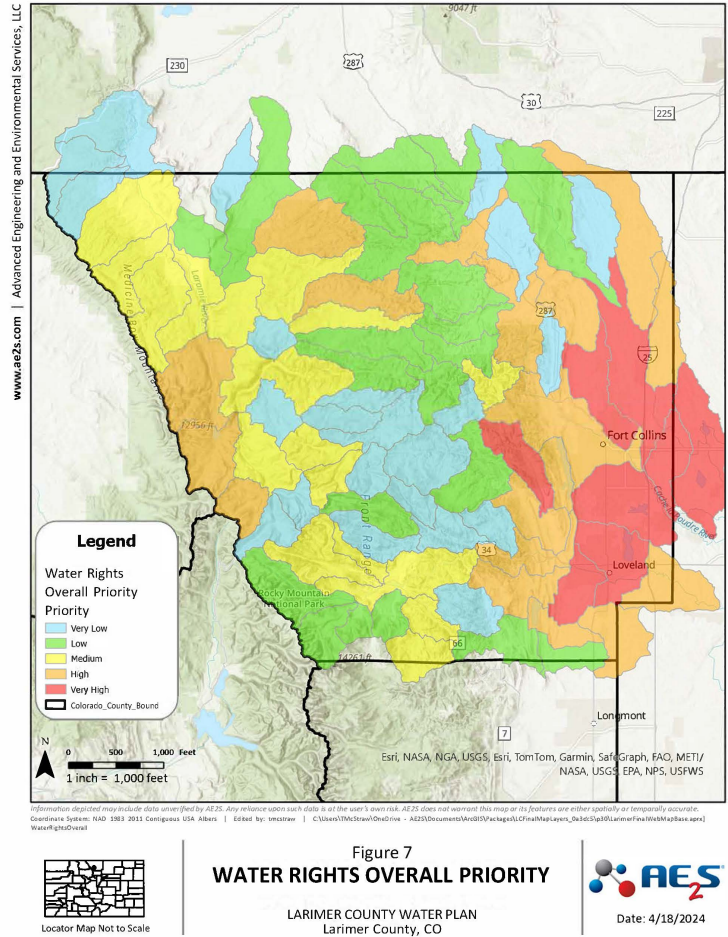
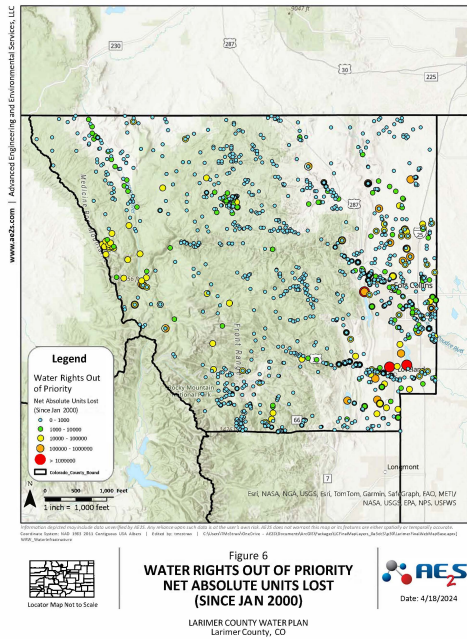


7 – Water Rights

When a call is made by a senior water right on the river, those rights junior to the caller are required to reduce or stop their diverted flows. This is called being “out of priority.” Historical call records were analyzed to determine the total amount of water that had been lost (i.e., not able to be used), while the right was out of priority (**Figure 6**).



Water rights risk criteria that were summed to analyze overall priority level (**Figure 7**):

Water Rights Risk Criteria	Metrics/Datasets
(1) Water rights impacted by administrative calls on the river	Division of Water Resources (CDSS/DWR) historical call records, since January 1, 2000, on percentage of time water rights were out of priority (see Figure 6).
(2) Colorado-Big Thompson Project (CBT) use	Northern Water contract data.
(3) Urban encroachment on agricultural lands	Based on factors: proximity to urbanization (county parcel data), traffic (traffic count data), and highest producing lands (agricultural production data).

- By analyzing locations where water rights are being impacted by calls on the river, the county can get an idea of locations where water is less reliable. This opens opportunities for the Water Plan’s goals of **Collaboration and Improving Water Efficiency and Conservation**.
- The urban encroachment on irrigated lands criteria will also help the county to identify opportunities for future **Collaboration** with the agricultural community as the county population continues to grow. There may be



Feedback form to provide topic-specific can be accessed here:



View the Water Plan website to learn more here:

