



**GETTING OURSELVES
OUT OF THE BOX
WE PLACED OURSELVES IN**

**ARKANSAS RIVER BASIN WATER FORUM
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
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DO WE KNOW WE ARE IN A BOX ?
(OR ARE WE THE FROG IN THE PAN?)



THREE BOXES WE ARE IN



“New” Water Is Scarce

- *Supply*
- *Demand*
- *Competition in an Over-Allocated World*
- *Availability and Variability*
- *Integrated Water Solutions*



Water Governance

- *Municipal Utilities*
- *State Water Plan*
- *Appropriation Doctrine*



Stakeholders

- *Bill payers*
- *Passionate Values*
- *Contemporary Policy Making*



SYSTEM FAILURE

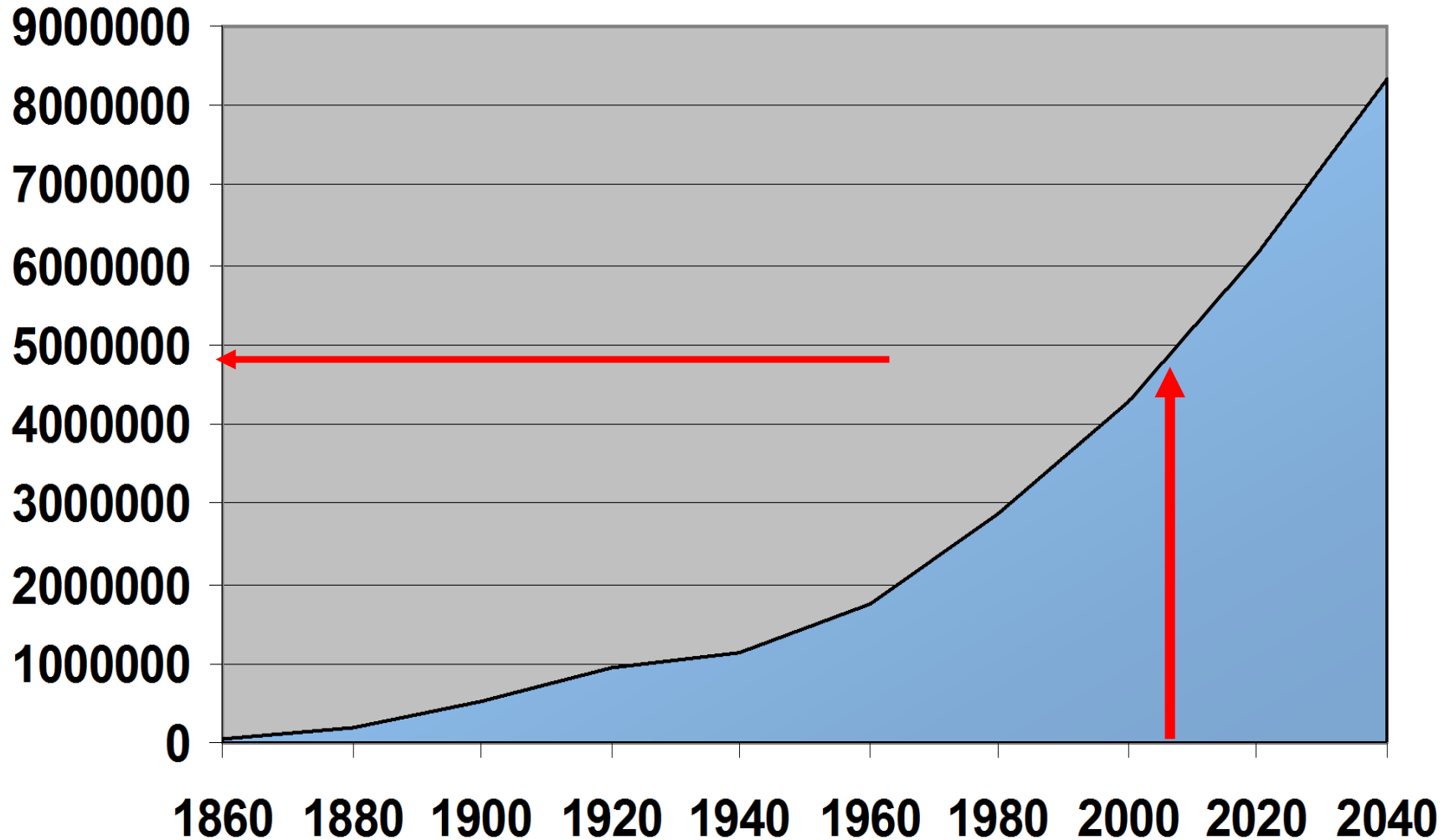




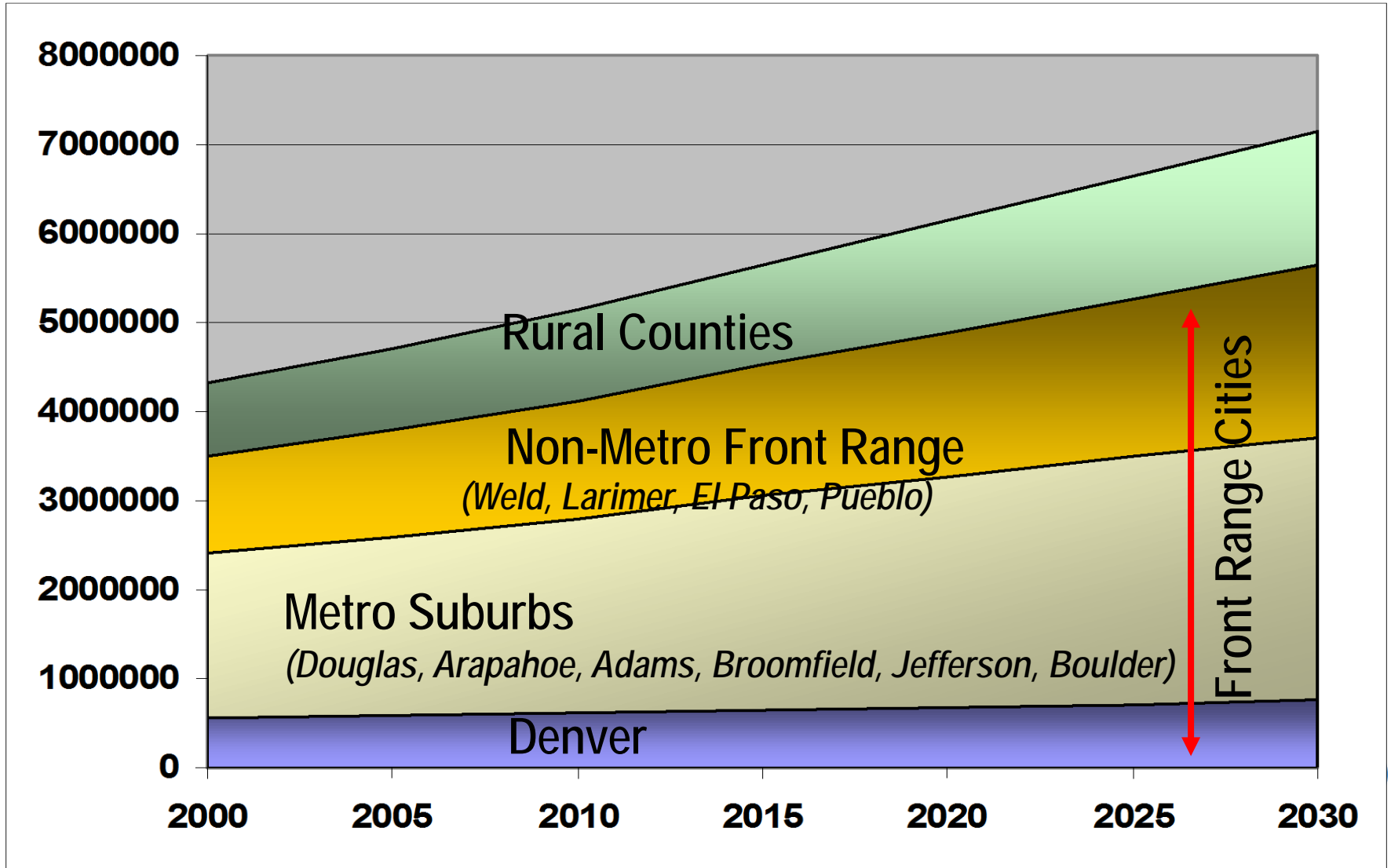
COLORADO WATER PICTURE

“It was impossible to get conversation going, everyone was talking too much”.

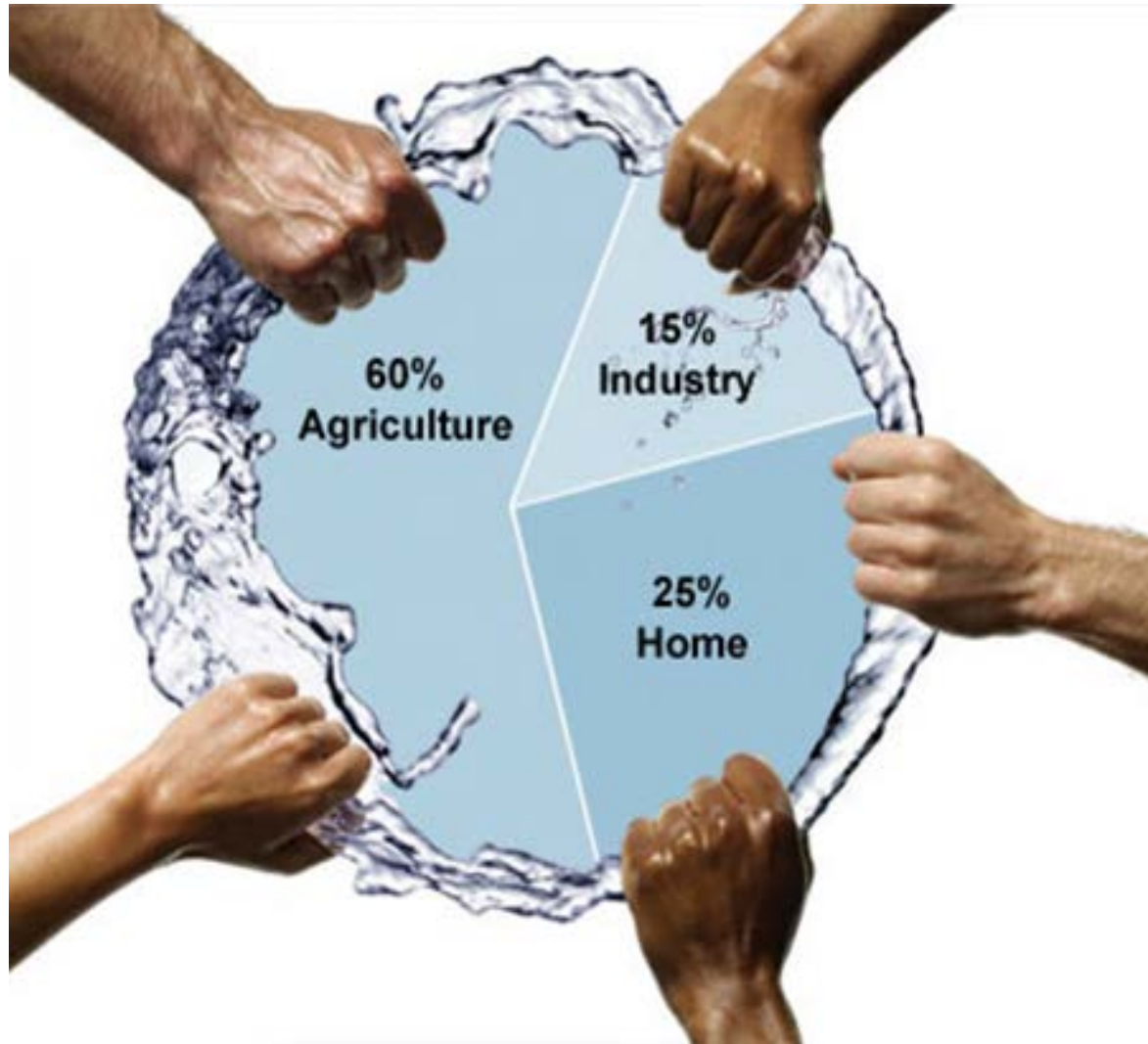
COLORADO'S POPULATION GROWTH



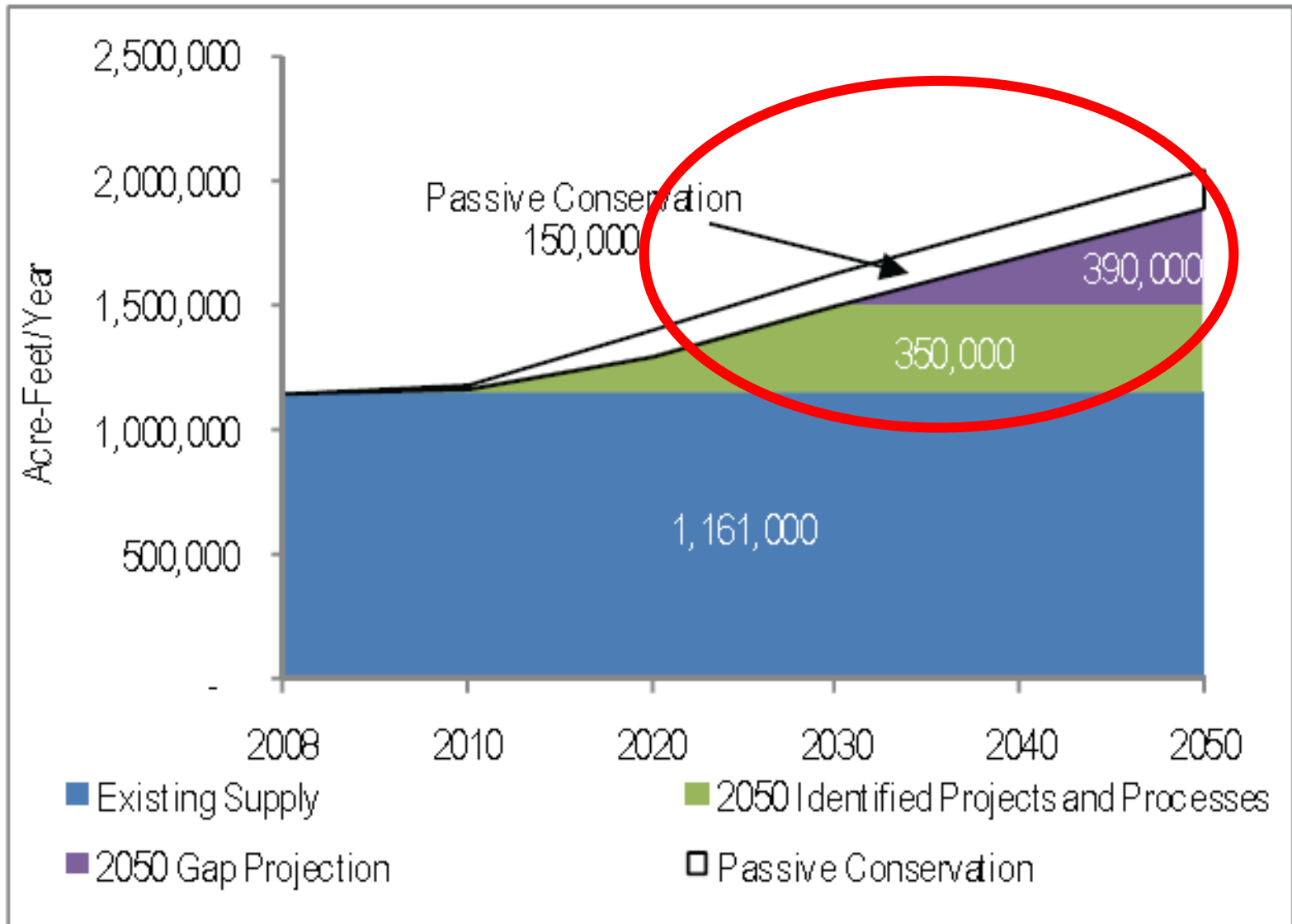
WATER DEFICITS ARE PRIMARILY A FRONT RANGE ISSUE IN SUBURBAN METROPOLITAN AREAS



THE STRUGGLE FOR OVER-ALLOCATED WATER RESOURCES



MUNICIPAL AND INDUSTRIAL WATER GAP



WHAT DOES BEING OUTSIDE THE BOX INCLUDE?

- Water conservation is institutionalized;
 - Indirect potable reuse will be more widely used;
 - Desalination of brackish groundwater and saline surface waters – when brine disposal is possible;
 - Public acceptance of recycled water for non-potable and indirect potable applications will develop;
 - Higher knowledge of effects of endocrine disruptors, pharmaceuticals, other “micro-constituents” will develop;
 - Water sharing programs – interruptible supplies;
 - Dams and other storage !!!!
 - Effectiveness and efficiency of technology is established;
 - Education & outreach/stakeholder involvement will be important to the informed public and timely decisions;
 - Water providers as regulated utilities ??
 - **Higher costs for water and wastewater services.**
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