COLORADO

Western States Water Council

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Photos by Blake Beyea

Overview

- Structure/Authority of WQCD
- Clean Water Program Highlights
  - Colorado's Water Plan Quality/Quantity Integration
- Drinking Water Program Highlights
  - Lead and Copper Rule
  - Unregulated Contaminants (PFAS)
- Questions?

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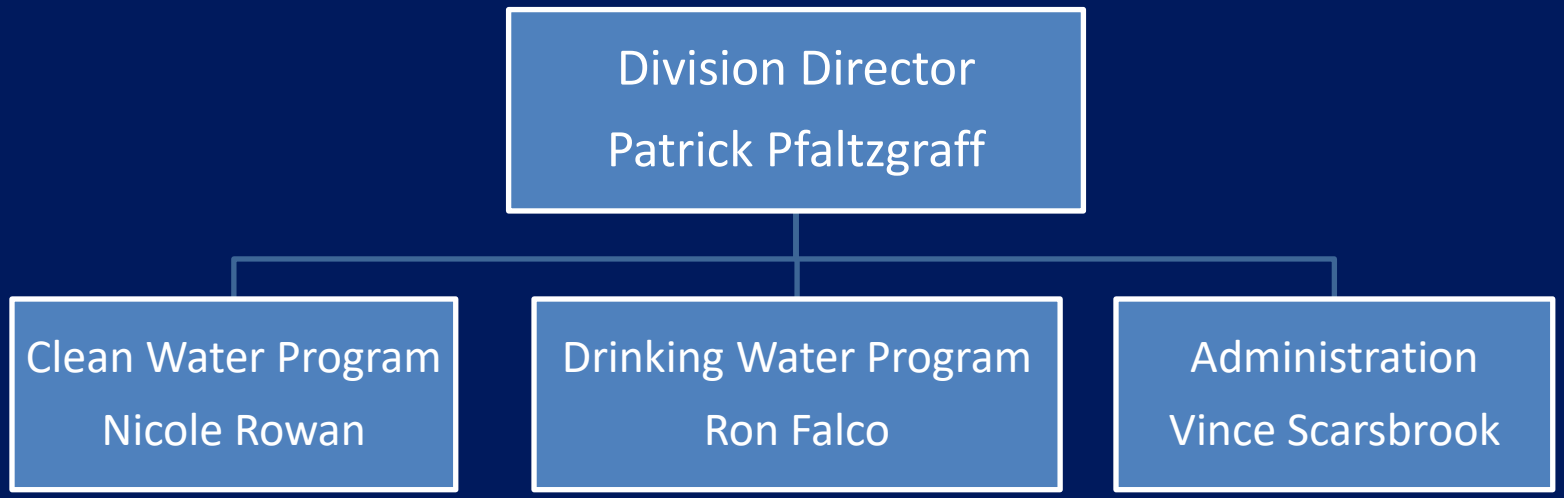
- *Water Quality Control*
- *Air Pollution Control*
- *Haz Mat/Waste Management*
- *Health and Env Sustainability*

Water Quality Control Division



Protect and restore water quality for public health and the environment in Colorado.

CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

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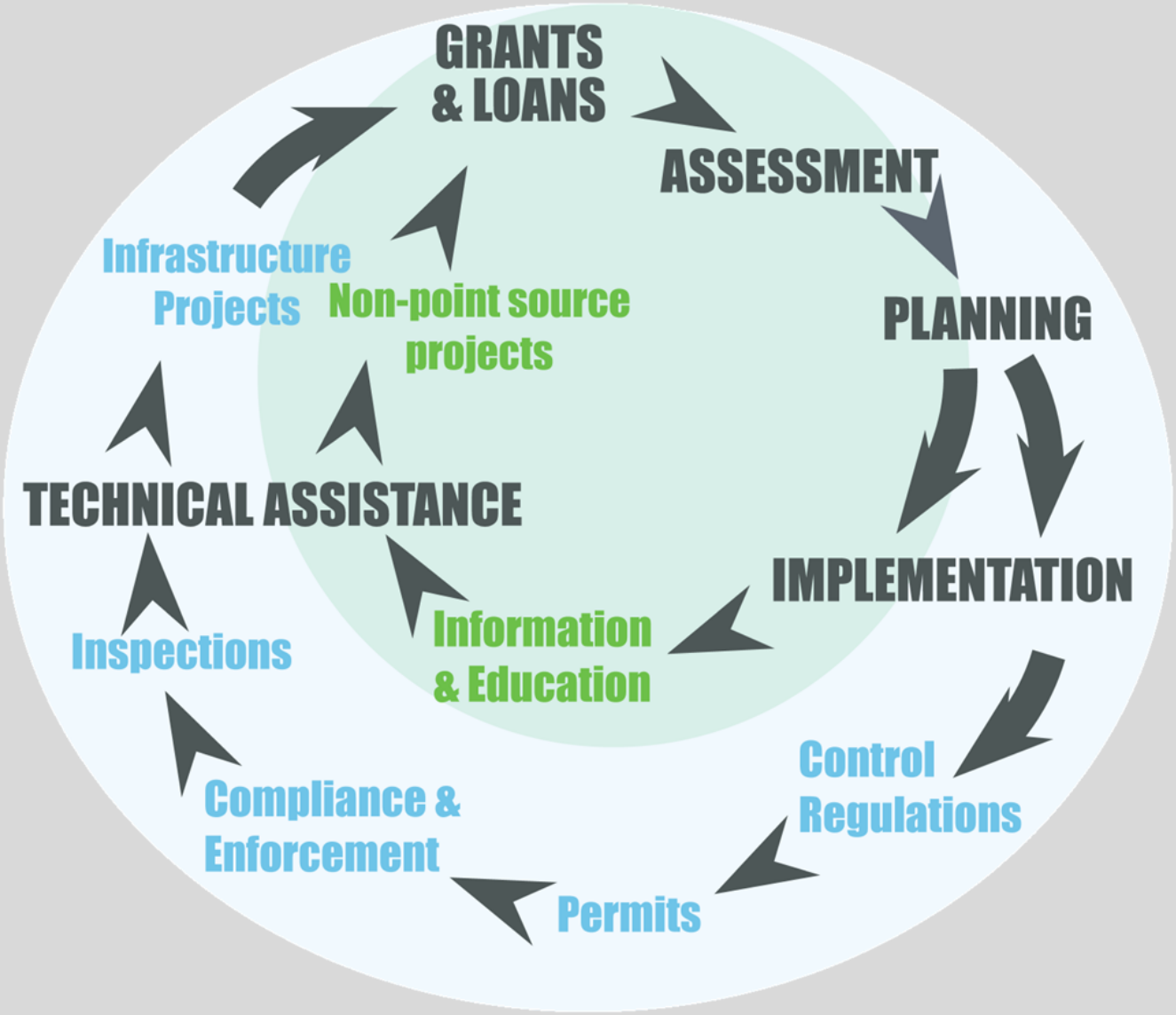
WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN COLORADO



Water Rights

- WQCA prohibits the Division from:
  - Requiring minimum instream flows
  - Taking any action that would cause or result in material injury to water rights
- Regulation No. 82
  - SEO/CWCB consultation
  - Coordination with the applicant and other commenters to find resolution

COLORADO'S WATER PLAN QUALITY/QUANTITY INTEGRATION

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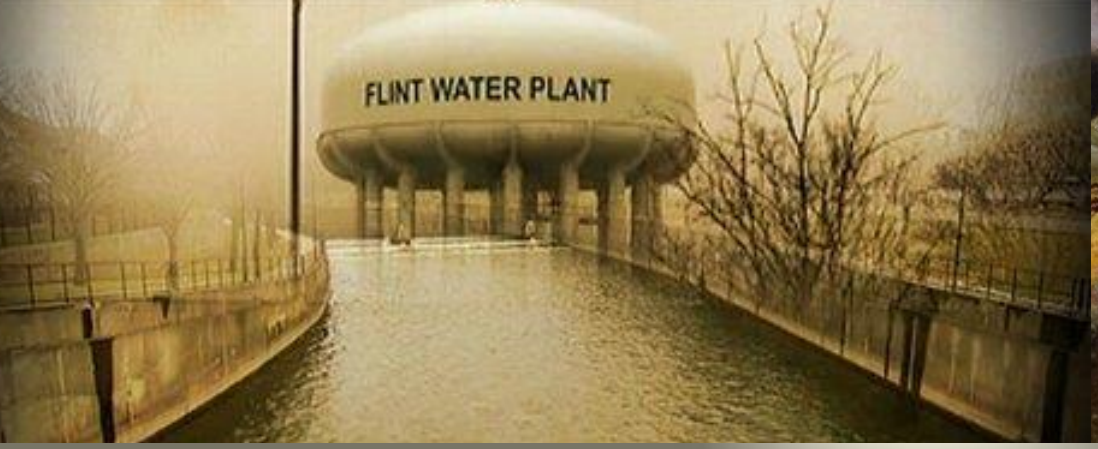
Water Quality Control Commission Strategic Water Quality Goal

By 2050, Colorado's waters will fully support their classified uses, which may include drinking water, agriculture, recreation, aquatic life, and wetlands.

Q/Q Integration Goal

Recognizing the inter-relationships between quality and quantity, strategies designed to meet Colorado's current and future consumptive, recreational, and environmental water needs will incorporate, as a key objective, the protection and restoration of water quality.

SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM



Flint Michigan Water Crisis

Lead and Copper Rule Post Flint

- The Lead and Copper Rule is a very complex drinking water regulation
- Lead exposure may cause damage to the brain red blood cells, and kidneys, especially young children and pregnant women
- Based on an action level (not a violation)
- Lead has an action level of 0.015 mg/L (15 parts per billion)
- If exceeded, system must complete the following actions:
  - ✓ Public education
  - ✓ Source water sampling
  - ✓ Additional water quality sampling
  - ✓ Corrosion control evaluations
  - ✓ New or modified treatment
  - ✓ Potential removal of lead service lines

How does lead get in drinking water?

Lead typically enters drinking water through plumbing materials. Lead typically is **not** present in drinking water sources like groundwater wells or rivers.

Lead and Copper Rule in Colorado

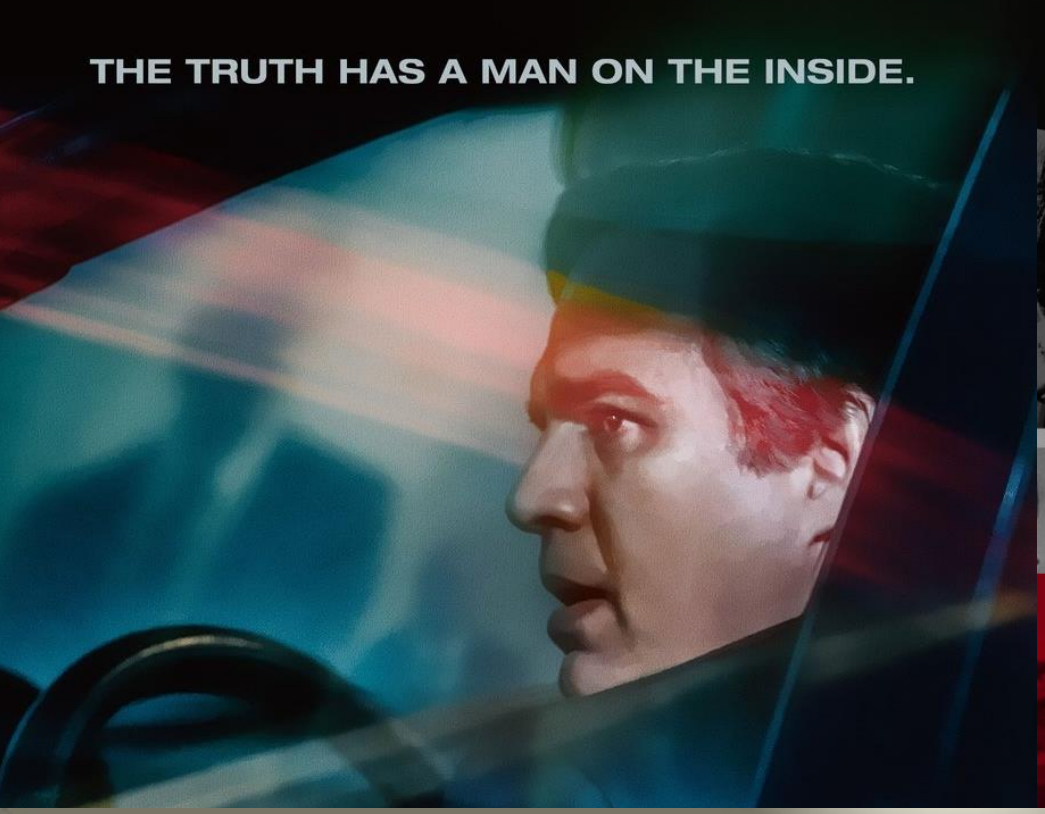
- Rule applies to approximately 1,000 drinking water systems in Colorado
- Currently there are 23 systems performing activities required after exceeding the action level
- Schools, daycare facilities, hospitals, nursing home requirements:
  - Rule only applies if they have their own source water
  - Encouraged to contact their water provider about reducing their level of risk and what steps they can take to reduce lead exposure
- Denver Water lead exceedance and variance

Ground Water and Drinking Water

Proposed Revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule

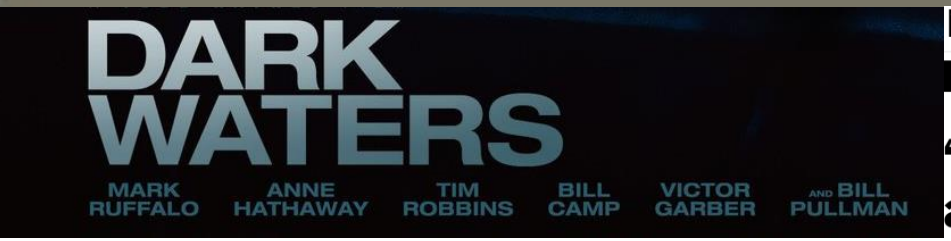
EPA's proposed Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) includes a suite of actions to reduce lead exposure in drinking water where it is needed the most. The proposed rule will identify the most at-risk communities and ensure systems have plans in place to rapidly respond by taking actions to reduce elevated levels of lead in drinking water.

The agency's proposal takes a proactive and holistic approach to improving the current rule —from testing to treatment to telling the public about the levels and risks of lead in drinking water. This approach focuses on six key areas:


THE TRUTH HAS A MAN ON THE INSIDE.


THE DEVIL WE KNOW
THE CHEMISTRY OF A COVER-UP
SEE THE FILM
TAKE ACTION
KATHLEEN FORTE DUPONT PUBLIC RELATIONS
WHAT WERE THEY TRYING TO HIDE?
WHAT EXACTLY DID THEY KNOW

PFAS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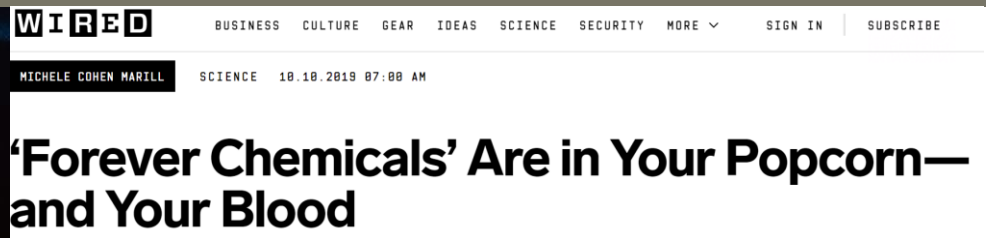
AND BILL PULLMAN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Per and Poly Fluorinated Alkyl Substances

- PFAS are not a regulated drinking water contaminant
  - 2009 EPA health advisories for PFOS and PFOA that was subsequently revised to 70 parts per trillion.
  - Many states have adopted standards, CO only has site specific standard.
- Possible health effects include increases in heart disease, liver disease, or high blood pressure.
- In 2013, as part of the EPA's process of evaluating emerging contaminants (UCMR 3), large public water systems were required to monitor for PFCs

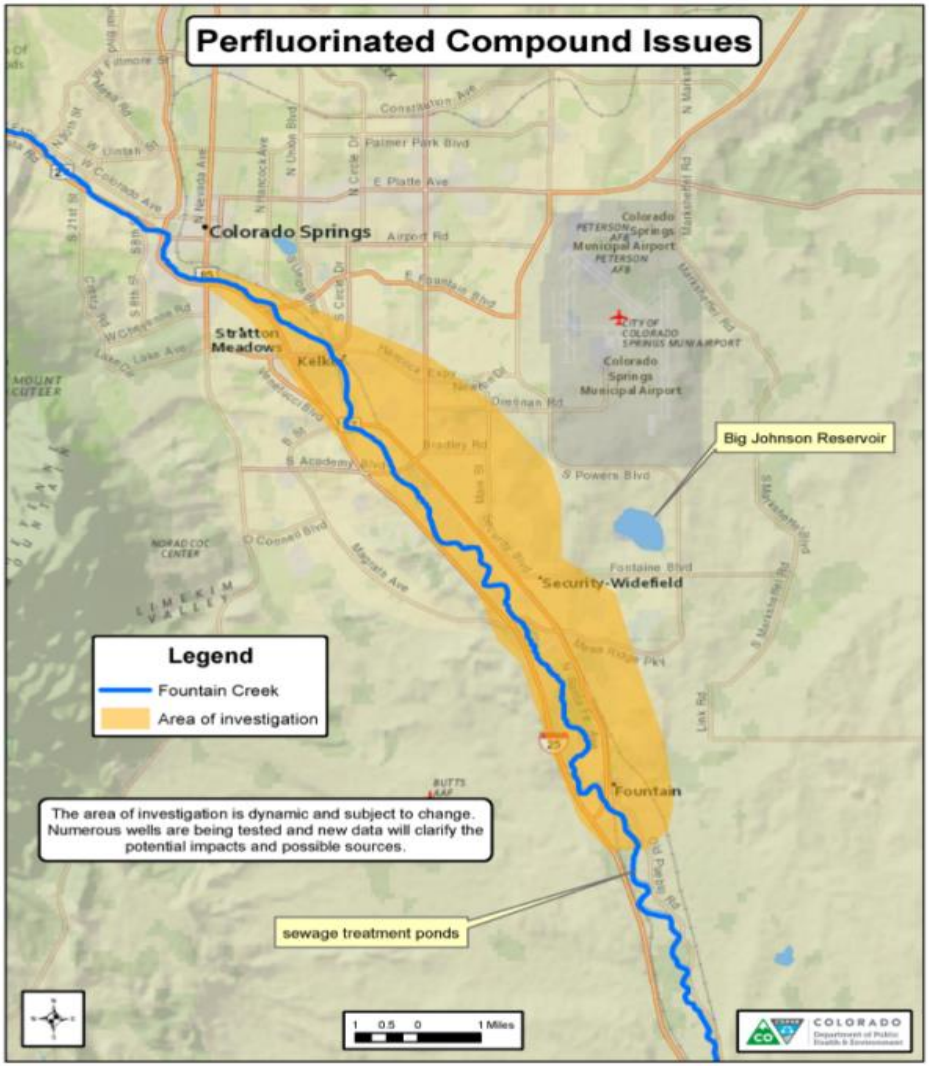
What are PFAS?

PFAS are a family of human-made chemicals much of which was produced by a variety of chemical companies (Dow/DuPont/etc.). The compounds can be found in firefighting foams, coating additives, stain and water proofing products such for carpets and clothing (including the products Goretex and Teflon).

PFOA = perfluorooctanoic acid
PFOS = perfluorooctanesulfonic acid
PFHxS = Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid

For most people, food and personal care products are the primary sources of exposure and nearly all people have measureable levels of PFCs in their blood.

Impacts in Colorado



The following three systems in Colorado detected PFCs: Security, Widefield, and the City of Fountain

- Some wells have been shut down
- Systems are blending with purchased water from the Fountain Valley Authority and have increased their monitoring

Several small drinking water systems are located in the area, including private wells

CDPHE set a site specific groundwater standard for this basin at 70ppt

There are other areas we are looking at for contamination

QUESTIONS?

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