



David Costlow
Executive Director

The drum beat starts early



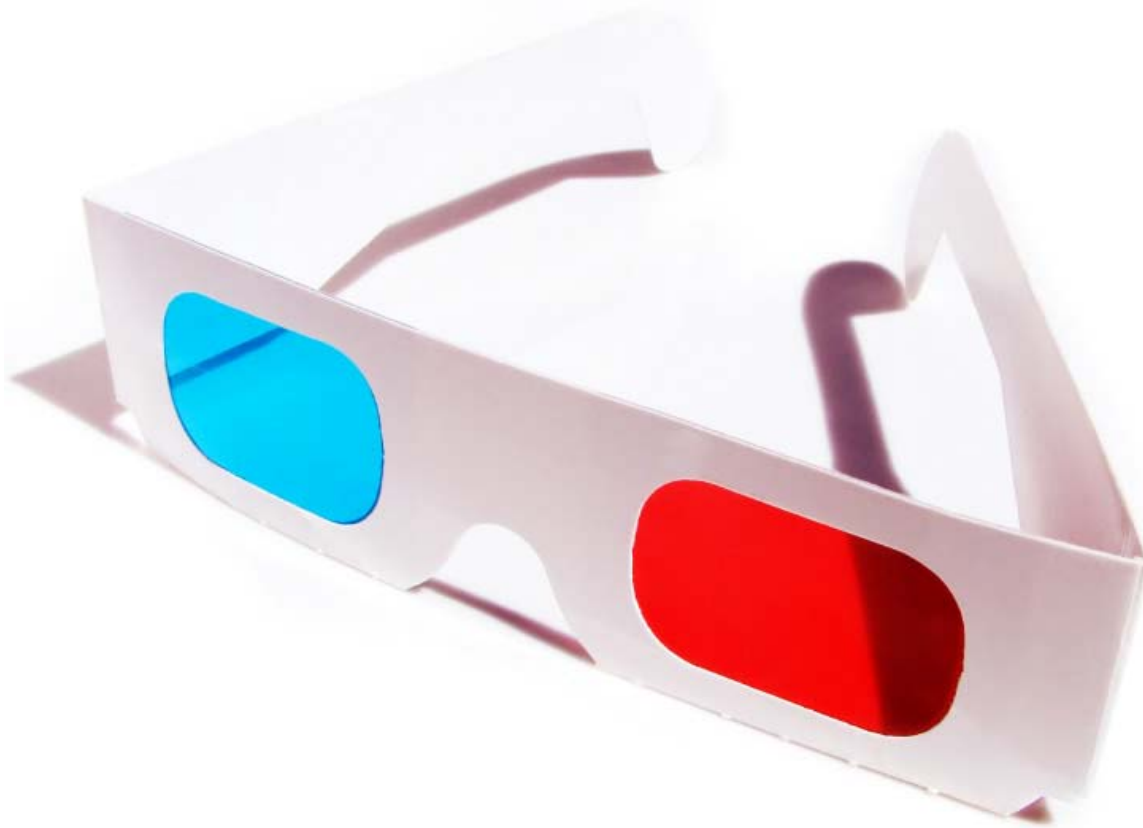
What REALLY happened

“(Clear Creek is) peaking very early. The peaks are going to be much lower than they normally will be,” (Lakewood USGS field office chief) Smith said. **“I think all the flow is going to come and go by the end of May for sure, (...) and then it is going to be a drought year after that for sure.”**

Smith said he doesn't believe Clear Creek will get anywhere close to 200 cfs, which is generally considered by rafting companies to be marginal water conditions.

~ Excerpted from **“Mild weather could mean a shorter rafting season”** in the Clear Creek Courant

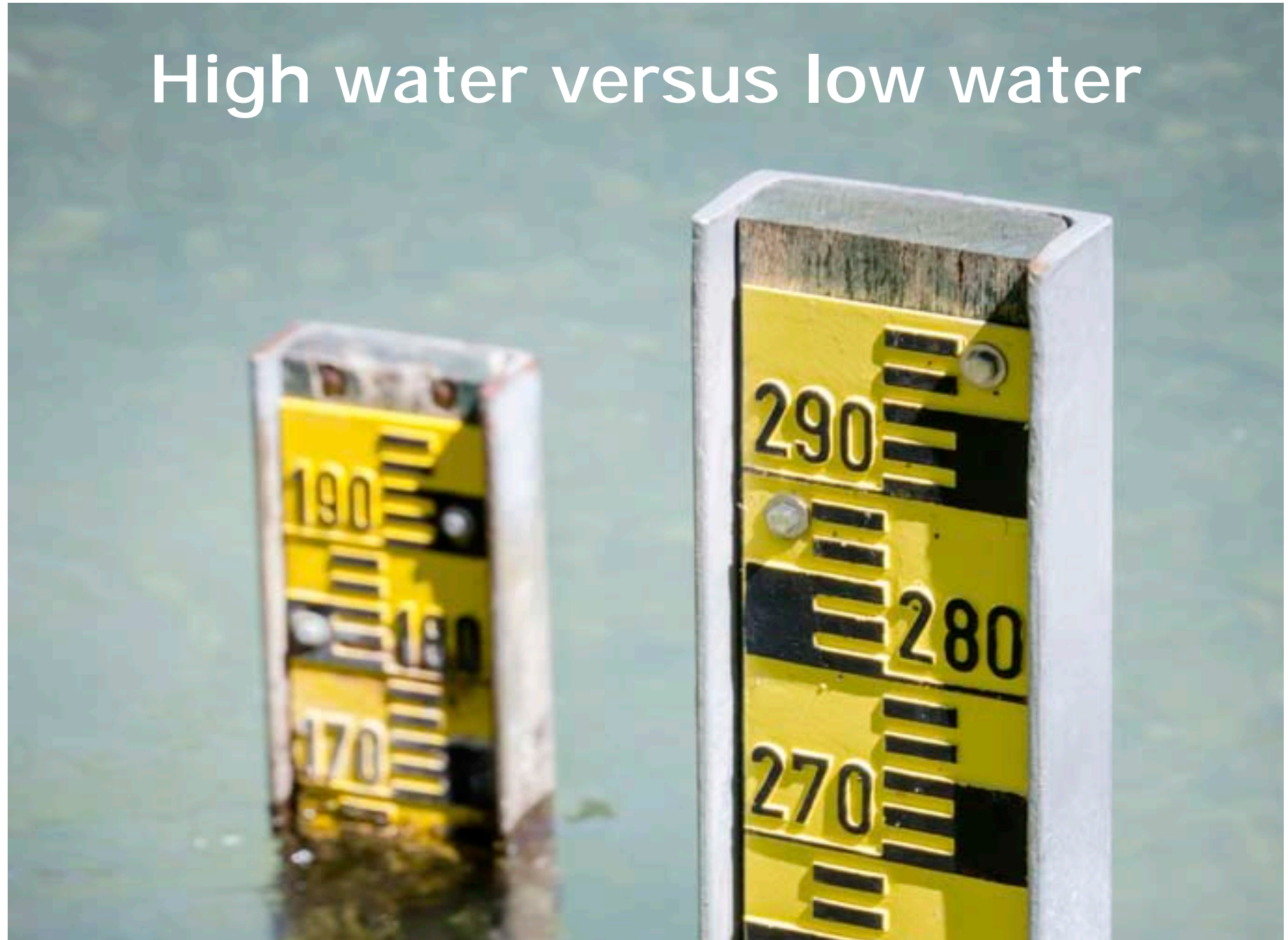
Perceptions of drought are usually worse for rafting than the actual drought



Low water doesn't mean NO water

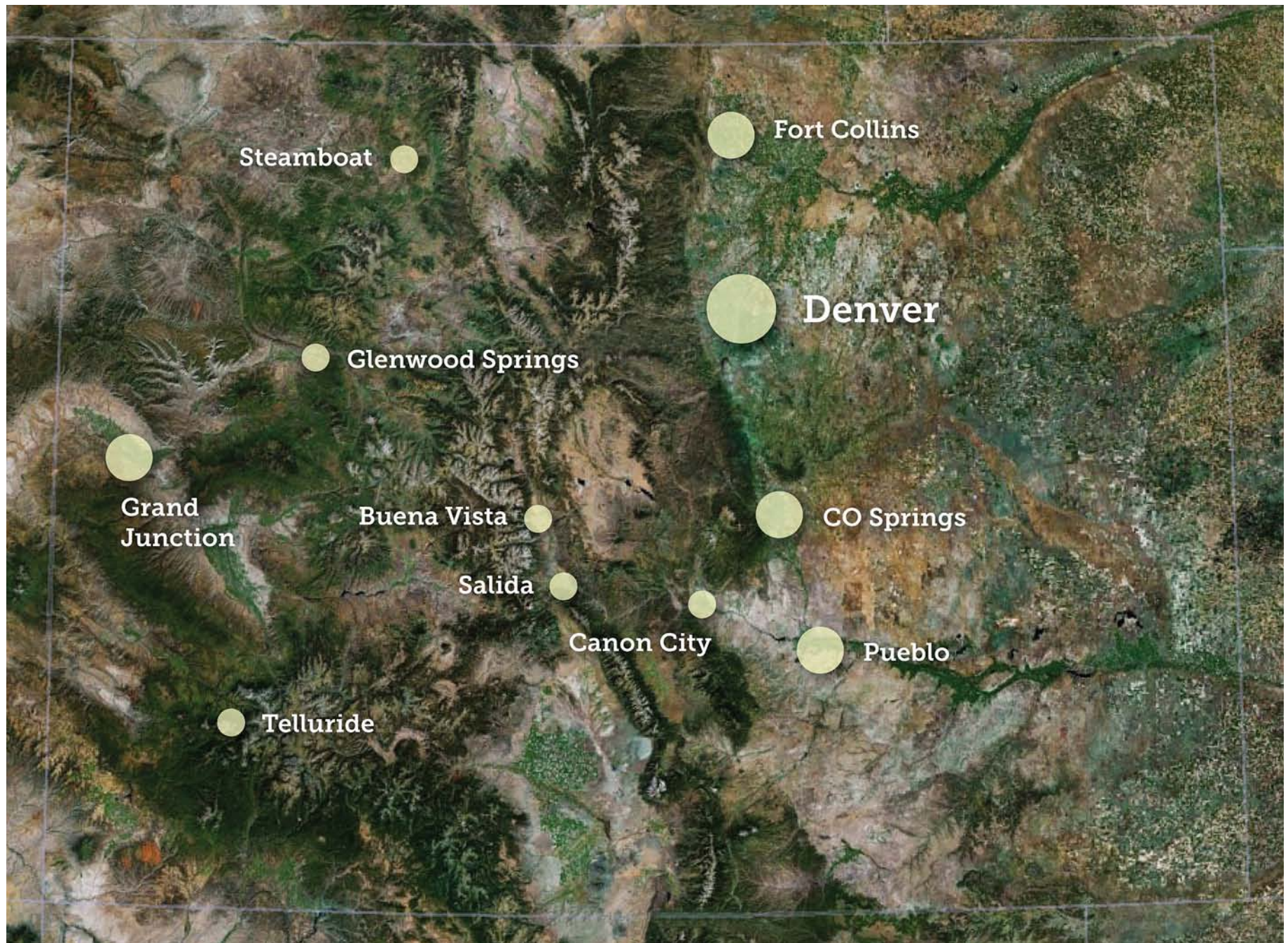


High water versus low water



A large, billowing plume of white and grey smoke or steam rises from a forest. The smoke is thick and voluminous, with a bright white top section. The forest at the bottom is a dense line of green trees. The sky is a clear, vibrant blue.

Things associated with drought



Steamboat

Fort Collins

Denver

Glenwood Springs

Grand
Junction

Buena Vista

CO Springs

Salida

Canon City

Pueblo

Telluride

Economic impact

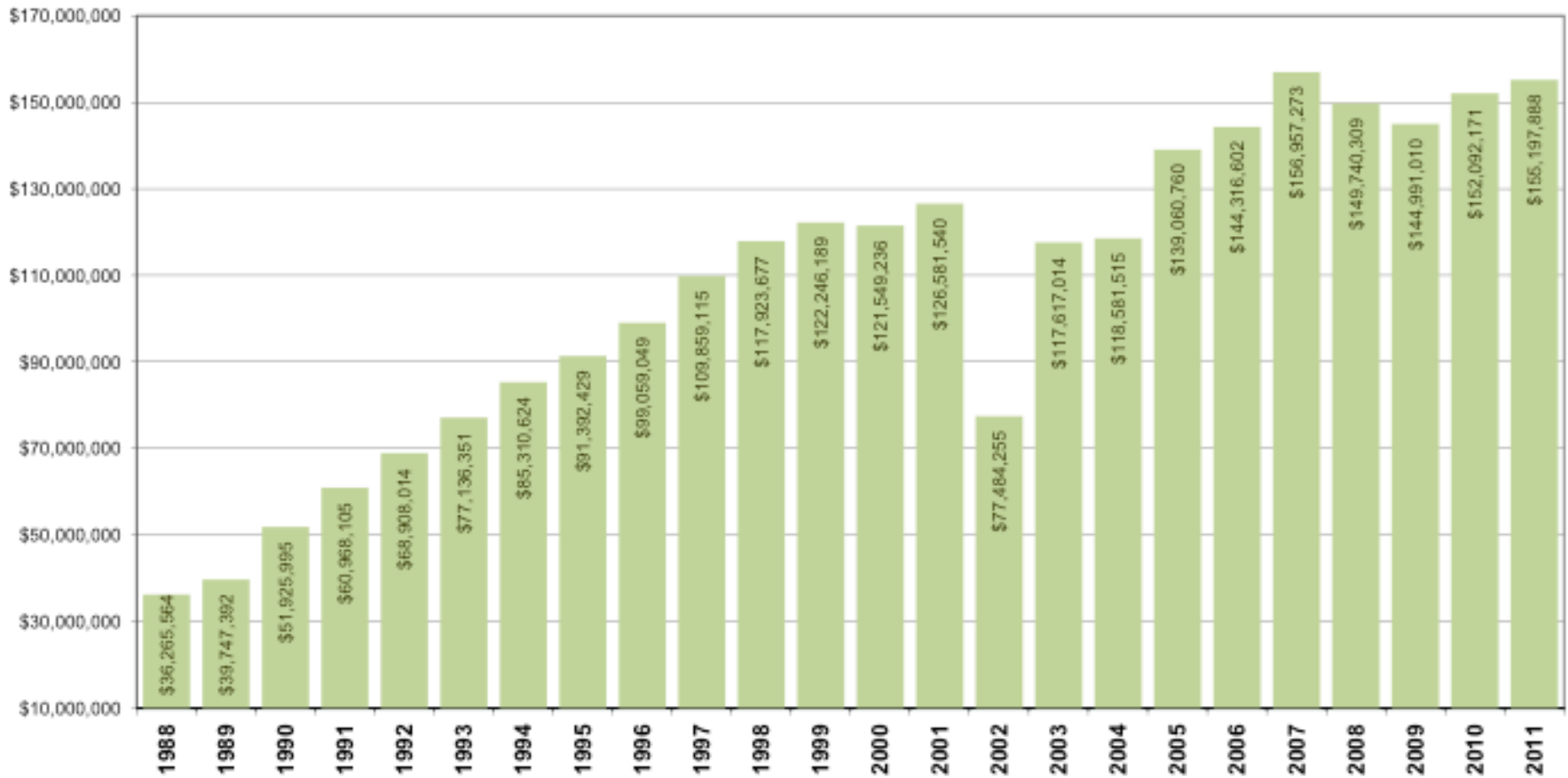
Commercial User Days in the State of Colorado, 2001-2011

River	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Animas	42,000	12,000	34,500	35,470	52,700	42,500	44,322	42,250	41,921	41,000	45,000
Animas - Upper	721	300	690	658	872	167	598	533	500	411	411
Arkansas	252,213	139,178	214,555	203,840	228,091	237,160	239,887	214,234	205,876	211,150	208,329
Blue	14	0	264	788	1,212	760	2,038	2,906	3,089	1,181	6,580
Clear Creek	20,798	7,498	24,495	20,115	32,357	36,889	49,190	52,340	50,167	51,301	60,644
Colorado - Glenwood	55,829	42,581	56,876	58,751	57,712	62,652	65,502	52,738	52,737	61,890	44,007
Colorado - Upper	34,381	37,801	32,188	33,224	29,449	36,280	37,068	34,769	33,077	41,626	32,842
Colorado - Horsethief/Ruby	4,188	2,324	3,222	3,383	3,318	2,810	2,761	3,283	3,090	2,718	3,008
Colorado - Westwater	6,858	6,626	7,352	7,548	7,043	7,233	7,632	7,624	6,833	7,621	6,069
Dolores	0	0	214	174	936	81	195	868	536	194	393
Eagle - Upper (Dowd Chutes)	3,702	0	1,239	858	3,630	4,621	4,390	4,390	1,374	1,640	1,286
Eagle (Below Edwards)	594	446	1,153	820	1,419	1,441	1,369	1,369	1,369	1,710	4,362
Green/Yampa	32,083	23,030	29,249	27,987	27,171	26,650	23,833	25,564	17,667	19,692	17,294
Gunnison Gorge	3,401	3,292	2,328	3,010	3,016	3,800	2,826	4,342	3,956	1,390	2,148
Gunnison - Upper	2,690	1,334	1,590	1,982	2,112	2,212	2,500	2,669	2,669	2,669	2,669
Gunnison - Escalante	1,887	1,044	2,113	2,988	3,363	2,265	3,272	2,106	2,549	1,784	2,198
Gunnison - Lake Fork	1,543	0	160	177	195	165	126	369	203	149	284
North Platte	137	0	312	191	566	511	372	851	712	482	850
Piedra	650	0	210	454	725	400	500	547	547	190	190
Poudre	34,192	26,004	34,164	31,042	36,088	34,533	37,824	37,566	36,991	37,392	37,869
Rio Grande	3,300	92	1,300	2,800	3,060	2,900	3,100	3,200	2,464	2,016	2,016
Roaring Fork - Above Basalt	2,500	0	2,000	1,500	2,215	2,609	2,834	6,187	4,248	2,404	6,672
Roaring Fork - Below Basalt	1,000	0	500	500	10	79	100	2,500	1,263	1,366	912
San Juan - Pagosa	2,000	138	1,586	2,550	2,500	1,900	1,900	2,280	4,107	4,986	6,171
San Miguel	3,625	120	1,959	2,212	4,493	2,800	2,943	5,969	3,782	1,762	1,900
South Platte	2,055	453	935	836	901	655	690	1,150	750	383	430
Taylor	14,287	11,176	14,734	14,750	14,972	15,127	15,112	14,332	14,332	14,332	14,130
Total User Days	526,648	315,437	469,888	458,608	520,126	529,200	552,884	526,936	496,809	513,439	508,664
% Change From Previous Year	2.2%	-40.1%	49.0%	-2.4%	13.4%	1.7%	4.5%	-4.7%	-5.7%	3.3%	-0.9%
User Day Change From Previous Year	11,329	-211,211	154,452	-11,281	61,518	9,074	23,684	-25,949	-30,127	16,630	-4,776

River	2001	2002	2003
Animas	42,000	12,000	34,500
Animas - Upper	721	300	690
Arkansas	252,213	139,178	214,555
Blue	14	0	264
Clear Creek	20,798	7,498	24,495
Colorado - Glenwood	55,829	42,581	56,876
Colorado - Upper	34,381	37,801	32,188
Colorado - Horsethief/Ruby	4,188	2,324	3,222
Colorado - Westwater	6,858	6,626	7,352
Dolores	0	0	214
Eagle - Upper (Dowd Chutes)	3,702	0	1,239
Eagle (Below Edwards)	594	446	1,153
Green/Yampa	32,083	23,030	29,249
Gunnison Gorge	3,401	3,292	2,328
Gunnison - Upper	2,690	1,334	1,590
Gunnison - Escalante	1,887	1,044	2,113
Gunnison - Lake Fork	1,543	0	160
North Platte	137	0	312
Piedra	650	0	210
Poudre	34,192	26,004	34,164
Rio Grande	3,300	92	1,300
Roaring Fork - Above Basalt	2,500	0	2,000
Roaring Fork - Below Basalt	1,000	0	500
San Juan - Pagosa	2,000	138	1,586
San Miguel	3,625	120	1,959
South Platte	2,055	453	935
Taylor	14,287	11,176	14,734
Total User Days	526,648	315,437	469,888
% Change From Previous Year	2.2%	-40.1%	49.0%
User Day Change From Previous Year	11,329	-211,211	154,452

Economic impact by year

Economic Impact of Commercial River Rafting in Colorado, 1988-2011



Mitigate effects of drought



Media reports are difficult
to overcome



Colorado River Outfitters Association Weekly Water Report: July 20, 2012

MEDIA CONTACTS

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River	CFS*/Gauge <small>*cubic ft per second</small>	Average Air & Water Temps	Sections Running	Experience Offered	Summary
Animas	340 <u>cfs</u>	79/59	Upper and Lower Sections	Family Trips available through town of Durango – Advanced trips on Upper Section	Evening storms have augmented flows.
Arkansas River	492cfs in Browns 429 <u>cfs</u> Canon City	85/71 Pleasant	All Sections Numbers to Royal Gorge	Family Trips in <u>Browns and</u> <u>Bighorn- Royal</u> Gorge Section has adventure class rafting.	Good Family trips available on several sections. More challenging sections are running. Browns Canyon currently is an excellent full day experience.
Blue	No Report				
Cache la Poudre	1.3 on Rock Gauge	95/55	Mishawaka (Class IV) and Lower Poudre Class III) Sections	Family Trips on Lower – Advanced trips on Upper Section	Reservoirs have water so releases continue to contribute to daily flows.
Clear Creek	85 <u>cfs</u>	No Report	Idaho Springs Area	Family Trips	Class II+ rafting trips running. Advanced sections are not running.
Colorado Kremmling	1030 <u>cfs</u> , trending up	87/66	All Sections <u>Pumphouse to</u> <u>Dotsero</u>	Family Trips	Reservoir releases will maintain flows into October.
Colorado Glenwood Springs	1520 <u>cfs</u>	90/ 65	All Sections Shoshone to Newcastle	Family Trips	Reservoir releases will maintain flows into October
Colorado Ruby/<u>Horsethief</u> Canyon	2,900 <u>cfs</u>	96/74 (warm)	All Sections	Family and beginners	Lots of sun. Great week for rafting this section.