Our Mission:
To lead in the protection, conservation, use and development
of the water resources of the Colorado River basin
for the welfare of the District, and to safeguard for Colorado
all waters of the Colorado River to which the state is entitled.

How we were created:
The Colorado General Assembly created the Colorado River Water Conservation
District in 1937 “for the conservation, use, and development of the water resources of
the Colorado River and its principal tributaries . . . to which the state of Colorado is
equitably entitled.” The Colorado River District, as it is commonly known, was the first
of Colorado’s four water conservation districts. It is a special governmental entity
funded almost exclusively through its property tax mill levy which is assessed on all
taxable property within the District’s 15-county jurisdiction (see map on reverse). The
current mill levy is 0.254 mills.

Who we serve:
The Colorado River District serves 15 Western Colorado counties. The District covers
28% of the surface area of Colorado, representing approximately 500,000 people.
Each county’s Board of County Commissioners appoints one representative to serve
on the Colorado River District’s Board of Directors.

What we do:
The District protects and assists others in developing water supplies. We represent
Western Colorado in legal, technical, and political negotiations with private, state and
federal parties sharing an interest in the water resources in the Colorado River Basin.

What else we do:
• Own and operate water storage for Western Colorado water users;
• Operate a water marketing program to help water providers meet local demands;
• Provide an influential presence before state and federal government;
• Operate a grant program to assist constituents with water supply projects;
• Engage in water quality work, especially salinity and selenium control;
• Provide water education to residents and community leaders regarding the
  importance of water in the arid West.