



Southern Ute Indian Tribe

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Colorado Mesa University

Keynote Roadmap

History of the Nuuchiu & Southern Ute Indian Tribe

Natural Resources: Water

The Colorado River

Significance of Tribal Inclusion

Leadership

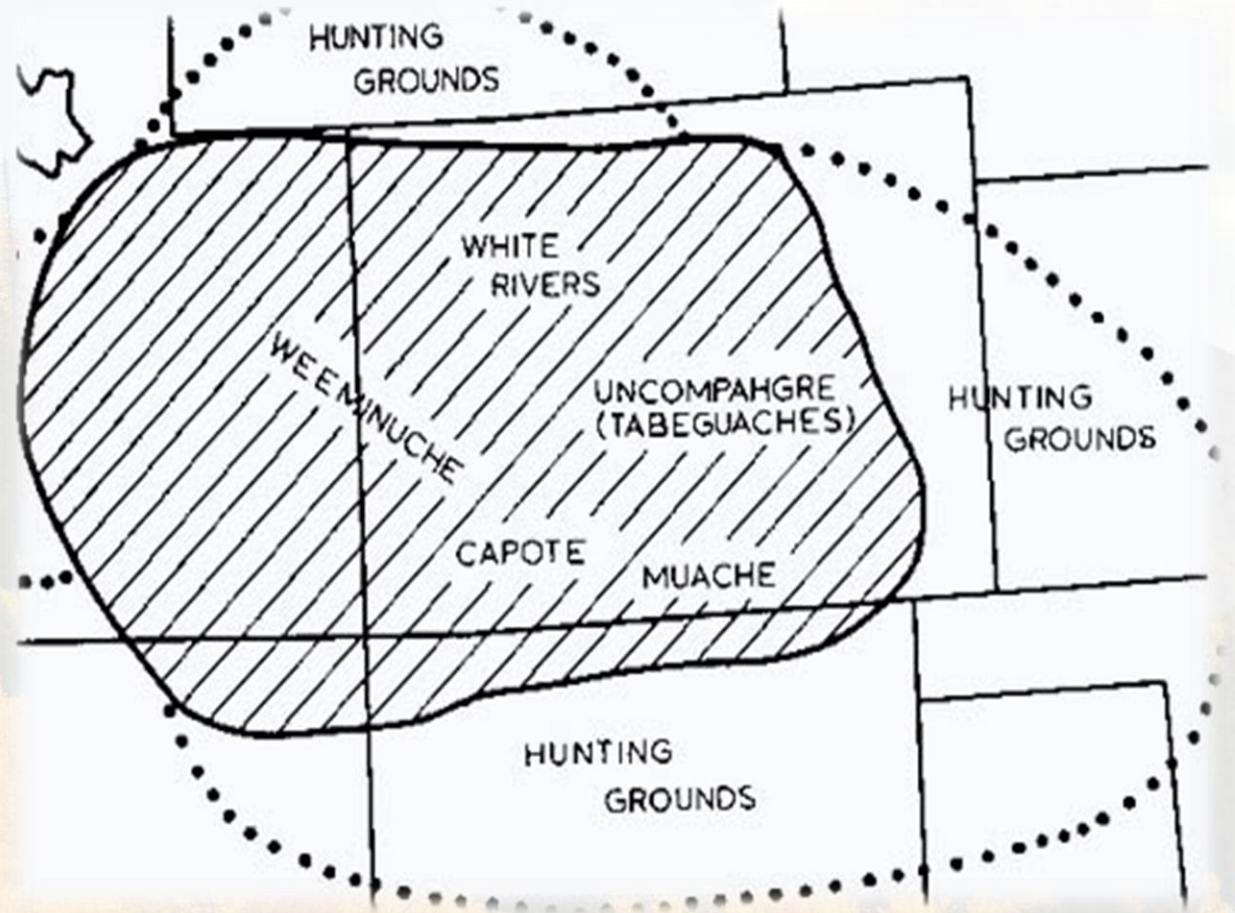
Advice for Students

Final Thoughts

Conclusion

Nuuchiu

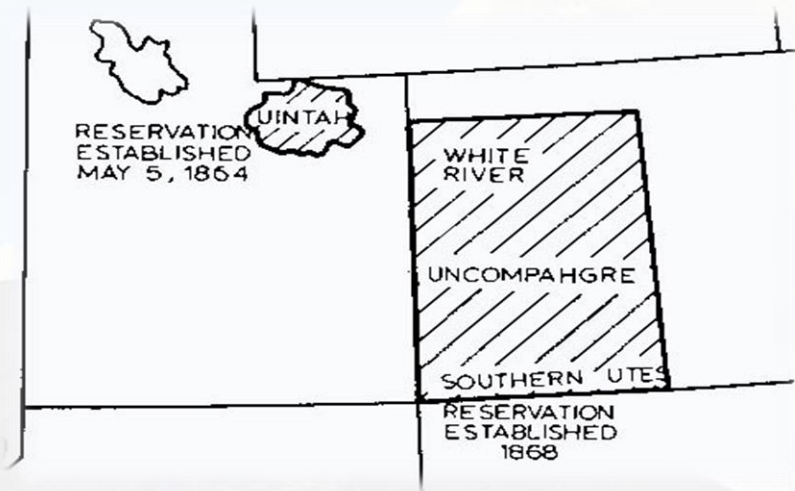
- + Oldest Inhabitants
- + Nuuchiu means "The People"
- + Origin of "Ute" is attributed to the Spanish "Yuta"
- + Homeland since time immemorial
- + Creation Story



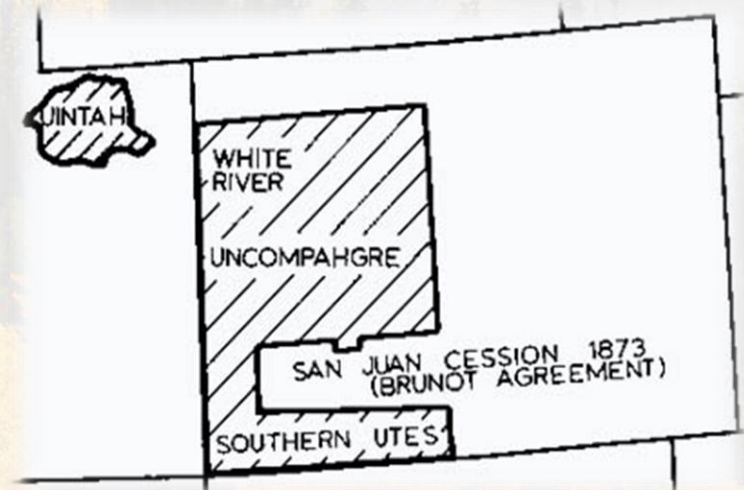




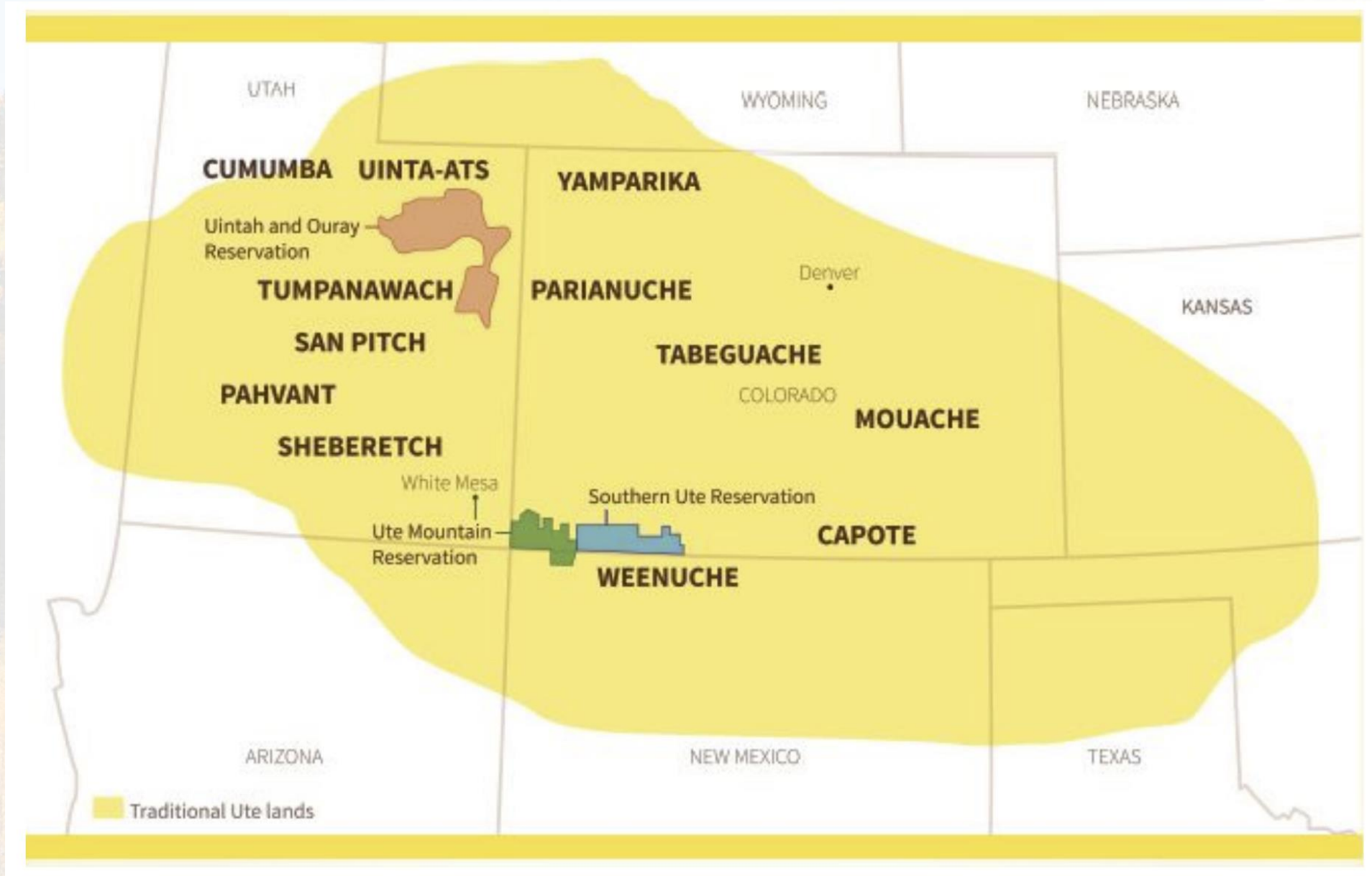
1868



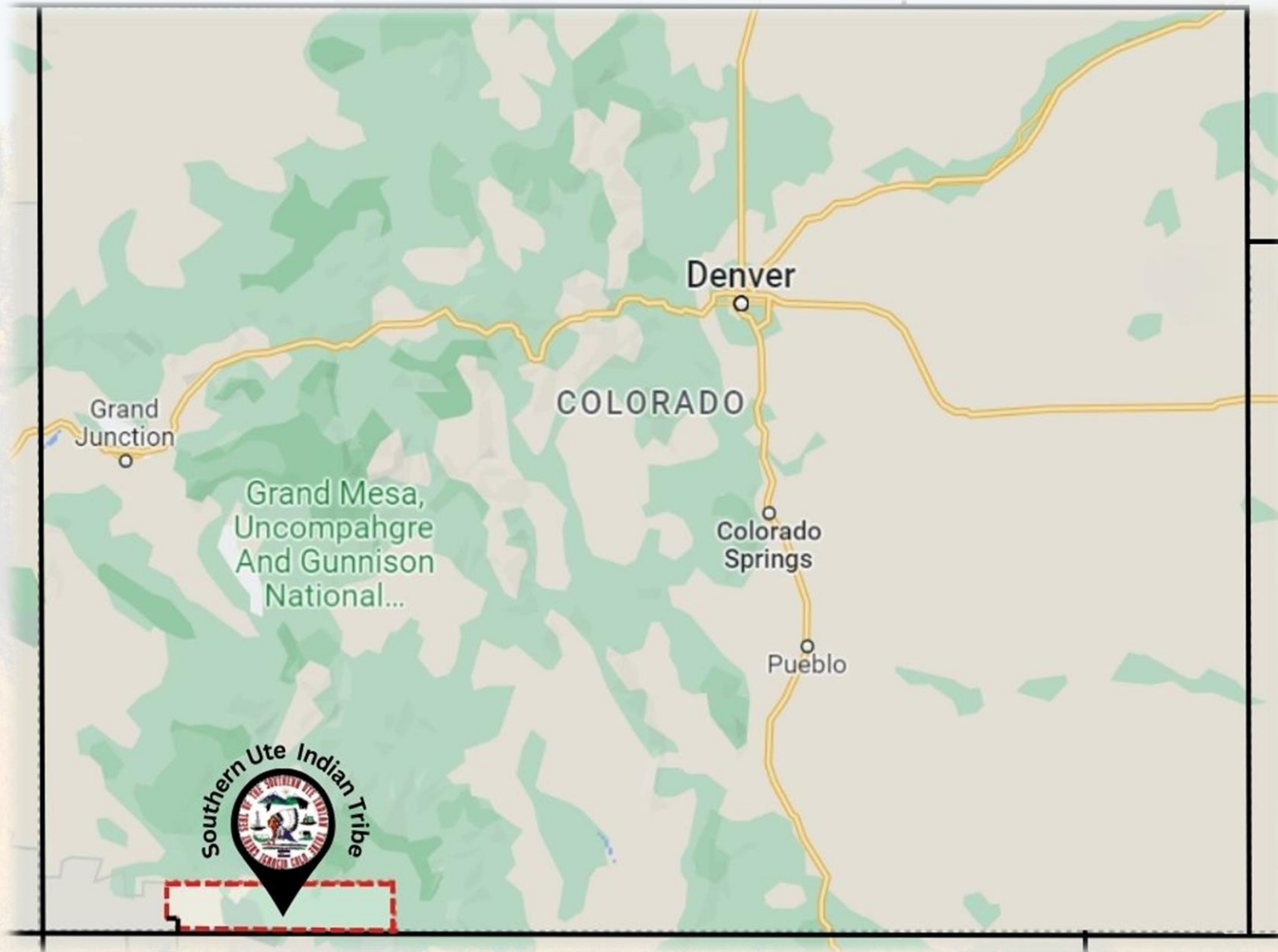
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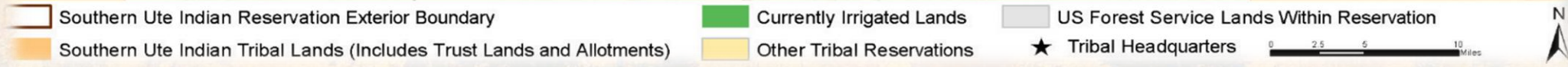
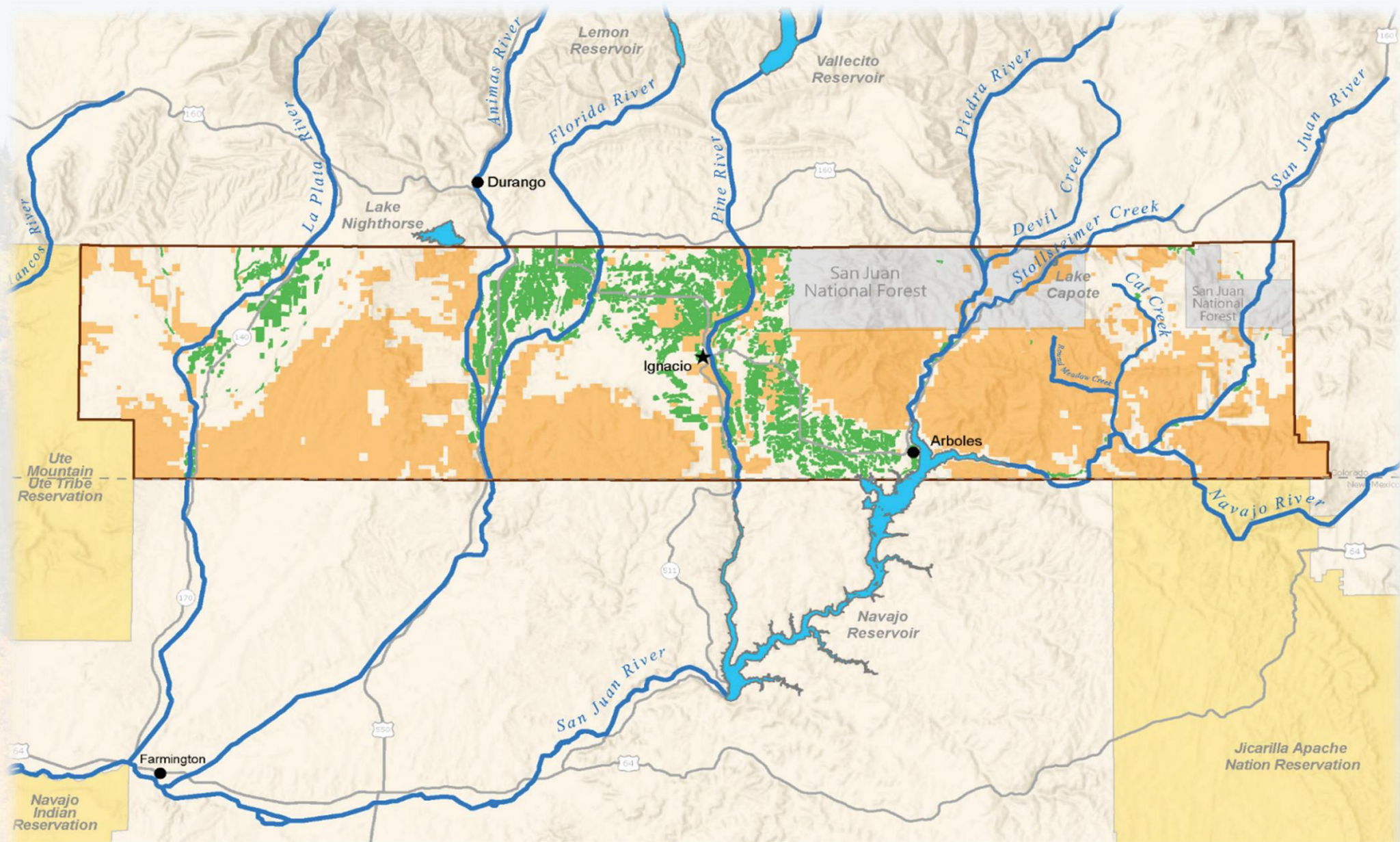
Present



Southern Ute Indian Tribe









Water Challenges

+Drought

+Pine River Indian Irrigation Project

+ Bureau of Indian Affairs

+Animas La Plata Project

+Checkerboard Land Status

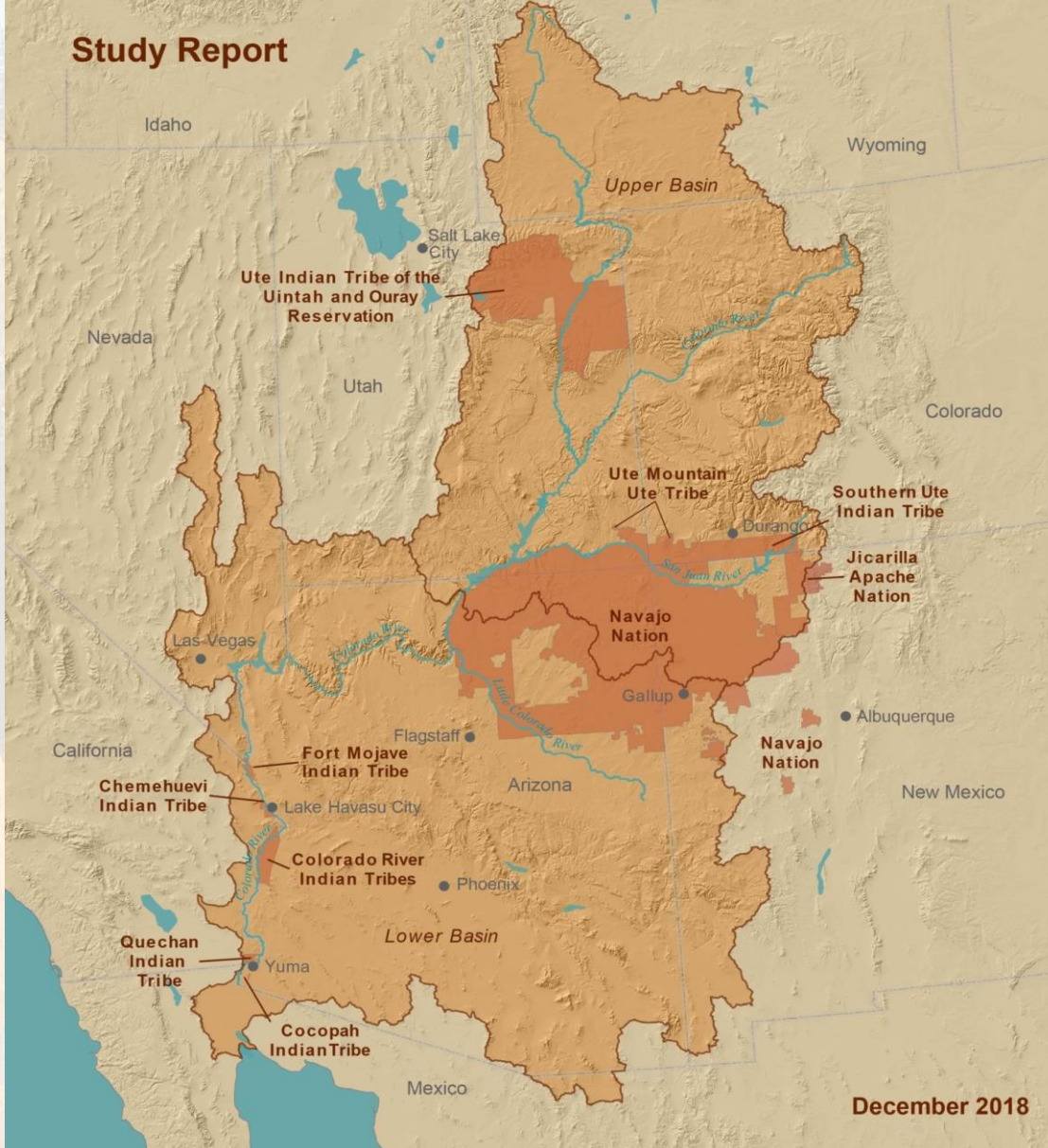
Colorado River

- + Encompasses 7 States and Mexico.
- + It is divided into the Lower and Upper Basins:
 - + The Upper Basin = Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.
 - + The Lower Basin = Arizona, California, and Nevada.
- + Upper Basin has to live with the hydrology and with what Mother Nature provides.
- + Significant population relies on the Colorado River.



Colorado River Basin Ten Tribes Partnership Tribal Water Study

Study Report



Tribal Inclusion

- + Historically, Tribes have not been included in conversations.
- + 1922 Colorado River Compact
- + 1908 Supreme Court Ruling
- + 1924 Native American Citizenship
- + Tribal Homes = 19X more likely to lack access to water even in 2023

Collaboration



COLORADO



Water & Tribes Initiative
Colorado River Basin



COLORADO
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Department of Natural Resources



Upper Colorado River Commission



Leadership

- + Elected to Tribal Council in 2015
 - + Served as Vice Chairman in my first term
- + Ten Tribes Partnership Chairman from 2017-2018
- + Water and Tribes Initiative invitation in 2017
- + Indigenous Women's Leadership Network in 2021
- + Colorado Water Conservation Board in 2023





Final Thoughts

- + Take care of yourself
- + Do not be afraid to ask for help and reach out for support

- + For the general audience:
 - + Learn about the Indigenous people and Tribes in your area.
 - + Practice water conservation

Safe Travels

May the Creator bless and guide you!





Toghoyaqh!

