

Battlement Mesa Colorado River Intake Pipeline

WWE designed an intake from the Colorado River for Exxon's Colony Shale Oil project at Battlement Mesa. The diversion is near Parachute, Colorado. The system was designed to divert 6,500 gpm, with a future maximum flow of 13,000 gallons per minute. Colorado River water is routed to pre-sedimentation ponds for initial treatment.

After an extensive siting analysis, WWE evaluated three alternatives for the intake design: (1) a conventional bank intake, (2) an immovable in-river intake, and (3) semi-movable intakes. These options were evaluated with consideration to capital costs, operation and maintenance costs, construction challenges and reliability.

The semi-movable intake with self-cleaning mechanisms was a clear choice. It was rated highly for reliability, compatibility with river geomorphology and operation in cold temperatures. The design included analysis of suspended sediment variations in the center of the river and choice of intake screen openings to minimize particle intake during all seasons.



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