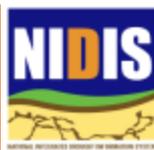




# COLORADO DROUGHT TOURNAMENT

HOSTED: SEPTEMBER 2012



# Background

- Series of tournaments held in Canada starting in 2011
  - ▣ Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- NIDIS/NDMC Chicago Conference in June 2011
- Colorado Drought Tournament – Sept 2012
- Oklahoma Water Supply Reliability & Management Challenge –Oct 2014
- San Antonio, TX – Nov 2015
- Des Moines, Idaho – Jan 2016



# Objectives

Education/  
Outreach

Inform  
planning  
process

Integral to  
complex  
planning

- Educate participants on the multidisciplinary and multi-sector implications of drought
- Encourage collaboration among those with various backgrounds & build relationships
- Introduce the concept of the “gaming forum” as a tool
- Create environment that is engaging, competitive and **FUN!!!!!!**

# Participants

- Game organizers
- Teams – five players
- Referees
- Fans



# Getting Started

## CHANCE TIMES

Your biannual dose of local watershed news

November 2020

southern plains. The southern plains are not forested and prior to irrigated desert. Closer to the mountains, forests become more prominent and vary significantly more rugged, resulting in a broad diversity of eco-regions.

### History of Water Development

Chance Basin is subject to Colorado's prior appropriation doctrine and water rights developed in the Basin were 1842 claims for gold mining in mass migration of ambitious miners to the area. However, while the gold did not prove to be profitable and as quickly as the gold frenzy started, it was abandoned and the first settlers did not arrive until 1852.



Source of Picture: A History of Water Law, Water rights & Water Development in Wyoming

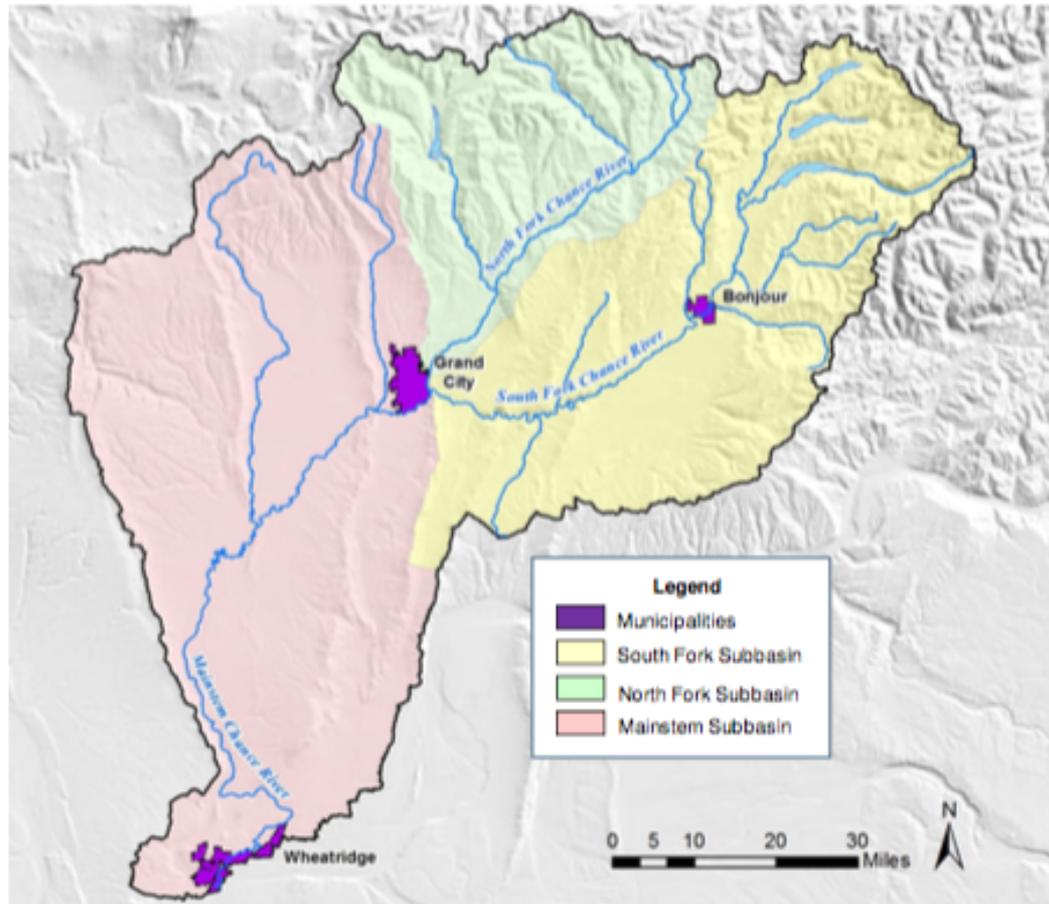
Chance Basin is unique in that development did not occur until it was developed in 1842. The agreement between the downstream territory, interstate compact in 1910, and other interstate compact

The first settlers were from the southern plains and formed the Senior Ditch Company. An abundant supply of water increased and cities began to develop as reservoirs were needed.

Furthermore, Next Door Basin, just north of Chance Basin, had developed. In 1850, Next Door Basin staked a claim to 53,800 acre-feet (AF). In 1910, Next Door Basin completed the construction of Sharing Reservoir on the Chance Mountain Range for the transbasin diversion. In 1950, Senior Farm Reservoir and five years later, Grand City entered an agreement with the Reservoir. The 1950s were also a period of alluvial groundwater development along the Mainstem of Chance River and in the South Fork constructed by Junior Irrigation Company in 1960.

### Chance Basin "Water Budget"

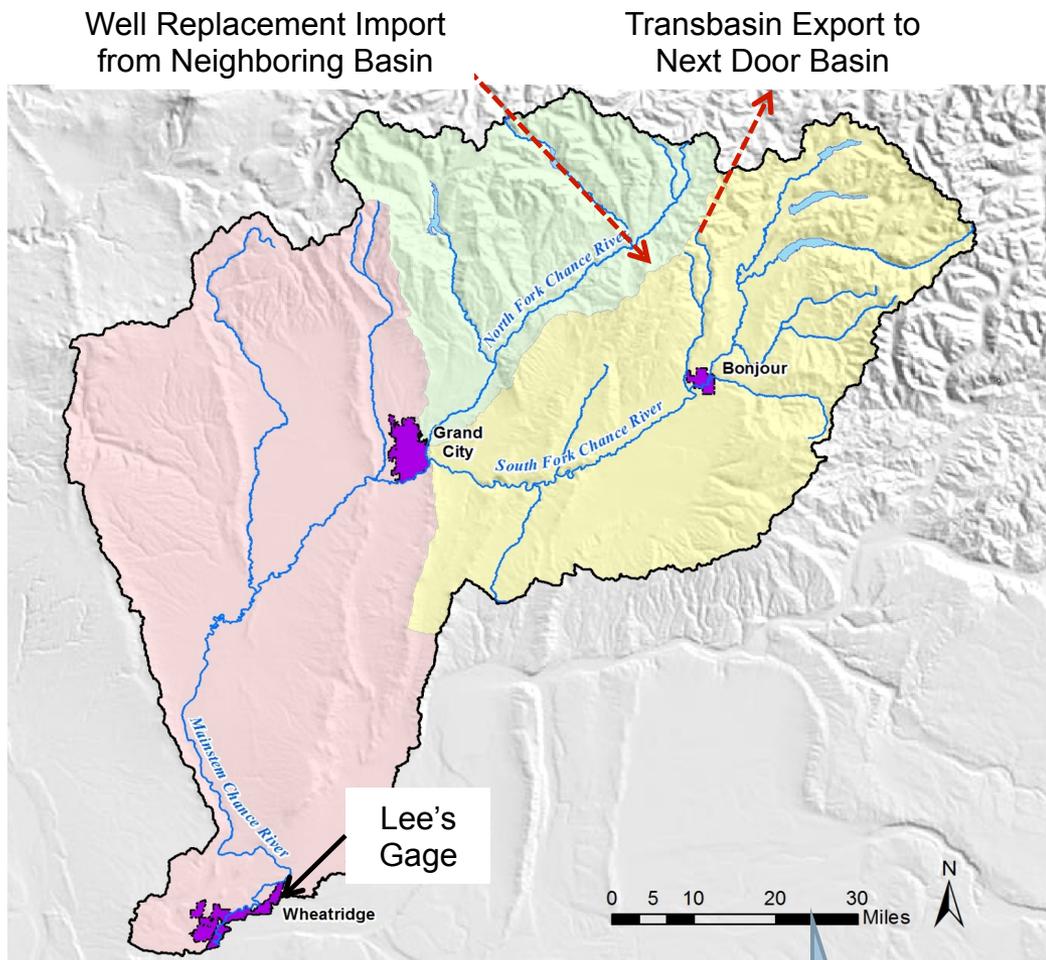
In a normal hydrologic year, Chance Basin naturally receives 2.8 million AF of water. Under the interstate compact, one-third of the Basin's annual water supply is allocated to the states. Average streamflow measurements on the Mainstem of Chance River are taken downstream of Wheatridge on a daily basis. The total monthly flow is approximately one-third of Chance River's monthly natural (virgin) discharge assuming no development.



Introductory Packet  
Drought Tournament  
Colorado State Drought Conference  
September 18, 2012

# Chance Basin Normal Year “Stats”

Note: All amounts are in acre-feet



Normal Year Natural Flows  
(2.8 M AF)

minus

Interstate Compact  
(939,000 AF)

minus

Transbasin Export  
(53,800 AF)

equals

Remaining Supply Available for  
In-Basin Use  
(1.8 M AF)

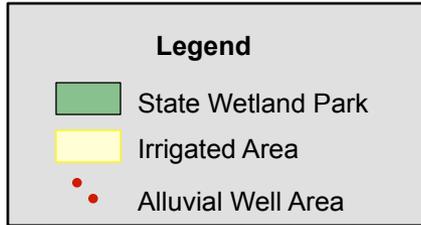
equals

Transbasin Import for Well  
Replacement  
(700,000 AF)

plus

Supply Available for In-Basin Use Including Well  
Replacement  
(2.5 M AF)

# Irrigated Agriculture



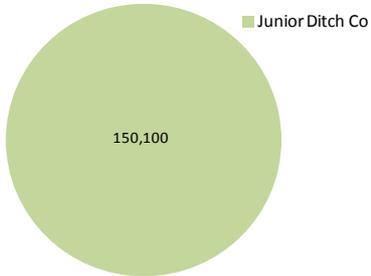
Well Replacement Import from Neighboring Basin

Senior Farm Reservoir

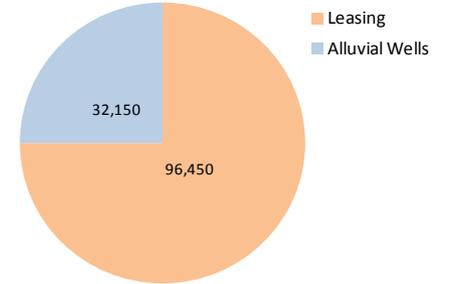
Sharing Reservoir

Junior Farm Reservoir

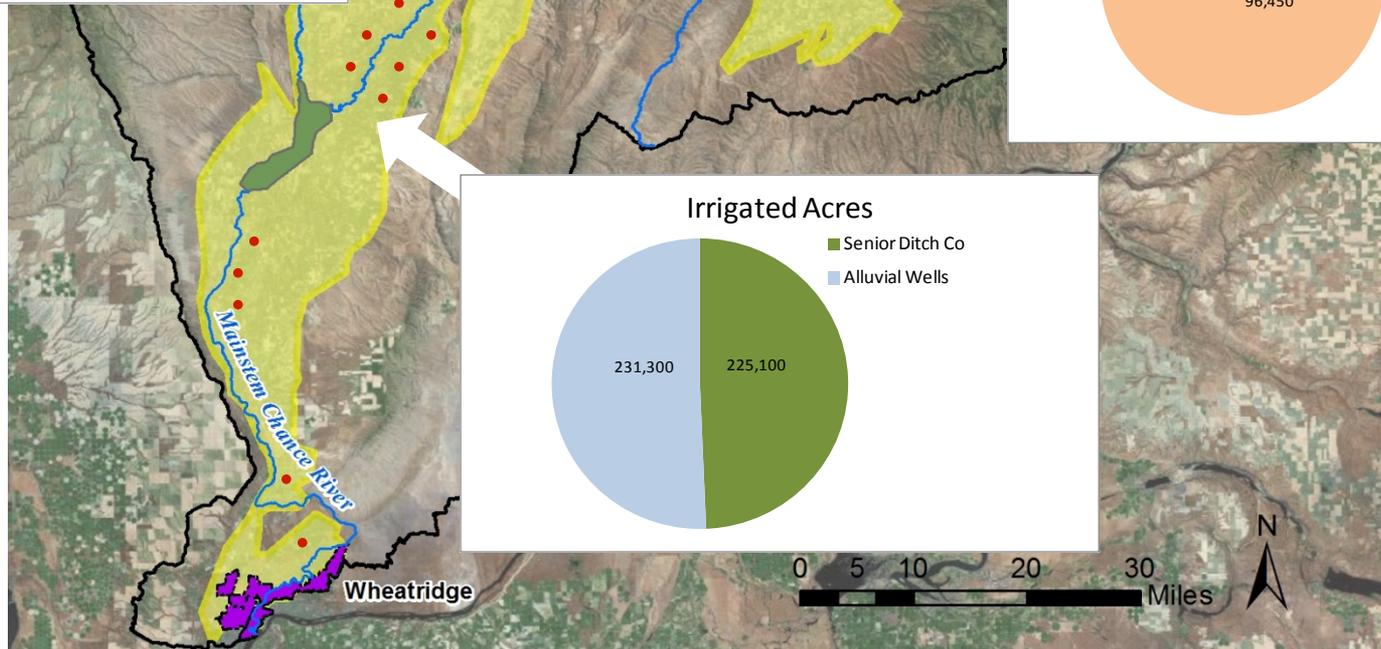
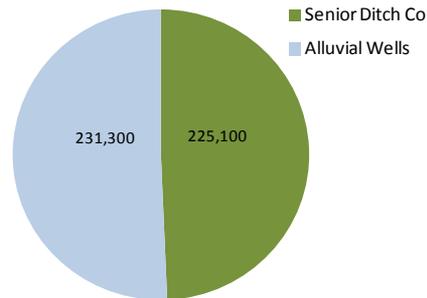
Irrigated Acres



Irrigated Acres

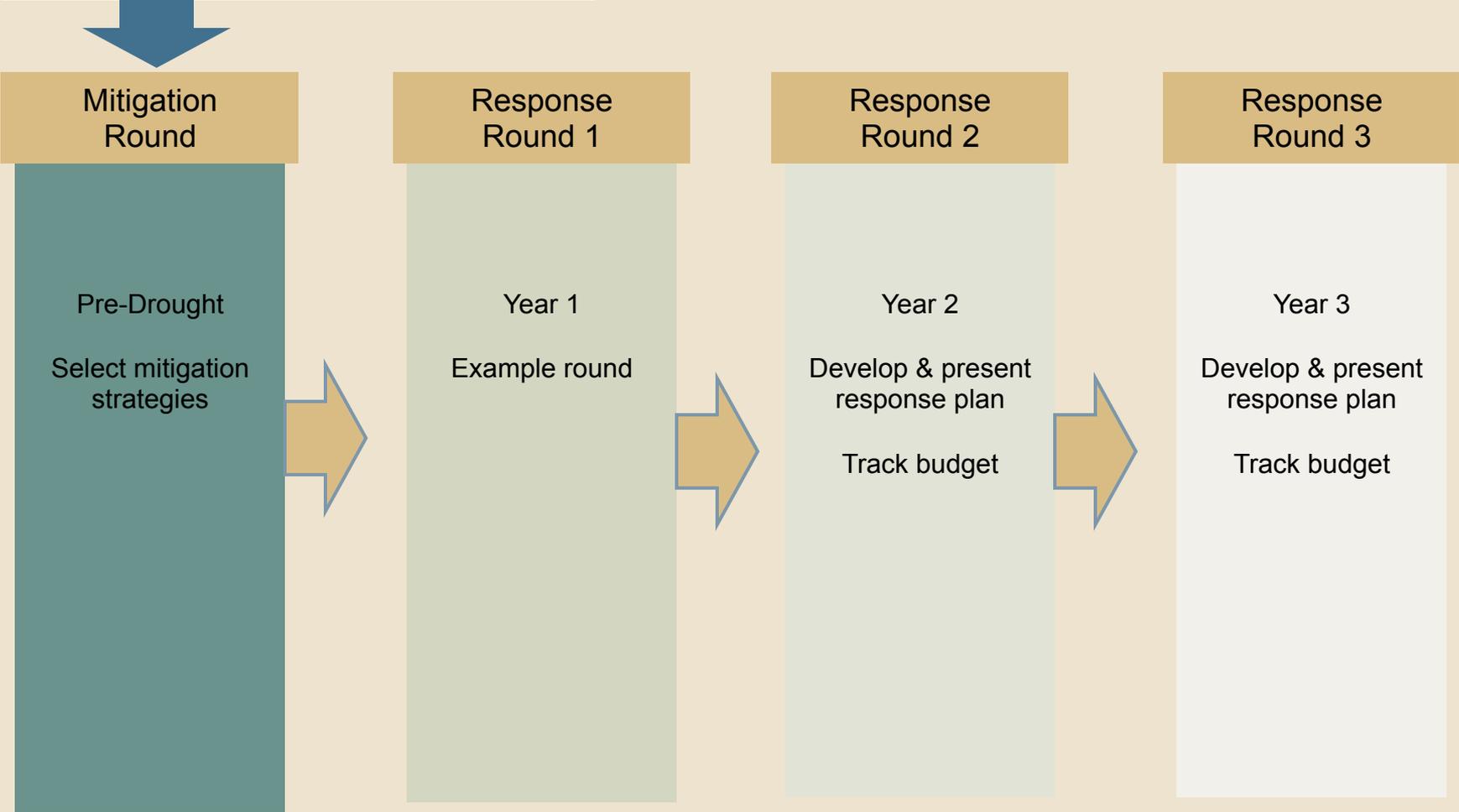


Irrigated Acres



# Playing the Tournament

Starting budget of \$20M



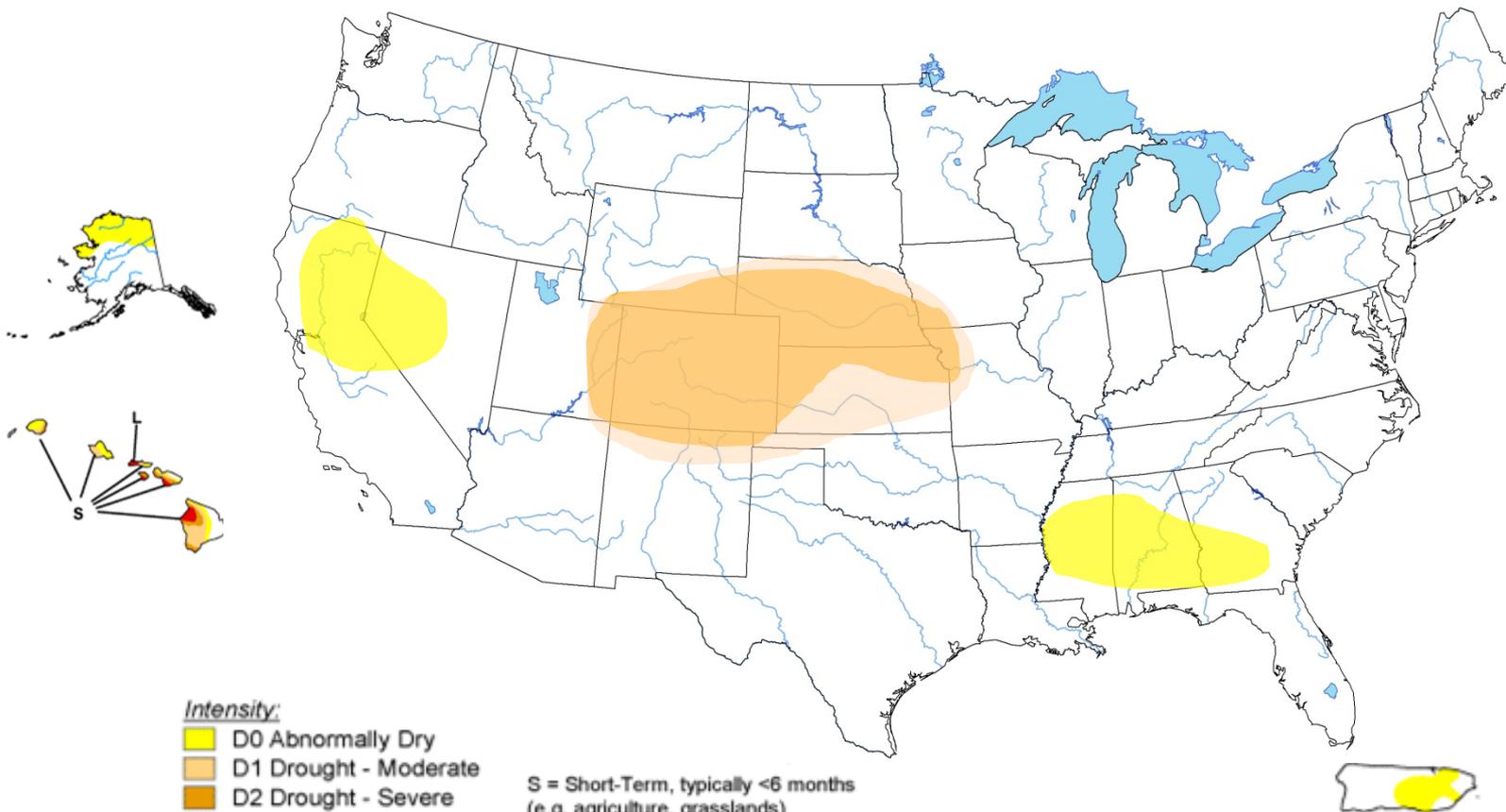
The Faux

# Round 1

# U.S. Drought Monitor

April 30, 2021

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



**Intensity:**

-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Drought - Moderate
-  D2 Drought - Severe
-  D3 Drought - Extreme
-  D4 Drought - Exceptional

S = Short-Term, typically <6 months  
(e.g. agriculture, grasslands)  
L = Long-Term, typically >6 months  
(e.g. hydrology, ecology)

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions.  
Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary  
for forecast statements.*



Released: April 30, 2020

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

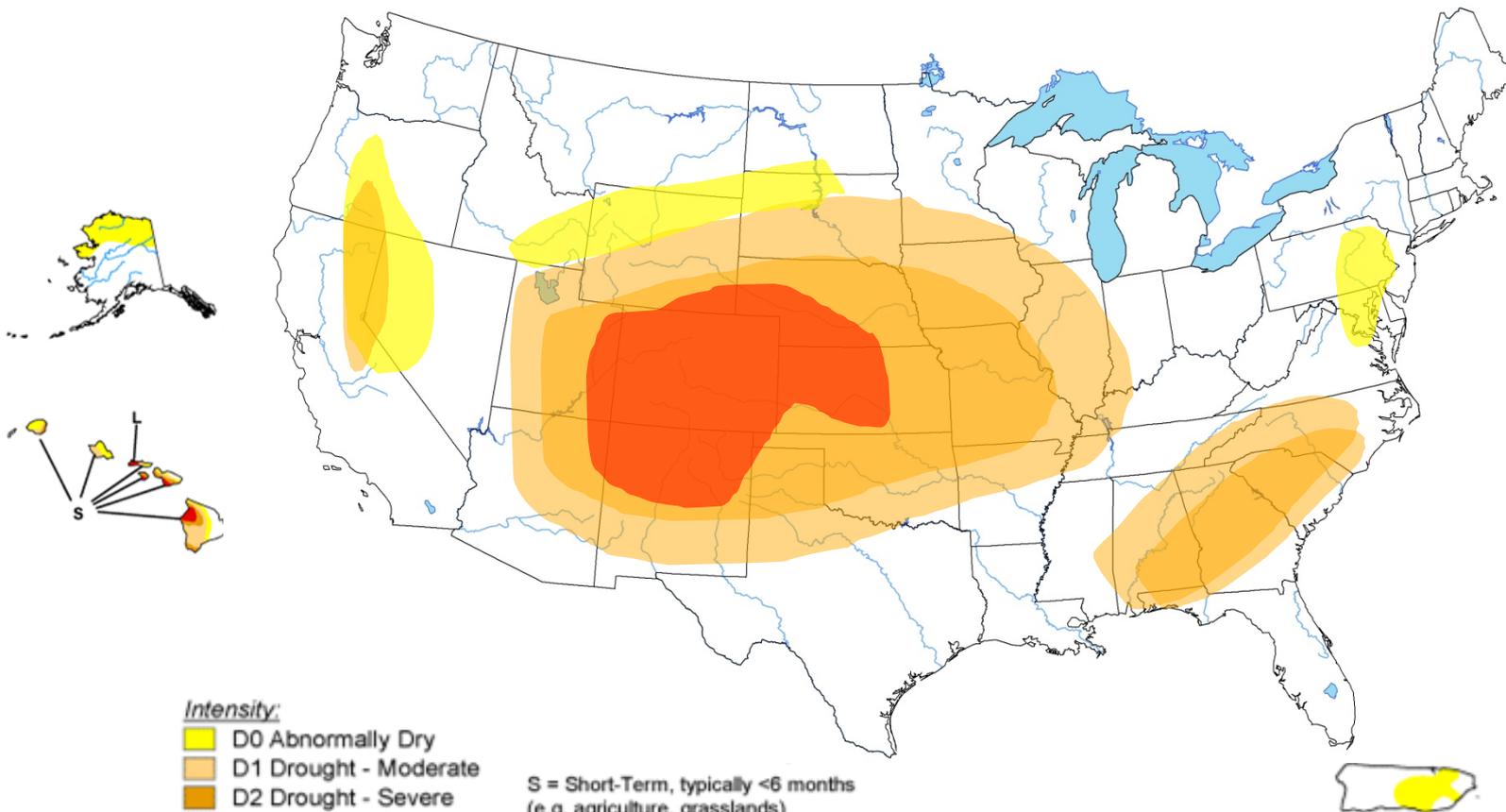
The Faux

# Round 2

# U.S. Drought Monitor

April 30, 2022

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



**Intensity:**

-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Drought - Moderate
-  D2 Drought - Severe
-  D3 Drought - Extreme
-  D4 Drought - Exceptional

S = Short-Term, typically <6 months  
(e.g. agriculture, grasslands)

L = Long-Term, typically >6 months  
(e.g. hydrology, ecology)

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions.  
Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary  
for forecast statements.*



Released: April 30, 2022

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

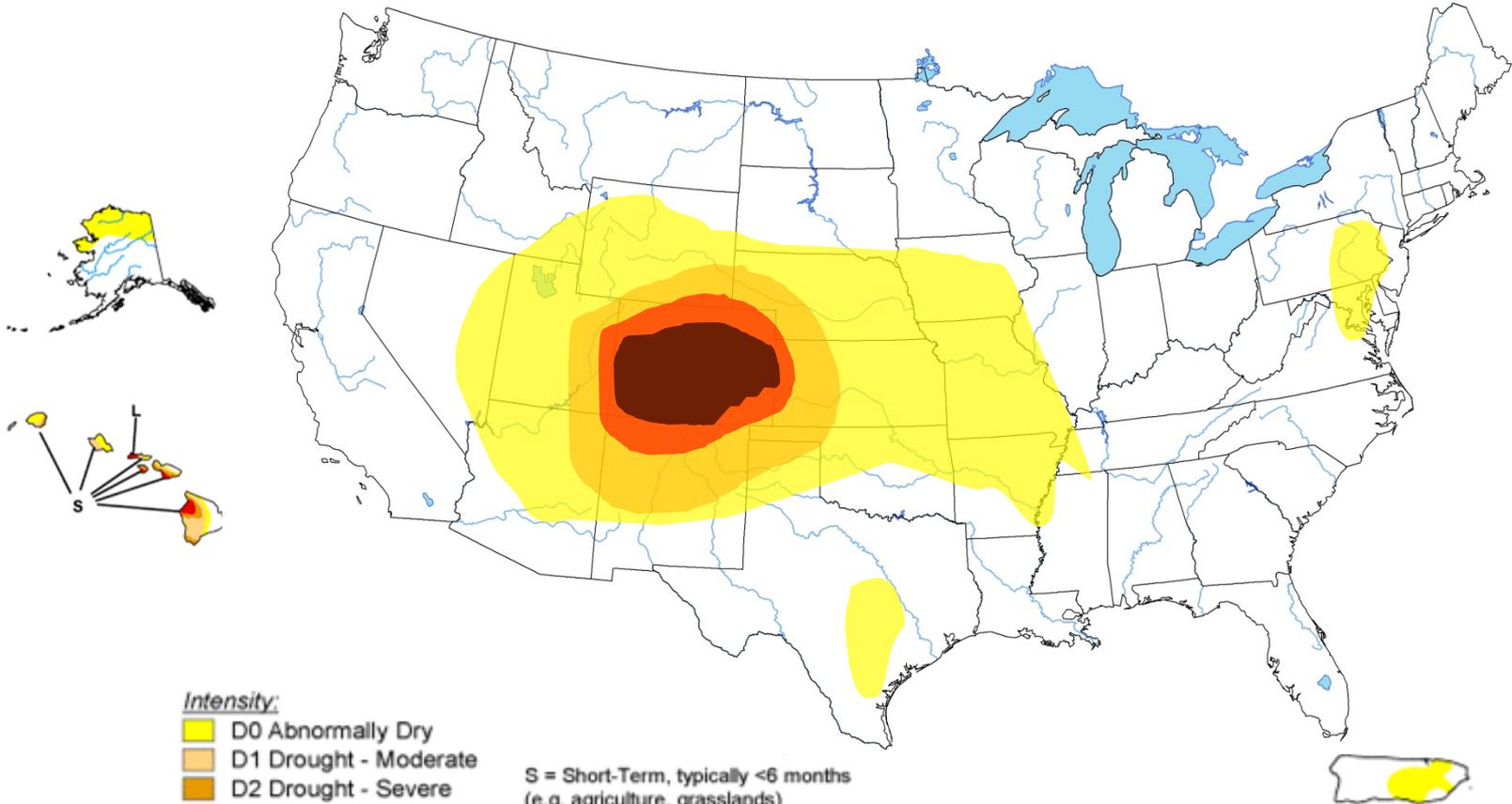
The Faux

# Round 3

# U.S. Drought Monitor

April 30, 2023

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



**Intensity:**

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

S = Short-Term, typically <6 months  
(e.g. agriculture, grasslands)  
L = Long-Term, typically >6 months  
(e.g. hydrology, ecology)

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions.  
Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary  
for forecast statements.*

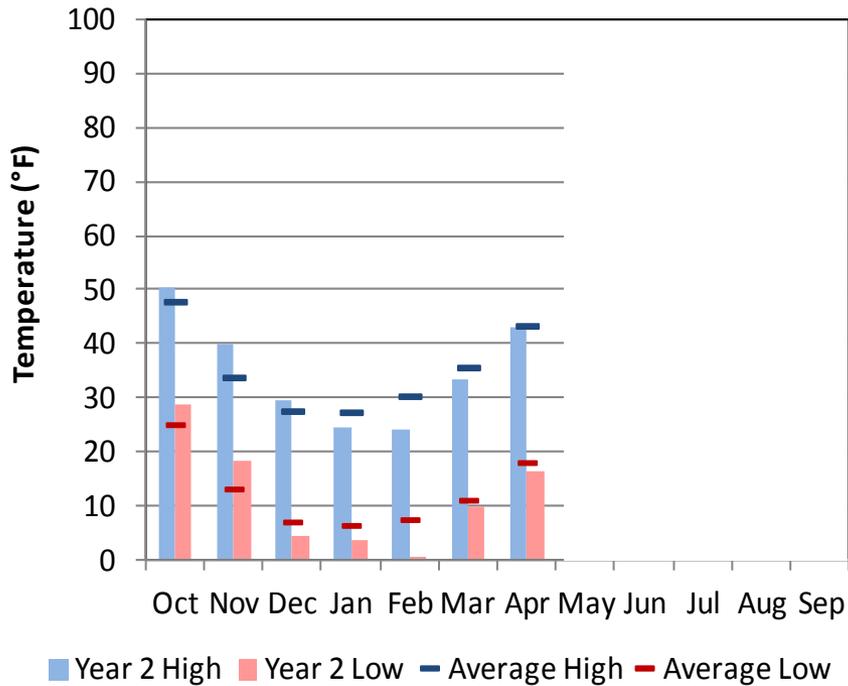


Released: April 30, 2020

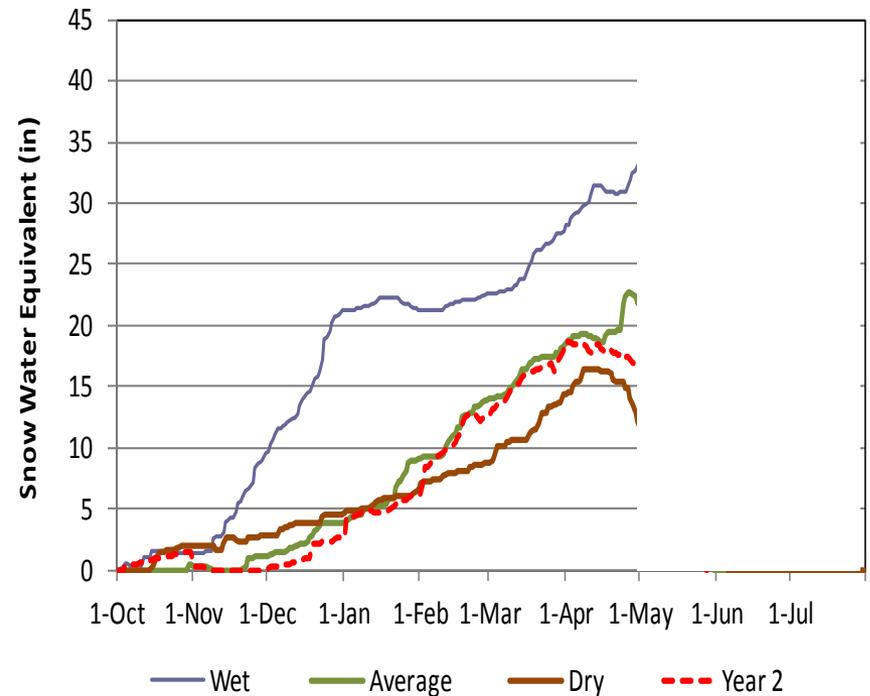
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

# End April - Temperature and Snowpack

Temperature Recorded at Powder Hound Ski Resort  
EI - 8,200 ft



Cumulative Snowpack at Powder Hound Ski Resort



# Team Breakout Sessions – Response Plans

Colorado Drought Conference  
Tournament Materials

**Drought Tournament**  
Response Round 2  
September 18, 2012

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Starting Budget \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*Note: Enter dollars in thousands*

Mitigation Strategies Implemented

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

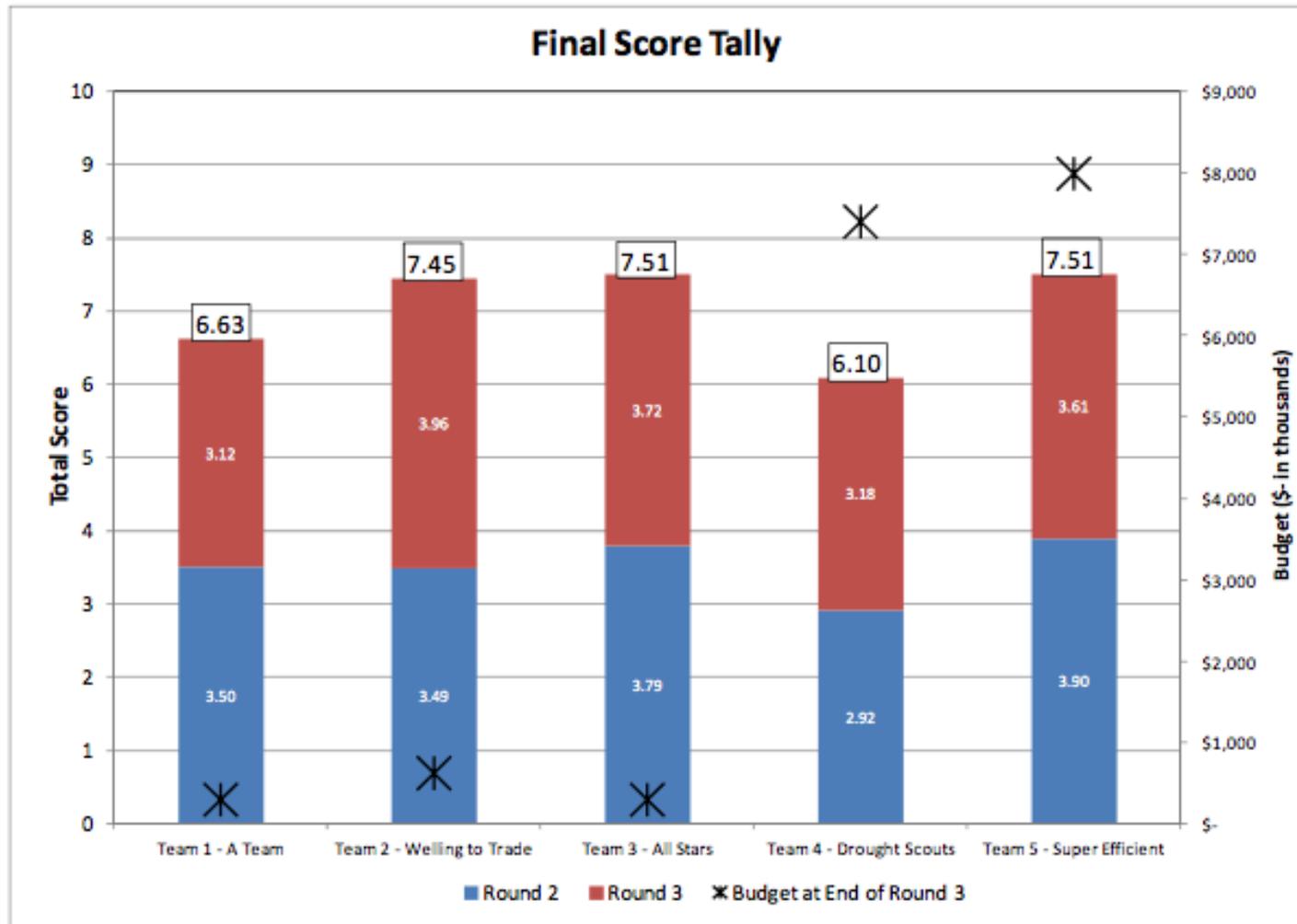
Drought Reserve Fund Mitigation Strategy \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*Note: Enter \$6,000 if you are using this strategy.  
If this strategy is not being used, enter \$0.*

**Drought Response Plan**

| M&I | Agriculture | Energy | Recreation | Environment | Social | Entity/Feature           | Vulnerability<br>(high, medium, low) | Potential Impact(s) | Drought Response(es) | Cost to Implement<br>Strategy<br>(\$ - in<br>thousands) |
|-----|-------------|--------|------------|-------------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---|
|     | x           |        |            |             | x      | Senior Ditch Co          |                                      |                     |                      |   |
|     | x           |        |            |             | x      | Grand City               |                                      |                     |                      |   |
|     |             |        |            | x           | x      | Natural Gas and Oil Corp |                                      |                     |                      |   |
|     |             |        |            |             | x      | Wheatridge               |                                      |                     |                      |   |
|     |             |        |            |             | x      | Bonjour                  |                                      |                     |                      |   |
|     |             |        |            |             | x      | Junior Ditch Co          |                                      |                     |                      |   |



# Score Panel



# Role of Climate Change/Drought in Long Term Water Planning

## Statewide Water Supply Initiative & Colorado's Water Plan

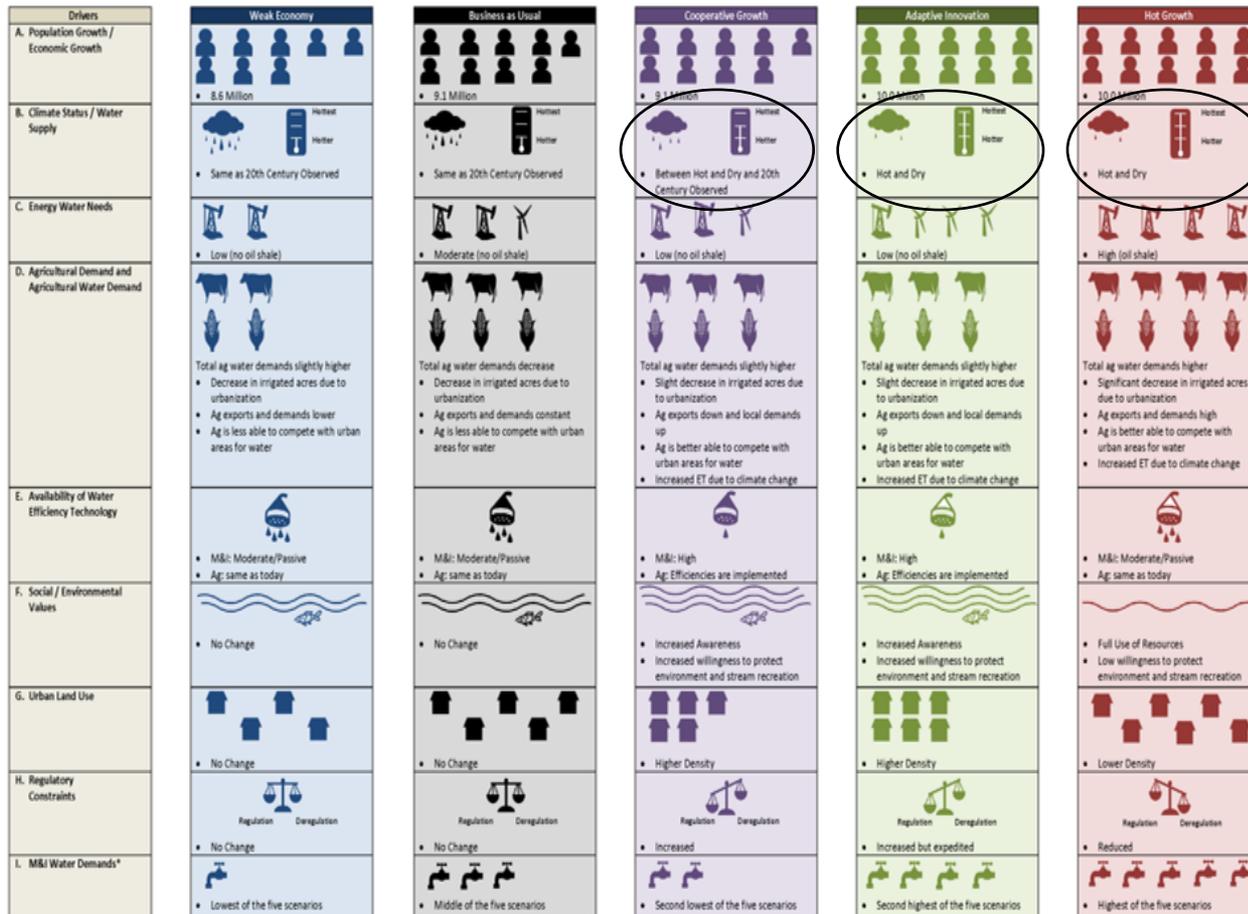


Figure 1. State of Colorado Future Water Supply Scenarios