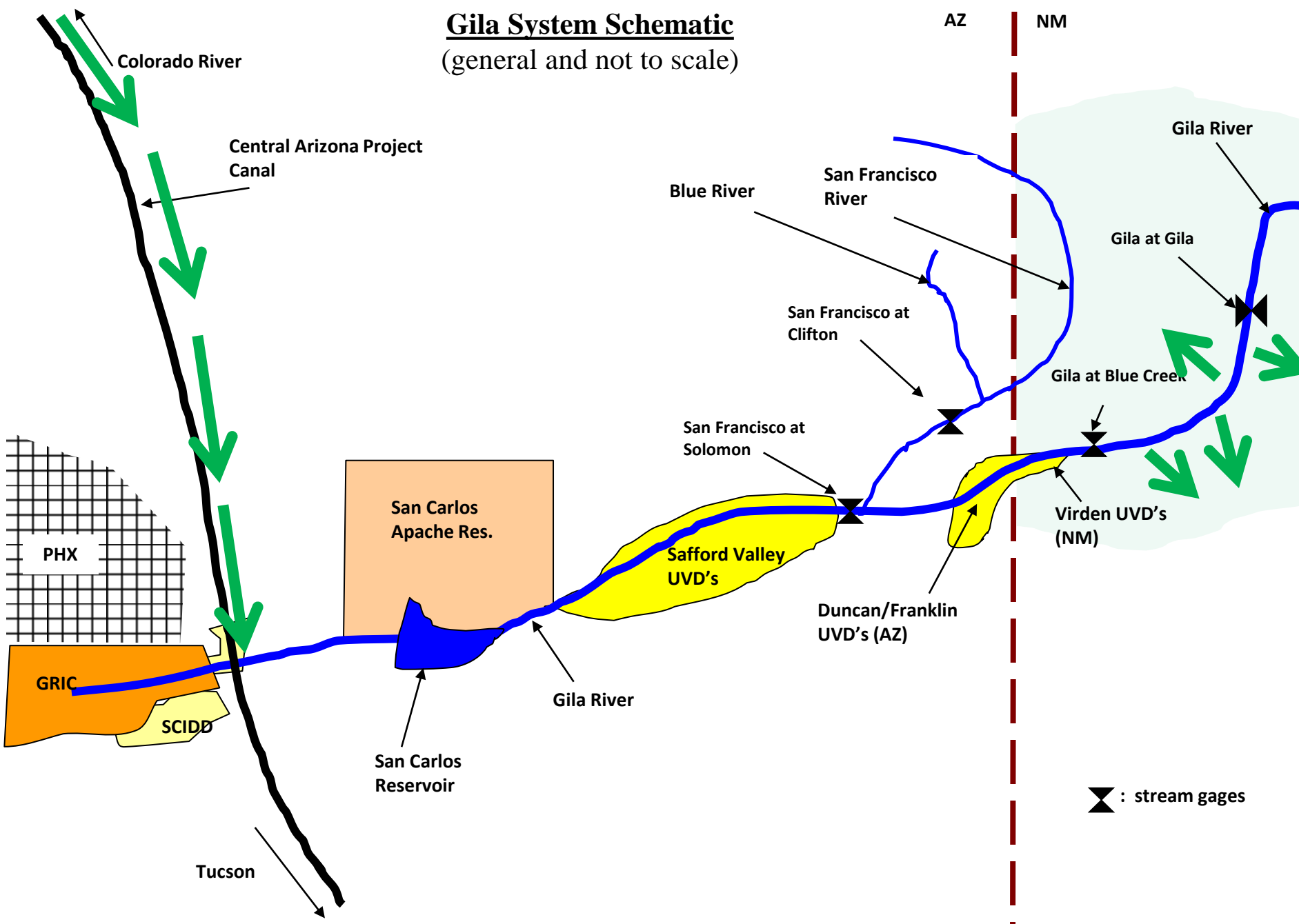


## 2004 Arizona Water Settlements Act:

- Up to **14,000 acre-feet** of additional water in the Gila Basin in New Mexico
- Up to **\$128 Million** in non-reimbursable federal funding
- Must “**meet a water supply demand.**”

# Gila System Schematic (general and not to scale)



⚡ : stream gages

## ISC Gila Policy

"The Interstate Stream Commission recognizes **the unique and valuable ecology of the Gila Basin**. In considering any proposal for water utilization under Section 212 of the Arizona Water Settlements Act, the Commission will **apply the best available science** to fully assess and mitigate the ecological impacts on Southwest New Mexico, the Gila River, its tributaries and associated riparian corridors, **while also considering the historic uses of and future demands for water in the Basin and the traditions, cultures and customs affecting those uses.**"

– ISC formally adopted September 2004

# Two-Tier Evaluation of 45 Stakeholder Proposals:

- Municipal Effluent Reuse
- Agricultural Conservation
- Municipal Conservation
- Diversion and Storage
- Watershed Improvement/Restoration

# Minimum Bypass Flows

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>MINIMUM BYPASS (cfs)</u>	<u>% to 350 cfs MAX</u>
January	<del>82.5</del> 150	0.80
February	<del>137.5</del> 150	0.80
March	292.5	0.80
April	432.5	0.80
May	437.5	0.75
June	442.5	0.75
July	442.5	0.75
August	442.5	0.75
September	442.5	0.75
October	267.5	0.80
November	152.5	0.80
December	<del>75.5</del> 150	0.80

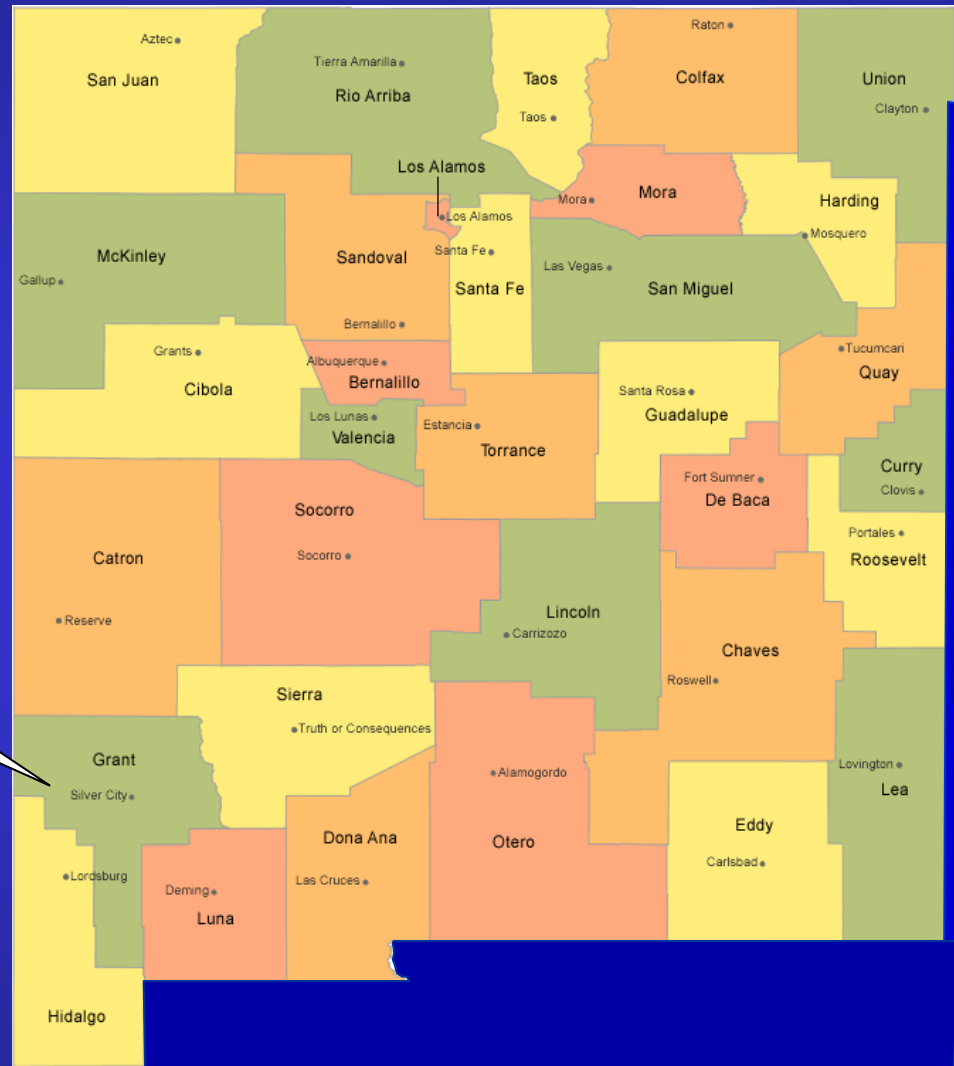
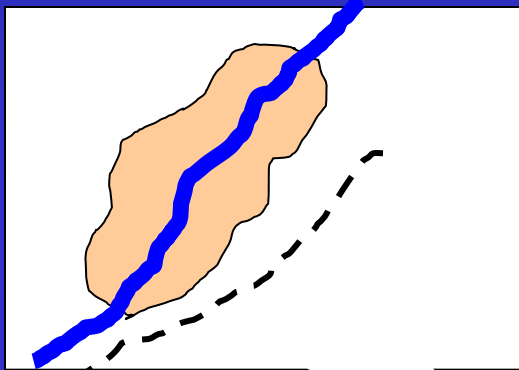
(Median flow is **73 cfs**)

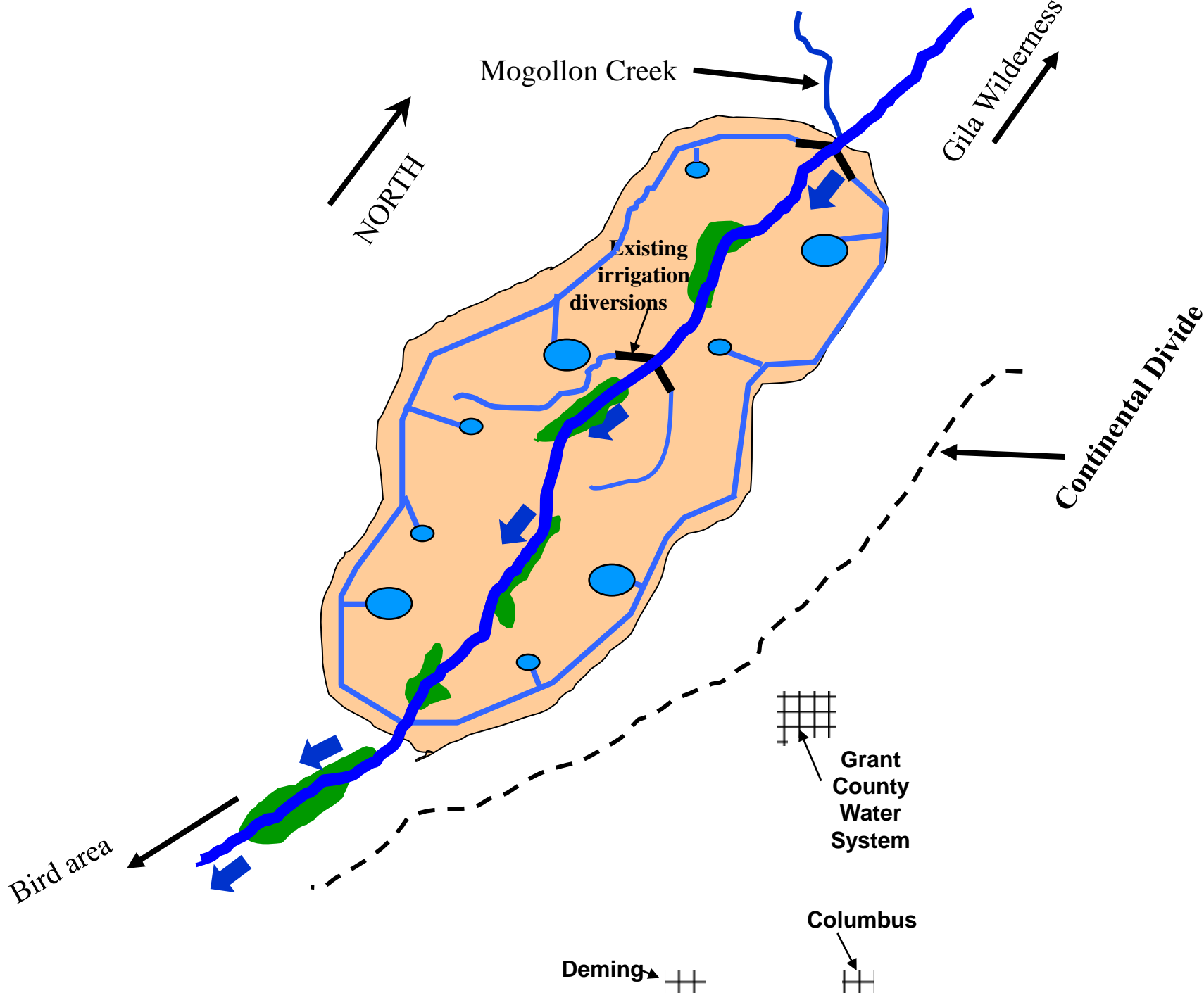
# NM's Commitments to the Gila's Health

- Minimum bypass = **150 cfs**
  - **double median flow of 73 cfs**
- **NO MAIN STEM OR TRIBUTARY DAMS**
  - **none passed ecologic evaluations**
- Maximum diversion = **350 cfs**
  - **protects flood functionality**
- 18,000 af reduced to **14,000 af (10K from Gila)**
  - **4,000 af for downstream needs**

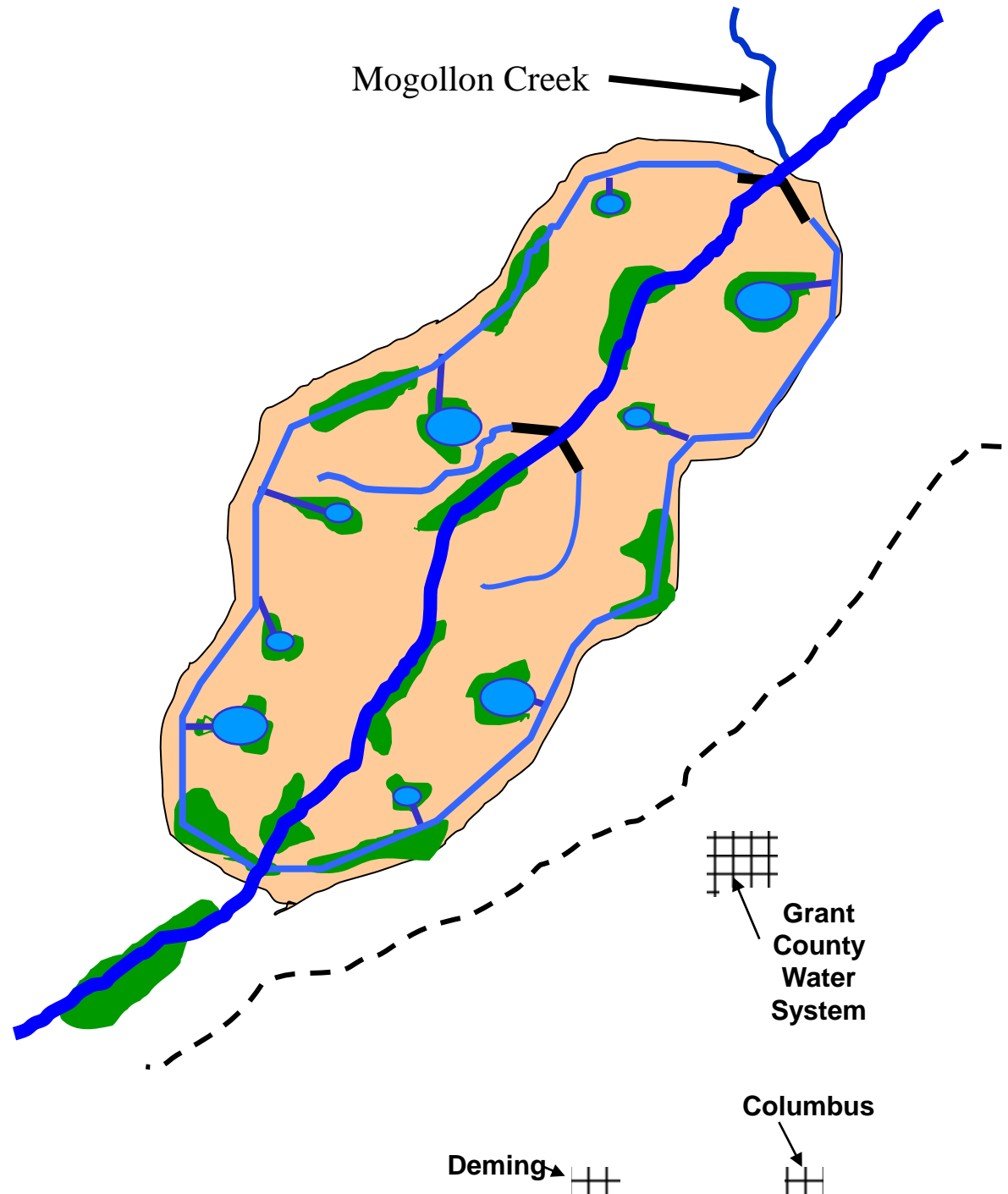
# KEEPING WATER IN THE RIVER

Cliff-Gila Valley









Mogollon Creek



Grant  
County  
Water  
System

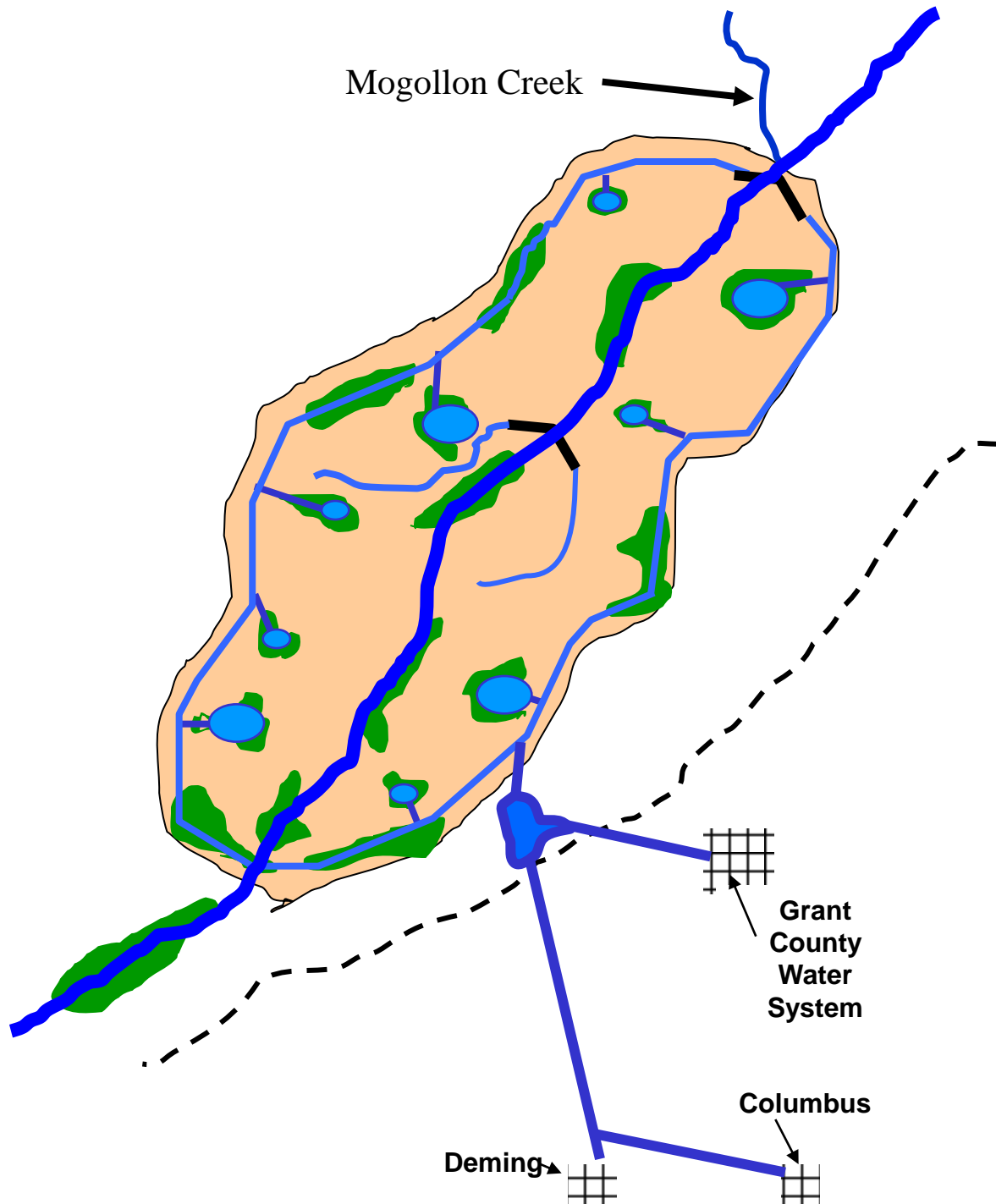


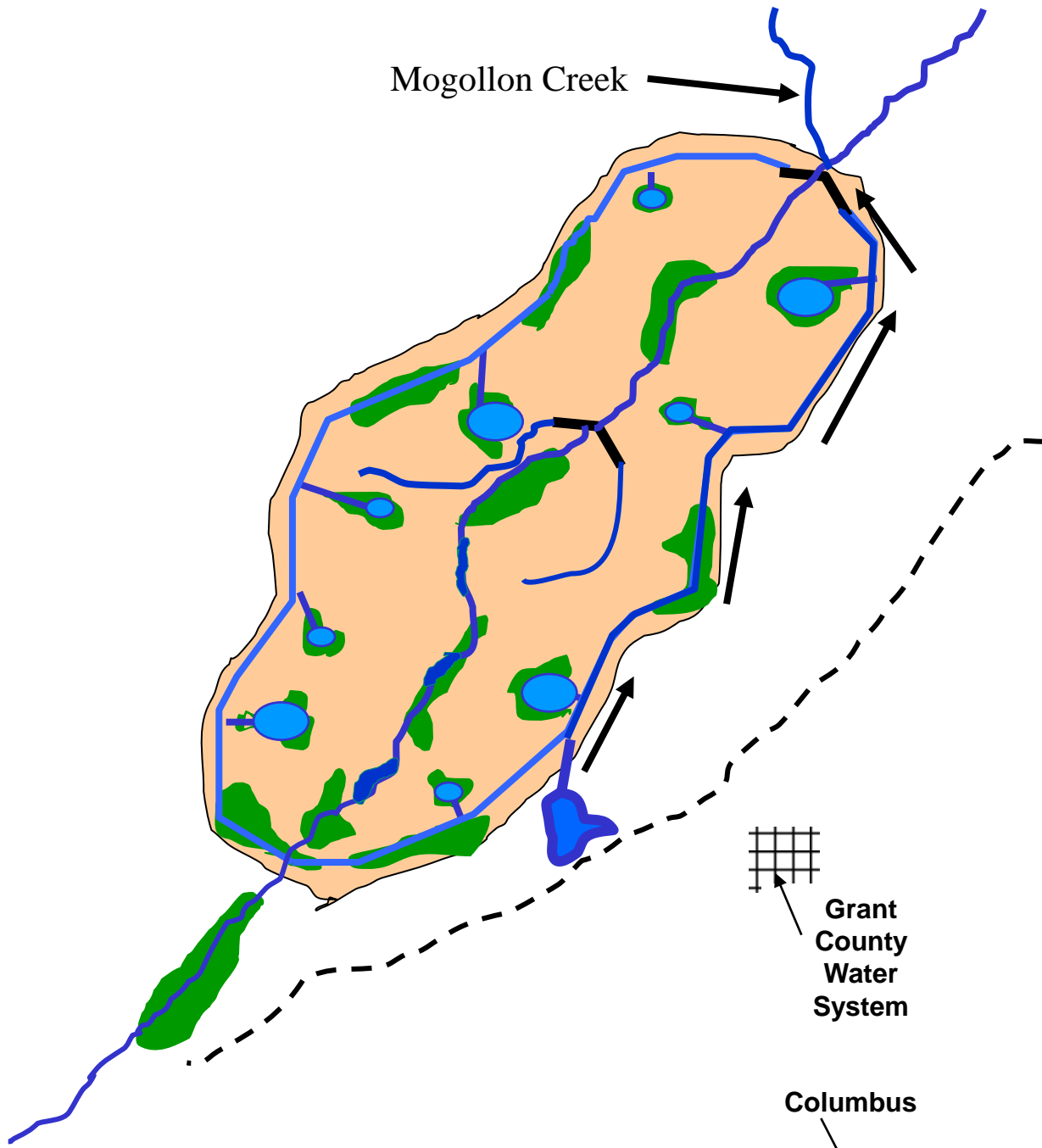
Columbus



Deming







July 2011





March 13, 2012

129 CFS





July 2011





**March 13, 2012**

**129 CFS**





**February 12, 2005**

**12,600 CFS**











Image USDA Farm Service Agency  
© 2012 Google

Google e





Image USDA Farm Service Agency  
© 2012 Google

GOO

Date: 7/24/2011

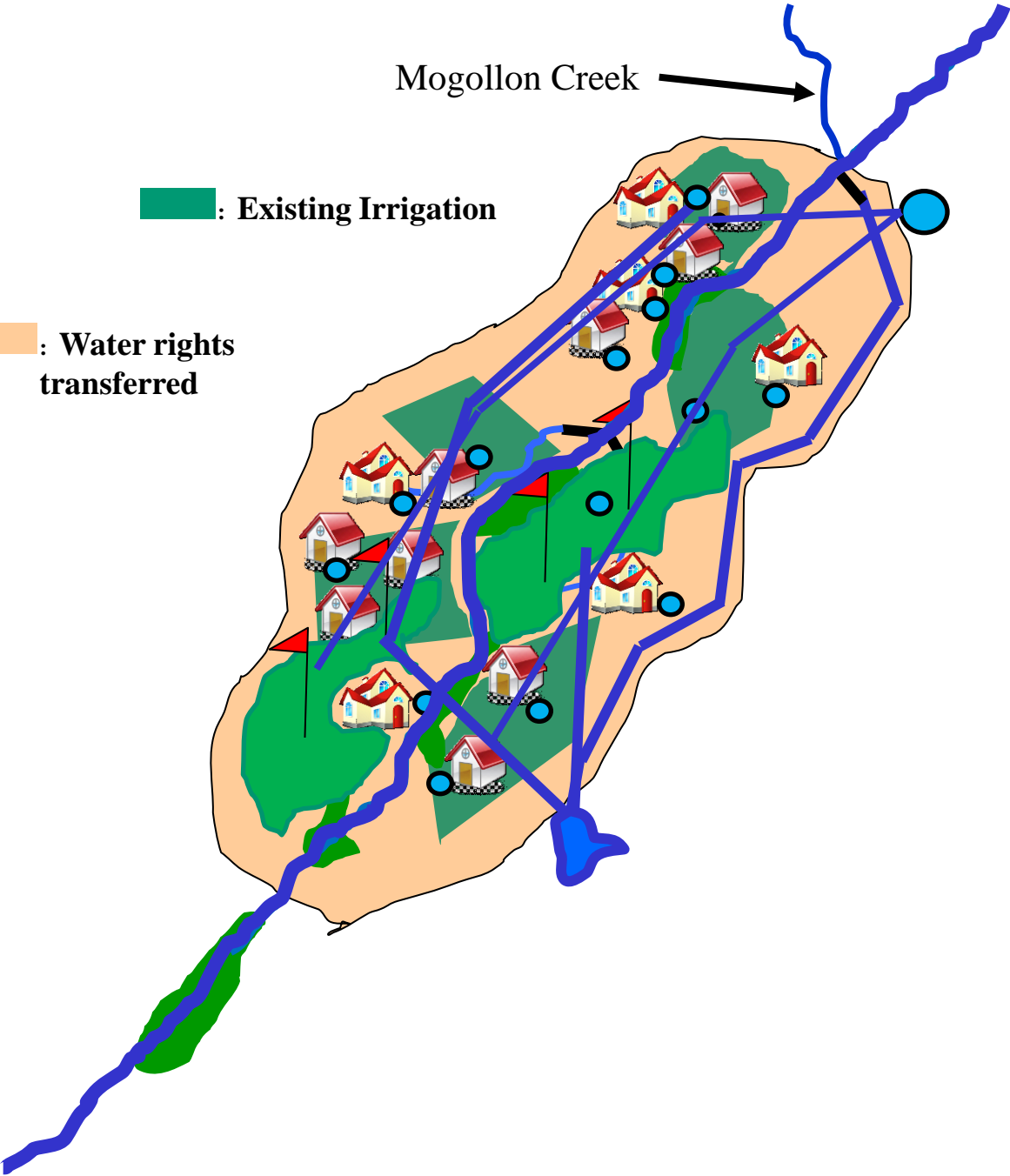
32°41'25.19" N 108°28'39.74" W elev 5811 ft

Mogollon Creek



 : Existing Irrigation

 : Water rights transferred

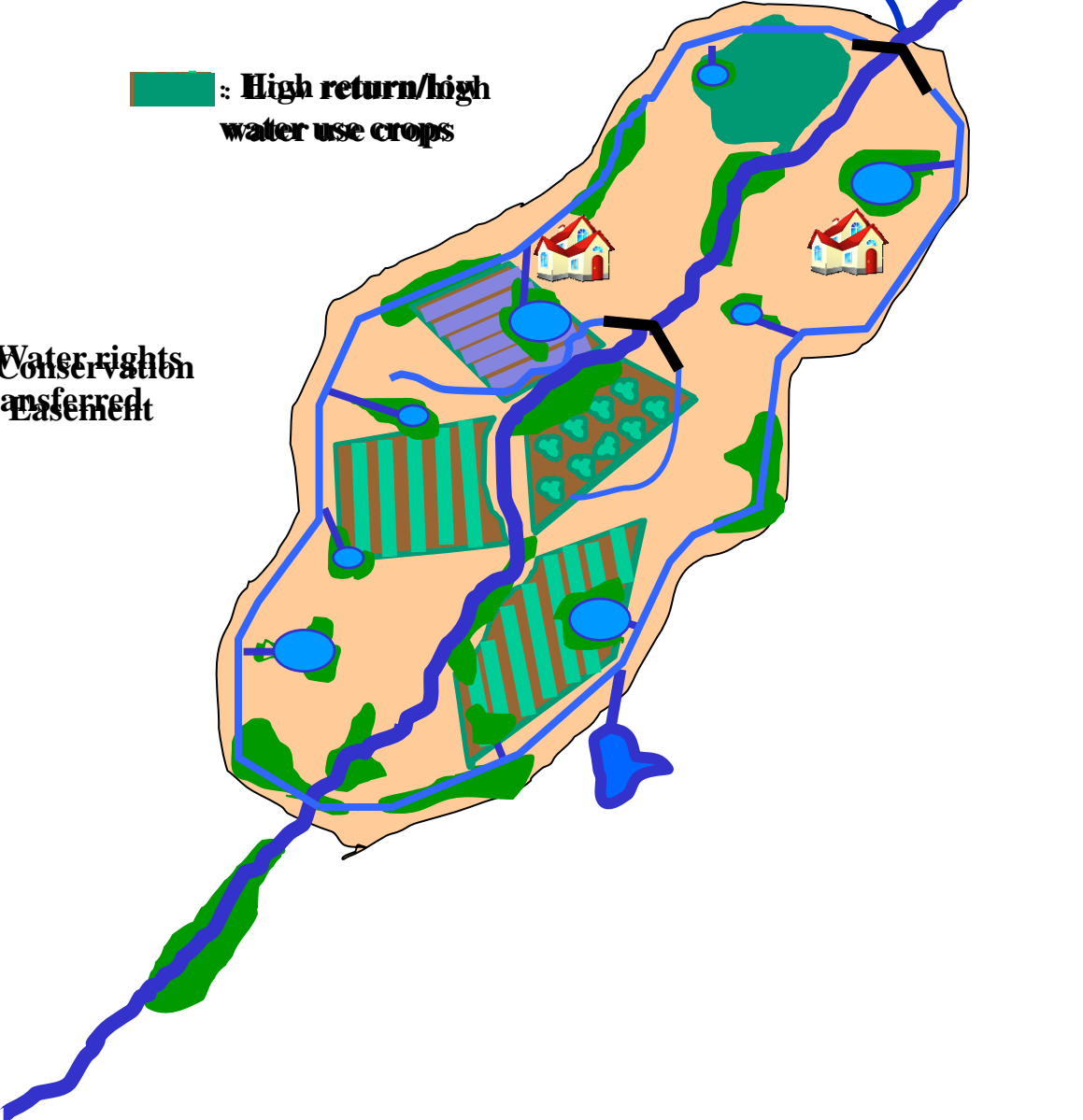


Mogollon Creek



 : High return/high water use crops

 : Water rights transferred  
Easement



Conservation is the positive  
exercise of skill and insight, not  
merely the negative exercise of  
caution or abstinence.

*- Aldo Leopold*

# WIN-WIN: BETTER SUPPLY+ CONSERVATION

- **Improved agricultural economy**
  - More reliable water supply => higher return crops
  - Higher return crop => lower water consumption
  - Lower water consumption => ESA protection/recovery
  - Enhanced ag economy => reduces unconstrained growth
- **Renewable water supply**
  - Supports present and future demand
  - Gravity diversion => low energy draw
  - Reduces demand on aquifers => drought reserve
- **Improved environment**
  - Supplement & protect environmental flows
  - More reliable water supply => robust riparian habitats
  - More reliable water supply => Improved aquatic habitats
  - More reliable water supply => ESA protection/recovery
  - Conservation easements => reduces unconstrained growth



A black and tan dog, possibly a Weimaraner, is sitting on a light blue raft. The dog is wearing a bright yellow life vest with black straps. The raft is on a wide, brown river. In the background, there are green, forested hills under a clear blue sky. A few other people in rafts are visible further down the river. The text "Thanks for listening!" is overlaid in white, serif font on the upper left side of the image.

**Thanks for listening!**

**Any questions?**