. 3 Reservoir	Illinois River	--	9.1	9.1
47	Clayton Reservoir	Buffalo Creek	213.0	213.0	164.0
47	Cowdrey Lake (Lower)	Off Stream - Michigan River	--	112.0	72.0
47	Cowdrey Lake (Upper)	Off Stream - Michigan River	--	344.2	25.60
47	Coyte Reservoir	Off Stream	38.0	38.0	38.0
47	Fischer Lake & Pumping System	Seepage	0	58.4	27.68
47	Fuller Reservoir	Cow Creek	0	8.3	0.0
47	Gamber Reservoir	Little Grizzly River	208.2	416.0	--
47	Hap Reservoir	Buffalo Creek	0	47.9	0
47	Hecla Reservoir	Arapaho Creek	254.74	254.74	254.74
47	Hunter Reservoir	Three Mile Creek	--	63.0	0
47	Jackson Reservoir	Dry Creek Ditch		118.6	68.0
47	Kettle Reservoir	Newcomb Creek		24.5	18.1
47	Lake John	Lake Creek	6522.0	8540.0	6550.0
47	Lake Katherine	So. Fk. Pine Creek			
					Washed Out

DIST. NAME OF RESERVOIR SOURCE NOV. 1 MAY 1 OCT. 31  
Acre Feet

47	Lake Roslyn	Willow Creek	200.0	290.0	290.0
47	Laune Reservoir	Roaring Fork	2056.0	2056.0	2165.0
47	Lower House Reservoir	Spring Gulch	--	44.8	0
47	McFarlane Reservoir	Illinois River	3053.0	5012.0	1590.0
47	McGowan Reservoir	Middle Fork Mexican Creek	26.4	39.8	7.7
47	Mexican Reservoir	Mexican Creek	0	57.0	0
47	Muddy Pass Reservoir	Trib. Grizzly Creek	56.0	58.0	39.0
47	North Michigan Reservoir	North Fork Michigan River	1000.0	1249.5	1250.0
47	Ninegar Reservoir	Ninegar Creek	37.5	37.5	37.5
47	Petry Lake Reservoir	Unnamed trib. Little Grizzly	40.7	13.2	47.5
47	Pole Mountain Reservoir	Mexican Creek	1800.00	1905.5	1897.0
47	Ridings Reservoir	Buffalo Creek	0	46.1	0
47	Rock Reservoir	Newcomb Creek	--	54.8	30.2
47	Seymore Reservoir	Ninegar Creek	183.0	314.0	525.0
47	Shawver Reservoir	Sutton Creek	--	72.3	0
47	Slack & Weiss Reservoir	Ninegar Creek	137.0	152.0	152.0
47	South Arapaho Reservoir	Arapaho Creek	0	16.04	0
47	Stambaugh Reservoir	Spring and Flood	7.0	139.2	60.8
47	Three Mile Reservoir	Three Mile Creek	--	35.8	29.3
47	Upper House Reservoir	Spring Creek	13.0	27.0	27.0
47	Van Valkenburg Reservoir	Van Valkenburg Draw	--	--	--
47	Walden Reservoir	Illinois River	2486.0	3745.6	3093.7
47	West Arapaho Reservoir	Trib. Arapaho Creek	0	125.1	125.1
54	Cull Reservoir	Trib. Four Mile Creek	--	160.0	40.0
54	Elk Lake Reservoir	Willow Creek	0	300.0	0
54	Gold Blossom Reservoir	Gold Blossom Creek	0	0	0
54	Lake Fork Reservoir	Lake Fork Creek	--	44.3	44.3
54	Lower Cogdill Reservoir	Government Corral Creek	--	173.44	173.44
54	Perkins Fox Reservoir	Trib. West Willow Creek	--	--	39.0
54	Skunk Creek Reservoir	Skunk Creek	0	0	0
54	Upper Cogdill Reservoir	Government Corral Creek	--	45.4	45.4

DIST. NAME OF RESERVOIR SOURCE NOV. 1 MAY 1 OCT. 31  
Acre Feet

56	Ainge Reservoir		1.0	4.0	0.5
56	Dry Lake Reservoir		2.0	14.36	7.0
56	Haunted Spring Reservoir	Haunted Spring Gulch	0	7.0	0.5
56	Massey Reservoir	Flynn Spring	4.0	19.0	5.0
56	Offield Reservoir	Pot Creek	20.0	64.0	64.0
56	T.W. Blevins Reservoir	Spring trib. Vermillion Creek	3.0	5.0	3.0
57	Apple Reservoir	Dry Creek	0	10.72	0
57	Ash Ponds to Hayden Station	Yampa River	1013.0	1013.0	1013.0
57	Basin Reservoir	Buchanan Gulches	1116.0	289.0	208.0
57	Greasewood Flats Reservoir	Dill Gulch	0	24.8	0
57	J.C. Temple Reservoir No. 1	Temple Gulch	33.0	553.0	87.0
57	J.M. Yoast Reservoir	Yoast Creek	0	147.0	0
57	Morgan Creek Reservoir No. 1	Morgan Creek	54.0	326.0	51.6
57	Sage Creek Reservoir	Sage Creek	0	505.0	210.0
57	Seaton Reservoir	Middle Fish Creek	0	20.8	0
57	Sheriff Reservoir	Trout Creek	343.0	986.0	986.0
57	Yoast Reservoir No. 1, No. 2	Yoast Creek	0	6.85	0
58	Allen Basin Reservoir	Middle Hunt Creek	1308.4	2249.0	1023.0
58	Alma Baer Reservoir	Fish Creek	0	2.5	0
58	Bear Lake Reservoir	Deadmans Creek	--	10.	5.
58	Bison Park Reservoir	Lawson Creek	0	0	0
58	Bull Park No. 2 Reservoir	West Branch Watson Creek	0	30.0	0
58	Burnt Mesa Reservoir	South Hunt Creek	0	30.0	0
58	Chapman Reservoir	Little Oak Creek	60.0	246.0	180.0
58	Crowner Reservoir	Beaver Creek	0	58.0	0
58	Fish Creek Reservoir	Fish Creek	1175.4	1175.4	0
58	Fish Lake Reservoir No. 2	Wheeler Creek	6.35	6.35	6.35
58	French Reservoir	Jack Creek	0	7.0	0
58	Gardner Reservoir	Gardner Creek	576.0	1155.0	1051.0
58	Hahns Peak Reservoir	Willow Creek	600.5	600.5	600.5
58	Heart Lake Reservoir	Watson Creek	0	283.0	77.0

DIST.	NAME OF RESERVOIR	SOURCE	NOV. 1	MAY 1	OCT. 31
			Acre Feet		
58	LaForce Reservoir No. 1	Jack Creek	--	--	--
58	LaForce Reservoir No. 2	Jack Creek	--	--	--
58	LaForce Reservoir No. 3	Jack Creek	--	--	--
58	Lake Creek Reservoir	Wheeler Creek	292.0	292.0	292.0
58	Lake Windemere	Farnsworth Creek	--	--	--
58	Lee Reservoir	Chimney Creek	0	20.66	0
58	Lester Creek Reservoir	Lester Creek	565.7	565.7	565.7
58	Long Lake Reservoir	Fish Creek	100.0	395.0	107.0
58	Lowry Reservoir	Pinnacle Creek	--	--	--
58	Martin Reservoir	Yellow Jacket Creek	20.0	20.0	20.0
58	May Reservoir	Salt Creek	0	31.0	31.0
58	McChivvis Reservoir	Watson Creek	0	191.2	101.0
58	Milk Creek Reservoir	Milk Creek	0	0	0
58	Moore Park Reservoir	Elgin Creek	0	10.0	0
58	Oak Creek Reservoir	Oak Creek	28.5	28.5	28.5
58	Osborn Reservoir	Raspberry Creek	0	0	0
58	Rams Horn Reservoir	Dome Creek	122.4	122.4	122.4
58	Reynolds Reservoir	Bruce Creek	0	0	0
58	Roland Reid Reservoir No. 1	Ft. Willy Gulch	45.6	45.6	45.6
58	Sandelin Reservoir No. 1	Big Creek	2.5	2.5	2.5
58	Sandelin Reservoir No. 2	Big Creek	7.0	7.0	7.0
58	Sandelin Reservoir No. 3	Big Creek	7.0	7.0	7.0
58	Simon Reservoir	Middle Hunt Creek	209.3	692.0	455.0
58	Stillwater Reservoir No. 1	Yampa River	3299.0	6346.1	3711.5
58	Stillwater Reservoir No. 3	Yampa River	--	--	--
58	Stukey Distribution Reservoir	Spring Creek	5.0	5.0	5.0
58	Summer Reservoir	Young Creek	--	12.5	0
58	Tillquist Lake Reservoir	Morrison Creek	2.8	1.87	1.87
58	Trull Creek Reservoir	Trull Creek	0	150.0	0
58	Upper Willow Creek Reservoir	Willow Creek	23000.0	23000.0	23000.0
58	Wheeler Reservoir	Wheeler Creek	--	--	--
58	Whitney Nelson Reservoir	Whipple Creek	300.0	428.0	300.0
58	Willey Reservoir	Cow Creek	--	--	--
58	Younger Reservoir	Morrison Creek	--	FULL	0

#### IV. Agriculture

In the overall economic picture, the price of most farm products are higher than previously with the greatest increase being in the grain crops which has improved the situation of the dry land farmers. Beef are higher this year than previous years but are lower at present than they were earlier in the fall. Hay prices are turning upward as early snows have increased demand. Sheep profits are down as a result of a lower market price and heavy lamb losses.

The White River drainage has almost twice as much irrigated land as dry crop land. Most of the irrigated land is in hay production for livestock feed. This land is probably about equally divided between wild meadow hay and alfalfa. The average production on wild hay is around two to three tons per acre with alfalfa being slightly higher. Alfalfa usually produces two cuttings of hay per season. The dry crop land is almost exclusively planted in grains, wheat, oats and barley. The crop yields vary greatly in proportion to the climatic conditions. The average for wheat is around 26 bushels per acre with oats and barley slightly higher. The bulk of the dry crop land is fallowed in alternating years, which cuts production to something over 50 per cent of the total acreage annually.

The Yampa drainage has about 40 per cent more dry crop land than irrigated. The dry land crops in the Yampa drainage are almost identical to the White River drainage, with the exception that a small portion of it is in the production of hay. This dry land hay is mostly alfalfa and generally produces only one cutting. The wheat yield for the Yampa drainage is around 30 bushels per acre. The hay in the Yampa drainage is predominately wild hay with a yield of two to three tons per acre.

The North Platte drainage produces only wild hay with an average yield of around one ton per acre. The elevation of North Park is high and the growing season is short.

V. Compacts

The Upper Colorado River Compact was complied with by delivery of more than 500,000 A.F. in the Yampa River at Maybell.

The Supreme Court stipulations on the North Platte were met in 1973: total storage was 6,882 A.F., irrigated acreage was 117,316 acres, and transbasin diversions were 2,350 A.F.

Heavy snows in the Pot Creek drainage resulted in a record flow for Pot Creek near Vernal, Utah of 5,500 A.F. as compared to 1,270 A.F. the previous year.

VI. Dams

A. Two reservoir projects were under construction this year. One was the enlargement of Fish Creek Reservoir which has been completed. The other project involved the construction of the Upper Robinson Reservoir which to date was 90 per cent completed. There has been no construction started on the Bear River Reservoir, however, plans and specifications are approved. A reservoir was constructed on Deer Creek without plans and specifications and is now under orders to breach. A contract has been let for the construction of Elk Head Reservoir which should begin in the spring of 1974. There has been no progress on the Pot Hook Project because of funding problems.

B. There were only seven stock dam permits issued. The limited number being the result of a shortage of Federal funds.



VII. Water Rights

A. Progress is being made toward the additions to the October 1973 tabulation with the completion of most decree cards.

B. Referee's Findings and Decrees	No.	Rulings	Decrees
1. Underground Water Right		211	223
2. Change of Water Right		35	11
3. Plan of Augmentation		0	0
4. Water Right		543	411
5. Diligence (cond. decrees)		103	71
6. Water Storage Right		66	66
7. Applications Received in Water Court	246		
8. Number of Referee Consultations	836		

VIII. Organizations

- A. Colorado River Water Conservation District - Glenwood Springs, CO  
Roland C. Fisher, Secretary - Engineer
- Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District - Steamboat Springs, CO  
John Fetcher, Secretary
- Yellow Jacket Water Conservancy District - Meeker, CO  
Frank Cooley, Attorney
- Pot Hook Conservancy District - Baggs, WY  
Darwin Dunn, President
- Lower Yampa Conservancy District - Craig, CO  
John Sherman
- Great Northern Conservancy District - Craig, CO  
John Sherman
- Northwest Colorado Water Council - Craig, CO  
William Jordan, President
- Jackson County Water Conservancy District - Walden, CO  
Lloyd Hampton, Secretary

- B. Bear River Reservoir Company - Yampa, CO
- Stillwater Ditch Company - Yampa, CO
- Maybell Irrigation District - Maybell, CO
- Miller Creek Ditch Company - Meeker, CO
- Woodchuck Ditch Company - Steamboat Springs, CO
- Mt. Werner Water and Sanitation District - Steamboat Springs, CO
- Morrison Creek Water and Sanitation District - Oak Creek, CO
- Steamboat Lake Water District - Clark, CO
- Riverside Water and Sanitation District - Steamboat Springs, CO
- Steamboat II Water and Sanitation District - Steamboat Springs, CO
- Tree Haus Water and Sanitation District - Steamboat Springs, CO

## IX. Water Commissioner's Summary

## District No. 55

Direct Flow Diversions (ac. ft.) .....	5,550
Reservoir Storage (ac. ft.) .....	0
Amount Delivered from Storage .....	0
Acres Irrigated .....	1,142
Number of Ditches .....	18
Number of Daily Ditch Reports .....	13
Number of Reservoirs Served .....	0
Average Demand (ac. ft./ac.) .....	4.9

## District No. 44

Direct Flow Diversions (ac. ft.) .....	98,730
Reservoir Storage (ac. ft.) .....	1,802
Amount Delivered from Storage .....	1,730
Acres Irrigated .....	30,900
Number of Ditches .....	382
Number of Daily Ditch Reports .....	172
Number of Reservoirs Served .....	23
Average Demand (ac. ft./ac.) .....	3.2
Transbasin .....	100

## District No. 57

Direct Flow Diversions (ac. ft.) .....	54,230
Reservoir Storage (ac. ft.) .....	2,323
Amount Delivered from Storage .....	1,326
Acres Irrigated .....	15,100
Number of Ditches .....	127
Number of Daily Ditch Reports .....	79
Number of Reservoirs Served .....	23
Average Demand (ac. ft./ac.) .....	3.6
Transbasin .....	1,750

## District No. 43

Direct Flow Diversions (ac. ft.) .....	280,100
Reservoir Storage (ac. ft.) .....	2,300
Amount Delivered from Storage .....	1,882
Acres Irrigated .....	38,370
Number of Ditches .....	465
Number of Daily Ditch Reports .....	333
Number of Reservoirs Served .....	21
Average Demand (ac. ft./ac.) .....	7.3

## District No. 58

Direct Flow Diversions (ac. ft.) .....	121,070
Reservoir Storage (ac. ft.) .....	6,504
Amount Delivered from Storage .....	6,481
Acres Irrigated .....	48,820
Number of Ditches .....	537
Number of Daily Ditch Reports .....	427
Number of Reservoirs Served .....	28
Average Demand (ac. ft./ac.) .....	2.4
Transmountain .....	2,780

## District No. 56

Direct Flow Diversions (ac. ft.) .....	18,180
Reservoir Storage (ac. ft.) .....	83
Amount Delivered from Storage .....	33
Acres Irrigated .....	2,390
Number of Ditches .....	76
Number of Daily Ditch Reports .....	50
Number of Reservoirs Served .....	6
Average Demand (ac. ft./ac.) .....	7.6

## District No. 54

Direct Flow Diversions (ac. ft.) .....	33,190
Reservoir Storage (ac. ft.) .....	723
Amount Delivered from Storage .....	381
Acres Irrigated .....	11,200
Number of Ditches .....	86
Number of Daily Ditch Reports .....	58
Number of Reservoirs Served .....	8
Average Demand (ac. ft./ac.) .....	3.3

## District No. 47

Direct Flow Diversions (ac. ft.) .....	810,220
Reservoir Storage (ac. ft.) .....	6,882
Amount Delivered from Storage .....	9,080
Acres Irrigated .....	117,316
Number of Ditches .....	105
Number of Daily Ditch Reports .....	416
Number of Reservoirs Served .....	52
Average Demand .....	7.1
Transmountain .....	2,350

X. Division Engineer's Summary  
Table A

DIVISION SUMMARY - DIVISION NO. 6

1973 - Direct Flow Diversions

Water District	Active	Reported	Total Inactive Ditches	NU NA	Direct Diversions Ac. Ft. (Irrig.)	No. of Acres Irrigated	Ac. Ft. Per Acre	Industrial Use Ac. Ft.	Municipal & Domestic Ac. Ft.	Recreational Use Ac. Ft.	Transbasin/Transmtn. Diversions Ac. Ft.	Total Diversions Ac. Ft.	No. of Daily Ditch Rpts.	Delivered to Compact cmtmt Ac. Ft.
43	333	21	111		280100	38370	7.3	7590	8480	25370	0	321500	465	----
44	172	0	142		98730	30900	3.2	0	1550	0	100	100280 10478	314	----
47	416	0	105		810220	114600	7.1	0	0	0	2350	812570	416	----
54	58	0	28		33190	10200	3.3	0	0	0	0	33190	86	----
55	13	0	5		5550	1142	4.9	0	0	0	0	5550	18	----
56	50	0	26		18180	2390	7.6	0	57	0	0	18240	76	----
57	79	0	48		54230	15100	3.6	5270	1330	0	1750	63690	127	----
58	427	0	110		121070	48820	2.4	0	8550	1550	2780	133950	537	----
TOTALS	1548	21	575		1421270	261522	39.4	12860	19967	26920	6980	1399168	2039	----

148,0070

X. Division Engineer's Summary

Table B

DIVISION SUMMARY - DIVISION NO. 6

1973 - Storage Report - Acre Feet

Water Dist.	Amount in Storage Acre Feet			Actual Am't. Diverted to Storage During Season	Delivered from Storage to Irrigation	Storage for Industrial Use	Storage for Municipal Use	Storage for Recreation Use	Storage for Projects
	11-1-72	5-1-73	10-31-73						
43	6225	8525	6643	2300	1882	---	---	8777	---
44	1221	3532	1802	2311	1730	---	---	854	---
47	22785	29667	20587	6882	9080	---	---	10000	---
54	0	723	342	723	381	---	---	218	---
55	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
56	30	113	80	83	33	---	---	---	---
57	1559	3882	2556	2323	1326	1013	986	---	---
58	31723	38227	31746	6504	6481	5000	1598	19166	---
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>63543</b>	<b>84669</b>	<b>63576</b>	<b>21126</b>	<b>20913</b>	<b>6013</b>	<b>2584</b>	<b>39015</b>	<b>---</b>

XI. Recommendations and Suggestions

Numerous difficulties over well permits have arisen during the past year. The biggest by far is the fact that well permits and verbal approval are given and the drilling commences without the Division personnel knowing that it is legal. This leads to embarrassing situations for everyone involved. It makes it look as though the right hand doesn't know what the left hand is doing. Several years ago this situation existed in relation to stock dams. Later a policy of originating applications for stock dams from the Division level all but eliminated the problem. Possibly doing the same thing with well permits would solve a number of problems. First, all difficulties caused by a local problem could be eliminated before it reached the State level. Secondly, the Division personnel would know locations of proposed wells as well as becoming acquainted with new well drillers that might come into the area.

Recommendations for proposed legislation for the monumenting of water rights is attached. If this meets the approval of the State Office it would be the desire of Division 6 to send copies to Water Referees, Division Engineers and other interested people for recommendations and suggested changes. Upon receiving the changes, a final draft would be readied hopefully in time for the next long session of the legislature.

Many questions have come to Division 6 concerning the duties of the 1042 Water Commissioner. In view of this, attached is a list of several duties that has been assumed by our 1042 Water Commissioner along with suggested duties for 1042 Water Commissioners.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR MONUMENTING WATER RIGHTS (DITCHES, RESERVOIRS,  
AND WELLS)

Water rights are probably one of the most valuable and important Natural Resources in the State of Colorado. For this reason proper identification of these rights should be evident at the point of diversion. In the State of Colorado most things are identified by some means regardless of value, even things as insignificant as snow machines are licensed annually. Sheep and cattle are marked or branded to show identification. However, the location of something as valuable as a water right carries no visible means of identification. Most water rights are tied to Government corners which are hard to find and in many cases have been destroyed and are non-existent.

A system of monumentation should be established for the location of water rights. A brass cap probably three inches in diameter giving the name and location to the nearest quarter, quarter section "40 acres", and the priority numbers or water case number could be placed at the point of each diversion. The cap could be placed by either embedding it in concrete, welding it to 1 1/2 inch steel post or in the case of wells being welded to the casing. Ditches could be identified by monumenting the headgate or the point of measurement and dams could have the monument placed on the dam at crest elevation at the opposite end of the spillway.

The cost of placement of this monument should be stood by the owner of the water right and should be specified as to the maximum amount to be spent that is probably \$25.00 with an allowance for increases due to inflation. This cost will be for materials only. Old ditches should be monumented by the Division Engineer or his representatives



in cooperation with the owner or owners. There should be a time limit after the passage of a bill for completion of the monumentation of existing water rights, probably five years. Monumentation should be combined with the abandonment bill, that is failure to monument or inability to locate structures will be a basis for abandonment along with non use. New ditches could be monumented by the water referee and Division Engineer or their representatives along with the cooperation of the owners at the time of inspection for decree purposes. Conditional decrees will not be monumented until the time of absolute decree. A substantial fine or other penalty should be imposed for destroying and defacing the monuments.

## DUTIES ASSUMED BY 1042 WATER COMMISSIONER

During the past water year, the 1042 water commissioner has proved to be a very valuable employee for this division. He has filled in vacant water commissioners post when needed, aided other commissioners with compiling of daily diversion records when illness occurred, kept up to date on all underground water problems, and assisted in much of the office work.

With regard to underground water matters, he has kept an excellent file of the locations of all wells being drilled, completed and proposed. He has made several on site inspections of wells to determine if they are being drilled proper, cased, and completed according to regulations. Any problems that arise concerning wells have been dealt with through him and questions concerning the issue of permits and regulations involving wells were handled by him.

By having the use of the commissioner in the office many duties are assigned to him. Such as helping on the water rights tabulation, making line diagrams, helping the public research water rights, compiling water diversion data for the annual report, plotting all new decrees and keeping maps up to date. In addition, he can answer many questions presented by the public concerning underground and surface water and can be assigned to help on any special projects that may arise such as the dam roster.

SUGGESTED DUTIES FOR 1042 WATER COMMISSIONERS

Aid in field work for all districts when there is a demand.

Train new Water Commissioners.

Fill in when unexpected vacancies occur.

Inform public on general water matters including both surface and underground problems.

Aid public in the research of division records for diversion and water rights.

Draw line diagrams of division streams and keep them up to date as new rights are decreed.

On site inspection of well drillings, casing and pump installation.

Work on tabulation of water rights.

Plot and record locations of wells and permits.

Plot and record locations of stock ponds.

Keep stock pond roster current.

Keep aware of all drillers in area and where they are drilling.

Aid in the compiling of water commissioner records for annual report.

Keep all topo. sheets filled as new ones come.

Keep aerial photos indexed.

Assist in any special projects that arise such as dam roster.

Plotting new decrees on cards for file.

