

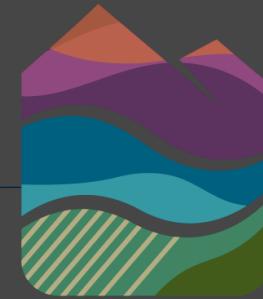
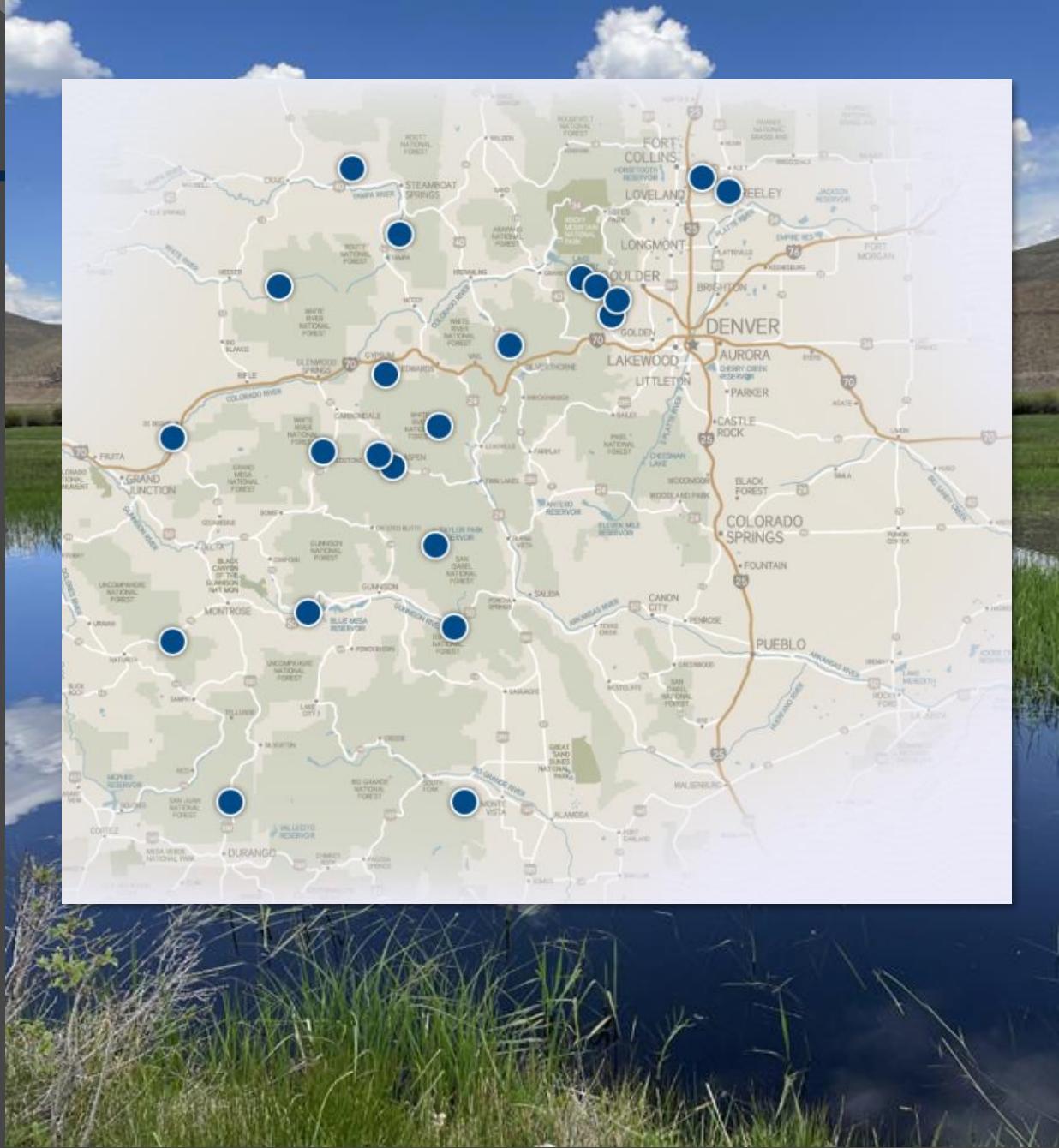


# ENVIRONMENTAL WATER: SOLUTION TO SCARCITY



COLORADO  
WATER TRUST

KATE RYAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
CRWUA  
DECEMBER 2025



# COLORADO WATER TRUST

26 projects, acquiring  
water rights to  
add over 80,000 acre-feet  
of water to  
814 miles of natural  
stream in Colorado



# WHO WE ARE...

- ◆ Nonprofit organization, team of 9, \$2.5 million core budget, and we work statewide to restore water to **COLORADO'S** rivers
- ◆ Formed in **2001** to partner with Colorado's Instream Flow Program and amplify its work
- ◆ Work with water users to put together **VOLUNTARY TRANSACTIONS** to benefit the environment
- ◆ Transactions are **TAILORED** for each water right and each water system
- ◆ Work within the prior appropriation system and compensate water rights owners at **FAIR MARKET VALUE**



**COLORADO  
WATER TRUST**  
*Just Add Water*

**Our vision is  
that every  
Colorado river  
and stream  
has water that  
supports our  
ecosystems,  
communities,  
and local  
economies.**

# 15-Mile Reach: 5000 AF/year to the Grand Valley



In exchange, CWT providing over \$800,000 to upgrade hydropower infrastructure



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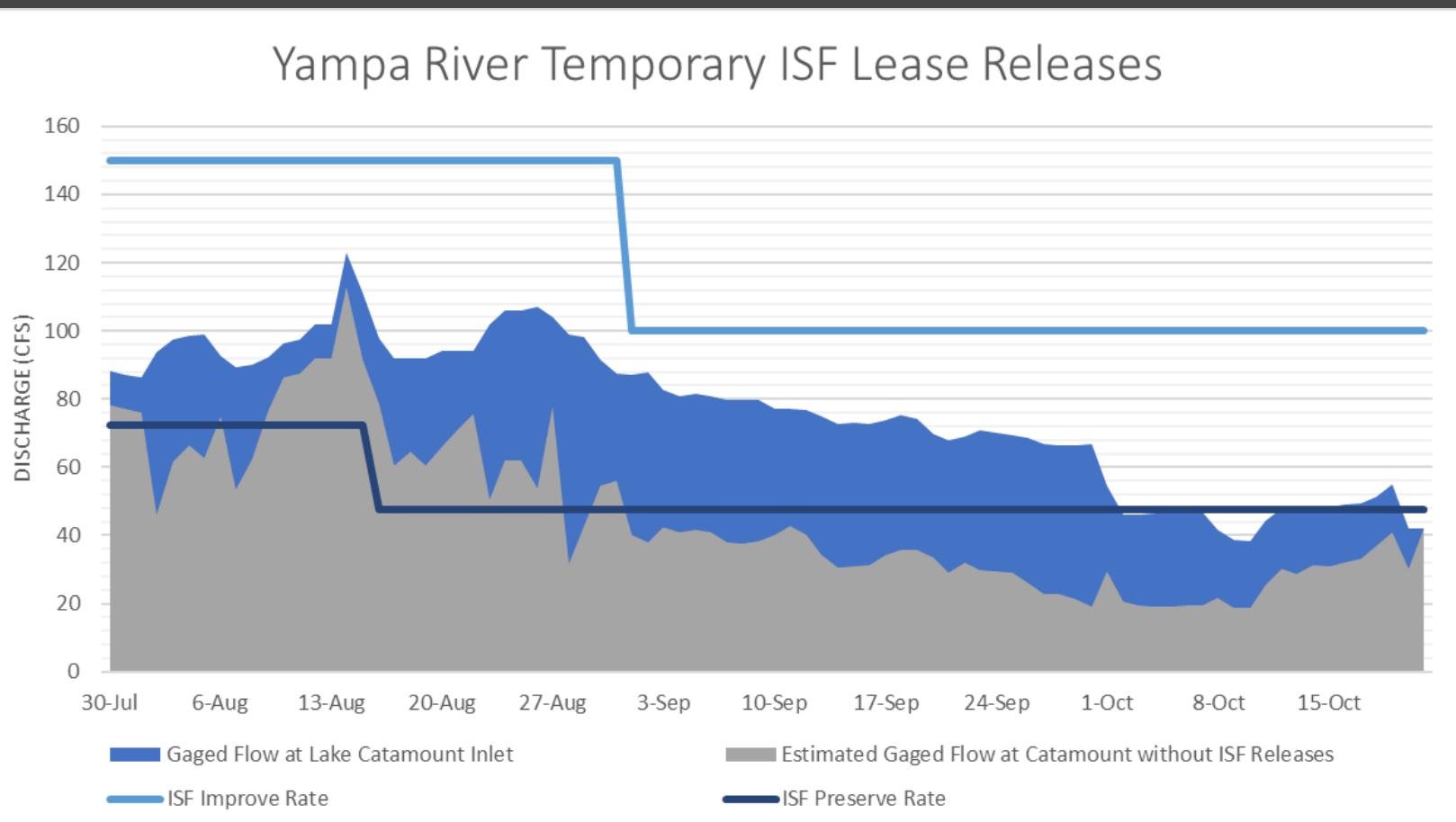
# Project supports endangered fish species, agricultural water diversions, and local recreation



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# 2024 YAMPA RIVER RESERVOIR RELEASES



- 5,100 acre-feet released from July 30 – Oct. 20 (83 days)
- Release rates ranging from 10 cfs to 67.6 cfs
- 6 miles of ISF stream reach benefitted, 22+ miles of streamflow benefits
- 2025 operations keep downstream call off the Yampa River





# WATER SHARING WITH AGRICULTURE

- Compensated leases in the Colorado, Yampa, and Gunnison Basins
- Permanent water sharing via joint ownership on the Little Cimarron River and Boulder Creek
- Proving that environmental water transactions, like CWSAs or ATMs can permanently protect local economies and water for agricultural production





# COLORADO WATER TRUST

*Just Add Water*

**COLORADO WATER TRUST**  
1312 17th St #766  
Denver, CO 80202  
[www.ColoradoWaterTrust.org](http://www.ColoradoWaterTrust.org)

**Kate Ryan**  
Executive Director  
720-570-2897, ext. 1  
[kryan@coloradowatertrust.org](mailto:kryan@coloradowatertrust.org)

**THANK YOU! ...Questions?**