

REPORT ON
GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY FUNDING 1987:

RIO GRANDE FLOODING
ALAMOSA COUNTY AND THE RIO GRANDE
WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PREPARED BY

COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

JULY 15, 1987

STATE OF COLORADO

COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
Department of Natural Resources
721 State Centennial Building
1313 Sherman Street
Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone: (303) 866-3441

ROY ROMER, GOVERNOR



July 16, 1987

J. William McDonald
Director
David W. Walker
Deputy Director

Mr. John P. Byrne, Director
State Coordinating Officer
Colorado Department of Public Safety
Division of Disaster Emergency Services
Camp George West
Golden, Colorado 80401

Dear Mr. Byrne: *Fat*

I am pleased to transmit to you this Report on Governor's Emergency Funding 1987: Rio Grande Flooding Alamosa County and the Rio Grande Water Conservation District.

As you are aware, during the spring of 1987, the San Luis Valley was predicted to receive high flood waters. The Rio Grande peaked at 5,200 c.f.s. at Alamosa on May 16, 1987, the highest since 1949. An effort to divert flood water from the Rio Grande above the communities of Monte Vista and Alamosa, assisted through a grant from Governor Romer's Emergency Contingency Fund, was undertaken to rehabilitate irrigation drains. The cleaning of the irrigation drains successfully sent excess flood waters of the Rio Grande west to Lake San Luis.

This combined effort of Federal, State, local government, and private interests, if not undertaken, would have allowed the Rio Grande to outflank the levee system at Alamosa. A flood at Alamosa would have caused millions of dollars in public and private damages, loss of revenue and jobs during the flood recovery period at Alamosa and at a time of an already sagging economy in the San Luis Valley.

I appreciate the effort of you and your staff in coordinating the grant from Governor Romer's Emergency Fund.

Sincerely,

Bill McDonald
J. William Mc Donald
Director

JWM/

Enclosure: as stated

cc: Alamosa County

Rio Grande Water Conservation District
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Alamosa

4179E

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- B. Alamosa County Board of County Commissioners
Resolution No. G-19
- C. Governor Romer's Executive Order:
Proclamation of Disaster Emergency in Alamosa County
- D. Letter to Colorado Department of Safety
Regarding Governor's Executive Order
- E. Letter to Colorado Department of Safety:
State-Local Disaster Assistance Agreement
- F. An Act: Senate Bill No. 15

1.0 PURPOSE

During the Spring of 1987, the San Luis Valley was predicted to receive high flood waters. An effort to divert flood water from the Rio Grande above the communities of Monte Vista and Alamosa was undertaken by local government and private interests. This report will evaluate the use of irrigation ditches for flood control in the San Luis Valley.

2.0 REPORT AREA

The report area is comprised of both Alamosa and Rio Grande Counties in the San Luis Valley. The area is bounded on the west and north by the Continental Divide, on the east by the Sangre de Cristo Range, and on the south by the borders of Rio Grande and Alamosa Counties. The Valley floor is nearly flat, sloping from about four to ten feet to the mile. The northern part of the Valley lies within a closed basin with no surface drainage outlet. This basin is separated from the Rio Grande drainage by a low lying ridge several miles wide.

Over one third of the land in the study area is federally owned. It includes national forests, public domain, wildlife refuges and the Great Sand Dunes National Monument.

The frost-free season in the Valley ranges from about 90 to 115 days. Precipitation averages about seven inches a year. Generally, soils of the Valley are coarse textured next to the mountains and are a little finer textured toward the center of the Valley. They are underlain mostly with sand and gravel at depths of one to four feet. During good water years, appreciable acreage along the west side of the Valley is completely or partially subirrigated.

The main irrigated crops are alfalfa, potatoes, barley, oats, grass, hay, and pasture. Native hay or pasture on high water table areas are an important part of many farms and ranches. Crop yields are generally high and quality of adapted crops unusually good.

2.1 HISTORY

The settlement at San Luis, the oldest town in Colorado, led to the construction of ditches and the oldest court decree for irrigation (April 10, 1852) in Colorado. By 1900 some 1,800 miles of canals and ditches had been constructed. A large network of irrigation canals was built during 1880-1890 to irrigated lands in the eastern and central parts of the closed basin. By 1915 most of the area around Mosca and Hooper became waterlogged because of this irrigation.

Drainage systems constructed between 1911 and 1921 to reclaim waterlogged lands alleviated some of the problems but created

waterlogging in areas downgradient. Waterlogging in other areas is caused by subirrigation because the water table is intentionally raised to the plant root zone. The average annual delivery of irrigation water in the San Luis valley is about one million acre-feet to about 600,000 acres of land.

Development since 1900 has been confined to improvements in existing systems and installation of many irrigation wells, both artesian and pumped. Severe water shortages occur, particularly during the latter part of July and during August and September or after the snow melt season. For many years water users have attempted to solve this problem by storing water in the subsoil for use later. This process is becoming increasingly difficult due to installation of numerous pumps. The area north of the Rio Grande is a closed basin with no return of surface flow to the Rio Grande. The Bureau of Reclamation's Closed Basin Project will alleviate this condition when completed.

2.2 BACKGROUND

In past years the Valley irrigation ditches diverted as much as 3,500 cfs from the river's peak flows for the use of valley irrigators, which in turn resulted in a substantial flood control benefit to the Valley communities.

However, sources in the Valley determined that agricultural areas in the Valley were already fully saturated and consequently there was little or no demand for water to be diverted from the Rio Grande to the farmers' fields. The unprecedented series of high water years in the Rio Grande drainage had filled the reservoirs and restored ground water conditions to the highest levels in recent history. In fact, the farmers' fields had become so saturated that tractors frequently became mired.

A solution to the problem, favored by many of the interests in the Valley, was to embark upon an immediate program of repair and rehabilitation of the drainage systems leading east from the irrigated area into the Closed Basin Project sump. The required repairs to these drains was due to a history of dry years where irrigators were able to use all the water rights authorized to them. The original drains that emptied into San Luis Lake were not maintained, and in some cases were covered over. Before the beginning of the wet cycle San Luis Lake was dry.

The reconstruction of the drains would permit water currently saturating the fields to be drained into the sump land to the east which, in turn, would permit diversion of additional flows from the river. In addition, there would be an opportunity for flows diverted from the river to be delivered to the Closed Basin sump.

3.0 ACTIONS TAKEN

3.1 COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD (CWCB)

Early in May 1987, the CWCB Flood Section informed State and local officials of the high snow content and the possibility of flooding in the San Luis Valley. Snow course readings in the upper Rio Grande Basin indicated 200 percent of normal. This above normal condition suggested flows of the Rio Grande exceeding the channel capacity through several of the communities below the Town of Del Norte. Determination of this condition was made through use of flood prediction models such as the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) Snow-Tell and the Colorado Division of Water Resources satellite-linked water resources monitoring system.

Although the Phase I levee construction in Alamosa had been completed, it could only offer partial protection during this crisis. All sections of the levee must be completed, and Phases II, III and IV will not be finished until some time in 1990.

During a May 1987 Flood Awareness meeting in Alamosa, officials from the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, the San Luis Valley Canal Company, the San Luis Valley Irrigation District and the Rio Grande Dam owners contacted the CWCB concerning cleaning the irrigation ditches. The Colorado Division of Wildlife attended the initial meeting and expressed water quality concerns with releasing flood water into San Luis lake.

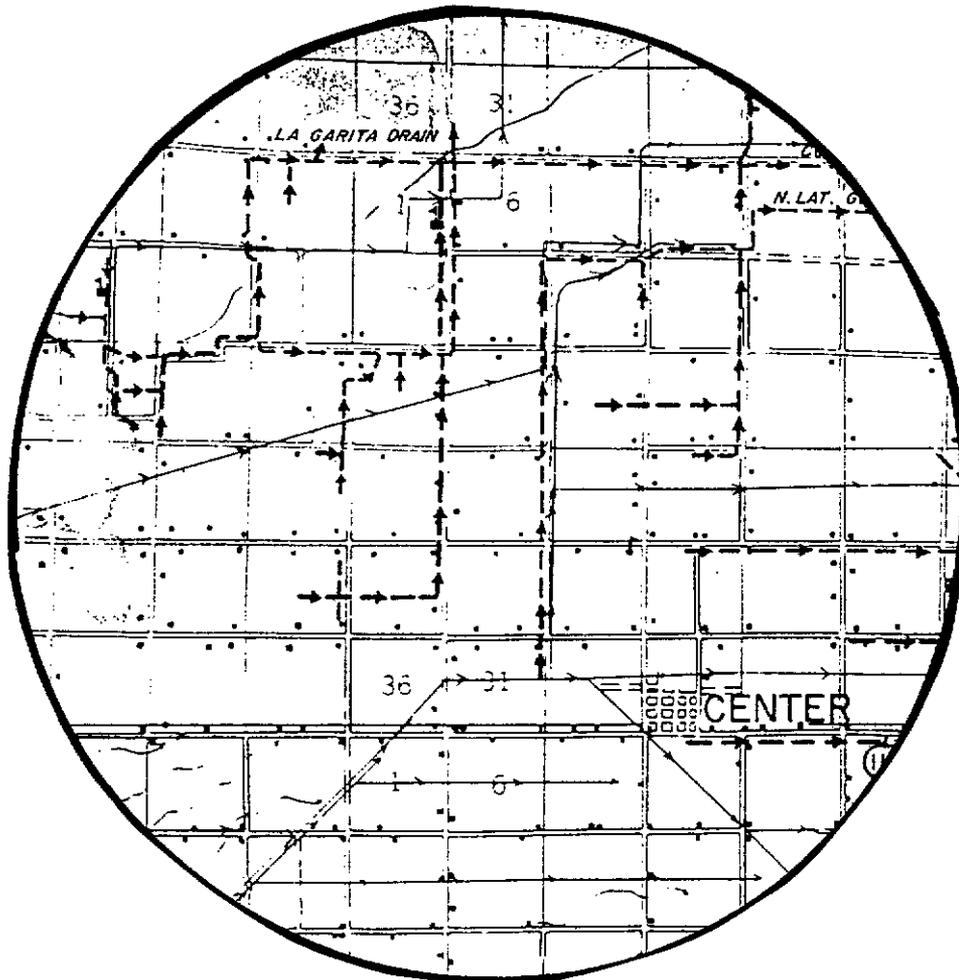
3.2 PRIVATE DITCH OWNERS

During the month of May 1987, private interests in the Valley spent in excess of \$25,000 in an attempt to rehabilitate the drainage systems near the Town of Center. One farmer in the area has reported fields that are now draining are being planted with alfalfa successfully. Previous attempts by the farmers to plant in these areas was impossible due to the machinery getting stuck in the fields from a high ground water table.

In addition to creating a potential benefit for the immediate flood threat, the use of the private money to rehabilitate the drainage systems will permit the continued drainage of the croplands so that in future years the irrigation ditches will be in a better position to take a full head of water during the high water season.

3.3 RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Rio Grande Water Conservation District allocated almost one-tenth (\$15,000) of its current budget in an attempt to rehabilitate the irrigation drainage systems. On May 8, 1987,



THE DARKENED LINES REPRESENT IRRIGATION DRAINS
 OPENED BY PRIVATE INTERESTS NEAR THE TOWN OF CENTER.
 FARMERS SPENT \$25,000 TO DRAIN THEIR WATER LOGGED FIELDS.

Figure 2. La Garita Drain (near Town of Center)

the Rio Grande Water Conservation District in coordination with the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) requested emergency assistance from the Division of Disaster Emergency Services (DODES). The assistance request was in the form of a \$25,000 grant request to continue a team of back hoes and men working long hours in advance of an approaching flood peak.

The CWCB then coordinated the District's efforts in obtaining funding through the Division of Disaster Emergency Services and the Governor's Emergency Fund. As a follow-up to the emergency program to resolve drainage problems in the San Luis Valley the State has authorized a loan of \$250,000 to the Rio Grande Water Conservation District. These funds should be adequate for the District to complete the repair and rehabilitation of the drains in the Valley so that the farmers will not have to be worried about high water tables and the towns in the valley will continue to receive flood protection benefits by diverting peak flows into these drainage ditches.

3.4 COLORADO DIVISION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY SERVICES (DODES)

On 11 May DODES received a request on behalf of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District for State financial assistance to sustain efforts underway to repair and rehabilitate irrigation drainage systems leading east from the irrigated areas into the Closed Basin (Exhibit A). Commissioner Pat Herrera of Alamosa County contacted the Division Director of DODES to support the District's request for financial assistance. Commissioner Herrera stated that the Alamosa Board of Commissioners would declare a state of emergency that date (Exhibit B). DODES then advised Governor Romer to declare a State of Emergency based on the imminent threat of flooding along the Rio Grande.

On June 4, 1987, Governor Romer declared a State of Emergency for Alamosa County based on the imminent threat of flooding on the Rio Grande River and authorized \$25,000 in State assistance to permit the continuation of work by the irrigation district with coordination of all funds through Alamosa County (Exhibits C, D, E).

The Governor's Emergency Declaration authorized \$25,000 in State assistance to permit the continuation of work on the outflow channels with Alamosa County acting as the sponsoring agency.

3.5 REOPENING OF IRRIGATION DITCHES; FLOOD CONTROL ACHIEVED

The cleaning of the ditches by the District and others continued until the Rio Grande reached its final peak flow on June 16, 1987. By this time over 20 miles of irrigation drains had been reopened. Peak flows at Alamosa were 5,200 on May 16 and 5,150

on June 16. It has been estimated that if the irrigators had not taken water through the ditches, the peak flows at Alamosa would have been in excess of 6,500 cfs. A 6,500 cfs flood peak at Alamosa would have outflanked the levee system and caused millions of dollars worth of damage plus loss of revenue and jobs during the period of recovery. The use of irrigation ditches in the San Luis Valley is a valuable asset in flood control benefit to the Valley communities.

3.6 DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES (OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER)

The Alamosa Office of the Division of Water Resources has provided valuable support in assisting ditch companies in times of flood to alleviate all possible damage to structures in the San Luis Valley. This office has played a lead role in community involvement during times of flood emergency in the Alamosa area.

An important link in the overall flood forecasting for Alamosa City and County is the Colorado satellite-linked water resources monitoring system.

This system has enabled local and state government real-time water resources data on a continuous basis from key gaging stations across the State of Colorado. The computerized system can be accessed by computer terminal from any location via phone communications. These data and appropriate applications software provide for more effective water rights administration, computerized hydrologic records development, flood warning, and water resources management.

3.7 U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

The Bureau of Reclamation reported their agency assisted the City of Alamosa by providing a high volume pump with a tractor to pump down the wet wells during the high water of 1987. The Bureau also assisted the Rio Grande Water Conservation District in cleaning out a section of drain ditches near the Closed Basin Project. The purpose of their assistance was twofold:

1. To assist in the flood fight endeavors of the irrigators to release excess irrigation water to lakes east of Alamosa;
2. Self-preservation, as the irrigators' water moving to the east near the Closed Basin Project was endangering the Bureau's salvage wells.

The Bureau sent three employees, an excavator hoe, a front end loader, and a Cat grader to assist in opening drain laterals from Highway 17 to Bachelor lake near the Closed Basin Project. This process successfully enabled the Bureau to relieve a salvage well associated with its project.

These intergovernmental relations between the Bureau of Reclamation, Alamosa City and County, the Rio Grande Conservation District and the irrigators have spared the residents of Alamosa another year of flooding by shaving flood water normally used for irrigation from the peak flows of 1987 and sending the water to San Luis Lake east of Alamosa.

4.0 FUTURE ACTIONS

The Rio Grande Water Conservation District requested the Colorado Legislature through Senate Bill No. 15 for authorization of the Colorado Water Conservation Board to loan \$250,000 to enable the further cleaning of ditches and drains, which was approved by the Senate during the first legislative session (Exhibit VI). However, a provision is in effect that moneys for this project shall not be made available by the Board until the Board has, in its sole discretion, determined that the project is technically and financially feasible.

Davis Engineering, Del Norte, Colorado is mapping the area, recording the ditches cleaned, and the amount of work yet to be done, including cost estimates. This information will be included in a report for use in establishing a Plan of Action.

The District, in association with the Town of Center Soil Conservation District, is conducting a series of meetings with private ditch owners to determine if sub-districts should be set up in order to perform routine maintenance to the cleaned ditches. Maintenance agreements with private ditch owners and districts will be set up to mitigate future problems and also to ensure this year's condition will not appear again.

One factor under consideration now by the District is using the loan money to clean out more ditches. There is some question as to whether or not the farmers can really afford to pay it back through assessments in the future.

Following the completion of the Davis Engineering report and the regional meeting conducted by the District with ditch owners, a decision on how to proceed with future actions will be made.

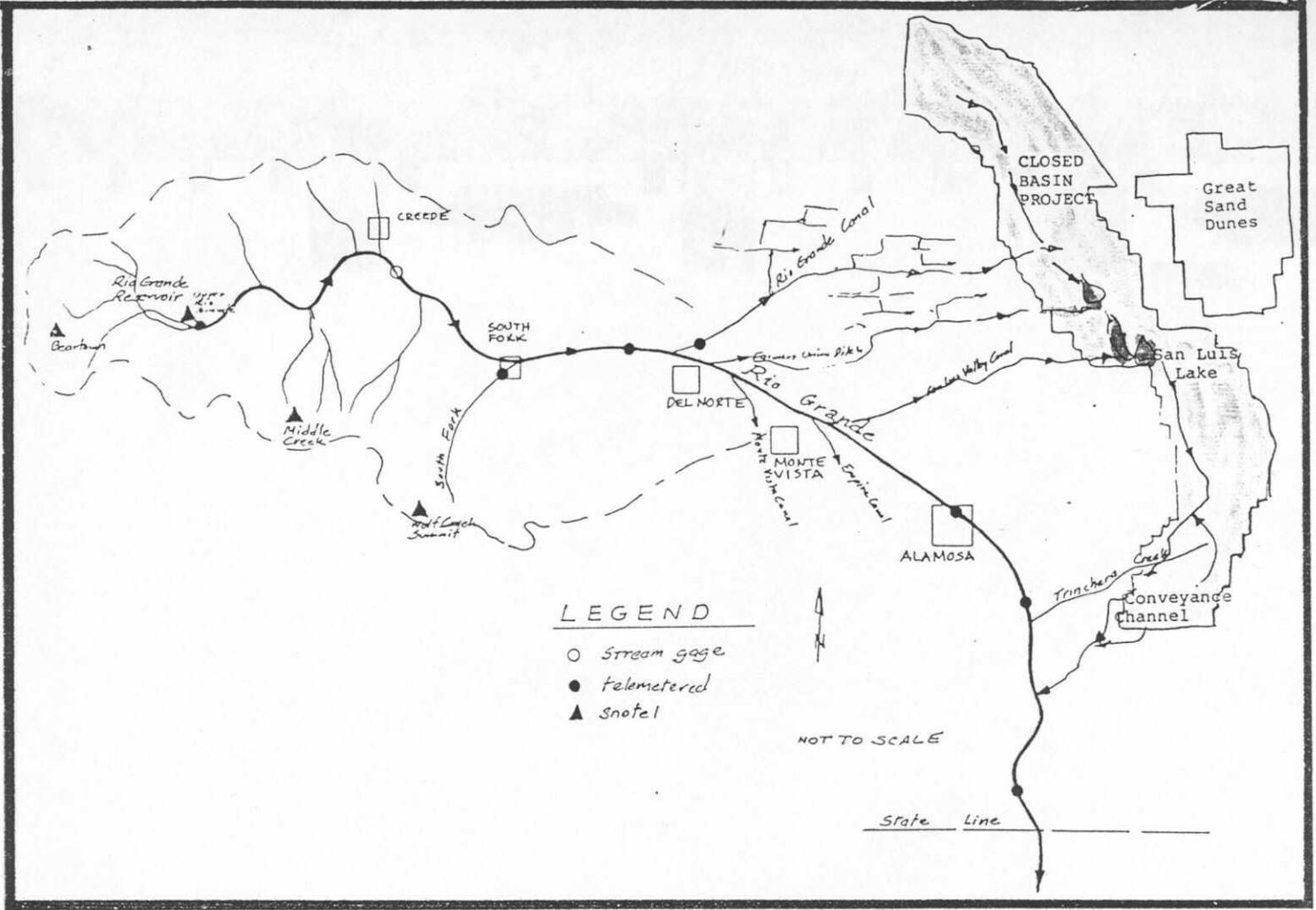


Figure 1. Rio Grande Basin

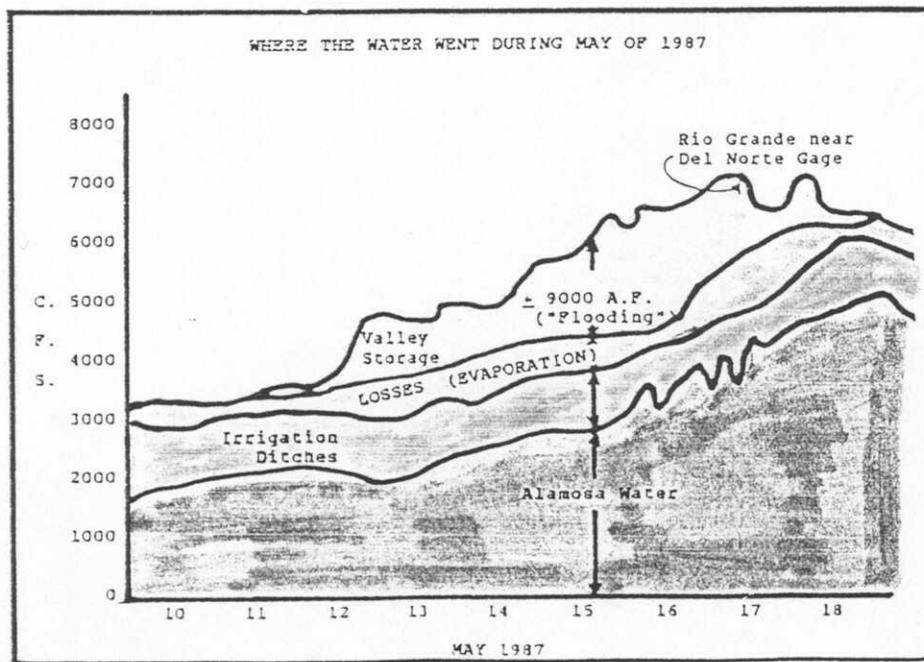
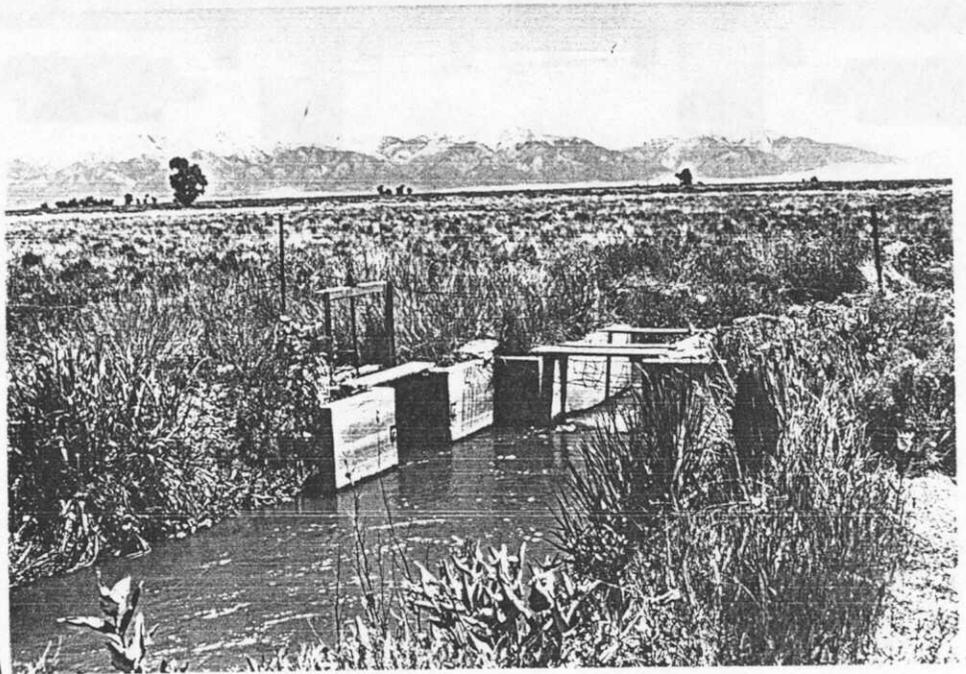


Figure 2. Where the Water Went During May of 1987

JUNE 1987

SYLVESTER DRAIN HEAD-
GATES AT LATERAL 47,
1-1/2 MILES NORTHWEST
OF HOOPER.



Photograph 1.

JUNE 1987

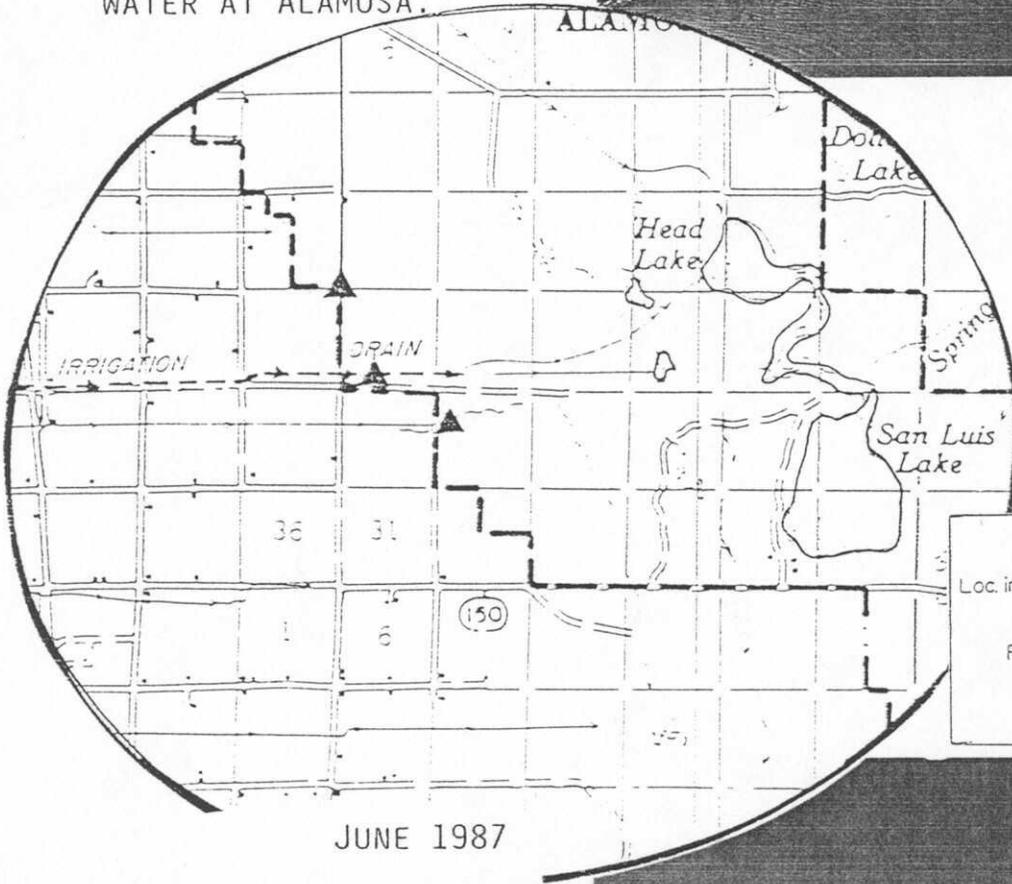
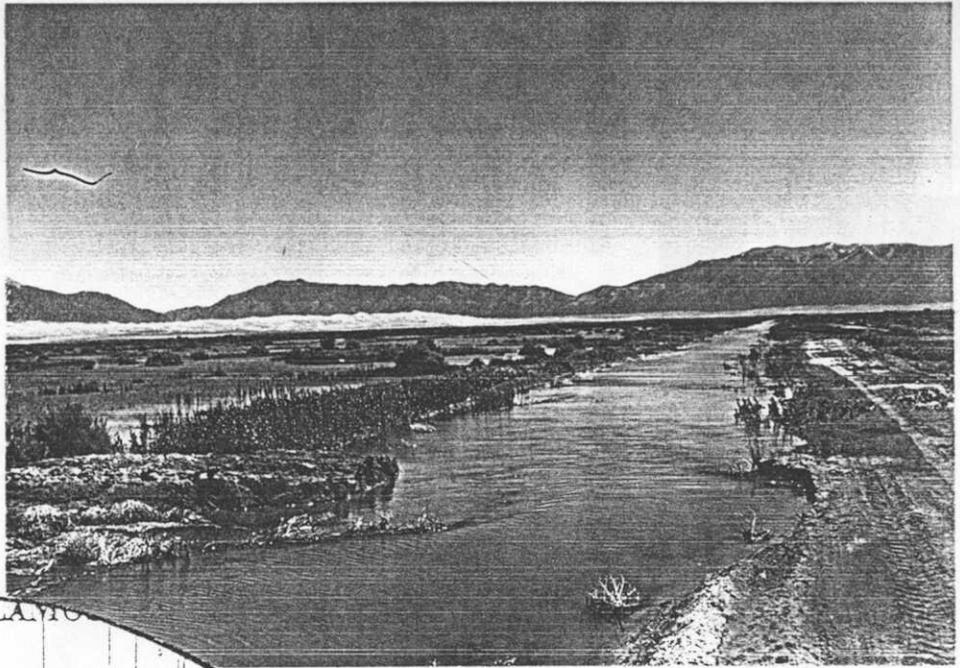
SYLVESTER DRAIN ENTERS
LATERAL 47 WHERE RIO
GRANDE WATER CONSERVA-
TION DISTRICT CREWS
CLEANED OUT DITCHES
USING GOVERNOR'S EMER-
GENCY FUNDS.



Photograph 2.

JUNE 1987

LOOKING EAST ALONG THE SAN LUIS VALLEY IRRIGATION DRAIN AT SAN LUIS LAKE NEAR GREAT SAND DUNES. THIS SECTION WAS OPENED UP BY U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION IN A COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO PREVENT HIGH WATER AT ALAMOSA.



Photographs 3. (top) and 4. (bottom)

Map of
DRAINS IN THE CENTER AREA
 Loc. in Saguache, Rio Grande & Alamosa Counties, Colorado
 Prepared May 1987
 For
RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 By
 DAVIS ENGINEERING SERVICE, INC.
 576 Spruce Street
 Del Norte, Colorado 81132

6/22/87
 REV. 6/3/87

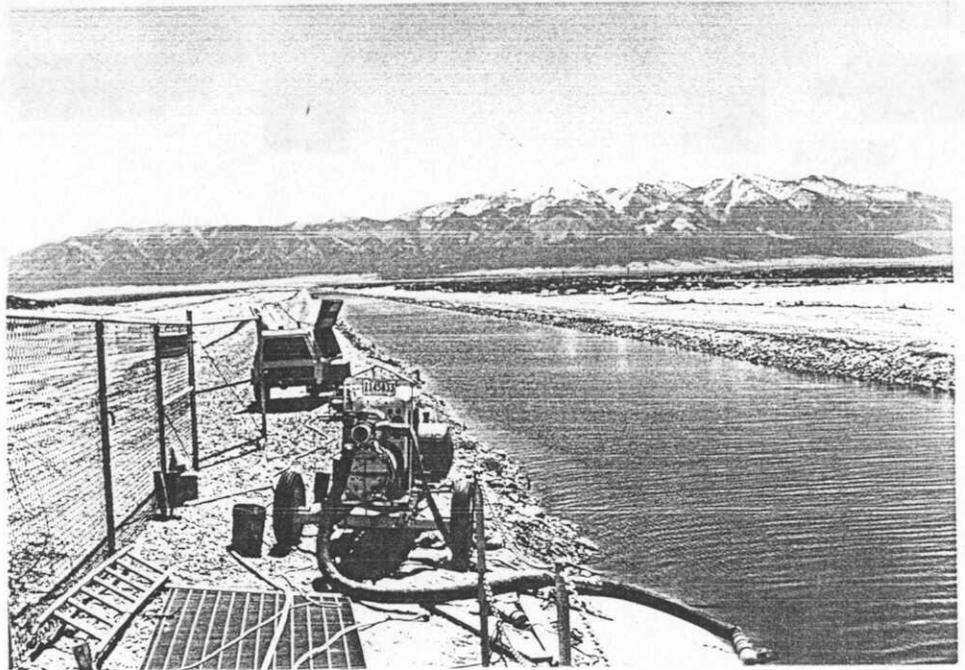
JUNE 1987

LOOKING EAST ALONG THE SAN LUIS VALLEY IRRIGATION DRAIN, ONE MILE EAST OF HWY 17. THREE MILES OF DRAIN WERE OPENED UP TO RELIEVE FLOOD WATERS, USING GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY FUNDS.



JUNE 1987

PHOTO LOOKING EAST AT
SAN LUIS LAKE ALONG
U.S BUREAU OF RECLAMA-
TION'S "CLOSED BASIN
PROJECT".



Photograph 5.

JUNE 1987

CONSTRUCTION OF PUMPING
FACILITY AT SAN LUIS
LAKE BY U.S. BUREAU OF
RECLAMATION CONTRACTORS.



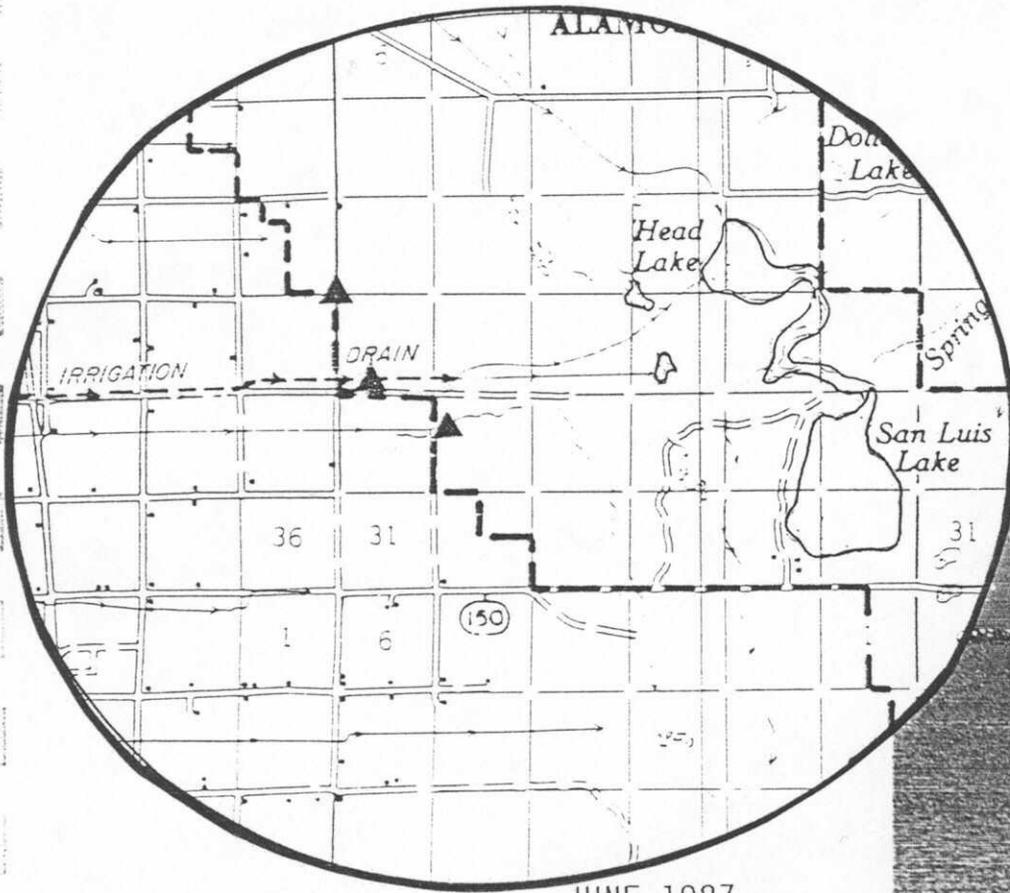
Photograph 6.

JUNE 1987

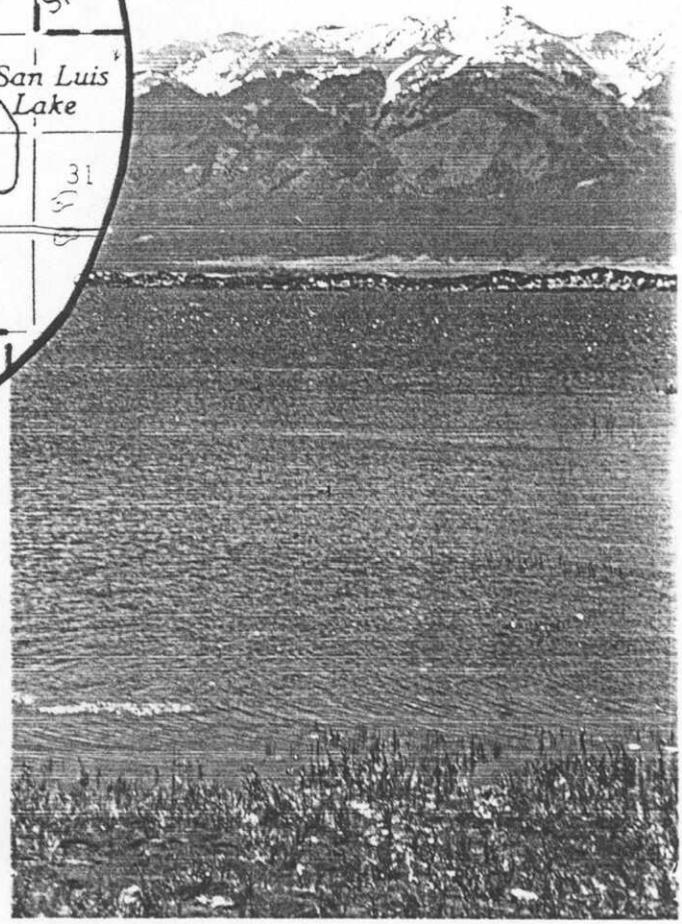
RALPH CURTIS, MANAGER OF RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, STANDING ON INFLOW PIPE DELIVERING SAN LUIS VALLEY IRRIGATION WATER INTO SAN LUIS LAKE.



Photograph 7.



Photograph 8.



JUNE 1987

SAN LUIS LAKE NEAR ALAMOSA RECHARGING LAKE WITH EXCESS FLOOD WATER OF JUNE 1987.

NEW DUCK HABITAT IS APPEARING AT PREVIOUSLY DRY LAKE.

JUNE 1987

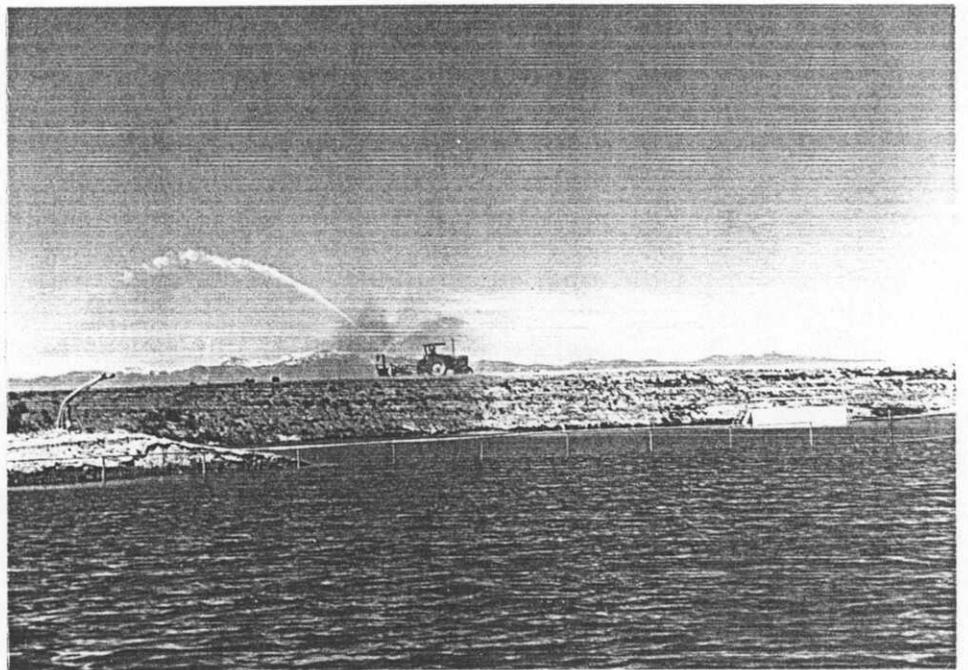
OUTLET WORKS OVERFLOW,
U.S. BUREAU OF RECLA-
MATION "CLOSED BASIN
PROJECT" AT SAN LUIS
LAKE.



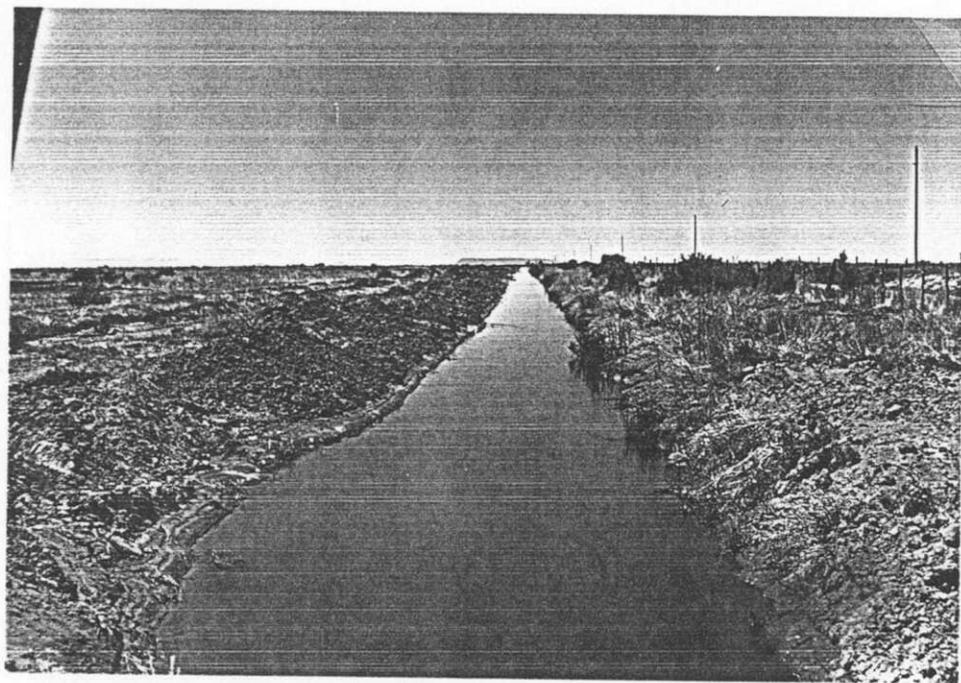
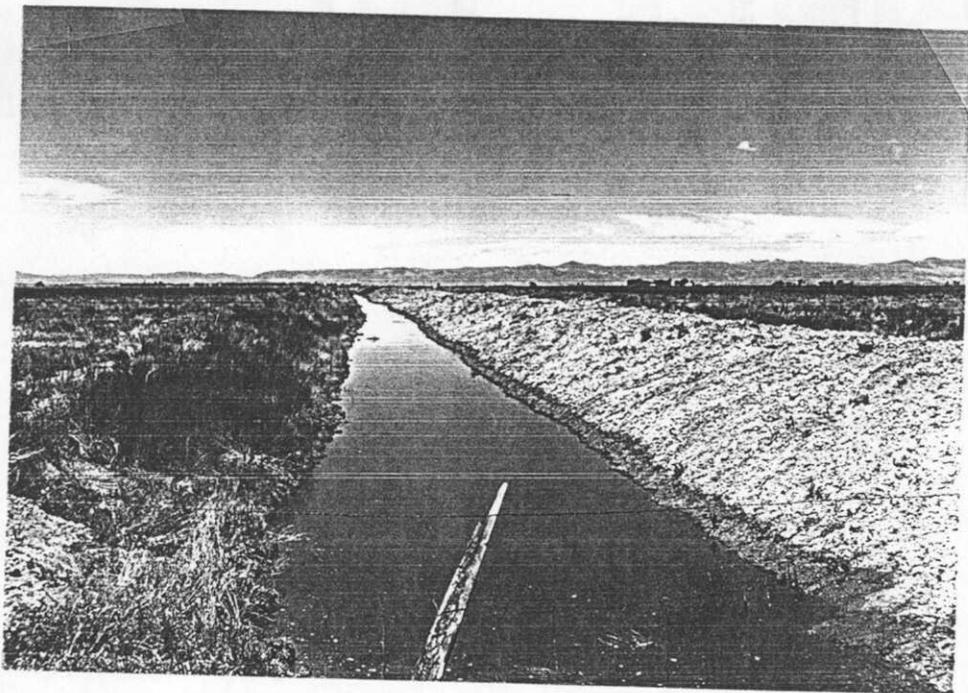
Photograph 9.

JUNE 1987

SYPHON AT SAN LUIS
LAKE, U. S. BUREAU OF
RECLAMATION PROJECT.



Photograph 10.

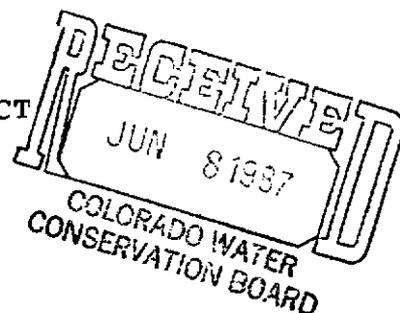


EXHIBITS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION

POTENTIAL FLOOD EMERGENCY -
SAN LUIS VALLEY - 1987



WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District met in Alamosa, Colorado, on April 21, 1987, in regular session, and again on May 4, 1987, in special session, at which times a quorum was present; and

WHEREAS, the Board is responsible for the direction and management of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board is, among other powers, responsible for determining the best manner of utilizing the water resources of the District; and

WHEREAS, in the conduct of its specific duties, the Board has reviewed hydrologic information which establishes that there is a strong likelihood that the communities of Del Norte, Monte Vista, and Alamosa, together with the buildings and crop lands lying between them, will be threatened by flooding this year from the Rio Grande; and

WHEREAS, the facts which have led to this conclusion include the following:

1. The snowpack on portions of the Rio Grande watershed exceeds 200% of normal;
2. This is the third year of unusually high precipitation and runoff in the Rio Grande drainage;
3. All currently available reservoirs are full;
4. The soil conditions in the irrigated portion of the San Luis Valley are already saturated and additional irrigation will lead to loss of crop production which will limit the ability of the irrigation ditches to divert water during high runoff; and
5. The Rio Grande Reservoir is undergoing extensive repair and rehabilitation and is capable of performing only limited flood control operations; and

WHEREAS, any period of extended warm weather or rain will result in river flows above the capacity of the river channel; and

WHEREAS, various irrigation districts and ditch companies, as well as individual farmers, have spent thousands of dollars to try and drain the excess water away from their fields; and

WHEREAS, in order to assist the direct flow ditches diverting from the Rio Grande in rehabilitating drainage systems to allow water to be drained away from the crop lands toward the Closed Basin Project, the Board has allocated \$15,000.00 from District revenues to assist in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the drainage systems; and

WHEREAS, the 1987 Colorado General Assembly, in Senate Bill 15, has authorized the Colorado Water Conservation Board to loan the District additional funds for drain rehabilitation and repair up to \$250,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Board has requested a grant of \$50,000.00 from the State of Colorado Division of Disaster Emergency Services to be used for drainage repairs in the hope of increasing the quantity of diversions which the direct flow ditches can make from the river; and

WHEREAS, at the Board's request, the United States Bureau of Reclamation is making men and equipment available to assist in the drain rehabilitation efforts; and

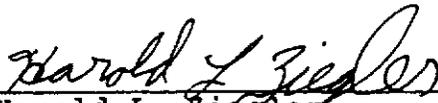
WHEREAS, the Colorado Revised Statutes, §24-35.5-701, et seq., provide for the Governor to declare a disaster emergency when there is imminent threat of widespread damage or loss of life or property resulting from floods; and

WHEREAS, the Board has taken every action within its power to plan for and seek to prevent or reduce the potential for flooding; and

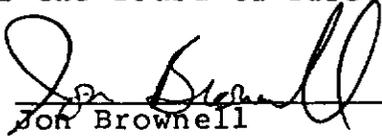
WHEREAS, the potential for loss of life and property remains so high that the Board feels it must go on record as recommending that the Governor favorably consider a request for a determination that a disaster emergency, caused by the imminent threat of flooding, exists, if such a request is made by the duly elected public officials of the San Luis Valley.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT that the Board, after reviewing the facts currently available, believes that there is a strong likelihood that flooding will occur along the Rio Grande this year and recommends that the Governor favorably consider a request for a declaration of disaster emergency covering the affected land, if one is received from the duly elected public officials of the San Luis Valley.

DATED the 27th day of may, 1987, nunc pro
tunc to the quarterly meeting of the Board held in Alamosa,
Colorado, by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.



Harold L. Ziegler
President



Jon Brownell
Secretary

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALAMOSA COUNTY

Resolution No. G-19

Re: Resolution requesting the Governor to exercise emergency disaster powers in connection with the flood of the Rio Grande River of May 15, 1987.

Commissioner Amaya moved for the adoption of the following Resolution.

Commissioner Herrera seconded the motion.

Commissioner Zimmerman was absent.

WHEREAS, an emergency now exists in Alamosa County; and

WHEREAS, Alamosa County is expected to suffer serious damage and injury to its citizens and its property; and

WHEREAS, a disaster appears to be imminent; and

WHEREAS, this emergency and imminent disaster have been caused by excessive snowpack run-off and consistently high temperatures over a very short period of time; and

WHEREAS, the cost of restoring public safety and welfare may be beyond the capability of this County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Alamosa County, hereby declares an emergency to exist, with imminent threat of disaster, and

The Board of County Commissioners of the County of Alamosa hereby requests the Governor of the State of Colorado to declare, by executive order of proclamation, a disaster emergency in the area affected by the flood of the Rio Grande River of May 15, 1987, which areas include the following described property:

Township 39 North, Range 9 East, N.M.P.M.
Sections: 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36.

Township 38 North, Range 9 East, N.M.P.M.
Sections: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23,
24, 25, 26, and 27.

Township 38 North, Range 10 East, N.M.P.M.
Sections: 7, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 28, 29,
30, 31, 31, 33, 34, and 35.

Township 37 North, Range 10 East, N.M.P.M.
Sections: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20,
21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31,
32, 33, 34, 35, and 36.

Township 37 North, Range 11 East, N.M.P.M.
Sections: 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21,
22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34.

Township 36 North, Range 11 East, N.M.P.M.
Sections: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16,
17, and 18.

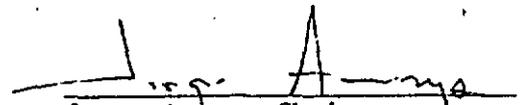
Township 36 North, Range 10 East, N.M.P.M.
Sections: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18.

The Board of County Commissioners further requests the Governor to exercise all of the powers conferred in his office pursuant to the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act of 1973, and in particular, pursuant to law, permit the use of private property by officials of the State of Colorado, by the officials of Alamosa County as a political subdivision of the State of Colorado, or by the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration for the following purposes:

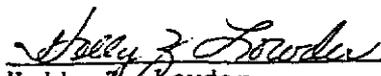
1. Restoration of access to stricken areas.
2. Clean-up and removal of flood deposited debris.
3. Elimination and removal of conditions found to be a public health and safety hazard.
5. To take any other action to protect the health, safety and welfare of the people and property of this County.

The above Resolution passed unanimously by the Board of County Commissioners, this 18th day of May, 1987.

Board of Alamosa County
Commissioners


Jorge Amaya, Chairman

ATTEST:


Holly A. Powder,
Clerk of the Board

STATE OF COLORADO

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
 136 State Capitol
 Denver, Colorado 80203-1792
 Phone (303) 866-2471



Roy Romer
 Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER

PROCLAMATION

DECLARING A DISASTER EMERGENCY IN ALAMOSA COUNTY

WHEREAS, spring snowmelt has cause an imminent threat of flooding conditions to exist in Alamosa County in the State of Colorado; and

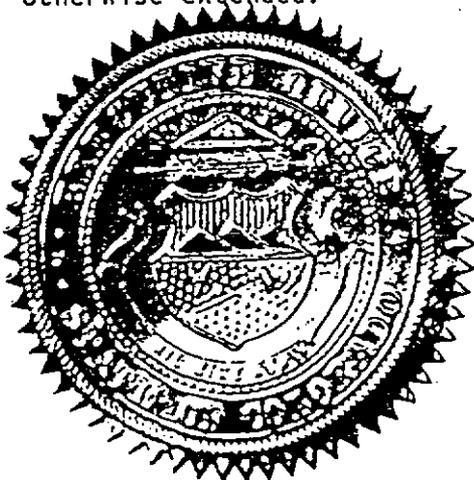
WHEREAS, efforts are underway to allow diversion of potential floodwaters into an unpopulated and undeveloped area called the "Closed Basin Project Area of the San Luis Valley"; and

WHEREAS, these efforts can no longer be sustained because of a lack of local funds; and

WHEREAS, immediate assistance is required to enable these mitigative efforts to continue in order to reduce the potential loss of property and to protect the public health and safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Roy Romer, Governor of the State of Colorado, under the powers vested in me under Section 24-33.5 - 704 of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act of 1973, DO HEREBY DECLARE that a state of emergency exists in Alamosa County for the reasons set forth above, and that the aforementioned areas within the state are entitled to aid pursuant to the provisions of the Disaster Emergency Act of 1973.

This Executive Order shall expire after thirty (30) days, unless otherwise extended.



Given under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado this 4th day of June, 1987

Roy Romer
 Governor

dps

COLORADO
DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY

5 June 1987

John P. Byrne, Director
Division of Disaster
Emergency Services

Mr. Jorge Amaya, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
Alamosa County
P.O. Box 178
Alamosa, Colorado 81101

Dear Commissioner Amaya:

In response to Alamosa County's request for State Emergency Financial Assistance to support the flood emergency work of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, the Governor on June 4, 1987, issued an executive order declaring Alamosa County a State Disaster area and authorizing State Financial Aid.

The Governor has directed my Division to provide this assistance. The amount of financial aid authorized is both limited (\$25,000) and provided under certain specific conditions as covered in the attached State-Local Agreement. If Alamosa County on behalf of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District and itself are interested in pursuing this assistance, the original copy of the State-Local Agreement should be signed by yourself, dated and authenticated by the county clerk, and then returned to me for our files. Since the Agreement is straight forward and there is only one transaction involved, I assume either the County Administrator or the County Finance officer will serve as your agent for this activity. Mr. Len Boulas, assisted by Mr. Jack Truby (DODES planner), will act as the State's point of contact for this assistance. Because the emergency work performed by the Conservation District was infact of a mitigative nature, the normal mitigation report requirements associated with State Disaster Emergency Financial Assistance has been waived. As soon

Roy Romer
GOVERNOR

David J. Thomas
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Colorado State
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Colorado Bureau
of Investigation

Colorado Law
Enforcement
Training Academy

Division of
Criminal Justice

Division of Disaster
Emergency Services

Division of
Fire Safety

Camp George West
Golden, Colorado 80401
(303) 277-0854

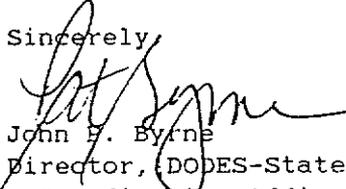


Mr. Jorge Amaya, Chairman
5 June 1987
Page 2

as the State-Local Agreement is signed by the County and the conditions therein met by the County, the State will issue a warrant to Alamosa County in the amount of the assistance to be provided.

Should you or your staff have any questions concerning this matter, please refer them to Mr. Len Boulas Tel #273-1825.

Sincerely,


John E. Byrne
Director, DODES-State
Coordinating Officer

Enclosures: State Local Disaster Assistance Agreement

cc: Emergency Preparedness Coordinator - Alamosa County
Cindy Parmeter - Office of the Governor
Don Burton - Office of State Planning/Budgeting
Lieutenant Bob Copley CSP - Alamosa
Larry Lang - Colorado Water Conservation Board
Charlie Unseld - Division of Local Government
Ralph G. Curtis Jr. - General Manager - Rio Grande
Water Conservation District

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dps

COLORADO
DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY

5 June 1987

John P. Byrne, Director
Division of Disaster
Emergency Services

Mr. Jorge Amaya, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
Alamosa County
P.O. Box 178
Alamosa, Colorado 81101

SUBJECT: State-Local Disaster Assistance
Agreement, DODES-DR-111

Dear Commissioner Amaya:

1. This letter is the State-Local Disaster Assistance Agreement for State Disaster Emergency Declaration No. DODES-DR-111 under Title 24 Article 33.5, CRS as amended
2. On June 4, 1987, the Governor determined that an imminent threat of flooding existed along the Rio Grande River and that a state of emergency existed in Alamosa County due to this flood threat. On going emergency work efforts of all jurisdictions in the San Luis Valley were committed to mitigating the impacts of this potential flood threat. Included among these efforts was that of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District directed toward providing for the diversion of additional flows from the main stream of the Rio Grande River. State Disaster Emergency Financial Aid was requested by the District through the county to continue the emergency work started since funding support was exhausted. It was indicated in the District's request which was supported by Alamosa County, that the District intended to pursue a more permanent mitigation program tied to this emergency work activity once the flood threat for this year receded.
3. Based on the facts provided by the District and Alamosa County, the Governor issued an executive order on 4 June 1987, declaring a State of Disaster - Emergency to exist in Alamosa County and authorized State disaster emergency financial assistance to be provided in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, as supplemental assistance to continue the emergency work being performed by the Rio Grande Water Conservation District.

Roy Romer
GOVERNOR

David J. Thomas
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Fire Safety

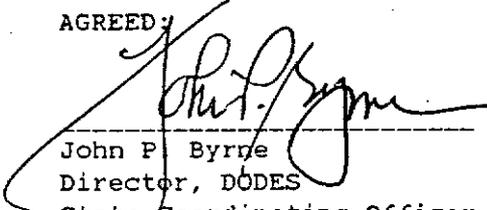
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Golden, Colorado 80401
(303) 277-0854



Mr. Jorge Amaya, Chairman
5 June 1987
Page 2

4. This assistance will be provided through Alamosa County and will be based on actual expenses incurred and paid for by the Conservation District in carrying out emergency work as indicated in the request for State assistance.
5. Such emergency work is to have taken place during the incident period which is defined as the period 1 May - 1 June 1987.
6. State assistance extended under Title 24 Article 33.5, CRS as amended and this agreement shall be limited to those areas of the State within which the Rio Grande Water Conservation District has responsibilities.
7. The County will insure the District has established and maintains an active program under this agreement of nondiscrimination in any contractual arrangements it enters into to perform emergency work covered by this Agreement.
8. Local official to act as agent for the county in all matters covered by this agreement is listed in the attached assurances/exhibits hereto and made a part thereof.

AGREED:


John P. Byrne
Director, DODES
State Coordinating Officer

DATE

5 June 1987


Jorge Amaya, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
Alamosa County

DATE

6/30/87

ATTEST


Clerk of the Board

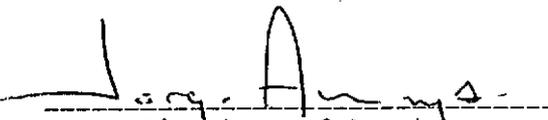
LB/aj
LB69

ASSURANCES

1. The State will upon receipt of the signed State-Local Agreement advance to the County the full amount of the State assistance to be provided (\$25,000).
2. The County will in turn based on billings supported by necessary documentation (invoices, contracts, time sheets and etc), provided by the Rio Grande Water Conservation District reimburse the district for actual eligible expenses incurred during the authorized incident period in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.
3. The County and the District agree to maintain the original documentation concerning this assistance for a period of not less than three (3) years from the date of the Agreement. Such documentation to be made available at a location designated by the county for audit purposes, should an audit be required.
4. The County once all disbursements have been made to the District shall provide to the State a copy of the disbursement warrant, along with a summary of documentation supporting this disbursement and a letter of transmittal indicating all activities relayed to this assistance have been completed by the county.
5. Any State funds not disbursed to the Rio Grande Water Conservation District under the terms of this agreement will be returned by the County to the State.
6. The County shall perform such reviews as are necessary to verify accomplishment of approved work, and may call upon the State to assist in these reviews.

CERTIFICATION

Alamosa County hereby certifies that Marlin E. Luther is designated as the County's agent empowered to represent the County in all matters pertaining to the provision of State financial assistance; further that this agent is empowered to execute on behalf of the County all documents necessary to facilitate the rendering of such assistance.



Signature of Agent
Jorge Amaya, Chairman

An Act

SENATE BILL NO. 15.

BY SENATORS Bishop, DeNier, Gallagher, McCauley, McCormick, P. Powers, R. Powers, Rizzuto, and Wattenberg; also REPRESENTATIVES McInnis, Armstrong, Berger, Carpenter, Chlouber, Dambman, Encz, Neale, Norton, Romero, and Ulvang.

CONCERNING PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD CONSTRUCTION FUND, AND RELATING TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Project authorizations. (1) Pursuant to section 37-60-122 (1) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, the Colorado water conservation board is hereby authorized to loan moneys to enable the construction of the following water resources projects:

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Board Cost</u>	<u>Repayment Period (Years)</u>	<u>Total Repayment</u>
✓ 12	Rio Grande Ditches & Drains*	250,000	40	582,800

* The moneys for this project shall not be made available by the board until the board has, in its sole discretion, determined that the project is technically and financially feasible.