A conversation with the Colorado River District

General Manager Andy Mueller
Director of Government Relations Zane Kessler
For more than 80 years, the Colorado River District has been working to safeguard West Slope water and keep your water on the Western Slope.
Population Growth

State of Colorado: 9 million by 2050
Colorado River Basin: 70 million by 2060
Annual lower basin overuse: 1.1 to 1.3 million acre feet
Rising to the Challenge.
Protecting flows for the Shoshone Hydropower plant

Economics of demand management

Colorado River Risk Study

Advocating for West Slope water users
Three key issues:

• Declining tax revenue from the energy industry

• Revenue ratcheting down due to the Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights

• The Gallagher Amendment’s reduction in assessment rates
Proposal under consideration:
Annual increase of up to $1.90 per $100k of residential value.
Watershed health and water quality

Productive agriculture

Conservation and efficiency

Healthy rivers

Infrastructure