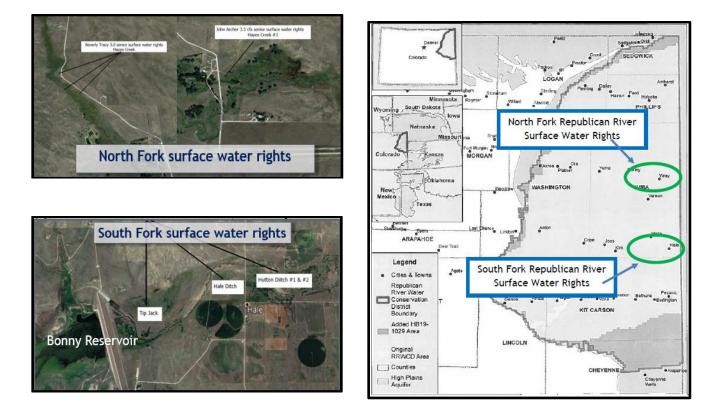


## Surface Water Rights Purchase

**Republican River Water Conservation District** 

Substantially Complete May 1, 2020



## **Project Description**

In December 2002, Colorado entered into a Stipulation with Kansas and Nebraska to address the U.S. Supreme Court Case of Kansas v. Nebraska and Colorado. Since then, the State of Colorado had exceeded its annual allocations of beneficial consumptive use under the Republican River Compact (Compact) by an average of 11,000 acre-feet per year. In 2004, the State of Colorado established the Republican River Water Conservation District (District) to assist with Compact compliance. Since, the District has actively sought to acquire senior surface water rights.

This Project included the purchase of senior surface water rights in both the North Fork and South Fork of the Republican River in order to assist the State in complying with the Compact by increasing stream flows. The Project provided multiple benefits that included preventing curtailment of existing water rights and wells due to noncompliance, avoiding a reduction of groundwater-irrigated acreage, furthering a collaborative approach to Endangered Species Act compliance, and minimizing costly litigation with Kansas and Nebraska.

PROJECT DATA		
Sponsor: Republican River Water Conservation District	County: Yuma	Water Source: North Fork and South Fork of the Republican River
Type of Project: Water Rights Purchase		Board Approval Date: November 2019
Terms of Loan: 1.20% for 20 years (Original) \$5,570,150.00 (Final) \$5,570,150.00		
Engineer: Randy Hendrix, P.E., Hendrix Wai Engineering, Inc.		
Appraiser: Kevin McCarty, McCarty Land & Water Valuation, Inc.		