



**PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN**  
Pueblo, CO  
(Pueblo County)  
AM, 51,975; Sun, 55,864

**Colorado Press  
Clipping Service**  
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## SLV <sup>80</sup> water being drained 'to excess'

**The Pueblo Chieftain**  
ALAMOSA — Allen Davey, the engineer for the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, told the conservation district's governing board Tuesday he is afraid water users are "maybe pumping (water) to excess."

Davey said his study of the unconfined aquifer (underground water system) storage in the west-central San Luis Valley shows a decline of about 50,000 acre-feet of water in 1998. (An acre-foot of water represents water covering an acre 1-foot deep.)

Davey said the calculations were based on 27 conservation district monitoring wells located in the area.