



# Groundwater Discussion

*Interim Water Resources Review Committee*

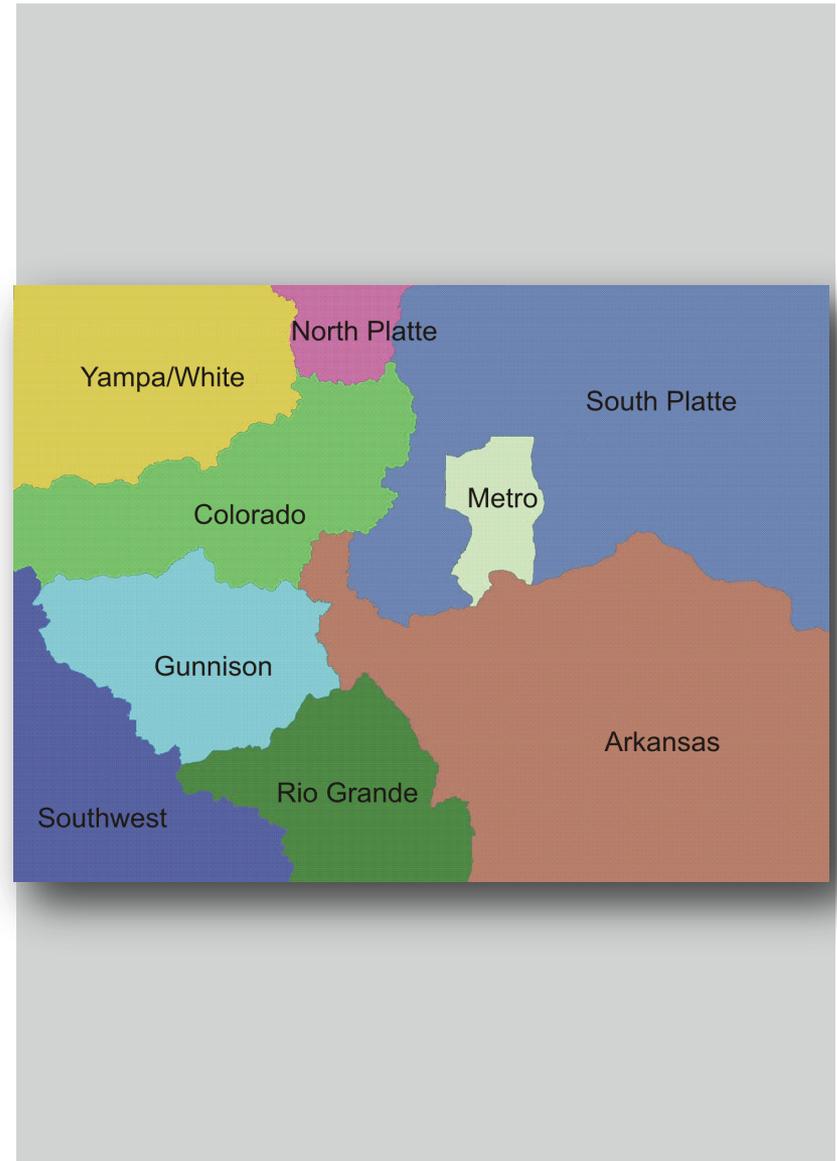
September 4, 2014

**John Stulp**

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

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

- The BRTs provide forums for locally driven, collaborative solutions
- Broad range of stakeholders—municipal providers, counties, industry and interest groups have a seat at each table



# Colorado Water Plan: Groundwater

- *Groundwater is important to statewide water supply*
- *19 of Colorado counties rely heavily on ground water*
- *20% of state population rely heavily on ground water*
- *Natural infrastructure and protection from evaporation*
- *Uncertainty and variable recharge rates*
- *Significant potential for storage*
  - \* *costs*
  - \* *alluvial vs bedrock aquifers*
  - \* *maintaining control over recharged water*
  - \* *retrieval of water*

# Basin Implementation Plans

## *Arkansas Basin*

- *compact compliance*
- *municipal supplies and reliability*

## *Colorado Basin*

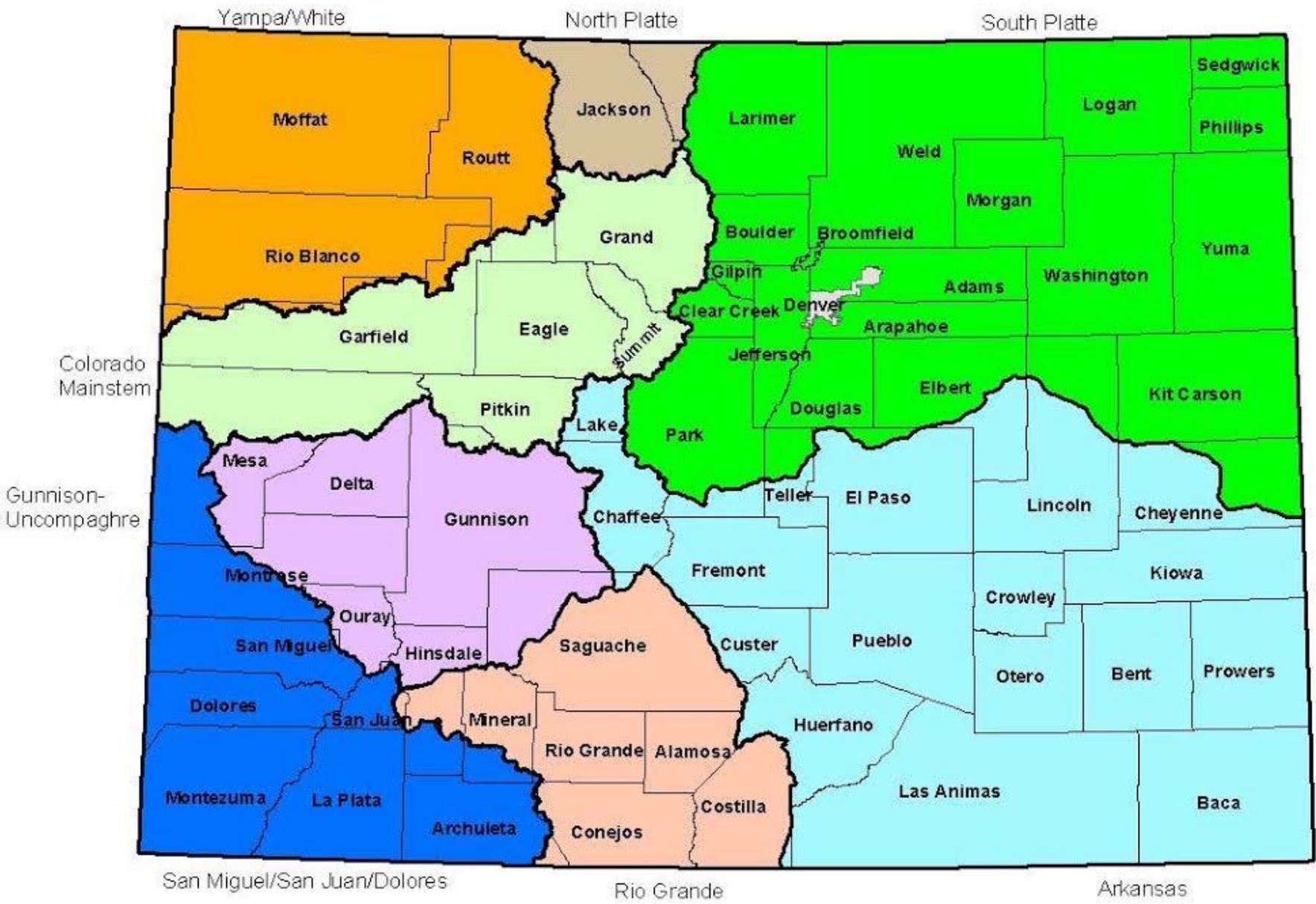
- *water quality*
- *recharge potential for storage*

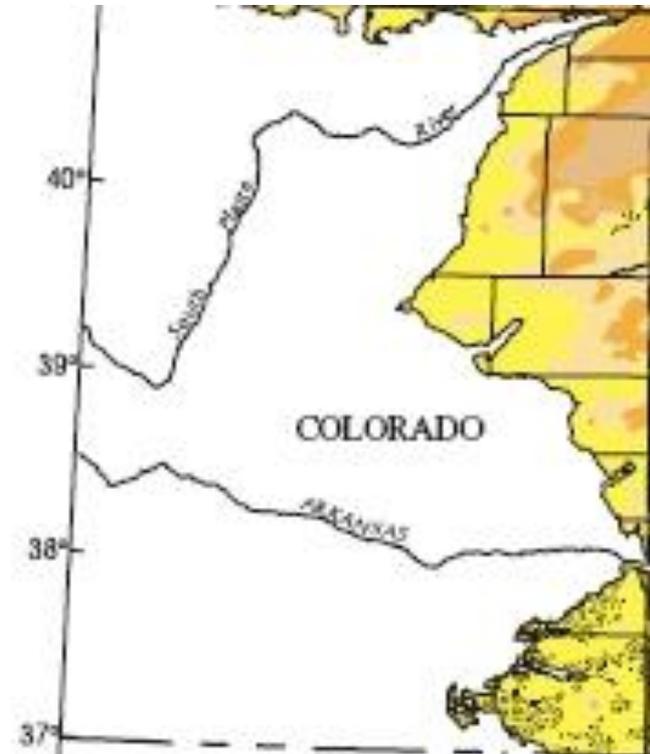
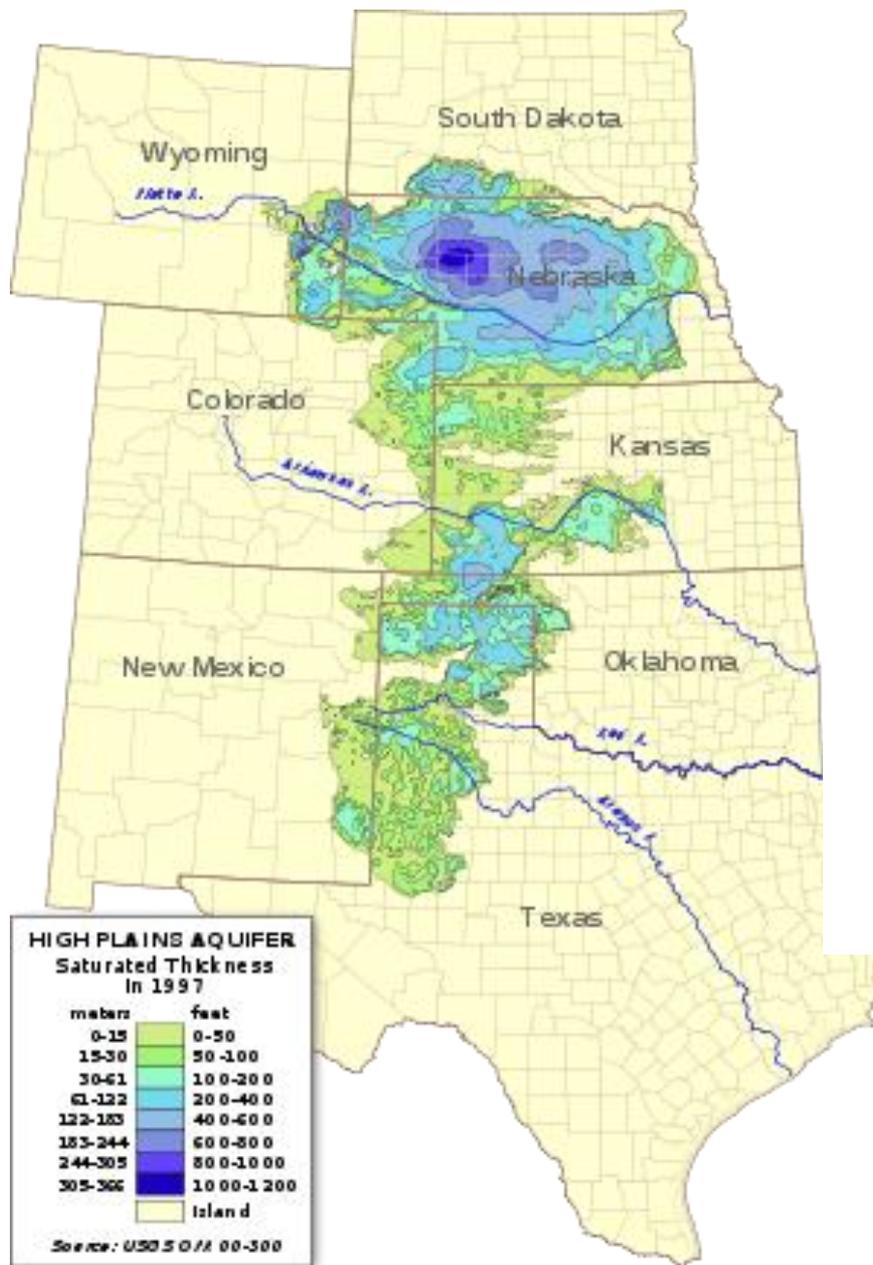
## *Rio Grande Basin*

- *great detail throughout BIP*
- *equally as important as surface water*
- *formation of sub basins for sustainability*

## *South Platte Basin*

- *storage*
- *compact compliance*
- *administration*
- *Denver Basin Aquifer*
- *utilize tributary and non tributary*



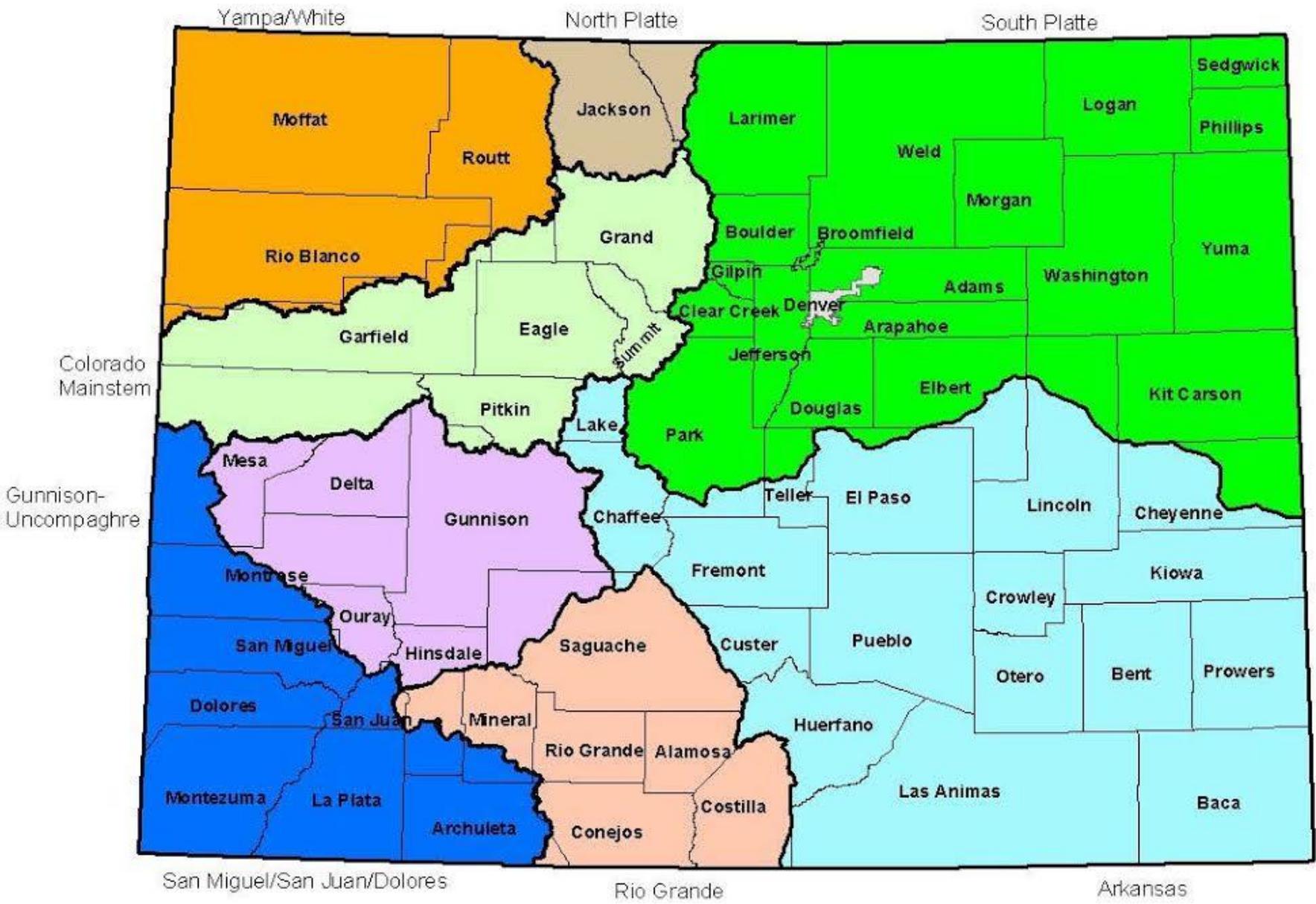


# Ogallala Aquifer

# Mining vs Sustainability

- Ogallala declining
- Rio Grande working to achieve sustainability
- South Platte renewable on annual basis





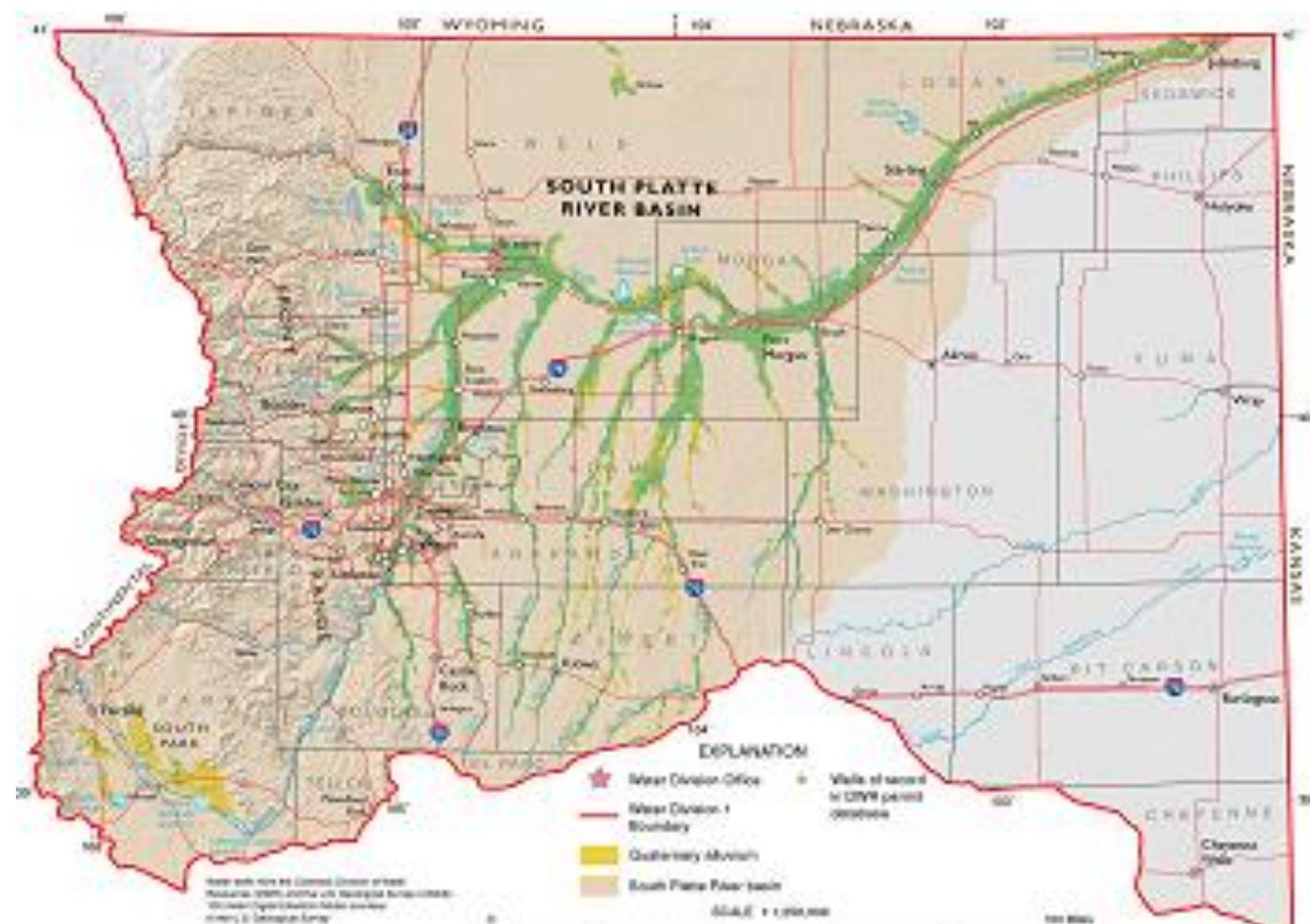
Colorado Mainstem

Gunnison-Uncompaghre

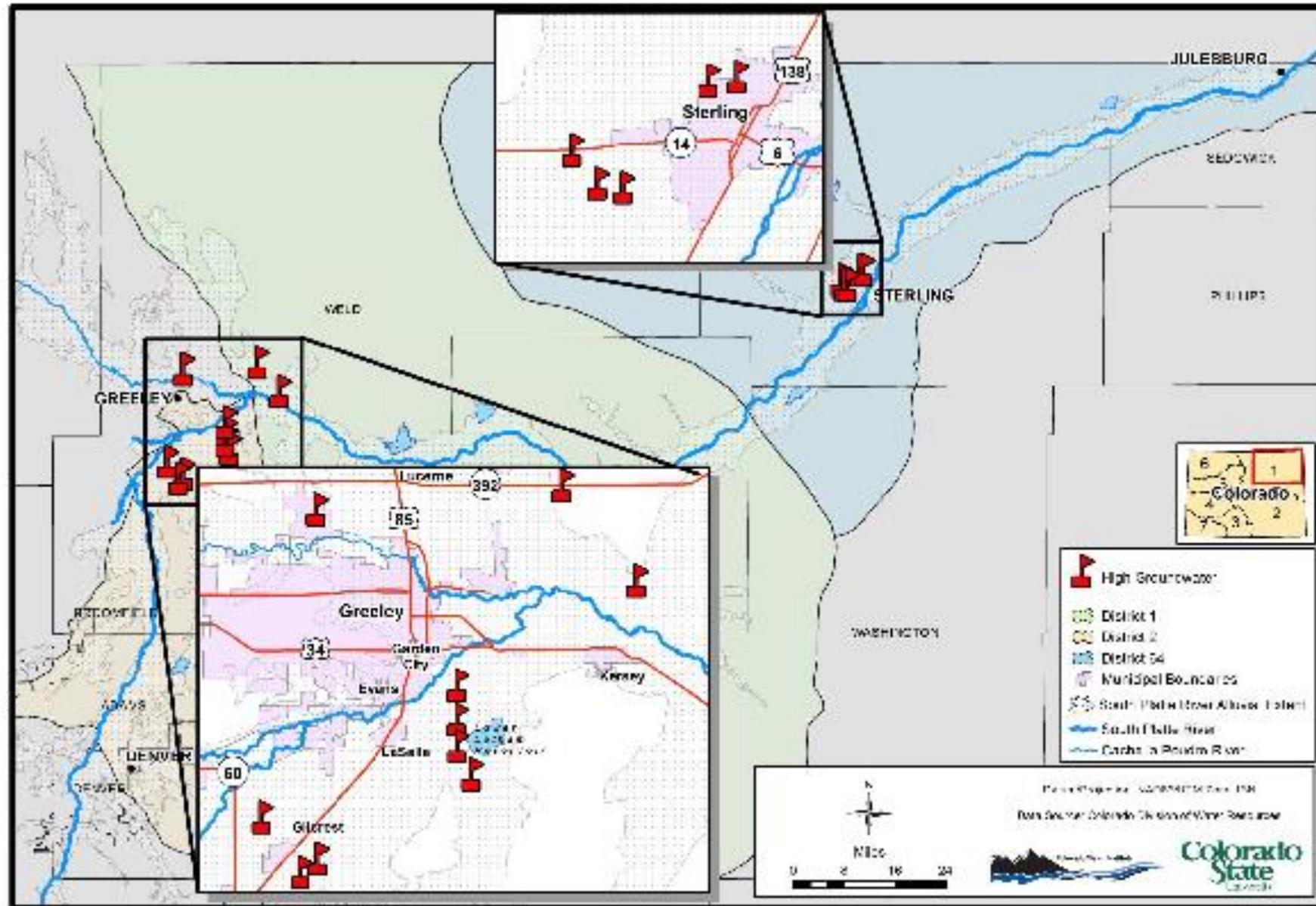
San Miguel/San Juan/Dolores

Rio Grande

Arkansas

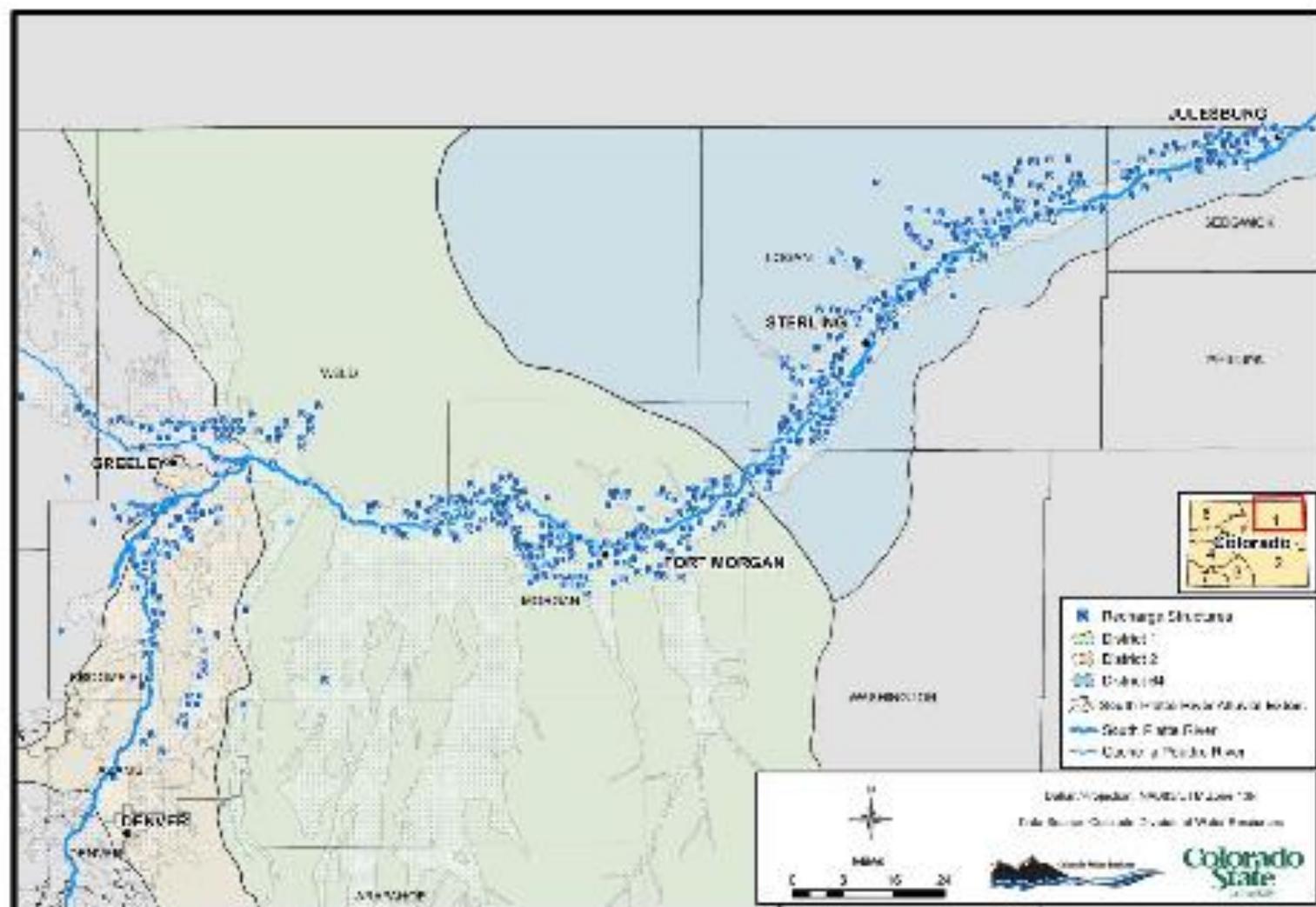


Map data from the Colorado Division of Water  
 National Wetlands Inventory  
 USGS National Wetlands Inventory  
 USGS National Wetlands Inventory  
 USGS National Wetlands Inventory



**Map 3a.2. High Groundwater Areas from South Platte Adverse Impact Reports.**

**Data Source:** High groundwater locations were derived from South Platte Adverse Impact Reports and markers were placed near the location but not at the exact address to protect the identities of those affected.



*Location of Existing Recharge Structures in the S. Platte Basin.*



[www.coloradowaterplan.com](http://www.coloradowaterplan.com)



**COLORADO**

Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources



**COLORADO'S**  
**WATER PLAN**

