POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON NEVADA WATER FROM NEIGHBORING STATES

Kyle Roerink

Executive Director

Great Basin Water Network

BUT FIRST: SOME THOUGHTS ON NV

Litigation is the de facto arbiter in disputes between rights holders

Half of Groundwater Basins are fully allocated or over allocated

WHAT CAN WE DO

Does the State Engineer need more ability to curtail? Do we need better perennial yield figures? Do we need to redefine basins? Can this be done equitably. Can it be done within existing law?

Is the current system protecting valid rights, the environment and the promise of water for the future?

UTAH PROJECTS WITH POTENTIAL NV IMPACTS



Pine Valley Water Supply Project



Lake Powell Pipeline



New Washington County Water Rights
Applications



Cove Reservoir Dam

WHY DOES UT MATTER IN NV

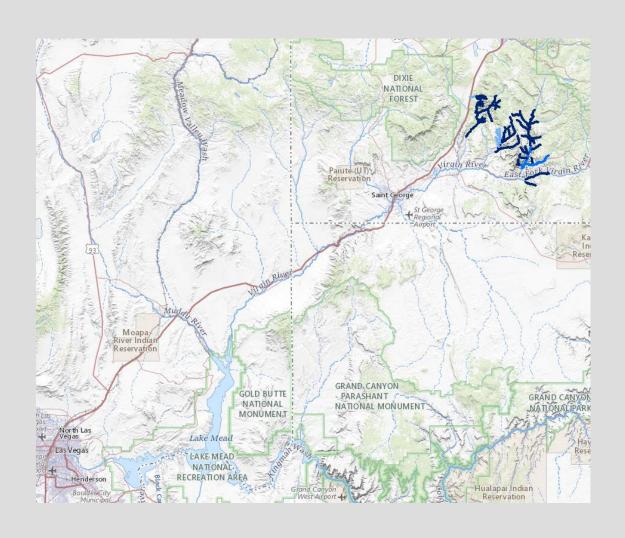
Reduction in Surface flows

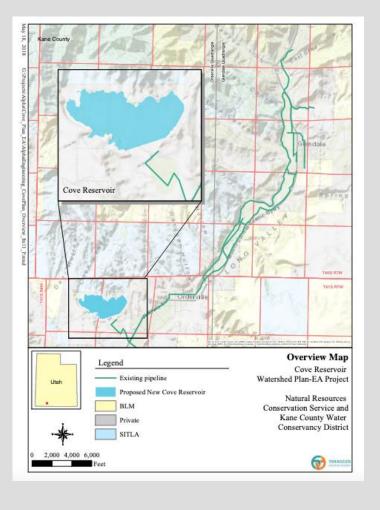


Reduction in Groundwater flows



Impacts to NV Communities





East Fork of the Virgin River Feeds into Main Stem Near St. George

Important Colorado River Tributary

6,500 AFY

In NEPA Review (NRCS)

Median Flows 43CFS Near Springdale, UT

Project Would Serve Residential Development In St George

LAKE POWELL PIPELINE

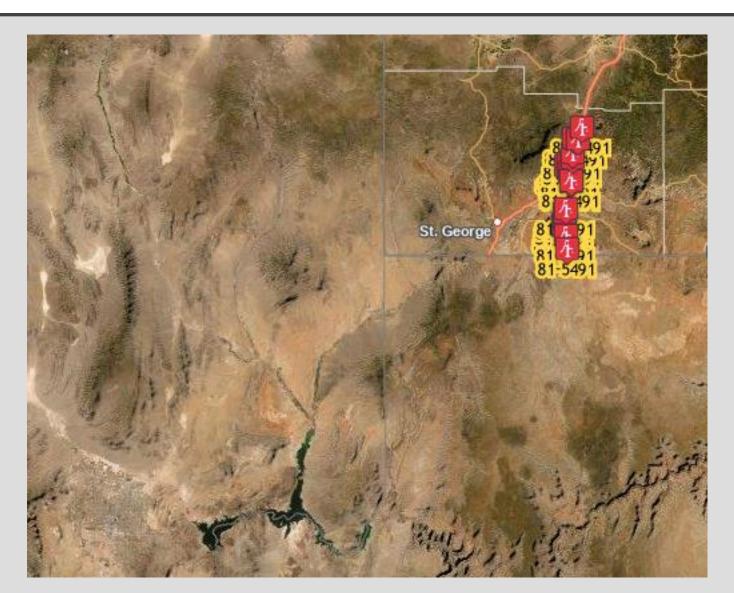
The project has stalled in federal permitting after backlash during DEIS in Summer 2020

Despite what we know about Powell, one big winter could change the mindset. Bureau of Reclamation hasn't rejected the application.

LAKE POWELL PIPELINE

86,000 afy per year (28 billion gallons annually)

Diverting that much water annually will lead to further declines at Lake Mead



18 proposed points of diversion follow Hurricane Fault Line near AZ border. Protest deadline ended in late April.

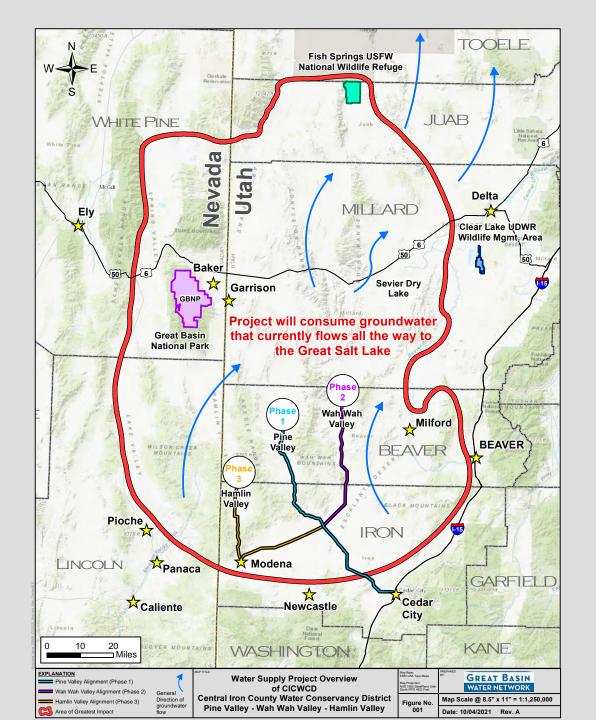
Washington County claims this is an UNTAPPED aquifer during ongoing adjudications in region. There is no credible science to back up those claims.

12,900 AFY per year (4.5 billion gallons annually in what is now fully allocated basin)

Washington County proposing to serve new development comes as Lake Powell Pipeline in limbo.

PODs right on or near Virgin River and Virgin River Tributaries, Ash Creek and Le Verkin Creek

In conjunction with Cove Reservoir, it is easy to see the trend in Southern UT, which was a common theme in Utah's 2022 legislative session: Water in the Virgin River Basin is being lost to Nevada.



Multi-phase project near Great Basin National Park. Phases I and 2 (Wah Wah Valley) amount to 26,000 afy (nearly 9 billion gallons annually from NV-UT borderlands)

USGS modeling shows major impacts to Snake Valley and eleven other basins in NV over time.

Water for sprawl in Cedar City, a notorious water-wasting community in Utah

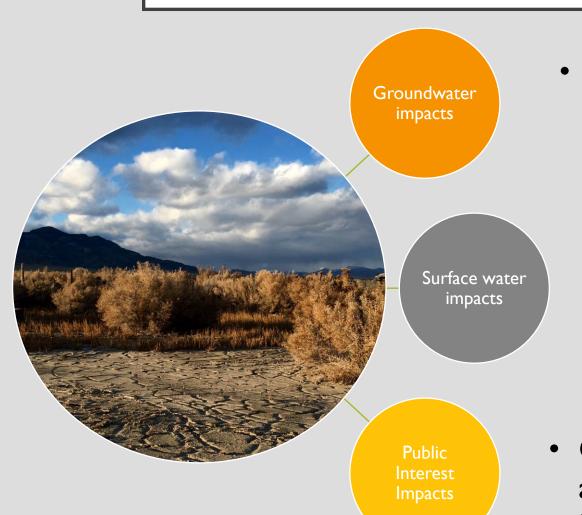
No turf removal programs, no significant watering restrictions, no desire to change.

BLM has excluded NV from modeling parameters of NEPA process despite USGS data showing impacts caused by pumping

White Pine County, Millard, Juab, Salt Lake, Tooele, and Beaver Counties all pushing back along with 22 NGOs and companies like Patagonia.

USGS data show up to 50 feet of drawdown quickly hitting Snake Valley due to project pumping

USGS data show impacts across 10,000+ square miles over time.



 The cone of depression will not stop when pumping stops. Current monitoring, mitigation plans do not defend NV.

 Groundwater pumping can impact spring-fed meadows in Snake Valley locations like Burbank and springs throughout the valley.

 Great Basin National Park will face impacts along with agricultural community, wildlife like Least Chub and tourism industry in the Valley.

WHAT DO COMMUNITIES NEED FROM YOU

Resolution Opposing Pine Valley Water Grab

the way on supporting locally driven conservation like AB356 from 2021

Continued
Monitoring of
projects with
interstate
implications