



United States Department
of Agriculture

Lake Meredith Watershed



Hydrologic Unit Code 11020005

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Lakewood, Colorado

Rapid Assessment

RWA 11020005

September 2007



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Introduction

Background Information

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is encouraging the development of rapid watershed assessments in order to increase the speed and efficiency generating information to guide conservation implementation, as well as the speed and efficiency of putting it into the hands of local decision makers.

Rapid watershed assessments provide initial estimates of where conservation investments would best address the concerns of landowners, conservation districts, and other community organizations and stakeholders. These assessments help landowners and local leaders set priorities and determine the best actions to achieve their goals.

Benefits of these Activities

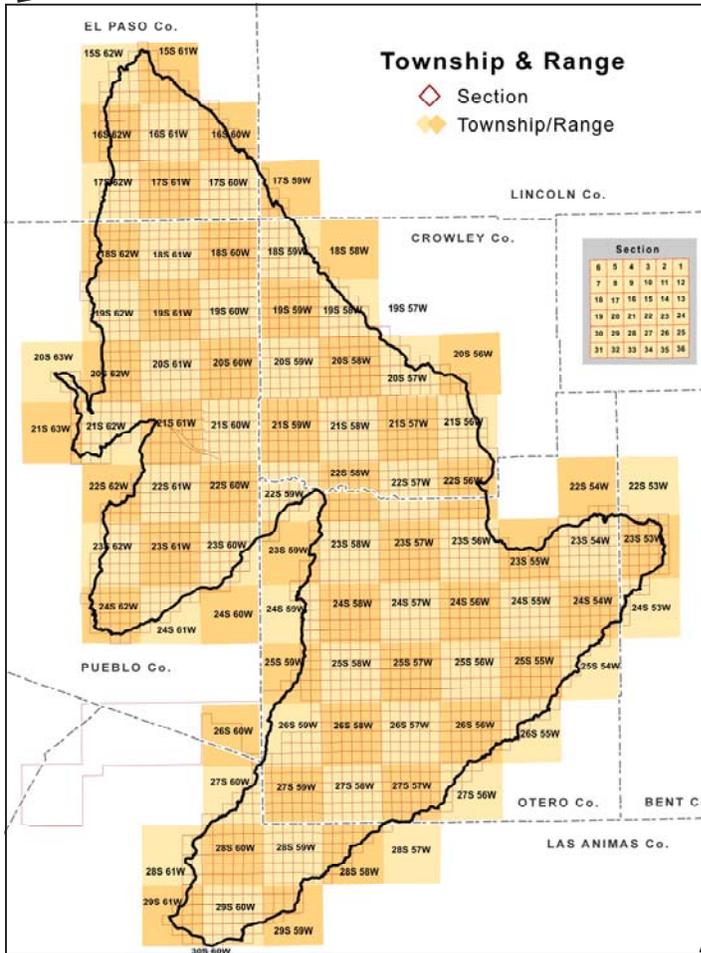
While rapid assessments provide less detail and analysis than full-blown studies and plans, they do provide the benefits of NRCS locally-led planning in less time and at a reduced cost. The benefits include:

- Quick and inexpensive tools for setting priorities and taking action
- Providing a level of detail that is sufficient for identifying actions that can be taken with no further watershed-level studies or analyses
- Actions to be taken may require further Federal or State permits or ESA or NEPA analysis but these activities are part of standard requirements for use of best management practices (BMPs) and conservation systems
- Identifying where further detailed analyses or watershed studies are needed
- Plans address multiple objectives and concerns of landowners and communities
- Plans are based on established partnerships at the local and state levels
- Plans enable landowners and communities to decide on the best mix of NRCS programs that will meet their goals
- Plans include the full array of conservation program tools (i.e. cost-share practices, easements, technical assistance)

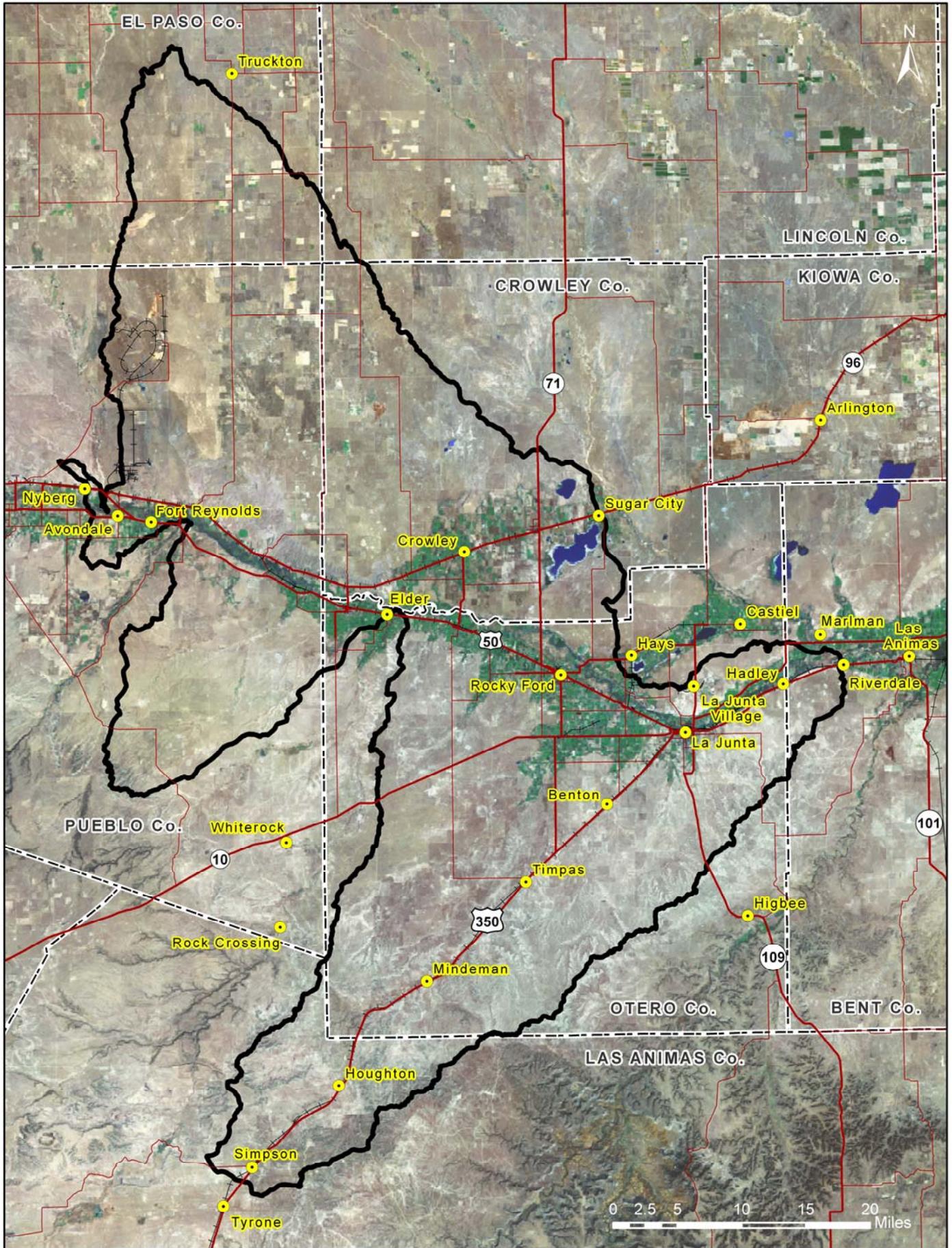
Rapid Watershed Assessments provide information that helps land-owners and local leaders set conservation priorities.

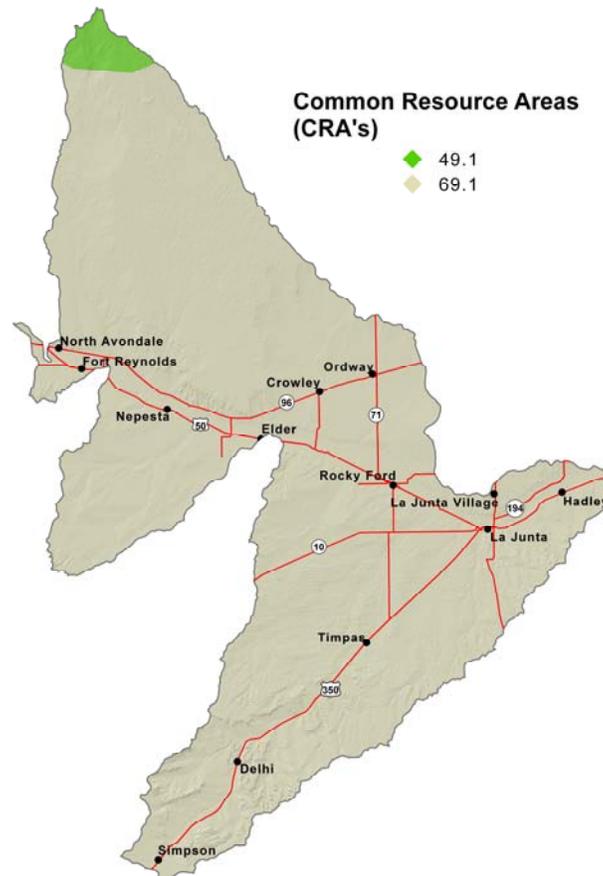


Satellite Imagery, ArcIMS Server - Geographic Network Services hosted by ESRI



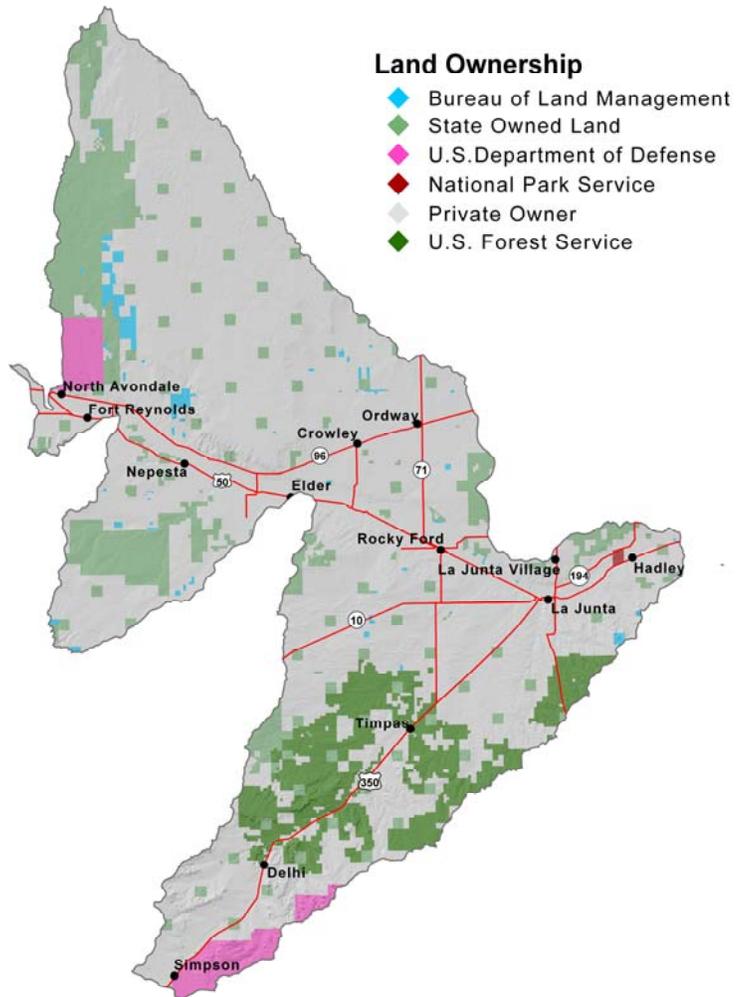
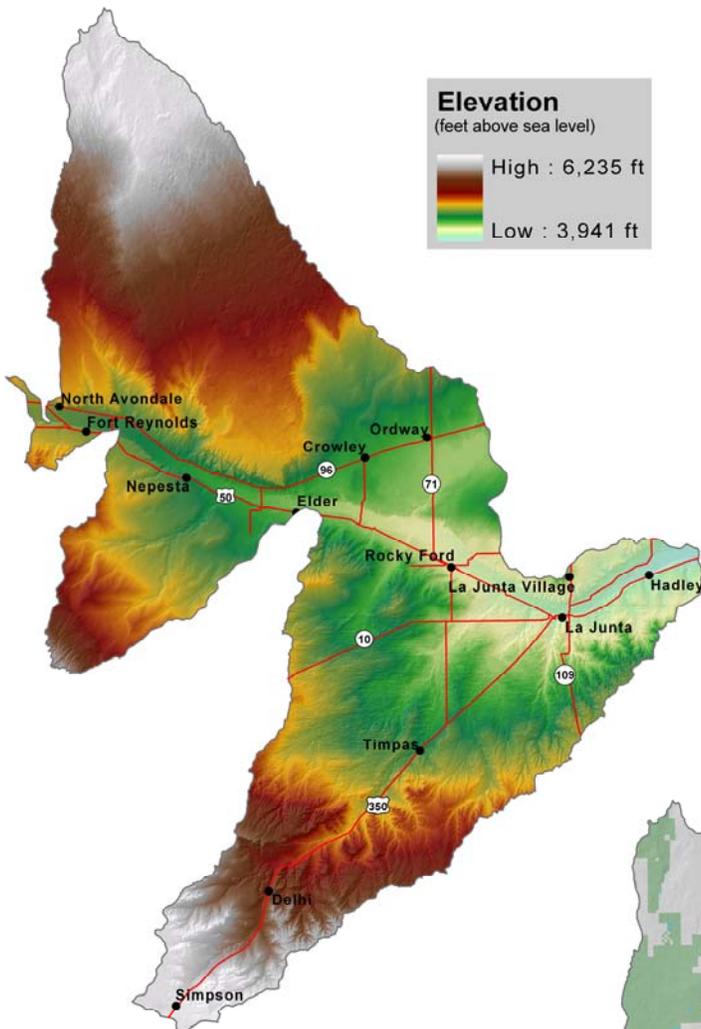
	County Acres	County Acres in UA-LM Watershed	% of County in the Watershed	% of Watershed in the County
Bent	986,170	17,373	1.8%	1.2%
Crowley	512,068	253,187	49.4%	18%
El Paso	1,362,117	117,466	8.6%	8.3%
Las Animas	3,054,954	100,835	3.3%	7.1%
Lincoln	1,654,464	3,875	0.2%	0.3%
Otero	811,808	538,746	66.4%	38%
Pueblo	1,533,605	382,188	24.9%	27%





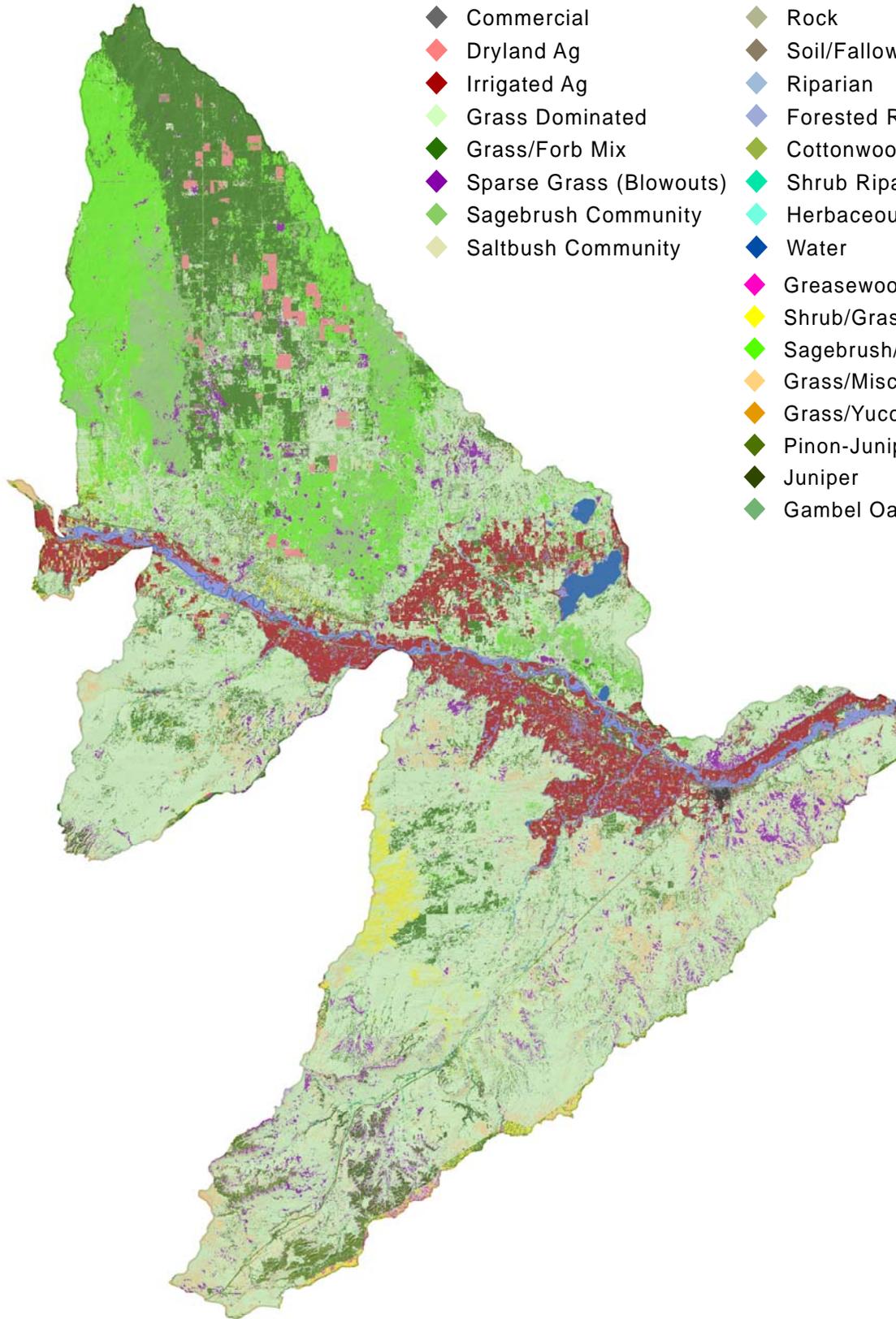
Common Resource Areas (CRA): Geographical areas where resource concerns, problems, and treatment needs are similar. Landscape conditions, soil, climate, human considerations, and other natural resource information are used to determine the geographical boundaries of the common resource area.

<u>CRA</u>	<u>CRA Name</u>	<u>Description</u>
49.1	Southern Rocky Mountain Foothills	This area is generally a transition between the Great Plains and the Southern Rocky Mountains. The temperature regime is mesic or frigid, and moisture regime is ustic. Characteristic native vegetation ranges from grasslands and shrubs to ponderosa pine and Rocky Mountain Douglas fir forest.
69.1	Upper Arkansas Valley Rolling Plains	The Upper Arkansas Valley Rolling Plains CRA is broad, undulating to rolling shale plains occurring along the upper tributaries of the Arkansas River. Local relief reaches 200 feet. Soils are shallow to deep and formed in loess, aeolian, alluvial and outwash materials. Pre-settlement vegetation was short grass prairies and pinion and juniper stands on the stony and rocky soils. Nearly all of this area is in rangeland. Small areas of irrigated cropland occur along the floodplains and terraces.



Vegetation

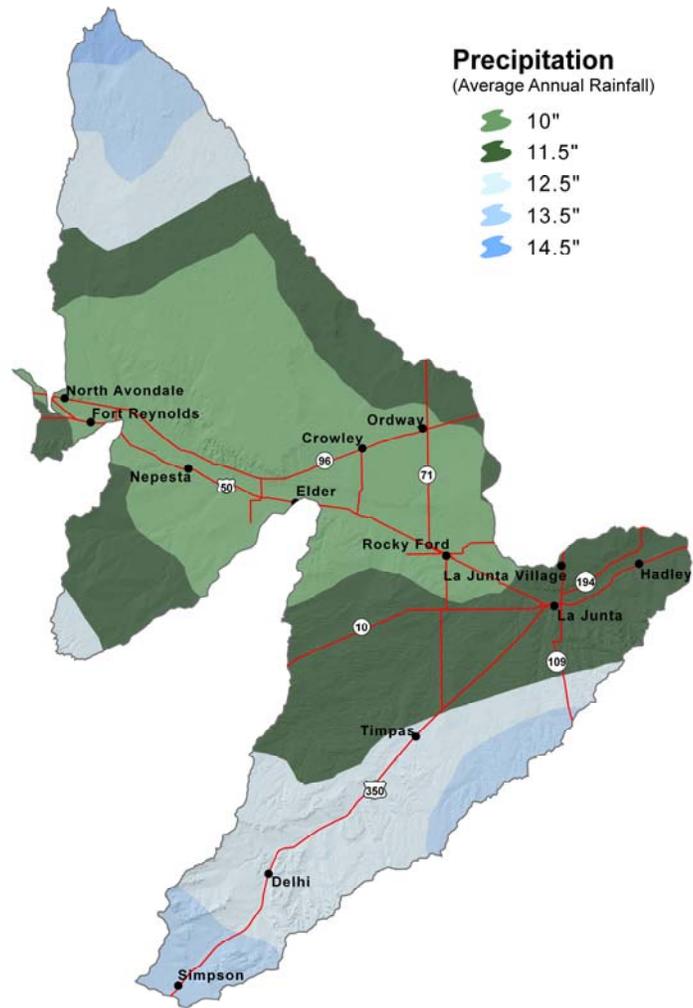
- ◆ No Data
- ◆ Residential
- ◆ Commercial
- ◆ Dryland Ag
- ◆ Irrigated Ag
- ◆ Grass Dominated
- ◆ Grass/Forb Mix
- ◆ Sparse Grass (Blowouts)
- ◆ Sagebrush Community
- ◆ Saltbush Community
- ◆ Sparse PJ/Shrub/Rock Mix
- ◆ Sparse Juniper/Shrub/Rock Mix
- ◆ Rock
- ◆ Soil/Fallow
- ◆ Riparian
- ◆ Forested Riparian
- ◆ Cottonwood
- ◆ Shrub Riparian
- ◆ Herbaceous Riparian
- ◆ Water
- ◆ Greasewood
- ◆ Shrub/Grass/Forb Mix
- ◆ Sagebrush/Grass Mix
- ◆ Grass/Misc. Cactus Mix
- ◆ Grass/Yucca Mix
- ◆ Pinon-Juniper
- ◆ Juniper
- ◆ Gambel Oak



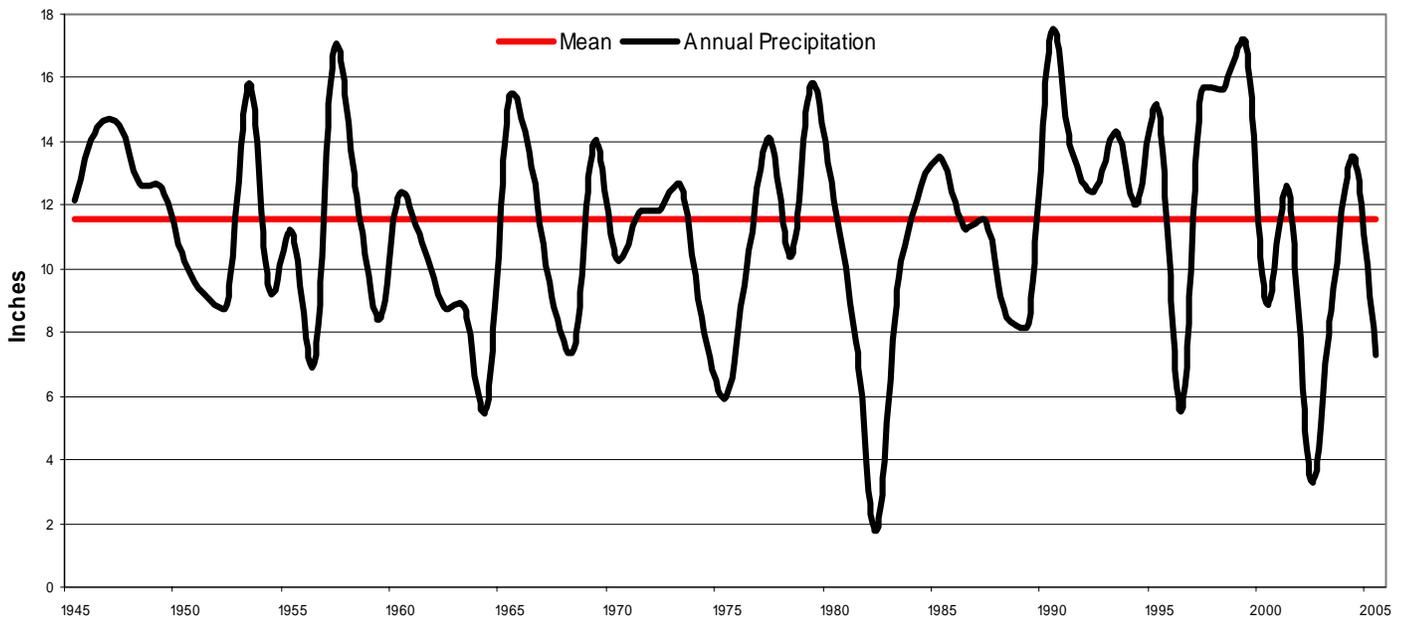
Land Use	Total Acreage	Vegetation	Acreage
Cropland	119,379	Dryland Ag	23,837
		Irrigated Ag	95,542
Rangeland/Grassland	1,236,527	Grass Dominated	652,061
		Grass/Forb Mix	204,557
		Grass/Misc. Cactus Mix	59,491
		Grass/Yucca Mix	4
		Greasewood	664
		Pinon-Juniper	9,160
		Sparse PJ/Shrub/Rock Mix	946
		Sagebrush Community	95,817
		Sagebrush/Grass Mix	149,076
		Saltbrush Community	51
		Shrub/Grass/Forb Mix	20,737
		Soil	412
		Sparse Grass (Blowouts)	33,369
Sparse Juniper/Shrub/Rock Mix	10,182		
Forest	12,049	Cottonwood	286
		Juniper	11,755
		Gambel Oak	8
Riparian	37,013	Forested Riparian	29,760
		Herbaceous Riparian	24
		Riparian	1,566
		Shrub Riparian	5,663
Water	9,556	Water	9,556
Other	1,043	Residential	728
		Commercial	212
		Rock	0.2
		No Data	103
Total Watershed Acres			1,415,972

Precipitation

Droughts are regular visitors to the watershed as with the rest of Colorado. Statewide, in the 1900's alone, four prolonged dry spells occurred. There was one in the 1910s. Another, in the '30s, caused the dust-bowl period. The second worst drought on record in the state occurred in the mid-50s. A series of hot, dry summers following a period of scant mountain snowpack created water shortages. The fourth drought hit parts of Colorado in the late 1970s. In this century, the most severe drought since 1723 hit the state in 2002. Prior to the 1700's, researchers looking at tree ring records have found evidence of even more severe droughts, some lasting many years. Rainfall occurs as frontal storms in the spring and early summer and high intensity, convective thunderstorms in late summer. Maximum precipitation is from mid spring through late autumn. Precipitation in winter is snow. The average annual temperature is from 45 to 55 degrees F. The frost free period averages 162 days but ranges from 133 to 191 days.



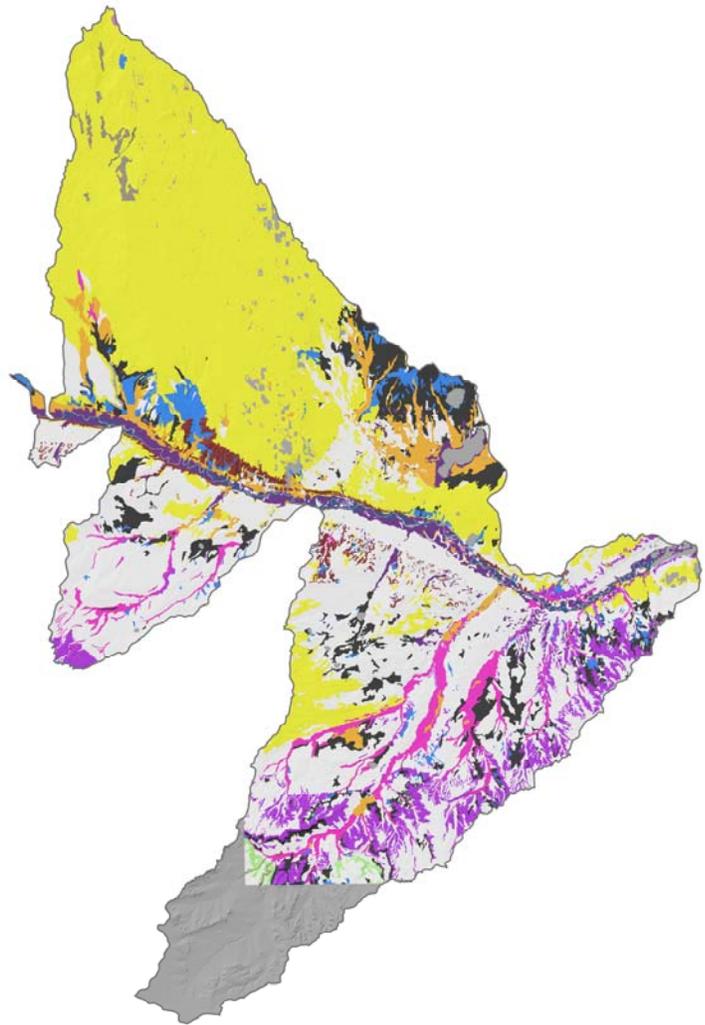
La Junta Climate Station



Ecological Sites

The plant community on an ecological site is typified by an association of species that differs from that of other ecological sites in the kind and/or proportion of species or in total production.

Ecological Site maps give an overall indication of the soils plant relationship in the area. More detailed descriptions of ecological sites are provided in the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG). The FOTG is available in local offices of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and online at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/>.



Soil: Ecological Site Names

- | | |
|--|--|
| ◆ No Data | ◆ Rocky Mountain Douglas fir/white fir |
| ◆ Alkaline Plains | ◆ Saline Overflow |
| ◆ Choppy Sands | ◆ Salt Flat |
| ◆ Clayey | ◆ Salt Meadow |
| ◆ Cobbly Foothill | ◆ Sandstone Breaks |
| ◆ Douglas Fir | ◆ Sandy |
| ◆ Douglas fir/white fir | ◆ Sandy Bottomland |
| ◆ Engelmann's spruce-Subalpine fir | ◆ Sandy Divide |
| ◆ Gravel Breaks | ◆ Sandy Foothill |
| ◆ Gravelly Foothill | ◆ Sandy Salt Flat |
| ◆ Gypsum Breaks | ◆ Shallow Foothill |
| ◆ Limestone Breaks | ◆ Shaly Plains |
| Loamy | ◆ ponderosa pine/mountain muhly |
| ◆ Loamy Foothill | |
| ◆ Loamy Park | |
| ◆ Loamy Plains | |
| ◆ Loamy Slopes | |
| ◆ Mountain Meadow | |
| ◆ Overflow | |
| ◆ Pinyon/juniper | |
| ◆ Plains Swale | |
| ◆ Ponderosa pine/Gambel's oak | |
| ◆ Rocky Loam | |
| ◆ Rocky Mountain Douglas fir/ponderosa pine/mountain muhly | |

Land Capability Classification shows, in a general way, the suitability of soils for most kinds of field crops. Crops that require special management are excluded. The soils are grouped according to their limitations for field crops, the risk of damage if they are used for crops, and the way they respond to management. The criteria used in grouping the soils do not include major and generally expensive landforming that would change slope, depth, or other characteristics of the soils, nor do they include possible but unlikely major reclamation projects. Capability classification is not a substitute for interpretations that show suitability and limitations of groups of soils for rangeland, for woodland, and for engineering purposes.

Capability classes, the broadest groups, are designated by the numbers 1 through 8. The numbers indicate progressively greater limitations and narrower choices for practical use.

Class 1 - soils have few limitations that restrict their use.

Class 2 - soils have moderate limitations that reduce the choice of plants or that require moderate conservation practices.

Class 3 - soils have severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants or that require special conservation practices, or both.

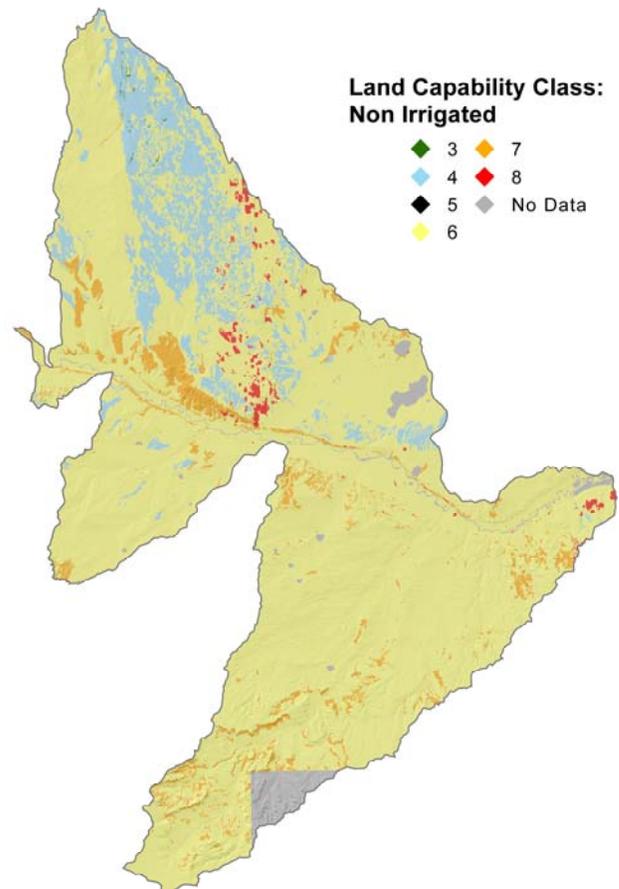
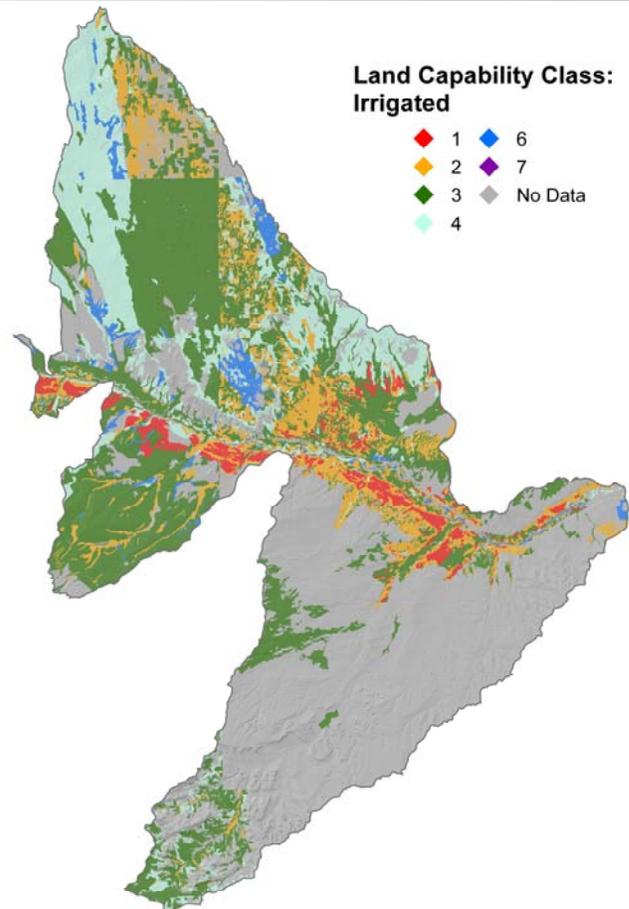
Class 4 - soils have very severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants or that require very careful management, or both.

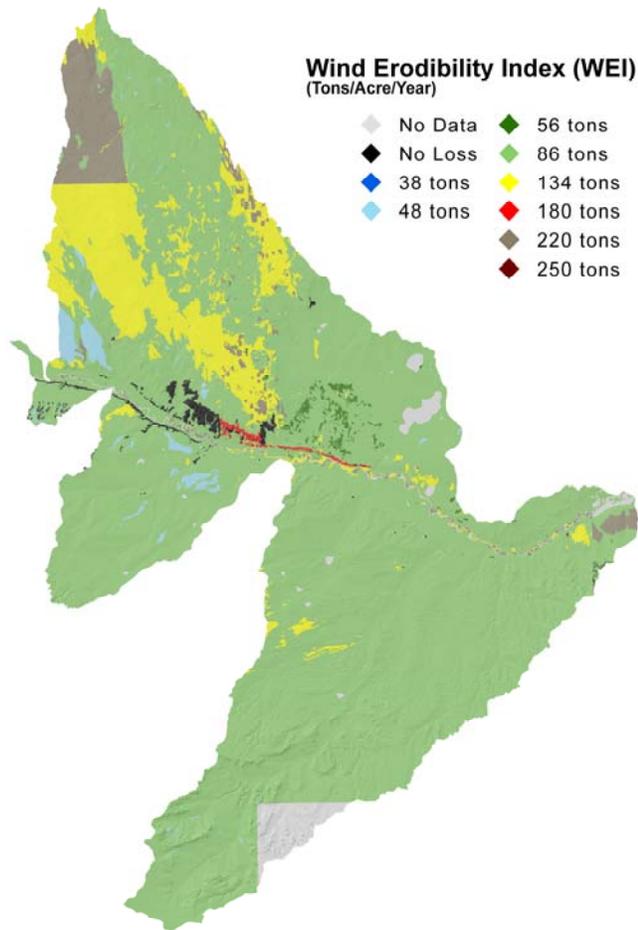
Class 5 - soils are subject to little or no erosion but have other limitations, impractical to remove, that restrict their use mainly to pasture, rangeland, forestland, or wildlife habitat.

Class 6 - soils have severe limitations that make them generally unsuitable for cultivation and that restrict their use mainly to pasture, rangeland, forestland, or wildlife habitat.

Class 7 - soils have very severe limitations that make them unsuitable for cultivation and that restrict their use mainly to grazing, forestland, or wildlife habitat.

Class 8 - soils and miscellaneous areas have limitations that preclude commercial plant production and that restrict their use to recreational purposes, wildlife habitat, watershed, or aesthetic purposes.





The Wind Erodibility Index (WEI), is a numerical value indicating the susceptibility of soil to wind erosion, or the tons per acre per year that can be expected to be lost to wind erosion if it is assumed there is no vegetative cover or management.

Soils with an erodibility index equal to or greater than 8 are considered highly erodible.

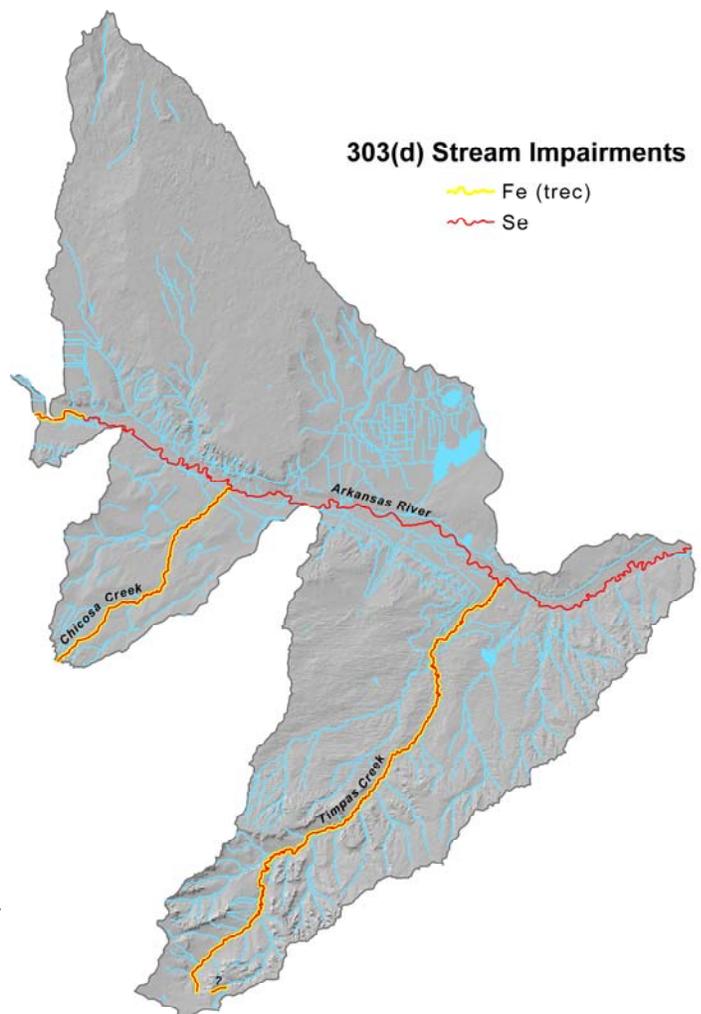
As shown on the Wind Erodibility Index map below, most soils in this watershed are highly erodible.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires states to identify and list all water bodies where state water quality standards are not being met. Thereafter, TMDLs compromising quantitative objectives and strategies have been or will be developed for these impaired waters within the watershed in order to achieve their water quality standards.

Impairment Definition

Selenium (Se): A naturally occurring metal in marine shale that serves as a micronutrient. Excessive amounts impair aquatic life and bioaccumulation up the food chain occurs causing toxicity to birds, mammals, and humans.

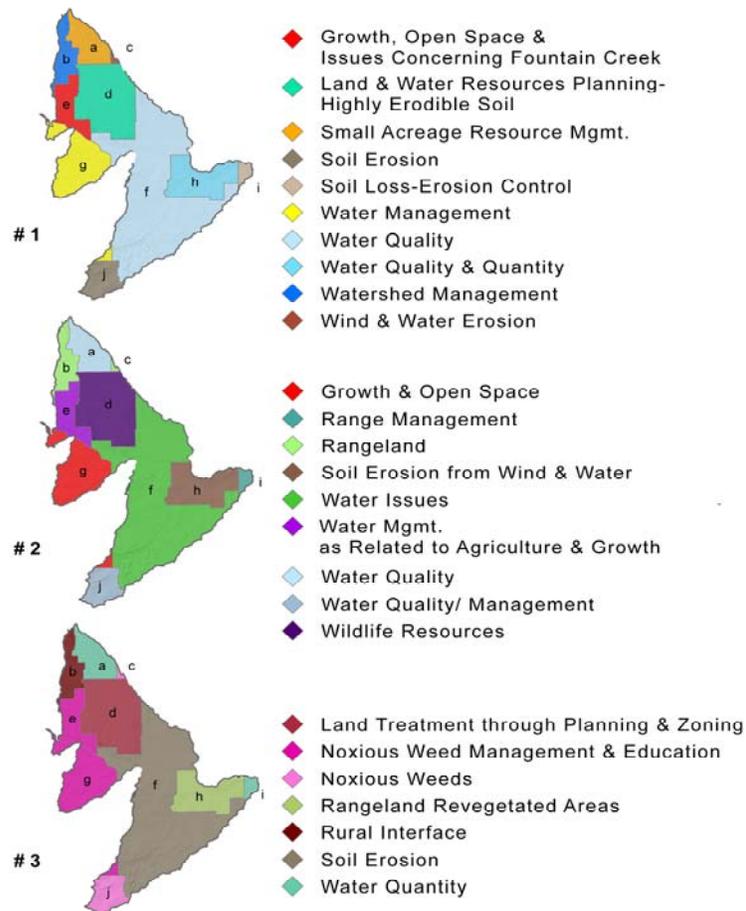
Iron (Fe): Iron is the fourth most abundant, by weight, of the elements that make up the earth's crust . The ferrous, orbivalent (Fe⁺⁺), and the Ferric, or trivalent (Fe⁺⁺⁺) irons are the primary forms of concern in the aquatic environment. Fe⁺⁺ can persist in waters void of dissolved oxygen and originate from groundwaters or mines when these are pumped or drained.



Lake Meredith Watershed Natural Resource Concerns

Conservation District Rankings of Natural Resource Concerns

Conservation District Map Legend	Water Quantity & Quality	Wind and Water Erosion	Urban Rural Issues	Noxious Weed Control	Rangeland	Wildlife Habitat	Forestry
a El Paso	4		5	3			
b Central Colorado			3	2	4		
c Prairie		5		3	4	2	
d Olney-Boone		5	3			4	
e Turkey Creek	4		5	3		2	
f West Otero-Timpas	5	4		3	2		
g South Pueblo County	5		4	3		2	
h East Otero	5	4		2	3	1	
i Bent County	3	5			4	2	
j Spanish Peaks-Purgatoire River	4	5		3	2	1	1
TOTALS	30	28	20	22	19	14	1



Wildlife Information

Shortgrass prairie is the dominant terrestrial habitat type in this watershed. Burrowing owl, mountain plover, black-tailed prairie dog, massasauga, and swift fox are representative species for the shortgrass habitat. Water is scarce on the shortgrass prairie and the native species using this habitat are those that can survive without abundant water supplies. The Arkansas River and associated riparian areas and Lakes Meredith and Henry provide permanent aquatic habitat. Stock ponds, tributaries to the Arkansas River, and a few playas in the northern part of the watershed provide seasonal to intermittent aquatic habitats. Economically important wildlife species that occur in the watershed include black bullhead, catfish, sunfish, crappie, yellow perch, bluegill, largemouth bass, snow geese, pronghorn (antelope), mule and white-tailed deer, mourning dove, and scaled quail. Wild turkey, pheasant, and bobwhite quail can be found along the Arkansas River corridor and some of the major tributaries.

State and Federal Threatened, Endangered, Candidate Species, and Species of Special Concern in Upper Arkansas-Lake Meredith Watershed

Common Name	Scientific Name	Class	State Status/Federal Status	Comments
Arkansas Darter	<i>Etheostoma cragini</i>	Fish	Threatened/Candidate	May occur in the watershed
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Birds	Threatened/None	Winter along Arkansas River
Black-footed Ferret	<i>Mustela nigripes</i>	Mammals	Endangered/Endangered	No current records of occurrence
Black-tailed Prairie Dog	<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>	Mammals	Concern/None	Occurs in the watershed
Burrowing Owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	Birds	Threatened/None	Occurs in the watershed
Common Kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis getula</i>	Reptiles	Concern/None	May occur in the watershed
Couch's Spadefoot Toad	<i>Scaphiopus couchii</i>	Amphibians	Concern/None	Occurs in the watershed
Ferruginous Hawk	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	Birds	Concern/None	Occurs in the watershed
Flathead Chub	<i>Platygobio gracilus</i>	Fish	Concern/None	Occurs in the watershed
Least Tern	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Birds	Endangered/Endangered	Not currently known in the watershed. Occurs near lower end of watershed
Long-Billed Curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Birds	Concern/None	Occurs in the watershed
Massasauga	<i>Sistrurus catenatus</i>	Reptiles	Concern/None	Occurs in the watershed
Mountain Plover	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Birds	Concern/None	Occurs in the watershed
Northern Leopard Frog	<i>Rana pipiens</i>	Amphibians	Concern/None	May occur in the watershed
Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus circumcinctus</i>	Birds	Threatened/Threatened	Not currently known in the watershed. Occurs near lower end of watershed.
Plains Leopard Frog	<i>Rana blairi</i>	Amphibians	Concern/None	Occurs in the watershed
Roundtail horned lizard	<i>Phrynosoma modestum</i>	Reptiles	Concern/None	Occurs in the watershed
Southern Redbelly Dace	<i>Phoxinus erythrogaster</i>	Fish	Endangered/None	Occurs in the watershed
Suckermouth Minnow	<i>Phenacobius mirabilis</i>	Fish	Endangered/None	Occurs in the watershed
Swift Fox	<i>Vulpes velox</i>	Mammals	Concern/None	Occurs in the watershed
Texas Horned Lizard	<i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i>	Reptiles	Concern/None	Occurs in the watershed
Townsend's big-eared bat (pale ssp)	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii pallascens</i>	Mammals	Concern/None	May occur in the watershed
Triploid checkered whiptail	<i>Cnemidophorus neotesselatus</i>	Reptiles	Concern/None	Occurs in the watershed
Yellow Mud Turtle	<i>Kinosternon flavescens</i>	Reptiles	Concern/None	May occur in the watershed

Social Data

County	Bent	Crowley	El Paso	Las Animas	Lincoln	Otero	Pueblo
Demographics (US Census, American Factfinder)							
Total population	5,998	5,518	550,130	15,207	20,504	20,311	147,187
Male	3,379	3,711	272,922	7,441	10,834	9,926	71,711
Female	2,619	1,807	277,208	7,766	9,670	10,385	75,476
Median age (years)	37.3	36.6	33.5	40.9	36.5	37.7	36
White	4,770	4,577	444,799	12,566	18,792	16,049	120,922
Black or African American	219	389	33484	60	420	154	2046
American Indian and Alaska Native	134	143	4855	387	131	290	1647
Asian	34	45	15516	57	82	142	1072
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	1	1241	30	14	16	202
Some other race	315	263	29575	1525	772	3059	16496
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1814	1244	70312	14816	2439	7642	58024

Economic Characteristics (US Census, American Factfinder)							
In labor force (population 16 years and over)	2,303	1,469	288,867	6,558	9,771	9,102	72,727
Median household income (dollars)	28,125	26,803	50,714	28,273	32,724	29,738	37,305
Median family income (dollars)	34,096	32,162	61,719	34,072	42,241	35,906	45,765
Per capita income (dollars)	13,567	12,836	25,261	16,829	16,721	15,113	19,668
Families below poverty level	231	148	x	572	454	778	x
Individuals below poverty level	988	653	x	2573	2253	3713	x
X means that value is not applicable or not available							

County Agricultural Characteristics (Colorado Agricultural Census, county data tables)							
Farms (number)	265	217	1175	567	455	488	801
Land in farms/ranches (acres)	735,826	375,413	811,931	2,304,766	1,428,404	546,396	774,352
Average size farm/ranch (acres)	2,777	1,730	691	4,065	3,139	1,120	967
Median size farm (acres)	580	540	160	1,000	1,497	170	175
Average age of farmer or rancher	53.9	56.7	54.1	57.6	55.6	52.3	55.5
Net cash return from ag sales (\$1,000)	5,898	5,501	2,485	1,798	4,829	2,935	5,788
Cattle and calves (number)	45,000	48,000	26,000	47,000	40,000	65,000	33,000

Selected Conservation Application Data

Lake Meredith

	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	Total
Total Conservation Systems Planned (Acres)	945,152	1,120,912	na	230,745	130,779	2,427,588
Total Conservation Systems Applied (Acres)	155,118	634,044	na	178,867	45,372	1,013,401
Practices						
Prescribed Grazing (Acres)	3,192	657,010	356,918	160,850	18,730	1,196,700
Wildlife Habitat Management (Acres-wetland & upland)	0	1,161	6,955	6,958	2,422	17,496
Conservation Cropping System (Acres)	na	na	1,781	3,372	935	6,088
Irrigation Water Management (Acres)	15,295	3,733	5,100	4,136	2,417	30,681

Conservation Systems to Address Major Resource Concerns

Primary Resource Concern: Water Quality				
Conservation System Description: Sprinkler irrigation system with IWM, Crop rotation, Mulch-till, Nutrient and Pest Mgt..			Conservation System Guide Code Ref: CO 69.1-CR-Pivot-R-2	
Practices	Unit	Quantity	Cost/Unit (\$)	Estimated Cost (\$)
Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)	Ac	64,800	779	50,479,200
Irrigation Water Management (449)	Ac	60,000	5	300,000
Pest Management (595)	Ac	60,000	15	900000
Subtotal Irrigated Cropland: \$51,679,200				

Conservation Systems to Address Major Resource Concerns (cont'd)

Primary Resource Concern: Soil Erosion By Wind on dryland crops				
Conservation System Description:		Seasonal residue management with Conservation crop rotation, Nutrient and Pest Mgt		Conservation System Guide Code: CO 69.1-CR-Dryland-R-2
Practices	Unit	Quantity	Cost/Unit (\$)	Estimated Cost (\$)
Conservation Crop Rotation (328)	Ac	17,700	10	177,000
Residue Mgmt, Seasonal (344)	Ac	17,700	5	88,500
Nutrient Management (590)	Ac	17,700	5	88,500
Pest Management (595)	Ac	17,700	15	265,500
Subtotal Costs Dryland Crops:				\$619,500

General Effects, Impacts, and Estimated Costs of Application of Conservation Systems

Landuse	Resource Concern	Measurable Effects	Non-measurable Effects	Estimated Cost (\$)
Dryland Crop	Soil	84,075 Total Tons/Year Soil saved	Cropland sustainability	619,500
Irrigated Crop	Water		Nutrients and organics are stored, handled, disposed of, and managed so that surface water uses are not adversely affected.	51,679,200
Estimated Total Costs to Address Major Resource Concerns:				\$52,298,700

FOOTNOTES/ BIBLIOGRAPHY

303(d) listed streams within Rush Watershed were created using data from Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment's Water Quality & Control Commission. Impaired streams are current as of April 30, 2006. For a list of all Colorado impaired streams, locations and priority ratings, visit <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/regulations/wqccregs/100293wqlimitedsegtmdls.pdf>.

Threatened and Endangered Species information was gathered using data from the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) Natural Diversity Information Source (NDIS). NDIS GIS data may be downloaded at <http://ndis.nrel.colostate.edu>. For more information on Colorado's Endangered & Threatened Species, as well as Species of Concern, visit <http://wildlife.state.co.us/WildlifeSpecies/SpeciesOfConcern/ThreatenedEndangeredList/ListOfThreatenedAndEndangeredSpecies.htm> or <http://mountainprairie.fws.gov/endspp/CountyLists/COLORADO.htm>

Resource Concerns were identified using the Colorado Association of Conservation Districts' (CACD) long range (10 year) plans from the period of 1996-2000. Only the top three environmental resource concerns for each district were used. For more information on Colorado's Conservation Districts, visit <http://www.cacd.us>.

Maps were generated using Soil Survey Geographic Database (SSURGO) tabular and spatial data. SSURGO data was downloaded for the following Colorado surveys:

Bent County (CO011) Published 12/07/2005	Lincoln County (CO073) Published 12/19/2005
Crowley County (CO025) Published 12/20/2005	Otero County (CO089) Published 12/20/2005
El Paso County Area (CO625) Published 12/19/2005	Pueblo Area (CO626) Published 12/19/2005
Las Animas County Area (CO628) Published 05/01/2006	

To download SSURGO data, visit <http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov>. The surveys were then loaded into Soil Data Viewer <http://soildataviewer.nrcs.usda.gov> (a tool built as an extension to ArcMAP for quick geospatial analysis of soil data for use in resource assessment) and the subsequent data was exported to a shapefile.

Vegetation data was generated using the Colorado Division of Wildlife's "Colorado Vegetation Classification Project" (CVCP) data. Completed in 2003, the CVCP is a landscape level vegetation dataset created using Landsat TM imagery and then formatted for GIS use. The species identified are an overview of the most common species associated in each cover type, in order of greatest occurrence. For more information on the Colorado Vegetation Classification Project, visit <http://ndis.nrel.colostate.edu/coveg>.

Common Resource Area (CRA), a subdivision of the Major Land Resource Area (MLRA), is a geographical area where resource concerns, problems, or treatment needs are similar. Geographic boundaries of a CRA are determined by landscape conditions, soil, climate, human considerations and other natural resource information. For more information on Common Resource Areas visit <http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/cra.html>.

Average Annual Precipitation data was developed through a partnership between the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) National Water and Climate Center (NWCC), the National Cartography and Geospatial Center (NCGC), and the PRISM (the Parameter-elevation Regressions on Independent Slopes Model) group at Oregon State University (OSU), developers of PRISM. Mean annual precipitation maps were developed calculating averages of rainfall for the period of 1961-1990. For more information on PRISM data visit <http://www.ncgc.nrcs.usda.gov/products/datasets/climate/docs/fact-sheet.html> or for more information about technical aspects of PRISM, visit the PRISM website at <http://www.ocs.orst.edu/prism>.

Land Ownership (status, 2004 dataset) data was obtained from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). For more information, visit <http://www.dot.state.co.us>.

Relief & Elevation maps were created using the National Elevation Dataset (NED), 30m Digital Elevation Model (DEM) raster product assembled by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). A hillshade grid was created from the 30m DEM to create a 3D effect. For more information about the NED visit <http://ned.usgs.gov>. The data was downloaded from the NRCS Geospatial Data Gateway at <http://datagateway.nrcs.usda.gov>.