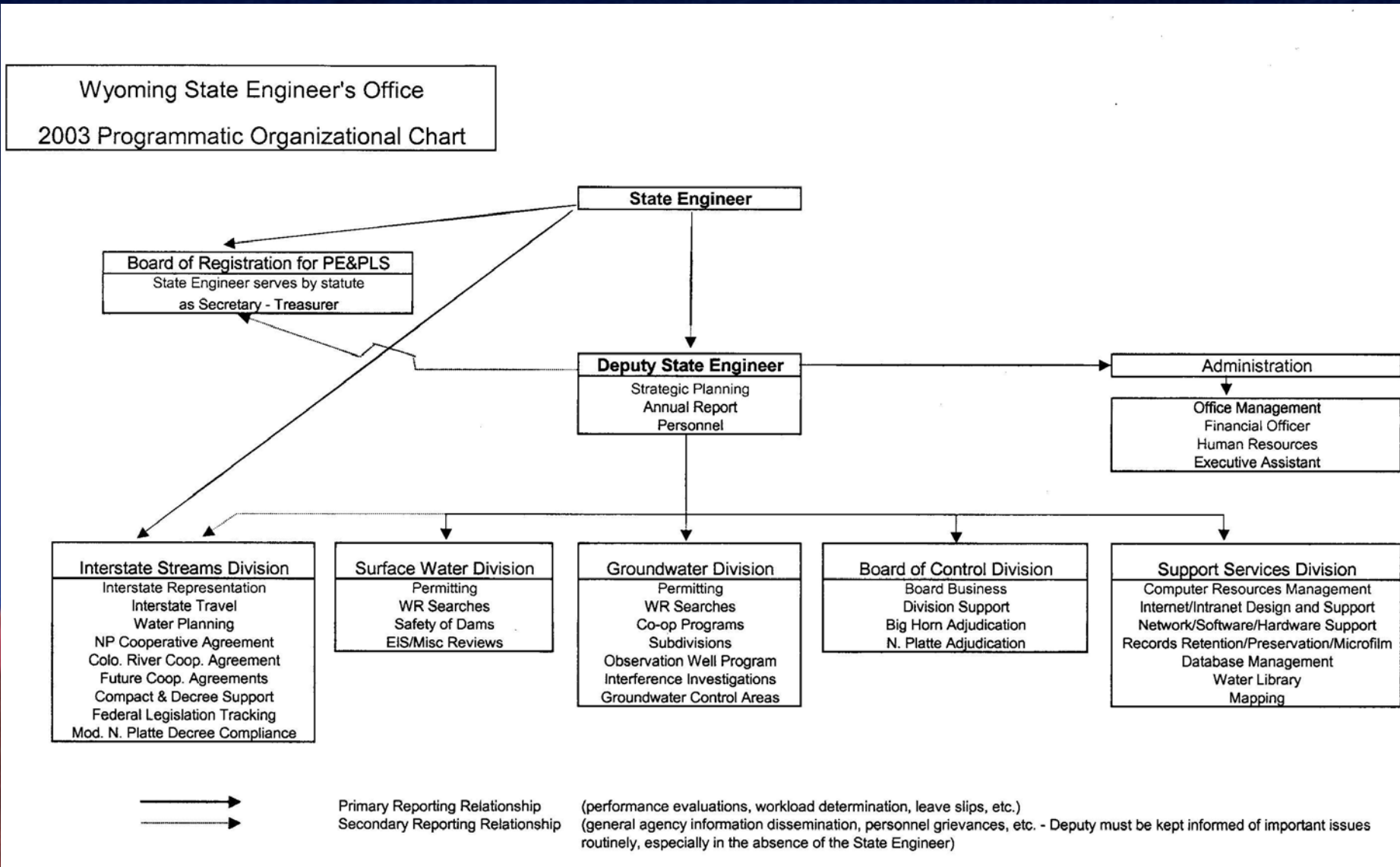


# An Overview of the Wyoming State Engineer's Office

By the  
Wyoming State Engineer's Office



# Wyoming State Engineer's Office Organizational Chart



# State Engineer's Office

## Administration Division

- General agency administration
- Budgeting, accounting, fiscal processing and inventory
- Personnel and benefit issues
- Strategic planning, annual report, and compliance with agency and state government directives
- Representation at public meetings, with the legislature, and with the Governor's Office on water and water law issues.



# State Engineer's Office

## Surface Water and Engineering Division

- Process applications for surface permits for direct diversions, reservoirs, and instream flow
- Process State Engineer petitions
- Conduct water right searches and analyses (for surface water sources)
- Operate Safety of Dams program/ Emergency response
- Drought management
- Review Corps of Engineers, State Planning Coordinator, NEPA and other documents for Wyoming Water Law compliance
- Wyoming Board of Geographic Names
- Weather modification permitting

# State Engineer's Office

## Ground Water Division

- Issue ground water permits prior to drilling a well
- Adjudication of ground water rights
- Search and analysis of water right records regarding water use
- Conduct ground water assessment studies-Observation Wells and Interference Investigations
- Manage statewide cooperative Stream Gaging Program, and the gaging station rehabilitation project
- Conduct Subdivision reviews
- Publish annual water diversion data records
- Conduct control area advisory board elections and meetings

# State Engineer's Office

## Board of Control Division

- Adjudication of water rights
- Process petitions for changes to existing adjudicated rights.
- Publish tabulation of Adjudicated rights
- Field regulation and Administration of water rights under Prior Appropriation Doctrine
- Conduct quarterly Board of Control meetings
- Big Horn General Adjudication activities
- North Platte Decree Adjudication activities



# State Engineer's Office

## Interstate Streams Division

- Wyoming is party to 7 Interstate River Compacts and 2 US Supreme Court Decrees
- Represent Wyoming on various interstate river compact commissions, interstate organizations and regional water programs
- Water Policy Issues – monitor Federal agencies for impacts on Wyoming water users, track Federal legislation and agency rule making
- Coordination with Federal agencies and other Western states on water resource issues and planning
- Water Accounting – stay apprised of other states' water uses
- Water Planning- work closely with the Commission in river basin planning
- Management of overall compliance with the new Modified North Platte Decree

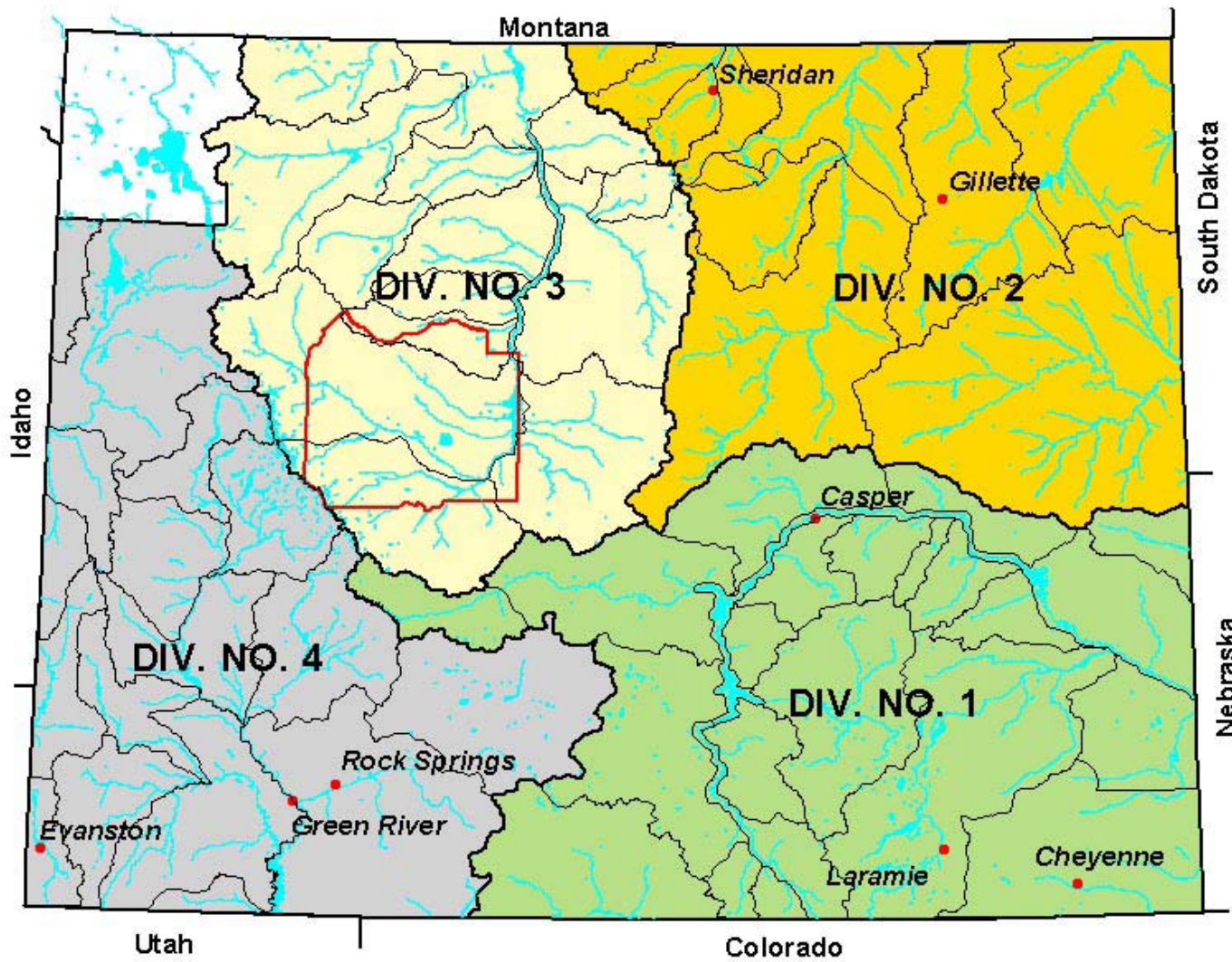
# State Engineer's Office

## Support Services Division

- Manage all Information Technology (IT) functions
  - Web Development for Internet and Intranet
  - Network Administration
  - Desktop and User computer issues
  - Software & Hardware standards
  - Provide technical support to all HQ and Field SEO personnel
  - IT Disaster Recovery Planning & Homeland Security
- Develop and maintain complex water rights database
- Manage all Microfilm functions
- Manage GIS & Mapping functions
- Manage Records Preservation and Library



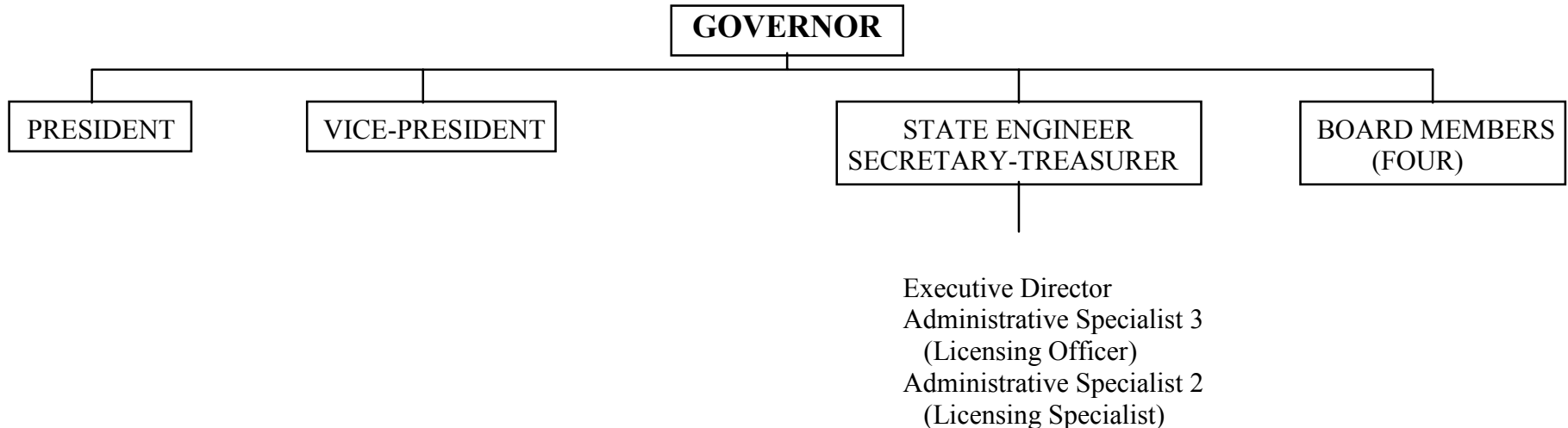
# WYOMING



# Organizational Chart for Board of Registration for Engineers and Land Surveyors

## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART-STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION

### FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS



# Water Well Drilling Contractors and Water Well Pump Installation Contractors Certification Board

- The Board of Water Well Drilling Contractors and Water Well Pump Installation Contractors (WWB) was created during the 2003 Legislative session. The law was enacted to provide a volunteer certification program for water well drilling contractors and water well pump installation contractors. Through this volunteer program, Wyoming citizens will be able to assess a contractor's skill and knowledge level via certification, so long as the contractor has voluntarily sought and achieved certification.



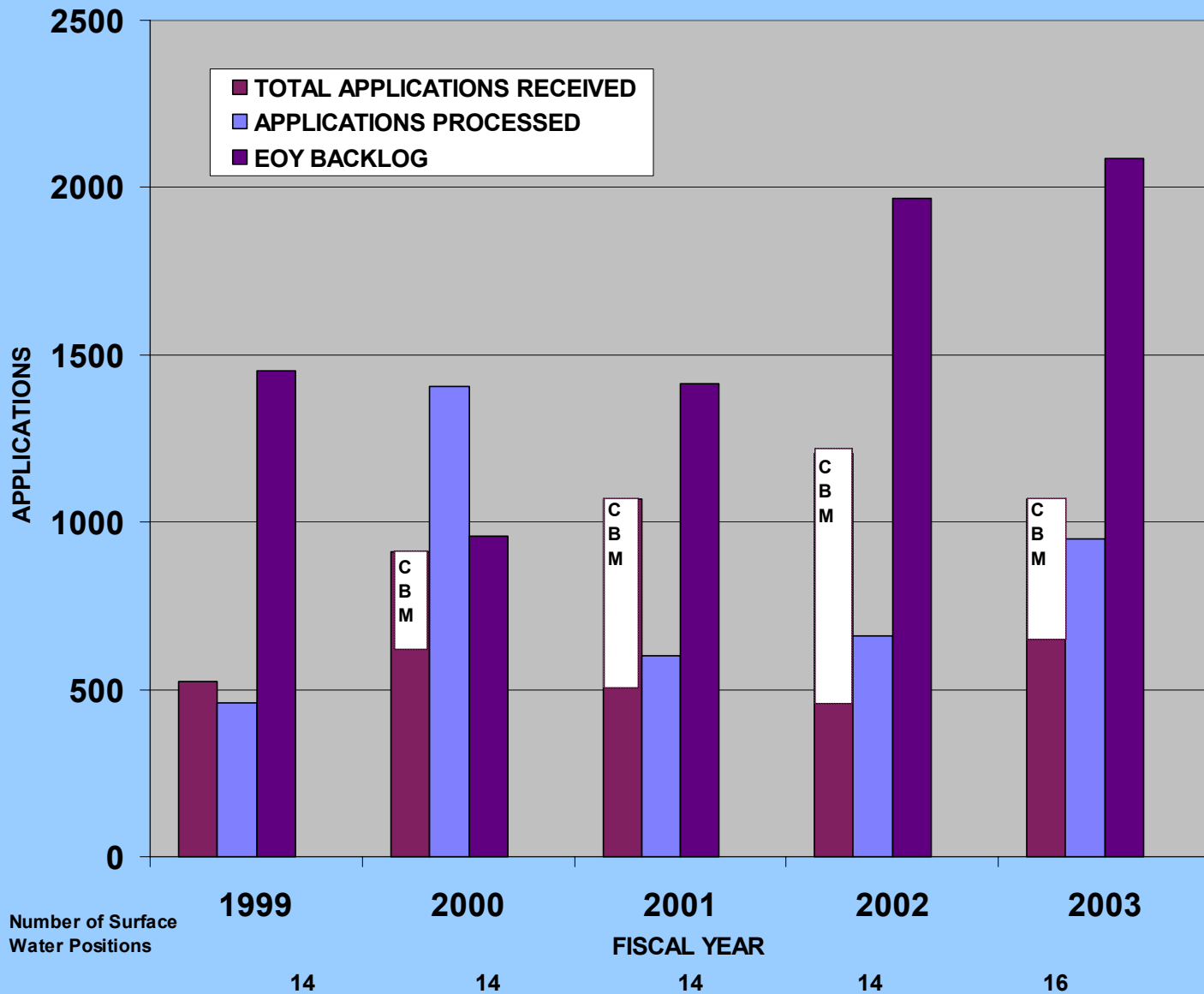
# Water Well Drilling Contractors and Water Well Pump Installation Contractors Certification Board - continued

- W.S. 33-42-101 through W.S. 33-42-111 established this volunteer certification program for water well drillers and water well pump installers. The program is not currently operational as the appointed seven member board must first complete a number of tasks including but not limited to the following:
  - Promulgate rules and regulations
  - Establish test requirements
  - Establish minimum certification requirements
  - Establish continuing education requirements
  - Establish a fee schedule
- It is anticipated that the Board will be fully operational in 2005 and will then begin to offer certifications to the profession.

# Coal Bed Methane Development Impacts on the State Engineer's Office



# WYOMING STATE ENGINEER'S OFFICE - SURFACE WATER DIVISION

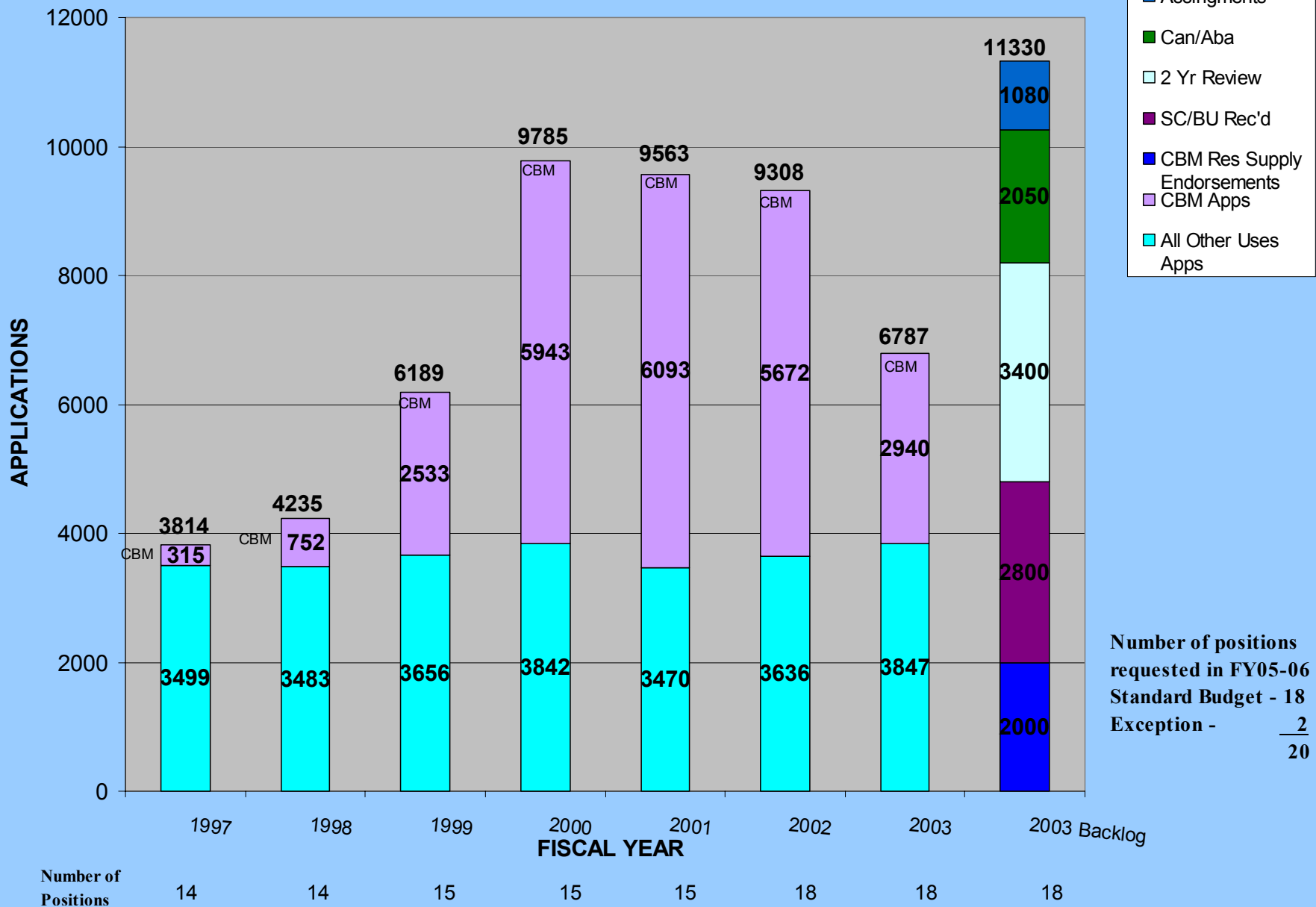


Requested Positions  
in FY 05-06:

<u>Standard Budget</u>	14
<u>Exception Budget</u>	4
<u>Total</u>	18



# STATE ENGINEER'S OFFICE GROUND WATER DIVISION APPLICATIONS RECEIVED PER FISCAL YEAR



# Wyoming River Basin Compacts and Decrees



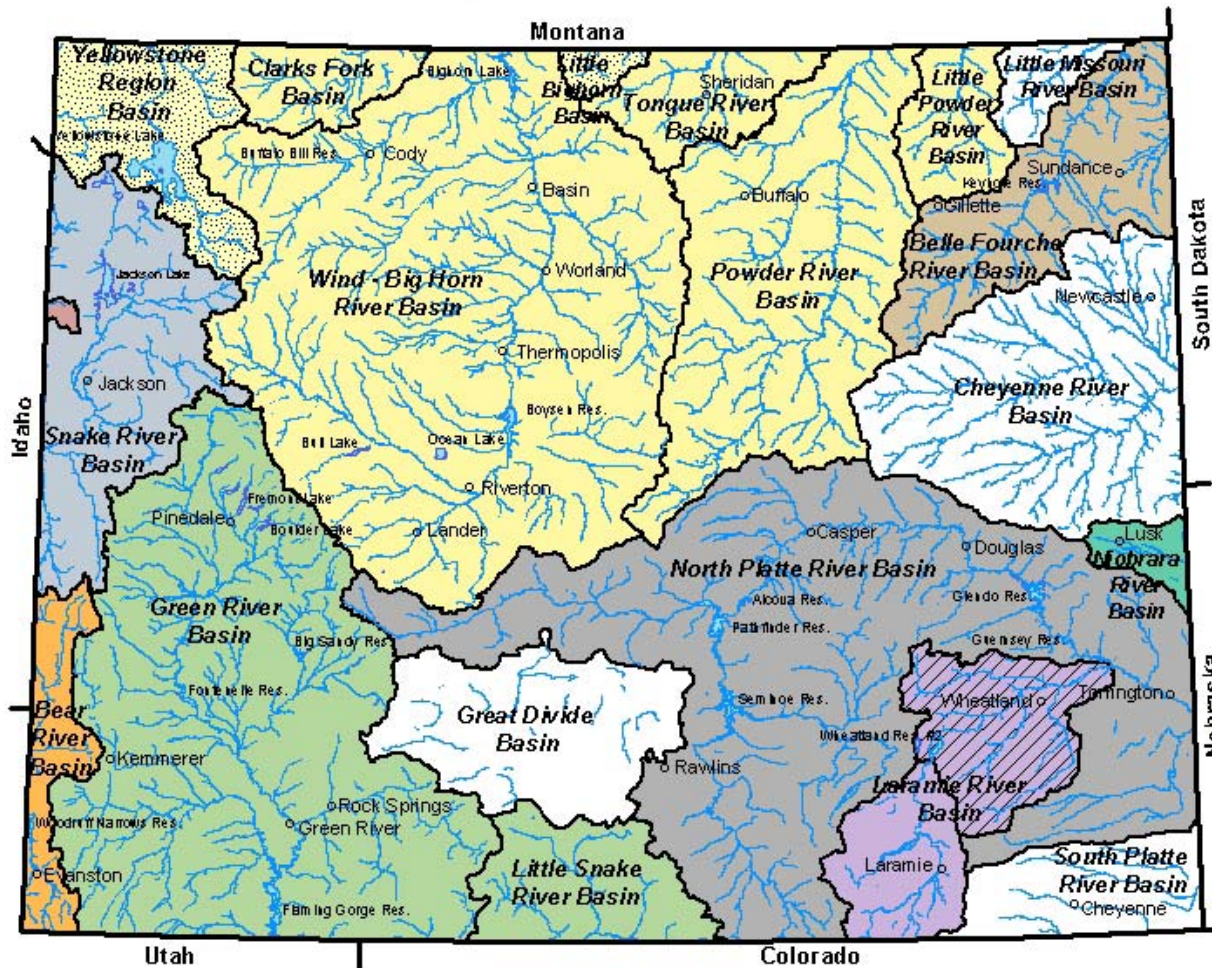
307-777-6150

## Legend

- Cities
- Major Streams
- Lakes/Reservoirs

## Compacts and Decrees

- Amended Bear River Compact, 1978
- Colorado River Compact, 1922
- Upper Colorado River Compact, 1948
- Snake River Compact, 1949
- Yellowstone River Compact, 1950
- Exceptions within the Yellowstone River Compact Area
- Belle Fourche River Compact, 1943
- Upper Niobrara River Compact, 1962
- North Platte River Decree, 1945 (modified 2001)
- Laramie River Decree, 1922
- Roxana Decree, 1941
- No compacts or Decrees
- Modified North Platte Decree, 2001



0 50 100 Miles

September 2003  
Wyoming State Engineer's Office

# North Platte Decree Committee and Modified North Platte Decree Activities Within the State Engineer's Office

- North Platte Decree Committee
  - established by the States of Nebraska, Wyoming, and Colorado, and the United States of America to assist in monitoring, administering, and implementing the Modified North Platte Decree and the Final Settlement Stipulation.
  - Wyoming State Engineer will become the Chair of the NPDC in April 2004
- The Modified Decree revised the 168,000-acre limitation to include the lands irrigated by the tributaries between Pathfinder Dam and Guernsey Reservoir and certain acres irrigated by groundwater, neither of which were limited by the 1945 Decree.
  - To account for the expanded area, the Modified Decree increased the acreage limitation to 226,000 acres.
- The Modified Decree also placed limitations on the amount of water that can be consumed for irrigation purposes in the area between the Colorado/Wyoming state line and Guernsey Reservoir, exclusive of the Kendrick Project.
  - This limitation is based on the maximum ten consecutive year historical consumptive use in the area.



# North Platte River Settlement Activities within the State Engineer's Office - Continued

- Further, the Modified Decree preserves the historical water rights regulation prior to May 1 for the benefit of Pathfinder Reservoir, Guernsey Reservoir, Glendo Reservoir and the Inland Lakes under pre-described conditions that define water short years.
- Finally, the Modified Decree required a general increase in monitoring, measurement, accounting and reporting of water use, as well as future studies by the North Platte Decree Committee (NPDC)
- Neither the Settlement Agreement nor the Modified Decree impacts the upper Laramie River Basin or the Horse Creek drainage.



# Weather Modification Permitting Activities Administered by the State Engineer's Office

- **Wyoming's weather modification statutes were enacted in 1951.**
- **9-1-907. Weather modification; permit required; issuance; duration; fee; report of activities; penalties for noncompliance –**
  - (b) A separate permit shall be issued for each experiment or activity. Permits are revocable by the state engineer. Permits are to be issued for one (1) year from Oct. 1 of one year to Sept. 30 of the following year. A fee not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be charged for each permit issued or renewed...
- **Since 1951, 83 weather modification permits have been issued by the Wyoming State Engineer.**
  - **A majority of the permits have been issued to the Eden Valley Irrigation and Drainage District.**
- **Each of the permits are valid for a period of one year, typically that period has been from November 1st through April 15th.**

Thank you  
for your  
attention!

