

Colorado River District's *Diamond Anniversary*



“A Big Watershed Story”

Sustaining Colorado Watersheds
Vail, CO

October 10, 2012

Chris Treese

Colorado River District

Colorado River District

75 Years

Protecting Western Colorado Water



Who Are Those Guys?



Today – River District

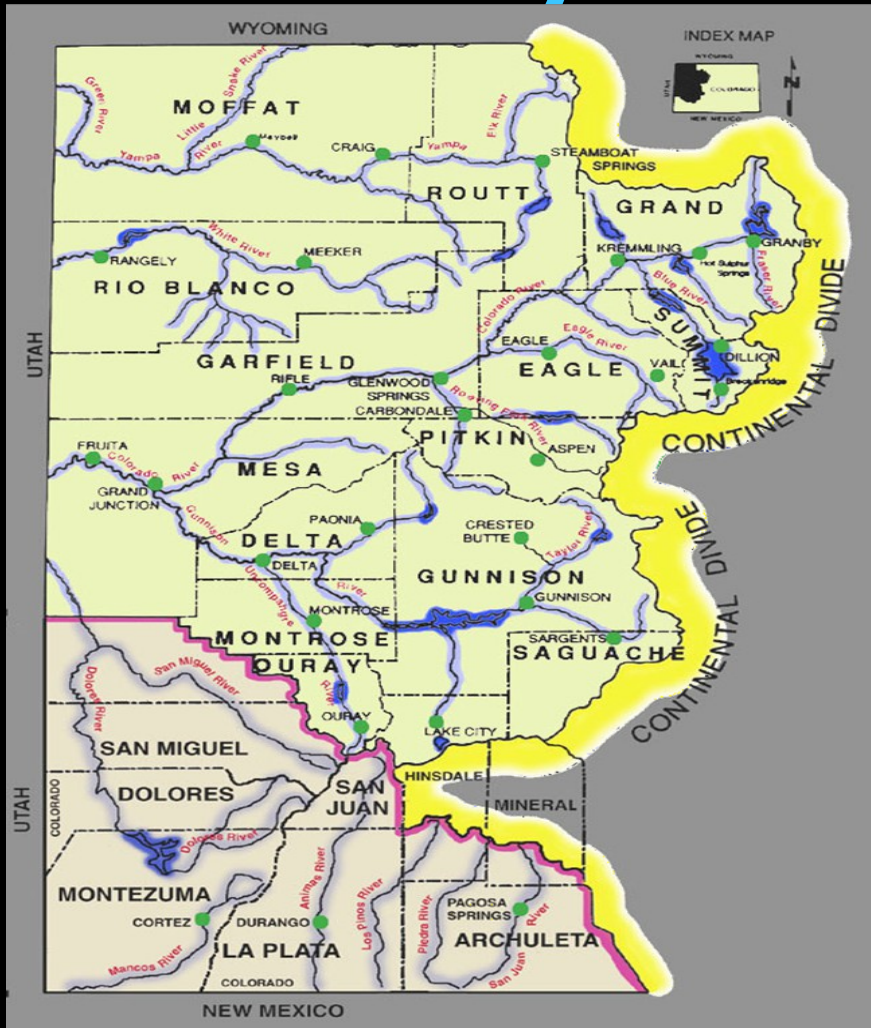
1937 state statute

15 western counties

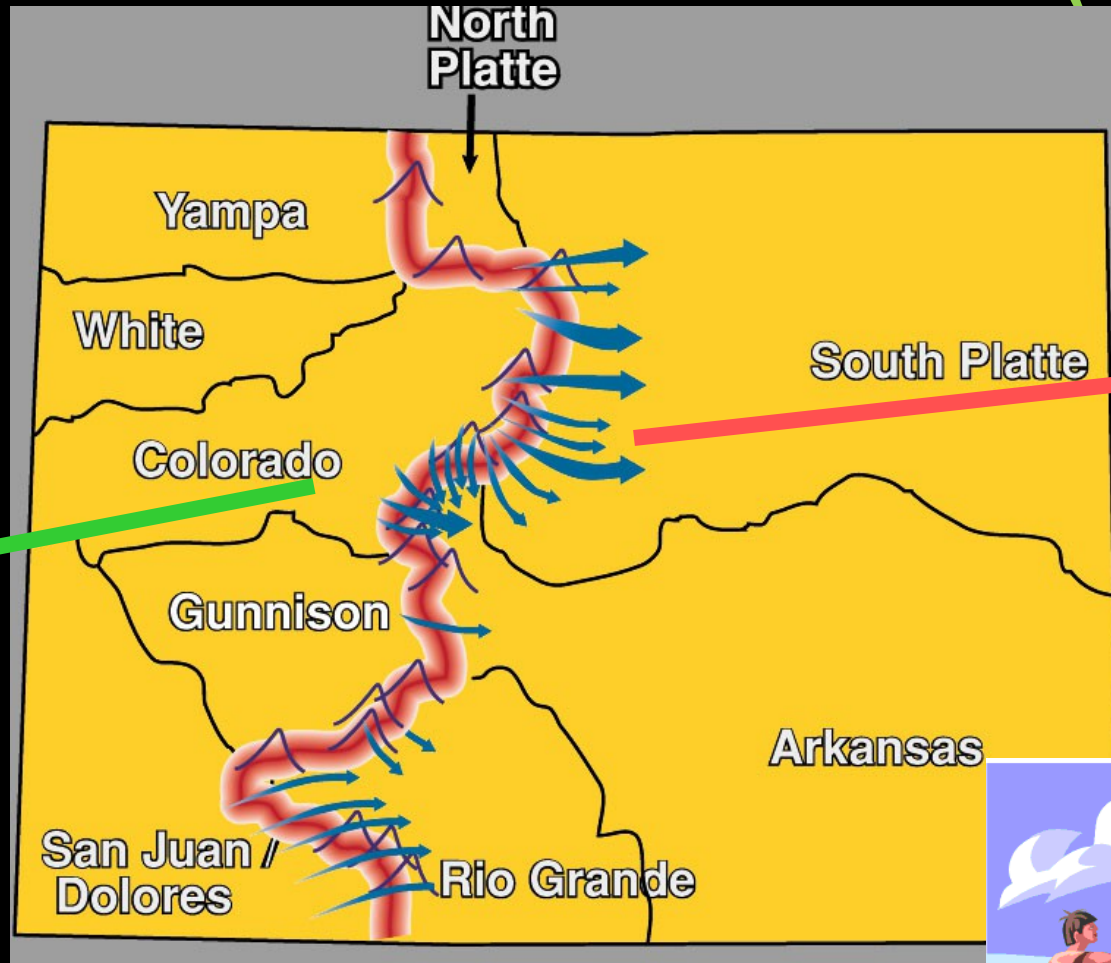
Board director from each county

Mill levy & water activity enterprise

One of 2 west slope and 4 water conservation districts in CO



Transmountain diversions (to east) and downstream demands (to west)



450,000
to
600,000
af/yr

6,000,000
to
8,000,000
af/yr



Other Users of Colorado River Water



Colorado River Cooperative Agreement



Denver Water Interests

- **Permitting and construction of Moffat expansion (Gross Reservoir enlargement)**
- **Resolve Blue River Decree Issues**
- **Environmental Stewardship**

Participation in the WISE Project



West Slope Interests

- **Streamflow protection and restoration**
- **Water for future consumptive use**
- **Resolve Blue River Decree issues**
- **Protection of recreation assets**



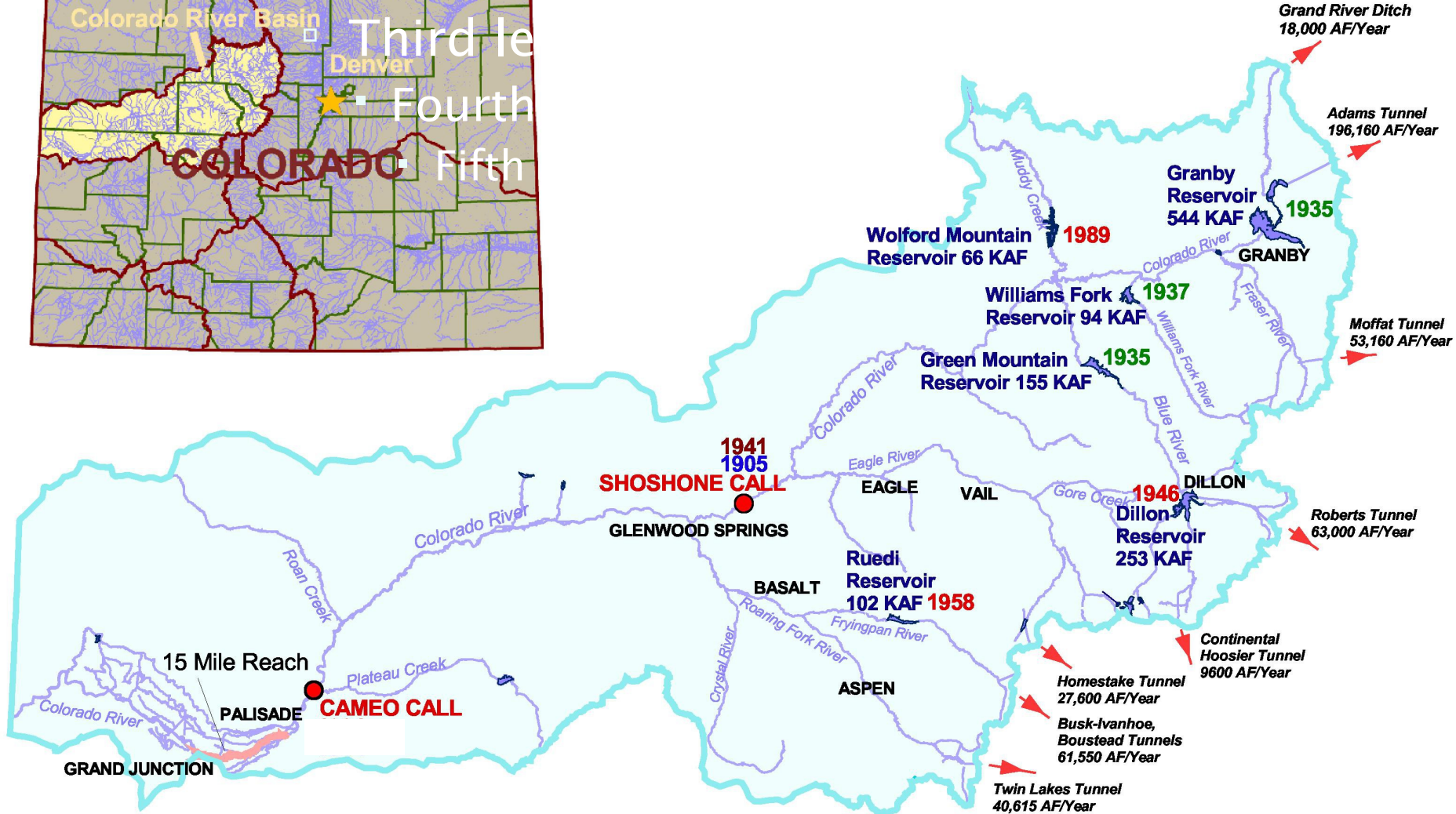
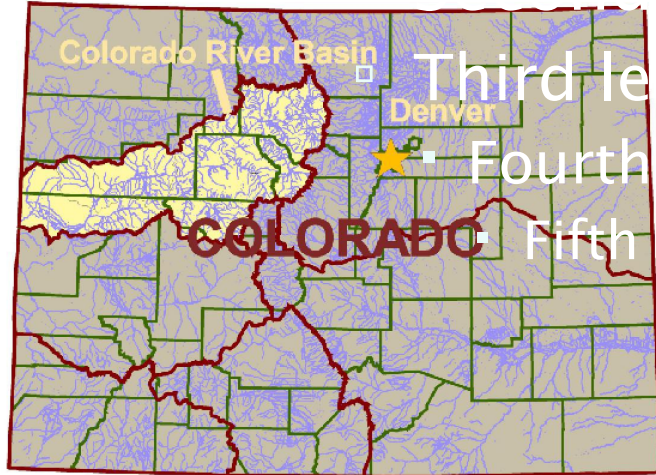
West Slope Interests

- **Preserve the Shoshone flow regime**
- **East Slope conservation and reuse**
- **Define the Denver Water service area**
- **Protect future water supplies for WS**





Colorado River Basin



Key Provisions

- **Denver Water fixes its service area**
- **Denver Water commits to further reuse and conservation**
- **Denver Water provides \$25 million and 1,000 acre feet of water for impacts**
- **Denver Water allows for further consumptive use in Grand & Summit Counties**

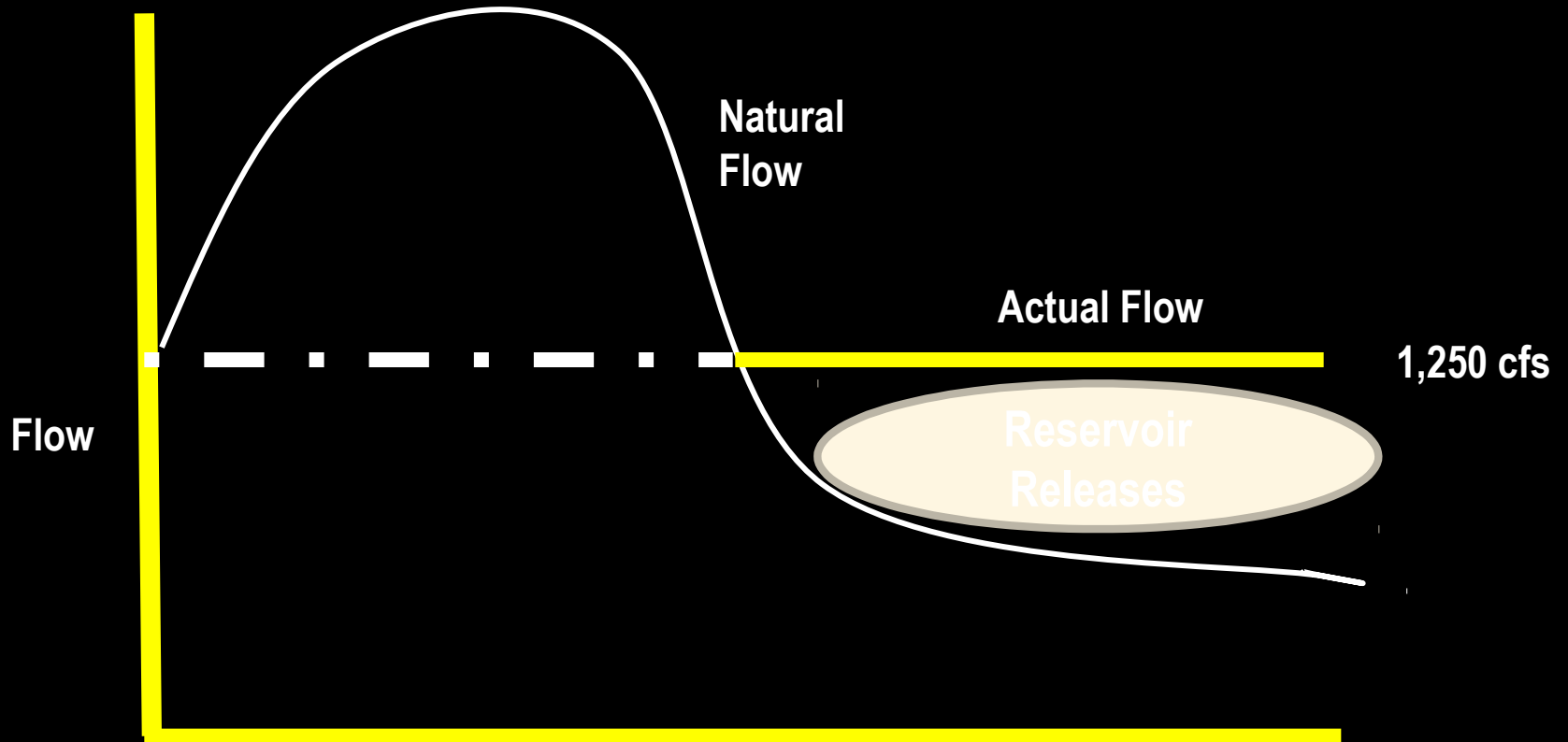
Key Provisions

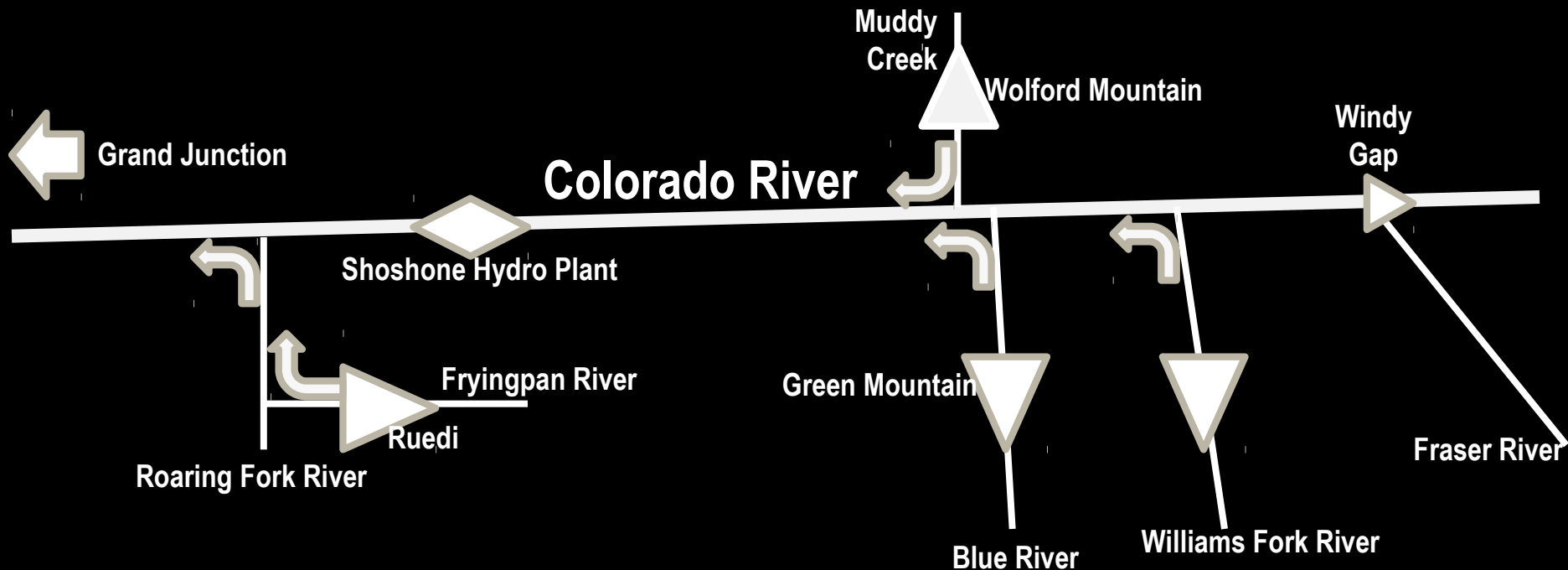
- **Denver Water agrees to limit future projects to cooperative ones**
- **Denver Water agrees to support the Shoshone Outage Protocol**
- **All parties agree to a Green Mountain administration settlement**
- **All parties agree to support the WISE Project**

Key Provisions

- **Denver Water and contract holders agree to West Slope “abstentions”**
- **Colorado River Enhancement Fund**
- **West Slope and Denver agree to a Blue River Decree Settlement**
- **Certain parties agree to a Grand County Streamflow Plan**

Shoshone Outage Protocol





- **If a Shoshone outage occurs, Denver and the River District agree to operate Williams Fork and Wolford Mountain as if the plant were still running**
- **Asking Reclamation to do the same with Green Mountain (WS pool)**

Related Agreements

- **Amendments to Windy Gap Agreement to cover Windy Gap Firming (Northern Water's Municipal Subdistrict)**
- **Green Mountain Reservoir Fill Administration Settlement (includes State of Colorado and Bureau of Reclamation)**
- **Shoshone Outage Protocol (includes Northern Water, Bureau of Reclamation and the State)**



Lessons Learned:

If you're not at the Table . . .

- Click to edit Master text styles
 - Second level
 - Third level
 - Fourth level
 - Fifth level



You may be on the Menu

- Click to edit Master text styles
 - Second level
 - Third level
 - Fourth level
 - Fifth level



