

The Wind River Water Plan Northern Arapaho & Eastern Shoshone Tribes

Prepared for:

Wind-Big Horn Basin Advisory Group

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**Catherine Vandemoer, Ph.D.
Watershed Resources Incorporated
Consultant to Northern Arapaho Tribe**





Our Water, Our Future

500,000 AF

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION



Water Plan Research & Activities 2003-2006

- Water Accounting Project
 - Water Use
- Evaluation of Water Management: federal, state, Tribal & impacts on Tribal water resources and water uses
- BIA Irrigation Project & Management
- Drought Management
- Private Ditch Management
- Arapahoe Ranch & Owl Creek Basin Water Management
- Tribal Elder-Youth Conference on Water
- Film: Our Water Our Future

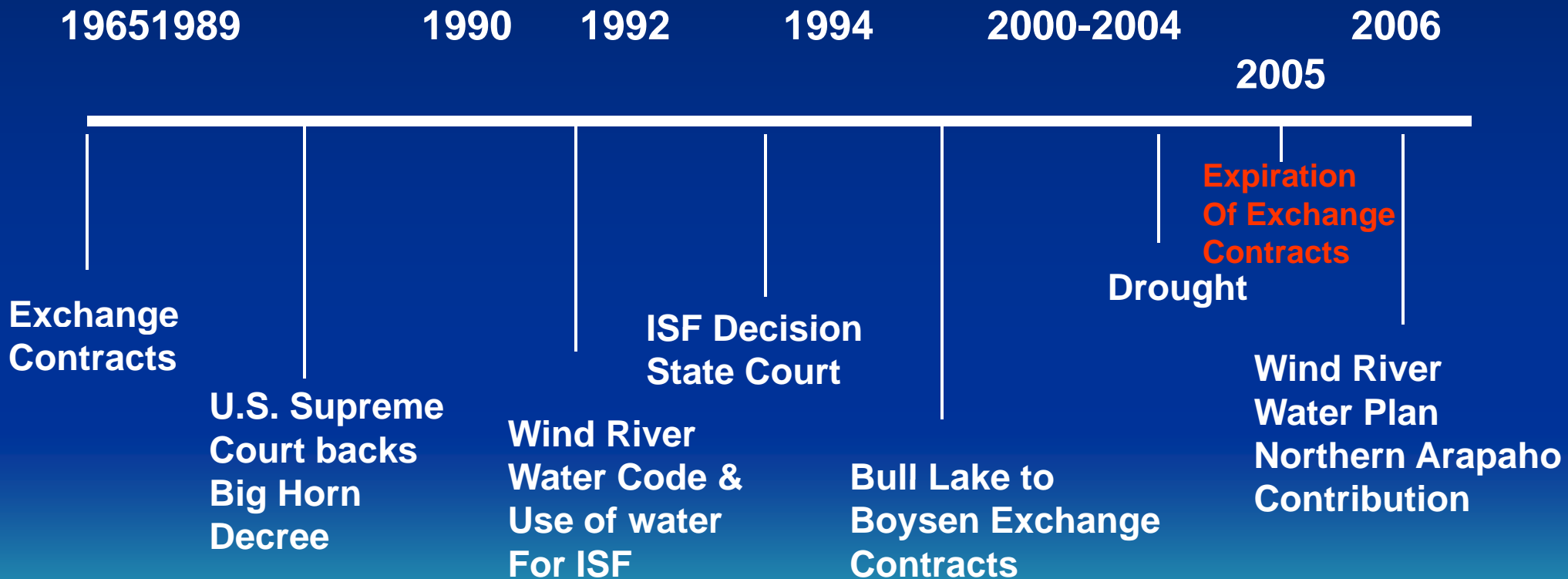


Using the Water

- Big Horn Decree
- Federal Reserved Water Rights Principles
- Wind River Water Code
- Instream Flow Decision
 - Big Horn Decree principles still apply
- Big Horn Decree Finalization Process-
rights cancellation, land adjustments.
Nothing on administration
- Who is using the water now?



Federal Role in Water Management in the Wind River Basin



BIA Irrigation Management

- **Delivery and Management of 1868 Water**
- **Operation & Maintenance:**
 - **Charges**
 - **Disrepair**
- **Failure to Recognize Quantification in Big Horn Decree**
 - **Requires water rights delivery to Tribes**
 - **Requires determination of surplus water**
- **Tribal Control:**
 - **Tribal Conservation Districts**
 - **Tribal Irrigation Districts**
 - **638 Contracting, especially of storage facilities**



What is in the Water Plan?

- **The Wind River Water is a plan for the use of Tribal water.**
 - It is based on community input & research
- **The Water Plan Contains**
 - **Review of Activities and Findings**
 - **3-Phases of Water Development**
 - **Securing the Homeland**
 - **Strengthening the Foundation**
 - **Building the Homeland**
 - **Development of Tribal administrative infrastructure**
 - **Strategies for Water Development: How to Move Ahead**



What's Next?

- 2001: Similar Meeting—Issue I.D.
- 2003-2006: Water Plan addresses these issues plus options for water development
- 2007-??
 - Choices
 - Decisions
 - Strategy
 - Communication & Planning



THE ELEMENTS OF DEVELOPMENT

