

C CONNECTIONS

TRI-COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

REGIONAL WATER SOURCES

Tri-County Water Conservancy District manages Ridgway Reservoir for the Bureau of Reclamation which includes the hydropower project owned by Tri-County.

The completion of the hydropower project in 2014 brought a renewable energy source to valley residents. Hydropower is non-consumptive, meaning all water used generating power is returned directly to the Uncompahgre River for downstream use. Annual power production is primarily dependent on yield from the spring

and summer runoff. Runoff is stored and released from Ridgway Reservoir based on irrigation demands in the Uncompahgre Valley. The Uncompahgre Valley Water Users decides how much and when water is released and delivered downstream. Infrastructure shown on the map below outlines the complex systems that deliver water to all domestic and irrigation water users.

Currently, Ridgway Reservoir is at 57 percent of capacity. The normal level for this time period based on historic averages is 82 percent.

