

ARKANSAS VALLEY CONDUIT COMMITTEE MEETING
AVC Update
Presentation Report

Date: July 7, 2022

Agenda Item: VI.A.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Information

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

Information

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION AND/OR ACTIVITY:

The Arkansas Valley Conduit (AVC) Committee has not met with participants as a group since 2018, when the Enterprise began revising the AVC Project. Some Board members and staff have met individually or in small groups with the participants, and with counties in which participants operate water systems.

ISSUE SUMMARY DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of the July 7 meeting is to update the participants on the progress of the AVC, and to allow participants to ask questions about the AVC Project.

Based on some questions from some of the participants, staff understands that a broader presentation of the AVC is needed in order to remind participants that this is a complicated, collective effort that has been a long time in the making, rather than just a bill in the mail box.

The presentation will include:

- SECWCD History – Why the District was formed, what it provides.
- Fry-Ark History – The scope and purpose of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project.
- Fry-Ark Operations – How the Project operates.
- Storage for AVC – Project and Excess Capacity storage options for AVC participants.
- AVC Construction Plan – How the AVC will be built, presented in a county-by-county format that will be easy to understand.

July 7, 2022

- Local Consolidation – Areas of the AVC that have been identified as places where consolidation makes sense and can save money.
- Three-Party Contract – The purpose for the contract among Reclamation, SECWCD and Pueblo Water to save time and money for AVC.
- Repayment Contract – What participants ultimately will pay as a proportion of AVC.
- Financial Benefits – The potential financial benefits of the AVC to communities.
- Water Quality Benefits – The solution to persistent water quality issues that have haunted the Arkansas Valley for years.
- Construction Schedule – How soon we are planning to build AVC and the potential for an expedited plan that will get it done more quickly.
- Governance Structure – The development of a governance structure that will provide answers to some of the unknowable questions of how AVC will function.

Following the presentation, staff will field questions from participants about the AVC.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Information

ATTACHMENTS:

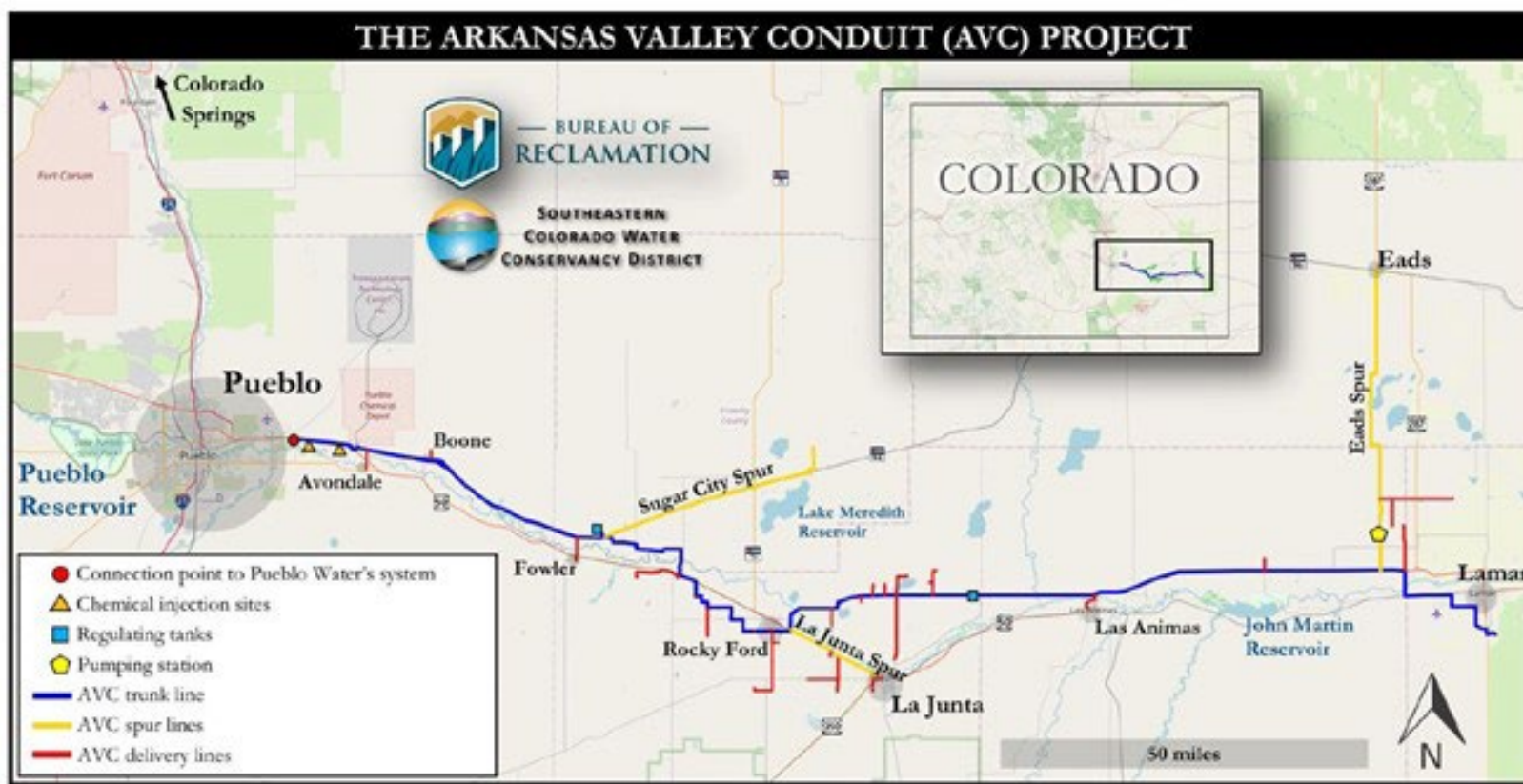
Attachment 1: Arkansas Valley Conduit: Construction Plan & AVC Project Update
(Draft, not for distribution)

Arkansas Valley Conduit

Construction Plan &
AVC Project Update

2022





AVC Overview

AVC water is stored in Pueblo Reservoir. Pueblo Water treats and delivers the water. Reclamation is building a 130-mile trunk line from Pueblo to Lamar. SECWCD is building the spur and delivery lines.

- SECWCD History
- Fry-Ark History
- Fry-Ark Operations
- Storage for AVC
- AVC Construction Plan
- Local Consolidation
- Three-Party Contract
- Repayment Contract
- Financial Benefits
- Water Quality Benefits
- Construction Schedule
- Governance Structure

What is the AVC?

The drinking water lifeline will serve 50,000 people on 39 water systems east of Pueblo. The AVC is needed because water sources in the Arkansas Valley are unreliable, unsustainable, and/or of poor quality requiring advanced treatment.

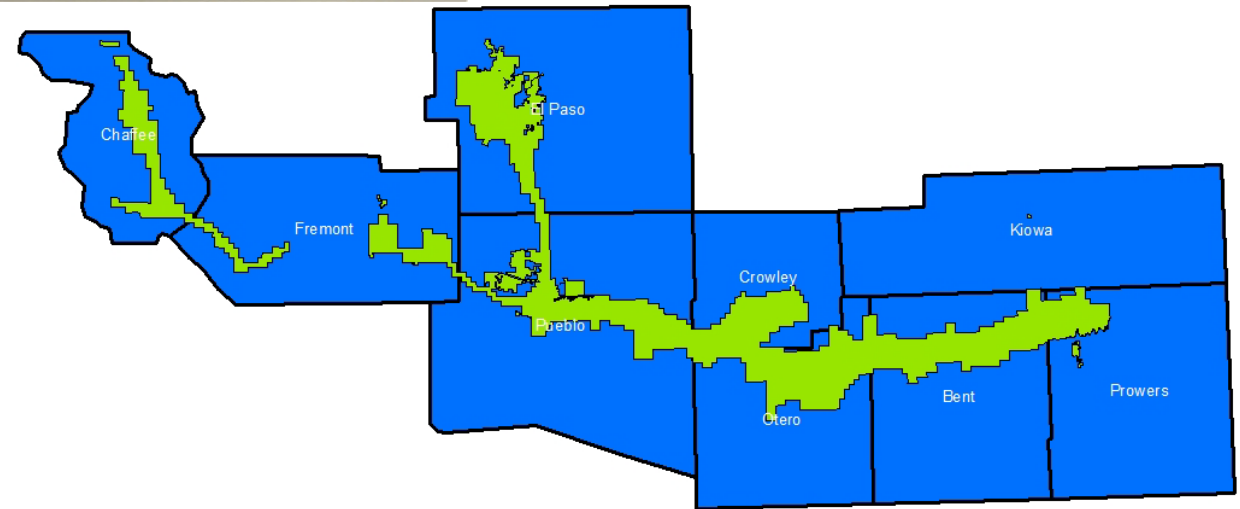




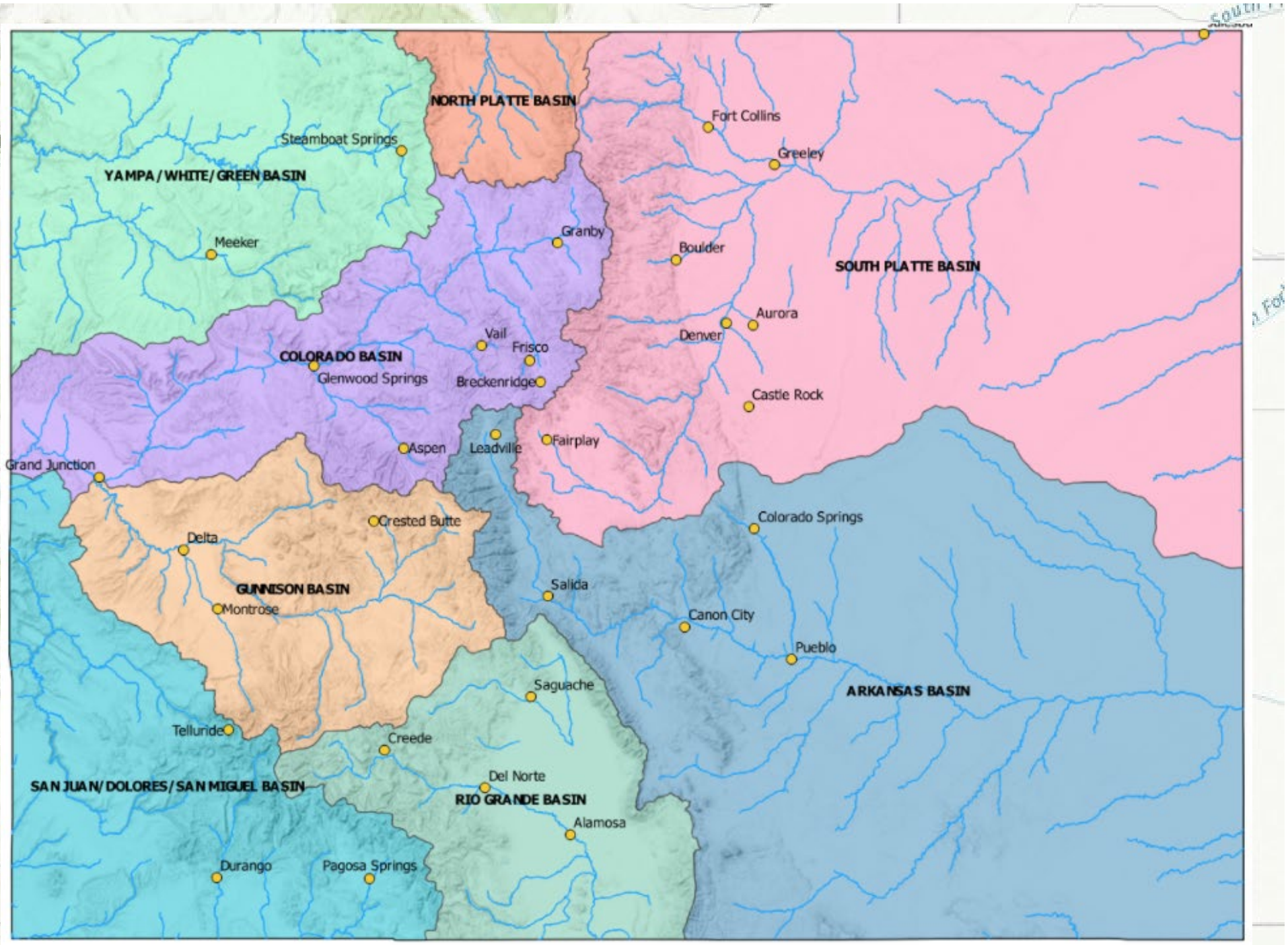
Southeastern Colorado Water
Conservancy District
(SECWCD)

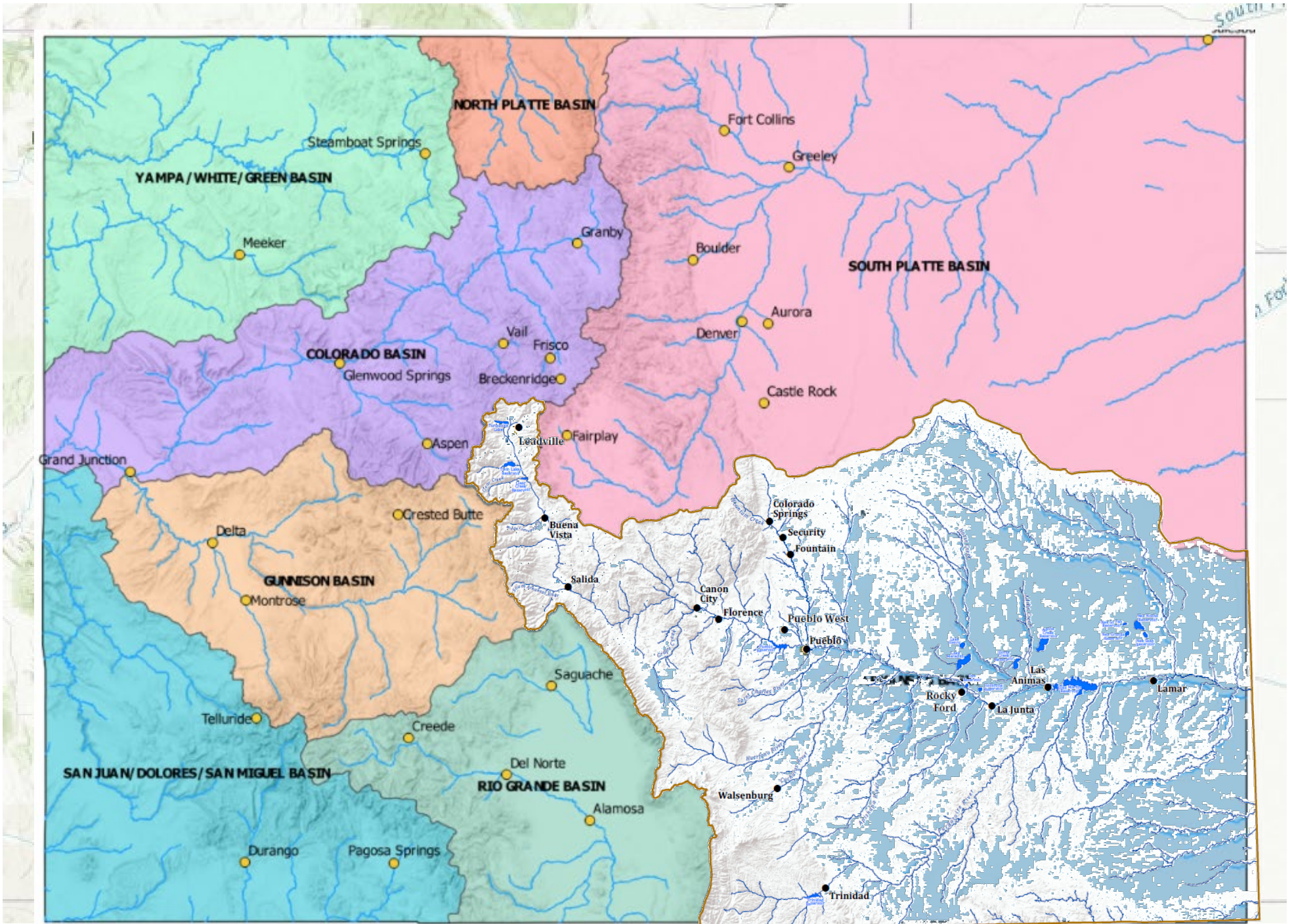
Why was the SECWCD formed?

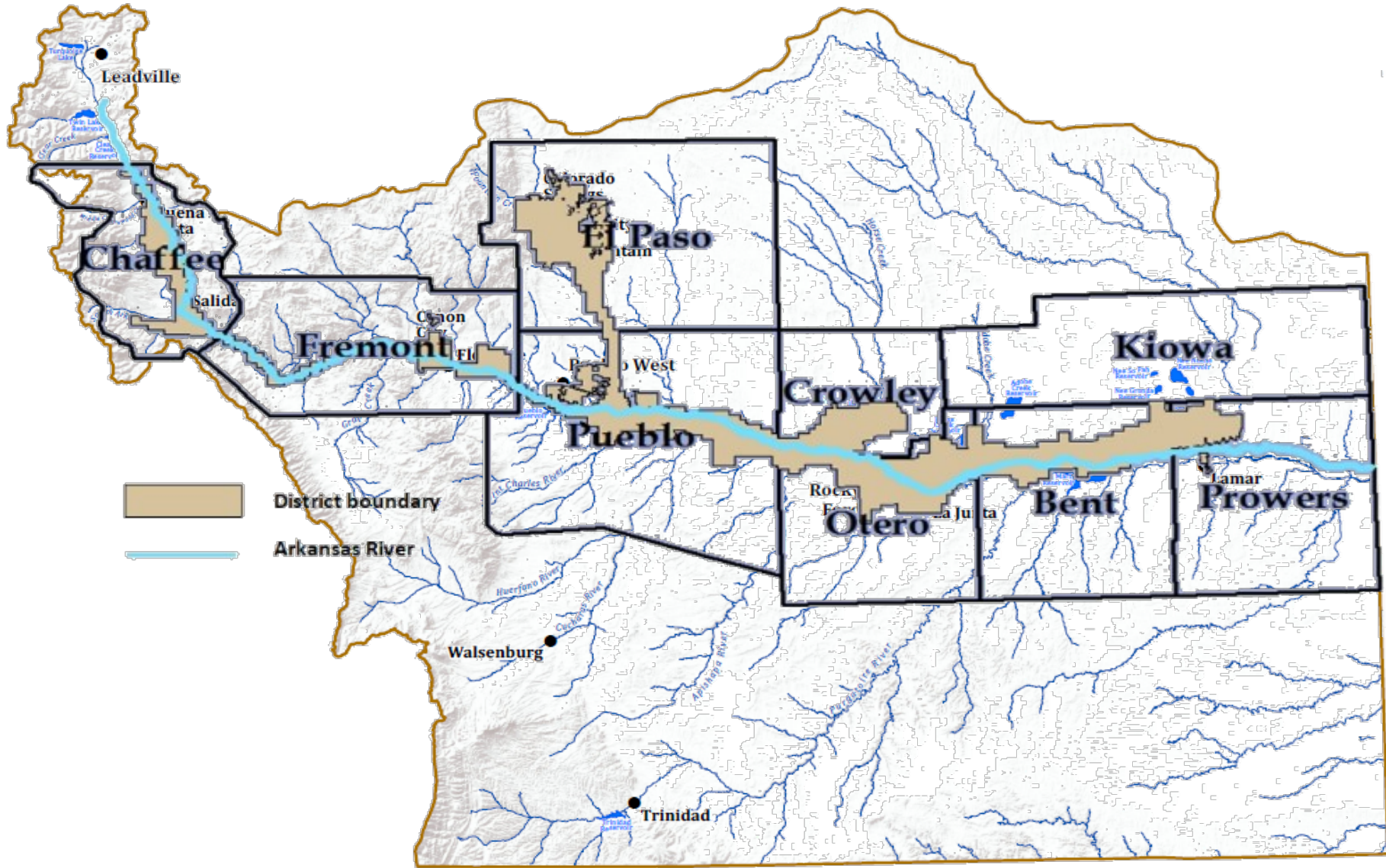
SECWCD was created in 1958 to continue an effort to gain federal approval of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project. The idea for the Project was developed in the 1920s, and widely promoted in the 1950s. The Fry-Ark Project always included the AVC.

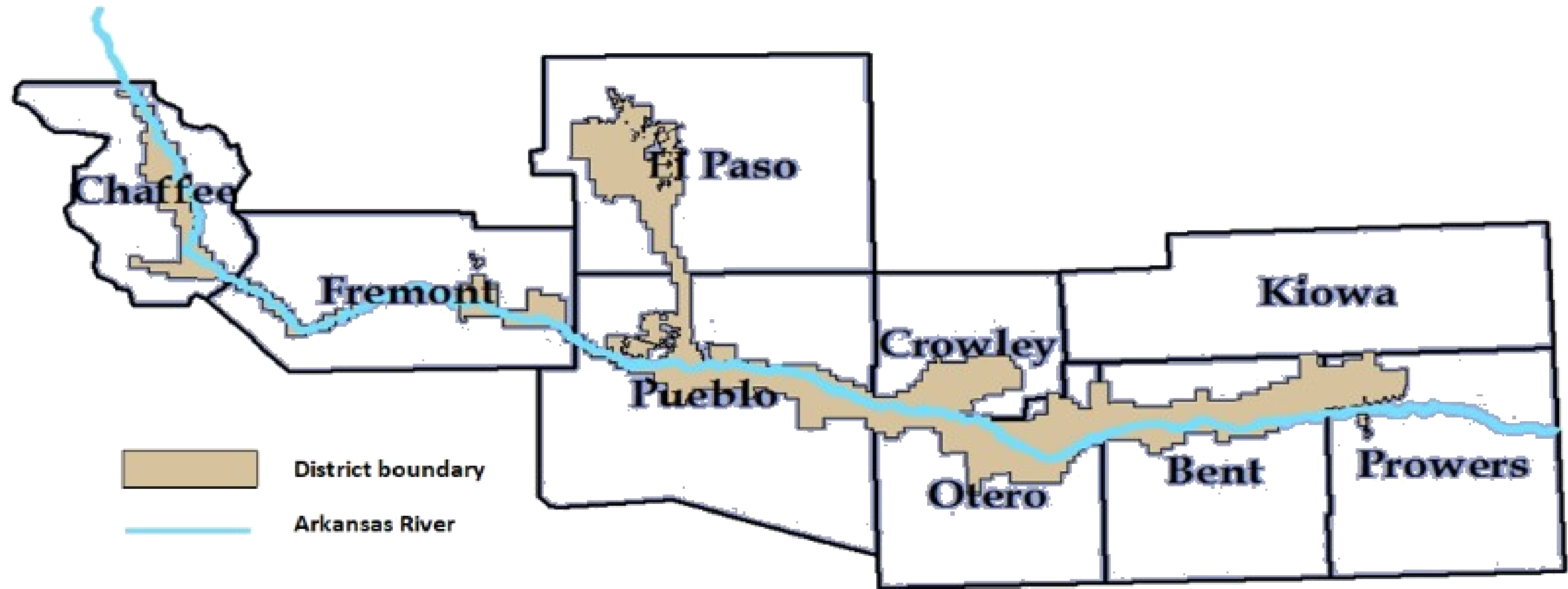














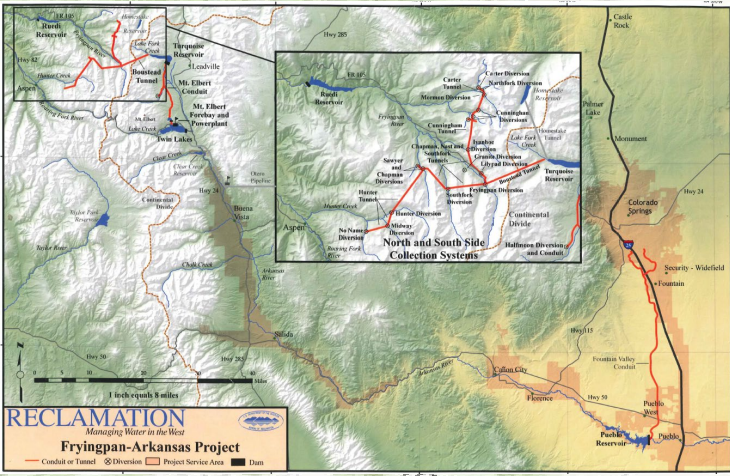
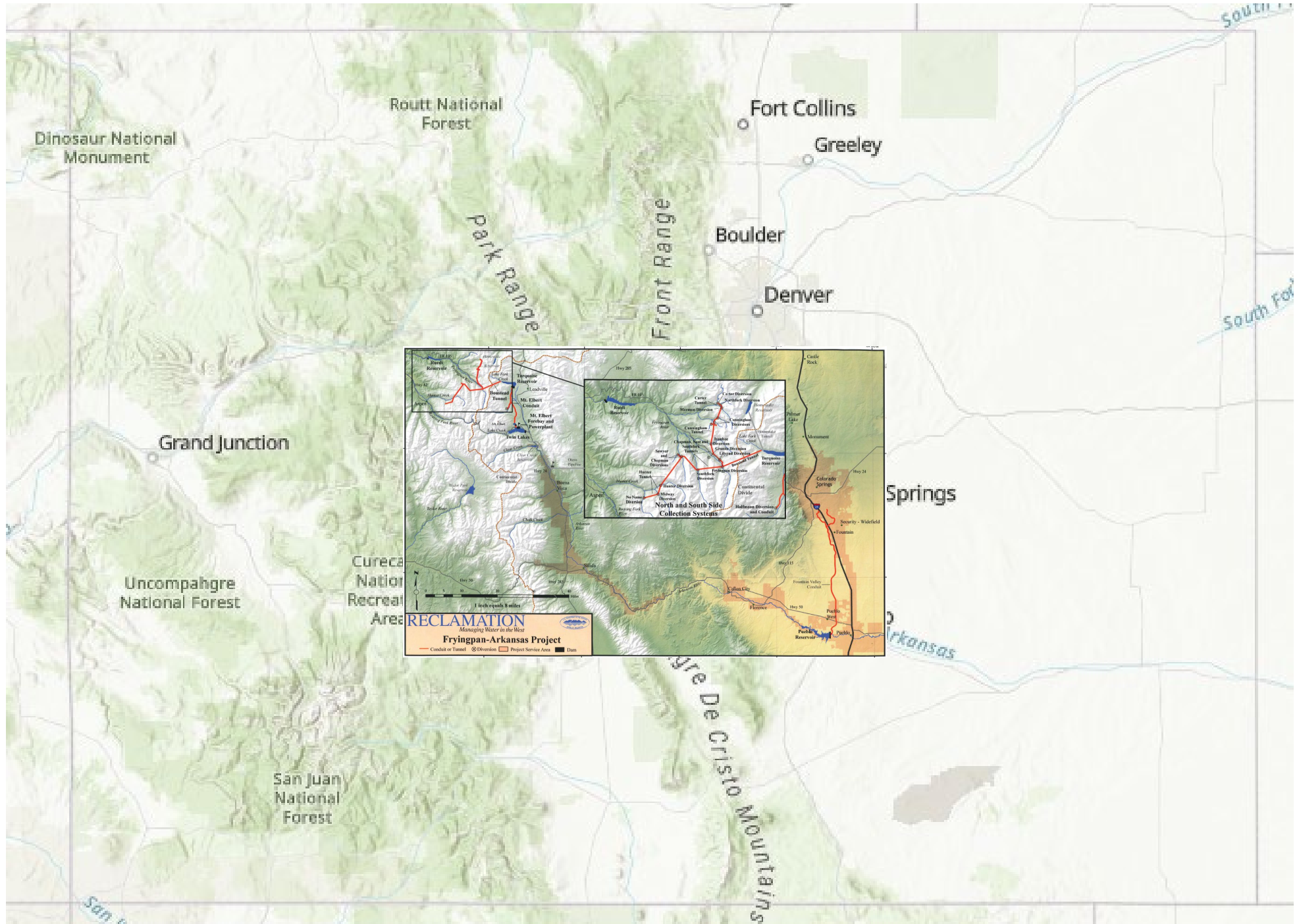
Fryingpan-Arkansas Project

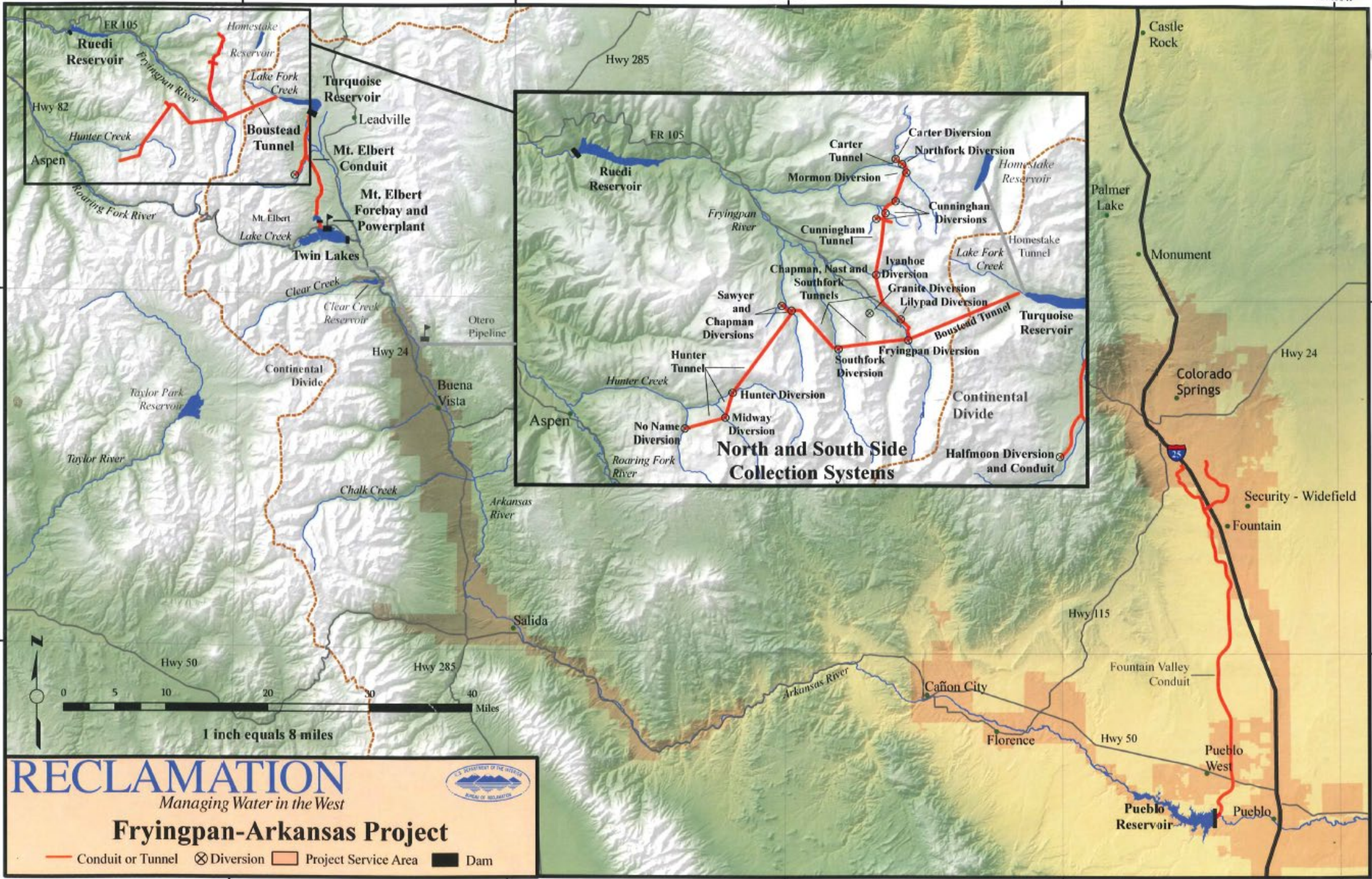
- Signed into law in 1962
- Reclamation owns and operates the Fry-Ark Facilities
- SECWCD owns the water rights
- SECWCD manages water resources
- SECWCD pays 56% OM&R
- SECWCD repays debt (2031)
- SECWCD holds reserve fund

Who pays for the Project?

A property tax of 0.9 mills is assessed in parts of 9 counties, included the 6 counties in the AVC. This generated \$8.9 million in 2022. The money is used to repay construction costs, pay for Project operations and to generate reserves for future improvements.





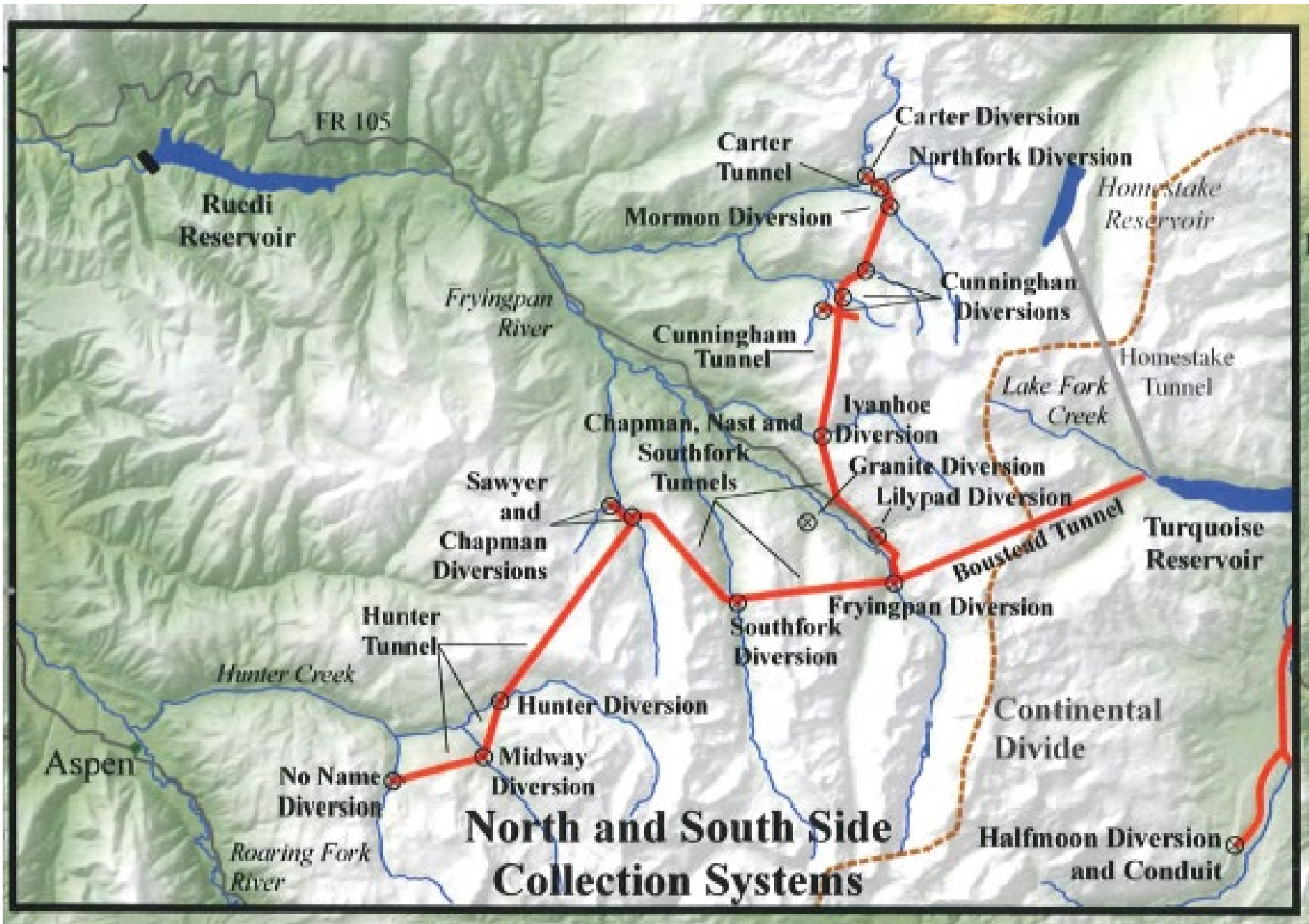


RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

Fryingpan-Arkansas Project

— Conduit or Tunnel X Diversion Project Service Area Dam

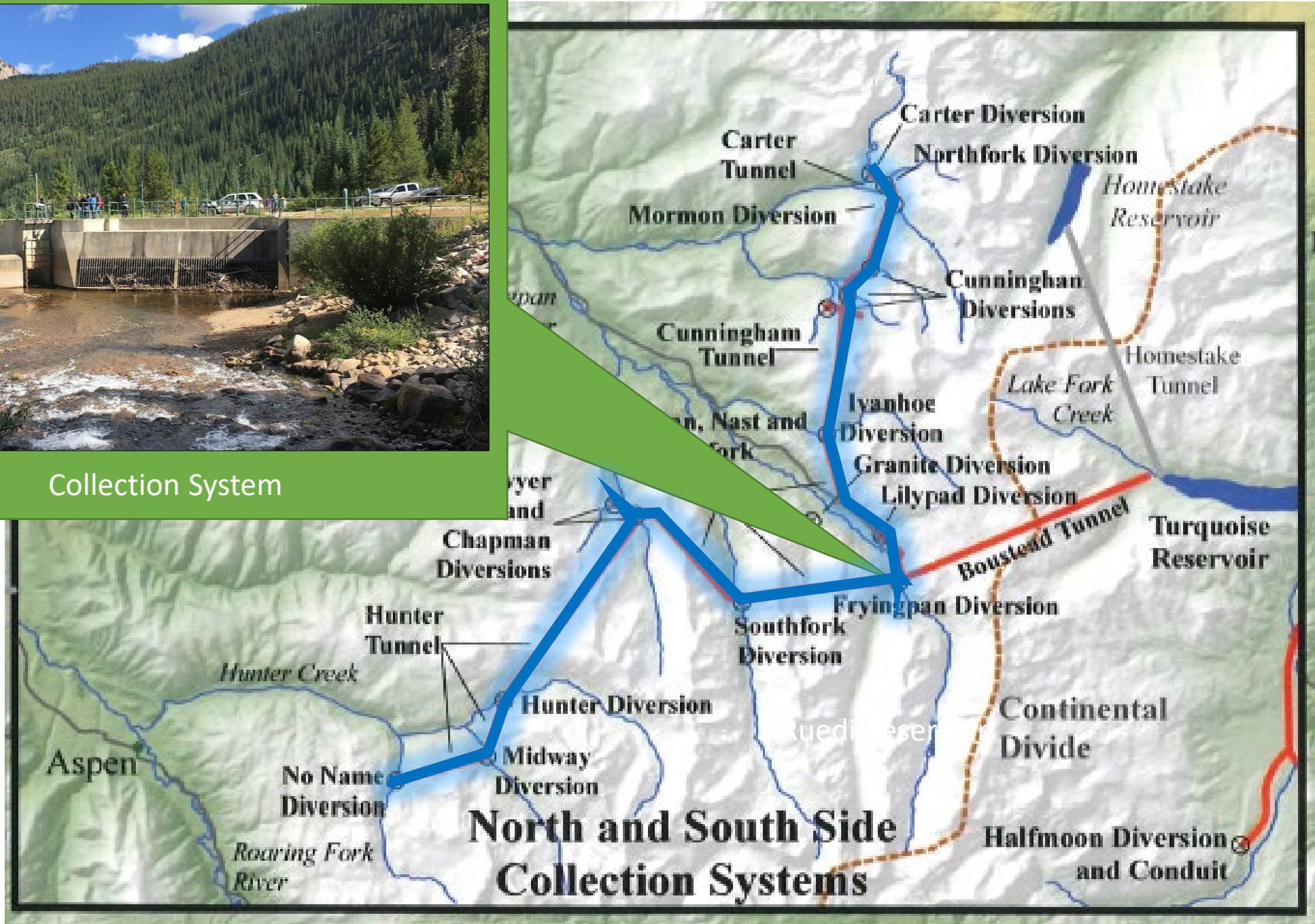
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

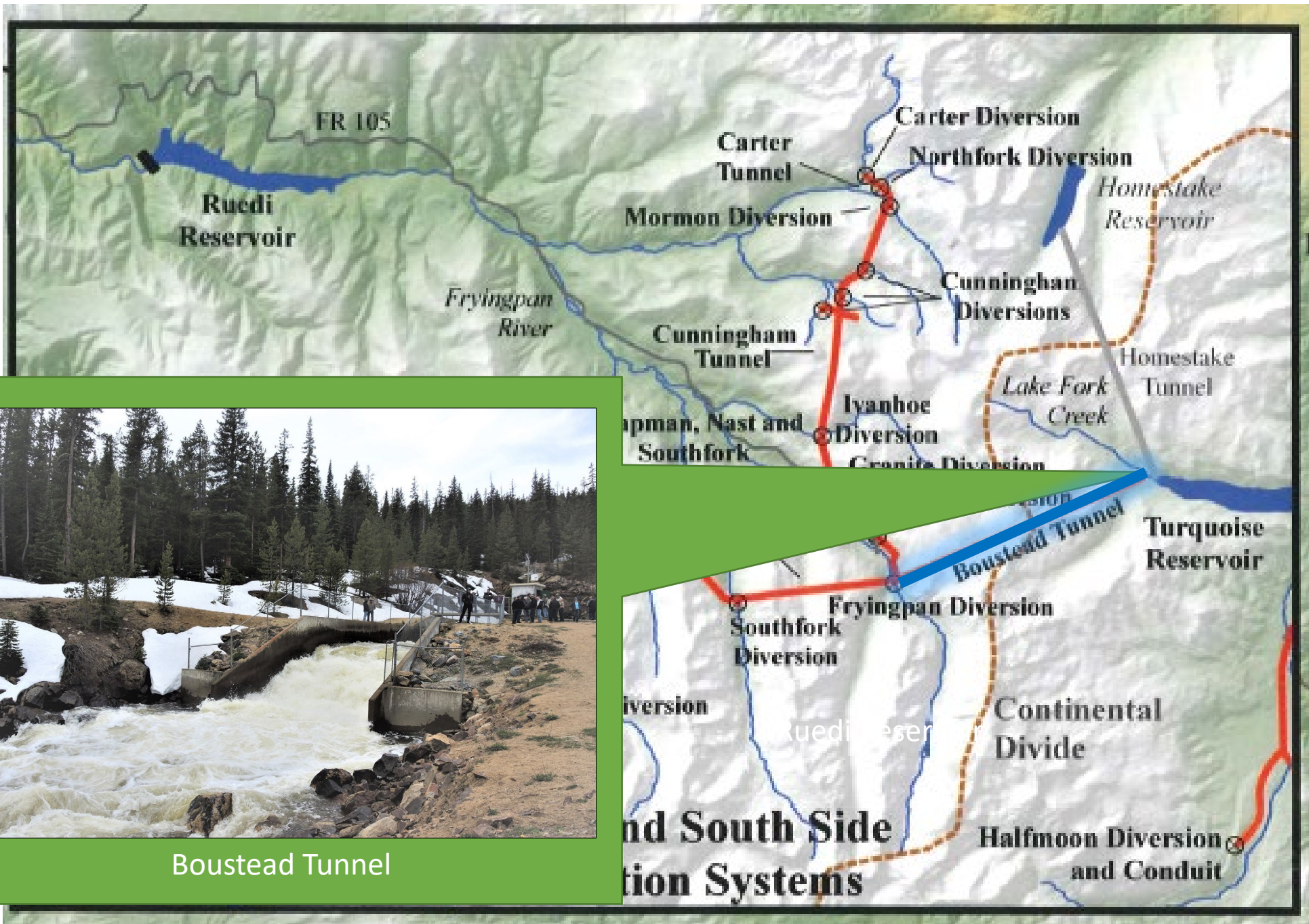




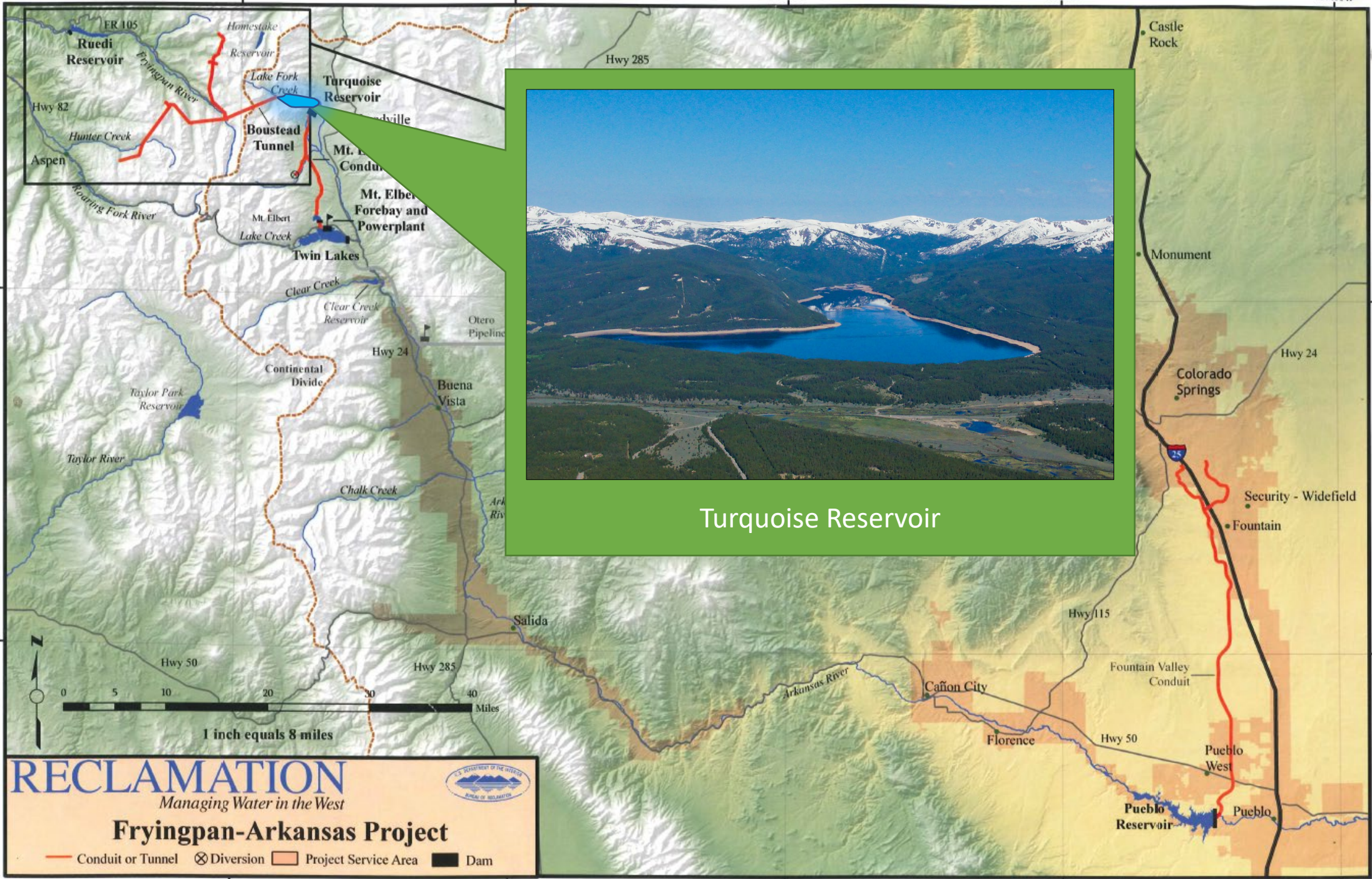


Collection System





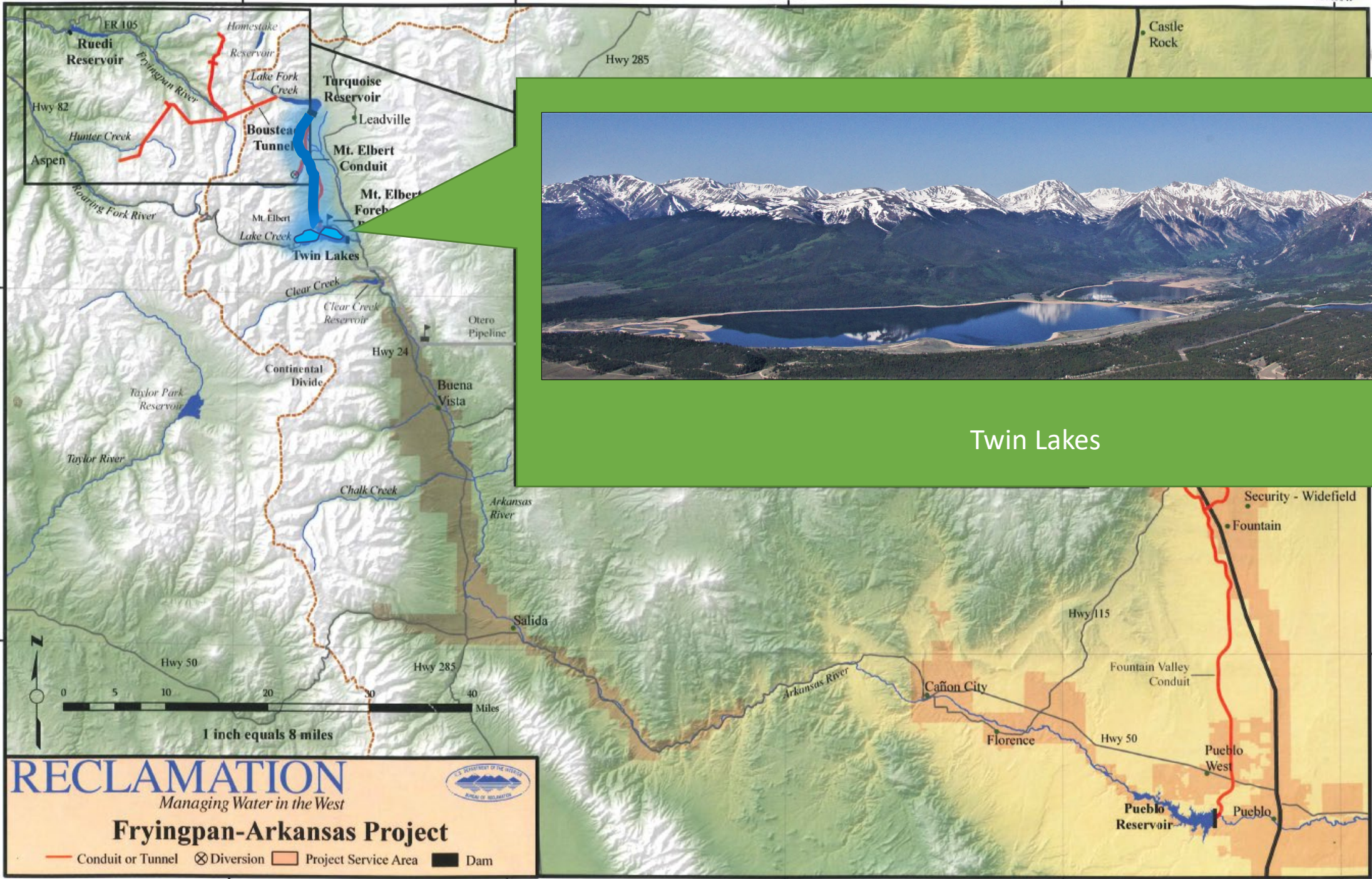
Boustead Tunnel



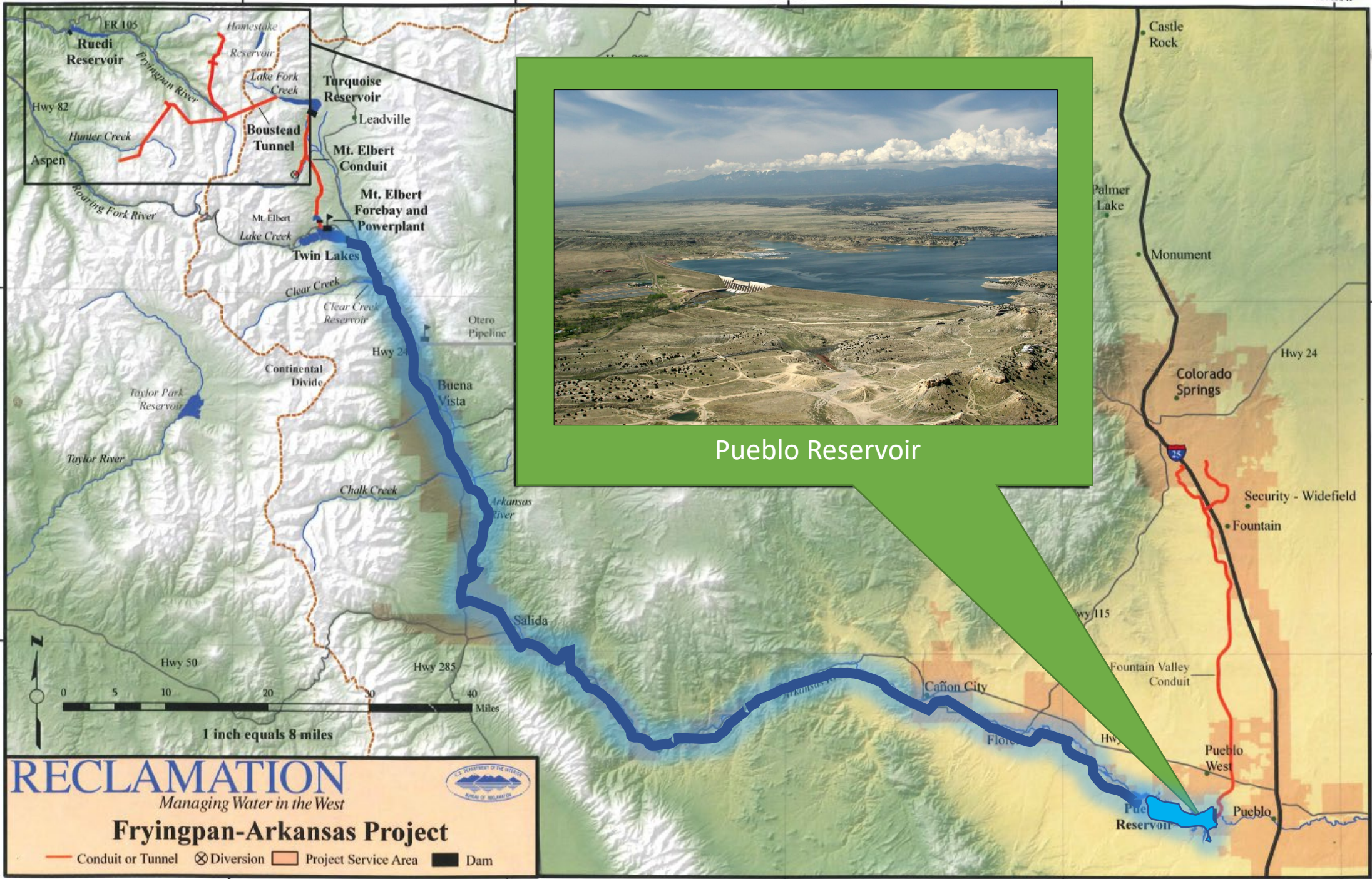
RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

Fryingpan-Arkansas Project

— Conduit or Tunnel
 ⊗ Diversion
 Project Service Area
 Dam



Twin Lakes

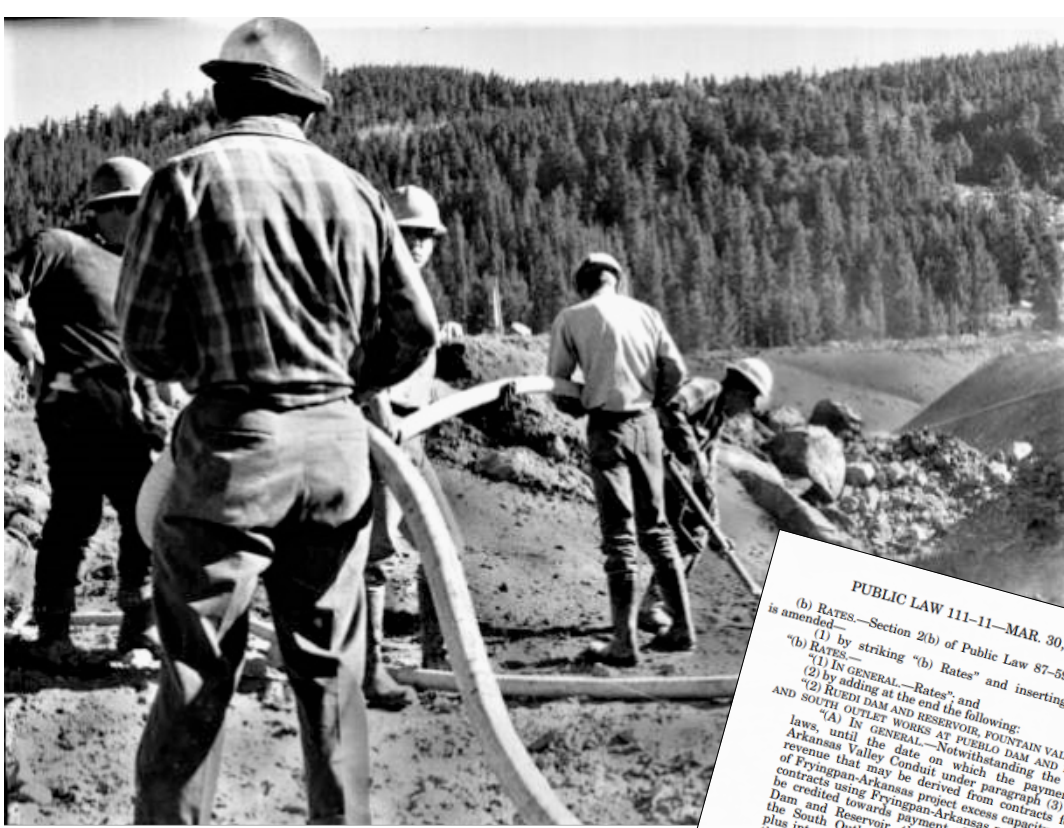


RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

Fryingpan-Arkansas Project

— Conduit or Tunnel ⊗ Diversion □ Project Service Area ■ Dam

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2009 Fryingpan-Arkansas Law

The 1962 Fryingpan-Arkansas Project Act was revised in 2009 (PL111-11) to allow miscellaneous revenues from the Project to be applied to portions of the Project that were not fully funded. AVC fell into the underfunded category.

Why was the AVC never built until Now?

A steering committee in 1978 concluded that the AVC was too costly for participants to build on their own. The AVC concept was revived in 2000. The 2009 law reduced participants' share to 35%, making the AVC more affordable.

PUBLIC LAW 111-11—MAR. 30, 2009
123 STAT. 1321
43 USC 616a

(b) RATES.—Section 2(b) of Public Law 87-590 (76 Stat. 390) is amended—
(1) by striking “(b) Rates” and inserting the following:
“(b) RATES.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Rates”; and
(2) by adding at the end the following:
“(2) RUEDI DAM AND RESERVOIR, POUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE, AND SOUTH OUTLET WORKS AT PUEBLO DAM AND RESERVOIR.—
(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the reclamation laws, until the date on which the payments for the Arkansas Valley Conduit under paragraph (3) begin, any revenue that may be derived from contracts for the use of Fryingpan-Arkansas project excess capacity or exchange contracts using Fryingpan-Arkansas project facilities shall be credited towards payment of the actual cost of Ruedi Dam and Reservoir, the Fountain Valley Pipeline, and the South Outlet Works at Pueblo Dam and Reservoir plus interest in an amount determined in accordance with this section.
(B) EFFECT.—Nothing in the Federal reclamation law (the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388, chapter 1093), and Acts supplemental to and amendatory of that Act (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.)) prohibits the concurrent crediting of revenue (with interest as provided under this section) towards payment of the Arkansas Valley Conduit as provided under this paragraph.”
(3) ARKANSAS VALLEY CONDUIT.—
(A) USE OF REVENUE.—Notwithstanding the reclamation laws, any revenue derived from contracts for the use of Fryingpan-Arkansas project excess capacity or exchange contracts using Fryingpan-Arkansas project facilities shall be credited towards payment of the actual cost of the Arkansas Valley Conduit plus interest in an amount determined in accordance with this section.
(B) ADJUSTMENT OF RATES.—Any rates charged under this section for water for municipal, domestic, or industrial use or for the use of facilities for the storage or delivery of water shall be adjusted to reflect the estimated revenue derived from contracts for the use of Fryingpan-Arkansas project excess capacity or exchange contracts using Fryingpan-Arkansas project facilities.”

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 7 of Public Law 87-590 (76 Stat. 393) is amended—
(1) by striking “SEC. 7. There is hereby” and inserting “SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
“(a) IN GENERAL.—There is” and
(2) by adding at the end the following:
“(b) ARKANSAS VALLEY CONDUIT.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to annual appropriations and paragraph (2), there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary for the construction of the Arkansas Valley Conduit.
(2) LIMITATION.—Amounts made available under paragraph (1) shall not be used for the operation or maintenance of the Arkansas Valley Conduit.”

43 USC 616f

All AVC participants have signed a 2011 agreement for development of the AVC. To date, they have invested more than \$1.5 million toward making the AVC a reality.



Fryingpan-Arkansas Project

The Project brings over an *average* of 57,820 acre-feet of water annually. After accounting for prior obligations, evaporation and transit loss, about 44,000 acre-feet are available for allocations.

How much Project Water goes to the AVC?

About 11% of Fry-Ark Project Water allocations, or 5,000 acre-feet, are available for AVC on average. Communities are apportioned the water according to calculations in 2011, based on taps, population and input from water providers.





Fryingpan-Arkansas Project

Project Water is collected on the West Slope and brought in through the Boustead Tunnel to Turquoise Lake, and eventually flows down the Arkansas River to Pueblo Reservoir.

How much AVC storage is available?

AVC participants collectively have 29,930 acre-feet of storage in Pueblo Reservoir for Project Water, and 6,267 acre-feet of “if-and-when” storage. Combined, that is more than a 4-year supply for AVC water.





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SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO Water Conservancy District

The Arkansas Valley Conduit Project

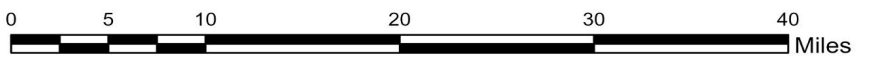


- Trunk Line (Upper)
- Spur Line (Southeastern)
- Delivery Line (Southeastern)
- Points of Participation
- Backflow Preventer
- Injection Site
- Regulating Tank
- Pumping Station
- Dam
- USBR Office
- Southeastern Office
- Interstate
- US Highway
- State Highway
- County Highway
- Other Roads

Prepared by:
Bureau of Reclamation
Southeastern Colorado Area Office
Loveland, CO

Revised January 26, 2022

Spatial Reference
Name: NAD 1983 StatePlane Colorado South FIPS 0503 Feet



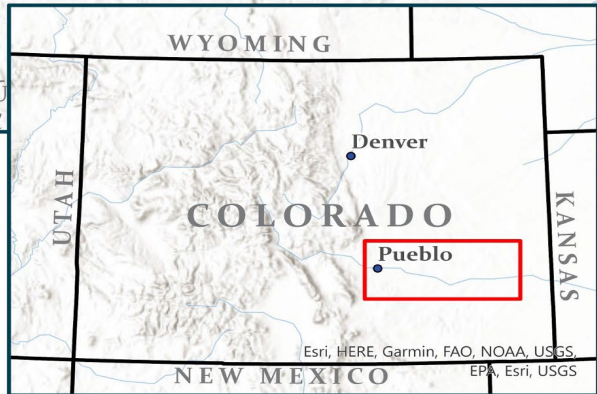
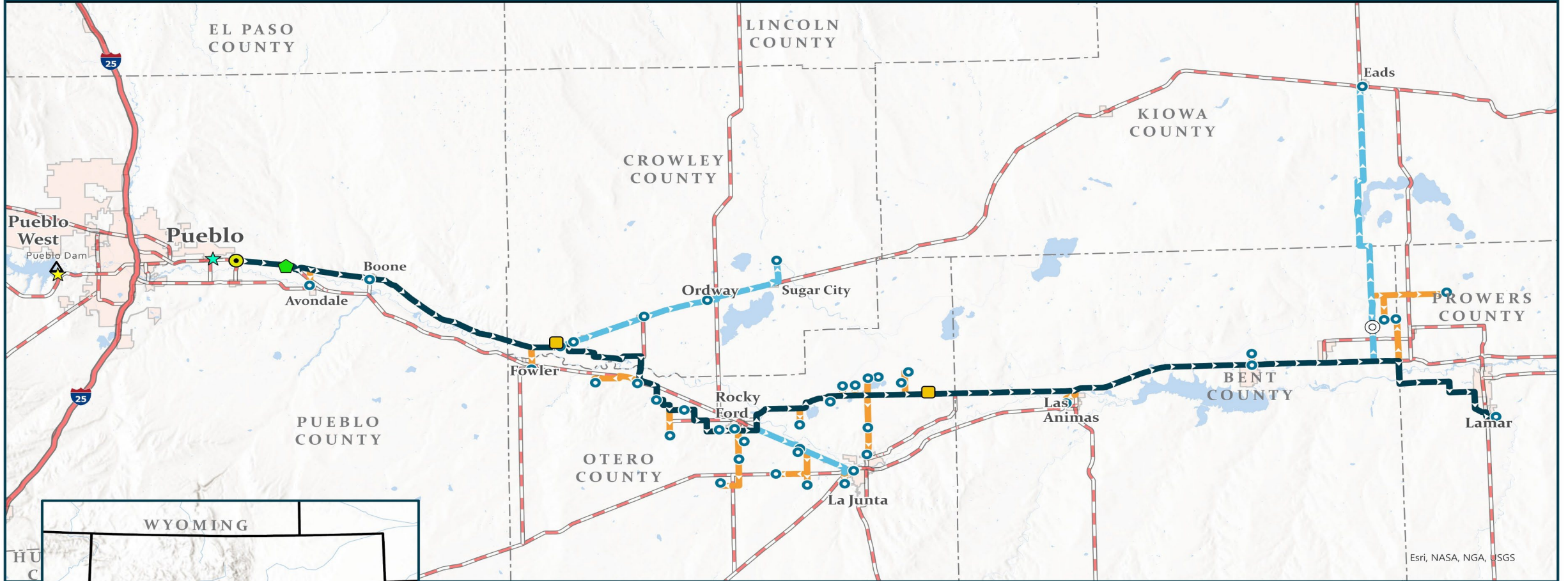


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SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO Water Conservancy District

The Arkansas Valley Conduit Project

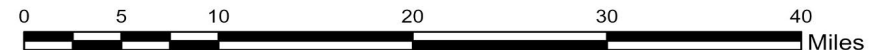


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|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Trunk Line (USBR) | Dam |
| Spur Line (Southeastern) | USBR Office |
| Delivery Line (Southeastern) | Southeastern Office |
| Delivery Points / Participants | Interstate |
| Backflow Preventer | US Highway |
| Injection Site | State Highway |
| Regulating Tank | County Highway |
| Pumping Station | Other Roads |

Map prepared by:
 Bureau of Reclamation
 Eastern Colorado Area Office
 Loveland, CO

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The Arkansas Valley Conduit Project



3-Party
Contract:
Pueblo Water,
Reclamation,
SECWCD

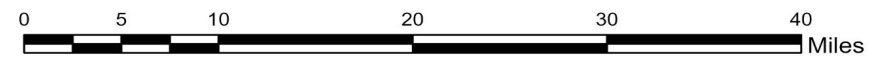
Conveyance,
Treatment &
Transmission

- Trunk Line (USBR)
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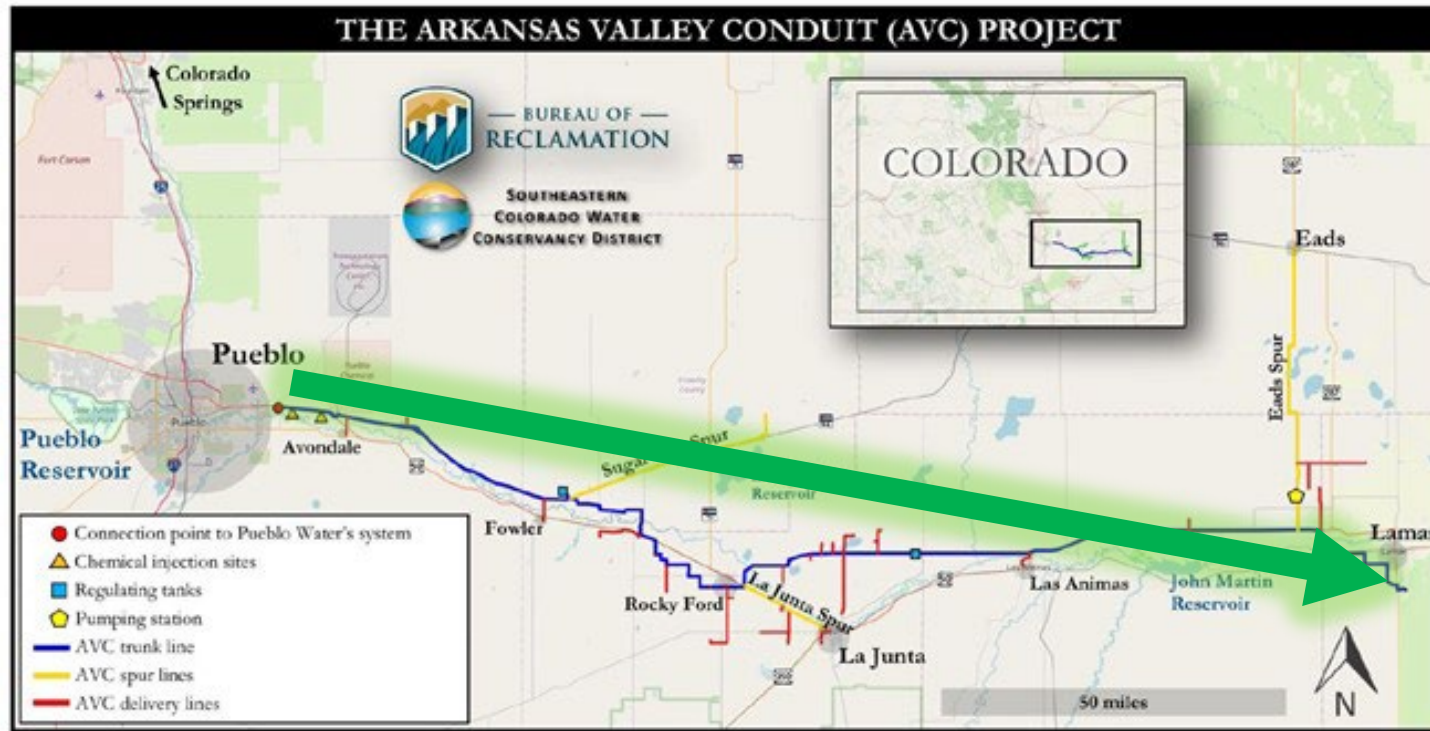
Three-Party Contract

Reclamation, SECWCD, and Pueblo Water signed a contract that provides for full treatment of AVC water and delivery through Pueblo's System to the connection point east of Pueblo.

What will Pueblo Water provide?

- Conveyance of water from Pueblo Dam
- Complete treatment at the Whitlock Plant
- Delivery of water to the beginning of the AVC trunk line





AVC Construction Plan
 Reclamation will build a 130-mile trunk line from Pueblo to Lamar after Pueblo conveys, treats and delivers water. SECWCD's Enterprise Activity will build about 100 miles of spur and delivery lines.



What will construction cost participants?
 AVC's total cost will be about \$600 million. Participants will not pay for any additional costs for the trunk line of Pueblo Water connection. Participants will repay about 10% of the overall costs (spur and delivery line construction costs) that will be offset by grants and other cost saving measures.



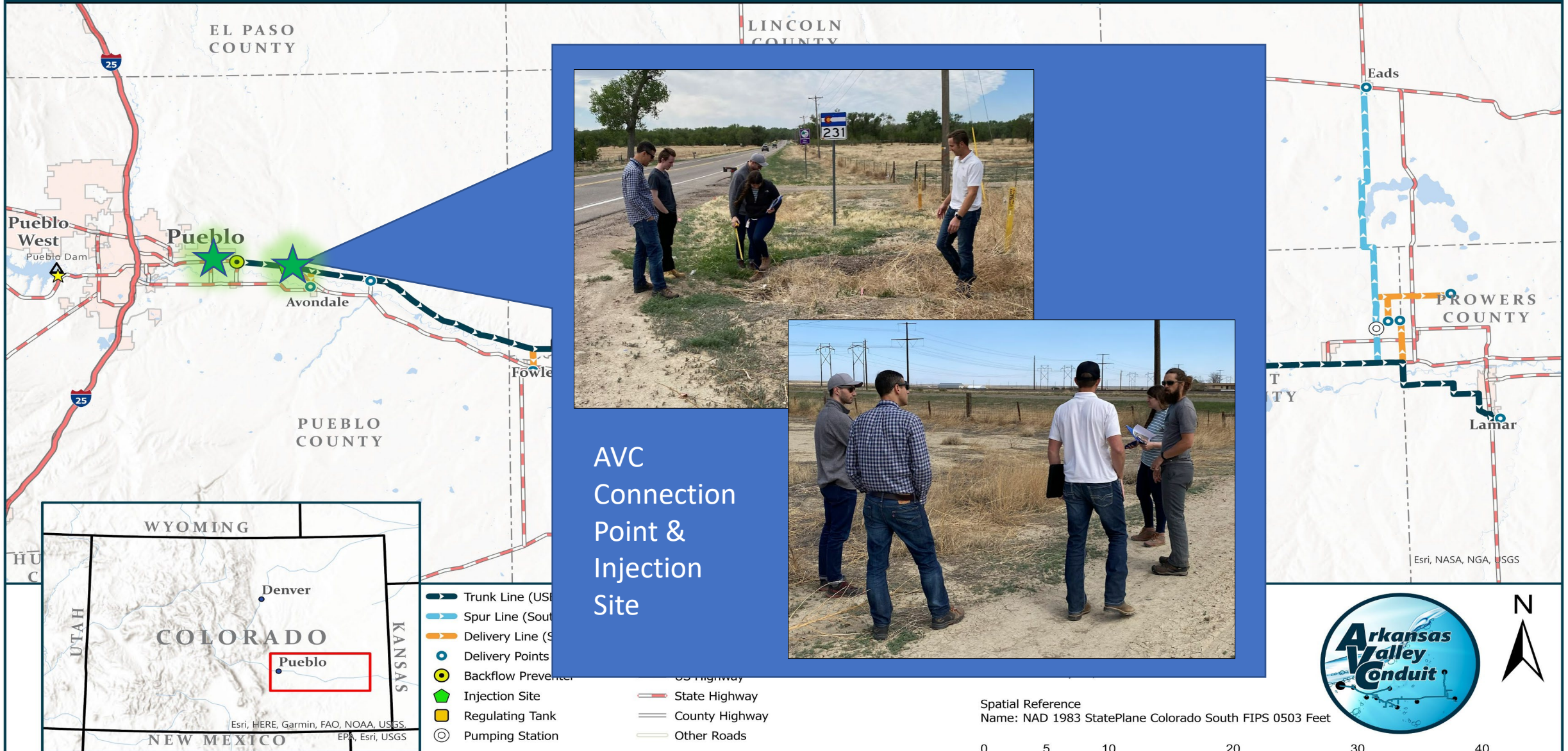


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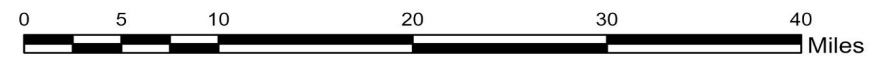


SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO Water Conservancy District

The Arkansas Valley Conduit Project



AVC
Connection
Point &
Injection
Site





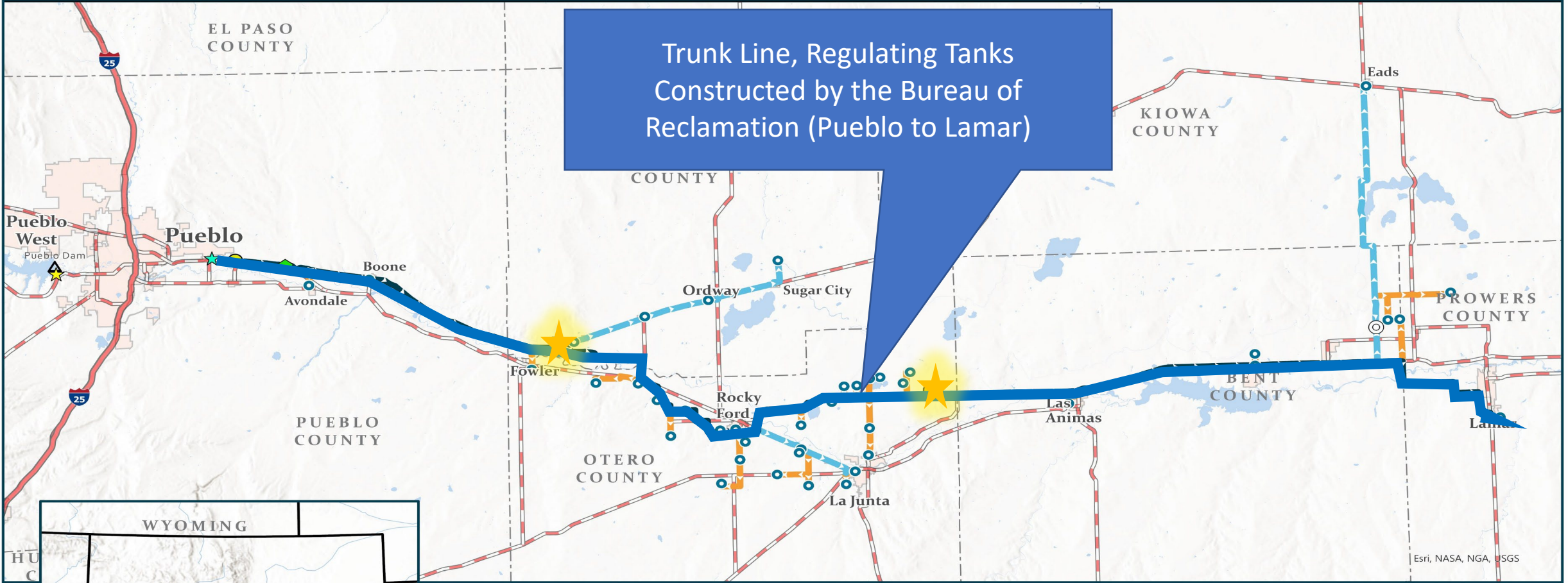
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SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO Water Conservancy District

The Arkansas Valley Conduit Project

Trunk Line, Regulating Tanks Constructed by the Bureau of Reclamation (Pueblo to Lamar)



- Trunk Line (USBR)
- Spur Line (Southeastern)
- Delivery Line (Southeastern)
- Delivery Points / Participants
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- Injection Site
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Loveland, CO

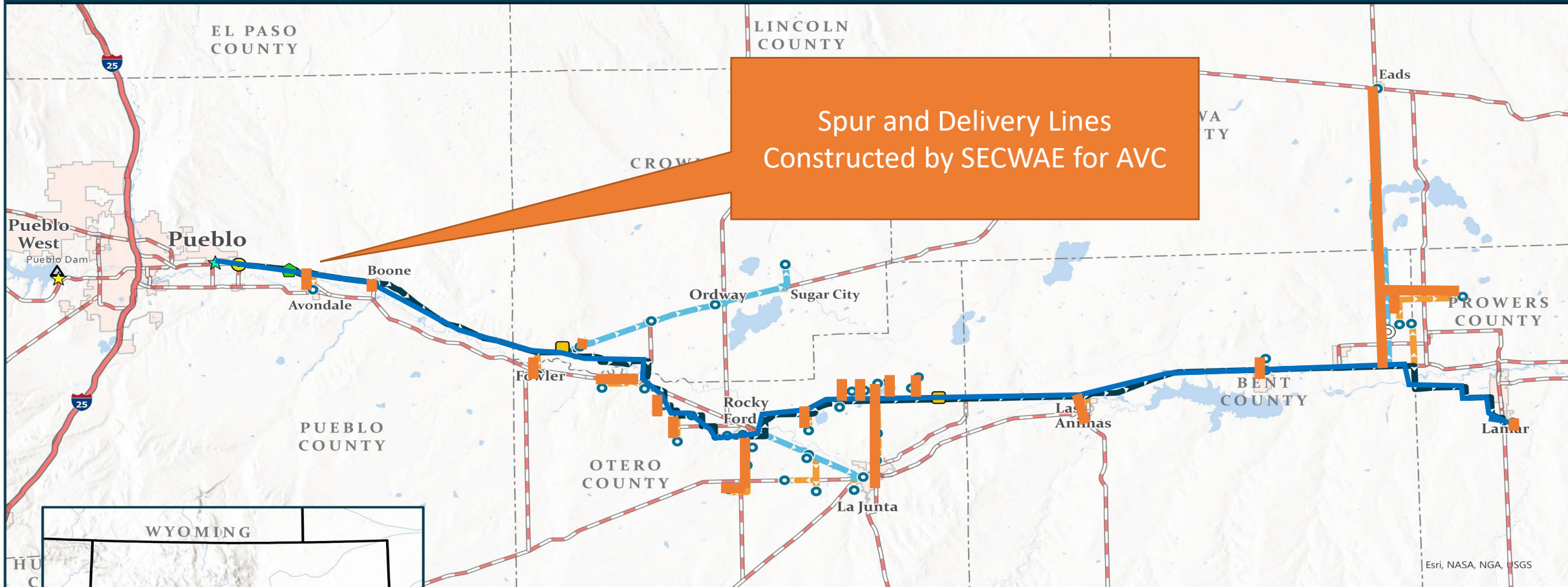
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The Arkansas Valley Conduit Project



Spur and Delivery Lines
Constructed by SECWAE for AVC

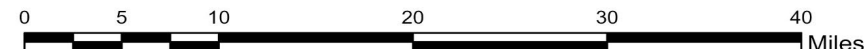


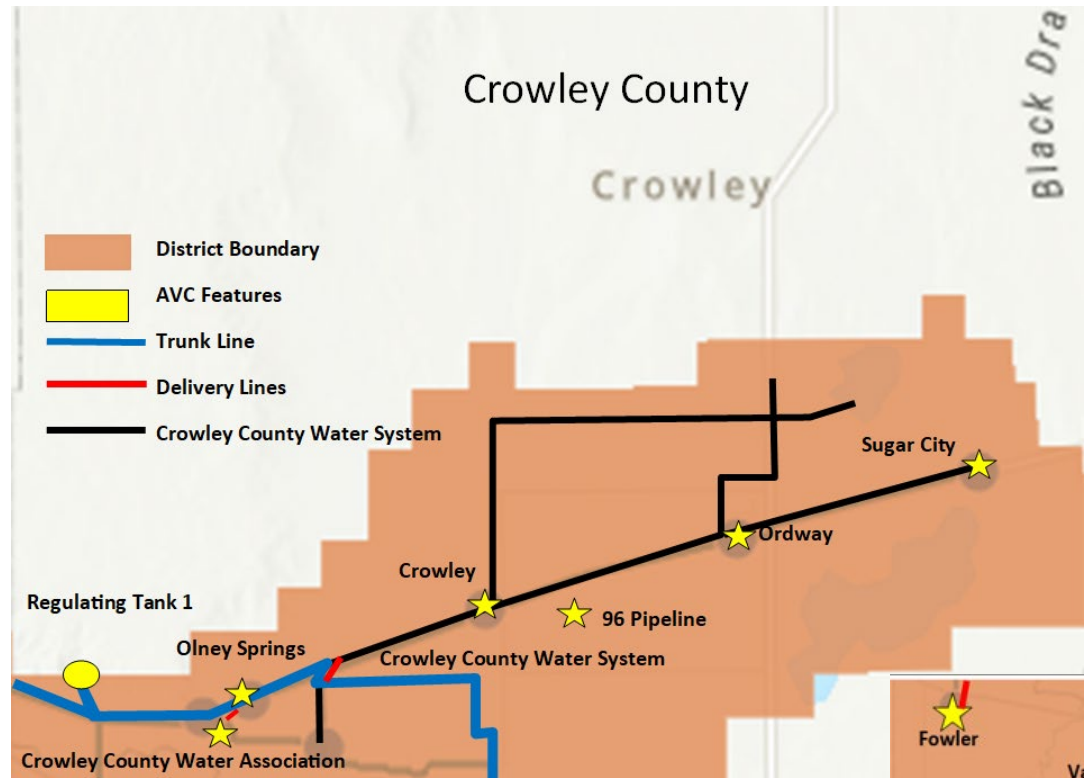
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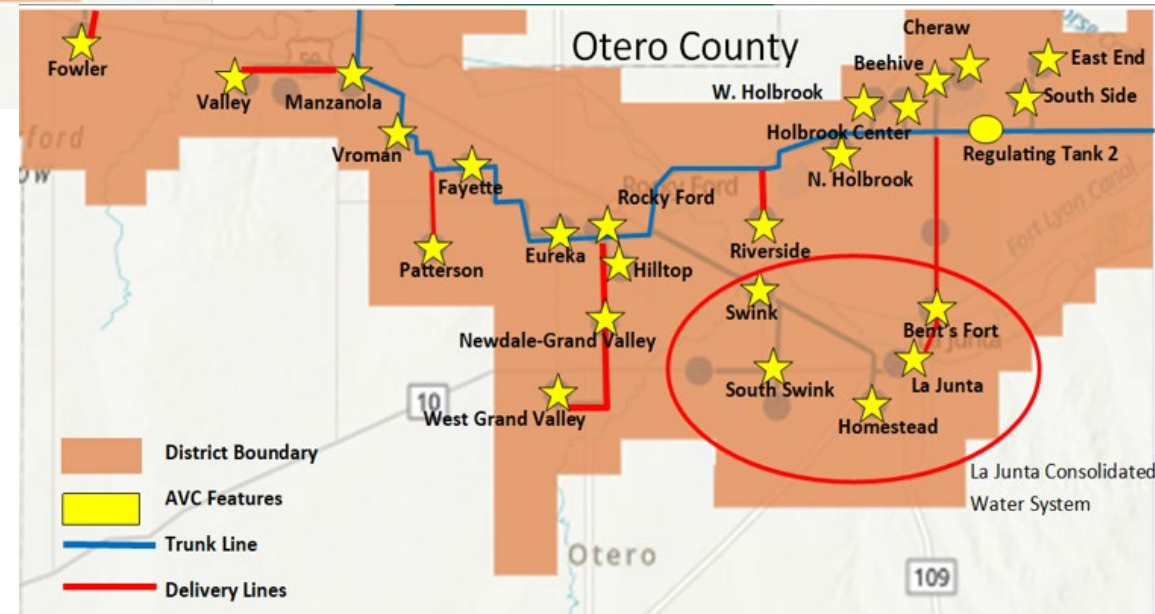




Consolidation Plans
 In order to reduce costs for spur and delivery lines, SECWCD is investigating consolidation in several areas of the AVC. Several meetings have been held, but more discussions are needed.

Will local consolidations change AVC allotments?

No. The initial allotment of water within AVC was determined by consulting with participants while the FEIS was being developed. Future changes in the way AVC is managed would be determined by an AVC authority or the SECWCD Board.



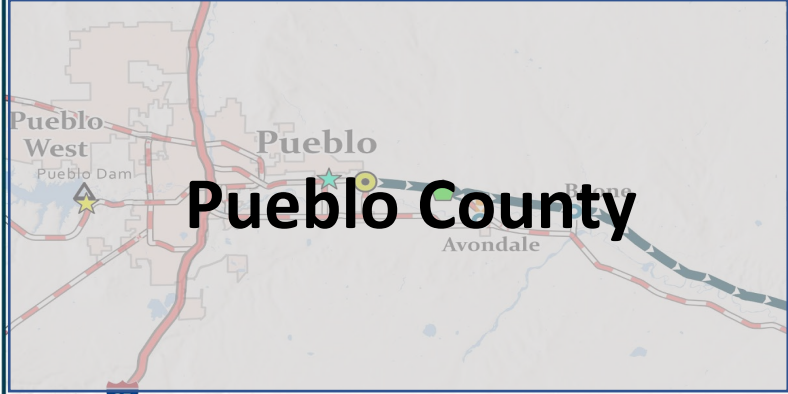
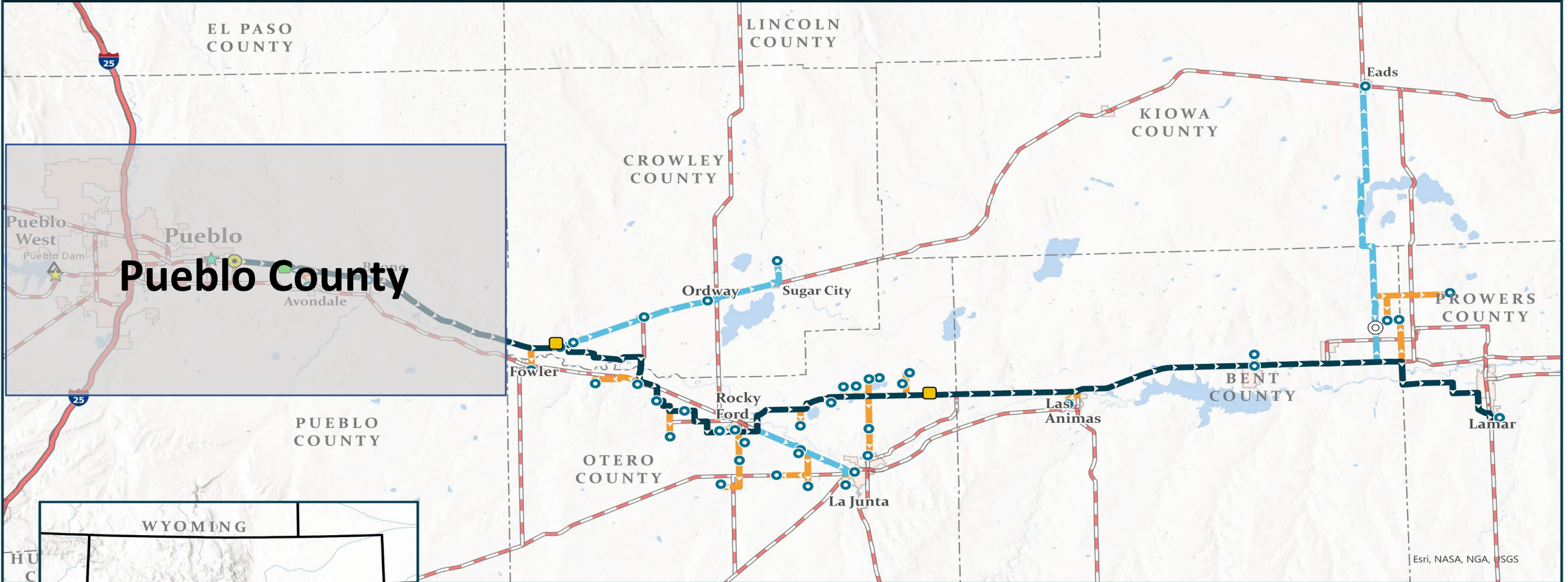


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The Arkansas Valley Conduit Project

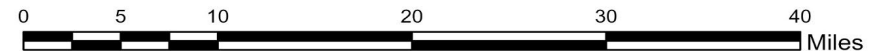


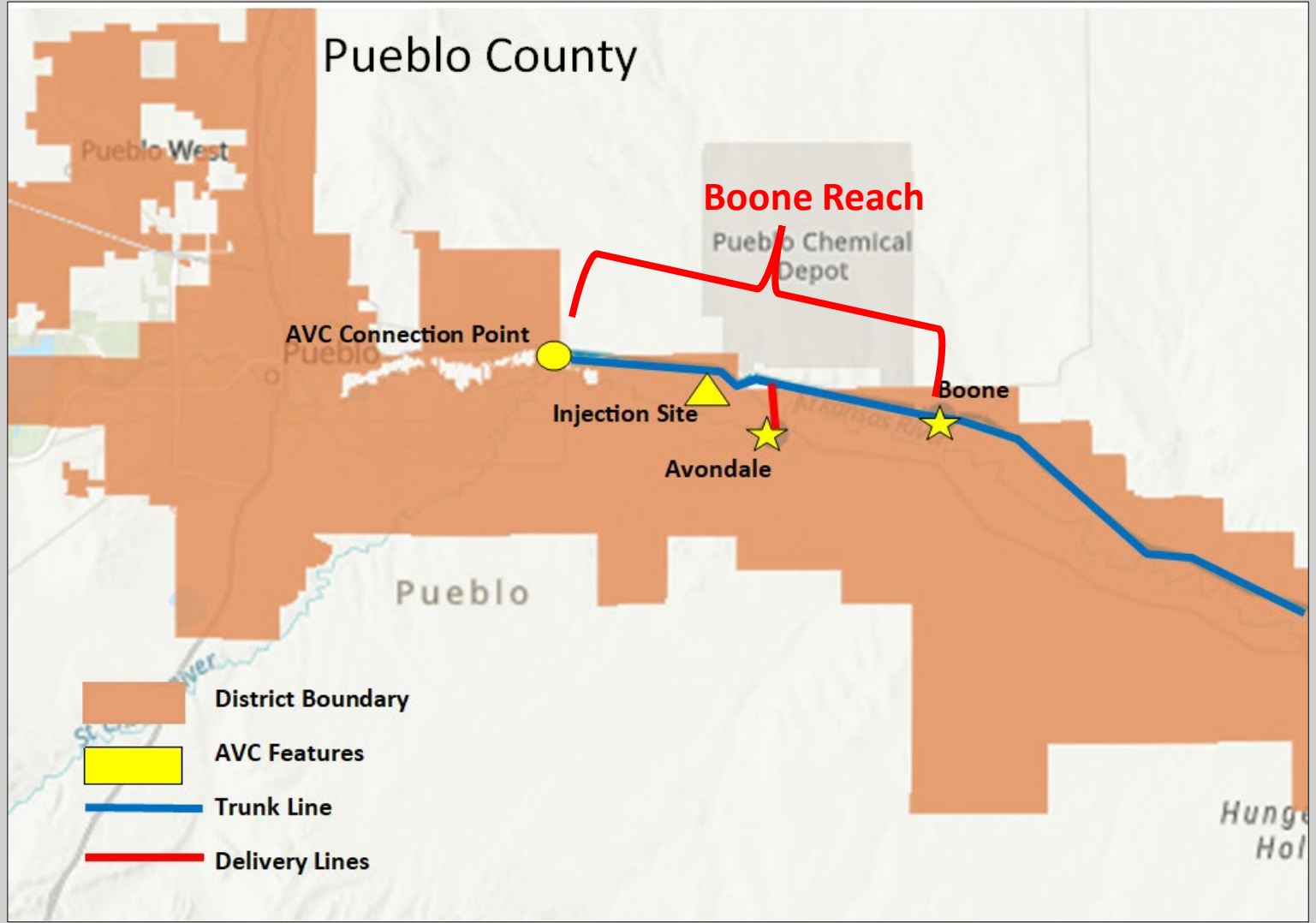
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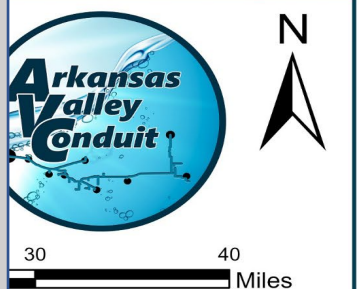
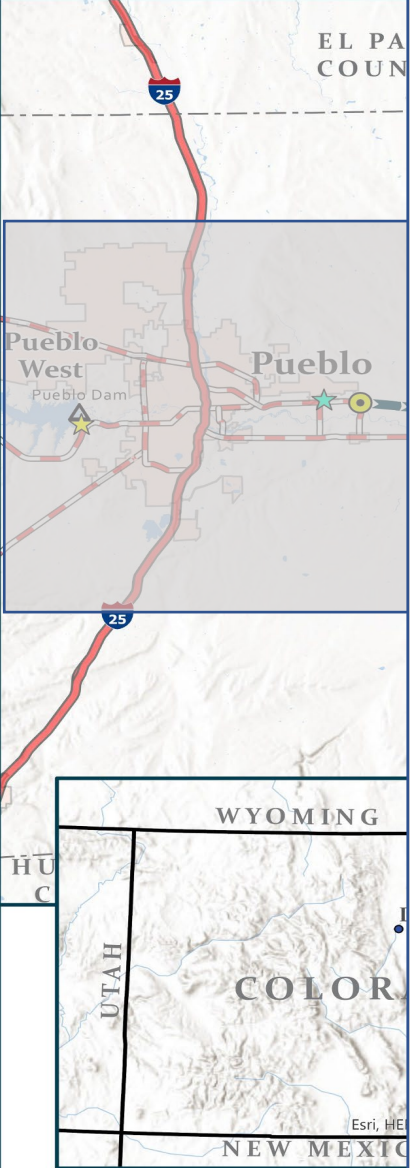
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Boone Reach | Work begins in 2022 | Completion by 2024 | Funding in place



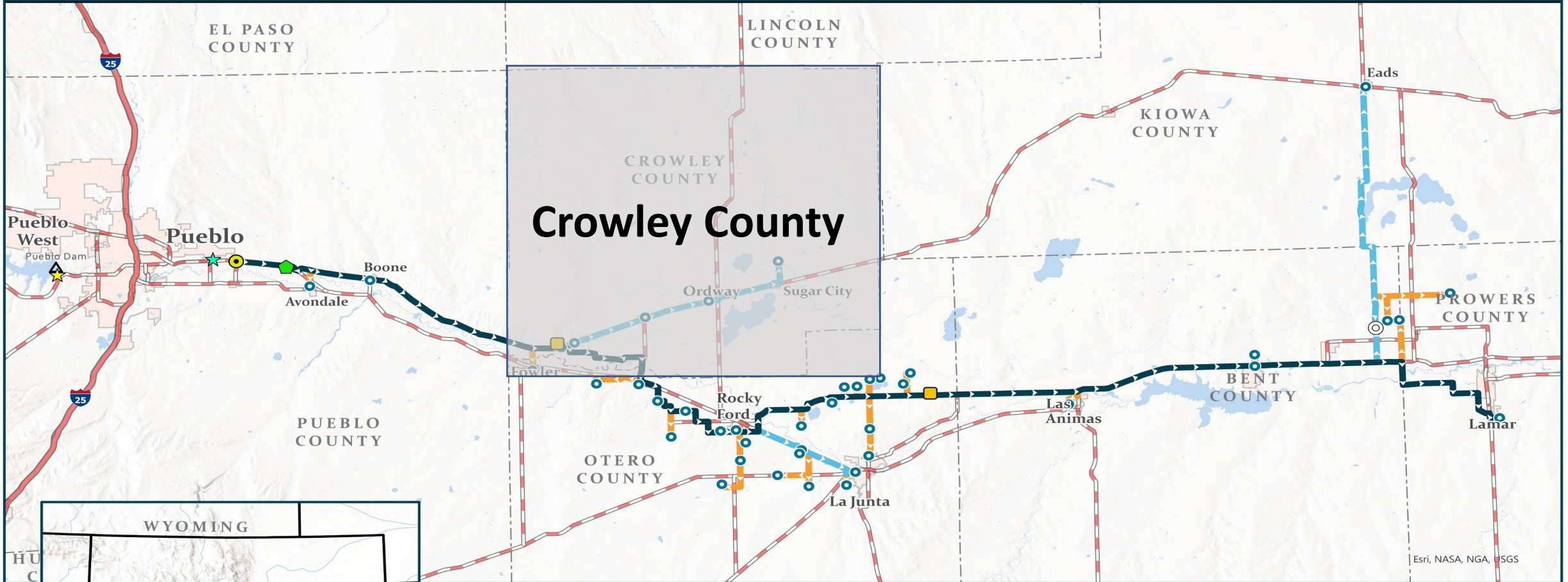


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SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO Water Conservancy District

The Arkansas Valley Conduit Project



Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS

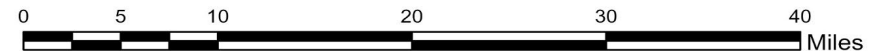


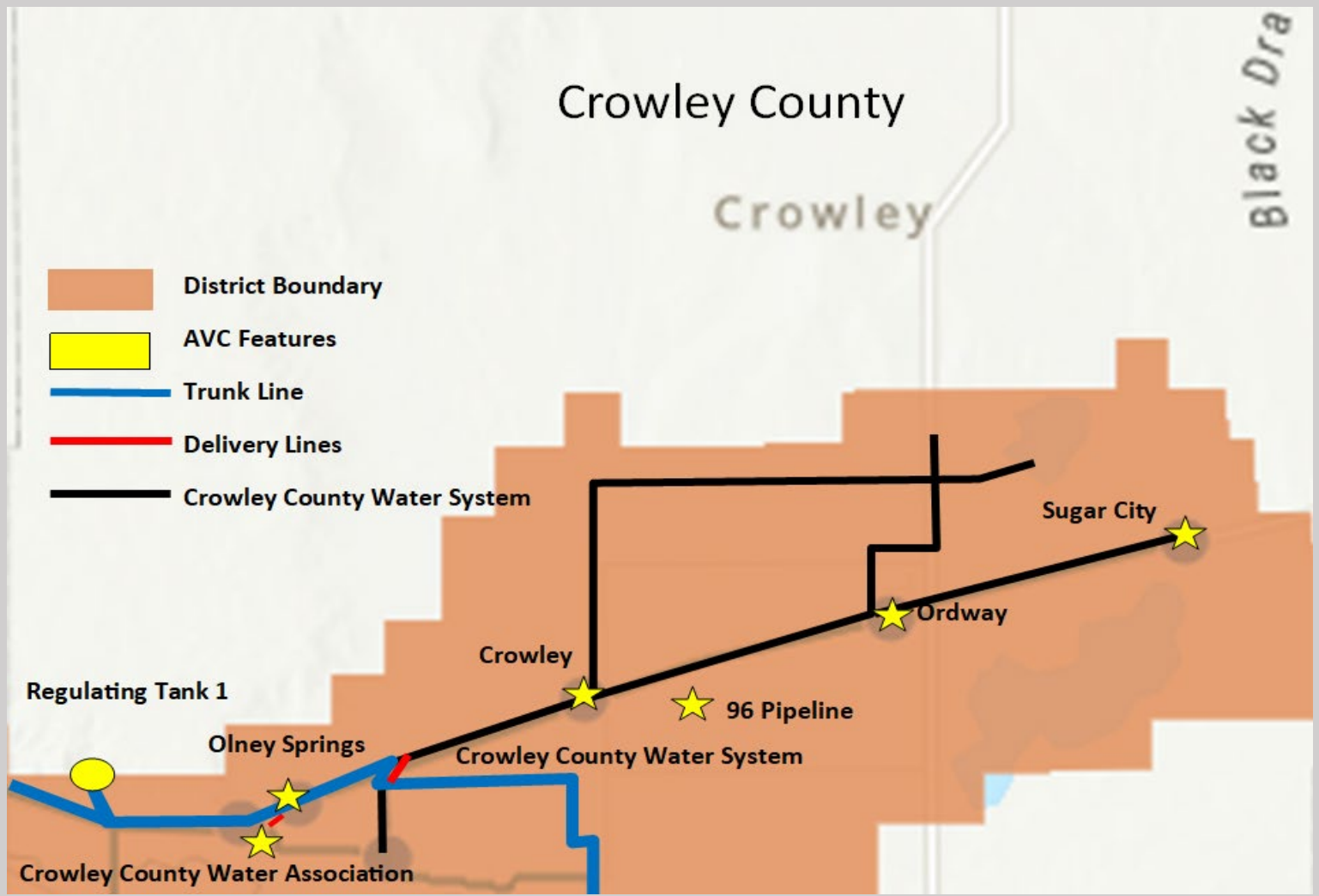
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Eastern Colorado Area Office
Loveland, CO

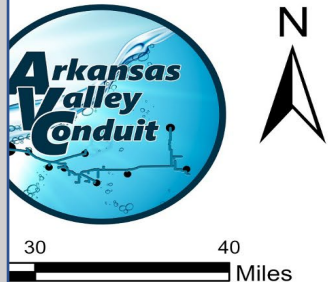
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Crowley County | Existing lines with some improvements
 Construction 2024-2026
 Expedited Schedule: 2023-2025



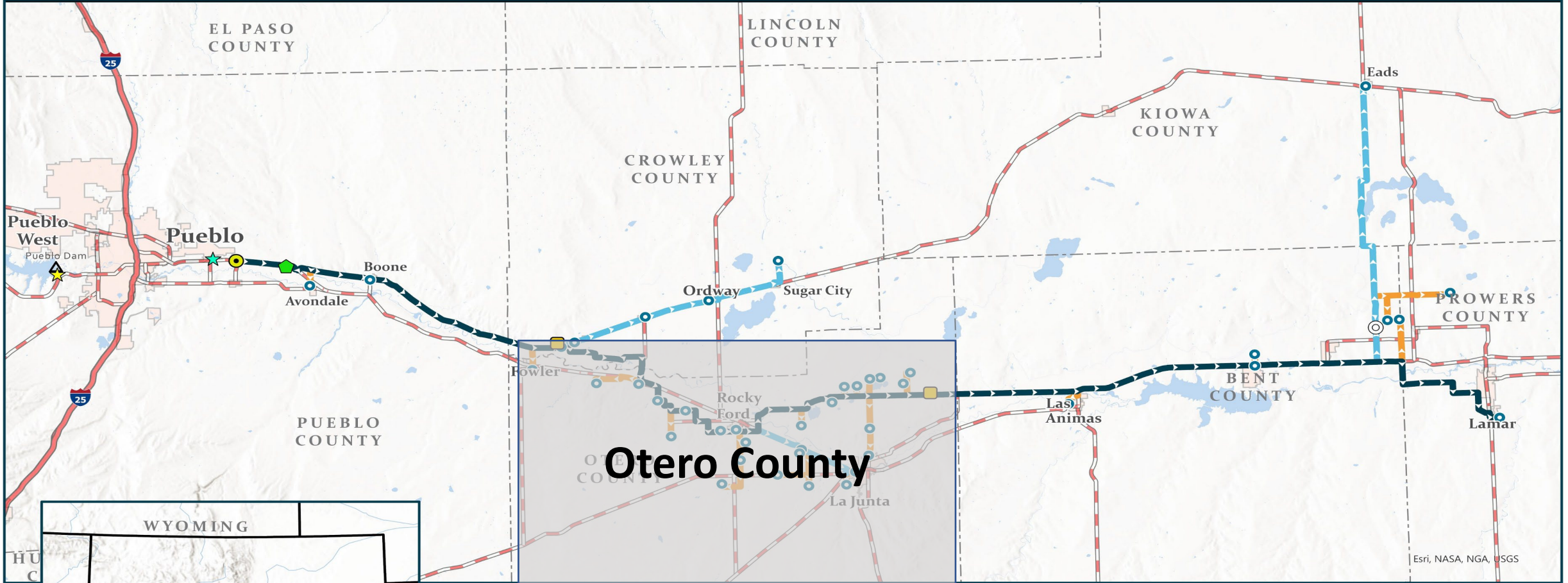


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SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO Water Conservancy District

The Arkansas Valley Conduit Project

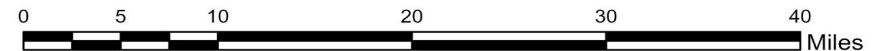


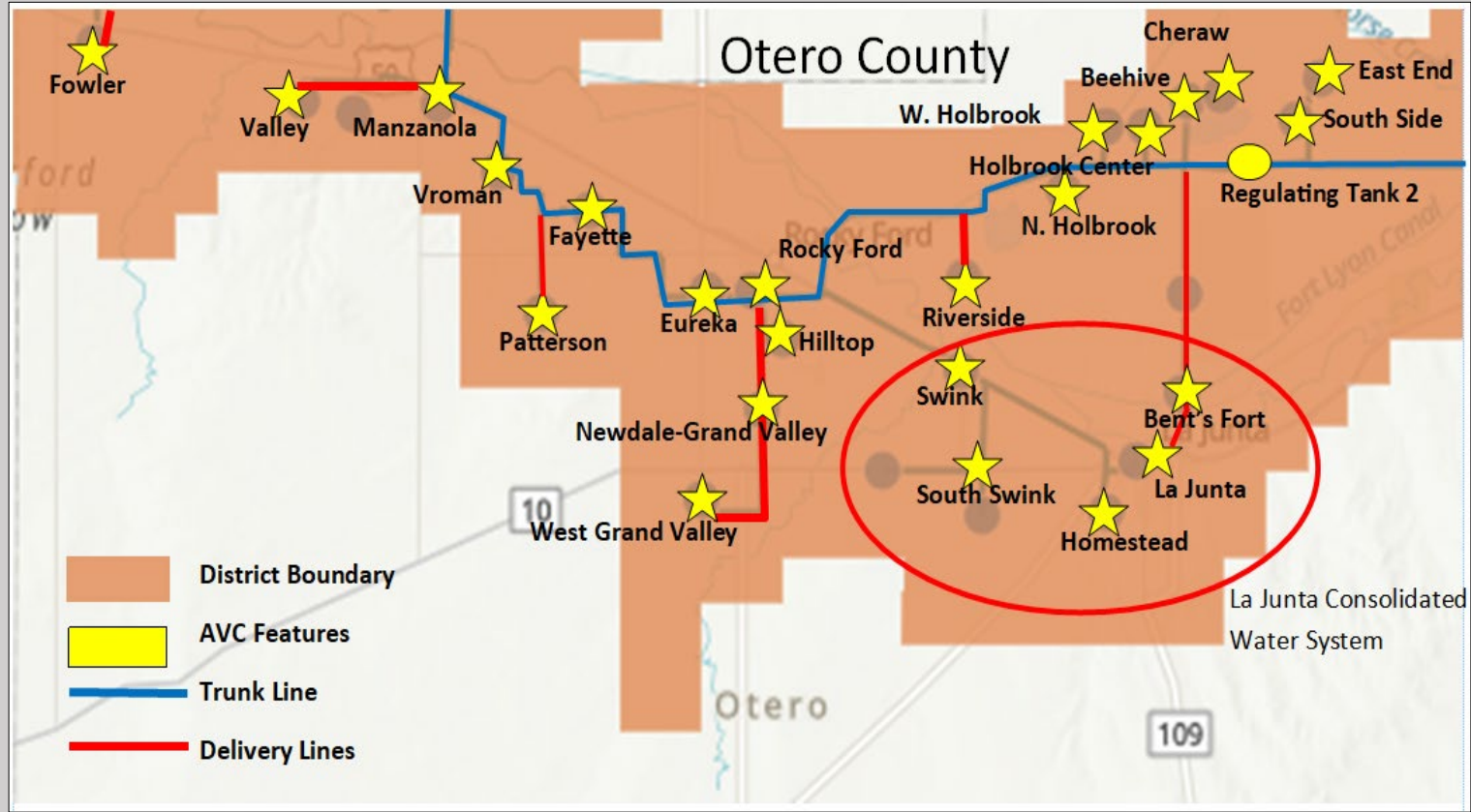
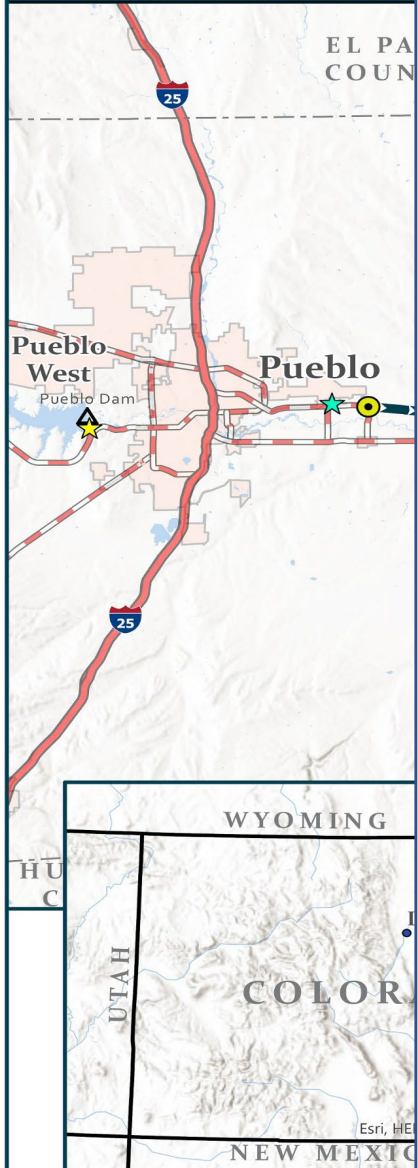
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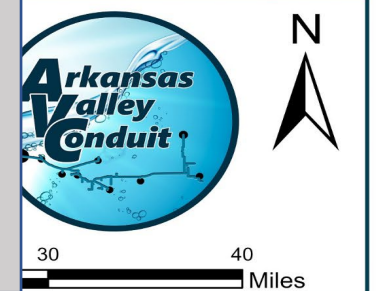
Revised January 26, 2022

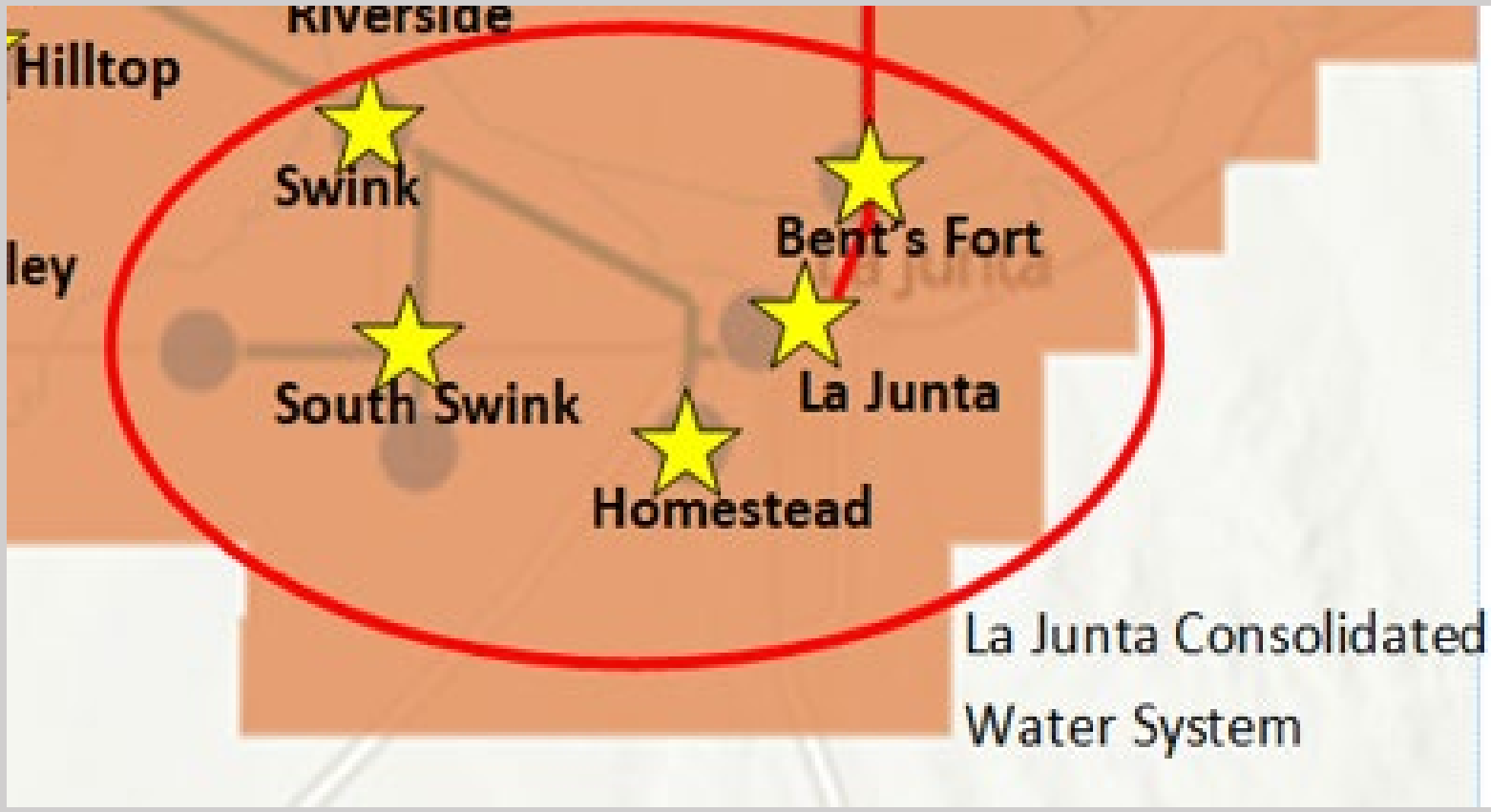
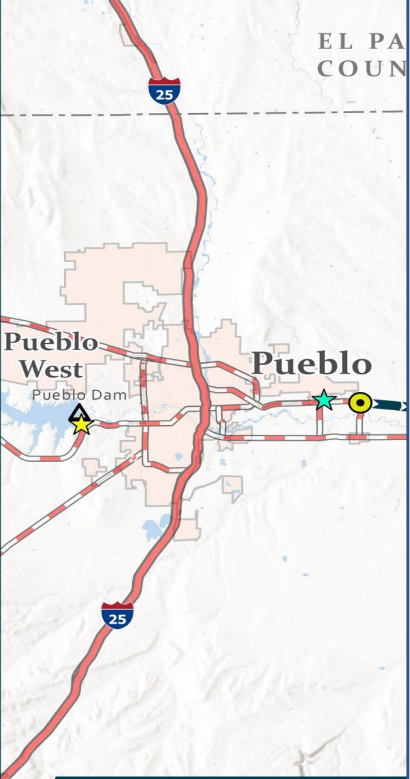
Spatial Reference
 Name: NAD 1983 StatePlane Colorado South FIPS 0503 Feet



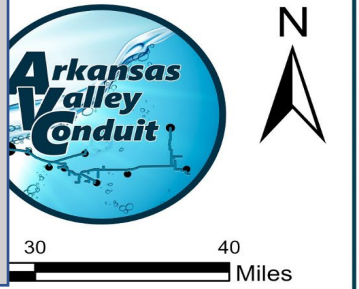


Otero County | 15 systems with radionuclides | La Junta consolidation
 Construction: 2026-2031
 Expedited Schedule: 2024-2027





La Junta currently serves Swink, Homestead and Bent's Fort.
South Swink would connect to La Junta's system.
Improvements needed in western La Junta system to accomplish this.



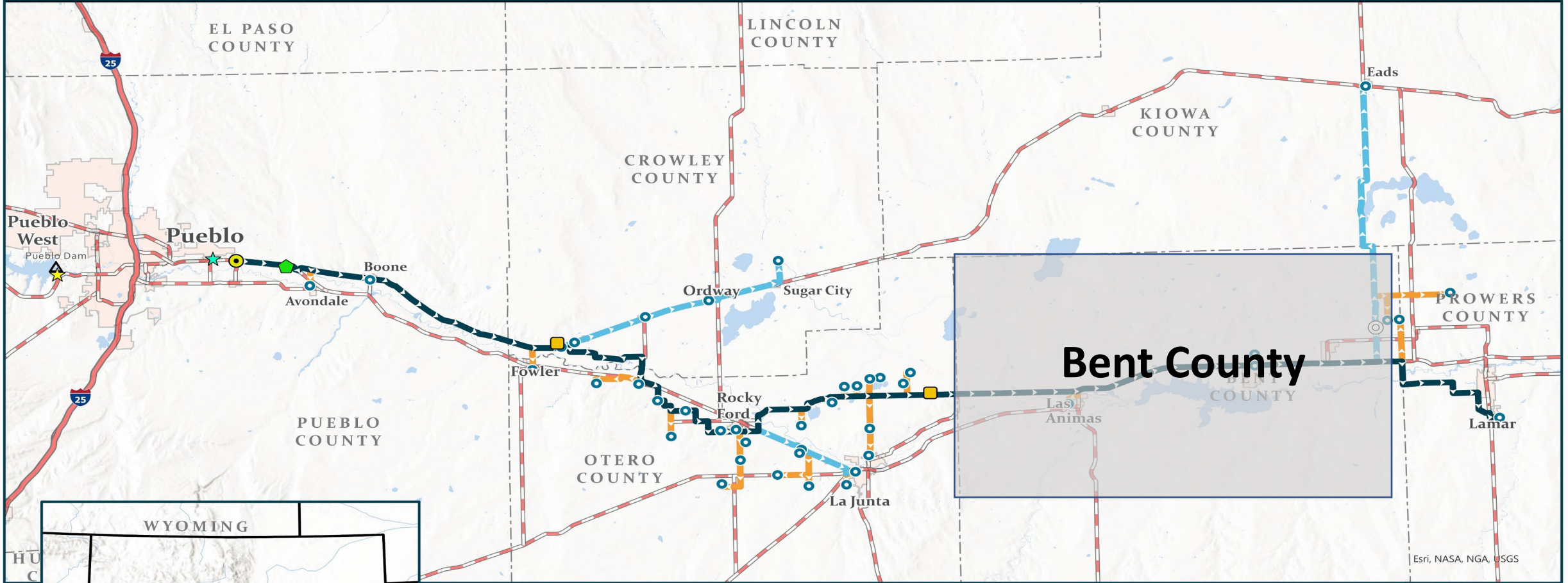


BUREAU OF RECLAMATION



SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO Water Conservancy District

The Arkansas Valley Conduit Project

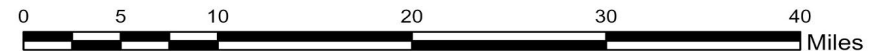


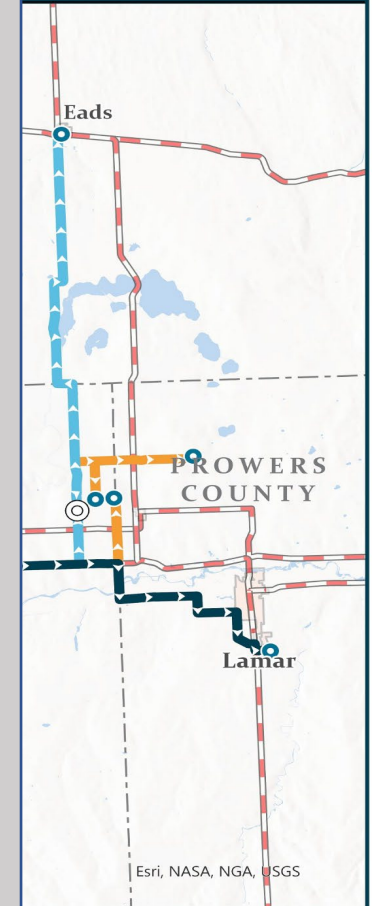
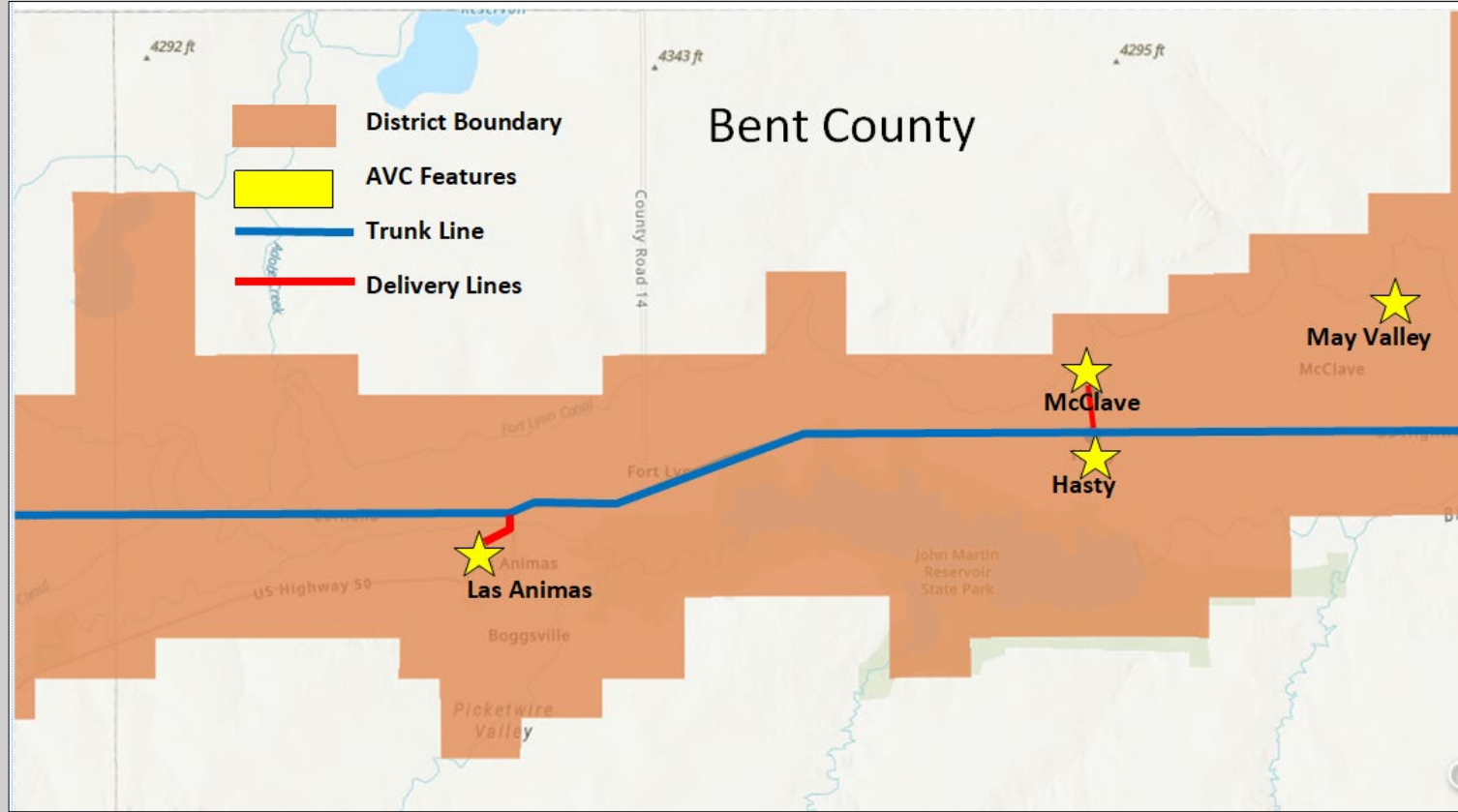
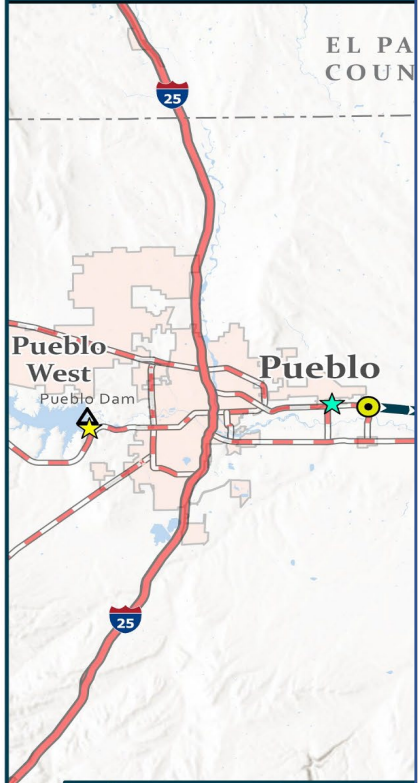
- Trunk Line (USBR)
- Spur Line (Southeastern)
- Delivery Line (Southeastern)
- Delivery Points / Participants
- Backflow Preventer
- Injection Site
- Regulating Tank
- Pumping Station
- Dam
- USBR Office
- Southeastern Office
- Interstate
- US Highway
- State Highway
- County Highway
- Other Roads

Map prepared by:
Bureau of Reclamation
Eastern Colorado Area Office
Loveland, CO

Revised January 26, 2022

Spatial Reference
Name: NAD 1983 StatePlane Colorado South FIPS 0503 Feet





Bent County | 3 systems with radionuclides | Las Animas wastewater quality
 Construction: 2031-2034
 Expedited Schedule: 2025-2027



Arkansas Valley Conduit

N

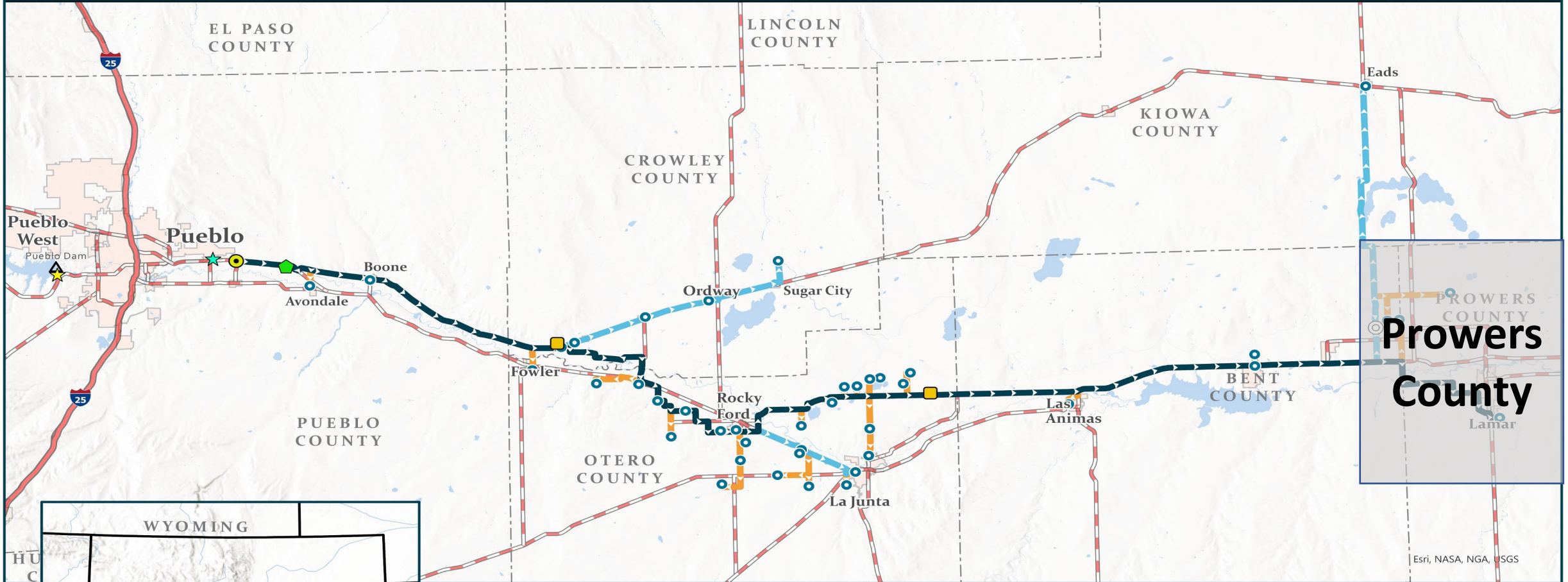


BUREAU OF RECLAMATION



SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO Water Conservancy District

The Arkansas Valley Conduit Project

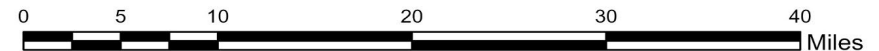


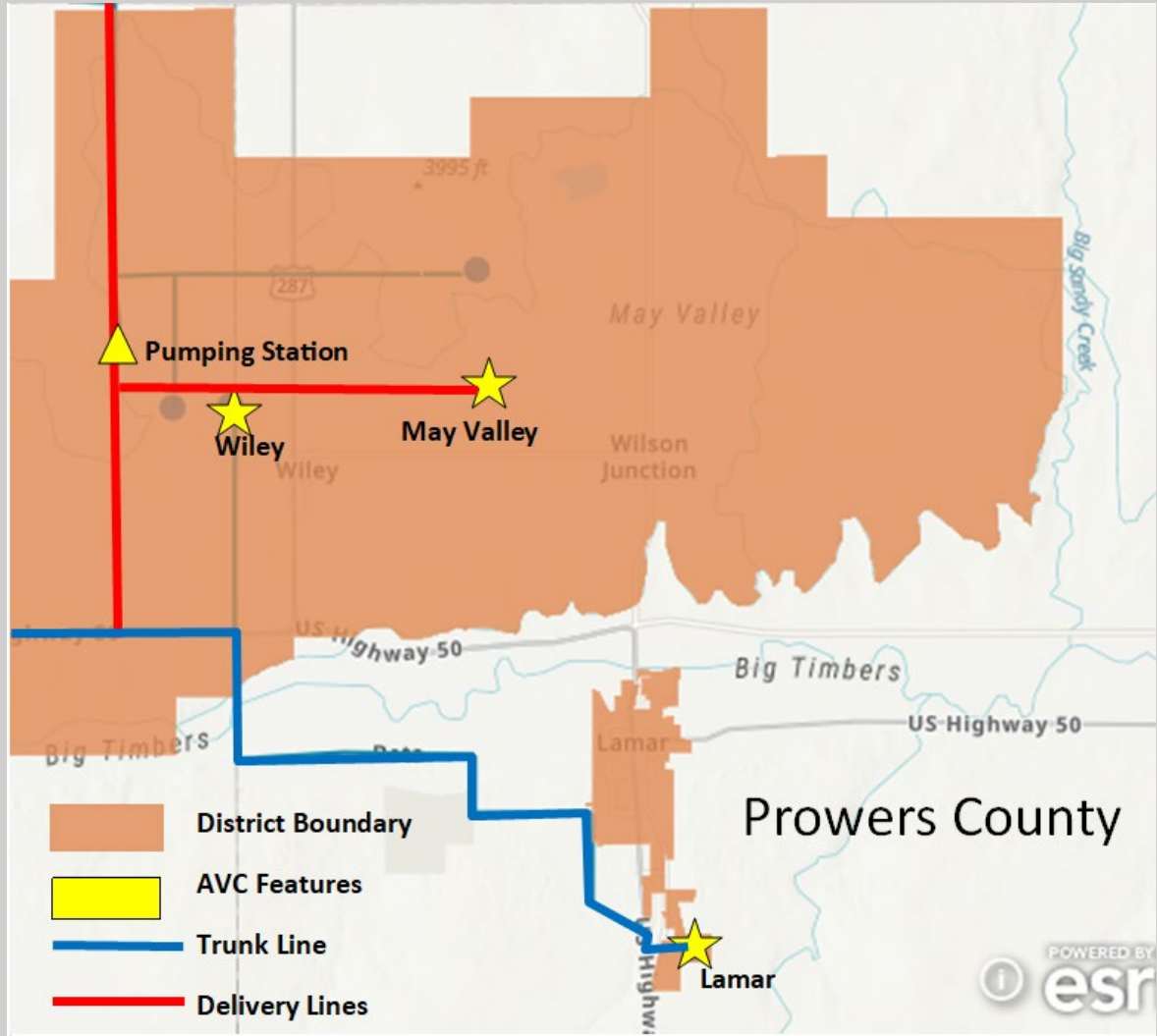
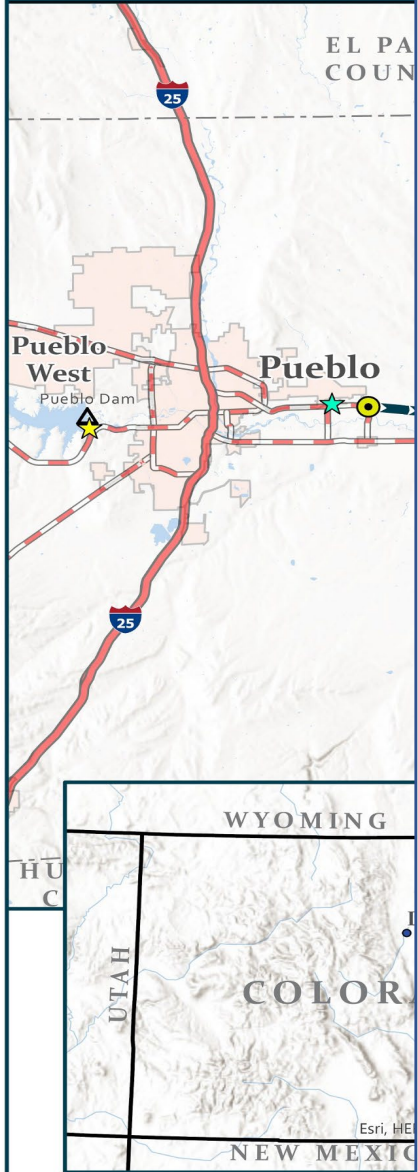
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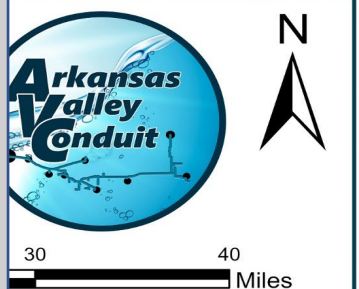
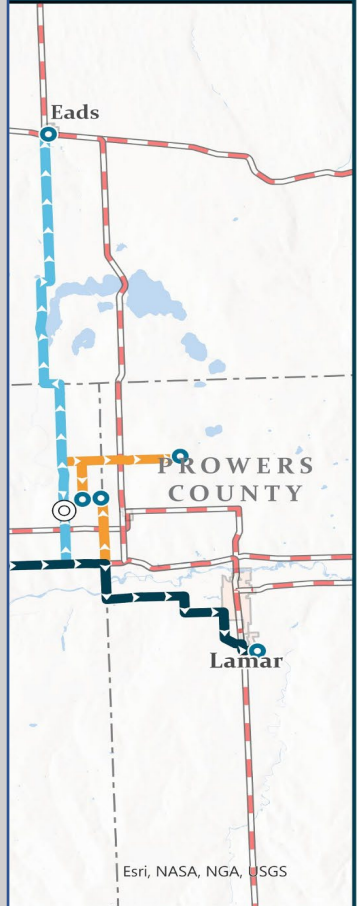


Prowers County

1 system with radionuclides

Wiley-May Valley Consolidation

Construction: 2034-2035
 Expedited Schedule: 2026-2027



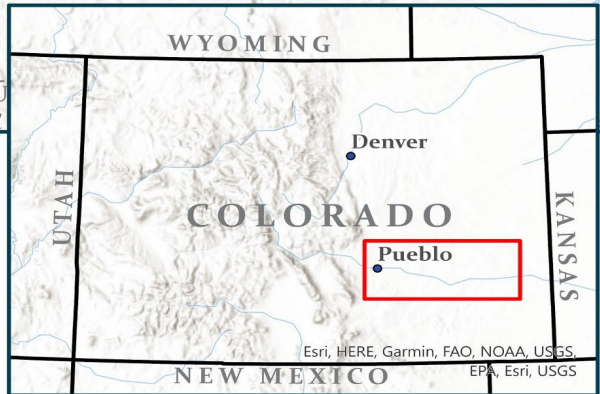
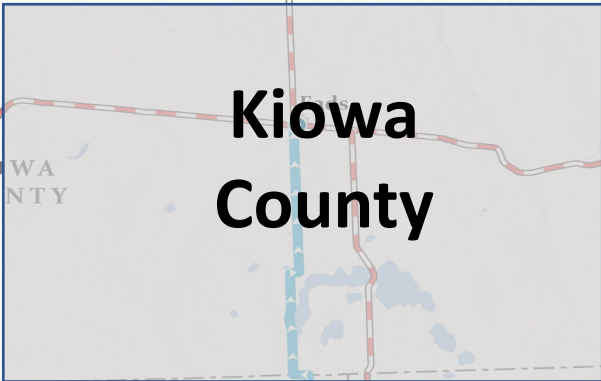
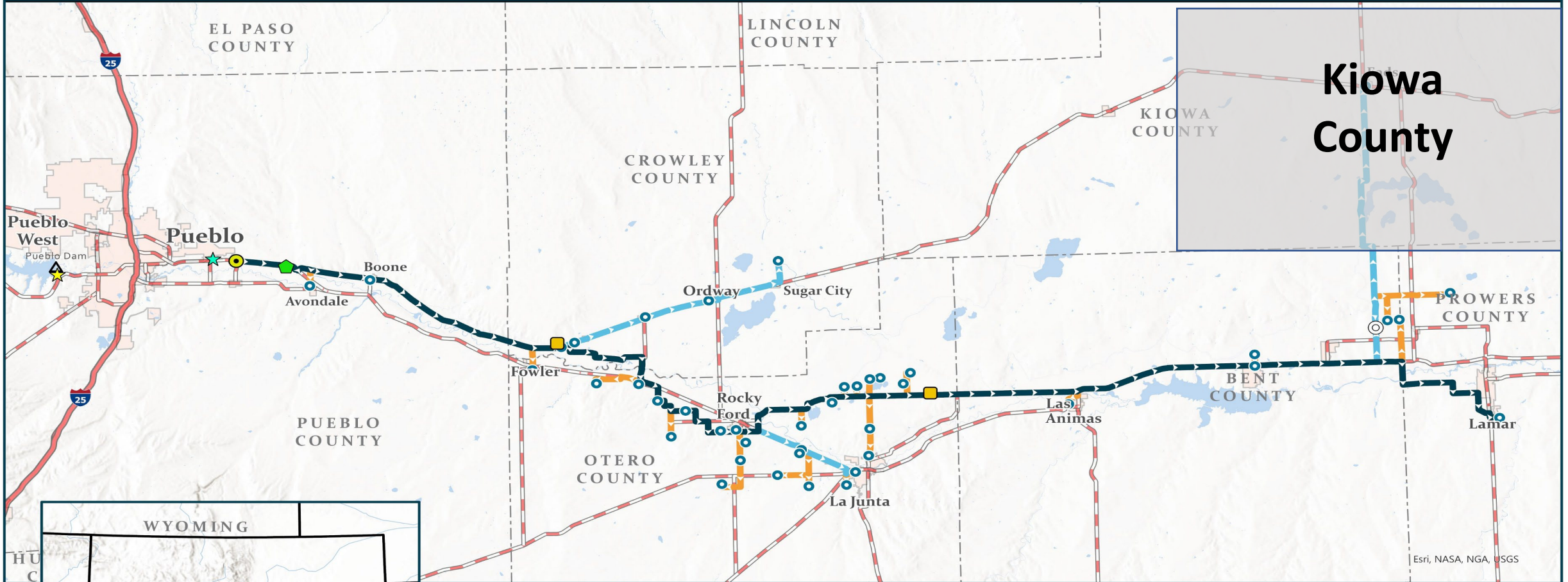


BUREAU OF RECLAMATION



SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO Water Conservancy District

The Arkansas Valley Conduit Project



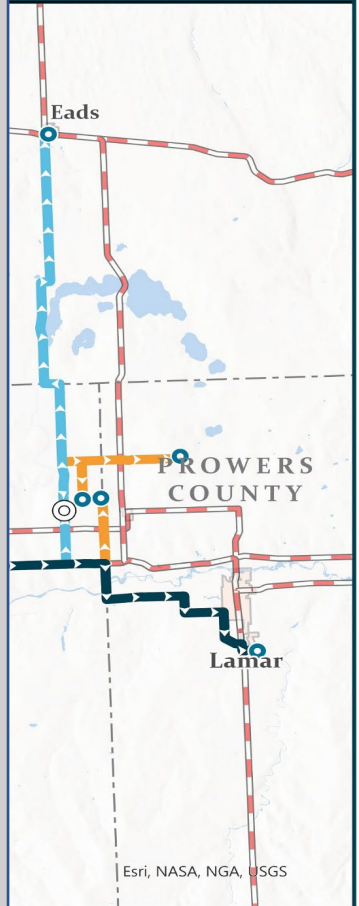
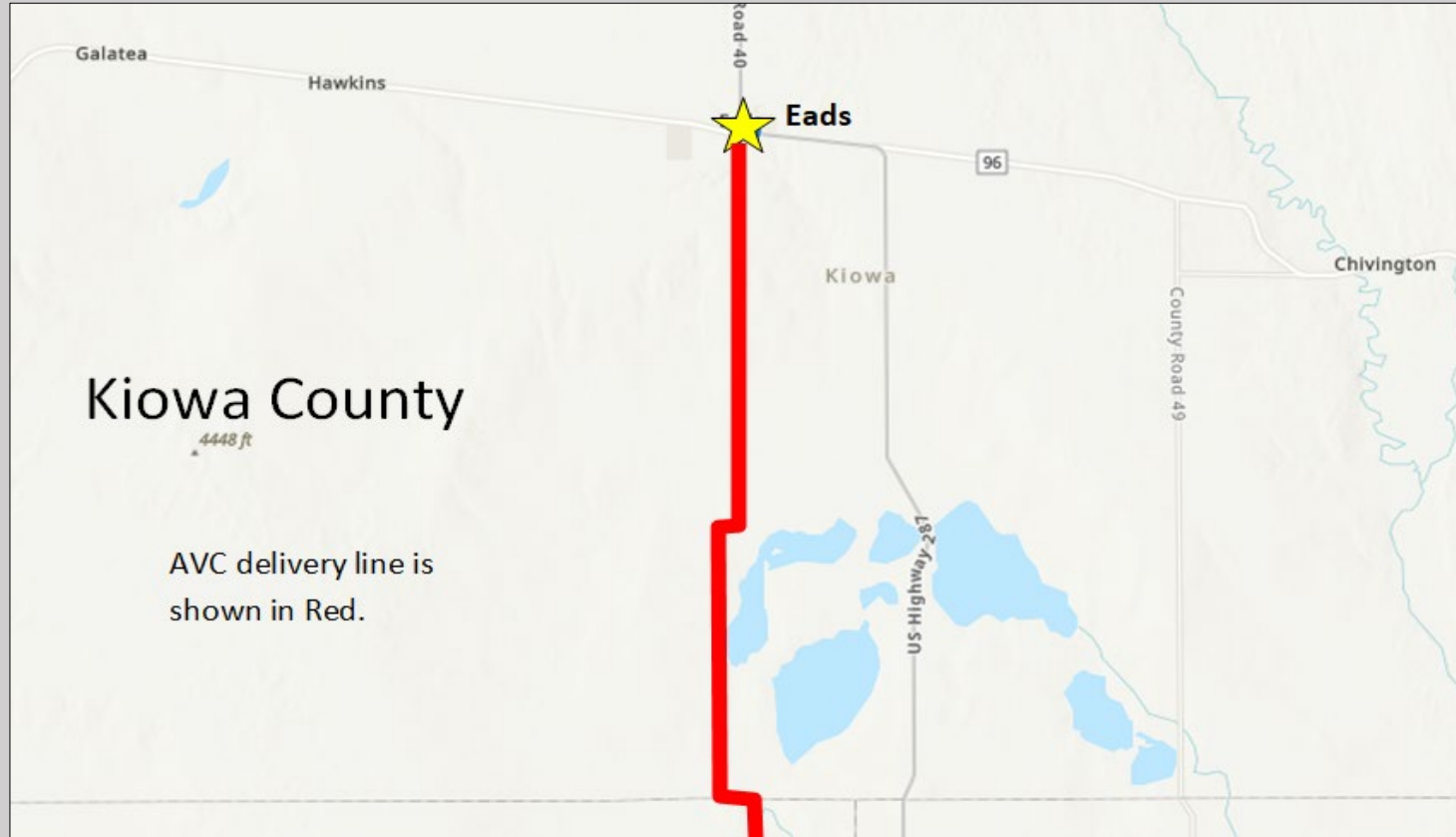
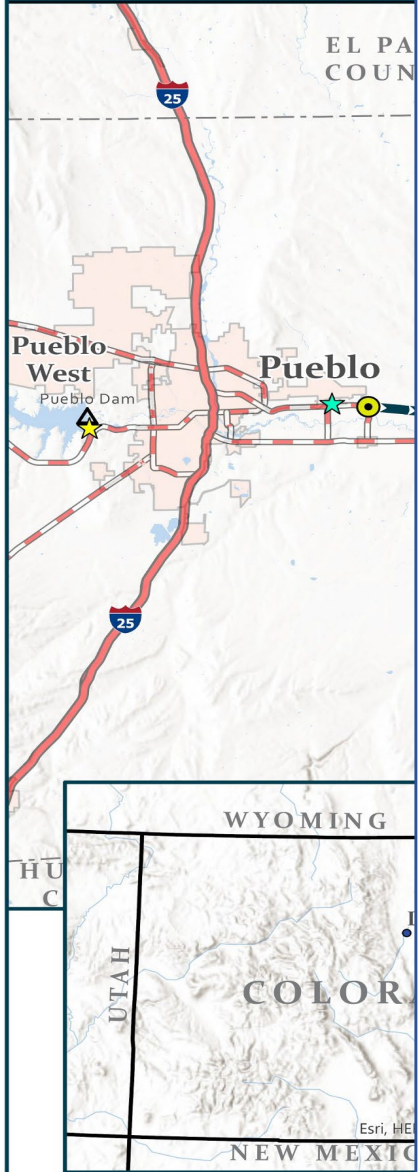
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Eastern Colorado Area Office
Loveland, CO

Revised January 26, 2022

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Kiowa County | Eads only AVC system | Construction: 2035
Expedited Schedule: 2028

The Arkansas Valley Conduit logo features a blue globe with the project name in white and black text. To the right of the logo is a north arrow pointing upwards. Below the logo is a scale bar with markings for 30 and 40 miles.



Financial Benefits

The AVC is a cost-effective and sustainable way to improve water systems. While some participants may pay more for water than they are paying now, it will be less costly than alternative measures in the long run. Current costs may also be further reduced by AVC efficiencies.

How will AVC affect water rates?

There is a large range of water rates among the participants in AVC. Residential customer payments range from \$25-\$80 a month. The rate for any water system will depend upon factors such as additional debt service, sources of funding and changes to operational expenses.

	B	C	D	E	F	G
	Government Activity Fund	Water Activity Fund	Arkansas Valley Conduit (AVC)	Hydroelectric Power Fund	Government Wide Total	
	\$ 11,896,827	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,896,827	
Funds	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ 800,000	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,973,000	\$ -	\$ 1,973,000	
Revenues	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 172,200	\$ 172,200	
A Revenues	\$ 3,042,450	\$ 1,831,597	\$ 299,266	\$ -	\$ 5,173,313	
Electric Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 206,087	\$ -	\$ 206,087	
	\$ 15,339,277	\$ 1,831,597	\$ 2,878,353	\$ 1,319,389	\$ 1,319,389	\$ 21,540,816
Expenditures						
Government Activity	\$ 6,567,772	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,567,772	
Activity	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ 800,000	
Operating Expense	\$ 4,191,136	\$ 2,313,776	\$ 525,455	\$ 763,604	\$ 7,793,971	
Capital Expenditures	\$ 11,158,908	\$ 2,313,776	\$ 925,455	\$ 763,604	\$ 15,161,743	
Total Fry-Ark Revenues over (under) Expenditures	\$ 5,329,055	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,329,055	
Total Operations Revenues over (under) Expenditures	\$ (1,148,686)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,148,686)	
Net Operations Over (Under) Revenues	\$ 4,180,369	\$ (482,179)	\$ 1,952,898	\$ 727,985	\$ 6,379,073	
Research and Development						
Core Business						
District Upfront Capital Expense						
Future Water Supply & Storage						
Colorado River Issues		300,000				
Recovery of						

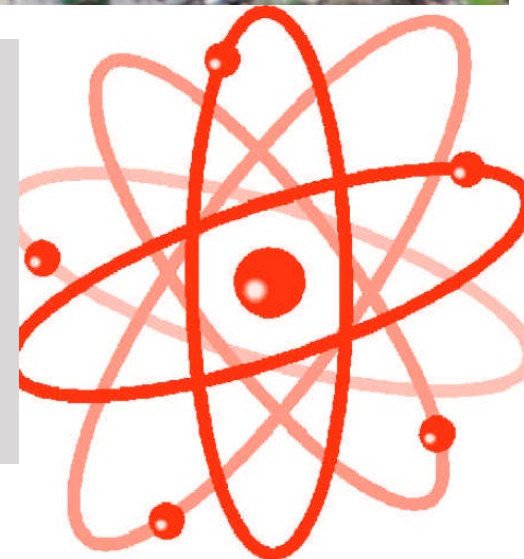


Water Quality Benefits

Poor water quality in the lower Arkansas River basin was recognized 100 years ago. Alluvial wells may be contaminated. Deeper wells may contain radionuclides. Many former water sources are unavailable because of stricter EPA standards.

How will AVC affect water quality?

AVC will provide a renewable source water that already meets water quality standards. In addition, there will be fewer by-products from the water treatment process to dispose of, as well as cleaner water for wastewater treatment systems.



18 of the 39 water systems in the AVC have been cited for elevated levels of radionuclides. All water systems are at risk of source-water contamination. Wastewater systems must comply with selenium discharge regulations.



AVC Governance

AVC water systems:

2 home-rule cities

2 statutory cities

11 statutory towns

1 water district

9 water associations

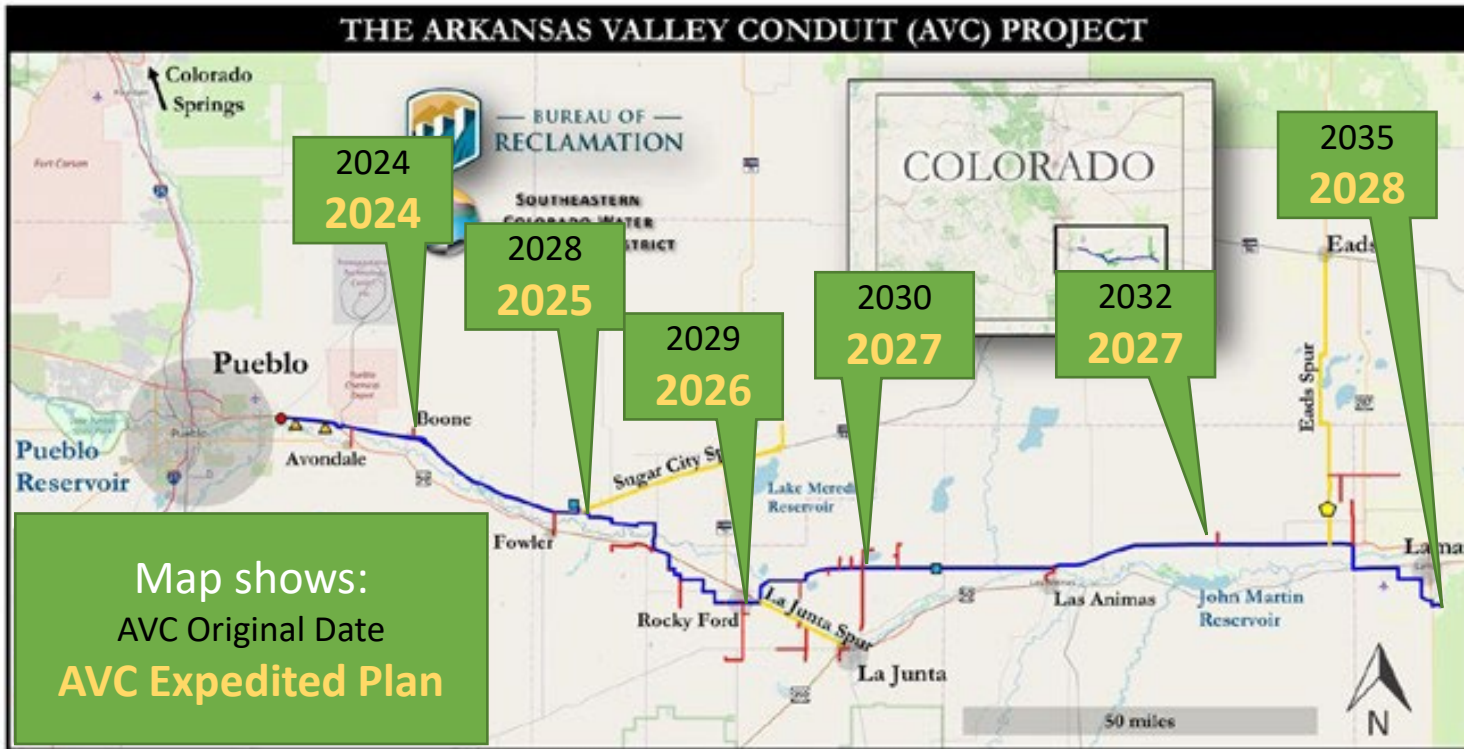
14 water companies

12-3,500
taps per
system

How will SECWCD Coordinate with you?

We are in discussions with Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers and Pueblo County Commissioners, as well as the La Junta and Lamar City Councils to develop a governance agreement for AVC.





Construction Schedule
 The AVC would be completed by 2035 under a construction schedule developed in 2020. SECWCD is working with Reclamation on an expedited plan under Federal Infrastructure Funds that would complete construction by 2028.

When will AVC bring water to our system?
 SECWCD is working to design all spurs and delivery lines in the next two years in order to be ready for the AVC trunk line when it reaches your community, based on an expedited schedule.

The map above shows dates for the original schedule and the current expedited plan.





The Work Ahead

The AVC will provide a cleaner source of water for the Lower Arkansas Valley, fulfilling a vision that began nearly 100 years ago. It has taken the dedicated work over many decades to reach this point and future generations will benefit.

Where can I get more information on AVC?

Please feel free to contact the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District at 719-948-2400, or visit our website at <http://www.secwcd.org>

