



Did you know? The Colorado River was originally called the Grand River, but on July 25, 1921 Congress renamed it. On the Colorado River's 93rd birthday, we honor it for serving as the backbone of the West. Our state benefits from a balanced economy, including robust agriculture, recreation, industry, outdoor-service and technology sectors, which are all dependent on healthy rivers. Water is fundamental and indispensable to vibrant economies and healthy communities, anchoring the assets that make Colorado unique and provide our competitive advantages. As we develop the first statewide water plan, we, as elected officials and leaders in the state, call on Governor Hickenlooper and the Colorado Water Conservation Board to tackle our water challenges with solutions that retain the economic value of our rivers. The state plan should:

- Identify investments in and improvements to irrigation infrastructure for **more efficient agricultural water delivery**, irrigation and reuse, and incentivize best practices and strategies to help sustain this foundational industry;
- **Prioritizes municipal conservation**, committing Colorado's growing urban areas to reducing per capita municipal water use by 35 percent by 2050, which is the target set by the State Water Supply Initiative;
- **Prioritizes modernizing and maximizing existing storage** and delivery systems over new diversions that harm our rivers, in-stream flows, wildlife, and recreation economy;
- Recognizes that the **health and viability of our rivers** as natural and economic resources must be prioritized in water policy and management.

State Senator Jessie Ulibarri, SD 21

State Senator Irene Aguilar, SD 32

State Senator Michael Johnston, SD 33

State Senator Lucia Guzman, SD 34

State Representative Dan Pabon, HD 4

State Representative Crisanta Duran, HD 5

State Representative Paul Rosenthal, HD 9

State Representative KC Becker, HD 13

State Representative Diane Mitsch Bush, HD 26

State Representative Brittany Pettersen, HD 28

State Representative Joe Salazar, HD 31

State Representative Dominick Moreno, HD 32

State Representative Leroy Garcia, HD 46

State Representative Randy Fischer, HD 53

State Representative Mike McLachlan, HD 59

State Representative Millie Hamner, HD 61

State Representative Ed Vigil, HD 62

Denver City Councilman Albus Brooks

Denver City Councilwoman Robin Kniech

Denver City Councilman Paul Lopez

Denver City Councilwoman Judy Montero

Denver City Councilman Chris Nevitt

Denver City Councilwoman Deborah Ortega

Denver City Councilwoman Susan Shepherd

Denver School Board Member Arturo Jimenez

Denver School Board Member Landri Taylor

RTD Board, Angie Rivera-Malpiede

Avon Town Engineer Justin Hildreth

Breckenridge Town Councilman Gary Gallagher

Breckenridge Town Councilwoman Wendy Wolfe

Crested Butte Mayor Aaron Huckstep

Crested Butte Town Councilman Glenn Michel

Crested Butte Town Councilman James Schmidt

Gunnison County Commissioner Jonathan Houck

Gunnison City Councilman Richard Hagan

Gunnison City Councilwoman Carolyn Riggs

Mesa County Board of Commissioners Chair Steve Acquafresca

Mt. Crested Butte Mayor Pro Tem and Councilman Gary Keiser

Paonia Mayor Neal Schwieterman

Pitkin County Commissioner Steve Child

Ridgway Mayor John I. Clark

Summit County Commissioner Karn Stiegelmeier

Telluride Mayor Stu Fraser