FACT SHEET: Fracking Our Future: Measuring Water & Community Impacts from Hydraulic Fracturing

- **Annual Water Requirements for Fracking** in Colorado:
  - 22,100 to 39,500 acre-feet (AF).
  - Enough water for 66,400 to 118,400 homes in Colorado.
  - Could serve 166,000 to 296,100 people for a year.
    - 166,000 is slightly more than the entire population of the City of Ft. Collins, CO (Colorado’s 4th largest city).
    - 296,100 is similar to the entire populations of either Douglas, Boulder, Larimer or Weld counties in Colorado, and is more than the populations of cities like Buffalo, New York or Orlando, Florida.
  - In Weld County, CO, it is estimated that water used annually for new oil and gas well development is equal to one- to two-thirds of total public and domestic water use in the county.
  - Volume is similar to several large new proposed water projects.

- **Water Use for Fracking is 100% Consumptive**
  - Roughly 90-95% of residential water used indoors returns to a wastewater treatment plant and is ultimately released to streams or reused.

- **Reports on Water Use Per Frack Job Vary Widely:**
  - Niobrara Formation (Northern Colorado, Chesapeake Energy): 4 million gallons (12.28 AF)
  - Colorado Oil and Gas Association (COGA) Report: 1 to 5 million gallons (3.07 – 15.34 AF)
  - CWCB, COGCC, DWR\(^2\) Report: 1.6 million gallons (5.01 AF) in 2011\(^3\)
  - In addition to water used for fracking, wells must first be drilled:
    - Chesapeake Energy estimates at 300,000 gallons (0.92 AF)
    - COGA estimates at up to 600,000 gallons (1.84 AF)

- **Your Water is Driving Away**
  - A recent report completed for Douglas County, CO. estimates 11,040 loaded truck trips for one well pad (containing six wells) over a 265 day period.
    - 6,000 trips were made to haul fracking water
    - 3,000 trips were for wastewater disposal
  - Bureau of Land Management report\(^4\) estimates 1,160 truck visits are required to develop each well

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\(^1\) Volume includes drilling of wells.
\(^2\) Colorado Water Conservation Board, Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission, Department of Water Resources
\(^3\) Average water use per well water use calculated by WRA using data provided by the State of Colorado
\(^4\) Bureau of Land Management’s Roan Plateau Resource Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement