



What Records Are Available to Water Researchers and Where Are They?

March 26, 2014 @ 2:00 P.M.

TO JOIN THE AUDIO CONFERENCE YOU MUST CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING AUDIO OPTIONS:

1. To Use Your Computer's Audio:

When the webinar begins, you will be connected to audio using your computer's microphone and speakers. (VoIP)

2. To Use Your Telephone:

After joining the webinar, select "Use Telephone" from the Audio section in the control panel and call in using the numbers below:

United States

Toll: +1 (646) 307-1707

Access Code: 442-267-158

Audio PIN: Shown after joining the webinar



COLORADO

State Archives

George Orłowski
State Archivist
Colorado State Archives
1313 Sherman St., Rm. 120
Denver, CO 80203

george.orłowski@state.co.us

www.colorado.gov/archives/water-record-consortium



“What Records Are Available to Water Researchers and Where Are They?”

March 26, 2014

- 2:00-2:10 p.m. - George Orłowski, State Archivist - Introduction
- 2:10-2:15 p.m. - Erin McDanal – Colorado State Archives
- 2:15-2:20 p.m. - Eric Bittner – National Archives and Records Service
- 2:20-2:25 p.m. - Patricia Rettig – Colorado State University Water Resources Archive
- 2:25-2:30 p.m. - Greg Silkensen, Brad Leach, Chris Pigg – Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District
- 2:30-2:35 p.m. - Holly Geist – Denver Water
- 2:35-2:40 - Laura Nelsen – Colorado Division of Water Resources
- 2:40-2:45 - Keith Schrum – History Colorado
- 2:45-2:55p.m. - Christopher Hudson – Colorado Supreme Court Library



COLORADO

State Archives

Erin McDanal
Water Records Specialist
Colorado State Archives
1313 Sherman St., Rm.120
Denver, CO 80203

erin.mcdanal@state.co.us

www.colorado.gov/archives/water-record-consortium





The Colorado State Archives is the official custodian of approximately 100,000 cubic feet of records from the three branches of government, the 64 counties, a few municipalities and special districts. These may begin as early as 1860 and in some instances, such as case files from the Supreme Court, they may extend to almost present time. **We are not the custodians for permanent records for all agencies or time periods.**

There are water records throughout our collections for which we are endeavoring to provide online finding aids or scanned images, but as this will take several years to accomplish please contact the Colorado State Archives in the meantime if you have questions about availability.

www.colorado.gov/archives/WaterRecords



RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Miners Courts (1858-1860)•Supreme Court and Court of Appeals cases 1861-almost present•County District Court cases from 1860s•Water court cases from a few counties
Governor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Subject files•Executive Record•Correspondence•Speeches•Water compact files•Publications



RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Legislature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• House and Senate bills since 1860• House and Senate Journals documenting the proceedings of the legislature since 1860• Audio recordings of the committee hearings and floor debates since 1973 with supporting documentation such as minutes and attachments (reports, correspondence) to the minutes• Publications including Legislative Council reports



RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Department of Natural Resources•Division of Water Resources•State Engineer•Colorado Water Conservation Board•Division of Parks and Wildlife•Department of Public Health and Environment•Department of Agriculture•Secretary of State•Department of Local Affairs



RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Local Jurisdictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•County Clerks•County Public Works•Special Districts•Municipalities



Eric Bittner

Archivist

National Archives and Records
Administration

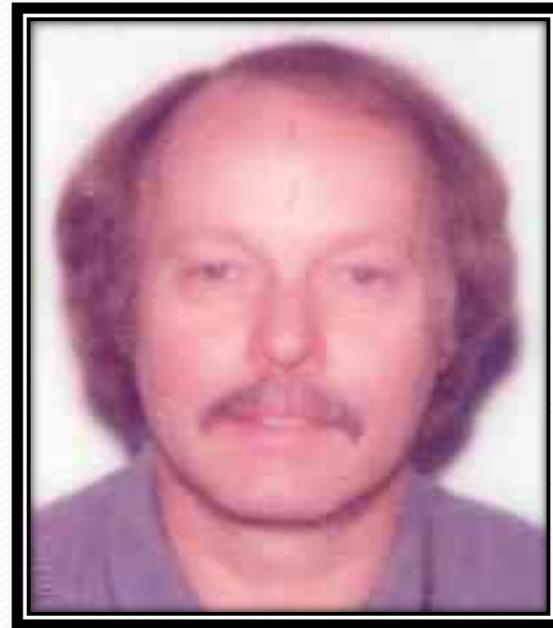
17101 Huron St.

Broomfield, CO 80023

Eric.Bittner@nara.gov

denver.archives@nara.gov

www.archives.gov/rocky-mountain/archives





Of all documents and materials created in the course of business conducted by the United States Federal government, only 1%-3% are so important for legal or historical reasons that they are kept forever. These include many records dealing with water issues. Records come from the federal offices and courts from Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming and Utah. Researchers may visit the National Archives at Denver in person or visit the Archives website for online tools such as an online catalog, online research tools, ways to search online, a microfilm catalog, access to archival databases (AAD) and the Guide to Federal Records.

www.archives.gov

RECORD GROUPS

The Bureau of Reclamation, 1902-2000 (Record Group 115)

Covers all Trans-Mississippi states. The records relate to administrative, engineering, technical, legislative, public relations, and recreational aspects of dam-building and irrigation/hydroelectric power. Highlights include detailed documentation of the construction of Hoover Dam, Glen Canyon Dam, Colorado-Big Thompson, and other major dam projects. Our holdings in this record group exceed 10,000 cf.

The General Land Office/Bureau of Land Management, 1860-2000 (Record Group 49)

Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. Documents surveying and sale of public domain lands, creation and management of wilderness areas, and protection of watersheds. Includes survey plats, tract books, reports and studies. Highlights include many series relating to CCC projects, including camp reports, project reports, and photographs. Water-related series include several hundred cf.

RECORD GROUPS

U.S. Geological Survey, 1874-1970
(Record Group 57)

Arizona, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, and Washington. Documents surveying and mapping of the topography, geology, and waterways in western states. Includes field notebooks, sketches, and maps. 140 cf.

Office of Indian Affairs/Bureau of
Indian Affairs, 1870-1992 (Record
Group 75)

Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. Includes records of land allotments, permits issued for use of natural resources, and irrigation projects. Highlights include large collection of photographs relating to the Flathead Irrigation Project in Montana. Water-related series include several hundred cf.

RECORD GROUPS

DESCRIPTION

U.S. Army Chief of Engineers, 1879-1970 (Record Group 77)

Engineering districts in New Mexico, Montana, Utah, and Nebraska. Records relate to the evaluation, planning, and construction of flood-control and waterway improvement projects. Includes technical reports, engineering files, correspondence, maps, and drawings, including a large 1879 map of the Yellowstone River.
300 cf.

Forest Service, 1905-1990 (Record Group 95)

Regional and forest offices in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. Documents the establishment of forest reserves and protection of watersheds, which later became designated as national forests. Includes use permits, publications, historical reports, maps, photos, and newspaper clippings. Highlights include a large series of "Historical Files" that include first-hand accounts of the early years of the Service by some of the first rangers.
Water-related series several hundred cf.

RECORD GROUPS

Soil Conservation Service, 1933-71
(Record Group 114)

Regional and area offices in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah. Records relate to surveying and mapping programs, range management, land classification, erosion control, and watersheds.
25 cf.

Natural Resources Planning Board,
1939-43 (Record Group 187)

Colorado, New Mexico, and Wyoming. The NRPB established district offices to coordinate with local and state officials in public works and conservation projects relating to defense planning, drainage basins, and resources in the Colorado, Pecos, and Rio Grande River basins. The records include reports, correspondence, and records of committees.
20 cf.

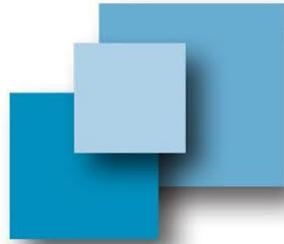
RECORD GROUPS

Environmental Protection Agency, 1970-93 (Record Group 412)

National Environment Investigations Center, Denver. The records document investigations of pollution problems. Included are administrative records, control standards, permits, water quality planning and management files, and final reports.
30 cf.

Judicial Branch

US District Court cases
US Court of Appeals cases (10th Circuit)



WATER RESOURCES
ARCHIVE
lib.colostate.edu/water

Patricia Rettig
Head Archivist
Water Resources Archive
Colorado State University
Morgan Library
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1019

Patricia.Rettig@colostate.edu
lib.colostate.edu/water/





- Holdings total nearly 90 collections, in nearly 2,000 boxes/tubes/drawers.
- Subject focus: water in all its aspects (surface water, groundwater, weather-related, etc.)
- Subject strengths: irrigation, engineering, water law, water policy.
- Geographic focus: all of Colorado; extends to western states that have a close relationship to Colorado's water issues; some international materials, mostly from Colorado consultants working other places.
- Formats: written, digital, audio, and visual material. The Water Resources Archive has approximately 4% of its collections digitized and available online. A current project is underway to digitize 30-40,000 more pages.
- Other water-related materials can be found in the Libraries' Agricultural and Natural Resources Archive, the University Archive, the Manuscripts Collection, and Special Collections.

Water Resources Archive, Colorado State University Libraries

<http://lib.colostate.edu/archives/water/>

RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
<p>Organizations: Irrigation/Ditch Companies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Consolidated Home Supply Ditch and Reservoir Company•DARCA (Ditch and Reservoir Company Alliance)•Ditch Project•Federal Land Bank of Wichita•GASP (Groundwater Appropriators of the South Platte)•Godfrey Ditch Company•Iliff and Platte Valley Ditch Company•Irrigation Research Papers•Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company•North Poudre Irrigation Company•Plumb and Dailey Ditch Company•Reorganized Farmers Ditch Company•Water Supply and Storage Company

RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
<p>Organizations: Engineering</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Boyle Engineering Corporation•Colorado Water Resources Research Institute•Groundwater Data Collection•Rocky Mountain Hydrologic Research Center•Wright Water Engineers

RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
<p>Organizations: Environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Climate Data Collection•Colorado Association of Soil•Conservation Districts•Friends of the Poudre•Platte River Whooping Crane•Maintenance Trust•Poudre River Trust•Save the Poudre: Poudre Waterkeeper•Xeriscape Colorado, Inc.

RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
<p>Organizations: Agencies/Groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• American Public Works Association, Colorado Chapter• American Water Foundation• Central Colorado Water Conservancy District• Colorado Office of the Attorney General• Colorado Water Congress• Larimer County District Court• National Water Resources Association



RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Individuals: Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maurice L. Albertson• Morton W. Bittinger• Whitney M. Borland• Louis G. Carpenter• Robert E. Glover• Ival V. Goslin• Dale F. Heermann• Carl J. Hoffman• Marvin D. Hoover• Marvin E. Jensen• A. I. Johnson• Carl F. Nordin, Jr.



RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Individuals: Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•James L. Ogilvie•Ralph L. Parshall•Everett V. Richardson•William W. Sayre•Theodore M. Schad•Daryl B. Simons•William P. Stanton•Rollin Q. Tenney•Royce J. Tipton•Ivan D. Wood•Vujica M. Yevjevich



RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Individuals: Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Delph E. Carpenter•Gregory J. Hobbs, Jr.•Arthur L. Littleworth•Floyd K. Murr

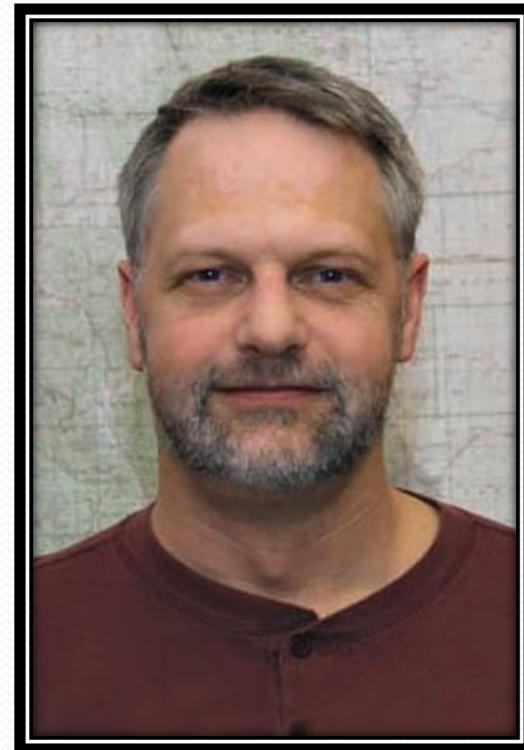
RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Individuals: Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Hamlet J. "Chips" Barry III•W. D. Farr•John R. Fetcher•Harvey Johnson•Richard D. MacRavey•Frank Milenski•Ray Nixon•John Porter•Gilbert G. Stamm•Herbert Vandemoer (Colorado Water Conservation Board)•David Walker (Colorado Water Conservation Board)

RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
<p>Individuals: Other (sociology, economics, fish, snow, history, etc.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Robert K. Davis•Frederic A. "Eric" Eidsness, Jr.•Charles C. Fisk•David M. Freeman•Mark W. T. Harvey•Charles W. Howe•David McComb Big Thompson Flood Collection•James R. Meiman•Edwin W. Mogren•Earl L. Mosley•Daniel Tyler•William J. Wiltzius•Robert A. Young



Greg Silkensen
Assistant Communications Manager
Northern Colorado Water
Conservancy District
220 Water Avenue
Berthoud, CO 80513

gsilkensen@ncwcd.org
www.northernwater.org





Brad Leach

Records Manager

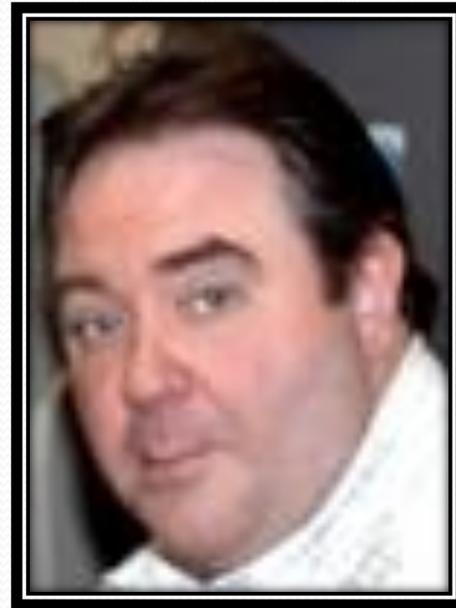
Northern Colorado Water
Conservancy District

220 Water Avenue

Berthoud, CO 80513

bleach@northernwater.org

www.northernwater.org





Chris Pigg
Records Management Clerk
Northern Colorado Water
Conservancy District
220 Water Avenue
Berthoud, CO 80513

cpigg@northernwater.org
www.northernwater.org





The Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District (Northern Water) records system is an active records system providing our agency current and background project information, first to the various departments within Northern Water and then to the public in general. Most materials are listed within our Open Text Database and are searchable upon request by various indexed criteria. No guide is published. Many materials have been scanned as images that are tied to these listings in the database. Public access is not allowed directly to the database for security reasons.

Most of Northern's records are project related; projects that include the Colorado-Big Thompson transcontinental diversion, Windy Gap project, Southern Water Supply Project, the proposed Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) and the proposed Windy Gap Firming Project.

www.northernwater.org

RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Minutes for the District (9/37 to current) •Minutes for the Municipal SubDistrict (7/70 to current)
Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Engineering records, Design •Engineering records, Construction •Environmental records; Modeling, habitat studies, water quality •Rights of Way records •Legal records •Correspondence •Organizational and Project Finance records

RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Water Operations and Delivery Records•Weather and Precipitation Records•River flows (within the Northern Water Boundaries)	
Reference Library	Approx. 3,000 entries of non-agency records tied to water interests in general. No guide is currently available.

RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Newsclipping Scrapbooks	Denver and N. Colo. Papers from (1937 to 2002) - These focus on the C-BT project, Windy Gap project and Northern Colorado Water Issues. They are divided by subject or are in date order. No other index is available.
USBR Project Annual Histories	A yearly account of project construction (1938 to 1983) - Limited access since 9/11/2001 due to technical specifications and drawings.



Holly Geist

Archives/Historical Research

Denver Water

1600 W. 12th Ave.

Denver, CO 80204-3412

Holly.Geist@denverwater.org

publicrecords@denverwater.org

www.denverwater.org/





Denver Water has a business archive and as such it is used mostly by internal staff, but is open to the public through Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) or for historical research by appointment. Most records are active or semi-active and relate to the acquisition and running of a water distribution system. DW does not actively collect materials, so our holdings rarely include new types of records. Some digitization occurs in the course of business, but rarely specifically for the public or reference purposes. There is a brief history and timeline of Denver Water on the website, including some photographs.

CORA requests: publicrecords@denverwater.org

www.denverwater.org



RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Secretary Files	Primarily property records, such as easements
Board Minutes	1918 to current (Trustees)
Engineering Records Vault	Drawings, reports, pipe books, specifications, etc.
Correspondence	Catch-all traditionally used to include wide variety of records, such as letters and reports
Photographs	Mostly recording construction activities, topics include facilities, pipe, and xeriscape
Tap Records	Documentation of property connection to the DW system



COLLECTION	DESCRIPTION
Denver Union Water Company	Distribution company records, including materials from predecessor companies: <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Denver City Water Company•Denver Water Company•Beaver Brook Water Company•Mountain Water Company•Citizens Water Company•American Water Works Company of New Jersey•South Platte Canal & Reservoir Company



COLLECTION	DESCRIPTION
Ditch Companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•City Ditch - Capitol Hydraulic Company/Platte Water Company•High Line Canal - Northern Colorado Irrigation Company•Others



COLORADO

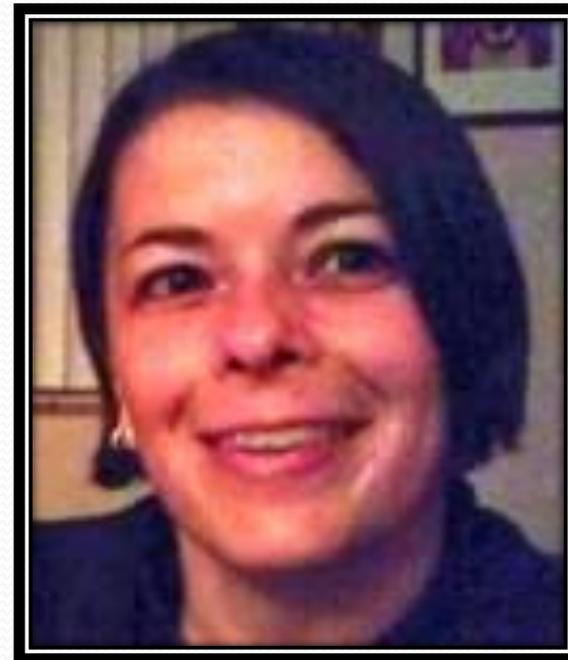
Division of Water Resources

Department of Natural Resources

Laura Nelsen
Information Process Coordinator
Division of Water Resources
1313 Sherman St., Suite 821
Denver, CO 80203

Laura.Nelsen@state.co.us

www.water.state.co.us





COLORADO
Division of Water Resources
Department of Natural Resources

This document is intended as a guide to the available imaged documents, data, mapping tools, and information maintained by the Division of Water Resources. Please visit the website for a comprehensive and current listing of all available records and data.

Questions? Contact the Records Research Section of DWR [303-866-3581](tel:303-866-3581)

www.water.state.co.us



RECORD GROUPS - IMAGED	DESCRIPTION
Abandonment Lists	<p>http://dwrweblink.state.co.us/dwrweblink/</p> <p>Abandonment lists are lists organized in each Water Division containing those water rights that the Division Engineer, in consultation with the State Engineer, has determined to have been abandoned in whole or in part. The abandonment list, when concluded by judgment and decree, shall be conclusive as to the water rights determined to have been abandoned. <i>Before</i> reviewing historic records, please see our latest Abandonment Lists for 2011</p>
Consent Maps	<p>Consent Maps are maps submitted pursuant to the provisions of §37-90-137(8), C.R.S., whereby a municipality or quasi-municipality can claim deemed consent to the withdrawal of ground water underlying their service boundary in existence as of January 1, 1985.</p>



RECORD GROUPS - IMAGED	DESCRIPTION
Dam Construction Documents	Dam Construction Documents are dam drawings/specifications and inspection reports on dams. Permission to view these documents is limited to individuals and businesses that have obtained prior written approval from the Dam Safety Chief. Refer to Homeland Security Act procedures for information on gaining access or contact Dam Safety personnel
Diversion Records	Published Annual Diversion Records should be obtained using the CDSS Structures(Diversion) search tools . If the period of record is incomplete, historical diversion record images may contain additional information. Diversion Record images contain Field books, Commissioner reports, and Annual Diversion Records containing diversion information for structures from the late 1800's to 1974.



RECORD GROUPS - IMAGED	DESCRIPTION
Division Filings	Division Filing includes documents internal to, address to or sent from the Division of Water Resources. For Division 1, this is the most up to date place to retrieve Augmentation Plan and Substitute Water Supply Plan accounting. Currently, most historical documents have not been imaged.
Geophysical Logs	Geophysical logs are required for certain wells pursuant to Rule 9 of the Statewide Nontributary Ground Water Rules authorized by Section 37-90-137(4) C.R.S. Geophysical logs can be used to determine site specific aquifer conditions. Also visit the Online Ground Water (Other) Data Search Tools for physical information such as the aquifer(s) the well is completed in – top and bottom elevations, and thickness of sand as interpreted by DWR personnel.



RECORD GROUPS - IMAGED	DESCRIPTION
Hearings	Hearings are Court Case Files known as Groundwater Hearings and State Engineer Hearings. Documents included are findings, objections, exhibits, and other documents in the case. Groundwater cases are available beginning in 1954, and State Engineer cases are available beginning in 1943.
Historical Court Actions	Historical Court Actions are Miscellaneous Court Actions occurring in District Court related to ditches and reservoirs.
Livestock Water Tanks and Erosion Control Dams (LSWTECD)	Livestock Water Tank / Erosion Control Dam (LSWTECD) documents include applications, permits and completion information.



RECORD GROUPS - IMAGED	DESCRIPTION
Map & Filing Statements	A Map and Filing Statement is a map depicting a water structure and a legal statement that gives basic facts such as the original owner names, measurements, date when the structure was completed, date when water was first used, and water usage information.
Official Water Rights Tabulations	Official tabulations show the current status of decreed water rights in order of seniority by major drainage. Before reviewing these historic documents, please review our latest bi-annual Official Water Rights Tabulations



RECORD GROUPS - IMAGED	DESCRIPTION
Pre-213 Worksheets	Pre-213 Worksheets are worksheets used to calculate the cylinder(s) of appropriation for wells that qualify under C.R.S. 37-90-137(5) .
Publications and Reports	Annual Reports are reports that provide information on changes and improvements that have occurred within DWR throughout the years. These reports compile data from the State Engineer's Office, Division Offices and the Dam Safety Branch. The information in these reports consist of number of wells permitted , cumulative statistics, streamflow, diversion reports, etc.. They are available from 1939-2009. More publications and reports will be coming soon.



RECORD GROUPS - IMAGED	DESCRIPTION
State Archive Inventory	State Archive Inventory index sheets are listings of all original documents and records that the State Engineer's Office has deposited with State Archives for storage.
Straight Line Diagrams	Straight Line Diagrams are graphical linear representations of structures and/or water rights for a given stream system, allowing a large amount of complex information to be observed at a glance.
Subdivisions	Subdivision files contain information regarding each subdivision referral submitted by the counties.



RECORD GROUPS - IMAGED	DESCRIPTION
Substitute Water Supply Plans	Substitute Water Supply Plans (SWSP's) are the documents submitted to request a SWSP and the action taken by the State Engineer in the form of an approval or denial letter.
Water Court	Water Court documents are copies of documents filed with Water Courts in the seven major drainage basins. Documents may include applications for water rights, statements of opposition, consultations, referee rulings, decrees, and others.
Water Court Resume	Water Court Resumes are notices of all applications, amended applications, and requests for corrections filed in the water court for a given month and year. Included are the names and addresses of applicants, descriptions of water rights involved, and rulings sought. For current Water Court Documents, visit the Water Court Homepage and select a Division to review Court Rulings, monthly Water Resumes and Archives.
Well Permit Information	Well Permit Information is a compilation of documents including well applications, well permits for various uses, well construction reports, pump installation reports, ownership changes, maps/legal descriptions, etc. Please use our Well Permit Search Tool to locate the most updated information.



WATER RIGHTS CIVIL ACTIONS PAGE REFERENCE BY

[Division 1 Civil Action Page Reference](#)

(pdf)

[Division 2 Civil Action Page Reference](#)

(pdf)

[Division 3 Civil Action Page Reference](#)

(pdf)

[Division 4 Civil Action Page Reference](#)

(pdf)

[Division 5 Civil Action Page Reference](#)

(pdf)

[Division 6 Civil Action Page Reference](#)

(pdf)

[Division 7 Civil Action Page Reference](#)

(pdf)

DESCRIPTION

When researching a water rights case that is known as a Civil Action Case (such as CA2142) the decree can be lengthy. The Civil Action decrees generally contain hundreds of pages representing many water rights structures. Therefore, using a Page Reference Guide, water rights can be located first by Division and then by Structure Name. The guides indicate the CA Case Number and the Page Number of the imaged document to refer to in order to view the decree in Imaged Documents (Weblink).



HYDROBASE ONLINE TOOLS	DESCRIPTION
Active Calls	Active administrative calls placed on rivers and streams.
Aquifer Determination Tools	These programs were historically known as SB5 and Dakota. Tools for estimating the top and bottom aquifer elevations and the thickness of the water yielding sands in the Denver Basin and Dakota/Cheyenne
Call Chronology	The history of administrative calls placed on the river.
Climate Stations	Evaporation, Temperature, Precipitation and Snow Depth data from the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration and the Colorado Agricultural Meteorological Network for the state of Colorado.
Groundwater- Other Data	Physical characteristic information collected about wells. Driller log information, geophysical log readings, pumping tests, and volcanic material information (where available).
Groundwater – Water Levels	Well water levels.



HYDROBASE ONLINE TOOLS	DESCRIPTION
Other Data	Other Data including Agriculture and Livestock Statistics.
Streamflow Stations	Historic published streamflows and Provisional Administrative gage data from the Division of Water Resources and the USGS.
Surface Water Current Conditions	Real-time satellite streamflow monitoring data from gaging stations maintained by DWR, USGS, and our cooperators. Includes graphing ability and station information.
Structures (Diversion Records)	Information about Diversion Structures, Reservoirs, Non-jurisdictional dams and Jurisdictional dams. Diversion and Reservoir structure information includes irrigated lands, diversion records, and water right information.
Water Rights	Transactional and Net amount water rights; includes links to imaged Water Court documents
Well Permit Search	Provides detailed reports about well applications and permits with links to related imaged documents. Search by permit number, address, subdivision, or other criteria to pinpoint the well of interest.



HYDROBASE BULK EXPORT

DESCRIPTION

<http://water.state.co.us/DATAMAPS/DATASEARCH/Pages/DataSearch.aspx>

[Calls - Active \(Map\)](#)

[Calls - History/Chronology](#)

[Groundwater Wells - Geophysical Logs](#)

[Groundwater Wells - Water Levels](#)

[Structures -Administrative/Decreed](#)

[Surface Water Current Conditions \(Map\)](#)

[Water Rights - Net Amounts](#)

[Water Rights - Transactions](#)

[Well Applications/Permit](#)

The **Colorado Information Marketplace** open data application allows users to filter and export large datasets from the Division of Water Resources' HydroBase database. Click the links at the side to access each dataset.



AVAILABLE MAPPING TOOLS	DESCRIPTION
Map Search (AquaMap)	Interactive map for viewing stream, structure, aquifer, well data, DWR scanned maps, and other layers. Includes section/township/range to UTM and latitude/longitude convertor and <i>Quick Zoom</i> locator.
CDSS Map Viewer	Map based display tool of wells, structures, irrigated acres, and modeling data.



HISTORY *Colorado*

Keith Schrum
Curator of Archives
History Colorado
1200 Broadway
Denver, CO 80203

Keith.Schrum@state.co.us

cosearch@state.co.us

www.coloradohistory.org





HISTORY *Colorado*

The following list identifies manuscript collections showing some relationship to *water* depending on the search terms employed to identify material. For example, broad searches under the terms: *water rights*, *water law*, *resources*, *ditch* and/or *irrigation* produced the list.

Researchers may browse the Library Catalog of the Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center by visiting our web page. Once the page opens, look for the menu bar atop the page. At the far right click, *Researchers*, and follow the path to *Library Catalog* and *Search Catalog*. Various query combinations are available to broaden or narrow the field.

Subject headings overlap widely and any collection could appear in several specific lists. To avoid unnecessary repetition, I have grouped the majority of collections in two broad categories: Water Law-Water Rights; and, Ditch and/or Irrigation.

www.HistoryColorado.org



HISTORY *Colorado*

RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION																
Water Law-Water Rights	<table><tbody><tr><td data-bbox="788 608 1058 654">Henry Allen</td><td data-bbox="1367 608 1499 654">Mss 7</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="788 668 1083 714">Silman Smith</td><td data-bbox="1367 668 1547 714">Mss 581</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="788 728 1116 773">Charles Corlett</td><td data-bbox="1367 728 1580 773">Mss 1038</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="788 788 1209 833">Watson McHendrie</td><td data-bbox="1367 788 1580 833">Mss 1250</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="788 848 1271 893">Geddes & MacDougal</td><td data-bbox="1367 848 1580 893">Mss 1475</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="788 908 1199 953">Glenn G. Saunders</td><td data-bbox="1367 908 1580 953">Mss 1523</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="788 968 1161 1013">Jean Breitenstein</td><td data-bbox="1367 968 1580 1013">Mss 1792</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="788 1028 1219 1073">Sanborn & Houston</td><td data-bbox="1367 1028 1580 1073">Mss 2132</td></tr></tbody></table>	Henry Allen	Mss 7	Silman Smith	Mss 581	Charles Corlett	Mss 1038	Watson McHendrie	Mss 1250	Geddes & MacDougal	Mss 1475	Glenn G. Saunders	Mss 1523	Jean Breitenstein	Mss 1792	Sanborn & Houston	Mss 2132
Henry Allen	Mss 7																
Silman Smith	Mss 581																
Charles Corlett	Mss 1038																
Watson McHendrie	Mss 1250																
Geddes & MacDougal	Mss 1475																
Glenn G. Saunders	Mss 1523																
Jean Breitenstein	Mss 1792																
Sanborn & Houston	Mss 2132																



HISTORY *Colorado*

RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Ditch and/or Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Arkansas Valley Ditch Mss 16•Platte & Denver Ditch Mss 498•Colorado Land & Irrig. Mss 140•Smith Canal & Ditch Mss 579•Denver Ditch Mss 192•Union Ditch Mss 637•Michael C. Hinderlider Mss 312•Costilla County Canals Mss 736•William Robert Kelly Mss 356•North Fork Mutual Mss 968•Lower Boulder Ditch Mss 397•Baca Irrigating Ditch Mss 1162



Christopher Hudson
Deputy Supreme Court Librarian
Colorado Supreme Court Library
2 East 14th Ave
Denver, CO 80203

Christopher.Hudson@judicial.state.co.us
library@judicial.state.co.us

<http://cscl.colibraries.org/>





Our Mission is to support the research needs of the Colorado Judicial Branch, primarily the Colorado Supreme Court and Colorado Court of Appeals. We also support the judges and staff located in the judicial districts and county courts throughout the State of Colorado. Secondarily, our library is open to members of the Bar and general public.

The Colorado Supreme Court Library is located in the Ralph L. Carr Colorado Judicial Center at 2 East 14th Avenue, Denver, CO 80203. Our hours are 8:00am to 5:00pm Monday-Friday.

<http://cscl.colibraries.org>
library@judicial.state.co.us



“Within the context of state water law, governmental regulation is employed for the primary purpose of identifying and administering rights which water users enjoy by virtue of appropriation for beneficial use under Colorado’s Constitution and statutes. Colorado Supreme Court case law and statutes of the Colorado General Assembly are the primary sources which define and describe this state’s water law. Of course, United States’ public land law, natural resources law, and environmental law have also had a profound effect on water development and use in Colorado.”

Justice Gregory J. Hobbs, Jr., *Colorado Water Law: An Historical Overview*, 1 U. Denv. Water L. Rev. 1, 7 (1997).



- **1852, The People’s Ditch of San Luis** is the oldest Colorado water right. Community irrigation ditches called *acequias* begin in New Mexico in the early 1600s.
- **1861, An Act to Protect and Regulate the Irrigation of Lands (1861 Colo. Territorial Laws 67)** provides that water may be diverted from streams to land not abutting the stream.
- **1864, An Act to Enable Road, Ditch, Manufacturing and other Companies to Become Bodies Corporate (1864 Colo. Territorial Laws at 58)** recognizes “priority of right” the customary practice also referred to as “first in time, first in right.”
- **1866, Mining Act of 1866 (14 Stat. 253) & 1877, Desert Land Act (19 Stat. 377)** provide that states and territories may create their own water laws.
- **1872, Yunker v. Nicols (1 Colo. 551)** confirms the prior appropriation system as the law in Colorado. The system would also become known as the Colorado Doctrine.



- **1876, Colorado Constitution Article XVI Mining and Irrigation** incorporates the principles of prior appropriation in the new State Constitution.
- **1879, Adjudication Act of 1879 (1879 Colo. Sess. Laws 99-100) & 1881, Adjudication Act of 1881 (1881 Colo. Sess. Laws 142)** establish the first procedures for adjudicating water rights.
- **1882, Coffin v. Left Hand Ditch Company (6 Colo. 443)** rejects riparian water law doctrine and cements prior appropriation as the law in Colorado.
- **1903, Adjudication Act of 1903 (1903 Colo. Sess. Laws 297)** gives district courts jurisdiction to adjudicate non-irrigation water rights.
- **1907, Kansas v. Colorado (206 U.S. 46)** leads to the creation of congressionally ratified interstate compacts.



- **1907, *Winters v. United States* (207 U.S. 564)** creates the doctrine of reserved water rights on Indian reservations and other federal reserved land.
- **1965, Colorado Groundwater Management Act of 1965 (Colo. Rev. Stat. § 37-90-101 et seq.)** integrates tributary ground water into the administration system and authorizes the establishment of ground water districts.
- **1969, Water Right Determination and Administration Act of 1969 (Colo. Rev. Stat. § 37-92-101 et seq.)** reorganizes the administration and adjudication of water rights by creating seven water divisions, one for each major drainage basin.
- **1969, National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Pub. L. No. 91-190), 1972, Clean Water Act of 1972 (Pub. L. No. 92-500), 1973, Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), and 1976, Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)** provide the beginnings for a complex web of federal laws and regulations affecting land and water.



RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Judicial Branch	Colorado Supreme Court Opinions Colorado Court of Appeals Opinions
Executive Branch	Colorado Attorney General Opinions Colorado Code of Regulations
Legislative Branch	Colorado Territorial Laws (1861-1876) Colorado Revised Statutes & Court Rules (1877-Current) Session Laws of Colorado (1879-Current) House and Senate Journals (1861-Current)



RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Secondary Resources	<p>Colorado Water Law Bench Book (Carrie L. Ciliberto, Managing Editor)</p> <p>Colorado Water Law (George Vranesh)</p> <p>Vranesh's Colorado Water Law, Rev. Ed. (James N. Corbridge Jr. and Teresa A. Rice)</p> <p>Colorado Water Law for Non-Lawyers (P. Andrew Jones and Tom Cech)</p> <p>The Public's Water Resources: Articles on Water Law, History, and Culture (Justice Greg Hobbs)</p>



RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Secondary Resources	<p>Living in the Four Corners: Colorado, Centennial State at the Headwaters (Justice Greg Hobbs)</p> <p>Water Rights Handbook for Colorado Conservation Professionals (Peter D. Nicols, et al.)</p> <p>Acquiring, Using, and Protecting Water in Colorado (Trout, Witwer & Feeman, P.C.)</p> <p>Colorado Land Planning and Development Law, 8th Ed. (Donald L. Elliot, Esq., General Editor)</p>



RECORD GROUPS	DESCRIPTION
Secondary Resources	<p>Streamflow Depletion by Wells—Understanding and Managing the Effects of Groundwater Pumping on Streamflow (Paul M. Barlow and Stanley A. Leake, USGS)</p> <p>Water Law Newsletter (Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation)</p> <p>Waters and Water Rights, 3rd Ed. (Amy K. Kelley, Editor in Chief, 17 volume treatise)</p> <p>Grad, Treatise on Environmental Law (Frank P. Grad, 8 volume treatise)</p> <p>American Law of Mining, 2nd Ed. (Cheryl Outerbridge, Editor in Chief, 6 volume treatise)</p>



COLORADO
State Archives

What Records Are Available to Water Researchers and Where Are They?

This presentation plus submitted questions and answers will be available online after April 8, 2014 at:

<http://www.colorado.gov/archives/water-records-consortium>