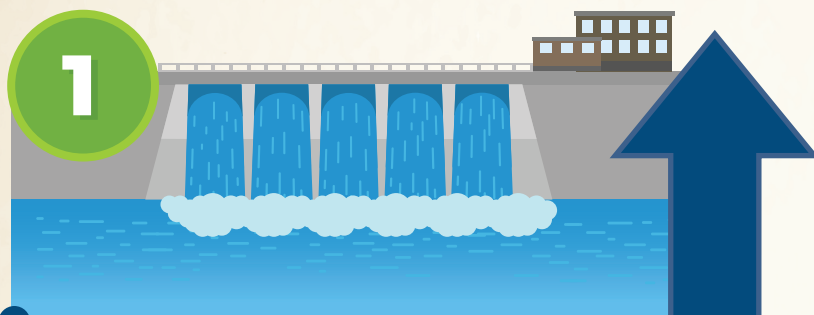


Grand Valley Pilot Project

Secondary Benefits

The **Grand Valley Pilot Project** paid farmers to voluntarily reduce their irrigation water use in order to keep more water in the river to help increase water security within the Colorado River Basin in the face of ongoing drought. While water security was the main focus, changes in water management that resulted from the project led to several positive secondary benefits to the larger region, including:



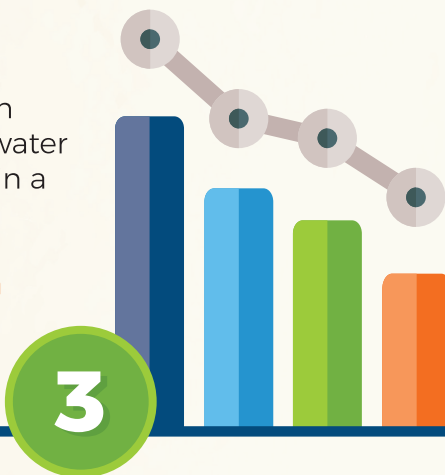
1

Hydropower

More water in the river resulted in **\$9,950 of increased hydropower production.**

Salinity

Reduced irrigation on salty soils improved water quality and resulted in a **estimated savings of \$282,720 from money not spent on other measures to reduce salinity.**

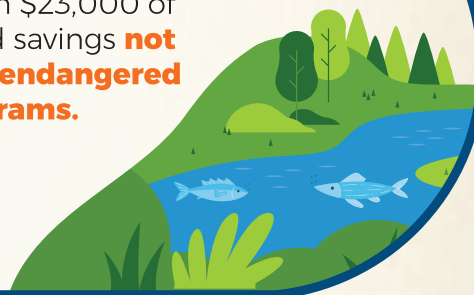


3

Environmental

Increased water in the river resulted in \$23,000 of estimated savings **not spent on endangered fish programs.**

2



Recreation

More water in the river and in the reservoirs also **improves recreation opportunities.**



4

In total, secondary benefits of the Grand Valley project were estimated at **\$315,710** or **\$100/acre-foot of water savings.**

The Nature Conservancy 

www.nature.org/coloradriver