

# Project 7

## Water Authority



Project 7 is a unique cooperative effort among seven water entities to supply high-quality potable water to more than 50,000 people in the municipalities and rural areas of the Uncompahgre River Valley.

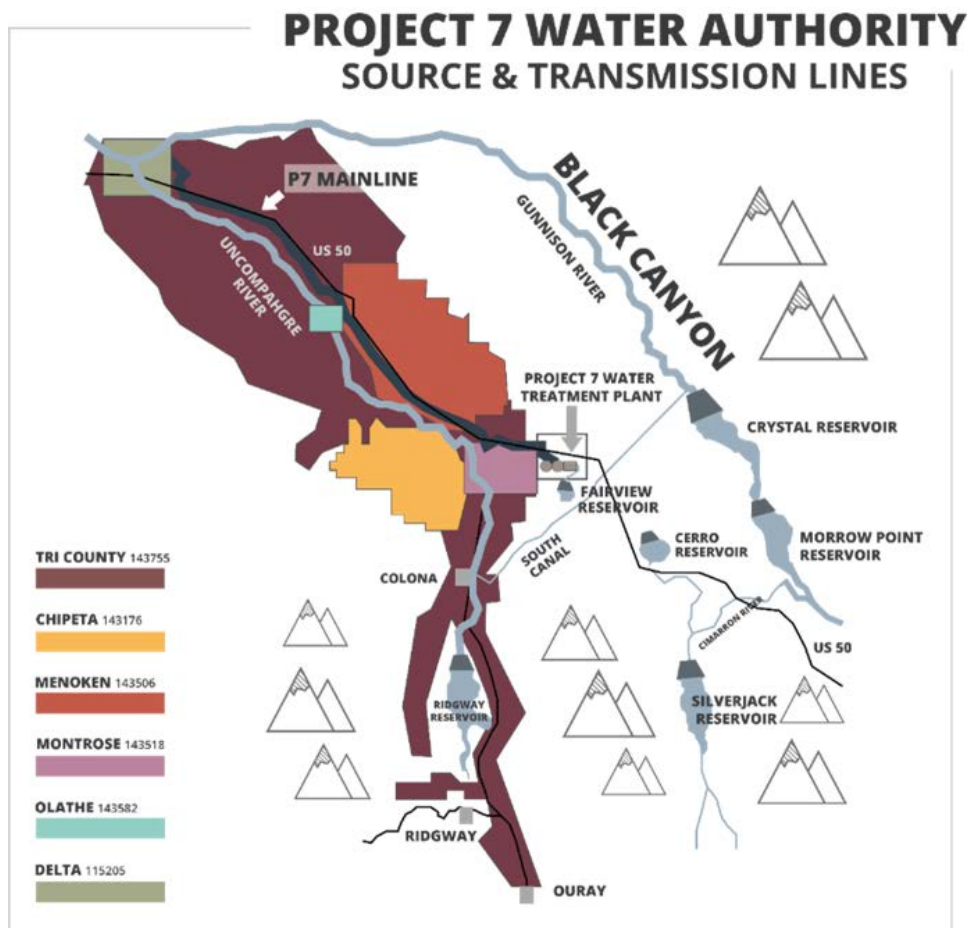
*City of Montrose • City of Delta • Town of Olathe • Tri-County Water Conservancy District  
Chipeta Water District • Menoken Water District • Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association*

**Project 7 was established in 1977** to address regional water shortages caused by undersized and outdated treatment facilities.

**The region's clean and great-tasting drinking water** has been provided by Project 7 throughout our 40-year history

**The benefits and cost savings of shared infrastructure,** are realized by six of our seven member entities who contract with Project 7 instead of operating and maintaining their own water treatment plants.

The seventh entity is Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association, a non-voting participant due to their involvement in providing raw water to Project 7 for treatment.



# Regional Water Supply & Resiliency Program



Currently all drinking water supplied by Project 7 comes from **one treatment plant and one source**: The Gunnison River. Wildfire, drought, Gunnison Tunnel or other infrastructure failure could impact the availability of drinking water for over 50,000 people.

## Project Benefits

- **Investing in the Future:** Realize Project 7's founding vision of a resilient and reliable water supply for more than 50,000 people in the Uncompahgre River Valley.
- **System Strength:** Develop a new water supply and reduce the risk of drought in the Gunnison watershed, or transmission failures in the Gunnison Tunnel.
- **Dependability:** Reduce the need to pump water around the valley, which lowers maintenance costs and benefits the environment.
- **Direct Access:** Provide direct access to member entities' existing water rights in Ridgway Reservoir, currently accessed by trades and exchanges.

Project 7's resiliency program will reduce risk to the regional drinking water system by adding a **second treatment plant and second source**: The Ridgway Reservoir.

