



Southwestern Water Conservation District 32nd Annual Seminar

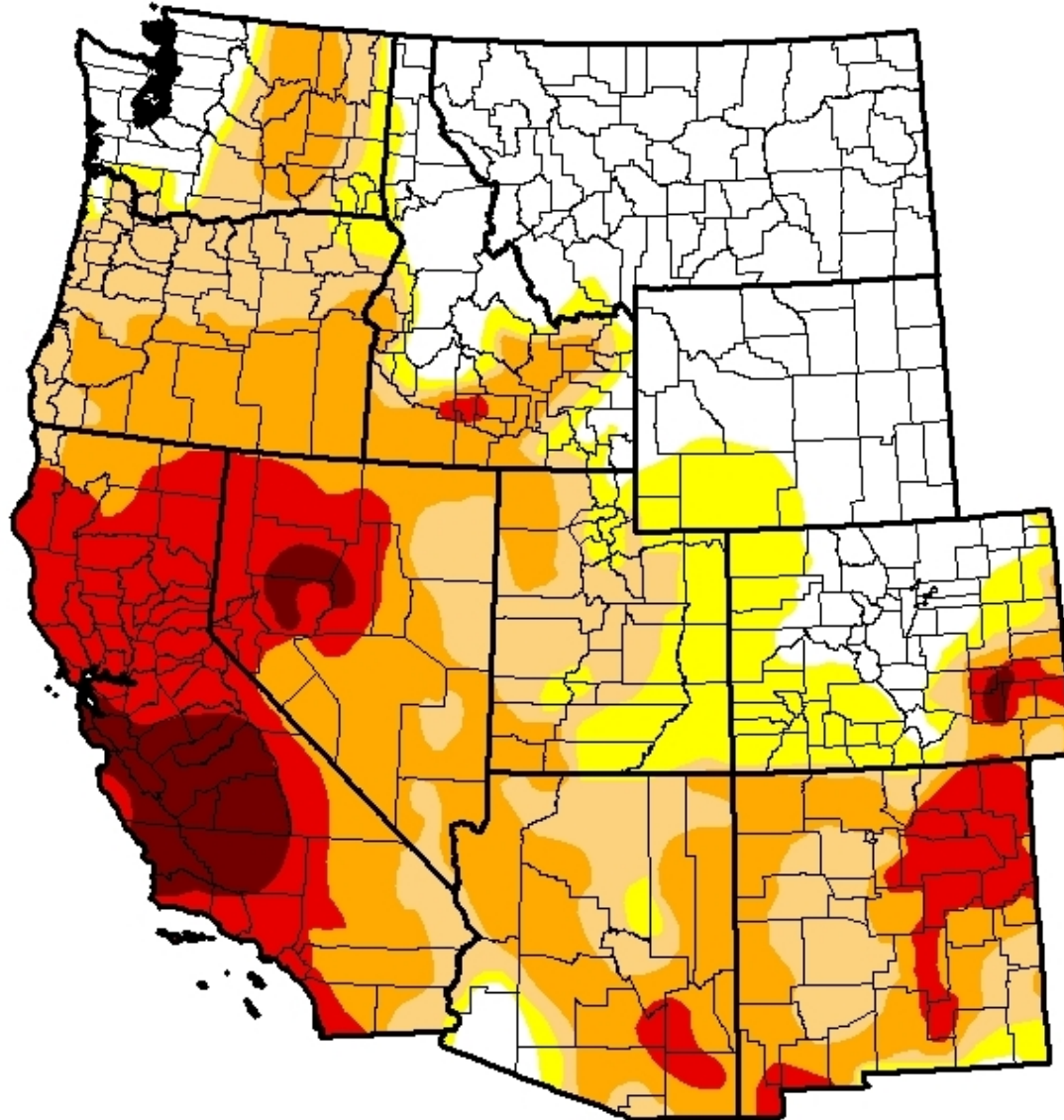
April 4, 2014

Update on Colorado Water Plan

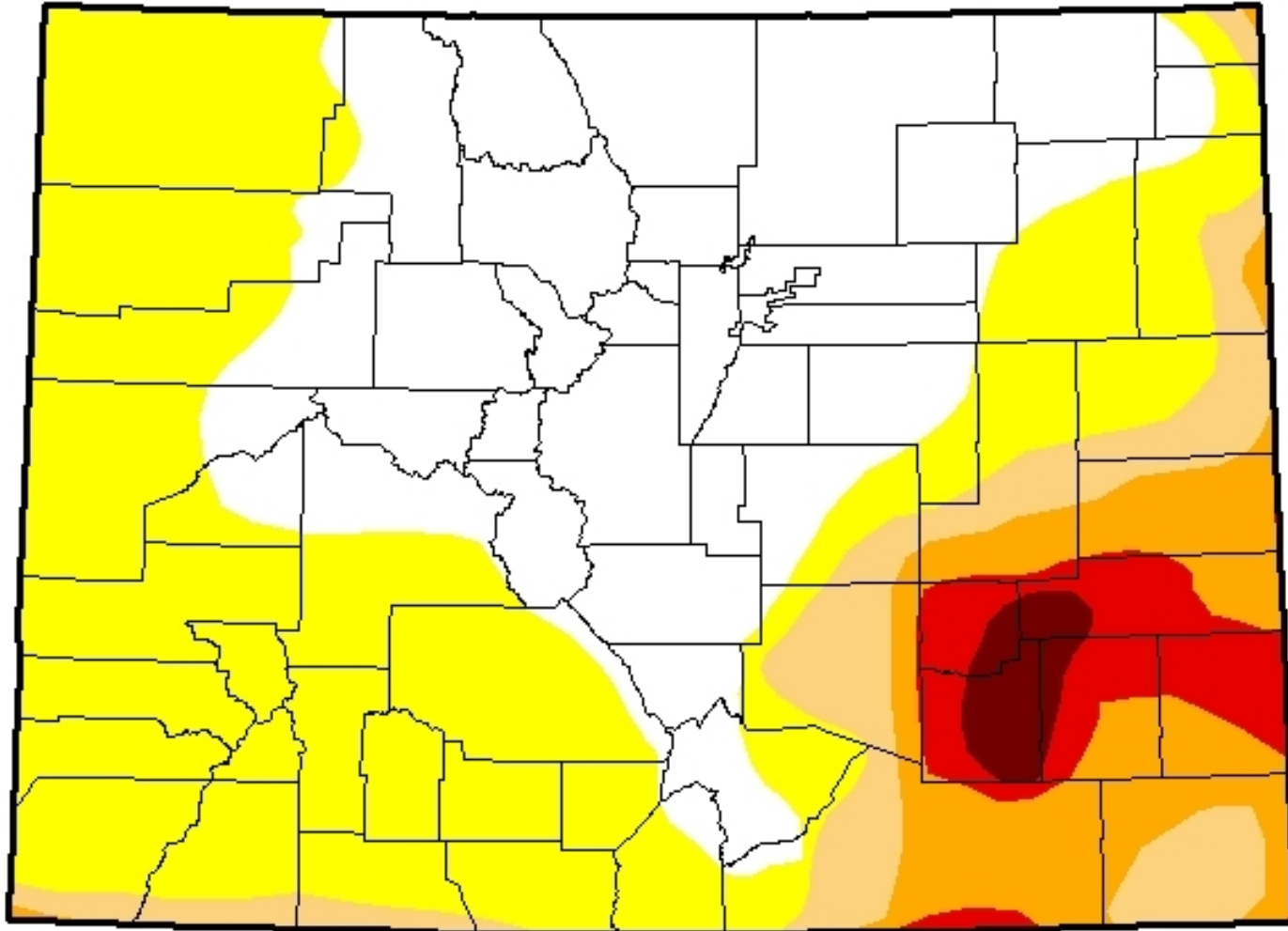
John Stulp

*Special Policy Advisor to Governor for Water
Interbasin Compact Committee Director*

Drought Monitor March 18, 2014



Drought Monitor March 18, 2014











Highland Ditch Headgate *BEFORE* Flood



Highland Ditch Headgate *DURING* Flood



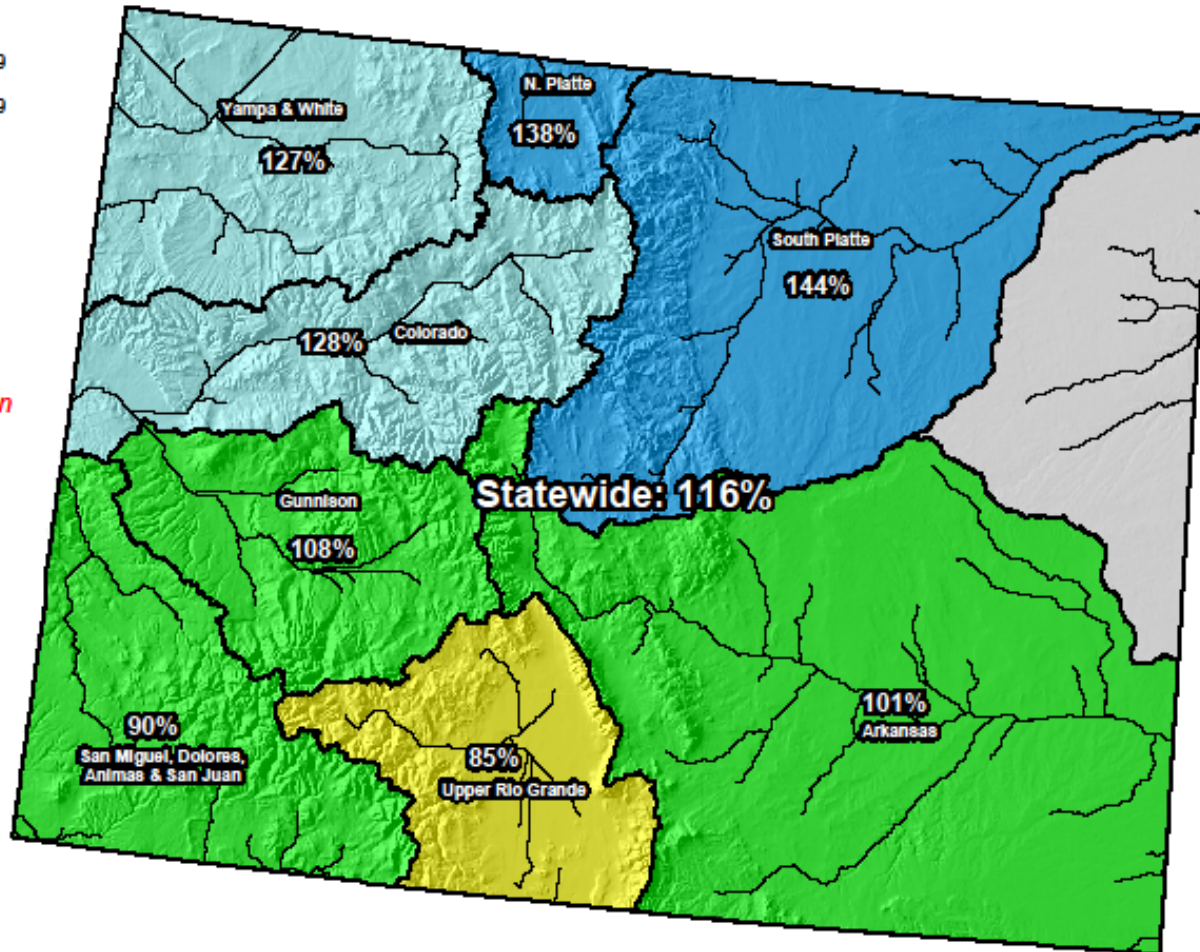


Colorado SNOTEL Snowpack Update Map

Percent of Median



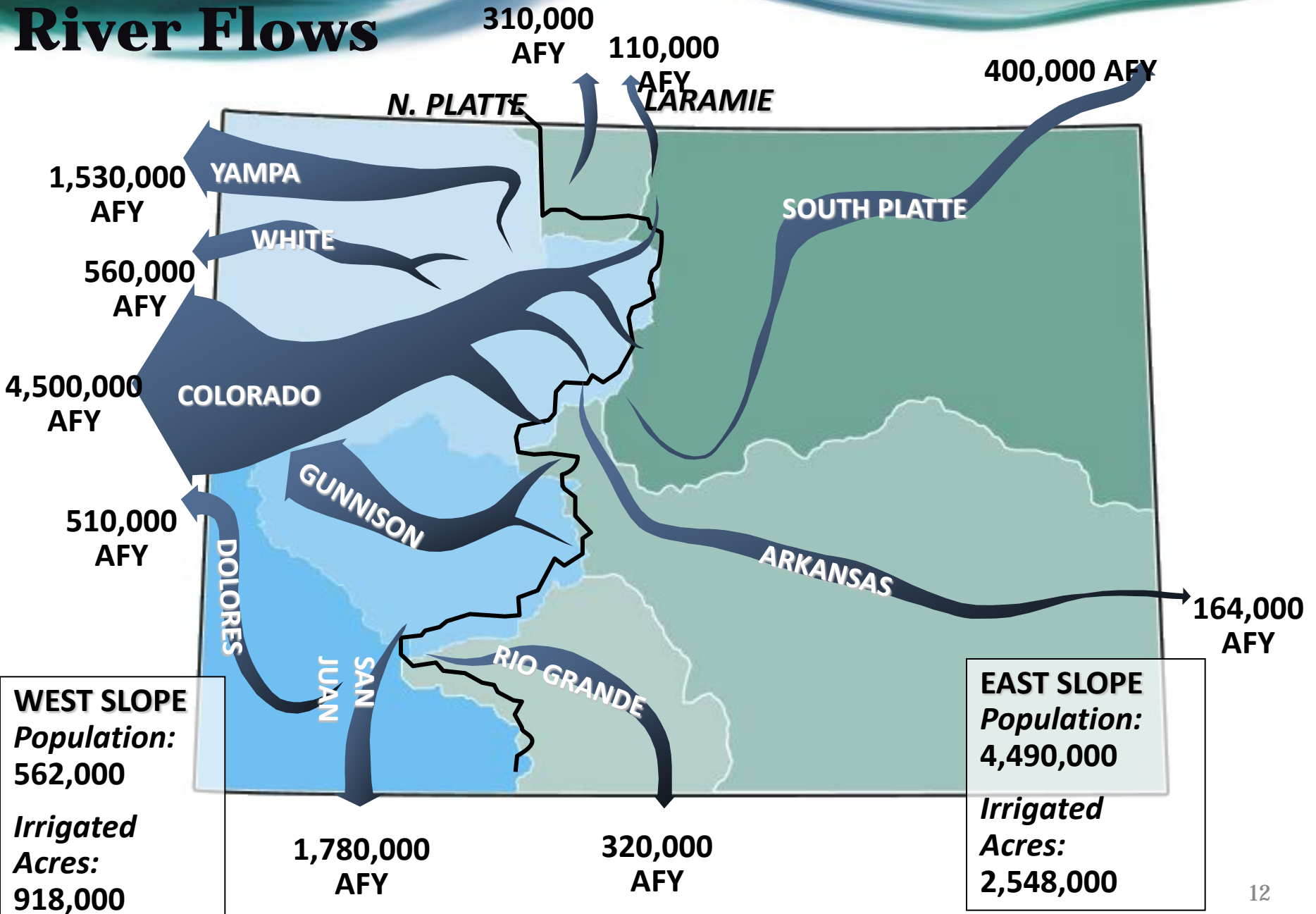
*Provisional Data
Subject to Revision*



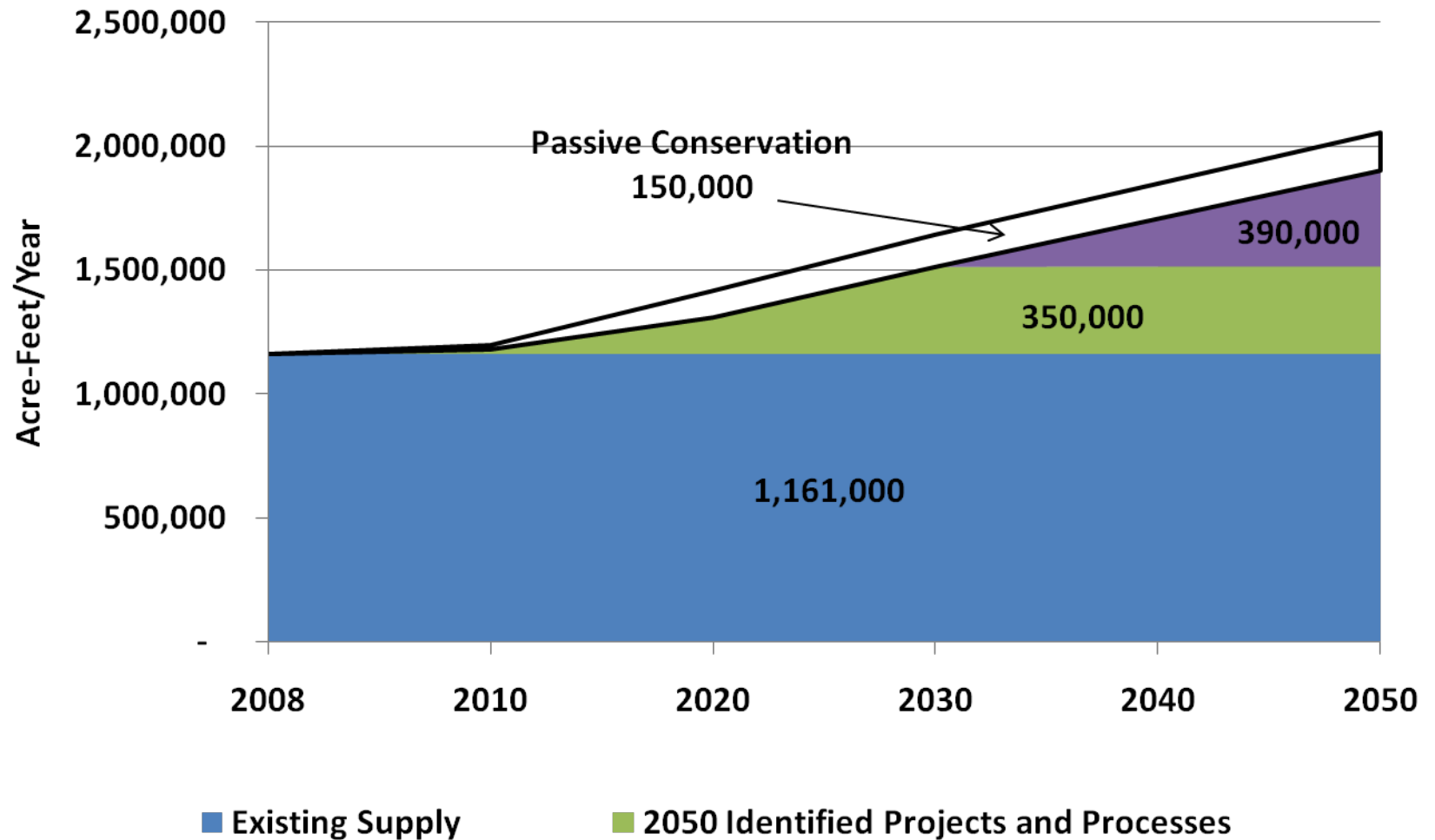
Current as of 03/19/2014

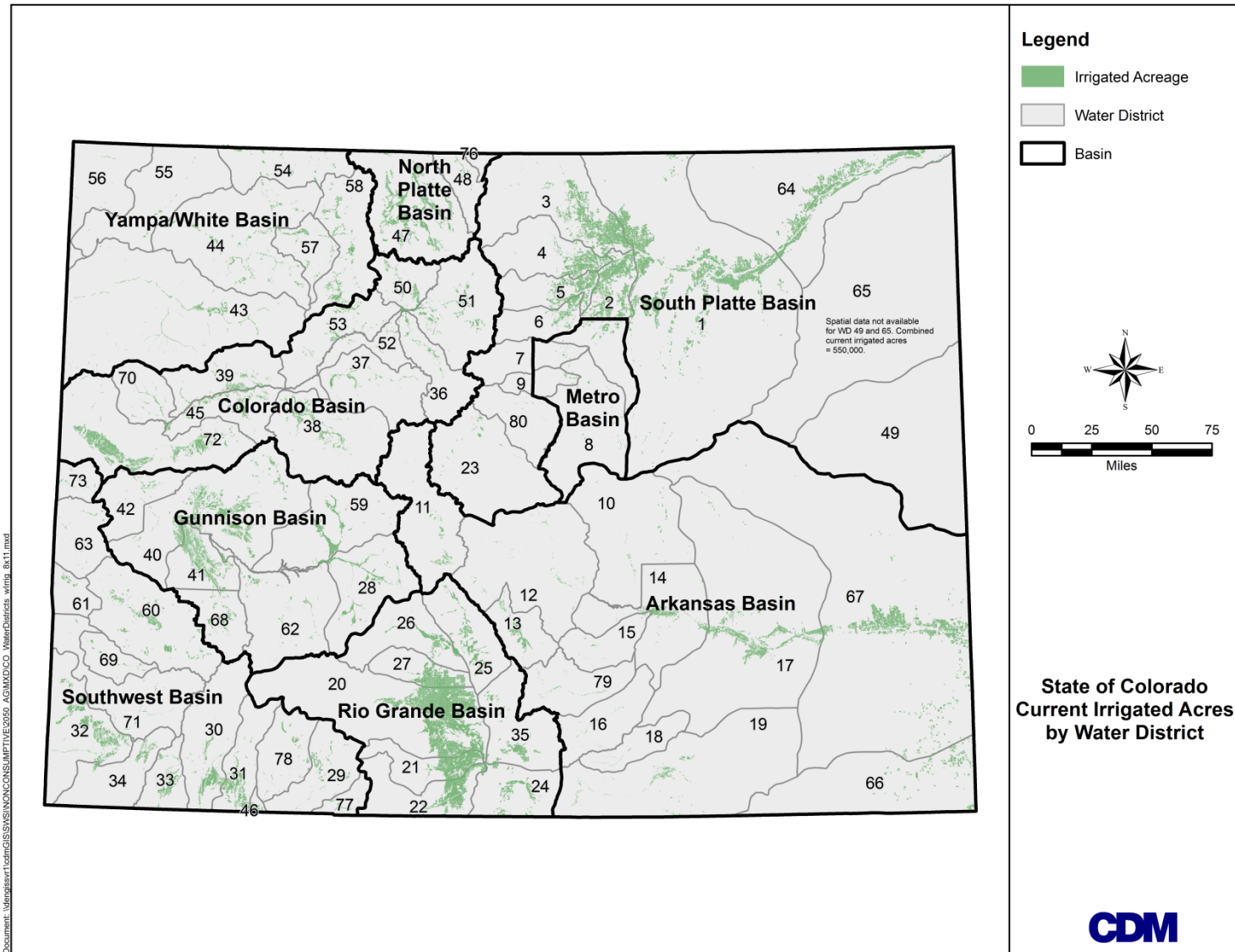
*Data may not provide a valid measure of conditions

Colorado Population, Irrigated Acres and River Flows

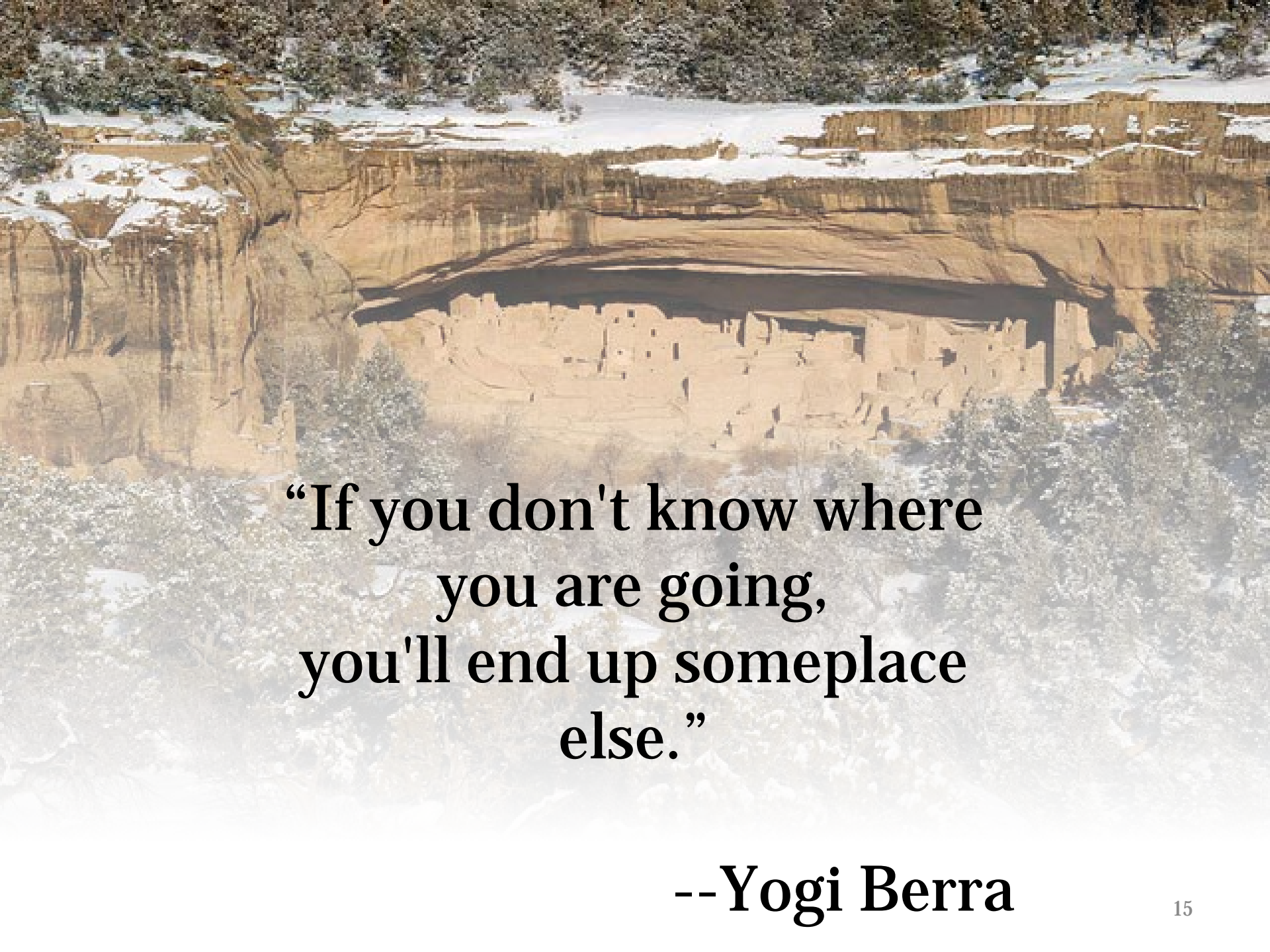


Statewide M&I and SSI Gap Summary SWSI 2010





Agricultural Producers Irrigate Nearly 3.5 Million Acres in Colorado



**“If you don't know where
you are going,
you'll end up someplace
else.”**

--Yogi Berra



**“Everyone has a plan
until they get punched
in the face.”**

**Mike Tyson
(on how he prepares for a bout)**



“Colorado has been punched in the face with an historical drought....and a catastrophic flood.

Colorado’s Water Plan will help us respond to future demands.”


James Eklund

CWCB Director

HB05-1177 Water for the 21st Century Act created nine Basin Roundtables



- **Consumptive Needs**
- **Nonconsumptive Needs**
- **Water Supply Availability**
- **Projects and Methods to Meet Needs**



“If words were water the state would never run dry. Our budget is requesting a second year of funding to help create cleaner water for Colorado. This year we will complete the Colorado Water Plan, which will emphasize conservation, address incremental storage, and address drought mitigation. We must create alternative choices to buy-and-dry. No matter where we live, we cannot afford to let our farm and ranch land dry up.”

Governor John Hickenlooper’s State of State 2014



State Water Plan Executive Order

- Colorado Water Conservation Board
- The Basin Roundtables / InterBasin Compact Committee
- Draft due December 2014
- Final due December 2015
 - ❖ A productive economy that supports vibrant and sustainable cities, viable and productive agriculture, and a robust skiing, recreation and tourism industry;
 - ❖ Efficient and effective water infrastructure promoting smart land use; and
 - ❖ A strong environment that includes healthy water sheds, rivers, and streams, and wildlife



Future CWCB Work

Some of the Questions to answer:

- What does it mean to align all of the State Agencies?
- How will certain processes and projects be prioritized?
- What does a meaningful Colorado Water Plan look like?
- How do we ensure public input?
- What are the partnerships that will be needed to create a meaningful Colorado Water Plan?



Future IBCC Work

- Complete No and Low Regrets Action Plan
- Launch a more detailed discussion, including new supply and the other portfolio elements



Future Basin Roundtable Work: Basin Implementation Plans

- **Detailed Basin Implementation Plans will be incorporated into the CWP**
- **Public Outreach / Input**
- **Legislative Interim Water Committee**



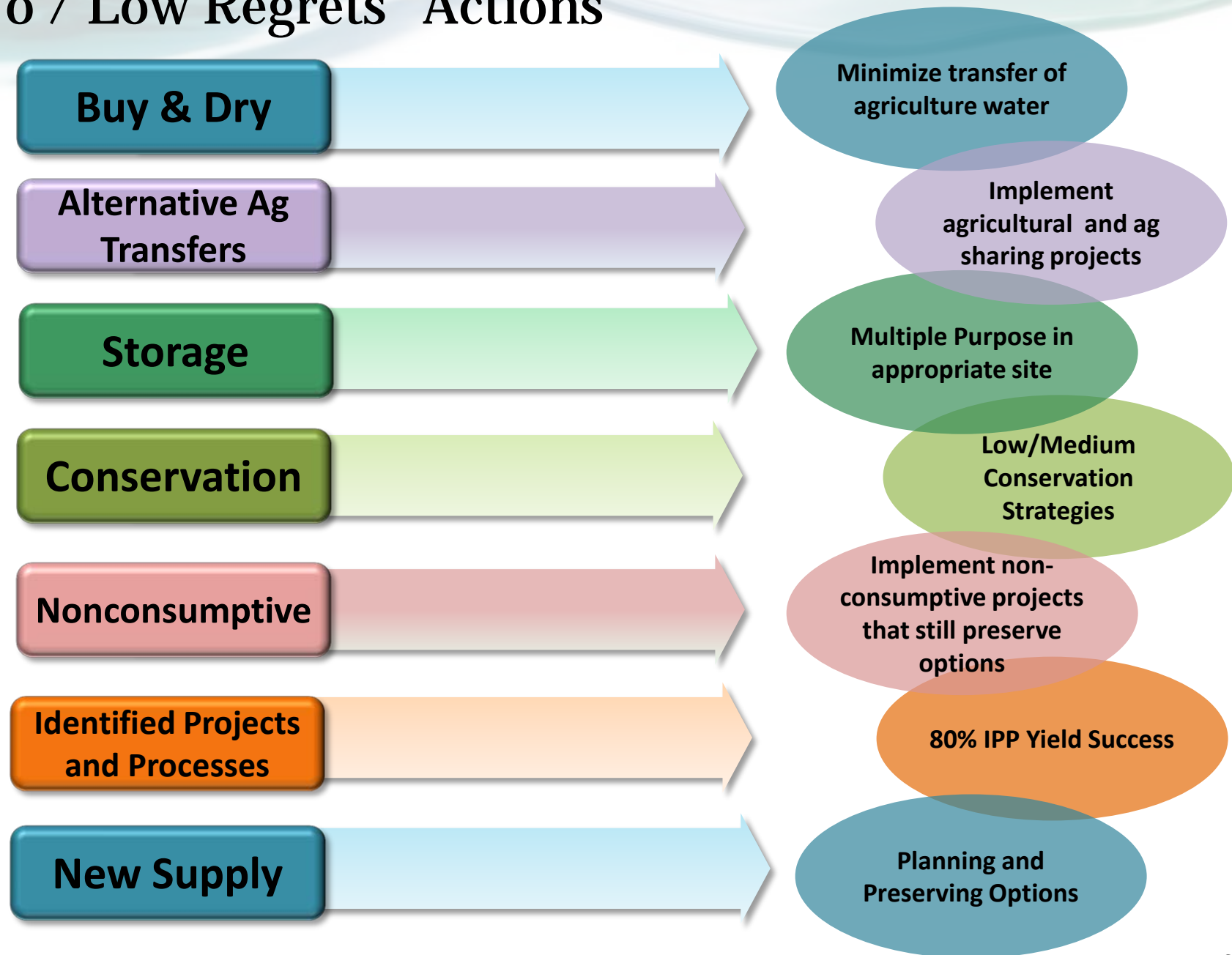
Additional CWP Considerations

- Colorado's values
- Protect existing yield of M&I
- Regulatory incentives
- Focus financial assistance consistent with CWP
- Integrate water projects
- Inventory of state agencies' water portfolios
- Use of ad hoc panels

Scenarios

- Business as usual
- Weak economy
- Cooperative growth
- Adaptive Innovation
- Hot growth

“No / Low Regrets” Actions





Conservation Activities

Major water provider conservation accomplishments

- Denver Water 20% reduction in water consumption
- 10% population growth in same time period
- 2002-2012 incentive programs
- Water efficient fixtures
- BMPs on landscape systems
- Potential Fixture / Turf Legislation

Alternatives to Buy and Dry

- Rotational Fallowing
- Interruptible Supply
- Deficit Irrigation
- Water Coop
- Water Bank
- Water Conservation Easement
- HB 13-1248
- Flex water market

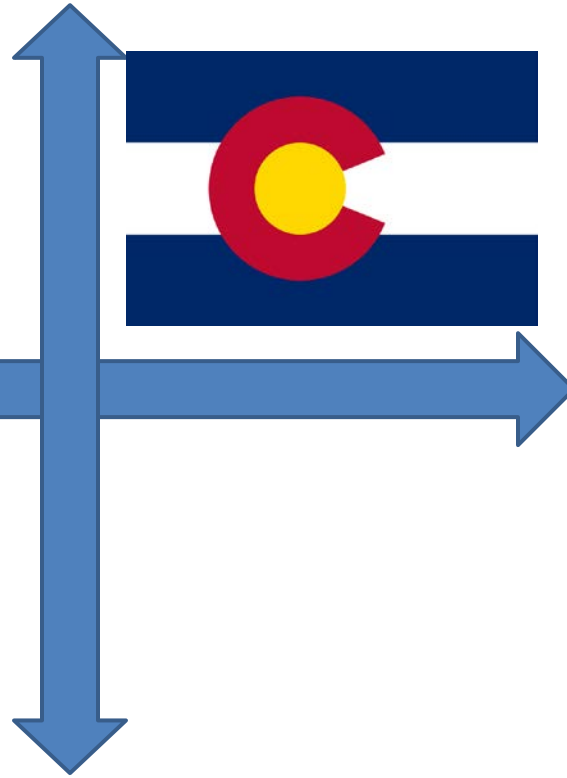


THE COLORADO WATER PLAN CAN...

**PROPERTY RIGHT
OWNER CONTROL**

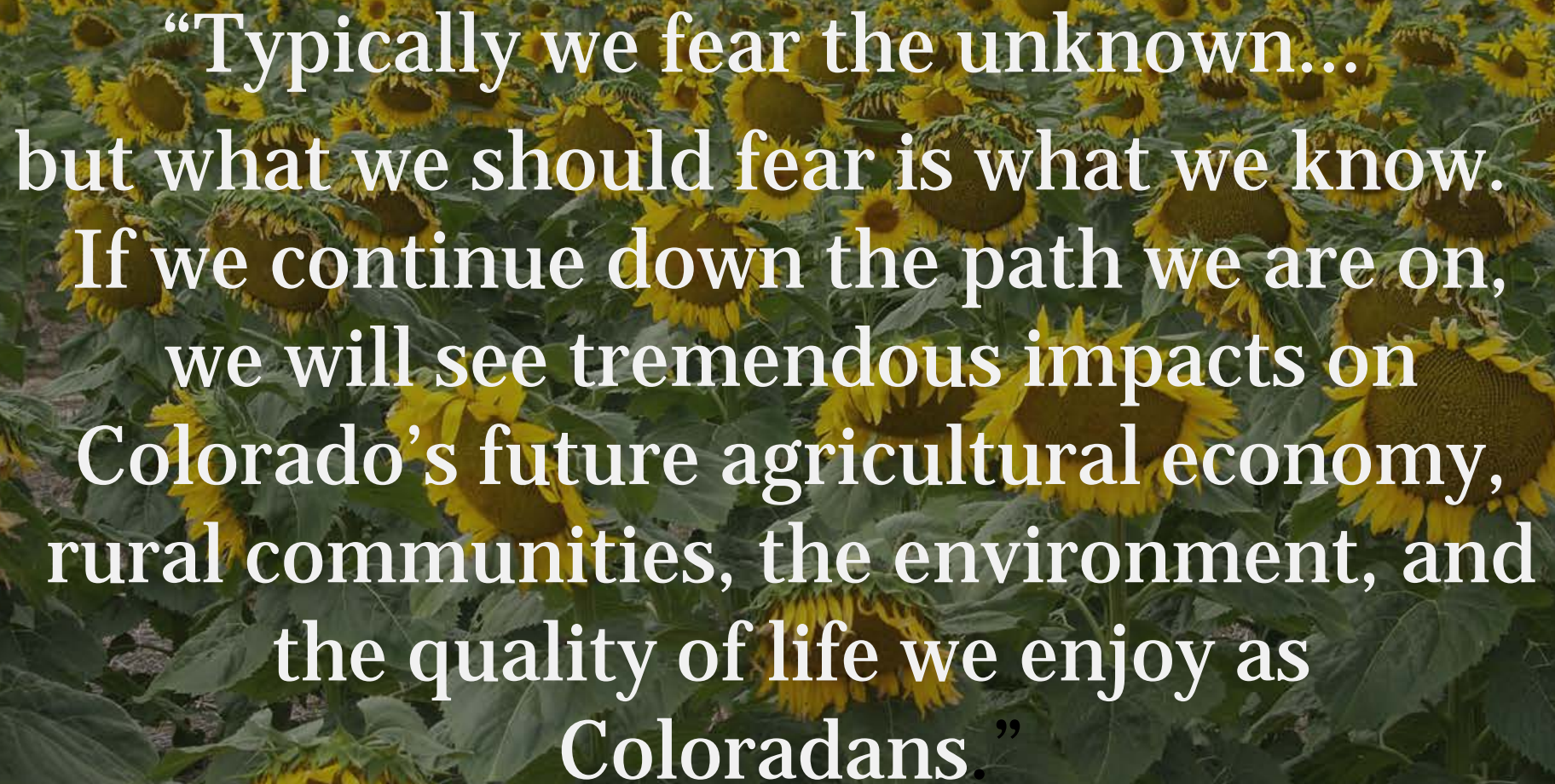
**GLOSSY
REPORT**

**MEANINGFUL
ACTION**



CENTRALIZED CONTROL



A large field of sunflowers stretches across the frame, with rows of bright yellow flowers and green leaves. The sky is overcast and grey. The text is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

“Typically we fear the unknown...
but what we should fear is what we know.
If we continue down the path we are on,
we will see tremendous impacts on
Colorado’s future agricultural economy,
rural communities, the environment, and
the quality of life we enjoy as
Coloradans.”



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Colorado Water Plan for Colorado by Coloradans



Thank you