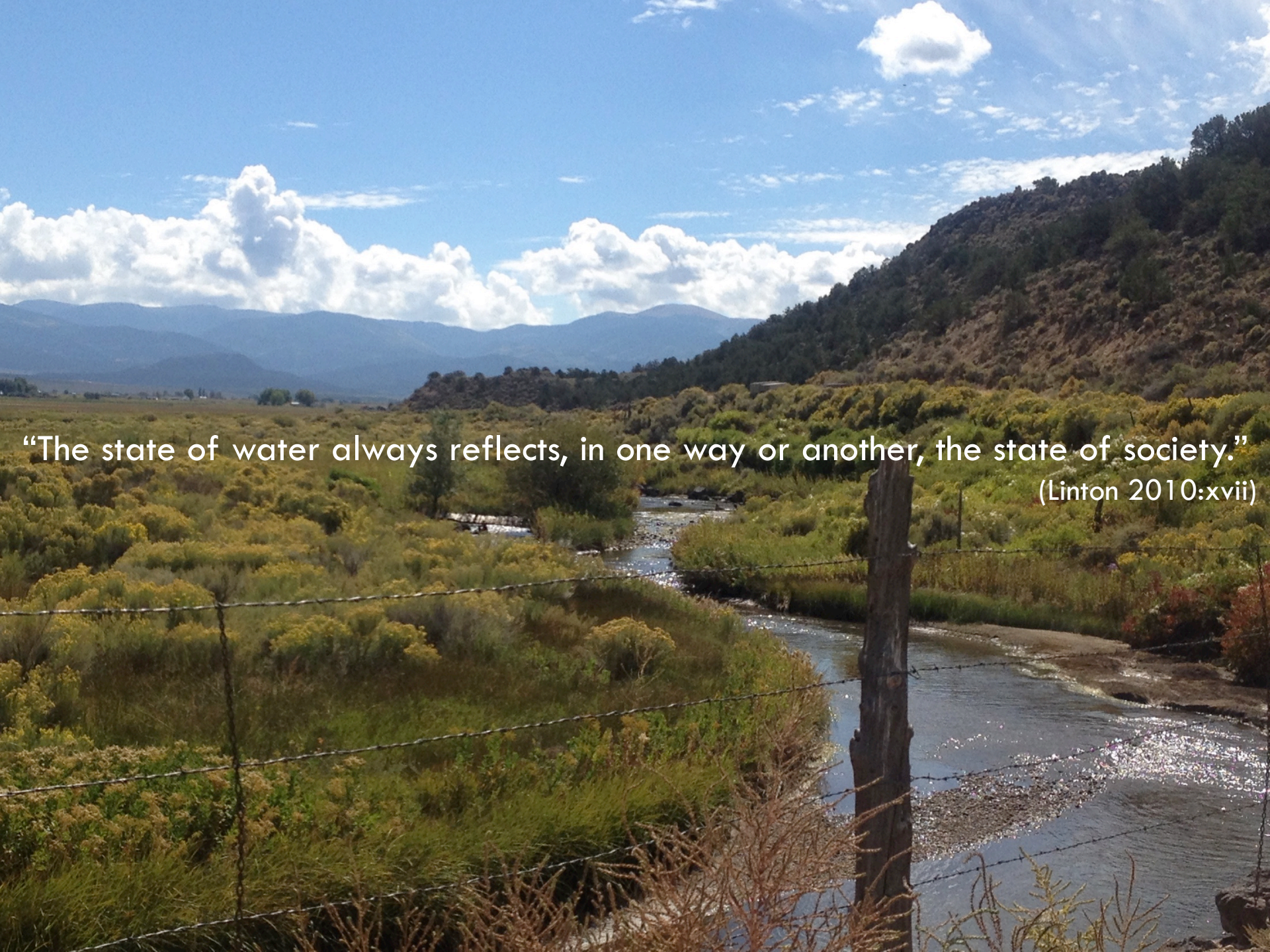


# How the Well Ran Dry

## The Production of Spatial Inequality in Groundwater Access in the San Luis Valley, Colorado

Kelsea MacIlroy, M.Ed., M.A.  
October 18, 2017

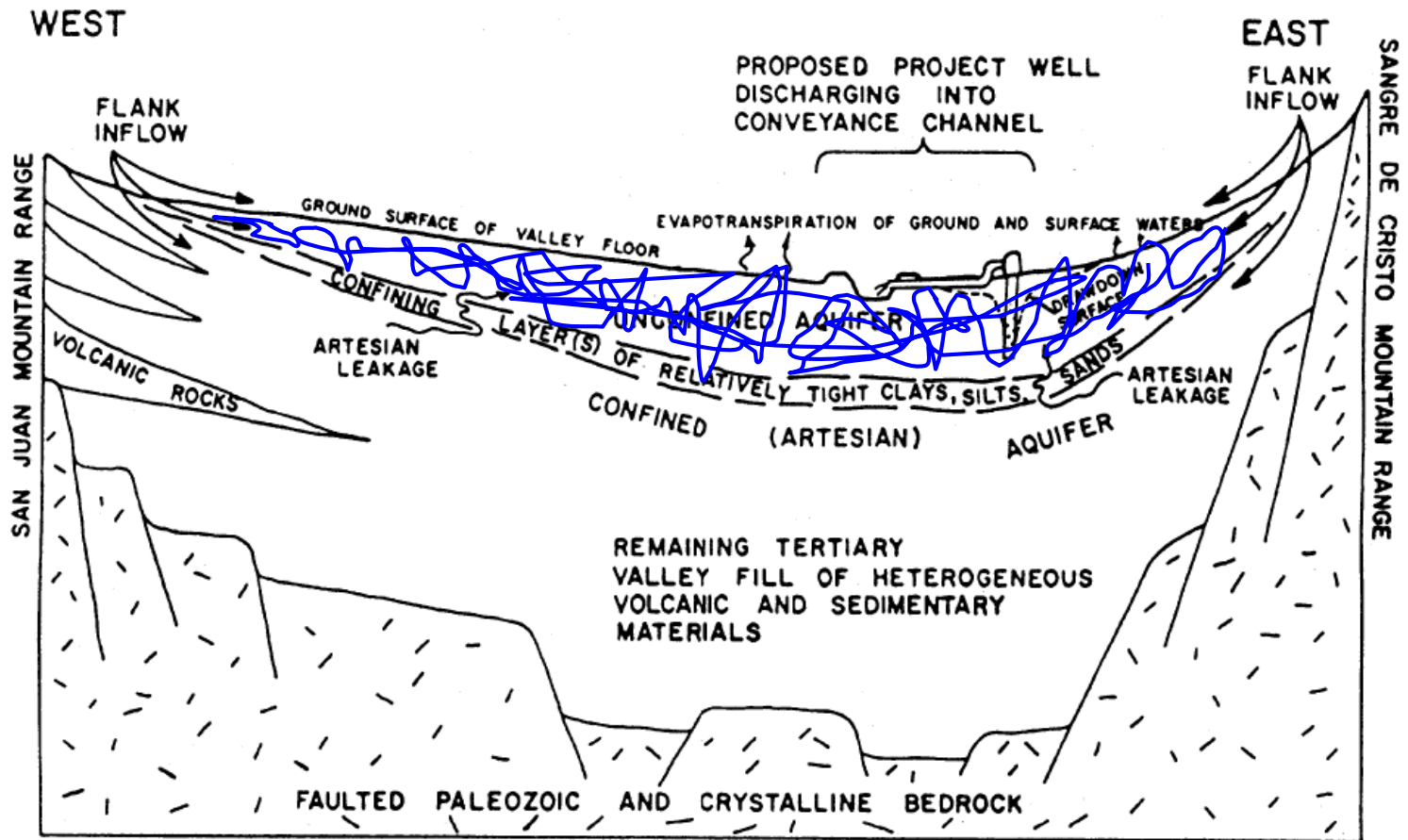




“The state of water always reflects, in one way or another, the state of society.”  
(Linton 2010:xvii)







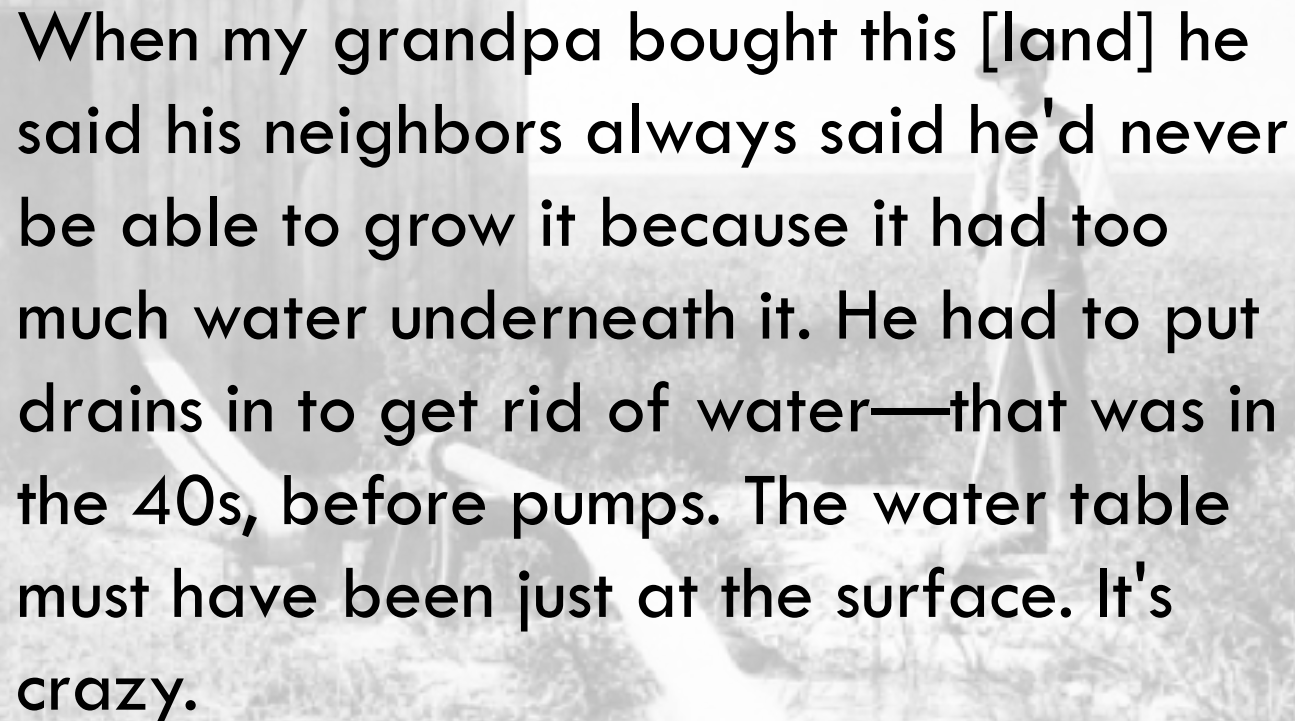






Trout Unlimited (<http://old.tu.org/conservation/western-water-project/ground-water>)





When my grandpa bought this [land] he said his neighbors always said he'd never be able to grow it because it had too much water underneath it. He had to put drains in to get rid of water—that was in the 40s, before pumps. The water table must have been just at the surface. It's crazy.

- David, 30s, white, 3<sup>rd</sup> generation





“[I]n the late 60s and 70s, center pivot irrigation started to come in. Our neighbors all put in center irrigation and within three or four years after those center pivots went in... we had to put on a sprinkler because we couldn't run water to the end of the field, I mean, it just went in the ground and disappeared because the aquifer started to drop.”

- Gary, 50s, white, 5<sup>th</sup> generation

