

WINDY GAP FIRING PROJECT

CSU WATER LEADERS

May 10, 2018



Presentation Overview

Background

Ownership

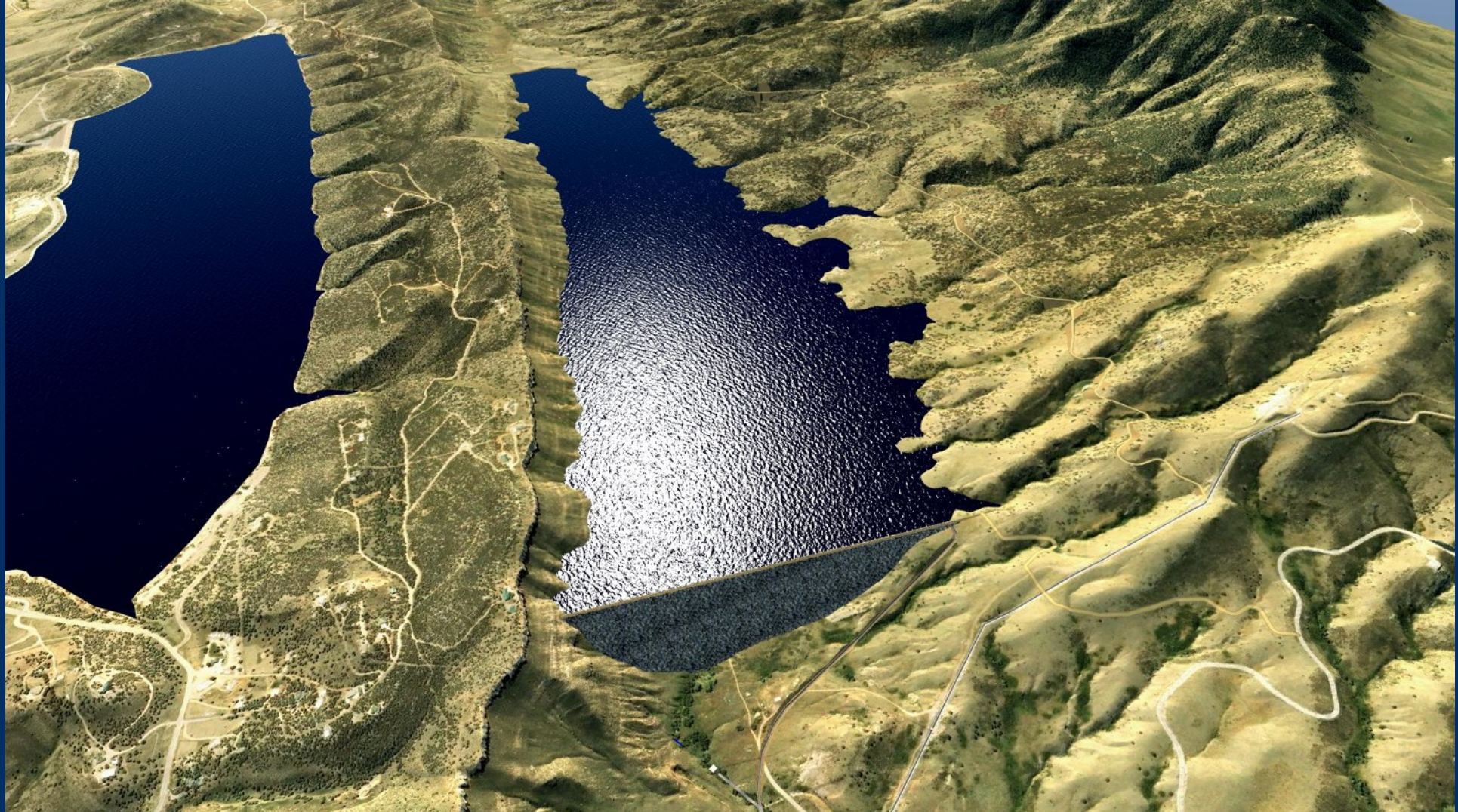
**Planning &
Permitting**

Design

**Mitigation &
Enhancement**

Funding

Questions



Colorado – Big Thompson System

Background

Ownership

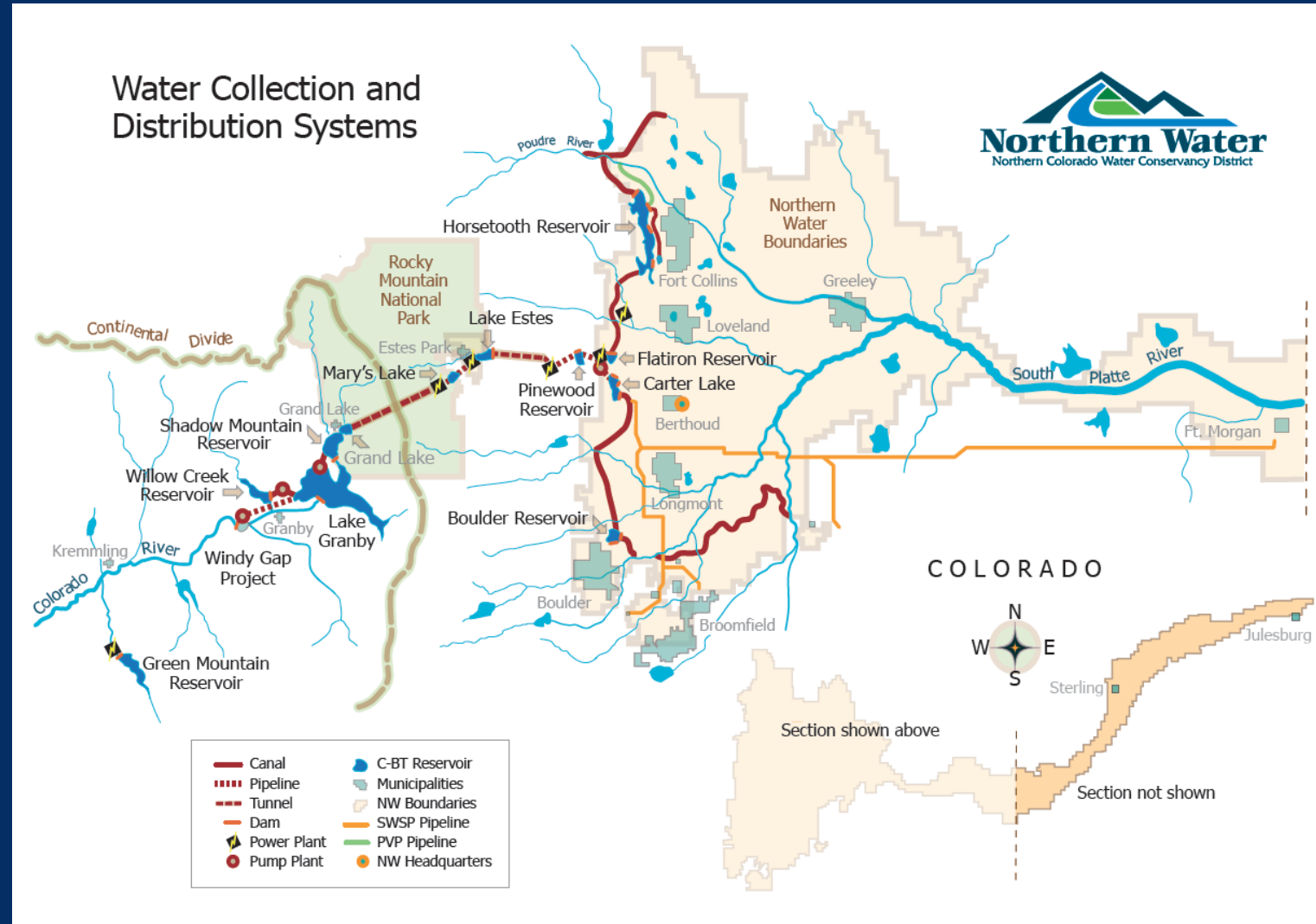
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Northern Water and the Municipal Subdistrict

Background

Ownership

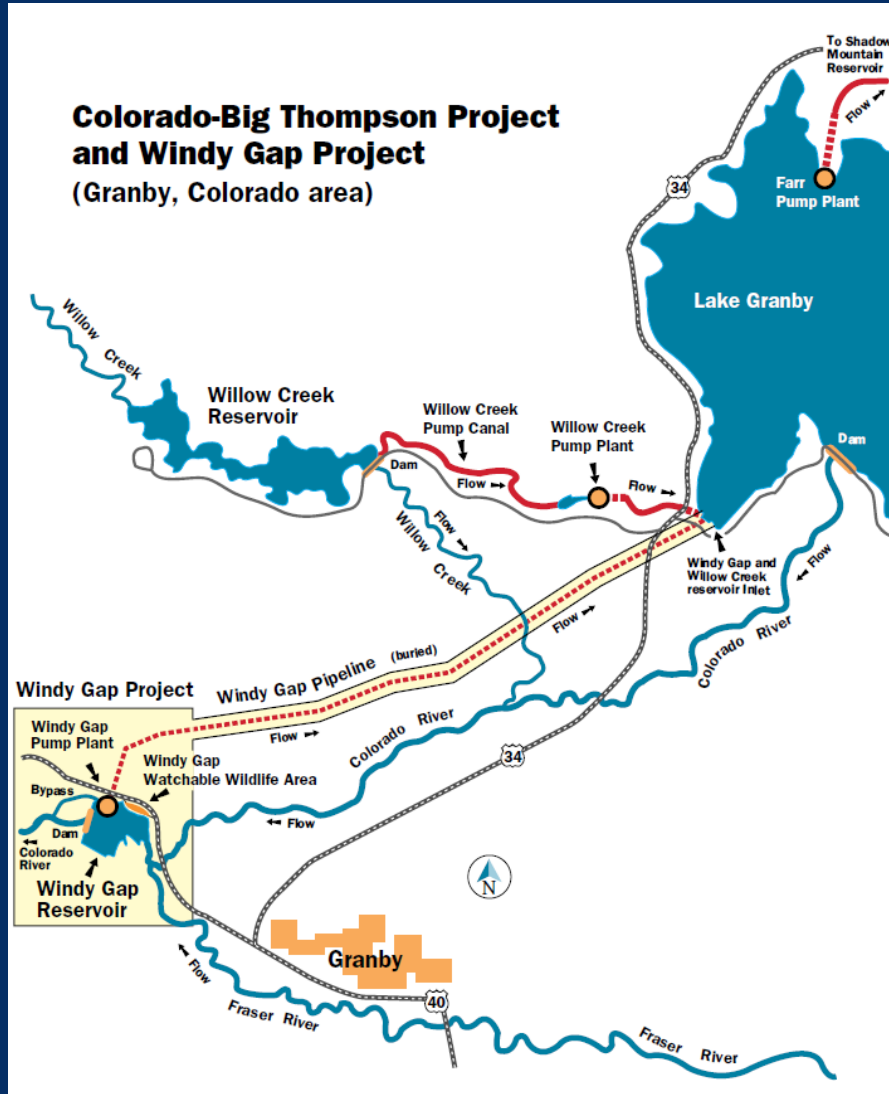
Planning & Permitting

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Six Cities:

- Municipal Subdistrict
- Water Rights
- ‘Carriage Contract’
- Commissioned Windy Gap Project 1985

Windy Gap Operations

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- Average Yield 18,000 AF/year to 14 Public Entities
- ‘Firm Yield’: Zero
 - Junior Water Right
 - Lack of Storage
- **Dedicated Storage Required**

Participant Project

Background

Ownership

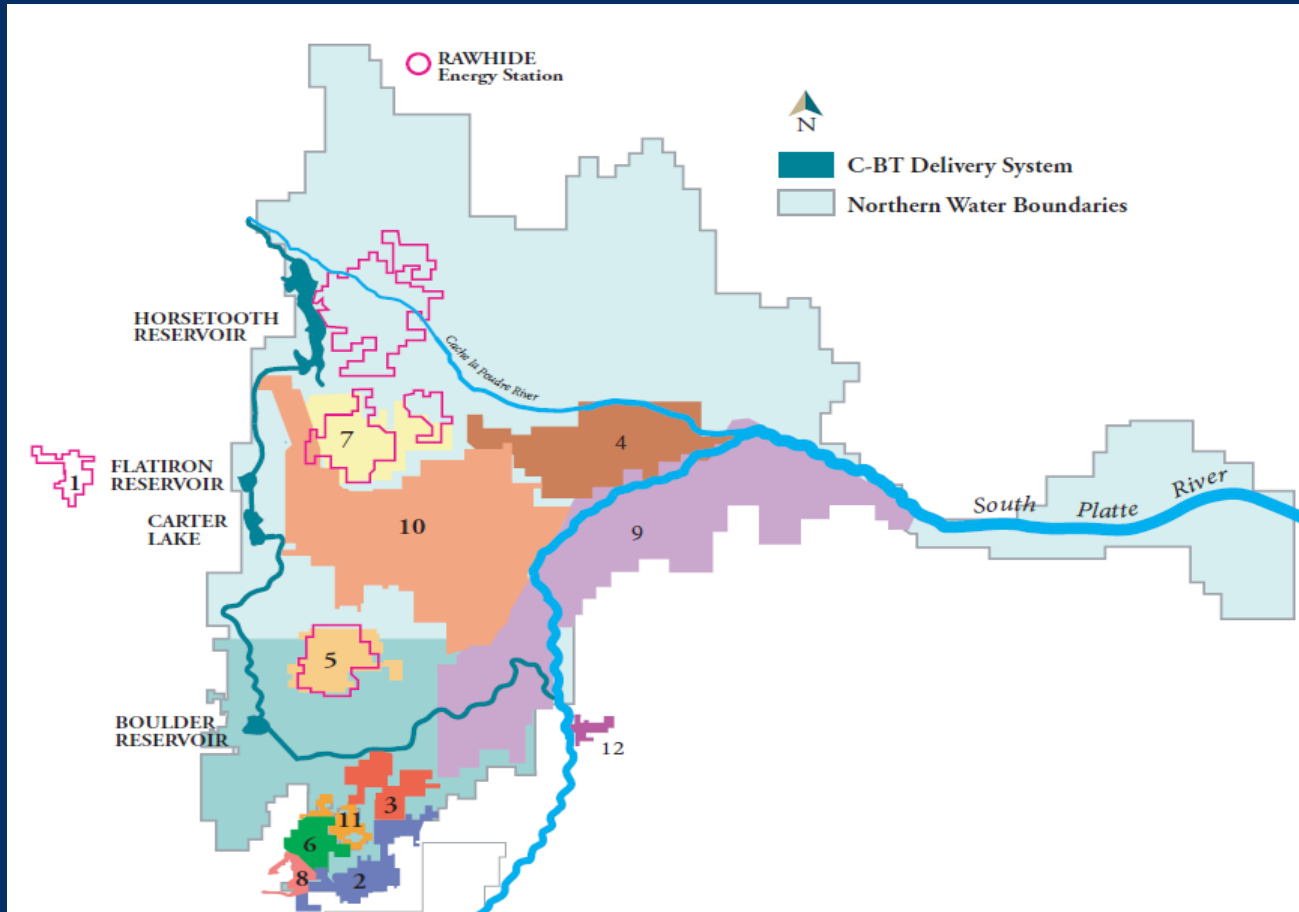
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Participant & requested storage (in acre-feet)

- 1 PRPA Service area (12,602)
- 2 Broomfield (26,464)
- 3 Erie (6,301)
- 4 Greeley (9,189)
- 5 Longmont (10,000)
- 6 Louisville (2,835)
- 7 Loveland (9,451)
- 8 Superior (4,726)
- 9 Central Weld County Water District (347)
- 10 Little Thompson Water District (5,093)
- 11 Lafayette (1,890)
- 12 Fort Lupton (1,103)

NEPA Preferred Alternative

Background

Ownership

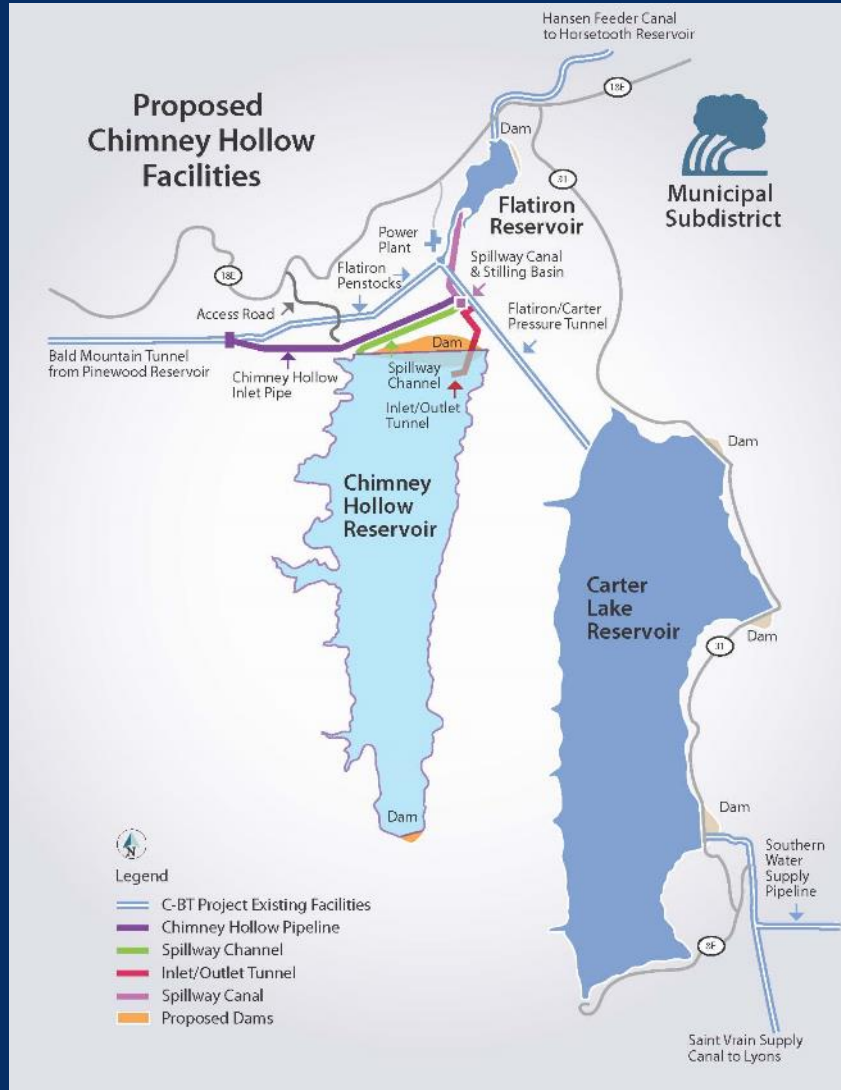
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Chimney Hollow Reservoir

- East-Slope Storage
- Off-Channel Reservoir
- 90,000 AF capacity
- 30,000 AF/year firm yield
- Utilizes existing C-BT facilities
- Creates Public Open Space

Permitting Completed!

Background

- ✓ Scoping (2003)

Ownership

- ✓ Draft EIS (August 2008)

Planning & Permitting

- ✓ Biological Opinion for ESA Compliance (Feb 2010)
- ✓ Colorado Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Plan (June 2011)
- ✓ Colorado Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Plan (June 2011)
- ✓ Final EIS (November 2011)

Design

- ✓ Fish and Wildlife Coordination Report (March 2012)

Mitigation & Enhancement

- ✓ 1041 Permit from Grand County (Dec 2012), includes:
 - ✓ IGA with Grand County
 - ✓ Windy Gap Reservoir Bypass Funding Agreement

Funding

- ✓ Learning By Doing Agreement

Questions

- ✓ Grand Lake Clarity MOU with Grand County (June 2012) Conveyance Contract - 2014
- ✓ Record of Decision - 2014
- ✓ Corps of Engineers:
 - ✓ CDPHE 401 certification - 2016
 - ✓ 404 Permit – June 2017

Final Design

Background

Ownership

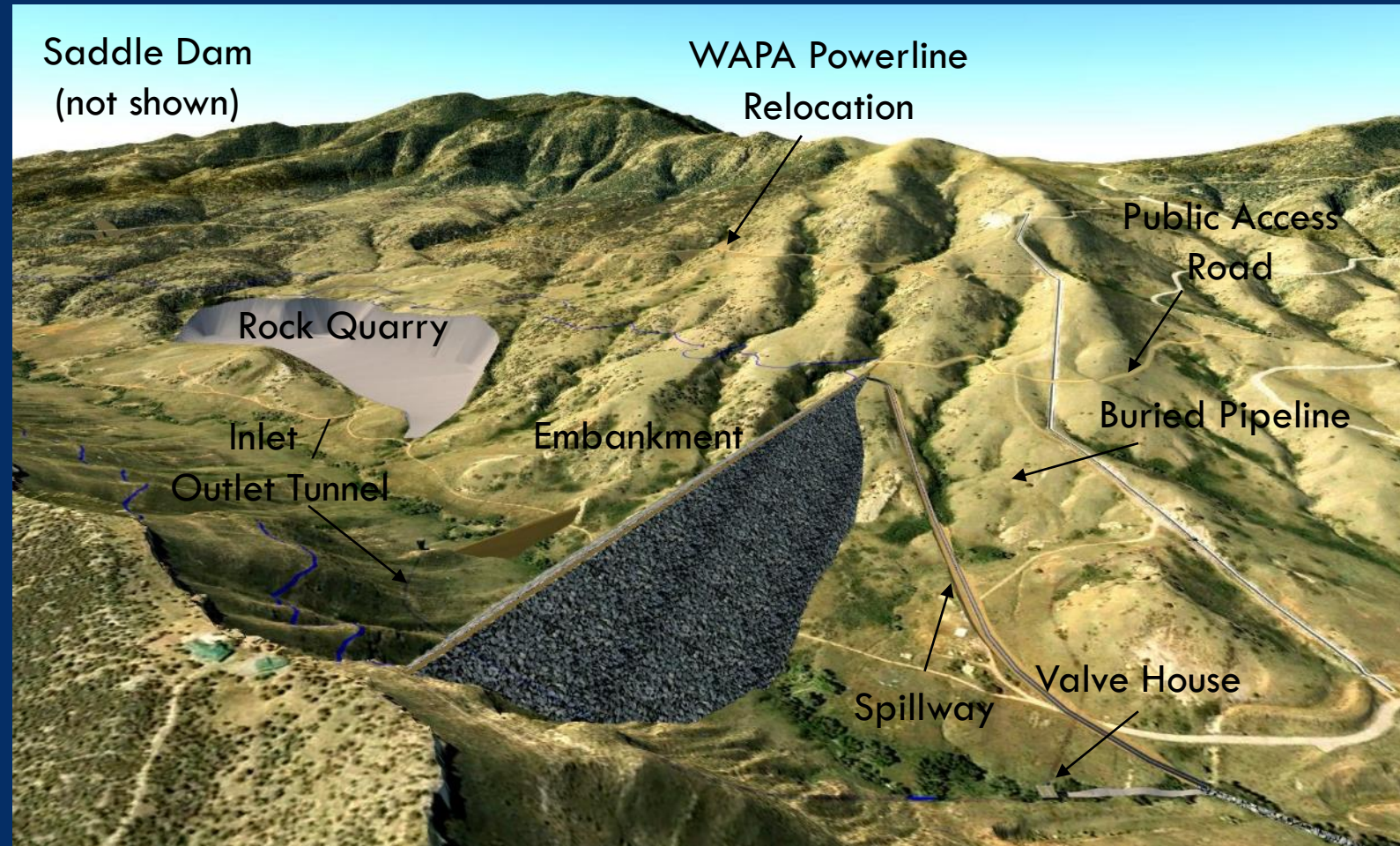
Planning &
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Schedule

Background

Ownership

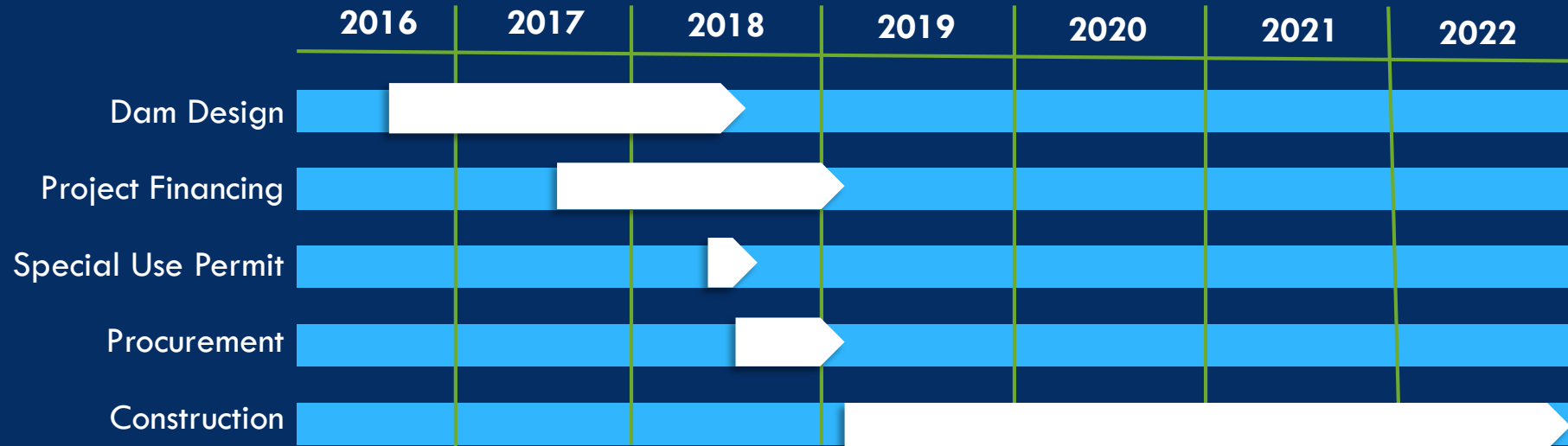
Planning & Permitting

Design

Mitigation & Enhancement

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Questions



Protect the Colorado River

Background

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Planning &
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Questions



- Operational Commitments
 - Flushing Flows
 - Curtail diversions for stream temp
- Stream Restoration and Habitat Improvements
- Connectivity Channel
- Nutrient Reduction
- Water and Storage
- **Total Investment in Colorado River: ~\$70M**

Questions

East Slope Mitigation

Background

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**3,400 acres Purchased in
partnership between Larimer
County and WGFP**

Managed as Larimer County Open
Space:

- ▣ Recreational lease to Larimer County
- ▣ Day-use only
- ▣ Non-motorized boating
- ▣ Joint development of property management plan
- ▣ Habitat Management

Wetland Mitigation

- ▣ Bank Credits
- ▣ Stream Restoration

Costs and Financing

Background

Program Cost: \$575M

Ownership

- WGFP Water Activity Enterprise

Planning & Permitting

- Subject to TABOR restrictions

Design

- Financial Consultant: PFM

Mitigation & Enhancement

- Payments based on utility rate structures and tap fees

Funding

- Two Financing Methods at Participant Level:

- Pooled Financing:

- Joint Municipal Bonds

- CWCB Subordinate Loan (\$90M)

- Cash Participants

Questions

Questions?

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