

# STATE OF COLORADO

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## Colorado Water Conservation Board Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board

FROM: Carolyn Fritz, GIS Coordinator  
Ray Alvarado, Section Chief  
Water Information Section

DATE: March 4, 2011

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 24, March 15–16, 2011 Board Meeting  
Water Information Section –Irrigated Lands: Western Colorado Past and Present**

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John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor

Mike King  
DNR Executive Director

Jennifer L. Gimbel  
CWCB Director

### Recommendation

This is an informational item only; no formal Board action is required.

### Introduction

A presentation of western Colorado's past and present irrigated lands will be given, highlighting CWCB's GIS and technical expertise and resources.

The presentation will show how staff was able to spatially reconcile irrigated lands reported in 1948 with today's digital efforts.

This was not a detailed analysis due to the very general nature and unknown source of numbers reported in the 1948 report, and the low quality of the map provided. This analysis was staff's best interpretation of the information provided.

**Attachment:** A table comparing irrigated lands reported in 1948 compared with lands in 2005.

## Irrigated Lands: Western Colorado - Past Present

Irrigated Area Location	1948 URBC Report^		DSS Data						
	1914-1945 Ave	1932-1948 Ave	2005						
<u>Linwood to Green River, Utah</u>									
Little Snake R. Above Lilly	7,895		13,560	1535 *	* reside in WY but are irrigated with CO water				
Little Snake R. near Slater		200	1,295	Acreage included in larger basins, not additive					
Slater Fk near Slater		1,300	2,464	to total					
Yampa R. above Maybell	65,720		56,313						
Upper Yampa and Elk	34,416		28,106						
Yampa R. at Steamboat Springs		19,730	18,548						
Elk R at Clark		230	791						
Lower Yampa to Maybell	31,304		28,207						
Remainder Linwood to Green River, Utah (Vermillion, Yampa ds of Maybell, Other Tribs to Green)	1,840		4,598						
Cottonwood/Vermillion	1,840		864						
Yampa R. downstream of Maybell			3,362						
Other Tributaries to the Green			372						
White R. above Watson	30,660		27,517						
White R near Meeker		12,270	10,035						
<b><u>Total above Green River, Utah (White, Yampa, Little Snake)</u></b>	<b>106,115</b>		<b>101,988</b>						
<u>Colorado River above Cisco</u>									
Colorado River above Cameo	154,581		150,896						
Muddy, Troublesome, Blue	16,960		23,135						
Blue River at Dillon		143	121						
Tenmile Cr at Dillon		201	26						
Colorado River above Glenwood	35,547		42,464						
Colorado R at Hot Sulphur Spgs		12,710	14,908						
Eagle River, Gypsum Creek	15,629		6,832						
Roaring Fork above Basalt and Tribs	13,893		10,666						
Roaring Fork at Aspen		120	0						
Roaring Fork below Basalt and Tribs	20,790		14,647						
Colo R and Tribs. Glenwood to Cameo	51,762		53,152						
Plateau Creek at Cameo	24,650		24,650						
Plateau Valley	24,650		24,650						
Colorado River to Stateline	256,578		227,883						
Gunnison R at Grand Jct	251,842		246,535						
Upper Gunnison to Cimarron	39,862		36,711						
Taylor R at Almont		360	580						
East R at Almont		7,360	8,060						

Irrigated Lands: Western Colorado - Past Present

Tomichi and Cochetopa	21,570		24,138					
NF Gunnison and Tribs	78,755		71,191					
Upper Uncompaghre	25,130		25,694					
Uncompahgre R near Colona		15,510	15,322					
Uncompahgre Project	86,525		88,801					
Dolores River at Gateway	35,906		40,550					
Dolores River at Dolores		2,525	1,552					
Upper Dolores	3,490		1,862					
Lower Dolores	5,856		5,353					
San Miguel including Lilylands	26,560		33,335					
Remainder above Cisco ( <i>includes Grand Valley, Little Dolores and others</i> )	77,347		52,337					
Grand Valley	75,698		49,785					
Outside Grand Valley			1,041					
Little Dolores	1,649		1511					
<b>Total above Cicso, Utah</b>	<b>544,326</b>		<b>514,968</b>					
<b>San Juan River above Bluff w/additional lands</b>	<b>140,165</b>		<b>174,063</b>	<i>Increase includes Dolores Project (1993)</i>				
<b>San Juan River above Bluff</b>	<b>140,165</b>		<b>148,511</b>	<i>and Towac (2005)</i>				
San Juan River at Pagosa Springs		3,150	4,061					
Upper San Juan	9362		14,330					
Navajo River at Edith		2,930	2,323					
Piedra	4,186		14,745	<i>Increase due to lands along Wiminuche Creek</i>				
Los Pinos	32,373		30,151	<i>and headwaters of Stollsteimer Creek</i>				
Los Pinos River near Bayfield		0	165					
Animas River	10,278		9,094					
Animas R at Durango		4,060	3,350					
Florida River	14,500		16,430					
Florida R near Durango		160	473					
La Plata River	21,159		12,903					
La Plata R at Hesperus		350	557					
Mancos River	10,354		9,937					
Montezuma and McElmo above Cortez	30353		33,774					
Montezuma and McElmo below Cortez	7,600		7,147					
Towac			7,167					
Dolores Project Lands North of McElmo (Cross and Monument Canyons)			18,385					
<b>Total Upper Colorado Basin in Colorado</b>	<b>790,606</b>		<b>791,019</b>					

^Upper Colorado River Basin Compact Commission Record: Volume III: Final Draft of Engineering Advisory Committee Report and Inflow-Outflow Manual, November 28, 1948