

AGENDA
LARIMER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Monday, August 24, 2020 / 2:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M. / Hearing Room
Dinner break from 5:30-6:30 P.M.

PUBLIC TESTIMONEY

** Staff is adhering to the Larimer County Health Departments guidelines on social distancing and group sizes.

At this time 50 members of the public may be present in the Hearing Room for Public Testimony.

If you wish to **not** attend this meeting in person, please feel free to view it at

<https://www.larimer.org/broadcast>.

Registration for Public Testimony is currently available until 10:00 a.m., on
August 24th at <https://www.larimer.org/planning/NISP-1041>

UPCOMING SCHEDULED CONTINUATION DATES

Monday, August 31, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM:

1. **NORTHERN INTEGRATED SUPPLY PROJECT, FILE #20-ZONE2657**

Staff Contact: Robert Helmick, Planning; Lea Schneider, Health Department; Steven Rothwell, Engineering; Mark Peterson, County Engineer; Lesli Ellis, AICP CEP, Community Development Director

Request: 1041 Permit for:

- A. The siting and development of a water storage facility (Glade Reservoir), including recreational uses, facilities, and other appurtenances, in accordance with Section 14.4.K of the Larimer County Land Use Code, and
- B. The siting and development of four separate raw water line segments, including supporting facilities and appurtenances, in accordance with Section 14.4.J. of the Larimer County Land Use Code.

Location: Reservoir:

Northwest of Fort Collins along Highway 287 (US 287) north of State Highway (SH) 14. The dam is proposed approximately one mile north of Ted's Place. The reservoir will extend north about five miles to south of Bonner Peak. The recreation area is proposed southeast of the dam.

Pipelines:

- **Northern Tier Pipeline:** Commences at Glade Reservoir follows US 287 to CR 21, then east to Eagle Lake and SH 1, then south east to Grey Rock Road, then east to I-25, then south east to CR 52, then east to the County Line Pipeline.
- **Glade Release/Poudre Release Pipeline:** Commences at the reservoir and runs southwest to the Poudre River.
- **Poudre Intake Pipeline:** Withdraws water from the Poudre River upstream of the Mulberry Water Reclamation facility, then flows southeast to a settling pond and pump station south of Mulberry Ave. on Kingfisher Natural Area, then south and east to just north of the Poudre River, then crosses Summitview Ave. south of Sunrise Acres, then east south of Boxelder Estates to I-25, then southeast crossing Prospect Road to the Platte River Power Authority power line, then east to the county line.
- **County Line Pipeline:** Starting at the intersection of CR 1 or Weld County Road 13 and CR 52, then south following the alignment of the county line through the Towns of Timanth, Windsor and Johnstown to the south County line.

Applicant: Northern Integrated Supply Project Water Activity Enterprise
220 Water Ave. Berthoud, CO 80513

Owner: Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and numerous potential easement holders along the pipeline routes

Development Services Team Recommendation: The development review team recommends that the Larimer County Planning Commission recommend to the Board of County Commissioners Approval of the NORTHERN INTEGRATED SUPPLY PROJECT 1041, file #20 ZONE2657 subject to the conditions below.

TO VIEW ALL DOCUMENTS ACCESS THIS SITE
<https://www.larimer.org/planning/NISP-1041>

D. ADJOURN

NEXT MEETINGS:

Monday, August 31, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 6:30 p.m

Per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Larimer County will provide a reasonable accommodation to qualified individuals with a disability who need assistance. Services can be arranged with at least seven business days' notice. Please email us at beilbykm@larimer.org or by calling 970-498-7719 or Relay Colorado 711. "Walk-in" requests for auxiliary aids and services will be honored to the extent possible but may be unavailable if advance notice is not provided.

TITLE:

**NORTHERN INTEGRATED
SUPPLY PROJECT**

REQUEST:

1041 Permit for:

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LOCATION:

Reservoir: Northwest of Fort Collins along Highway 287 (US 287) north of State Highway (SH) 14. The dam is proposed approximately one mile north of Ted's Place. The reservoir will extend north about five miles to south of Bonner Peak. The recreation area is proposed southeast of the dam.

Pipelines:

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Withdraws water from the Poudre River upstream of the Mulberry Water Reclamation facility, then flows southeast to a settling pond and pump station south of Mulberry Ave. on Kingfisher Natural Area, then south and east to just north of the Poudre River, then crosses Summit View Ave. south of Sunrise Acres, then east south of Boxelder Estates to I-25, then southeast crossing Prospect Road to the Platte River Power Authority power line, then east to the county line.
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APPLICANT:

Northern Integrated Supply Project
Water Activity Enterprise
220 Water Ave.
Berthoud, CO 80513

PROPERTY OWNER:

Northern Colorado Water
Conservancy District and numerous
potential easement holders along the
pipeline routes

STAFF CONTACTS:

Robert Helmick, AICP, Planning
Lea Schneider, Health Department
Steven Rothwell, Engineering
Mark Peterson, County Engineer
Lesli Ellis, AICP CEP, Community
Development Director
Don Threewitt, AICP, Planning
Manager

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|-----------------------------|---|
| <u>FILE #:</u> | 20-ZONE2657 |
| <u>STAFF REPORT DATE:</u> | August 7, 2020 |
| <u>LCPC HEARING DATES:</u> | June 24, July 8, and July15, 2020 |
| <u>BCC HEARING DATE</u> | August 17, 2020 |
| <u>LCPC RECOMMENDATION:</u> | Planning Commission recommended approval by 4-2 vote |
| <u>NOTICE GIVEN:</u> | Published in paper of general circulation at least 14 days prior to hearing. First Class mailing – sent postcards to properties within half mile of the reservoir and within 500-feet of the proposed Northern Tier Pipeline, totaling approximately 1,200 notices. Posting on the Larimer County webpage no less than twenty-four hours in advance of the hearing. |

SITE DATA:

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|-------------------------|---|
| Total Development Area: | Reservoir and recreation: 1,600 Ac., including the reservoir, forebay, and pumping areas below the proposed dam. Recreation area: 170-acres. Proposed water pipelines: 35-miles in in new 60-foot wide permanent easements with a 40-foot temporary construction easement or existing rights-of-way in four separate alignments across the County |
| Existing Land Uses: | Developed single family residential, agriculture, vacant |
| Proposed Land Uses: | 170,000-acre-foot water storage reservoir, four 32 to 54-inch waterlines, and appurtenant facilities, forebay, pumping facilities and visitor center and recreational facilities |

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| Existing Zoning: | Reservoir: O-Open Pipelines: Zoning varies |
| Adjacent Zoning: | Reservoir: O-Open Pipelines: Zoning varies |
| Adjacent Land Uses: | Residential, agricultural |
| Services: | |
| Access: | US 287 & 14, CRs 52, 54 & 56, and Larimer CR 1/Weld CR 13 |
| Water: | West Fort Collins Water District |
| Sewer: | wastewater treatment system |
| Fire Protection: | Poudre Fire Authority and Livermore Fire Protection District (north end), multiple for pipeline |
| No. Trips Generated: | Reservoir construction: 393-1,572 average trips/day (ATD) Recreational use: 1,150 ATD Pipeline construction: 82-300 ATD |

MAPS AND REFERENCES

Map References

The maps presented in the application will be used for reference. Please see links below.

TM1 Attachment C ([Glade Unit/Complex Mapping](#))

TM1 Attachment A ([Recreation Concept Master Plan, Attachment A](#) and [p. 10 of Project Description](#)):

TM1 Attachment D (Conveyance Pipeline Mapping):

[County Line Pipeline Map Series, General](#)

[Poudre Intake Pipeline Map Series, General](#)

[Northern Tier and Poudre Release Pipeline Map Series, General](#)

This memo includes a summary of the Planning Commission hearings and recommendation.

LARIMER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION STAFF REPORT - ATTACHMENT A

Attachment A contains the Planning Commission staff report of June 2020 regarding the Northern Integrated Supply Project application with completed analysis and recommendations. Those findings are not replicated in this cover memo.

SUMMARY OF PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Larimer County Planning Commission held a public hearing on this application which commenced on June 24, 2020, continued July 8, 2020, and concluded on July 15, 2020.

June 24 included a presentation by Larimer County staff, followed by a presentation by the applicant's team. At the conclusion of the presentations by the staff and applicant, the Larimer County Planning Commission identified several questions for staff and applicants. Questions covered technical feasibility and constructability, recreation use, impact of water levels on uses, agricultural impacts, the relationship of this project to the Thornton pipeline, and river flow impacts, among other topics. A complete summary those questions can be found in the minutes in **Attachment F**.

Public testimony commenced on the evening of July 8, 2020. The public was able to register online for several weeks prior to the hearings and participate either remotely via Zoom or in person. Testimony began with seven presentations by organized groups: No Pipe Dream Corporation, Save Rural NoCo, Save the Poudre, Eagle Lake Homeowners Association, Brent Hawley, Dr. Tom Sale, and the Sierra Club Poudre Canyon Group. Six of the presentations included either PowerPoint or slide presentations. The speakers focused on the application not meeting some or all of the approval criteria, including Criterion 1 the Master Plan, Criterion 2 alternatives, and Criterion 10 Benefits, or focused on impacts to individual properties or neighborhoods.

During the non-group public testimony, 34 individual members of the public then testified either remotely or in person. Individual testimony focused on many topics of concern during the testimony, including the review criteria, appropriateness and need, environmental, visual, air, wildlife, and water quality impacts, individual property impacts from construction, the criteria regarding the master plan, alternatives, benefits and costs to the County, impacts to the river, and construction and operational impacts. One of the participants also testified in favor of the project.

CRITERIA AND FINDINGS

Staff's analysis of the Review Criteria and Findings is located in the Larimer County Planning Commission staff report. (See **Attachment A**, pp. 9 to 22.) The staff determined that the applicant submitted a complete application meeting the requirements of Article 14 of the Larimer County Land Use Code and overall met the criteria and recommended approval with conditions. (See Summary and Recommendations in **Attachment A**, pp. 23-29.)

The hearings and public testimony did not alter staff's previous analysis and findings that the application meets the review criteria. However, staff identifies some topics that remain incomplete or unresolved after the Planning Commission hearing. Those include:

- Addressing neighborhood communication, construction operations, reclamation, and future limitations on easements for the applicant's identified preferred route of the Northern Tier pipeline to mitigate potential impacts in the Eagle Lake neighborhood and other residential areas.
- Addressing the concerns of the City of Fort Collins, a referral agency, related to mitigating impacts of acquiring easements and construction through the City Natural Areas north of the Poudre River and south of Mulberry Avenue. The concerns are articulated in the memo from the City in **Attachment C**.

During the rebuttal on July 15, the applicant provided a complete response to the issues of geology and hazards.

PLANNING COMMISSION SUGGESTED REVISIONS TO CONDITIONS

In response to the applicant's request and request by the Planning Commission to review them, staff proposed two revised conditions at the July 15 hearing. The applicant accepted the revised conditions at the hearing, and the Larimer County Planning Commission incorporated them as part of their recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners. Those two revised conditions are noted here:

Project wide 2.d Condition.

Prior to construction, the applicant shall obtain all permits, permissions, and licenses necessary to cross all affected irrigation companies and other utility and infrastructure that are impacted by this project –either at the reservoir or due to pipelines crossing their facilities.

Pipeline 2.b Condition.

The approval of pipeline(s) alignments anticipates that there may be minor deviations from said alignment, 100 feet or less on either side of the approved alignment to accommodate field issues without reconsideration of the approval. Significant alterations to the route, 100-feet or more on either side of the approved alignment or alignment changes on private property without explicit the approval of the landowner, shall be evaluated by the County prior to commencing activity and may be subject to reconsideration by the Board of County Commissioners.

The Larimer County Planning Commission also added a Recreation condition regarding any agreement regarding recreation use/development at Glade Reservoir. It is proposed to be added to Condition 1.a. in the Recreation Facility Conditions.

New Recreation Facility Condition Proposed:

To seek negotiations to attempt to add a 35-year management plan with a 25-year option to extend.

Staff slightly reordered some of the conditions that were incorrectly organized in the Planning Commission memo to move Project Wide Condition 3.f to under Pipelines as 2.e. That change is included in the conditions below.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Commissioner Jensen moved that the Planning Commission adopt the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Planning Commission add a condition of approval to seek negotiations to attempt to add a 35-year management plan with a 25-year option to extend.

This motion passed as a 5-1 vote, with Commissioners Jensen, Miller, Pontius, Stasiewicz and Barnett voting in favor, and Commissioner Wallace voting against.

Then, Commissioner Jensen moved that the Planning Commission adopt the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Larimer County Planning Commission recommends that the Board of County Commissioners Approve of the NORTHERN INTEGRATED SUPPLY PROJECT 1041, FILE #20-ZONE2657 subject to the conditions outlined in the memo and the new condition of approval, and accepting the change of wording for the other two conditions as discussed.

This motion passed as a 4-2 vote, with Commissioners Jensen, Miller, Pontius, and Stasiewicz voting in favor and Commissioners Barnett and Wallace voting against.

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR BCC IN THIS REPORT

Since the Larimer County Planning Commission hearing, staff has continued to receive numerous public comments on this application directed to the Board of County Commissioners for their hearings. Comments received since the Planning Commission hearing are included as **Attachment D**. These new comments are principally in opposition to the request and identify issues with need, appropriateness, flows in the river, who benefits and other alternatives.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES TEAM RECOMMENDATION

Staff advances the previous staff report, findings and recommendation, and the Planning Commission recommendation with new and revised conditions. Staff recommends that the Board of County Commissioners approve the 1041 permit. The suggested motion is below.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

I move that the Board of County Commissioners Approve the NORTHERN INTEGRATED SUPPLY PROJECT 1041, file #20 ZONE2657 subject to the conditions as outlined below.

RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS (INCLUDING NEW AND MODIFIED LANGUAGE)

PROJECT WIDE CONDITIONS

This set of conditions applies to all components of the reservoir and pipelines.

1. General

- a. The activity authorized by this 1041 Permit, and any plans, reports, permits, and applications submitted for review and approval after the approval of this 1041 Permit application shall be consistent with the plans, reports and information contained in Northern Integrated Supply Project file # 20-ZONE2657, unless

modified by the conditions of approval as set forth by the Board of County Commissioners.

- b. Prior to the issuance of the 1041 Permit for this project, a Development Agreement memorializing shall be prepared and recorded, which document shall include all relevant verbal and written representations and commitments made by the applicant that are part of the public record for the application. Said development agreement shall also include a phasing and project outline.
- c. All technical reports, plans or documents required as part of the conditions contained herein will be submitted to the Larimer County Community Development Department for referral to the applicable County Departments and referral agencies. The review period of such plans and reports will not exceed 21 working days, unless requested in writing by the referral agencies and approved by the Community Development Director.

2. Development Review and Construction Permitting

- a. Prior to any construction, the applicant shall obtain all necessary local, state, and federal permits and approvals. Such approvals and permits could include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Site Plan Review and other technical review as noted,
 - ii. Building Permits,
 - iii. Floodplain Development Permits,
 - iv. Development Construction Permits,
 - v. Access Permits,
 - vi. Heavy equipment and vehicle oversize/overweight permits,
 - vii. Right-of-Way Permits, and
 - viii. Stormwater Permits.
- b. Prior to any construction, the applicant shall submit a Traffic Control and Management Plan. The Plan shall address the traffic control topics identified in the comments received from Larimer County Engineering Department as prepared by Steven Rothwell and dated May 9, 2020.
- c. Crossings, closures, or obstructions to roads, driveways, and walks, whether public or private, will require the applicant to provide and maintain suitable and safe detours or other temporary expedients for accommodation of public and private travel, emergency vehicles, delivery services, garbage pickup, school bus stops, etc.
- d. Prior to construction, the applicant shall obtain all permits, permissions, and licenses necessary to cross all affected irrigation companies and other utility and infrastructure that are impacted by this project – either at the reservoir or due to pipelines crossing their facilities.
- e. Prior to any construction activity associated with approval of this 1041 permit, the applicant shall:
 - i. Provide a pre-construction video and inventory of the pre-construction condition of all roads to be used for construction traffic. When construction is complete, or if during construction the County Engineer

requires for safety reasons, the applicant shall return the roads used for construction traffic to their pre-construction condition.

- ii. Provide notification of the completion of a website for the project. Said website shall provide workday updates regarding construction activity, including traffic impacts and routes for the upcoming workday and workweek. The website shall also provide a public information contact, including contact information, for the public to contact for project questions, concerns or for updates.
- iii. Provide documentation demonstrating compliance with the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment Air Pollution Control Division (APCD) construction permitting process. This would include the appropriate APCD applications, any required emissions analysis, and the Fugitive Dust Control Plan for dust mitigation during construction.
- iv. Submit for review and approval an Air Quality Management Plan for construction demonstrating how emissions from equipment and mobile sources not operating under APCD permits shall be minimized.
- v. Submit applicable engineering design documents and construction plans for the applicable portion, phase, or component of the project. The applicant shall reimburse Larimer County for time and expenses incurred with Project coordination, design review, permit review and processing.
- vi. Submit a Geotechnical Report. This report shall be utilized to monitor identify mitigation measures for groundwater impacted by construction activities. Additionally, the report will be used to determine trench backfill and compaction specifications, subgrade mitigation and pavement design for areas disturbed by the pipeline installation.
- vii. Submit for review and approval a Wetland Mitigation Plan for any disturbances to existing wetlands as defined by Section 8.2 of the Land Use Code. Where wetlands on City of Fort Collins Natural Resources properties are disturbed or impacted, the plan shall demonstrate conformance with the City of Fort Collins Environmental Protection standards as noted in the City of Fort Collins referral comments dated May 13, 2020.
- viii. Submit for review and approval a Wildlife Conservation Plan for any disturbances to wildlife as defined by Section 8.4 of the Land Use Code.
- ix. Provide documentation that applicable fire and emergency response providers have been consulted with and that their standards have been complied with.
- x. Submit a Haul Routing Plan for the applicable portion/phase/component of the project.
- xi. Submit a Noise Mitigation Plan outlining monitoring and control methods to be utilized during construction that will ensure compliance with the construction noise levels and timing found in the Larimer County Noise Ordinance. Temporary exceptions to the construction noise levels shall be requested in writing at least 72 hours prior to the noise disturbance and

shall be approved by the Community Development director after consultation with the Engineering Department and Department of Health and Environment.

- f. The applicant shall be required to comply with the Larimer County floodplain regulations and shall also adhere to the requirements noted in the applicants Attachment C - Memo regarding NISP Floodplain Review Comments.

3. Construction

- a. All construction activities associated with the approval of this 1041 Permit shall be in compliance with all required Larimer County, state, and federal permits (including but not limited to: right-of-way construction permit, Stormwater permit, floodplain permit, groundwater discharge permit, etc.).
- b. Authorized Larimer County staff, including consultants, shall be allowed access for construction observations and inspections throughout the construction life of the Project, and for follow-up/warranty inspections after construction has ceased.
- c. The applicant shall reimburse Larimer County for reasonable costs associated with County-provided construction observation/ inspection staff and/or independent, supplemental geotechnical or materials testing deemed appropriate by the County Engineer for purposes of quality assurance/ control. The applicant shall also reimburse Larimer County for time and expenses incurred with Project coordination, design review, permit review and processing and related Project activities during the duration of Project construction and closeout for the work conducted in unincorporated Larimer County.
- d. The applicant shall invite Larimer County staff to attend regularly scheduled coordination meetings during construction, at a frequency to-be-determined, to understand planned construction activities and stay abreast of issues arising from construction impacts to County infrastructure or the public.
- e. As-built construction plans, coordination meetings, inspections, material and construction testing, and similar engineering requirements as noted in the Larimer County Engineering referral comments as prepared by Steven Rothwell and dated May 9, 2020 shall be provided by the applicant.
- f. In the event that septic systems and/or well components are damaged during construction activities, the applicant will be responsible for immediate repair/replacement and all associated costs to prevent extended disruption of the property owner's normal access to and use of such facilities.
- g. Acceptable workdays and hours for the project are subject to approval by the County Engineer after consultation with the County Department of Health and Environment and Community Development in consideration of potential nuisance issues such as noise or traffic.
- h. The applicant shall develop and provide Larimer County with accurate as-built horizontal and vertical survey data (state plane coordinates and elevations in NAVD 88) and GIS shapefiles describing the location of the pipeline and all appurtenant structures.

- i. Construction noise levels for all phases shall comply with the Larimer County Noise Ordinance with any exceptions to be evaluated by Larimer County.

RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

This set of conditions applies to all the reservoir and its associated facilities, not including the recreation facility which is addressed below.

1. Next Steps

- a. The site plan review application for the Glade Unit shall include the expanded Poudre Valley Canal (PVC), forebay, glade pump station, electrical/control building, surge building, buried conduits, utilities (including power supplies, water lines and septic system components), and other components of the reservoir site.

2. Development Review

- a. Prior to any construction of Glade Unit, the applicant shall demonstrate that the traffic, safety access concerns regarding the re-alignment of US 287 as identified in the comments from the County Engineering Department as prepared by Steven Rothwell and dated May 9, 2020 have been addressed to the satisfaction of the County Engineer.
- b. Prior to any construction of Glade Unit, the applicant shall demonstrate that all transportation safety concerns for the intersection of the US 287 (re-aligned) and County Road 21 as identified in the comments from the County Engineering Department as prepared by Steven Rothwell and dated May 9, 2020 have been addressed to the satisfaction of the County Engineer.

3. Noise

- a. To address operational noise, the applicant shall submit a predictive noise analysis demonstrating that the Glade Unit facilities will comply with the residential noise levels required by the Larimer County Noise Ordinance and shall identify any mitigation measure necessary to achieve such compliance.

4. Other

- a. Prior to any construction of the Glade Unit, the applicant shall provide a Well Water Monitoring Plan for water wells found in the east ½ of Section 10, all of Sections 11 and 12, those portions of Sections 13 and 14 lying north of Highway 14, and the NE ¼ of Section 15 of Township 8 North, Range 70 West. The Plan will address potential contamination as the result of trichlorethylene levels in the vicinity of the historic F.E. Warren Missile Silo. The plan will be prepared and managed by a third-party entity and will be funded by the applicant.

RECREATION FACILITY CONDITIONS

This set of conditions applies to the recreation facility only.

1. Development Review

- a. Prior to any construction of the Glade Unit, the applicant shall enter into a legally binding agreement with the County outlining a timeline for the Recreational Development Plan. The agreement shall address the funding, operations management and maintenance comments provided by the Department of Natural Resources in their referral comments as prepared by Larimer County Department of Natural Resources, dated May 15, 2020. Any agreement should consider an initial term of 35 years with a renewal term of 25 years.
- b. All recreational facilities to be constructed at the Glade Unit shall require approvals as required by the Larimer County Land Use Code.
- c. To address operational noise, the applicant shall submit a predictive noise analysis demonstrating that the Glade Unit facilities will comply with the residential noise levels required by the Larimer County Noise Ordinance and shall identify any mitigation measure necessary to achieve such compliance.

PIPELINES CONDITIONS

This set of conditions applies to the pipelines only.

1. Development Review

- a. In locations where the conveyance pipeline is located outside of the existing County ROW, it shall do so in a manner to either:
 - i. Be located outside of the ultimate ROW width corresponding to the functional classification of the roadway, or
 - ii. Obtain and convert to a Larimer County road right-of-way easement for any additional pipeline easement widths falling within the ultimate roadway ROW.
- b. Pipelines crossing a Larimer County road right-of-way shall generally only be perpendicular to the road right-of-way, no diagonal crossing will be allowed at intersections.
- c. The applicant shall submit a Geotechnical Report. This report shall be utilized to monitor identify mitigation measures for groundwater impacted by construction activities. Additionally, the report will be used to determine trench backfill and compaction specifications, subgrade mitigation and pavement design for areas disturbed by the pipeline installation.

2. Construction

- a. Acceptable workdays and hours for the project are subject to approval by the County Engineering Department.
- b. The approval of pipeline(s) alignments anticipates that there may be minor deviations from said alignment, 100 feet or less on either side of the approved alignment to accommodate field issues without reconsideration of the approval. Significant alterations to the route, 100-feet or more on either side of the approved alignment or alignment changes on private property without explicit the approval of the landowner, shall be evaluated by the County prior to commencing activity and may be subject to reconsideration by the Board of County Commissioners.

- c. If a relocation of the pipeline(s) should in the future be desirable to accommodate some other or enlarged use of the County road right-of-way by any party or entity other than the County, and provided that applicant agrees to such relocation, then all expenses of such relocation shall be paid for entirely by the party or entity desiring such relocation; provided, however, that if the relocation is to be made at the request of the County to accommodate changes in or improvements of public roadways or associated infrastructure, and not for purposes of accommodating any third party, then the applicant shall provide for pipeline relocations on a reasonable schedule established by the County Engineering Department.
- d. The applicant shall be required to designate planned haul routes. The existing surface condition of all planned haul routes will need to be evaluated prior to construction. If it is determined by the County Engineer that there has been an acceleration in deterioration of the roadway surface during or after construction as a result of construction traffic, equipment, or hauling, the applicant will be required to restore the roadways to their prior condition. This may include the need for regrading and or resurfacing.
- e. The applicant shall be responsible for arranging and paying all costs of:
 - i. utility relocations and irrigation company requirements necessary to accommodate the water pipeline in the road ROW.
 - ii. the replacement of existing storm drainage infrastructure, culverts, roadway signage, pavement striping/symbols, landscaping and property fencing necessary to accommodate the water pipeline in the ROW.
 - iii. damage or relocation of private property services as necessary to accommodate the water pipeline corridor if a reasonable alternative is not possible.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Staff report to the Larimer County Planning Commission, June 2020
- B. NISP 1041 Permit Application
 - a. Original application (Feb. 2020) includes links to federal and state reviews and reports
 - b. Supplemental Application Materials
- C. Agency Referral Comments
 - a. Larimer County Engineering Department
 - b. Larimer County Health Department
 - c. Larimer County Department of Natural Resources
 - d. Larimer County Building division
 - e. City of Fort Collins
 - f. Town of Timnath
 - g. Poudre Fire Authority
 - h. Loveland Fire Rescue Authority
 - i. Windsor Severance Fire Rescue
 - j. Boxelder Sanitation District
 - k. South Fort Collins Sanitation

- l. Fort Collins Loveland Water
 - m. CDOT
- D. Public comments for BCC received since the July 15, 2020 LCPC hearing through August 6, 2020
- E. Public comments received for Planning Commission hearing
 - a. Public Comments through June 9, 2020 (part of staff report)
 - b. Addenda (Comments received after the staff report and submitted as addenda)
 - i. 1 public comment June 9-June 24
 - ii. 2 public comment June 24 - July 8
 - iii. 3 public comment July 8 - July 15
- F. Minutes of the Larimer County Planning Commission June 24, July 8 and July 15, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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|-----|--------|--------|--|-------------------------|--|
| 239 | David | Hudson | | dhudson831@outlook.com | <p>I am in favor of NISP. Glade will be a wonderful addition to many recreational opportunities, and saving water as close to the source as possible will benefit all in the future.</p> |
| 236 | Greg | Hanson | | greghanso@gmail.com | <p>NISP's Glade Reservoir Project will move a distressed Poudre River to the category of no river at all. It will become a biological, smelly mess if the Glade Reservoir is allowed to be built. This project will destroy species and an ecosystem that only a river such as Poudre have supported 1000s of years. Glade Reservoir is a no-win project that will decimate what's left of old Fort Collins as well. Besides killing millions of species along this corridor, it will render any current useful exploitation of the river as useless. I don't want to live in a Fort Collins without a Poudre River. We already have Horsetooth reservoir which lately has shown signs that it's water is being polluted And evaporated by the constant "uses" of its water during a Climate Change event Not Addressed at all. I pray for the worlds species and the ecosystems that support them.</p> |
| 232 | Rodger | Ames | | rodger.b.ames@gmail.com | <p>My name is Rodger Ames, and I live near the site of the proposed Glade Reservoir. I urge the Commissioners to deny the 1041 application for the Northern Integrated Supply Project. I want to thank the Commissioners for their service to Larimer County. I also commend Northern's Board Chair Mike Applegate, and FC-Loveland Water District Chair James Borland, for their efforts to promote municipal water conservation. While I acknowledge the need for additional water supplies, I respectfully submit that future demand could be met by alternatives that are more cost effective and less environmentally destructive than the current NISP configuration. The Better Future Alternative, proposed by Western Resource Advocates in 2012, calls for more aggressive conservation and storage options that do not cause irreparable harm to the Poudre River and pristine areas of Larimer County. Northern's failure to duly consider viable alternatives</p> |

demonstrates that their 1041 Application does not meet the County's Reasonable Alternatives Criteria (Criteria 2). Construction and operation of NSIP/Glade would adversely impact local communities and the environment. Persistent low water levels at Glade during dry years would expose hundreds of acres of lake bed, creating an eyesore that would decrease local property values and contribute to adverse air quality from windblown dust. Rather than promoting resiliency, as called for in the county's Comprehensive Plan, a massive dry lake would increase the county's exposure to climate change. Furthermore, unnecessary and repetitive pumping operations would add to the county's GHG emissions inventory, which runs contrary to Colorado's recently enacted Climate Action Plan (HB 19-1261). Visitation from recreationists at Glade would increase wildfire risk in nearby private and public lands, and place unnecessary stress on wildlife and threatened species. Hydrologic pressure from water stored in the Reservoir and forebay would expose residents along County Road 29C, and the Poudre itself, to risks of groundwater contamination from a lingering underground TCE plume. These adverse impacts contribute to the weight of evidence that demonstrates Northern's 1041 application does not meet Larimer County's 1041 review criteria for Land Use Code conformity (Criteria 1), environmental impacts (Criteria 4), and public health and safety (Criteria 6). Northern's plan for recreation at Glade is poorly conceived and still in flux, even at the permitting process's eleventh hour. They recently entertained developing a "wakeless" recreation area and additional access roads on the proposed Reservoir's western shore. However, impacts of this new plan on a proposed wildlife conservation area have not been reviewed by the public or external regulatory agencies. A vote on the 1041 Application should be contingent on a revised wildlife mitigation plan and formal review. Furthermore, Northern makes conflicting statements regarding adequate water levels to provide a "high-quality" flatwater

recreation experience. In their initial proposal, Northern stated water levels at Glade would be high enough for recreationists to access to a 35 vertical foot boat ramp 75% of the peak recreation season. However, during recent public hearings, Northern presented new metrics for flat water recreation use. Northern claims Glade would provide 1000 acres of surface area 85% of the time (July 15 Planning Commission hearing), a statistic revised to 93% (Aug 17 BoCC hearing). During the June 24 Planning Commission hearing Northern claimed that flat water recreation would be viable with storage higher than 40,000 AF. Wherever their dart hits the target, Northern neglects to describe how these metrics would look to recreationists. A surface area of 1000 acres corresponds to storage volume less than half of capacity, 600 acres of exposed lake bed, and water levels more than 70 feet below the proposed high water line. Forty thousand acre-feet of storage corresponds to 1000 acres of exposed lake bed and water levels 122 feet below the high water line, well below the proposed boat ramp's height, and well out of reach for most people with hand-launched watercraft. In fact, water levels during Glade's proposed operational lifetime would likely be much lower than Northern's predictions. An independent analysis reveals misleading and outdated assumptions in Northern's hydrological modeling that overestimate future water levels. For example, Northern's modeling starts with the Reservoir nearly full, ends in 2005 with the Reservoir nearly empty, and neglects to consider the Poudre's past 15 years of streamflow data. The data gap is particularly concerning because it coincides with an ongoing multi-decade drought. Recent studies show that the 2000-2019 "Hot Drought" is the most severe in the American Southwest since medieval times. Despite this current understanding, Northern's modeling does not evaluate the refill characteristics of Glade during the current drought. A more realistic analysis shows that the initial fill would likely take a decade or more and that critically low water levels at Glade would

have persisted from 2000 to the present. Water levels at reservoirs on the lower Colorado are at historic lows, and Lakes Mead (constructed in 1935, now at 42% of capacity) and Powell (constructed in 1963, now at 51% of capacity) will likely never fill again, a reality water managers would have never thought possible a half-century ago. Northern's rationale that the Common Technical Platform, the modeling framework used to simulate future operational characteristics for the NISP, necessitated the use of outdated streamflow data is unsubstantiated. The omission of the past 15 years of Poudre streamflows denies Larimer County decision-makers the information required to evaluate Glade's future water levels. The 2019 Fort Collins Water Supply Vulnerability Study is an example of the robust decision-making approach that has become commonplace in the last decade. The study concluded that climate change is the most significant vulnerability facing the City's future water supplies. Climate change, junior rights to Poudre river water, and the speculative South Platte water exchange program are plausible risks to NISP water supplies. The potential economic impact of these risks have not been evaluated. Northern's 1041 Application does not demonstrate the economic viability of recreation at the proposed Glade Reservoir and therefore fails to meet the County's Cost-Benefit Criteria (Criteria 10). I ask the Commissioners to consider residents' interests who value their homes' rural character and to consider current scientific evidence when evaluating Northern's 1041 Application's merits. The current NISP configuration is not the same project that Commissioner Donnelly supported during a "Farmers for NISP" rally in 2009. As proposed, the NISP "absolutely" dams the Poudre. It imposes unnecessary adverse impacts on local communities. Its promise of economically viable recreation is purely speculation, and the project should be denied.

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| 231 | Lee | O'Brien | 9708172197 | colobrien@bajabb.com | <p>We live near the Poudre River. We chose to live here because of the Poudre River. My wife rides her bike down the Poudre River Trail to work 5 days a week. On the weekends, we recreate along the river. Most people that that move to this area do so because of the Poudre River. Bellvue, Laporte, Fort Collins, Timnath, Windsor, and Greeley are here because of the Cache la Poudre River. No one in Larimer County cares about or wants another damn reservoir. There are reservoirs everywhere (look at an aerial photo of the area). Every town in the country has a stinking reservoir. What (nearly) no one else has is a wild and scenic mountain stream. That's what makes this place special. That's what brings people here. That's why people want to live here. Please don't kill our life-blood, the one thing that's makes this place unique, the only Wild & Scenic River in Colorado, the Poudre River, just to have another swampy, mosquito infested, boring, unwanted by the people that actually live here - reservoir. It would be outrageously expensive, dysfunctional, destructive, disruptive for years, won't provide the kind of recreation promised nor wanted, will emaciate the fragile riverine ecosystem, and it is not wanted by the people of Larimer County. Lets not destroy what makes this place unique and become just another mediocre community with a reservoir... turning a wild, rushing, invigorating, inspiring, living river into still, flat, dead water. They only entities that want NISP are developers who don't live in the community (who will make their money then leave) and downstream communities who want to sell the water to developers. (Farmers already have the water they need). Let the downstream communities build all the reservoirs they want, take all the water they want, and destroy the river if they want... after it flows, as a healthy foothills stream, through Larimer County. Your obligation is to represent what is best for the people of Larimer County, not the out-of-state developers and downstream communities. The people of Larimer County absolutely do not want to sacrifice the one thing that makes this place special and</p> |
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| | | | | | unique and desirable - for some developers' wet dreams. Just say no. Thank you. |
| 229 | Kylie | Burciago | | kyliejordanplummer@yahoo.com | Please don't allow the Poudre river to be drained. This river is a staple of Fort Collins life. There are animals that depend on this water, people use the water for recreation, and if it's drained algae and bugs could thrive and cause new problems. Please don't allow our river to be drained. |
| 228 | Mike | Moses | | moses@pobox.com | To: Larimer County Commissioners From: Mike Moses, 3706 Coronado Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80526 Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony. As a Fort Collins resident who first began hiking, biking, and paddling the reaches of the Poudre River in the 1990's, I'm well aware of the industry/government reports, hydrological studies, riverine impact analysis, and recreational/cultural assessments of NISP. Suffice to say that NISP can be justified on the interpretation of legacy water right laws and a belief that unlimited natural resources exist for economic expansion in Northern Colorado. Unfortunately, the realities of science dictate another conclusion. As an engineer, scientist, and entrepreneur, I could regale you with statistics and data analytics to support my cause, but you will hear that from many other presenters. My question to you is more personal. Will you in the future sit on a rock beside the Poudre River in June with your best friend, spouse, child or grandchild and enjoy the rushing water and life of the river? Or not? Best regards, Mike Moses |
| 227 | David | Kissel | | Davidkissel03@gmail.com | As a long time resident there is another way to accomplish the end point. ThePoudre is OUR river. Weld county residents could care less about the river thru FC. I do! Vote against approval for NISP! |
| 226 | Susan | Marshall | | marshall.susan@comcast.net | The message below was previously e-mailed to all Larimer County Commissioners and Rob Helmick. It was also forwarded to all Fort Collins City Council members prior to their majority vote to oppose NISP and use of natural areas. Dear Larimer County |

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| | <p>Commissioners: We've lived on the north side of Fort Collins approximately eighteen years and care greatly about the outcomes of local issues. Ever since first learning about the Thornton and NISP 1041s we've closely followed the process for both reviews, read and listened to a great deal of testimony given by a wide range of individuals and organizations and legal counsel, and tried to weigh as objectively as possible the many layers and levels of variables involved. Through all this, we found Thornton's 1041 to be inadequate and unacceptable and believe the same for NISP. The project itself makes extreme, unprecedented, and far-reaching demands on residents and environments; threatens quality of life in a number of ways; and irrevocably jeopardizes a range of landscapes and resources including the Poudre River. The sum of these demands can, has, and will continue to be described in objective as well as subjective terms as unconscionable. Various aspects of the NISP 1041 have also been described, by a wide range of experts weighing in on the subject, as incomplete and speculative--enough so to clearly render the application as incomplete/unacceptable. We trust that in your review of all the documents and testimony offered you will agree toward a "no" vote on the 1041. We trust that you will carefully consider the breadth and depth of threats related to the NISP proposal that appear to be in conflict with a number of county directives and codes. We trust that you will agree that other feasible and constructive vs. destructive options need to be researched and weighed as viable, including ways for the communities involved to reduce and mitigate their water demands, and that the 1041 should not involve placing the proverbial cart before the horse. The typical arguments we have heard in support of the project are that a) various communities are feeling worried about their water supply in relation to their lack of more mitigated community planning and development and are claiming this is the only plan that can work for them, and that b) it could also</p> |
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| 224 | M Bernadette | Kissel | bernadettekissel@gmail.com | <p>serve as some kind of potential bonus to turn the new reservoir into a tourism/recreation opportunity in Larimer County. These arguments only point back toward various subjective demands, opinions, requests that can be challenged. They do not in themselves justify the scope and scale of the project or prove the completeness and feasibility of its 1041 components or measure the integrity of the proposal's foundation. We certainly did not expect that after all the local outrage and pushback over the scope and inadequacies of the Thornton 1041 that the NISP 1041 would make its way this far with our county's Planning Committee and majority of the Planning Commission now supporting its approval. We call this outcome a travesty and shocking, and we can only hope you work to rectify it by voting "no" on the NISP 1041 after reviewing both its alarming scope and glaring incompleteness in support of its own cause. We profoundly appreciate your time and attention toward this goal. Susan and Dave Marshall Fort Collins</p> <p>I am writing to you to oppose construction of the Glade Reservoir. As a member of the Fort Collins community we value not just the natural beauty of the surrounding area but also the number of residents committed to the outdoors and to preserving the environment for future generations. Constructing Glade Reservoir will destroy the Poudre River through Fort Collins. The river cannot sustain additional diversions and the health of the river will be irreparably harmed along with the riparian areas. Additionally, increases in algae, worsening water quality including the possibility of E. coli bacterial outbreaks would damage the river, the attractiveness of our city and potentially damage the health of our residents who depend on the Poudre for drinking water. Please, do not approve this project for the reasons stated here and a myriad of other reasons. Respectfully submitted, M. Bernadette Kissel, Ed.D.</p> |
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| 223 | Sue | Pendell | Sue.Pendell@gmail.com | <p>Please don't dam the Poudre. It would be an aesthetic and environmental disaster and severely damage one of the wonderful things about living in Larimer County. Damming the Poudre would hurt our quality of life, and the quality of life here is an important selling point for those deciding whether to move here, for businesses deciding whether to locate here, and for those investing in what we have here. Please keep the long term in mind, and don't sell out to outside interests.</p> |
| 222 | Paul | Avery | paulavery@comcast.net | <p>To take the planned amount of water out of the Poudre River would condemn the City of Fort Collins to a diminished, degraded future with compromised wetlands, significantly reduced recreational activities and a loss of ecological diversity. I do not believe that the County Commissioners are empowered to make this decision on behalf of the thousands of families who have committed their lives, their skills and their resources to this amazing area. Northern Water appears not to have considered or proposed valid alternatives to their irresponsible and destructive plan. They have failed to show financial or technical feasibility of their \$1 Billion scheme and they have failed to answer the many challenges made by the myriad of experts who have studied its details. It appears that Northern Water and the interests they serve, have fallen into the same misguided thinking that has dried up the Colorado and Rio Grande Rivers and has driven the climate change disaster that we are all having to live through. You should not enable the construction of a massive diversion structure, fore-bay and pumping station at the mouth of our beautiful, scenic wild Poudre River. You have the opportunity to reflect the wishes of all county residents - please do the right thing. Taking 40% of the annual Poudre flow is not an acceptable plan for the people of Larimer County. Damming the Poudre and pumping that water up to the Glade site would be costly and wasteful. Contributing county tax dollars to a very questionable recreational resource is pure folly. Please step up to your</p> |

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| | | | | | responsibilities as our representatives and recuse yourselves from making this business decision which I believe being driven purely by by developers for personal gain. |
| 221 | Katherine | Mueller | | katmuellerphoto@gmail.com | <p>My family and I have been residents of Old Town Fort Collins for 20 years. We work for local Fort Collins businesses and live in this town and state to enjoy the amazing "playground" it has to offer. We spend winter snowshoeing and skiing poudre canyon and spring, summer and fall fly fishing, floating, hiking and playing on the poudre river and up the canyon. Us and dozens of our friends float the poudre on fishing rafts summer evenings from filter plant to picnic rock. Our float season length is always dependent on how much water is in the river. Some years we can float longer than others. We frequently discuss how amazing it would be if we could keep enough water in the river to enjoy floating and fishing it all summer. Our home in town is near the poudre and even just going for groceries, I'll see dozens of people tubing and fishing the poudre in town from Taft to college avenue; smiling, laughing, and just having fun playing in the river. Our teenage son had spent every day this summer at the poudre river whitewater park in downtown where he and his friends play and swim. For Collins residents LOVE their poudre river and enjoy a healthy lifestyle recreating on it. If NISP is approved to drain the water from our river we would lose EVERYTHING. The river would be so low, it would be impossible to raft, float, or fish, it would increase in temperature causing harm to our fish, growth of harmful bacteria, potentially crating a big stinky ditch that no one could enjoy. Please do not allow NISP to take any more water from Poudre from the canyon through the town. Thank you.</p> |
| 219 | Fred | Kirsch | | fredfortcollins@gmail.com | <p>Thornton to save the day? What if the NISP stakeholders could collaborate with the City of Thornton to take their water out downstream of Fort Collins? Would that make Glade Reservoir acceptable to us Poudre lovers? Is it worthwhile to</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>NISP to end opposition to Glade by funding water treatment and pollution mitigation between the current Thornton take-out and a potential future take-out downstream? Maybe Fort Collins and Larimer County would help raise the funds to upgrade wastewater treatment and decrease stormwater pollution. Who among us is the true Master of the Art of the Deal?</p> |
| 218 | Holly | Wright | | holly@wrightlife.com | <p>Please do not approve the NISP 1041 Permit because it does not meet the following criteria: 1. Reasonable alternatives exist like water conservation, and a site constructed downstream from Fort Collins. 2. The project will have significant adverse impacts on the Poudre River, it's water quality, wetlands, forest surrounding the river, wildlife and recreational use. Also, without high water flushing out the river it will be more prone to flooding due to sediment buildup over time. This will negatively impact health, safety, and create natural hazards. 3. The benefits of the proposed development do not outweigh the losses of natural resources, a fragile river that is already diverted and ran dry last year. Climate change and the frequent droughts in Colorado make this a poor decision because there is no guarantee it will fill every year and the seepage won't waste water. Please don't kill the Poudre River. It is a valued asset of Fort Collins and Northern Colorado as a clean water source, economic driver for our community through recreation and sport. It supports essential wildlife and has been a valued part of our city since the beginning.</p> |
| 214 | Suzanne | Wilson | | suzannejw370@gmail.com | <p>To the Larimer County Commissioners: We cannot lose our many Fort Collins Natural Areas adjoining the Cache la Poudre River, all of which would be harmed by diminishing the river's flow. They are valuable parts of the entire riparian ecosystem that must be preserved for the health of wildlife and native plants. The essential and interlinked parts of nature depend on the river and its normal seasonal flows. The cottonwood, we can't lose it. It's the</p> |

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| | | | | <p>keystone species in the riparian ecosystem, and it depends on the river, while so much wildlife depends on that tree. Butterfly Woods, Kingfisher Point, Riverbend Ponds, Running Deer, Arapaho Bend: these are just a few of 19 Natural Areas along the river, where families can explore and where they can understand the river and recognize its power. Along the Cache la Poudre are the CSU Environmental Learning Center, Lee Martinez Park, and Legacy, Heritage, and Buckingham parks. All would be diminished by changes to the river's flow. The river is the reason all these places exist. I am asking you to allow the Cache la Poudre to keep its water. Please let the river be a river. Thank you for your attention. Suzanne Wilson Volunteer Naturalist, City of Fort Collins</p> |
| 209 | David | Smeltzer | dcsmeltzer@yahoo.com | <p>I case the commissioners don't have time to hear my oral testimony I have included them in writing for the record here: Comments to the County Commissioners Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue. As County Commissioners it is your responsibility to consider and make decisions about county issues that may affect all or parts of Larimer County. In this case the NISP project is a huge proposal with far reaching impacts, not just for the Glade Reservoir site, but for a significant portion of the Cache La Poudre River, the city of Ft. Collins and Larimer County residents and businesses as a whole. As Larimer County Commissioners your first responsibility is to the residents of Larimer County and how your decisions affect them and the lands and resources within the counties borders. With this responsibility in mind there are key reasons why you should reject the NISP project. NISP's impacts are far reaching and will degrade the quality of life and the safety of a majority of the county's population. As per the counties own Land Use Code Guidelines these impacts include, but are not limited to: Code 8.2 Wetlands – adverse affects to riparian ecology all along the Poudre River below the Glade Reservoir site. Code 8.3 Hazard Areas – increased risk of</p> |

future flooding due to the narrowing of the river corridor due to lack of high flow flushing events. No guarantees that a dam failure won't ever occur that puts at risk a huge resident population due to the dam being situated near a geologic fault line never before exposed to billions of gallons of water and its soaking weight bearing down upon it. Code 8.4 Wildlife – significant negative effects on river aquatic life, plants and fishes due to reductions in spring flushing flows and lower flows in general. Code 8.12 Water Quality – significant reductions in water quality as a result of reduced flows, increased water temperatures and increased bacterial populations, including E coli and other harmful bacteria that are a threat to human contact. Code 14.10 General Requirement of Approval of a 1041 Permit Especially: D.2 – What alternative for water conservation have the NISP funding communities seriously considered in lieu of building NISP? Is it Larimer County's responsibility to bear the brunt of the negative impacts to supply water to these outlying communities that strive for growth? D.3 – Environmental impacts of NISP have not been and cannot be fully mitigated. Again, Larimer County bears the consequences. D.6 – Public safety impacts from NISP cannot be adequately mitigated. D.7 – Risks of future floods will increase due to the narrowing of the river corridor and geologic concerns at the dam site are being minimized. D.10 – Benefits to the county do not outweigh the negative impacts to the county and its valued land, river and environment. While several of you have been supportive of this project for more than a decade and you probably feel, in review, that this project meets the 1041 permit requirements, your responsibilities to this county and its residents goes far beyond just this project. Your protection of county resources, environments and its people far outweighs the "it meets the approval criteria so my responsibility is met". Will you meet that protection responsibility or will you relegate our county and its prized resource to a degraded, less safe and less valued asset forever? It's your legacy. Will it be a

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| | | | | | positive one or a negative one for our future? Thank you. |
| 207 | Chad | Dalrymple | | chaddalrymple@yahoo.com | I do not support NISP. NISP is a bad idea from an engineering, environmental and quality of life standpoint. NISP would drain wetlands along the Poudre River and help dry up and kill the cottonwood forest through town. Fort Collins and Larimer County have invested tens-of- millions of dollars in natural areas, the Poudre trail, fishing access, and the new whitewater park. These investments are dependent upon a healthy Poudre River The Fort Collins City Council also is not in Favor of NISP. Thanks Chad Dalrymple 2314 Tarragon Ln Fort Collins CO 80521 |
| 206 | Karen | Wagner | | kaswagner@me.com | |
| 205 | Jeffery | Rivera | | livebog777@gmail.com | I am writing to express that you Oppose the NISP Dam and Pipeline Project. I am requesting that you consider the economic benefit to Larimer County and neighboring areas for maintaining water in the Poudre River, instead behind a dam used to spread suburbia over good farmland. Investing in the health and well-being of our waterways and watersheds can keep the existing jobs in water sports, rafting, tubing, fishing, and hunting, while maintaining jobs in research, management, and natural lands stewardship. Healthy rivers and parkways are good sources of grants and revenue and become treasured assets among the citizens and businesses. A healthy, reliable, free-flowing river is one of the most stable and important economic assets the County can have. Dooming the river to low, placid flows, and stagnant, warm water is not a money maker or even enjoyable to be around. The City of Fort Collins invested millions of dollars in a new whitewater park downtown and in order for the whitewater park to function, the spring flows need to be high enough to create the rapids. NISP would dull the flows and doom the whitewater park to a trickle. Instead, use that assets to bring in money to business with whitewater events, festivals, |

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| 203 | Ken | McCullough | 3039086621 | k.mccullough1231@gmail.com | <p>competitions, and more. Keeping the Poudre River healthy with a strong spring rise will re-hydrate the habitats for wildlife, setting seeds for Cottonwood forests to regenerate, and renewing the water chemistry in the river is the most important function of the spring melt. Larimer County has invested millions of dollars in purchasing land along the river as a recreation resource, wildlife habitat, and flood control. The County has also contributed to floodplain restoration in County-owned natural areas. NISP would dehydrate those areas. Limiting the spring runoff even more than it is already will undoubtedly stress those habitats, leading to a conversion of those forests to drier woodlands. Doing so would undercut the asset that the County has with the healthy riparian forests along the river. Don't allow NISP to de-hydrate those forests and lose the valuable assets the County has already spent millions to protect and steward. NISP would end the spring rise, flat-lining the river and forever damaging the resource, limiting it to watering lawns over once good farmland. For new water supply, there are many other alternatives, including by those pioneered at CSU, for several decades. Turns out they study and build new water supply systems all over the western US, you would think they can be called upon to help in Larimer County. Why not try these new approaches to Larimer County? These include: groundwater banking, irrigation ditch lining to prevent seepage, water-sharing agreements, stormwater capture and banking, and simple conservation. Lastly, NISP does not adhere to all 12 of the requirements for approval. One criteria not met is the need for equal mitigation. By the nature of cutting off flow to the river, will forever alter the source of the river environment, water, in an unnatural way, Please do not support NISP.</p> <p>Best, Jeffery Rivera,</p> <p>My name is Ken McCullough, I am a life-long resident of Larimer County and a third-generation alfalfa farmer. My 45-acre farm is irrigated with water diverted directly out of the Cache la Poudre</p> |
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River via a canal operated by the Larimer and Weld Irrigation Company. This canal is located just east of Taft Hill Road and is downstream of the diversion point for the proposed Glade Reservoir. As someone with deep ties to the agricultural economy and rural culture of the Fort Collins area, I am opposed to the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) being pushed by the Northern CO. Water District. For many reasons, I urge you as Commissioner to oppose this God-awful project. Let me explain why I am so strongly opposed to this project and believe you should be too. My farm diverts about 30-acre feet of water from the river annually, primarily June through September. This is a reliable water right, although my water rights are not senior to many upstream and downstream users, I have never suffered from an inadequate supply when I needed it most. There have been many years when I don't get my full 30-acre feet, but my alfalfa operation has always received enough water, even in the driest years of 2000-2006, to get a reliable crop and stay in the black. After review of the NISP project and discussions with others in the agricultural economy, including leadership Larimer and Weld Irrigation Company, the NISP project will not benefit me at all, in fact, it could make me lose my farm. The NISP project does not supply any new additional water to irrigators, agricultural users, or farmers in Larimer County. However, the water diverted into Glade Reservoir would be water that is already allocated and exists in paper water rights with farms in Larimer and Weld Counties. A major problem with NISP is that the water to be stored in Glade would need to be purchased in order to be allocated to the project, which it isn't, and unless Northern Water and NISP customers purchase thousands of acres of farmland, that water will never make it to Glade except for years with incredibly exceptional runoff. Since most of the water NISP is hoping to capture is already allocated for downstream users, NISP would need to purchase the farmland where the water rights are held in order to divert and

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| | | | | | <p>eventually sell that water to customers. This issue was pointed out in the 2018 Final Environmental Impact Statement for the NISP project produced by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Despite this incredibly problematic detail, Northern Water thinks they can purchase these farms eventually over the next 30-40 years. Frankly, that is unrealistic, this is a billion-dollar pipe dream that won't likely operate at full capacity unless billions of more dollars are sourced to purchase farmland. The issue I fear most that could jeopardize my farm is if Northern Water begins purchasing farmland and water rights in Larimer and Weld Counties. If farms are purchased for their water rights, the value of the farmland will skyrocket because the water rights associated with the land will be "developed" and stored behind a dam and made available for urban users instead of kept in the river. This would result in a major economic incentive for farmers to sell their land and water rights to NISP in order to "cash out". Farmers would of course have to sell their land willingly but imagine if a big fat "green carrot" was dangled in front of a farming family? We all know what will happen, the pressure to sell the land for cash would be too overwhelming for most, and the multi-generation farms will be turned over for a quick buck. Developers would then be able to buy the land from NISP and turn the land into homes and subdivisions, knowing that the farmland being paved over and has fed the Country for generations and will forever be lost. My biggest fear about NISP is that if it were successful, which is unlikely, it would incentivize the development of Larimer and Weld Counties rich farmlands and rural charters, resulting in appalling urban sprawl and will contribute to the loss of a stable and reliable agricultural economy. At best NISP would waste billions of dollars and never become operational, but at worst, it would turn our beautiful rich agricultural lands into cement cul-de-sacs and parking lots. My family and I have weathered through many years of drought, lost revenue, pest diseases, broken equipment, labor disputes, and market swings, but</p> |
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| | | | | <p>we've always kept our heads above water. However, I see NISP as the grim reaper, a sign of danger coming to turn my farm and our neighbors' farms into lawns and asphalt driveways, forever destroying the traditions we have established in Larimer County. This is not the future I want to leave my daughter, who will inherit the farm and be the first woman in the family to run it. I want her to have the same lifestyle and traditions that my grandfather had when he came to Larimer County in 1910 to farm alfalfa and corn. As someone who is trying to find their way in this chaotic world and walk tall as a steady and honorable person, I find myself feeling helpless and in utter despair if NISP were built. That's why I am writing, to urge you to hear my story and see my perspective as a farmer who wishes the best for his home. Please stand with me and do not issue a 1041 permit for the Northern Integrated Supply Project. Sincerely, Ken McCullough Laporte, Colorado</p> |
| 202 | Ann | Desheart | ann11desheart@gmail.com | <p>The Northern Integrated Supply Project, (NISP), does not adhere to all 12 of the requirements for approval of the 1041 permitting criteria. One criterion not met, for example, is the requirement for balanced and adequate mitigation for impacts. Simply by the nature of NISP, cutting off the last spring flood to the river will forever alter the river environment in an unnatural way. And Northern Water's suggested "mitigation" by elevating the base flows a bit through Fort Collins does not even compare to adequate and equal mitigation. Adding some base flows while slicing off the spring rise is like giving someone crutches after you break their leg, it's not equal. Therefore at least 1 of 12 criterion for the 1041 permit are not met and should be rejected. By not adequately addressing all 12 criteria for the 1041 Permitting Process, NISP should not be accepted. If NISP were to be approved, even through appeal, while still not meeting all 12 criteria, Larimer County leaves itself vulnerable to litigation. In its current form NISP cannot be approved. Northern Water can and</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>should return to the planning phase to develop a water supply and conservation plan that is truly integrated and not a one-size-fits-all dam building boondoggle of what we would see last century. Please reject NISP in its current form. Ann Desheart, Loveland, CO</p> |
| 201 | Preston | Brown | 3038770880 | pbrown.eco@gmail.com | <p>I am writing to express my opposition to the Northern Integrated Supply Project NISP and encourage the Larimer County Planning Commission and County Commissioners to reject the 1041 County permit for the project. Let me explain why I do not support this project and encourage you to reject the permit. This annual spring "rise" on the Cache la Poudre River is a sacred event, a living pulse of water that lasts just about a month but refreshes and re-nourishes the entire river ecology. As the Poudre reaches Fort Collins these floodwaters spill the banks, filling secondary channels where frogs, birds, and fish rear and lay eggs. Fresh layers of sediments drop out over the floodplains, nourishing the deep, lush cottonwood forests and marshes. Something unique about the Poudre is that despite roughly 2/3 of the flow already diverted out, there is still enough of a spring "rise" to flood the banks, clean out the river of lingering sediments, redeposit nutrients, and refresh the ecology. This is rare, nearly all of the rivers and creeks along Colorado's Front Range have been dammed or diverted where the natural rhythm of the spring "rise" is gone, turning the echoing drumbeat of the river into a muted whine. The Poudre still has its spring heartbeat, but not for long if the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District builds their gluttonous Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). If this project is built it will take 71% of the water out of the river during the spring "rise", flattening the river and putting it on life support. My expertise is in river restoration and geomorphology, it's my job to know how river and stream mechanics respond to changes in flow. A major problem that NISP would have on the river is that by reducing the spring "rise", the river will not be able to redistribute</p> |

and transport sediments out of the river channel where they can deposit onto floodplains and wetlands. By functionally limiting the peak flow and eliminating the annual flushing effect, those sediments will stack up in the channel year after year, eventually raising the channel higher and higher to a point that will create regular flooding problems. The annual flush is needed to improve hydraulic conveyance and move sediments downstream. Not allowing this annual pulse will create a clog, similar to a blood clot. Additionally, if NISP were built and the sediments are not annually flushed out with large spring pulses, the water quality will greatly suffer. This will occur because the sediment and nutrients trapped in the channel will decompose and consume oxygen levels within the water, thereby decreasing dissolved oxygen available for fish and other wildlife. The annual spring "rise" is not "extra unused water", it's the force that cleans the river environment, flushing sediments and nutrients out and distributing them on floodplains. Taking the last of the peak flow and storing it behind a dam to feed sprawling suburbs, while turning the river into a putrid algae-filled ditch, is not a good starting point. This is not my vision for the Poudre River or the Northern Colorado region. Instead, my vision is to keep the wild character of the river, meet growing water needs, and retain the farmland and rustic character of the region. We don't need another river-destroying boondoggle like NISP that creates more urban sprawl. We need intelligent planning, water conservation, recycling, water sharing agreements between cities and farms, and water efficiency upgrades. These solutions have been done in places like Las Vegas where water use has gone down even though growth has skyrocketed. These methods are common and would be significantly cheaper than a billion-dollar dam, paid for by ratepayers. Only 35 years ago, a 415 ft tall dam was proposed along highway 14 near the mouth of the Poudre Canyon. The Grey Mountain Reservoir proposal was pushed by Northern Water, the same agency pushing NISP.

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| | | | | <p>Thankfully Grey Mountain Dam was rejected by Larimer County, and I hope that NISP will be defeated too, but only with your help in rejecting the 1041 County Permit. Please stand with the river and all the constituents in Larimer County that do not want to see our beloved river put on life support to feed the growth of cities in other Counties. Thank you</p> |
| 200 | Preston | Brown | 3038770880 | <p>pbrown.eco@gmail.com</p> <p>I am writing to express my opposition to the Northern Integrated Supply Project NISP and encourage the Larimer County Planning Commission and County Commissioners to reject the 1041 County permit for the project. Let me explain why I do not support this project and encourage you to reject the permit. This annual spring "rise" on the Cache la Poudre River is a sacred event, a living pulse of water that lasts just about a month but refreshes and re-nourishes the entire river ecology. As the Poudre reaches Fort Collins these floodwaters spill the banks, filling secondary channels where frogs, birds, and fish rear and lay eggs. Fresh layers of sediments drop out over the floodplains, nourishing the deep, lush cottonwood forests and marshes. Something unique about the Poudre is that despite roughly 2/3 of the flow already diverted out, there is still enough of a spring "rise" to flood the banks, clean out the river of lingering sediments, redeposit nutrients, and refresh the ecology. This is rare, nearly all of the rivers and creeks along Colorado's Front Range have been dammed or diverted where the natural rhythm of the spring "rise" is gone, turning the echoing drumbeat of the river into a muted whine. The Poudre still has its spring heartbeat, but not for long if the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District builds their gluttonous Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). If this project is built it will take 71% of the water out of the river during the spring "rise", flattening the river and putting it on life support. My expertise is in river restoration and geomorphology, it's my job to know how river and stream mechanics respond to changes in flow. A major problem that</p> |

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| | | | | <p>The Grey Mountain Reservoir proposal was pushed by Northern Water, the same agency pushing NISP. Thankfully Grey Mountain Dam was rejected by Larimer County, and I hope that NISP will be defeated too, but only with your help in rejecting the 1041 County Permit. Please stand with the river and all the constituents in Larimer County that do not want to see our beloved river put on life support to feed the growth of cities in other Counties. Thank you</p> |
| 199 | Nancy | Pellman | nancypell@aol.com | <p>Please vote NO on the NISP project and save the Poudre River from becoming a desert area like other river bed have become in the US. The Poudre River is a major attraction for anyone living in or visiting Fort Collins. It's beautiful and offers so many recreational activities every season of the year. The NISP project will change that. Please don't let this happen. The current fires show that more water is needed in the Poudre at times, not less. VOTE NO on permits for the NISP project.</p> |
| 196 | Megan | McBride | mkmfoco@gmail.com | <p>NISP is a horribly, short-sighted environmental-disaster in-the-making. It is prioritizing profit over people and threatens our quality of life in Fort Collins. The Poudre River is the backbone of this city and provides so much to our quality of life. NISP will erase all of that, and our city and county will be much worse for it. There are lots of threats to our lives and livelihoods right now, allowing NISP will further threaten our well-being. Stop it. Stop it now.</p> |
| 195 | Megan | Thorburn | meganthor@yahoo.com | <p>Frankly, I find it outrageous that Larimer County is still considering NISP as a viable option in light of all the public outcry. You have heard testimony from many local citizen groups as well as leading authorities including a professor of civil engineering at Colorado State University. You have been told that the proposed Glade reservoir will be positioned over a fault line and that the underlying rock is too porous to hold water, thus making this dam damned from the beginning. You have also been told that there are other more viable and CHEAPER</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>alternatives to NISP including updating our irrigation systems as well as storing water underground in aquifers. Two out of three of you on the BOCC are Republicans. I thought Republicans stood for fiscal responsibility. The NISP alternatives make sense because they are CHEAPER and, bonus, they will result in less environmental destruction. The people of Larimer County have spoken. We want you to protect our Poudre River. So do your job and protect it.</p> |
| 189 | Jill | Baron | | Jbaron401@gmail.com | <p>I'm writing this from my heart. As a resident of Fort Collins and Larimer County for 40 years, I and my family have lived near and on this river. I took my husband to the banks of the Poudre to tell him we were expecting our first child. We go to the river for reflection, for recreation, and for spiritual renewal. The NISP proposed reservoir project, conceived by an outmoded view that municipal growth deserves ever more water, must be replaced with 21st century thinking. The demand for water in our dry beautiful land is insatiable. The supply, however, is not. Summers like this one will only become more common. The value of the Poudre, with water in it for its fish, and its spiritual value, is incalculable, especially in years like this. All northern Colorado will suffer if you allow our river to be permanently degraded. Now is the time to recognize the limits of our precious Poudre River and leave the water in it. Regret doesn't even begin to describe what we will feel when our beloved river is turned into a warm muddy trickle in Fort Collins. Thank you for reading, and please think of the limits of our water supply, especially in warmer drier climates, not the past expectations that demands can be met with more dams and storage. Those days are over. Do not approve the NISP project to build Glade Reservoir.</p> |
| 188 | Jill | Baron | | Jbaron401@gmail.com | <p>I'm writing this from my heart. As a resident of Fort Collins and Larimer County for 40 years, I and my family have lived near and on this river. I took my husband to the banks of the Poudre to tell him we were expecting our first child. We go to the river for</p> |

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| 184 | Joseph | Piesman | 9706916697 | <p>j.piesman@comcast.net</p> <p>Having served on both the City of Fort Collins Natural Resources Advisory Board & the Land Conservation & Stewardship Board I have seen the huge investment made along the Poudre River. These Natural Areas are beloved and part of what makes living in Larimer County so special. The health of this riverine habitat will be destroyed if the NISP project goes ahead and siphons off 2/3 of the spring rise so essential to the ecology of this fragile system. To add injury to insult, NISP requires putting pumping stations on Fort Collins Natural Areas land as well as destructive construction of pipelines. Say no to NISP in every way possible including the 1041 application.</p> |
| 183 | Jackie | Klausmeyer | | <p>abcsq2@aol.com</p> <p>I am a 65 year old woman and I grew up in Northern Colorado. This land- this place- is where I am from. I still love it, although it has changed. One constant throughout the years has been the Poudre River. The river has been a moving, living body of energy and life for me for over 60 years. My family camped</p> |

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| 182 | Ken | Bennett | ken.bennett29@gmail.com | <p>and fished near the now charred headwaters of the river when I was young enough to ride on my father's shoulders to the river's edge. The river flowed behind my elementary and junior high school and we were taught early and reminded often to respect its force. "Don't let it carry you away!" we were taught. The river is revered and respected as it winds its way through Fort Collins and is an enormous resource to the folks in the city who count on the river to provide spaces to view wildlife, scenic bikeways to trek along, and peaceful open spaces in an otherwise urban landscape. The river- the Poudre River- for many of us is so much more than a source of water. It is central and essential to our sense of place. The river naturally has its own seasons of bounty and scarcity, yet still it flows. The river's display of strength and power in spring when the snows melt in the high country are still a source of amazement for me to watch- year after year. Humans seem to have an overwhelming drive to engineer and destroy natural, beautiful things- things that, when gone cannot be replaced. Usually this is done for the sake of "growth." Often growth is driven by profit. Yet, how can we compare the different benefits? Please don't destroy this one beautiful thing- the river- in the name of engineering for the future. Some things are simply better left alone. In my mind, there is no profit, no benefit that justifies sacrificing the Poudre River. The Poudre River must be left alone, to flow, and provide, and anchor the people who love this place, for years to come. I say "No" to NISP. Jackie Klausmeyer</p> <p>Dear Commissioners: Thank you for allowing public comment regarding the NISP project and for consideration of my views. My views have been shaped by being a long-term resident of Fort Collins, Loveland and now Windsor, being a graduate of the Water Literate Leaders program, and as a Windsor Town Board member and liaison to the Water and Sewer Board. I strongly support the NISP project for a number of reasons but will focus on just three for this statement. We need to</p> |
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have a sense of urgency in protecting and preserving water resources in northern Colorado. Our neighbors to the south are thirsty, have sights on our water, and have deeper financial resources. The City of Thornton demonstrated great foresight years ago by purchasing water rights here. Recently, the City of Aurora made a major purchase of water shares from the Great Western Industrial Park. Climate change is having a devastating effect on our region and state. We have been in a two decade drought with reduced snow packs and precipitation. We need to increase our capacity to store water when opportunities present themselves. The Glade Reservoir will give us much needed storage capacity. I like to eat and enjoy food. Beyond my personal appetites, I am very concerned for our agricultural industry in northern Colorado. Agriculture is one of our major industries and regional economic drivers as well as a part of our history and culture. Our thirsty neighbors to the south are not buying water rights to continue farming and ranching in northern Colorado, but rather to buy and dry as a means of meeting their growth and economic needs. The NISP project gives us a tool to help preserve our water resources. Again, we need a sense of urgency to maintain our water resources for agriculture as well as municipal and industrial uses. The third reason I share with you is very personal. For decades I have enjoyed the Poudre River. I have had many fun filled, sometimes harrowing, times rafting the river. I have enjoyed camping, fishing, and watching wildlife by the river. In Windsor we are now implementing a multi-million dollar river walk project. Many of us enjoy biking and hiking along the Poudre River Trail. I understand the genuine concern many of us have for the preservation and health of the Poudre River. This is another reason I strongly support NISP. The findings of the Environmental Impact Studies are a major factor in my support of the project. Once built, nature willing we have water, Glade Reservoir will be able to release 18 to 25 cfs into the river eliminating dry

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| | | | | | <p>conditions and improving streamflows. The peak-flow operations program will result in little to no diversions during vital peak flow times for the river. In addition, the wildlife habitat conservation elements of the project, wetlands and endangered species mitigation, will protect, if not enhance, fish, birds, wildlife and plant life. This is a generational opportunity. I strongly urge you to support the NISP project as it will allow our children, grandchildren and future generations to enjoy the economic, history, culture and environmental benefits of northern Colorado. Respectfully, Ken Bennett, Mayor Pro Tem Windsor Town Board 299 Columbus Street Windsor, Colorado 80550 ken.bennett29@gmail.com 970 686-7519</p> |
| 180 | Alan | Apt | | alanrapt@gmail.com | <p>Dear Commissioners, NISP is a very destructive and unnecessary project with no benefits for Larimer County. It will have an enormous negative impact on Larimer citizens. It would rarely be filled because of Climate Change. Please vote no! Thank You, Alan Apt Larimer county Property Owner</p> |
| 179 | Roger and Deborah | Gunderson | | gunderson@frii.com | <p>Larimer County Commissioners: August 21, 2020 We have lived in the North side of the Eagle Lake Subdivision for 22 years and we had also participated in the prior Larimer County Commission process for the Thornton water pipeline decision. We are opposed to placing either of the NISP or Thornton pipelines within or directly adjacent to the Eagle Lake Subdivision, and do not support the Eagle Lake HOA board's "Lake Tap" proposal, which simply moves the construction nuisance from one part of the Eagle Lake community to another located at the north end of the subdivision. There is one viable alternative route that we support which NISP should consider first that does not have the negative impact and loss of property value to property owners: keeping the water in the Poudre river as long as possible. We recognize that growth will continue along the front range, along with the accompanying need for more water. The delivery of this resource and how it is managed is of primary</p> |

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| | | | | <p>concern to us. The Poudre River is an irreplaceable natural resource. Once the decision is made to divert water at the mouth of the Poudre Canyon, this natural resource is lost to the river forever. There must be a better way. NISP and the City of Thornton have opposed using the Poudre river as a water conveyance option, insisting that Poudre River water be piped from the mouth of the Poudre canyon, in large part to higher water quality. Whether they are entitled to this high-quality water we believe is of dispute. During the Thornton hearings it was demonstrated that the quality of this river water improves as it moves downstream through Fort Collins. If NISP and Thornton are not entitled to that higher level of water quality at the mouth of the Poudre canyon, then it seems that the Poudre River option is the best option. A healthy Poudre River has future potential untapped economic and recreational value in the region that we may not recognize in our present day. Once this resource is lost through diversion, it is also lost as our legacy for future generations. We thank you for the time, thought and understanding that you have put towards making the best decision for Larimer County for the Thornton pipeline decision, and wish you the best for the NISP decision as well.</p> <p>Respectfully, Roger and Deborah Gunderson 5134 Eagle Lake Drive Fort Collins, CO 80524</p> |
| 174 | Jill | Baron | Jbaron401@gmail.com | <p>I'm writing this from my heart. As a resident of Fort Collins and Larimer County for 40 years, I and my family have lived near and on this river. I took my husband to the banks of the Poudre to tell him we were expecting our first child. We go to the river for reflection, for recreation, and for spiritual renewal. The NISP proposed reservoir project, conceived by an outmoded view that municipal growth deserves ever more water, must be replaced with 21st century thinking. The demand for water in our dry beautiful land is insatiable. The supply, however, is not. Summers like this one will only become more common. The value of the Poudre, with water in it for its fish, and its spiritual value, is incalculable,</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>especially in years like this. All northern Colorado will suffer if you allow our river to be permanently degraded. Now is the time to recognize the limits of our precious Poudre River and leave the water in it. Regret doesn't even begin to describe what we will feel when our beloved river is turned into a warm muddy trickle in Fort Collins. Thank you for reading, and please think of the limits of our water supply, especially in warmer drier climates, not the past expectations that demands can be met with more dams and storage. Those days are over. Do not approve the NISP project to build Glade Reservoir.</p> |
| 173 | Tara | Parr | | taralparr@gmail.com | <p>Dear People, Thank you for the work you do and the care for your community that your actions will reflect. The big picture is that the our planet is in a squeeze do to the use and sometimes abuse of it resources. I have lived in northern Colorado for forty years and every day has been a delightful education in how to work with the ways of nature. Too often it seems humans want to control and subvert the systems that are in place, and of course that is not always a bad thing. If NISP could be realized without any of the anticipated environmental degradation that is so easy to see wrought by similar projects in other locations it would be worth considering. The fact is that many things have changed since NISP was first conceived. Science and the development of large reservoir systems have shown the world that not all such projects serve the purpose for which they were wanted. Everything I know and sense about my area and the people who live here now and will be moving here in the future tells me that there are better easier ways of developing our water resources.</p> |
| 170 | Dana | Spanjer | | Dana@spanjer.com | <p>Today, I am writing to express my support for the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) as both a member of the Fort Collins Loveland Water District as well as a native and resident of Fort Collins. This project is a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to enhance the livability, economy, natural habitat, and recreation opportunities in Larimer County. I would</p> |

like to highlight the ways in which this project will benefit our county and region: Livability/Economic Benefits -Increased water storage for municipal and agricultural use -Provide cost effective water solutions for residence of Larimer County and surrounding areas. Including the 45,000 members of the Fort Collins Loveland Water District like me. - Ensure water security for current and future uses across all sectors: industry, agriculture, and residential -Build a strong and resilient region surrounding Larimer county with water security and recreational opportunities -\$1.1B project that will be FULLY funded by the NISP participants with future revenue opportunities for Larimer County and region as a whole -Promotes agriculture to the East, ensuring the vitality of one of Colorado's major sectors -Prioritizes the water from the Poudre as more suitable for municipal use (higher water quality, less processing at treatment facilities, etc) as well as Prioritizing water from the South Platte for Irrigation/Agricultural use (closer by, less transmission,etc) -Future potential for hydro-electric, a renewable source of electricity. -Underground pipeline for water transmission promotes water supply security in a time of emergency (like major wildfires) as well as maintains high quality water to the participants and end users Natural Habitat - \$49M of the \$53M allocated for the fish and wildlife mitigation and enhancement plan will be spent in Larimer County -Enhances current existing diversion points to be possible by fish, connecting the up and down river sections (currently impassible). -Improvements to the current stream channel and habitat -Increases the minimum flows through the section of the Poudre River 8 out of 12 months on the average years and 10 out of 12 months in drought years -Tiered diversion tower in Glade Reservoir will allow water to be drawn out of the reservoir at differing depths depending on what is needed (i.e., colder water to cool the Poudre downstream) -Mixing water from the reservoir can increase the water quality of the water flowing through the river. The State of Colorado concluded

this project would no degrade the water quality, but actually increase it. -Management agreement includes Peak Flow Bi-Pass ensuring natural flood level flows will still occur to flush out sediment, vital to the river system, instead of diverting it at these crucial times -Additionally the management agreement include provisions to maintain minimum flows in the Poudre River year round. Currently, parts of the river dry up (have zero flow) in the winter months and drought years -Placement of the diversion into the pipeline was heavily vetted to provide the most benefit to the Poudre River flows, habitat, water quality and surface use. -Ongoing monitoring that is more robust and sophisticated than what is currently in place Recreation -A \$20M investment of recreational improvements paid 75% by the participants of the NISP -Glade Reservoir would offer a completely new opportunity for recreation: Boating; both motorized and non-motorized Camping/Picnicking Walking and Biking Trails Rock Climbing Fishing Visitor's Center - Creates another desirable destinations and reason to live and play in Larimer County -Disperse pressures on existing recreational sites -Increases opportunity in the region for health and wellness This project is also in complete alignment with the County's 2019-2023 Strategic plan of: 1) Ensuring adequate public infrastructure to support the needs of a growing community. (This project offers so many water sharing strategies that actually preserve agriculture and sustain water supplies) 2) Provide access to economic opportunities and a vibrant quality of life. (The attainable housing conversation cannot begin without talking about the cost of water. This project can be a key player in reducing these barriers.) This project has both private and public support from the Federal level all the way down to the community level and it's obvious why. I trust the Commissioners will see the immense value of this project now and in the future and approve the 1041 permit. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dana Spanjer

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| 169 | Eleanor | Dwight | | eleanor@dwrightcentral.com | <p>I am writing to ask you to please vote against the latest NISP proposal. There is a reason that it took 17 years to get to this point. It was just not a feasible project from the beginning and more tweaks every year still does not make it a project that is good for the residents of Larimer County who benefit from the Poudre River. I won't list here the many reasons those of us who love the River have given to you already. I do however agree with them. They are well thought out and use good data and science to come to their conclusions. I would add one point now. Will it be worth losing a free running river and billions of dollars to be sure that our neighboring counties can grow and grow? They need to rethink their planning and find alternate ways to take care of their population like you have done for Larimer County. Thank you. Eleanor Dwight and Norman Illsley Fort Collins, CO 80525</p> |
| 159 | Jim | Trupp | 9702260750 | jtrupp@frii.com | <p>Our lives and our choice to live in Northern Colorado is due for the most part to having water available. The water we use today is available due to the fore sight of our past leadership and their vision to make our quality of lives better. Northern Colorado is a desert region with limited water resources. The economy and quality of life we enjoy is due to managing our resources. Our past leaders successfully developed a system of canals and reservoirs that provides quality water year round. It is our duty as stewards and leaders of today to assure that future generations continue to enjoy what we have enjoyed by continuing to manage our resources. The NISP project has been well designed with the input of many experts and professionals. With the addition of NISP the quality and availability of water resources in Northern Colorado and Fort Collins will be much improved. As we continue to try to understand the changing climate, the NISP project is one step that will help deal with the changes we will see locally. Future generations will be thankful that the NISP project was completed. I support and recommend approval of the NISP project. Jim Trupp</p> |

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| 158 | Philip | Cafaro | | philipjcafar@gmail.com | <p>Dear County Commissioners, The Cache la Poudre River is the lifeblood of Larimer County. Please reject this project, which will turn our beautiful and well-loved river into dried out stinking ditch for several months a year. For all the fly fishermen, bicyclists, hikers, walkers, kids playing in the shallows -- don't allow this growth-facilitating monstrosity.</p> | <p>Dear Larimer County Commissioners, The Poudre River is Larimer County's crown jewel, and NISP would destroy it. Citizens of Larimer County fish, recreate, and enjoy the beauty of the river. But the Poudre, along with the wonderful new whitewater park in Fort Collins would be negatively affected by reduced river flow. Already, too much of the river's natural flow is drained out. Don't turn the Poudre into a muddy ditch. Water quality would worsen if we let NISP happen, and Larimer County will be greatly diminished as a region. Please stop NISP!</p> <p>Niels West</p> |
| 153 | Niels | West | 9176855067 | NIELSWEST@HOTMAIL.COM | | |
| 147 | John | Chismar | | jchism47@gmail.com | | <p>I'm 73 and have spent my life in Larimer county 6 years in the Navy. Have seen a lot of growth some good and some not so good I hear people say Fort Collins and Poudre Canyon residents talk about river getting too low well there is more water now then back in 50s and later. I believe because of all the water storage on Poudre river and it's tributaries that they have provided more flow in the river. No one is complaining about Fort Collins expanding Halligan on North Poudre they shutdown Siemons. Another thing is the count has allowed strip mining north of Owl Canyon and into public land in the second largest Pinion Pine Forrest in northern Colorado. There has been a lot of digging going on North of Haystack rock. I think storing water is a whole lot better to look at then strip mining. The Poudre river isn't going to have less water. NCWC has done a lot of good water projects in northern Colorado I can't imagine them not doing anything wrong I took one of their tours going up the Thompson canyon all the way over to Grandby and</p> |

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| | | | | Grand Lake they produce their own electricity to run their pumps and anything else. They have done a lot for northern Colorado. I believe we should take care of our water needs in Colorado and not pay to bring water in from Wyoming. Thank you for letting me express my concerns. |
| 146 | Todd | Mitchell | ajaxm44@hotmail.com | <p>My family and I have lived in Fort Collins for generations. The Poudre River, and the riparian ecosystem it creates, are vital to the area. Already more than 60% of the Poudre river is diverted. Further diverting the river threatens not just the river and riparian ecosystems--it threatens many businesses that depend on the river flowing, and it threatens the quality of life in the FOCO area. In addition, climate change is giving us hotter weather, extended droughts, and increased forest fires. Lessening the Poudre river flow at this time is shortsighted, destructive and reckless. To quote Professor Barry Noon: NISP WOULD DESTROY THE POUDBRE RIVER From where I stand, I am certain that the Northern Irrigation Supply Project (NISP), specifically construction of Glade Reservoir, will inescapably destroy the Poudre River through Fort Collins. The reason is simple--the River cannot sustain additional depletions to its flow (> 60% of the River's flow is already diverted). As recognized by the City of Fort Collins in their 2017 assessment of the state of the River, and a recent (2020) scientific publication by multiple CSU scientists, it is clear that the River is already near a breaking point. Additional reduction in flow will undermine its integrity and it will cease to function as a river. Healthy rivers are characterized by a natural flow regime--seasonal variation in flow volume. Key component of the flow regime are the magnitude and duration of spring-time peak flows. The total volume of water conveyed during this period accomplishes key functions--high spring flows scour the river channel removing sediment, inundate the floodplain, replenish the water table, and create spawning habitat for fish and habitat for aquatic insects (fish food). NISP proposes to divert a large</p> |

volume of water to Glade during the spring peak flow. Importantly, NISP will provide no peak flows during the years it will take to fill Glade and, after filling, proposes flows that are inadequate to meet the essential environmental functions mentioned above. Diminished flows, and declines in peak flow volumes, will adversely affect riparian vegetation. Overbank flows, which connect the river channel to the adjacent landscape, are an essential disturbance process that prevents the encroachment of vegetation into the channel. In the absence of sufficient peak volumes and duration, vegetation encroaches into the channel, the river becomes embedded, and the possibility of devastating flood events increases. Reduced flows will also stress existing riparian vegetation (e.g., large cottonwoods and willows) leading to an eventual loss of vegetation characteristic of the current river and its replacement by more drought tolerant trees and shrubs. NISP has developed a mitigation plan that purports to address adverse impacts on fish and wildlife associated with the construction of Glade Reservoir. I find it to be totally inadequate and misleading. For example, the term "climate change" appears nowhere in the document even though it is almost certain that Front Range rivers will experience declining annual flows in the future. The unfortunate reality is that NISP cannot be mitigated unless its proponents can magically create more water. Under the current NISP mitigation strategy, construction of Glade will initiate a long-term decline in essential aquatic and ecosystem functions in the Poudre River. There are additional negative aspects of NISP that have not been adequately conveyed to the public. NISP has alternative sources of water including increased conservation, water reuse and recycling, buying water from the Horsetooth Reservoir system, and collaborating with farmers to reduce the vast amounts of water diverted for agriculture. Further draining the Poudre is the worst option for the citizens of northern Colorado.

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| 142 | Milt | Tokunaga | dashmilt@gmail.com | <p>August 20, 2020 Larimer Board of County Commissioners 200 West Oak Street Ft Collins, CO 80522 RE: Public comment for the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) Dear Sirs: Thank you for allowing public comment regarding the NISP project. My name is Milt Tokunaga, a resident of Larimer County and Windsor, Colorado. I am neither a professional or technical expert about water issues. I do, however, consider myself an informed citizen and have participated/volunteered in civic activities both in Weld and Larimer County. I grew up with my immigrant grandparents, on a farm east of Greeley near the SLV Ranch and part of Crow Creek ran through our farm. We grew mainly vegetables. Although, there was a pump, the bulk of the 350 acres of vegetables was irrigated via the Ogilvy Ditch, a diversion on the Cache la Poudre River, built in 1881. Like many farmers then and now, the Poudre is an important source of water and their dependence on this resource determines whether farmers survive and how agriculture can continue to be an economic component for this region. You are well aware of how Thornton purchased nearly 20,000 acres of farmland in order to divert the water to their municipality. The buy and dry creates not only an economic hardship for the neighboring towns and businesses, and farmers, but the usage and benefit of that water will leave this area permanently. This happened in the mid-80s. What you may not be aware of is the City of Aurora in the past month recently purchase 1/3 of the shares (19 shares, approx. 1600 acre-feet) of the Whitney ditch for nearly \$27,000,000. This irrigation ditch, runs through Windsor and has the capacity to irrigate approximately 2000 acres plus of farmland or 3,500 housing units. Although, we do not know the exact usage for this water, you can easily assume Aurora does not intend to farm this land nor utilize the water for this area. By not maintaining this water source for the area for agriculture, municipal and industrial usage, we lose an economic resource and benefit for Northern Colorado. NISP will enable the Glade and Galeton</p> |
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Reservoirs to maintain additional storage for the above purposes. As a former Mayor of the Town of Milliken, I understand the complexities and challenges smaller communities have in order to compete, I repeat compete, for water. The participating communities in NISP are the smaller ones, not the water resource wealthy municipalities that are able to grow and thrive because they are larger. While Mayor, we had second thoughts of not being able to be a participant in NISP as former administration and elected officials had decided on a different avenue for the town's water. The many other water districts and dozens of organizations either participating or supporting this project understand its value and understand that it can only be accomplished through a collaborative effort. It is difficult for me to understand how Ft Collins cannot support NISP when they are developing the Montavo project of over 4,000 dwelling units as well as commercial and industrial sites, certainly a benefit for them, but then not supporting other surrounding communities that depend on water from the Poudre. Ft Collins expansion will continue to the south and that will be out of the city's water district. It will be from the Ft Collins/Loveland Water District (FCLWD), which is a participant in NISP. The benefit of growth for Ft Collins will place a strain on the FCLWD without the addition of NISP. Additionally, how can the concept of affordable housing be on their radar if housing costs continually increase as water becomes more and more expensive. As a member of the Windsor Water and Sewer Board and a recent participant in the CSU Water Literate Leaders class, I have a good understanding that conservation alone cannot supplant the anticipated growth and development for this area. Windsor has been able to reduce its per capita consumption over the last 15 years. Yet with anticipated growth to nearly triple the residents, water will be the determining factor. As a Board, we have had to plan on our water sources 50 years in advance and anticipate not only drought years, but cannot begin to realize what climate change

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| | | | | <p>impacts will be. We are dependent on treatment from Greeley, Ft Collins Loveland Water District and North Weld with the source of water from CBT. NISP will allow us to not have to be totally dependent on CBT, which in the last decade has nearly quadrupled in price. Additionally the current and future fire situation in Colorado may have impacts on water sources as well as the impact of climate change. I understand the concern about the Poudre and wanting to have it maintain its current status. Some changes will occur not in our control. We have had an inordinate stretch of high temperatures. As recently as 2018, the Poudre had as little as 3cfs running through Ft Collins. The newly created water park and the upstream fish corridors become less useful and functional without flow. NISP can supplant some of that flow by the proposed minimum discharge. Beyond those who are opposed to NISP no matter what, there are a number of citizens who have concerns about the health of the river. The last environment impact study noted that during certain conditions, NISP would be able to help facilitate peak flows. If the status quo is maintained then other effects of climate change will certainly change not only the appearance, but functionality of the Poudre. Many people are not aware that part of the Colorado Big Thompson project and creation of Horsetooth Reservoir enhances the flow of the Poudre River. Think about the many positive impacts of the CBT project, for the Poudre, for Ft Collins, the residents, businesses, recreation, etc. I have had the advantages and benefits because of the foresight of people who comprehended and created ways to manage our resources. Without their efforts, these irrigation canals, projects like CBT, recreation facilities, and good clean water would not have come into existence. I may not see the entire benefits of the NISP project in my lifetime, but I can see how people now here, new residents and their children can benefit from this project and still maintain the beauty if not enhancement of the Poudre River. I encourage the Larimer County</p> |
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| | | | | | <p>Board to allow the NISP project to continue. Thank you for taking the time to read my comments. Very truly yours, Milt Tokunaga 5813 Woodcliffe Dr Windsor CO 80550 dashmilt@gmail.com</p> |
| 141 | Laura | Resau | 9704937890 | Lresau@hotmail.com | <p>NISP would destroy the Poudre River in Fort Collins. I walk by this river every day, and I value the trees, plants, and wildlife there immensely. I see diverse groups of people of all ages and families from different socioeconomic and ethnic groups enjoying the river, as well-- paddling, wading, fishing, meditating, playing. It would be devastating to our community, whose free recreation and exercise revolve around the river. NISP would reduce the flow of the river, harming the wildlife, plants, and humans who depend on its healthy flow. Please do not let NISP proceed. Thank you!</p> |
| 139 | Michael | Bello | | mbello10@comcast.net | <p>I fully support the NISP water project. As the front range grows water is a key element in the ability to provide affordable housing. As I understand it over half a million acre feet of water, that is available to Colorado, is released down stream because of a lack of storage. Without available water our region will become a land of "haves" and "have-nots". We need development to create opportunities for all of Colorado's residence and water storage is key. Higher water costs to development is one factor in the rising price of housing in the Front Range and in particular, Larimer County. If NISP participants are forced to look elsewhere there will be that much more upward pressure on the price of water impacting ELCO, Wellington and a host of others. Housing will become even less available to the workforce that local industries such as retail, service and hospitality depend on. Please approve the 1041 permit for this project.</p> |
| 137 | Margaret Earlene | Swann | | Meswann@comcast.net | |
| 129 | Alison | Mason | | alison@greyrock.org | |

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| 122 | Pat | Burger | | Pathburger@gmail.com | <p>I oppose the application for NISP. This project should be denied a permit as it will cause irreparable damage to the Poudre River. The City of Fort Collins is opposing it. Not enough work has been done to increase water conservation to justify this project. It will cost too much and be a burden to future generations of Colorado tax payers. Please do not approve this permit.</p> |
| 121 | Greg | Hanson | | greghanso@gmail.com | <p>The Poudre River is the lifeblood of Fort Collins and surrounding communities. Approximately 178,000 people live here as of 2018. The Poudre (pronounced pooh-der) is Colorado's only nationally designated "Wild & Scenic" River Systems. The Poudre has gained recognition of late because 2018 marks the 50th anniversary of the Wild & Scenic Rivers Colorado Highway 14, which follows much of the river, is a designated Colorado Scenic and Historic Byway between Fort Collins and the town of Walden. The Cache la Poudre-North Park Scenic Byway is recognized as one of the state's premier scenic highways. The Cache la Poudre River Canyon hosts a myriad of recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts. From whitewater rafting (class I-V rapids), hiking, biking, camping, kayaking, and fishing, to winter sports like snowshoeing, cross country skiing and snowmobiling, the canyon is the perfect place to get away, all year round.</p> |
| 119 | Gregg | Miller | | margi.greggmiller@gmail.com | <p>I am a resident of Larimer County and am very much in favor of the NISP reservoir project. Considering the current growth in northern Colorado and the projected future growth, it would be poor planning to not approve this project. The people who are against the project have based their arguments on false data, rumor and emotion. Please approve this project. Thank you for the opportunity to give my opinion. Gregg Miller</p> |
| 118 | Marcus | Wiley | | mwiley729@gmail.com | <p>As a Fort Collins resident of 25 years, and an avid outdoorsman, I can say with confidence that the Poudre River is one of, if not the most precious asset to our community. If the river continues to get</p> |

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| | | | | diverted, developed, and sold off to the highest bidder, we will not only lose the water but the entire ecosystem as well. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH! Please protect our precious natural resources. If you don't who will??? |
| 117 | Kimberly | Catton, P.E. | Kimberly.bernadine.catton.bradley@gmail.com | <p>I am a researcher in zooplankton and fluid dynamics in freshwater systems. In recent years, I investigated the occurrence of geosmin and microcystin event in the Cache La Poudre. The hydrology of the river is shifting under current climate conditions and I believe that the models used will over predict the water availability and ecosystem health. Eutrophication events will increase along the river and create toxic water quality to humans and animals (invertebrates, fish, and mammals) . In addition, the air quality in this region exceed EPA standards for ozone. I worked previously on the California Ozone Modeling Study at the California EPA. The impact of increasing water supply will generate more traffic and vehicles producing NOx pollutants that will combine with increasing summer temperatures to create pulmonary and cardiovascular stress in current residents. There will be an increase in deaths in the current population. Please consider your own health, the rivers health and listen to the community. I say this as an expert and Professional Engineer in the Water Resources branch of Civil Engineering having considered the water districts assumed need to have reliable water supply.</p> |
| 114 | Carol (Faye) | Blanding | efaybird@comcast.net | <p>Choice) I am firmly opposed to granting a permit to the NISP/Glade Project. This project is detrimental to the health of the Poudre River and to the health and wealth of our community.</p> |
| 113 | Mike | Brown | m.brown@wsb.bank | <p>I appreciate the commissioners moving forward with the permitting process for the NISP water supply project. That will add to the water supply of the area and ensure continued service at the level expected in Larimer County. I want you to vote yes.</p> |

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| 111 | ruth | grant | | rabg1965@gmail.com | The river is running low, typical for August, but how in the world is there ever going to be enough water to fill a huge reservoir, let alone maintain a healthy ecosystem in the river? |
| 110 | Robin | Conley | | robinconley@yahoo.com | Please send talking points. |
| 107 | valerie | vogeler | | pv_vogeler@sbcglobal.net | I will be happy to have the opportunity to submit a written testimony but do not wish to attend in person or on zoom. Thank you! |
| 105 | Erika | Osmann | | erika.osmann@gmail.com | I am submitting written testimony to strongly urge the County Commissioners to reject the 1041 permit for the Northern Intergrated Supply Project (NISP). By draining the Poudre River every spring NISP will cause a host of environmental and economic problems that will adversely affect the people of Larimer County. The heyday of big dams is over. There are much less damaging ways to meet our water needs. Erika Osmann |
| 104 | Robert | Mason | | masonrobertanthony@gmail.com | I urge the commissioners to not approve NISP. NISP will severley damage the ecologic health of the Poudre River. The environmental degradation of Colorado's only Wild and Scenic River will negatively affect the health and economic well-being of the citizens of Larimer County Water conservation strategies, not multimillion dollar boondoggles, are the key to our future water needs. Damaging our environment damages all of us. R. Anthony Mason MD |



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Amanda Smith <smithamanda111@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 11:53 AM

Reply-To: smithamanda111@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Amanda Smith
427 Bow Creek Ln Fort Collins, CO 80525-8708
smithamanda111@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

American Whitewater Public Comments RE: NISP

1 message

Ian Stafford <ian@americanwhitewater.org>

Thu, Aug 20, 2020 at 5:05 PM

To: bocc@larimer.org, John Kefalas <jkefalas@larimer.org>, Steve Johnson <swjohnson@larimer.org>, Tom Donnelly <tdonnelly@larimer.org>, rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Commissioners,

Good afternoon! I write to on behalf of American Whitewater, and the hundreds of whitewater enthusiasts in the Poudre Valley region, to submit comments regarding our concern with Northern Water's 1041 permit application regarding the Northern Integrated Supply Project. Please find our attached comments below.

Thank you for your time and service towards this process, and ensuring that recreational flows and opportunities are protected for users throughout Larimer County.

Sincerely,

Ian Stafford
Colorado Policy Strategist

AMERICANWHITewater.ORG

704-619-4696

420 Hawkins St

Fort Collins, CO 80521

he/him/his

Join American Whitewater!

@jistaffo

**NISP County Commissioner Comment.pdf**

3466K



Hattie Johnson
Southern Rockies Stewardship
Director
970.456.8533
hattie@americanwhitewater.org

Sent via email to Larimer County Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners:
bocc@larimer.org, jkefalas@larimer.org, swjohnson@larimer.org, tdonnelly@larimer.org,
rhelmick@larimer.org

August 20th, 2020

Larimer Board of County Commissioners
Larimer County Offices
200 West Oak, Suite 2200
Fort Collins, CO 80521

Re: Larimer County Commissioners hearing comments to the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) Pending 1041 Permit Application, Project No. 20- ZONE 2657

Dear County Commissioners:

We write to you today on behalf of American Whitewater to submit comments expressing our concern with regard to the pending 1041 permit process of the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP), as proposed by Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District (Northern).

American Whitewater is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that has over 6000 annual dues-paying members along with 50,000 online supporters, and over 100 affiliate clubs spread across the country. In Colorado, we have over 600 annual members, thousands of supporters, as well as six affiliate clubs. Our membership base in Larimer County is one of our strongest in the state, boasting more than 50 annual dues-paying members and hundreds of longtime supporters. Locally, we have a strong connection with the community of Fort Collins and a historic relationship with the Cache La Poudre River (Poudre River). American Whitewater's mission is to protect and restore America's whitewater rivers and enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely. We have a vision that our nation's remaining wild and free-flowing rivers stay that way, our developed rivers are restored to function and flourish, that the public has access to rivers for recreation, and that river enthusiasts are active and effective river advocates. The Poudre River has a storied past of community-driven advocacy and a vibrant history that spans generations. The city of Fort Collins, along with the entirety of Larimer County draws aspects of its cultural identity from the Poudre River, and we at American Whitewater hope it remains this way for generations to come. It is with this community's relationship to the river in mind that we write to you regarding our concern over NISP as proposed, and the lasting impacts that this project will have on the region. We've identified three issues we feel could affect the health and prosperity of the region and the Poudre River.

- Existing infrastructure will face negative impacts due to reduced recreational flows
- Reduced economic gains and quality of life for Larimer County residents
- Failure to comply with three of the 12 required criteria as stated in the Larimer County Land Use Code

In 2014, the City of Fort Collins developed a comprehensive master plan to leverage public and private dollars and invest them into the river corridor to highlight the natural features of the Poudre, mitigate future flooding, preserve the community identity of Fort Collins, increase economic growth and diversity,

and provide a family-friendly area for people to recreate outdoors¹. In October of 2019, the City of Fort Collins opened the Poudre River Whitewater Park. The development of this park is the pilot project to kick-off this broader 12-part vision by creating a place where recreationists of all types would enjoy². Through a combination of public and community-sourced dollars, Fort Collins spent \$11.5 million dollars to build the whitewater park³. Once these projects have all been completed, the City of Fort Collins and Larimer County will meet its goal of having a “world-class example of a healthy working river”⁴.

Larimer County has become nationally recognized over the past quarter of a century for its recreational opportunities. Many residents of Larimer County set roots in the Poudre River Valley because of the rich, vibrant quality of life. Along with residents, there are hundreds of thousands of visitors who come to experience this unique region. Increased visitation is a goal of the City’s Poudre River Downtown Master Plans and has begun to be realized due to the hard work, financial backing, and commitment of Larimer County residents. Recreation, for many Coloradans, is a priority that must be protected, conserved, and enhanced. The development of the NISP will drastically reduce recreational flows in the river as it runs through Fort Collins. American Whitewater has profound concerns that these decreased flows will not only undercut the recreational values of the area but will also cause irreparable economic damage for small businesses in town that benefit from the foot traffic that the pristine Rocky Mountain runoff brings into the community on an annual basis. Anglers, boaters, hikers, and recreationists of all types enjoy the recreational opportunities that the Cache La Poudre provides for both Larimer County, and the city of Fort Collins. Reduced streamflow in the Poudre through Fort Collins has the likelihood to cause generational change for many people throughout Larimer County.

The importance of conserving a “world-class example of a healthy working river” is imperative to maintaining the multi-beneficial use, the cultural legacy of the region, and the thousands of visitors who enjoy it for non-consumptive purposes. If the 1041 permit for NISP is granted, the Poudre River will be changed for future generations. Already stretched to its operational capacity, the Poudre in Fort Collins, will be depleted below recreational flows. The US Army Corps of Engineers Final Environment Impact Statement’ (FEIS) states that they will be removing “high flows” during peak runoff months⁶. The amount of water diverted from the river at the mouth of Poudre Canyon will cause irreplicable damage to the recreational, cultural, and ecological assets of the Poudre River. This reduction of recreational flows over the next 30 years will lead to a decreased quality of life for many residents of Larimer County, and economic damages to local businesses.

Protecting and restoring flows along whitewater rivers is integral to the history of American Whitewater. In Colorado, we continue to advocate for healthy recreational flows. As it exits the canyon, the recreation experience of the Poudre changes, but remains active through town. In order to create a greater understanding on the impacts that NISP will have on Fort Collins and Larimer County, American Whitewater worked with, Lynker Technologies, to understand acceptable and preferable recreation streamflows from the Canyon through the heart of Fort Collins. This work involved gathering user data, analyzing hydrological records, and evaluating proposed NISP impacts on existing recreation use. Below is a summation of the results. Find the full results attached in Appendix A.

¹ *City of Fort Collins, & Anderson Consulting Engineers. (2014). Poudre River Downtown Master Plan (pp. 2.3-2.5, Rep.). Fort Collins, Colorado: City of Fort Collins.*

² *Ibid, The City of Fort Collins, & Anderson Consulting Engineers. (pp. 4.2-4.3, Rep.)*

³ *Marmaduke, J. (2019, October 9). Poudre River Whitewater Park grand opening is Saturday. The Coloradoan.*

⁴ *Ibid, The City of Fort Collins, & Anderson Consulting Engineers. (pp. 1.2,) Rep.)*

⁵ *Ibid, The City of Fort Collins, & Anderson Consulting Engineers. (pp. 5.5.).*

⁶ *Army Corp of Engineers. (2018). Final environmental impact statement: Northern Integrated Supply Project (pp. S-4) (United States, Department of Defense, US Army). Omaha, CO: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District.*

Summary of ‘Protecting Flows in the Poudre River’

This study was initiated May 1, 2020 and included three core tasks: 1) an initial flow preference study of eleven whitewater reaches along the Poudre River, focusing on the Poudre River Whitewater Park 2) an impact assessment quantifying how the proposed Northern Integrated Supply Project will affect whitewater boating opportunities, and 3) the development of a preliminary economic model to quantify the economic benefit of Poudre River Whitewater Park visitation to the City of Fort Collins and Larimer County. These figures were quantified through analysis of historical hydrographs, empirical user data, and evaluated against proposed operations provided through NISP’s FEIS.

We have identified the preferred recreational flows of the Poudre River at the Whitewater Park. This describes the preferred flow rate that supports a range of acceptable boating conditions. After identifying the flow preferences, we identify the number of boatable days that exist based on historic hydrologic data at identified gaging stations. Boatable days represent the number of opportunities in a year that flows are within the acceptable range. This approach identifies the recreational opportunities on an annual and monthly basis. It does not quantify actual recreational use. This methodology for quantifying river recreational needs is included in the Colorado Water Plan’s Non-Consumptive Toolbox, Appendices B and C.

The following summarizes the findings of this streamflow and economic analysis:

- The lowest acceptable flow is 355 cfs at the Poudre River Whitewater Park.
- An flow rate of 1400 cfs is optimal at the Whitewater Park.
- Based on a 40-year (1980–2020) record, there is an existing average of 39 annual boatable days at the Whitewater Park.
- **NISP will divert an average of 37,400 AF per year from the Poudre River through the Poudre Valley Canal. These diversions will impact flow at the downstream Whitewater Park.**
- Proposed diversions will occur primarily during peak runoff months (May–June), directly in conflict with ideal whitewater boating conditions.
- NISP diversions reduce annual flows by 11% at the Whitewater Park. NISP diversions reduce wet year total flows by 13%, wet-typical year flows by 9%, dry-typical flows by 11%, and dry year flows by 8%. **Average flows during the month of June (peak runoff and prime paddling season) are reduced by 22 – 36%.**
- **Based on historical streamflow observations, NISP is likely to have a marked impact on boating, reducing annual boatable days by 11 ± 7 days at the Poudre River Whitewater Park.**
- **Whitewater Park activity contributes at least \$250,000 annually.** These figures are low-end estimates and will be revised as more data is collected on visitation rates in the canyon and at the Whitewater Park.

FLOW IMPACTS

Data collection and analysis methods

We analyzed daily flow data from the USGS Downtown Fort Collins gauge, located downstream of the Whitewater Park. It provides the most accurate flow data for recreational flows through the Poudre River Whitewater Park and it is used commonly by paddlers in deciding whether to visit the park. In order to better understand the recreational impact of this area we identified the preferred flows and historic boatable days based on four year-types (wet, wet-typical, dry-typical, and dry) for this reach.

To compare historic boatable days with the proposed condition under NISP, projected monthly diversion rates were taken from Table 4-10 (p. 4-33) in the FEIS and converted to an effective daily rate (cfs) by assuming a constant diversion rate each day of the month (Table 1). We use these diversion rates to approximate how much water is likely to be diverted in wet, wet-typical, dry-typical and dry hydrologic years. During wet years, we assume the NISP will divert at the maximum rate. During dry years, we assume that the NISP will divert at the minimum rate. During wet- and dry-typical years, we assume that the NISP will divert at the average rate. A more detailed approximation of NISP diversions would require an analysis to understand the priority of the Grey Mountain right, relative to more senior rights, across a variety of hydrologic years. During very wet years, diversions may be greater, while diversions may be much lower during dry years.

Results

The changes in streamflow are proportionally larger where there is lower historical discharge. On average, **NISP diversions reduce annual flows by 11% at the Whitewater Park. NISP diversions reduce wet year total flows by 13%, wet-typical year flows by 9%, dry-typical flows by 11%, and dry year flows by 8%. Average flows during the month of June (peak runoff and prime paddling season) are reduced by 22 – 36%.** Figure 1. Below shows these flow reductions at the USGS Fort Collins gauge in graphical form.

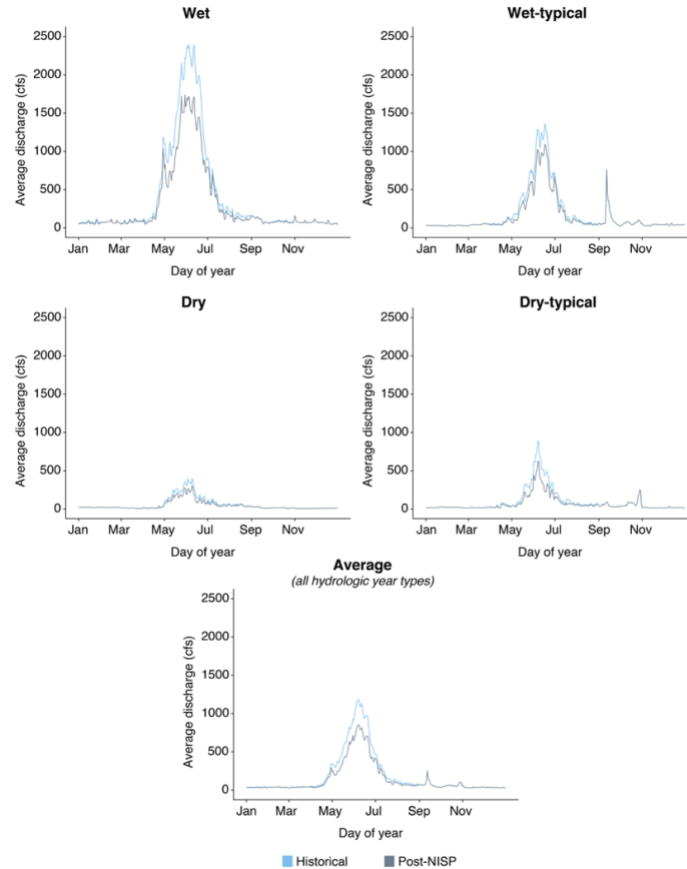


Figure 1. These hydrographs show the impact of NISP diversions on flows categorized by hydrologic year types, including the last plot representing the typical annual flow regime (includes all hydrologic year types) over the 40-year study period. NISP diversions will preserve the timing of high and low flows but reduce the magnitude of peak flows.

To evaluate the potential impact of NISP on whitewater boating, we investigated how proposed diversions would affect the number of boatable days at the Whitewater Park. The red bars in Figure 2 detail the loss in boatable days from NISP diversions and the blue bars indicate the boatable days in a post-NISP environment. Over the 40-year period, the Whitewater Park has an average loss of 11 ± 7 days each year. The largest reductions were observed during 1998 (wet-typical) and 2008 (dry-typical). During these years, flow values were close to the minimally acceptable flow value and additional diversions eliminated potential boatable days. Minor changes to boatable days occur in years where flows are well above the minimally acceptable flow value. During dry years, such as 2002 and 2012, NISP diversions may eliminate boatable days completely. A tabular form of **Error! Reference source not found.** including hydrologic year classifications is presented within the full report in Appendix A.

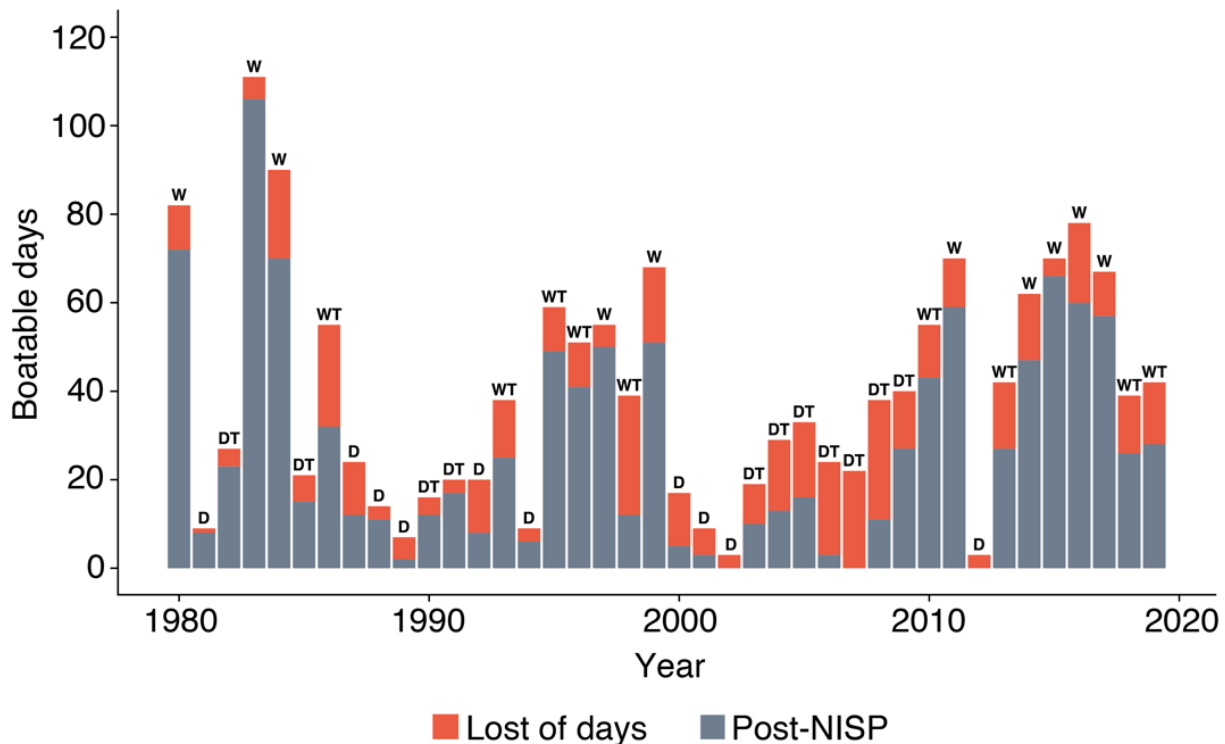


Figure 2. NISP Diversions will reduce the number of boatable days at the Whitewater Park. The total bar height shows the historical number of boatable days for each year in a 40-year record (pre-NISP). Red bars show the reduction in boatable days imposed on the historical record attributable to proposed NISP diversions. Annotations above each bar indicate the hydrologic year classification: wet (W), wet-typical (WT), dry-typical (DT), and dry (D).

Assumptions in Flow Impact Analysis

- We assume that the 40 years of historical flow data used to quantify boatable day impacts is a suitable proxy for future conditions. However, climate change may render historical records to be poor proxies for future conditions. Climate warming in Colorado is projected to reduce mountain snowpack in future years. Because the Poudre River is largely fed by snowmelt, less snow means less runoff, and perhaps lower peak flows⁷. Moreover, warmer temperatures are likely to increase evapotranspiration, further decreasing runoff (Milly & Dunne, 2020; Udall & Overpeck, 2017; Xiao, Udall, & Lettenmaier, 2018). NISP diversions will further exacerbate flow reductions on top of climate change. Climate change is not considered in the FEIS, presenting a massive blind spot for decision makers when considering reasonably foreseeable impacts. Future work should enumerate the benefit of high flows that NISP will negatively impact.

To mitigate environmental impacts and low flow conditions, NISP developed a series of diversion programs (FEIS, V. 1, 2-53). In the Conceptual Mitigation Plan, they propose three strategies: releasing water from the Glade Reservoir during low flows near the canyon mouth, implementing a peak flow operations program that allows for flushing of the river in hopes to maintain ecological integrity, and avoiding diversions during critical low-flow periods. However, these strategies most likely do not affect the amount of boatable days since they are designed to increase low flows (not boatable conditions) or sustain brief periods of very high flows (already boatable conditions).

⁷ Berghuijs, Woods, & Hrachowitz, 2014; Jennings, Winchell, Livneh, & Molotch, 2018

Flow Impact Outcomes

A 22%-36% reduction in peak flows downstream from the mouth of Poudre Canyon would cause negative impacts to the recreational opportunities and quality of life within Larimer County. Below adequate flows through Fort Collins would cause a loss of recreational opportunities to boaters, tubers, anglers, and recreationists of all backgrounds. The private and public dollars that have been invested in the local community would not realize the returns originally forecasted. From 2000 to 2010, the Whitewater Park saw seven years where there were 20+ days of acceptable flows to accommodate boating activities, but under the NISP guidelines, that number would have been reduced to only two years.

Whitewater parks are designed to create environments for beginners to learn how to navigate rapids, paddle, and read water. Additionally, these parks are enjoyed primarily by visitors recreating on the shores, swimming and splashing with kids and communing with friends. If the 1041 permit is approved and flows are reduced by an annual average of 22% - 36%, this multi-generational resource will face impacts on a river already operating under thin margins. The lack of adequate flows would provide very little in terms of meaningful recreational experiences for a community that prides itself on its river culture. NISP may be able to mitigate for certain natural features that it will inherently diminish, but it has no way of replacing the lifelong memories that will be lost due to the generational change that would inevitably take place throughout the river basin.

ECONOMIC IMPACTS⁸

Colorado's outdoor recreation economy generates \$62.5 billion annually⁹. It has grown steadily over the last decade, and Larimer County has benefited greatly from the rapid growth of the outdoor economy. As Colorado continues to grow and diversify its economy, it is critical that Larimer County focus its attention on economic trends. By taking measures to proactively protect and enhance the existing non-consumptive recreational opportunities, the county will benefit multiple sectors with sustainable economic growth. The instream flow reductions that will result from the filling of Glade Reservoir will impede that growth.

The passage of this current iteration of NISP will only see the quality and quantity of recreational resources be diminished for the next 30 years, thus diminishing the recreational reputation of the region for over 30 years.

Previous reports

In 2019, the Colorado River Outfitters Association (CROA) estimated commercial rafting on the Poudre River produced \$5.1 million in direct expenditures from 37,000 user days, creating over \$13 million in total economic impact (CROA, 2019).. The commercial outfits run several of the popular river stretches for which we collected flow preference data, many of them pulling out near the Canyon Mouth gage by the end of the Filter Plant reach.

Downstream of the canyon, the Poudre River National Heritage Area (NHA), which runs from Bellevue to the junction with the South Platte, produces **an estimated annual economic impact of \$81.6 million** (Tripp Umbach, 2017). This area encompasses the entirety of the river's stretch through the city of Fort Collins downstream of the NISP diversion, boasting **545,000 annual visitors**.

⁸ Excerpt from full report, full report can be found in Appendix A

⁹ *Colorado Parks and Wildlife. (2019). COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE. Retrieved July 8, 2020, from <https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/SCORP.aspx>*

Conservatively, these two reports suggest the economic impact of tourism and recreation on the Poudre River reaches nearly \$100 million annually. However, estimating the total economic impact of non-commercial boating and other watersports on the Poudre River is therefore difficult because of a present lack of annual user day and expenditure data.

Survey derived estimates of economic impact

While annual user day numbers are lacking, we used a survey¹⁰ to collect information on the total daily expenditures per person, broken out by spending category. We deployed a survey, specific to the Poudre River Whitewater Park, that collected similar expenditure information. After removing outlying expenditure values also included in the above-mentioned flow preference survey, we calculated boaters spend an average of \$55 per day when recreating on the river reaches. From the other survey, we found users of the Poudre River Whitewater Park—a group that include boaters, tubers, fishermen, picnickers, sightseers, and others—spend \$30 per trip after filtering out outliers and non-responses. The breakdown by expenditure category from both surveys is shown in Figure 3 below.

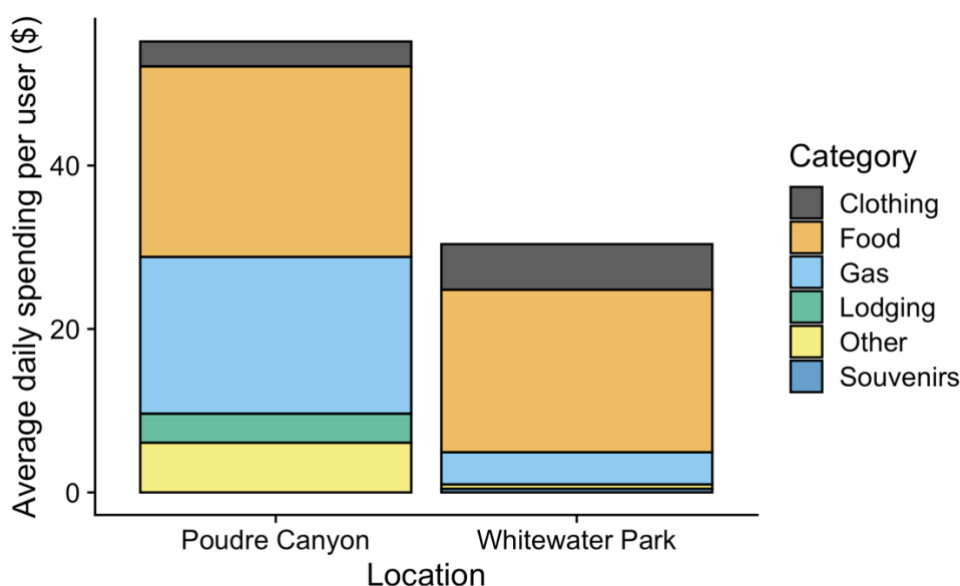


Figure 3. Average daily spending per user. Spending is broken out by the various categories reported in the Poudre River flow preference survey, which primarily covers the Poudre Canyon (left bar), and in the Poudre Whitewater Park survey (right bar).

We used Poudre Whitewater Park visitation estimates from Loomis and McTernan (Loomis & McTernan, 2011) along with our survey-derived per-day expenditure value to estimate **an annual economic impact of \$250,000 for the park**. Here, we reiterate that both values should be treated as preliminary estimates because there are no reported user day data for the Poudre River Whitewater Park.

Discussion

- Our work thus far has revealed a key data gap in estimating the annual economic impact of non-commercial boating at the Poudre River Whitewater Park. We are currently monitoring city webcam data in order to calculate how many users, broken out by type, visit the park each year.
- It is critical to take into account how **reduced flows due to both water development and climate change will affect the economic impact of Poudre River boating**. User days are

¹⁰ See Appendix section 3.2

sensitive to flow levels and annual boatable days (Colorado Water Conservation Board, 2020), indicating that years with reduced flow correspond to reduced visitation and, in turn, lower revenue. Furthermore, we would expect these economic effects to be non-linear with greater flow reductions leading to successively larger losses. Previous work shows that the amount each user is willing to pay per trip will decrease as flow goes down. **At 300 cfs Poudre River users are willing to pay just \$55 per trip, a value markedly lower than the \$97 paid at 1900 cfs.** Similarly, each user would **visit the Poudre just 1.6 times per year at 300 cfs, compared to 14 trips at 1900 cfs** (Loomis & McTernan, 2014). Thus, reduced flows drive both lower visitation and decreased spending per user day.

As important as the economic impacts of maintaining boatable flows are, there are also more-difficult-to-quantify social benefits of the Poudre River. As a hallmark of Fort Collins and Larimer County, the Poudre River is a treasured community resource whose value is inherent. Although our surveys were designed to collect data for flow preference and economic impacts, they have also revealed how central the Poudre River is to people living in its watershed. As one respondent revealed, “We got married on the southeast shore!” Such benefits of the Poudre River should not be overlooked or underestimated.

Camera Analysis

We analyzed webcam images to quantify the frequency and timing of visitors at the park. The time frame of analysis is from July 7, 2020 to July 14, 2020; each day had 24 photos taken in 30-minute intervals from 7:00am to 6:30pm. A 3x3 grid overlay was placed on each photo to reduce the likelihood of double-counting, and the number of people categorized by specific activity were counted per grid box. The activity categories used correspond to those considered above). To improve accuracy, each photo was counted twice by separate individuals, and then their total counts per photo were averaged. This process was repeated for each photo to calculate the number of average daily park users by activity.

Over the eight study period days, we counted an average of 896 visitors per day. Total daily counts ranged from 394 users (on a Tuesday) to a maximum of 1,553 users (on a Sunday), following an expected trend that more visitors come to the park on a weekend (Figure 4). The most popular times of day at the waterpark are between 3:00pm and 4:00pm.

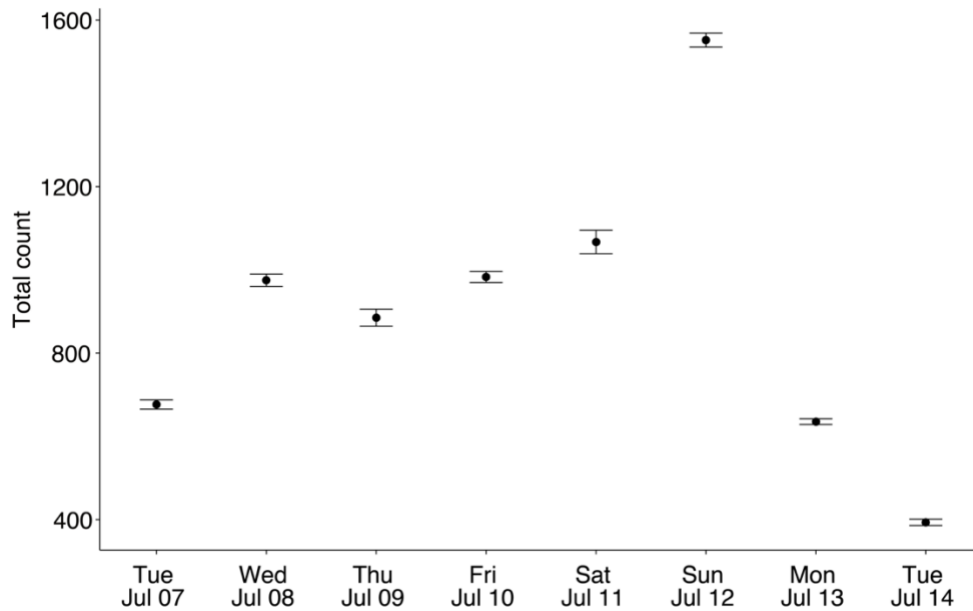


Figure 4. Daily total counts throughout study period

Our findings suggest that most people at the Whitewater Park engage in sightseeing/playing with kids/picnicking and swimming/wading throughout the day. The most common watercraft activity was tubing, accounting for 92% of total watercraft users.

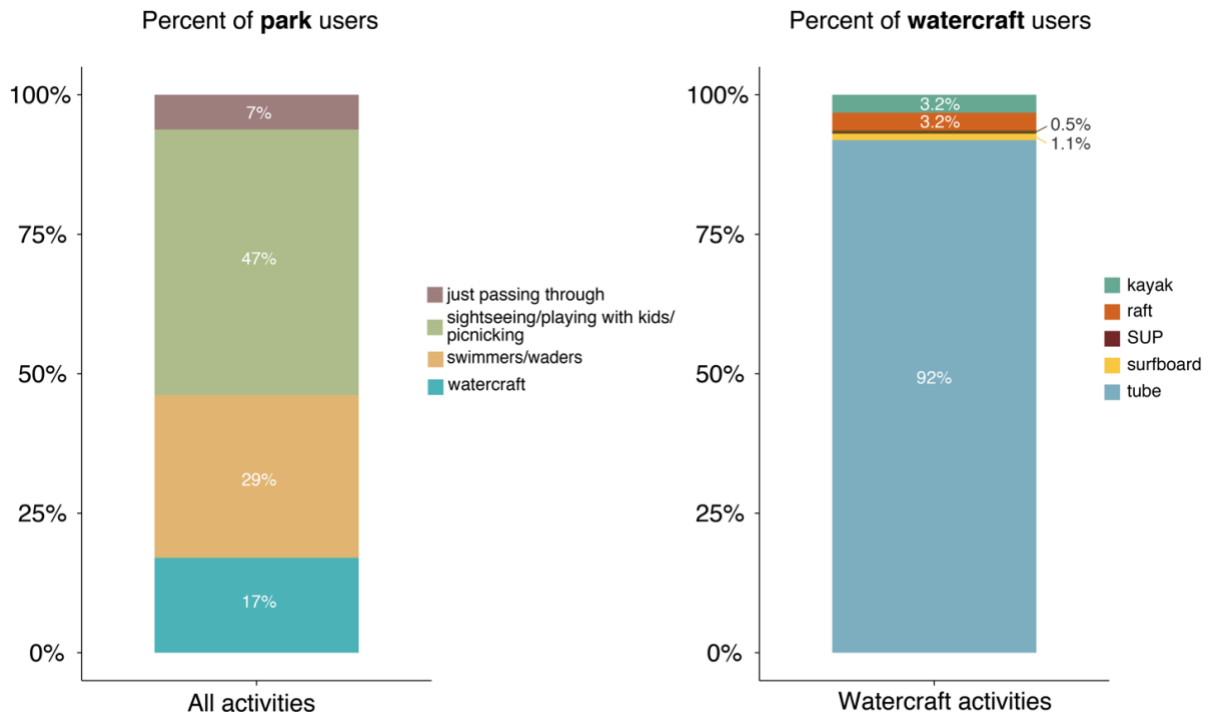


Figure 5. Percentage of park users and watercraft users categorized by activity engagement type.

Economic Impact Outcomes

Recreationists from near and far have a profound impact on the Northern Colorado Region. Expenditures on food, gas, and gear/clothing from the recreation community provide valuable dollars that have both direct and in-direct impacts on local businesses across the county. **Recreation provides a conservative estimate of \$100 million in annual economic impact.** Due to the impact of COVID-19, outdoor recreation is at an all-time high, especially local opportunities. NISP would cause negative economic impacts that will directly and indirectly impact local businesses in a time where many are concerned about local businesses surviving. E

Fort Collins residents have come out in resounding support of the Poudre River Whitewater Park. This brand new multi-million-dollar project has shown all summer long that this resource provides safe and equitable access to an area that is centrally located in the city. This resource has seen an uptick in foot traffic in the area and causes a significant increase in dollars for river district businesses. We haven't yet had a full year to examine the popularity of this resource, but given the existing data, that this resource will continue its popularity as a centrally located amenity that local companies will be positively impacted by.

LAND USE CODE

In 2002 Larimer County instituted an updated Land Use Code that all future 1041 permits must meet. One of the criteria stated in the code reads “the applicant has satisfactorily demonstrated that the proposal, including all mitigation measures proposed by the applicant, complies with all of the applicable criteria set forth in this section 14.”¹¹ American Whitewater is concerned about the mitigation measures that have been taken in the development of this project. In terms of alternatives and mitigation strategies for NISP, there have been very few options that have been examined on the public record since the start of this process in 2002. Although technology has advanced water conservation, use, and storage strategies since the turn of the century, Northern Water has not updated these alternatives outside of the expansion of Glade Reservoir. Multiple Colorado State University professors, along with other water professionals in the area have indicated that there are multiple alternatives to this plan, yet Northern Water continues to move forward with a plan that NISP has stated that through its *Peak Flow Operating Plan* will “eliminate or reduce” peak flows during the spring and summer time.¹²

There are multiple areas that are within that criteria that American Whitewater is concerned NISP does not meet. The areas of concern are as follows...

- #3 - *The proposal conforms with adopted county standards, review criteria and mitigation requirements concerning environmental impacts, including but not limited to those contained in this Code.*

American Whitewater feels that the removal of flows from the Poudre River will alter the ecosystem in a way that is not sustainable for multiple decades of use. “A healthy river system is comprised of multiple

11 Larimer County. (2002). Code of Larimer County (Land Use Code Sec. 58-220, p. 14.10). Order of the Board of County Commissioners.

12 Northern Water. (2020). NISP 1041 Presentation [PowerPoint Presentation]. Berthoud, CO: Northern Water.

types of flows, high flows, base flows, pulses and floods”¹³ If approved, this current iteration of NISP will remove the high flows that are vital for river health. This reduction of flows will have impacts on the riparian zones, cottonwood trees, and grasslands that are considered iconic by visitors and residents of the region, .

- *#4 - The proposal will not have a significant adverse effect on or will adequately mitigate significant adverse effects on the land or its natural resources, on which the proposal is situated and on lands adjacent to the proposal.*

Although we applaud Northern Water for their approach towards protecting fisheries and wildlife habitat through their current plan, there is great concern for river health overall. Water quality has not been reasonable addressed in Northern’s application. Flow reductions of this magnitude often result in decreases to water quality. If NISP is approved, the valuable high water and floods that local forests and grasslands rely on will be erased, sediment which is integral to soil health and riverbank stabilization will be missing, and the significant adverse effects will be felt after construction is completed. This reduction in peak flows, in addition to degraded water quality, would also significantly reduce recreational opportunities, an important natural resource of Larimer County.

- *#10 - The benefits of the proposed development outweigh the losses of any natural resources or reduction of productivity of agricultural lands as a result of the proposed development.*

While the junior status of the Grey Mountain water right won’t affect existing water rights owners, the water that will be removed from the mouth of the canyon will be detrimental to downstream users. High runoff flows supply vital groundwater for wells and other subsurface systems that rely on the Poudre River to replenish their levels. Along with replenishing ground water sources, current agriculture users see the benefit of excess water in wet and wet-typical years that they are able to utilize in other ways to help increase yield and maintenance on their properties. These opportunities will become a moot point in the future once NISP starts diverting water to expand Glade Reservoir.

CONCLUSION

The Poudre River provides world-class recreation opportunities for recreationists of all backgrounds and is beloved by the local community. It is a river that families teach a generational connection of conservation, stewardship and recreation. Local residents for generations have learned how to cast their first fishing line, take their first paddle strokes, or read water on this river. The approval of the NISP permit will dramatically alter those iconic moments for the next 30+ years. The diminished flows from NISP will inevitably negatively harm recreational use around the Poudre River Whitewater Park causing harm to recreational opportunities and economic growth to the City of Fort Collins. The City of Fort Collins Poudre River Master Plan’s ability to grow and develop relies heavily on the success of the whitewater park. As the first completed project, the city and county have a resource at their disposal which will grow the economic value of the area, while preserving the river in a way that benefits more users.

American Whitewater strongly encourages the Larimer County Commissioners to oppose the approval of the NISP permit. In order to maintain the area’s high quality of life, the ability for children and grandchildren to experience the river in the same way that generations before them have, for the outdoor

¹³ Environmental Protection Agency. (2018, March 05). Integrated Assessment of Healthy Watersheds. Retrieved from <https://www.epa.gov/hwp/integrated-assessment-healthy-watersheds>

recreation economic interest of the region, and for the fact that it doesn't meet the high expectations that are set out in the County's own land use code.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hattie Johnson".

Hattie Johnson
American Whitewater
Southern Rockies Stewardship Director

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ian Stafford".

Ian Stafford
American Whitewater
Colorado Policy Strategist

APPENDIX A



American Whitewater

Protecting Flows in the Poudre River: Phase 1 Update

August 7, 2020

Submitted To:

American Whitewater
Hattie Johnson, Ian Stafford, and Evan Stafford
629 W Main Street
Sylva, North Carolina 28779

Submitted By:

Lynker Technologies, LLC
Adam Wlostowski, PhD and Keith Jennings, PhD
3002 Bluff Street, Suite 101
Boulder, Colorado 80301



Boulder, Colorado

DC—Metro

Pacific—Oahu



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1. Executive summary

The Protecting Flows in the Poudre River project is focused on quantifying the quality and economic impact of whitewater boating on the Poudre River to support American Whitewater's advocacy efforts. Phase 1 of this study was initiated May 1, 2020 and includes three core tasks: 1) an initial flow preference study of eleven whitewater reaches, 2) an impact assessment quantifying how the proposed Northern Integrated Supply Project will affect whitewater boating conditions, and 3) the development of a preliminary economic model to quantify the economic benefit of Poudre River Whitewater Park visitation to the City of Fort Collins and Larimer County.

Our analyses have revealed the following information:

- The lowest acceptable flow is 355 cfs at the Poudre River Whitewater Park.
- An optimal flow rate of 1400 cfs is preferred by boaters at the Whitewater Park.
- The 40-year (1980–2020) average of annual boatable days is 39 days at the Whitewater Park.
- The proposed Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) is planning to divert an average of 37,400 AF per year from the Poudre River through the Poudre Valley Canal. These diversions will impact flow at the downstream Whitewater Park.
- Proposed diversions will occur primarily during peak runoff months (May–June), directly in conflict with ideal whitewater boating conditions.
- Based on historical streamflow observations, NISP is likely to have a marked impact on boating, reducing annual boatable days by 11 ± 7 days at the Poudre River Whitewater Park.
- Preliminary economic impact modeling shows that boating in the canyon contributes at least \$1.36 million annually to the local economy, while Whitewater Park activity contributes at least \$250,000 annually. These figures are low-end estimates and will be revised as more data is collected on visitation rates in the canyon and at the Whitewater Park.

2. Introduction/Motivation

The objectives of the Protecting Flows in the Poudre River project are to assess boater flow preferences on whitewater reaches along the Poudre River, approximate the annual economic impact of whitewater recreation to the City of Fort Collins, and evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed Northern Integrated Supply Project on boating conditions. The project is designed to be completed over three Phases. This technical memo documents Phase 1 progress. Phase 1 goals are:

1. Develop flow-acceptability curves that integrate all available survey-response data as of this time.
2. Investigate the impact of the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) on whitewater boating conditions at the Poudre River Whitewater Park in downtown Fort Collins.
3. Construct an economic model to estimate the financial impact of the Poudre River Whitewater Park to the City of Fort Collins. Design a survey to quantify consumer spending profiles and integrate these data into the model.
4. Analyze time-lapse camera images of the Whitewater Park to monitor use patterns and conduct an initial analysis.

The Poudre River is a popular recreation destination for whitewater enthusiasts. The river flows from the high peaks of Colorado's Rocky Mountains near Cameron Pass eastwards through the city of Fort Collins, and eventually flows into the South Platte River near Greeley. The river supports a variety of recreational uses, including whitewater boating, fishing, and swimming/tubing. Our investigation considers eleven popular whitewater reaches located between the high-elevation headwaters and downtown Fort Collins (Figure 1). These stretches cater to a diversity of boater skill levels (Table 1). The most challenging stretches are Big South, Spencer Heights, and The Narrows, which contain class V+ rapids. Alternatively, White Mile Run, Grandpa's Gorge, Lower Mishawaka, and Filter Plant contain class II/III rapids, a suitable challenge for most skill levels.

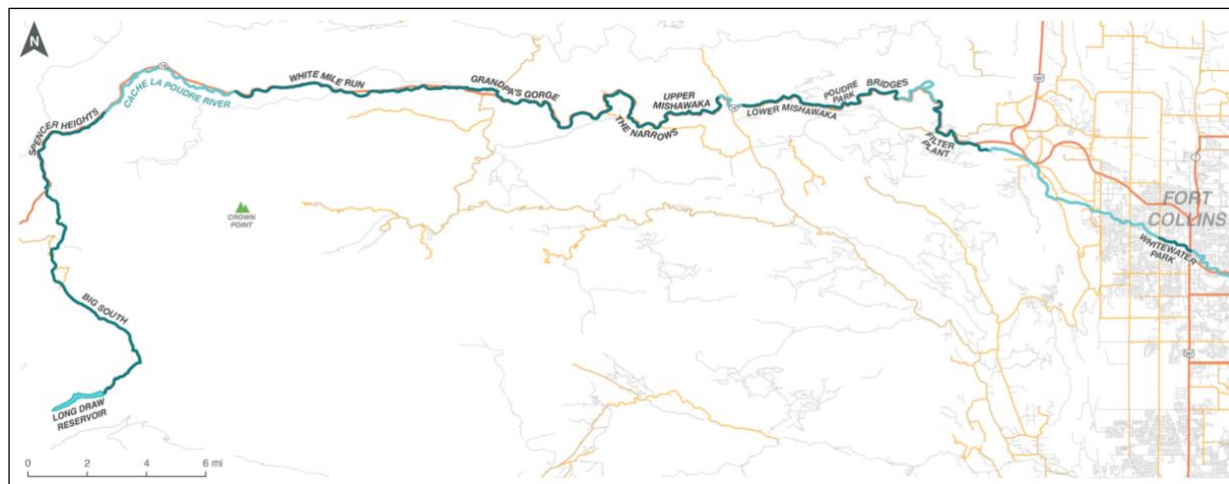


Figure 1. Eleven American Whitewater reaches on the Poudre River.

Table 1. Length and rapid classifications of American Whitewater reaches along the Poudre River. Reach locations are shown in Figure 1.

| AW Reach | Length (miles) | Rapid Classification |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Big South | 12 | V+ |
| Spencer Heights | 2.4 | V |
| White Mile Run | 9.5 | III-IV |
| Grandpa's Gorge | 8 | II-IV |
| The Narrows | 3.4 | IV-V+ |
| Upper Mishawaka | 3.3 | III-IV |
| Lower Mishawaka | 3 | III |
| Poudre Park | 2 | III-IV+ |
| Bridges | 2 | III-IV |
| Filter Plant | 2.4 | II-III |
| Whitewater Park | 1.3 | II-III |

Commercial rafting alone draws nearly 40,000 visitors annually to the Poudre River, producing over \$13 million in economic impact (Colorado River Outfitters Association, 2019). The Poudre River National Heritage Area (NHA), which runs from Bellevue to the junction with the South Platte, produces an estimated annual economic impact of \$81.6 million from 545,000 annual visitors (Tripp Umbach, 2017).

These figures underline the critical importance of the Poudre River and water-based activities to the regional economy. However, they do not capture the significant non-commercial use of the Poudre River by rafters, kayakers, tubers, and other watersports enthusiasts. Thus, the economic impact of whitewater boating along the Poudre River is poorly quantified. Key information gaps include the number of private users, the distance traveled by private users, user expenditures, and preferred flows. The analyses

discussed in sections 3, 5 and 6 begin to fill these information gaps and generate more robust economic impact estimates.

Proposed water storage projects, designed to provide water security to rapidly expanding Front Range municipalities, pose a potential threat to whitewater boating on the Poudre River and subsequent cultural and economic benefits. Specifically, NISP may affect boating conditions by diverting 40,000 AF of flow from the river annually to fill the proposed Glade Reservoir. The analysis presented in section 4 quantifies the impacts of NISP on whitewater boating, in terms of the number of lost boatable days attributable to proposed diversions.

3. Quantifying boater preference on Poudre River

3.1. What is flow preference?

Whitewater boating is a flow-dependent recreational activity. Different flow conditions offer a variety of experiences for any user. For example, very low flows may be difficult to navigate and lead to underwhelming rapid conditions. On the opposite end of the spectrum, extremely high flows may be too dangerous to comfortably navigate. In between these extremes lies a preferred flow rate that gives rise to user-perceived optimal boating conditions. While other variables, such as weather, may influence perceived acceptability, flow rate is understood to be the master variable controlling the quality of boating conditions.

Flow acceptability curves (Stafford, Fey, & Vaske, 2017) plot the perceived acceptability of whitewater conditions as a univariate function of flow rate (Figure 2). Flow acceptability is ranked on a scale of -2 to +2. Unacceptable conditions receive a score of -2, and acceptable conditions receive a score of +2. Neutrally acceptable conditions, suggesting users find the flows neither too high nor too low, are scored with zero. Typically, these curves exhibit an upside-down U shape. The acceptability of boating conditions generally increases from minimum flows to some intermediate flow rate before decreasing as flow rates increase further. The y-intercept (zero-crossings) flow rates indicate thresholds for minimally and maximally acceptable flow conditions. The flow condition associated with peak acceptability score denotes optimal boating conditions.

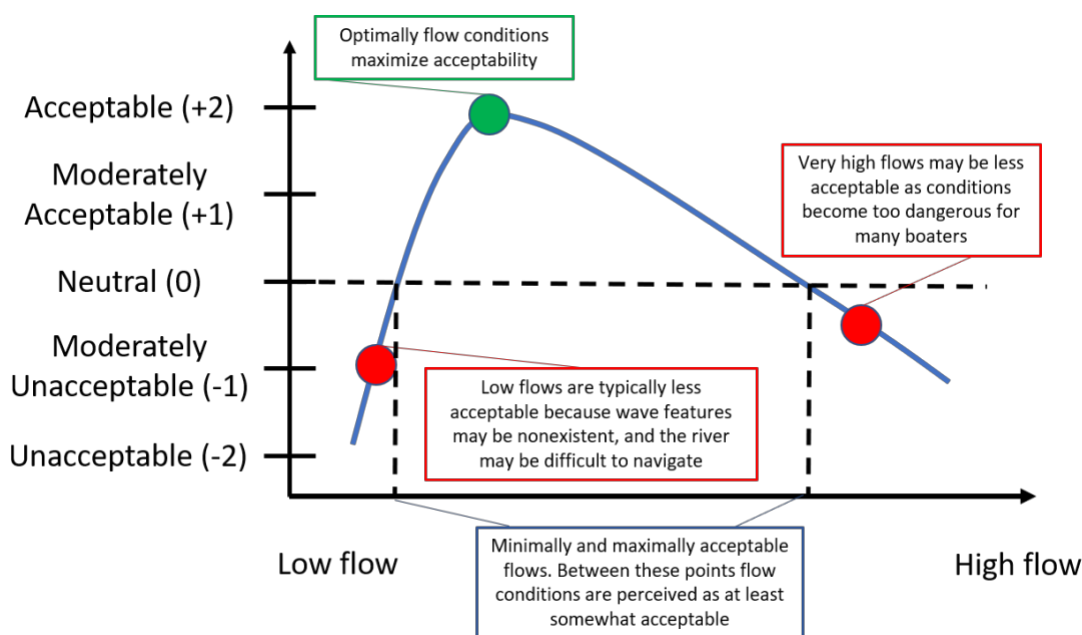


Figure 2. A conceptual schematic of a typical flow-acceptability curve.

Acceptability score is on the y-axis and flow rate is on the x-axis. The curves document a signature of boater preference for a specific river reach and are created by synthesizing survey response data. These curves commonly exhibit an upside-down U shape.

In practice, flow acceptability curves are derived from data collected by surveys that ask a sample of users to rank specified flow conditions as being associated with unacceptable (-2), moderately unacceptable (-1), neutral (0), moderately acceptable (+1), or acceptable (+2) flow conditions. Indeed, perceived flow preferences vary among individual respondents. To account for this variation, the Potential for Conflict Index (PCI₂) quantifies the level of preference disagreement among respondents for a specific flow rate. PCI₂ varies between 0 and 1. A PCI₂ value of 0 indicates unanimous agreement, and PCI₂ index of 1 indicates complete disagreement. For a complete mathematical derivation of PCI₂, refer to Vaske et al., 2010.

3.2. Data collection and analysis methods

We constructed surveys using SurveyMonkey to quantify boater flow preferences for eleven stretches of the Poudre River, including the newly constructed Whitewater Park in downtown Fort Collins (Figure 1). For each stretch, we asked respondents to score the acceptability of boating conditions at specific flow rates or river stage levels. We asked respondents to evaluate boating conditions at the Whitewater Park as a function of flows at the USGS gauge in Downtown Fort Collins, which is located approximately one quarter mile downstream of the park. For the Filter Plant reach, we asked respondents to assess boating conditions against flows at the CO DWR gauge at the Canyon mouth. For reaches above Filter Plant to Spencer Heights, we asked respondents to evaluate conditions against specific rock stages at Pine View (www.poudrerockreport.com). For these reaches, observations at the Canyon mouth gauge are a poor indicator of flow conditions and rock stages are a community accepted benchmark for assessing flows. Finally, we asked respondents to assess conditions on the Big South reach for specific flow intervals at the gauge at La Poudre Pass Creek Below Long Draw Reservoir. As of June 26, 2020, we have received 182 valid survey responses.

We filtered the raw survey response data to mask out respondents deemed to be too inexperienced to accurately assess the full spectrum of flow conditions on any given reach. We removed respondents with a self-identified skill level of novice, a reported annual trip frequency of 1 time per season, or that reported being “not comfortable at all” in assessing flow conditions. These masking rules culled the initial sample size by between 0.0% and 9.8% for each reach.

After removing inexperienced respondents, remaining data were used to derive flow acceptability curves following the methods of Stafford, Fey, & Vaske (2017). This is generally a three-step process. First, we calculated the average acceptability score for each flow bin. Second, we calculated the PCI₂ score for each flow bin (Vaske et al., 2010). Finally, average acceptability scores are plotted as a function of flow and marker sizes reflect the magnitude of the PCI₂ score. Large marker sizes reflect large PCI₂ scores, which indicate stronger disagreement among respondents on the acceptability of flows. Smaller marker sizes reflect lower PCI₂ scores, indicating strong agreement among respondents.

For each reach, we fit a curve to the flow acceptability data that allowed us to approximate the minimally and maximally acceptable flows —i.e., the zero-crossings of the flow-acceptability curve. The acceptable flow range encompasses all flows between the minimally and maximally acceptable flows.

Annual boatable days are the number of days in a year that flows along a river reach are between minimally and maximally acceptable flows. We calculated the number of boatable days for each year of a 40-year flow record at the Poudre River Whitewater Park in Downtown Fort Collins, where long historical gauge records are available. Each year of record was classified as being either wet, wet-typical, dry-typical, or dry. To determine hydrologic year types on the 40-year study period (1980-2019), each year's annual averaged flows were ranked then divided into quartiles: 75-100% is wet, 50-75% is wet-typical, 25-50% is dry-typical, and 0-25% is dry (Table 2). See Stafford et al. (2017) for further details on the year classification scheme.

Table 2. Historical years used in this study classified as wet, wet typical, dry typical, and dry.

| Hydrologic year types | Years |
|-----------------------|--|
| Wet | 1980, 1983, 1984, 1997, 1999, 2011, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 |
| Wet-typical | 1982, 1986, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1998, 2010, 2013, 2018, 2019 |
| Dry-typical | 1985, 1990, 1991, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 |
| Dry | 1981, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1992, 1994, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2012 |

1.1 Flow preference results

1.1.1 Flow preference curves

The flow preference curve for the Whitewater Park is presented in Figure 3 with the plotted data presented in Table 3. This reach has a minimum acceptable flow of 355 cfs. At this segment, all flows above 355 cfs have an average preference score greater than zero, suggesting that even the highest recorded flows are considered at least minimally acceptable. The Whitewater Park segment has an optimal flow rate of 1400 cfs. PCI_2 scores are relatively high at the Whitewater Park, indicating a lower degree of consensus among respondents in evaluating flows. This makes sense because the Whitewater Park is a new feature (opened in October 2019) and respondents have a relative lack of direct experience.

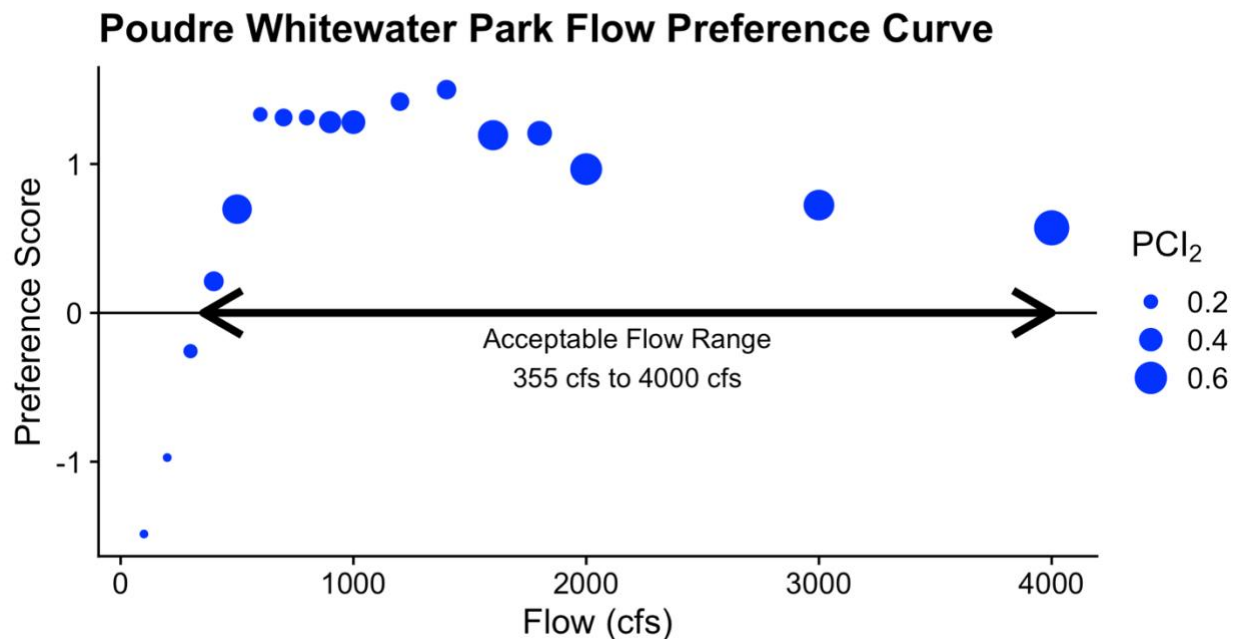


Figure 3. Flow preference curve for the Poudre Whitewater Park. Average preference scores above or equal to zero indicate a given flow passes at least "neutral" acceptability. Flows with preference scores below this threshold are considered unacceptable. The greater the size of the PCI_2 point, the greater the disagreement among survey respondents on the acceptability of a given flow.

Table 3. Average flow preference and PCI_2 values by flow for the Poudre River Whitewater Park. These data can be viewed graphically in Figure 3.

| Flow (cfs) | Average Flow Preference | PCI_2 |
|------------|-------------------------|---------|
| 100 | -1.49 | 0.07 |
| 200 | -0.97 | 0.07 |
| 300 | -0.26 | 0.19 |
| 400 | 0.21 | 0.32 |
| 500 | 0.70 | 0.54 |
| 600 | 1.33 | 0.20 |
| 700 | 1.31 | 0.27 |
| 800 | 1.31 | 0.23 |
| 900 | 1.28 | 0.37 |
| 1000 | 1.28 | 0.41 |
| 1200 | 1.42 | 0.29 |
| 1400 | 1.50 | 0.31 |
| 1600 | 1.19 | 0.55 |
| 1800 | 1.21 | 0.43 |
| 2000 | 0.97 | 0.59 |
| 3000 | 0.72 | 0.56 |
| 4000 | 0.57 | 0.66 |

1.1.2 Historical boatable days

A time series of historical boatable days for the Whitewater Park is shown in

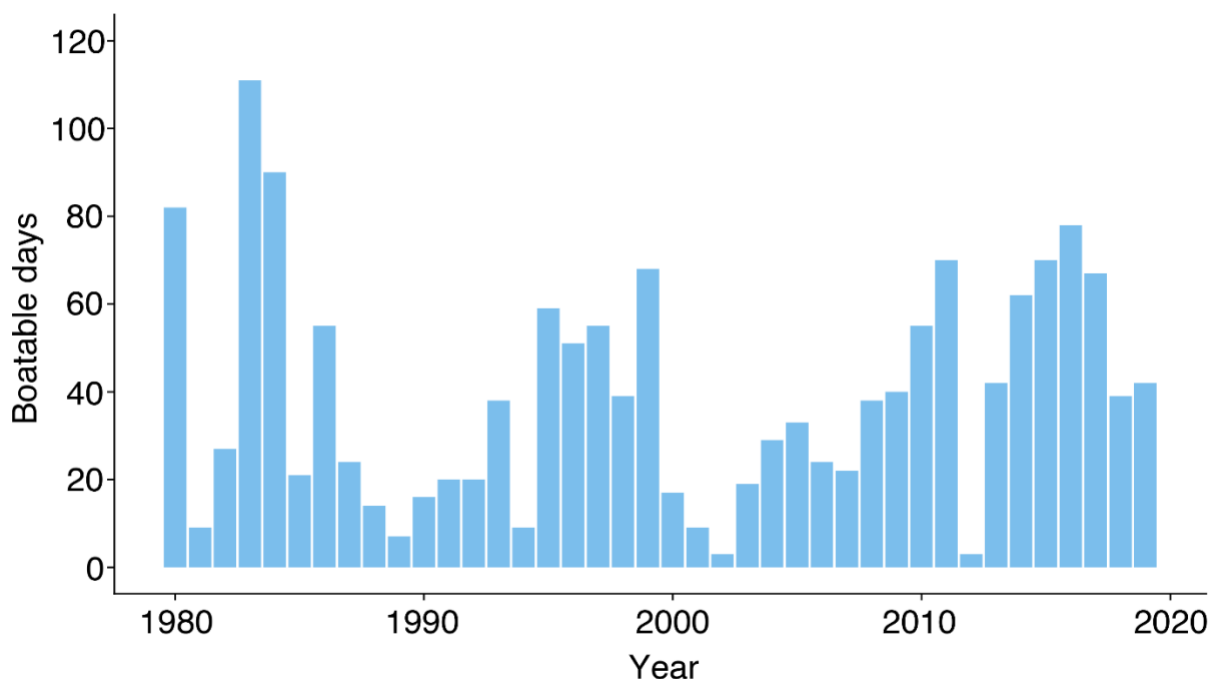


Figure 4. We calculated boatable days for the reach by counting the number of days in each year that flows were within the acceptable flow range (Figure 3). On average, there are 38 boatable days per year at the Whitewater Park. The greatest number of boatable days (111) occurred in a wet year, 1983 (Table 4). The fewest number of boatable days (2) occurred during a dry year, 2012. The average number of boatable days during a wet year is 74, versus only 11 days during dry years.

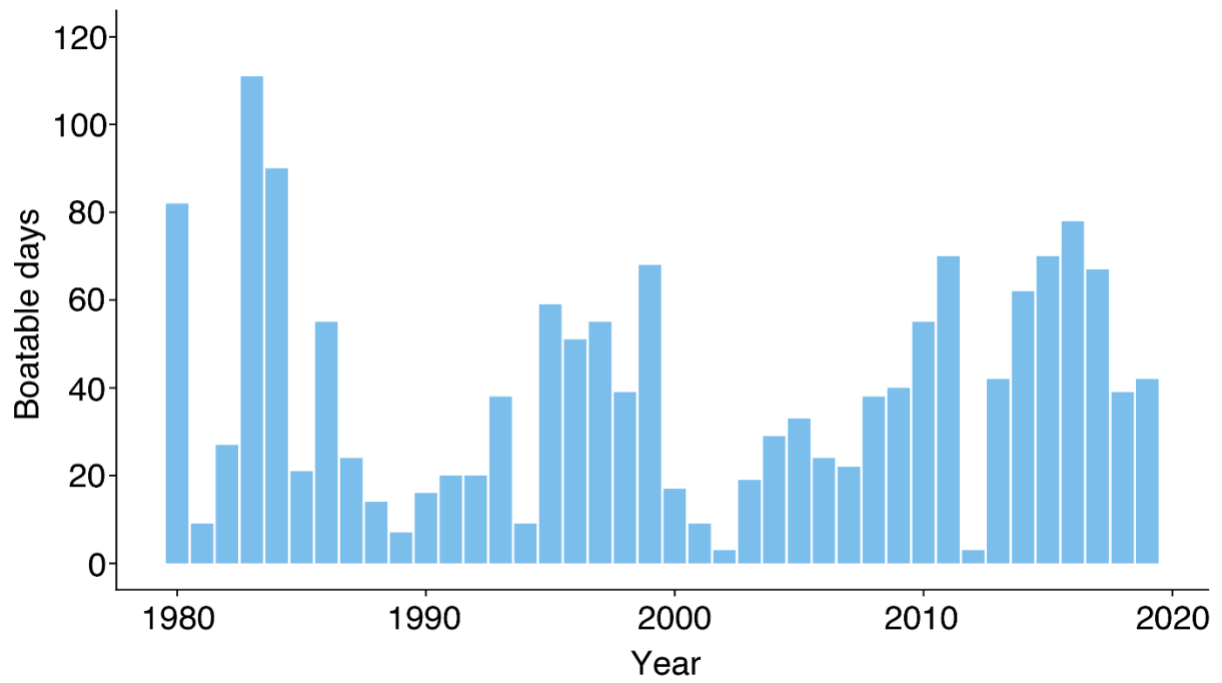


Figure 4. Historical boatable days for the Whitewater Park reach from 1980-2019.

Table 4. Historical boatable days for the Whitewater Park reach from 1980-2019 and year-type classification

| Year | Historical boatable days | Hydrologic year type |
|------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1980 | 82 | Wet |
| 1981 | 9 | Dry |
| 1982 | 27 | Wet-typical |
| 1983 | 111 | Wet |
| 1984 | 90 | Wet |
| 1985 | 21 | Dry-typical |
| 1986 | 55 | Wet-typical |
| 1987 | 24 | Dry |
| 1988 | 14 | Dry |
| 1989 | 7 | Dry |
| 1990 | 16 | Dry-typical |
| 1991 | 20 | Dry-typical |
| 1992 | 20 | Dry |
| 1993 | 38 | Wet-typical |
| 1994 | 9 | Dry |
| 1995 | 59 | Wet-typical |
| 1996 | 51 | Wet-typical |
| 1997 | 55 | Wet |
| 1998 | 39 | Wet-typical |
| 1999 | 68 | Wet |
| 2000 | 17 | Dry |
| 2001 | 9 | Dry |
| 2002 | 3 | Dry |
| 2003 | 19 | Dry-typical |
| 2004 | 29 | Dry-typical |
| 2005 | 33 | Dry-typical |
| 2006 | 24 | Dry-typical |
| 2007 | 22 | Dry-typical |
| 2008 | 38 | Dry-typical |
| 2009 | 40 | Dry-typical |
| 2010 | 55 | Wet-typical |
| 2011 | 70 | Wet |
| 2012 | 3 | Dry |
| 2013 | 42 | Wet-typical |
| 2014 | 62 | Wet |
| 2015 | 70 | Wet |
| 2016 | 78 | Wet |
| 2017 | 67 | Wet |
| 2018 | 39 | Wet-typical |
| 2019 | 42 | Wet-typical |

1.2 Discussion point

- The Whitewater Park was only recently constructed, and respondents likely do not have a strong grasp on how river features vary across flow rates. Therefore, at this time, flow preferences for the Whitewater Park should be marked as preliminary.

2 Evaluating the impacts of the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) on boating conditions

2.1 What is the Northern Integrated Supply Project?

As Colorado's population grows, municipal water demand is likely to exceed available supplies (Colorado Water Conservation Board, 2015). This is especially true for communities served by Northern Water, who's water demands are forecasted to outstrip available supply by 2060. The proposed Northern Integrated Supply Project seeks to bridge water supply gaps in northern Colorado by creating additional water storage to support the delivery of 40,000 AF water per year to 15 communities across northern Colorado. While the proposed NISP will benefit municipal water supplies, it may have deleterious consequences for whitewater boating along the Poudre River. Here, we investigate the ramifications of proposed NISP activities on boating conditions.

To bolster community water supplies, the proposed NISP will create two new reservoirs. The largest of these reservoirs is Glade Reservoir, located northwest of Fort Collins. Its storage capacity is approximately 170,000 AF and will be filled with water diverted from the Poudre River. Because NISP will draw water from the Poudre River, it poses a direct threat to the quality of downstream whitewater boating conditions.

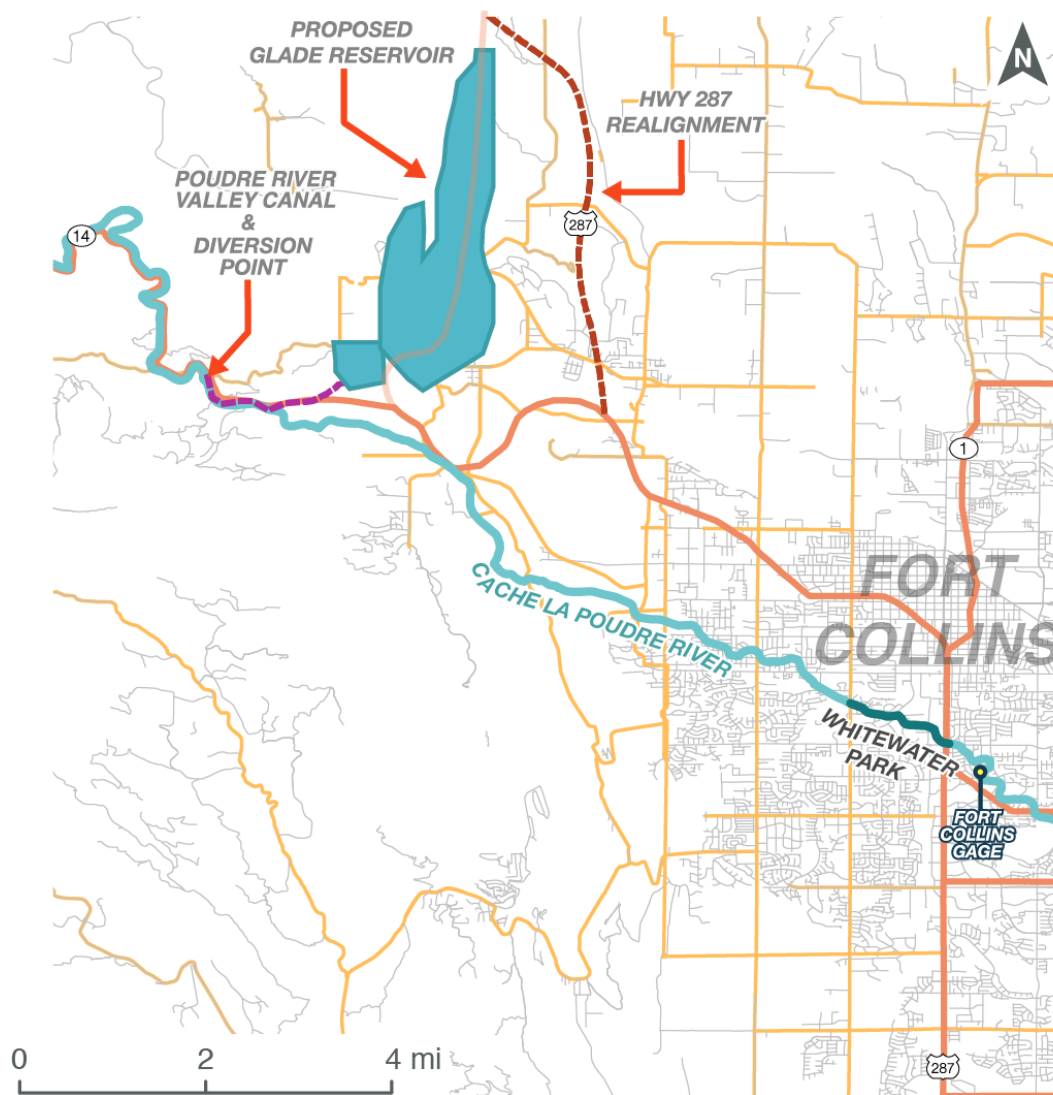


Figure 5. NISP projected builds and stream gage locations in relation to American Whitewater runs.

According to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), NISP will impact flows downstream of the Poudre Valley Canal – the primary diversion point for filling Glade Reservoir (FEIS, 2, 4-31). Thus, the Whitewater Park in Downtown Fort Collins (Figure 2) will be impacted by NISP withdrawals. NISP will have no foreseeable impact on upstream boating reaches.

Diversions from the Poudre River to fill Glade Reservoir will alter natural flows between May and June (FEIS, 3, 5-24), the period of peak snowmelt runoff. For this portion of NISP, Northern Water has an existing water right, the Grey Mountain water right. This junior water right has a priority date of May 2, 1980 which allows for diversion from the Poudre River to occur primarily in May and June during high flows (FEIS, 2, 4-31). In the semi-arid western United States, the seasonal regime of high flows during snowmelt runoff is critical for maintaining the physical and ecological integrity of the river corridor. For this reason, the proposed NISP has received much criticism from regional river advocacy groups, such as Save the Poudre (<http://www.savethepoudre.org/>).

To help inform American Whitewater's stance on the proposed NISP project, this report investigates the likely impact of proposed river diversions on the whitewater boating conditions. Using historical flow

records, flow-acceptability curves, and proposed diversion plans, we quantify NISP's likely consequence on the annual duration of acceptable recreational flows (i.e. boatable days) for the Poudre River Whitewater Park in Downtown Fort Collins.

2.2 Data collection and analysis methods

We analyzed daily flow data from the USGS Downtown Fort Collins gauge, which is located downstream of the Whitewater Park. Here, streamflow is heavily affected by upstream diversions and return flows. We retrieved a 40-year record (1980-2020) of streamflow data for the gauge. Each year of record was classified as being either wet, wet-typical, dry-typical, or dry. See Section 3.2 for further details on this classification.

Projected monthly diversion rates were taken from Table 4-10 (p. 4-33) in the FEIS and converted to an effective daily rate (cfs) by assuming a constant diversion rate each day of the month (Table 5). The daily maximum diversion rate in Table 5 was derived by taking the midpoint between the maximum diversion rate reported in the FEIS and the average diversion rate. Similarly, the daily minimum diversion rate in Table 5 was derived taking the midpoint between the minimum diversion rate reported in the FEIS and average diversion rate. We use these diversion rates to approximate how much water is likely to be diverted in wet, wet-typical, dry-typical and dry hydrologic years. During wet years, we assume the NISP will divert at the maximum rate. During dry years, we assume that the NISP will divert at the minimum rate. During wet- and dry-typical years, we assume that the NISP will divert at the average rate. In practice, precise monthly diversion rates will depend on the amount of water NISP has legal right to, which depends on a complex network of competing regional water demands. During very wet years, diversions may be greater than those presented in Table 5, while diversions may be much lower during dry years.

Table 5. Minimum, maximum, and average daily diversion rates by month used in this analysis. These rates are derived from monthly rates presented in Table 4-10 p.4-33 of the FEIS. We apply minimum rates during dry years, average rates during wet- and dry-typical years, and maximum rates during wet years.

| Month | Daily minimum diversion rate (cfs) | Daily maximum diversion rate (cfs) | Daily average diversion rate (cfs) |
|-----------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| October | 0 | 8.94 | 0 |
| November | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| December | 0 | 1.63 | 0 |
| January | 0 | 20.33 | 0 |
| February | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| March | 0 | 9.76 | 0 |
| April | 17.65 | 212.59 | 35.29 |
| May | 87.01 | 536.69 | 174.02 |
| June | 156.29 | 675.58 | 294.10 |
| July | 42.28 | 122.79 | 84.57 |
| August | 13.82 | 74.81 | 27.65 |
| September | 0 | 0 | 0 |

We estimate NISP's impact on flows by subtracting projected daily average diversion rates (Table 5) from the 40-year record of daily average flows. We subtract minimum rates during dry years, average rates during wet- and dry-typical years, and maximum rates during wet years. When observed flows are less than 30 cfs, no diversions are simulated. This results in an impacted historical daily flow record that we refer to as "post-NISP discharge". Flows at the USGS Fort Collins gauge are assumed to be representative of flows through the Whitewater Park.

We evaluate historical and Post-NISP discharge records in terms of the annual flow regime and boatable days. We quantify impacts to the annual flow regime by comparing monthly average flows between historical and post-NISP discharge records. We quantify boatable days by counting and comparing the number of days in each year that flows are equal to or greater than the threshold neutral flow rate observed in each reach's flow-acceptability curve.

2.3 Results

The changes in streamflow are proportionally larger where there is lower historical discharge (**Error! Reference source not found.**). On average, NISP diversions reduce annual flows by 11% at the Whitewater Park. NISP diversions reduce wet year total flows by 13%, wet-typical year flows by 9%, dry-typical flows by 11%, and dry year flows by 8%. Average flows during the month of June (peak runoff) are reduced by 22 – 36%. Monthly average historical and calculated post-NISP flows are presented in tabular form in Appendix B Table 9.

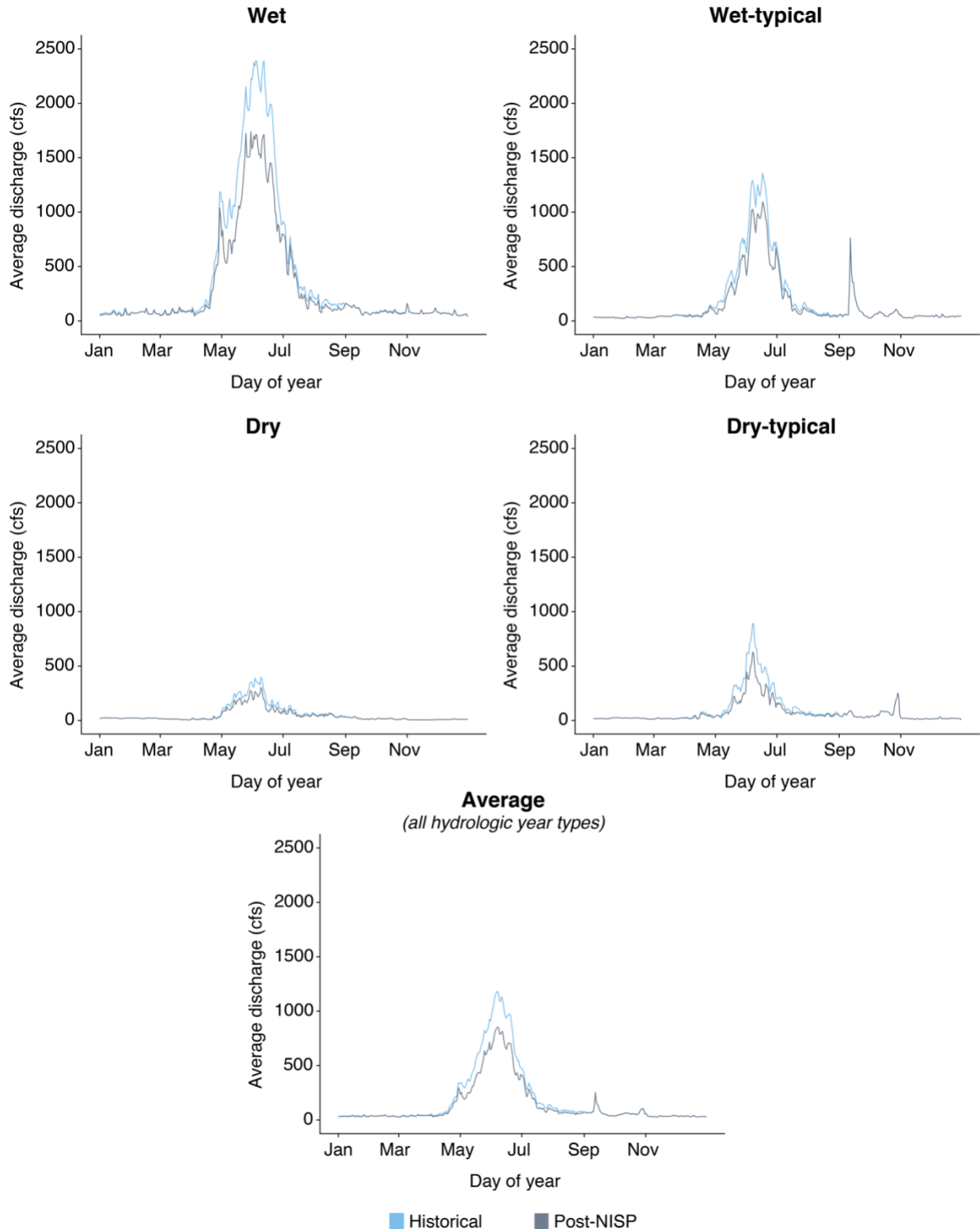


Figure 6. These hydrographs show the impact of NISP diversions on flows categorized by hydrologic year types, including the last plot representing the typical annual flow regime (includes all hydrologic year types) over the 40-year study period. NISP diversions will preserve the timing of high and low flows but reduce the magnitude of peak flows.

To evaluate the potential impact of NISP on whitewater boating, we investigated how proposed diversions would affect boatable days at the Whitewater Park. The red bars in **Error! Reference source not found.** detail the loss in boatable days from NISP diversions and the blue bars indicate the boatable days in a post-NISP environment. Over the 40-year period, the Whitewater Park has an average loss of 11 ± 7 days. The largest reductions were observed during 1998 (wet-typical) and 2008 (dry-typical). During these years, flow values were close to the minimally acceptable flow value and additional diversions eliminated potential boatable days. Minor changes to boatable days occur in years where flows are well above the minimally acceptable flow value. During dry years, such as 2002 and 2012, NISP diversions may eliminate boatable days completely. A tabular form of **Error! Reference source not found.** including hydrologic year classifications is presented in Appendix B Table 8.

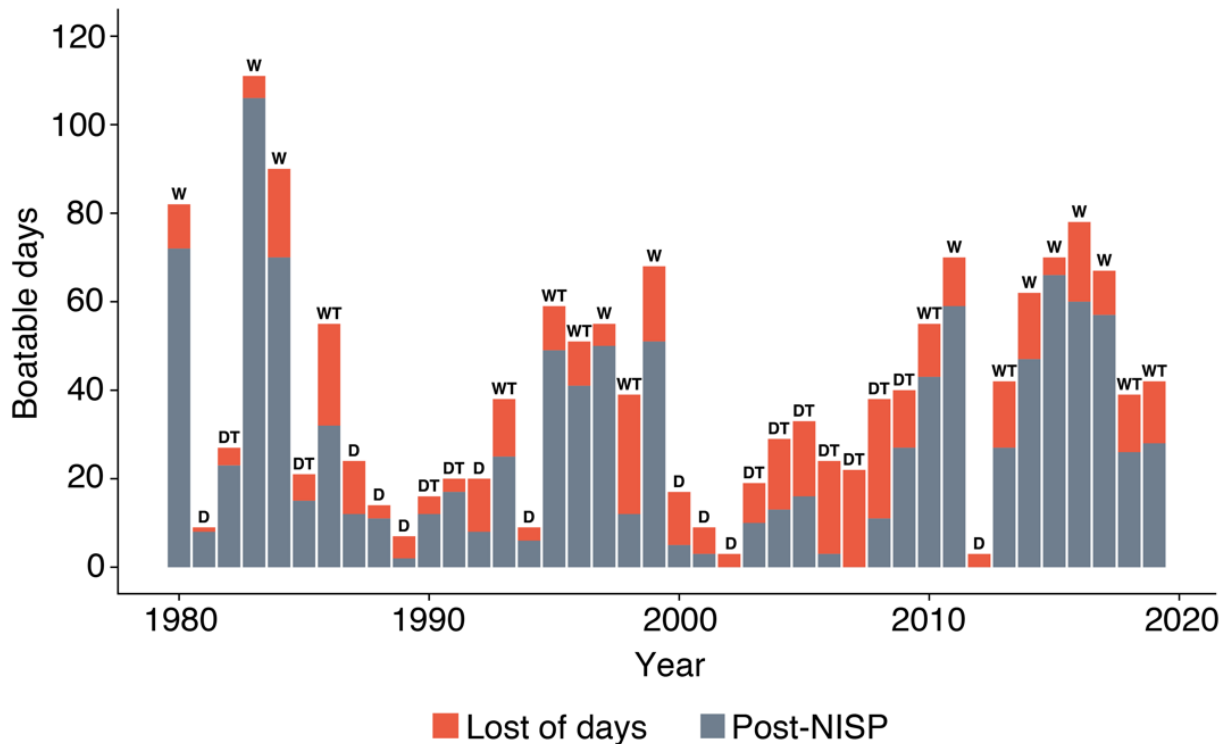


Figure 7. NISP Diversions will reduce the number of boatable days at the Whitewater Park. The total bar height shows the historical number of boatable days for each year in a 40-year record (pre-NISP). Red bars show the reduction in boatable days imposed on the historical record attributable to proposed NISP diversions. Annotations above each bar indicate the hydrologic year classification: wet (W), wet-typical (WT), dry-typical (DT), and dry (D).

2.4 Discussion

- We generated simplified rules for how much NISP is likely to divert, depending on hydrologic year classification. Our diversion rules allowed for year-to-year variability in diversion rates, whereby less water is diverted during dry years and more water is diverted during wet years. However, this remains a large simplification relative to how things are likely to play out in the real world. During very dry years, NISP may not be able to divert any water due to the junior status of the Grey Mountain water right. Conversely, during very wet years, NISP may divert much more water than reported in Table 5. Therefore, our analysis may overestimate NISP impacts during dry years and underestimate impacts during wet years. A more detailed approximation of NISP diversions would require an analysis to understand the priority of the Grey Mountain right, relative to more senior rights, across a variety of hydrologic years.
- We assume that the 40 years of historical flow data used to quantify boatable day impacts is a suitable proxy for future conditions. However, climate change may render historical records to be

poor proxies for future conditions. Climate warming in Colorado is projected to reduce mountain snowpack in future years. Because the Poudre River is largely fed by snowmelt, less snow means less runoff, and perhaps lower peak flows (Berghuijs, Woods, & Hrachowitz, 2014; Jennings, Winchell, Livneh, & Molotch, 2018). Moreover, warmer temperatures are likely to increase evapotranspiration, further decreasing runoff (Milly & Dunne, 2020; Udall & Overpeck, 2017; Xiao, Udall, & Lettenmaier, 2018). NISP diversions will further exacerbate flow reductions on top of climate change. Climate change is not considered in the FEIS, presenting a massive blind spot for decision makers when considering reasonably foreseeable impacts. Future work should enumerate the benefit of high flows that NISP will negatively impact.

- To mitigate environmental impacts and low flow conditions, NISP developed a series of diversion programs (FEIS, V. 1, 2-53). In the Conceptual Mitigation Plan, they propose three strategies: releasing water from the Glade Reservoir during low flows near the canyon mouth, implementing a peak flow operations program that allows for flushing of the river in hopes to maintain ecological integrity, and avoiding diversions during critical low-flow periods. However, these strategies most likely do not affect the amount of boatable days since they are designed to increase low flows (not boatable conditions) or sustain brief periods of very high flows (already boatable conditions).

3 Economic benefits of boating and other recreational activities on the Poudre River

3.1 Previous reports

In 2019, the Colorado River Outfitters Association (CROA) estimated commercial rafting on the Poudre River produced \$5.1 million in direct expenditures from 37,000 user days, creating over \$13 million in total economic impact (CROA, 2019). These calculations were based on user day reports from commercial rafting outfits that have permits to operate on the Poudre River along with an average expenditure value of \$135.70 per user day. The commercial outfits run several of the popular river stretches for which we collected flow preference data, many of them pulling out near the Canyon Mouth gage by the end of the Filter Plant reach.

Downstream of the canyon, the Poudre River National Heritage Area (NHA), which runs from Bellevue to the junction with the South Platte, produces an estimated annual economic impact of \$81.6 million (Tripp Umbach, 2017). This area encompasses the entirety of the river's stretch through the city of Fort Collins downstream of the NISP diversion, boasting 545,000 annual visitors. While tourism makes up the vast majority of the estimated economic impact of the NHA, the data are not broken out by user type (e.g., kayakers, rafters, fishermen, walkers, sightseers, bicyclists, etc.).

Conservatively, these two reports suggest the economic impact of tourism and recreation on the Poudre River reaches nearly \$100 million annually. However, there is a significant amount of missing data, namely the number of non-commercial recreational visitors to the Poudre River broken out by type and each given an average daily expenditure. For example, it is currently unknown how many non-commercial boaters use the river in a given year. Estimating the total economic impact of non-commercial boating and other watersports on the Poudre River is therefore difficult because of a present lack of annual user day and expenditure data.

3.2 Survey-derived estimates of economic impact

While annual user day numbers are still lacking, we used the survey detailed in Section 3.2 to collect information on the total daily expenditures per person, broken out by spending category. We also deployed an additional survey, specific to the Poudre River Whitewater Park, that collected similar expenditure information. After removing outlying expenditure values from the flow preference survey (Section 3.2), we calculated boaters spend an average of \$55 per day when recreating on the river reaches shown in Figure 1. From the other survey, we found users of the Poudre River Whitewater Park—a group that include boaters, tubers, fishermen, picnickers, sightseers, and others—spend \$30 per

trip after filtering out outliers and non-responses. The breakdown by expenditure category from both surveys is shown in Figure 8 below. In addition to the per-trip expenditures, several boaters responded that they spend over \$1000 per year on equipment. These values were not included in the category breakdown but are important to local businesses.

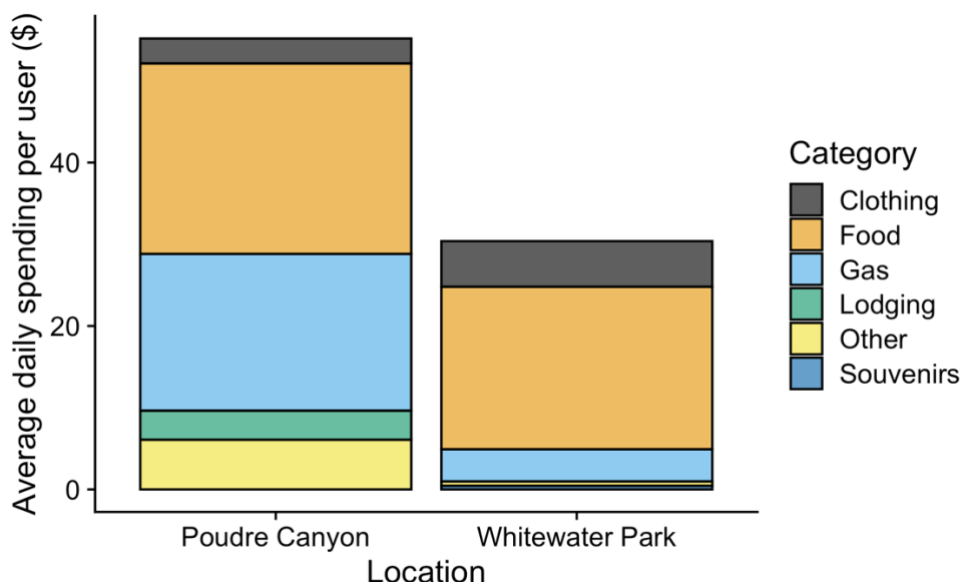


Figure 8. Average daily spending per user. Spending is broken out by the various categories reported in the Poudre River flow preference survey, which primarily covers the Poudre Canyon (left bar), and in the Poudre Whitewater Park survey (right bar).

Table 6. Average spending per category for visitors to Poudre Canyon and the Poudre River Whitewater Park.

| Category | Poudre Canyon Average Spending (\$) | Whitewater Park Average Spending (\$) |
|-----------|---|--|
| Clothing | 3.05 | 5.60 |
| Food | 23.31 | 19.87 |
| Gas | 19.18 | 3.94 |
| Lodging | 3.56 | 0.00 |
| Other | 6.08 | 0.53 |
| Souvenirs | N/A | 0.45 |

In both locations, the surveys indicate that food is the primary expenditure of visitors to the Poudre Canyon and the Whitewater Park. On average, visitors travel a greater distance to get to boating reaches in the canyon (24 mi.) versus the Poudre River Whitewater Park (4.6 mi.), explaining the larger proportion that gas comprises of total spending at the former location. Average lodging expenditures are small for Poudre Canyon visitors and no Whitewater Park users have reported any lodging expenditures to date, again confirming the more local nature of visitation to the latter. Spending in the other and souvenir categories is small at both locations.

These expenditure breakdowns allow us to make preliminary estimates of economic impact once visitation assumptions are taken into account. If we assume non-commercial visitation to the river reaches in Poudre Canyon is equal to the number of CROA-reported commercial user days, we can compute an estimated annual economic impact with the large caveat that this value is based on assumed visitation given a lack of observed data. With this data gap in mind, we used the Regional Input-Output Modeling System (RIMS II) to produce a preliminary total economic impact estimate of \$1.36 million for non-commercial boating in the Poudre Canyon. Similarly, we used Poudre Whitewater Park visitation estimates from Loomis and McTernan (Loomis & McTernan, 2011) along with our survey-derived per-day

expenditure value to estimate an annual economic impact of \$250,000 for the park. Here, we reiterate that both values should be treated as preliminary estimates because there are no reported user day data for either the Poudre Canyon or the Poudre River Whitewater Park.

3.3 Discussion

- Our work thus far has revealed a key data gap in estimating the annual economic impact of non-commercial boating on key reaches of the Poudre River and the Poudre River Whitewater Park. Without adequate measurements of annual user days, any impact estimates will be necessarily preliminary and uncertain. Moving forward, it will be beneficial to monitor use at popular Poudre River boating reaches in order to estimate total annual user days in Poudre Canyon. For the Poudre River Whitewater Park, we will be monitoring city webcam data in order to calculate how many users, broken out by type, visit the park each year.
- Additionally, it will be critical to take into account how reduced flows due to both water development and climate change will affect the economic impact of Poudre River boating. User days are sensitive to flow levels and annual boatable days (Colorado Water Conservation Board, 2020), indicating that years with reduced flow correspond to reduced visitation and, in turn, lower revenue. Furthermore, we would expect these economic effects to be non-linear with greater flow reductions leading to successively larger losses. Previous work shows that the amount each user is willing to pay per trip will decrease as flow goes down. At 300 cfs Poudre River users are willing to pay just \$55 per trip, a value markedly lower than the \$97 paid at 1900 cfs. Similarly, each user would visit the Poudre just 1.6 times per year at 300 cfs, compared to 14 trips at 1900 cfs (Loomis & McTernan, 2014). Thus, reduced flows drive both lower visitation and decreased spending per user day.
- As important as the economic impacts of maintaining boatable flows are, there are also more-difficult-to-quantify social benefits of the Poudre River. As a hallmark of Fort Collins and Larimer County, the Poudre River is a treasured community resource whose value is inherent. Although our surveys were designed to collect data for flow preference and economic impacts, they have also revealed how central the Poudre River is to people living in its watershed. As one respondent revealed, “We got married on the southeast shore!” Such benefits of the Poudre River should not be overlooked or underestimated.

4 Camera Analysis

4.1 Approach

We analyzed webcam images to quantify the frequency and timing of visitors at the park. The time frame of analysis is from July 7, 2020 to July 14, 2020; each day had 24 photos taken in 30-minute intervals from 7:00am to 6:30pm. A 3x3 grid overlay was placed on each photo to reduce the likelihood of double-counting, and the number of people categorized by specific activity were counted per grid box. The activity categories used correspond to those considered in the Phase I economic survey (Table 7). To improve accuracy, each photo was counted twice by separate individuals, and then their total counts per photo were averaged. This process was repeated for each photo to calculate the number of average daily park users by activity.

Table 7. Activity categories for whitewater park use

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Just passing through (people on trails, walkers/bikers) | Watercraft – kayak |
| Sightseeing/playing with kids/picnicking | Watercraft – raft |
| Swimmers/waders | Watercraft – SUP |
| Fisherpeople | Watercraft – surfboard |
| Other | Watercraft – tube |

4.2 Results

Over the eight study period days, we counted an average of 896 visitors per day. Total daily counts ranged from 394 users (on a Tuesday) to a maximum of 1,553 users (on a Sunday), following an expected trend that more visitors come to the park on a weekend (Figure 9). The most popular times of day at the waterpark are between 3:00pm and 4:00pm (Figure 10).

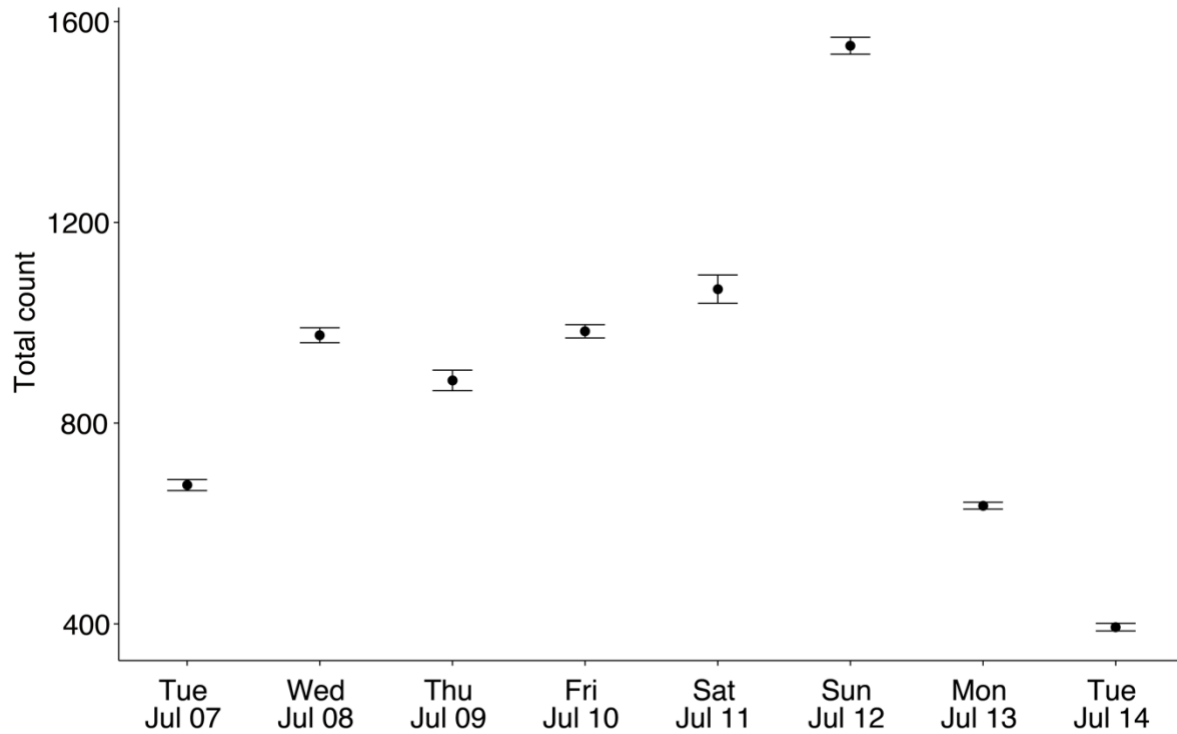


Figure 9. Daily total counts throughout study period

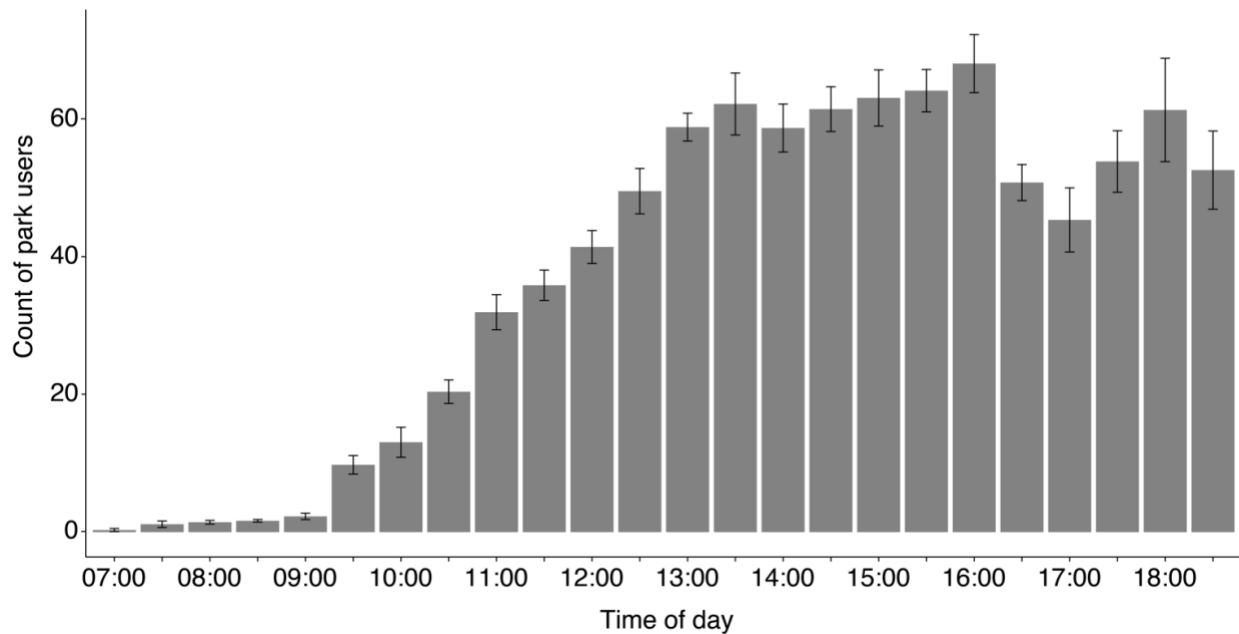


Figure 10. Average count of visitors per hour of day between 7/7/2020 and 7/14/2020.

Our findings suggest that most people at the Whitewater Park engage in sightseeing/playing with kids/picnicking and swimming/wading throughout the day (Figure 11). The most common watercraft activity was tubing, accounting for 92% of total watercraft users (Figure 12).

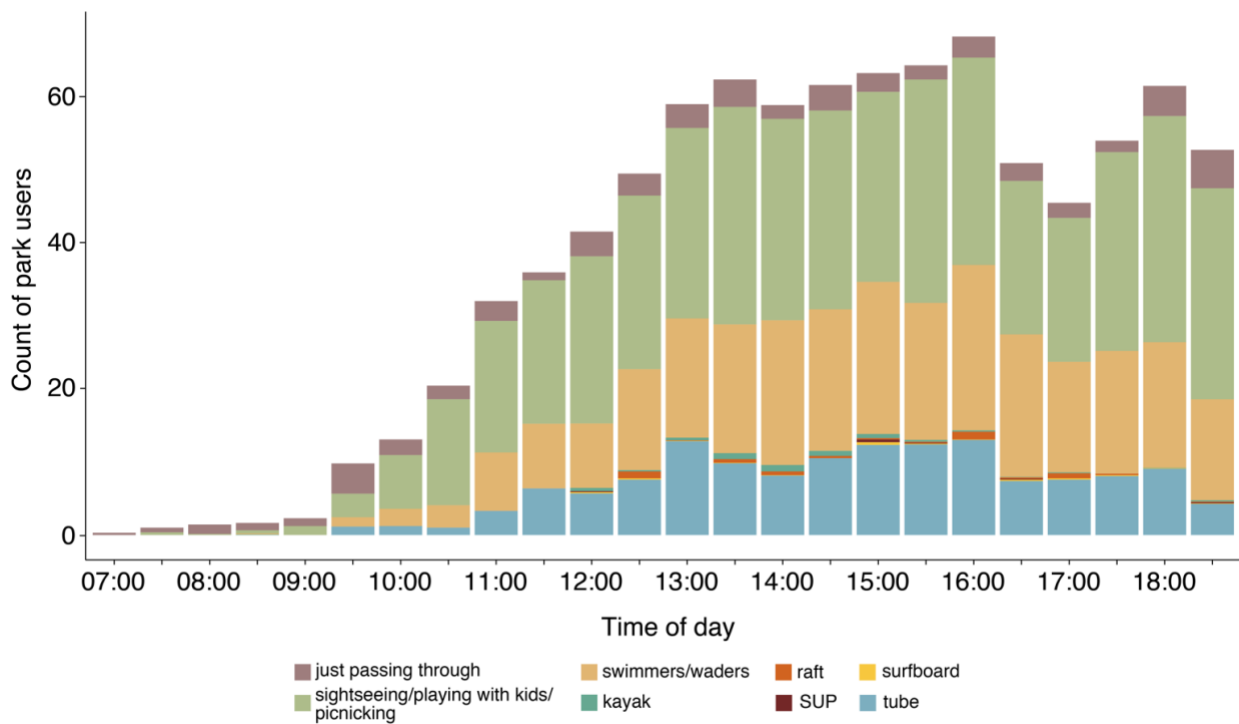


Figure 11. Average visitor count per hour of day split by activity type between 7/7/2020 and 7/14/2020.

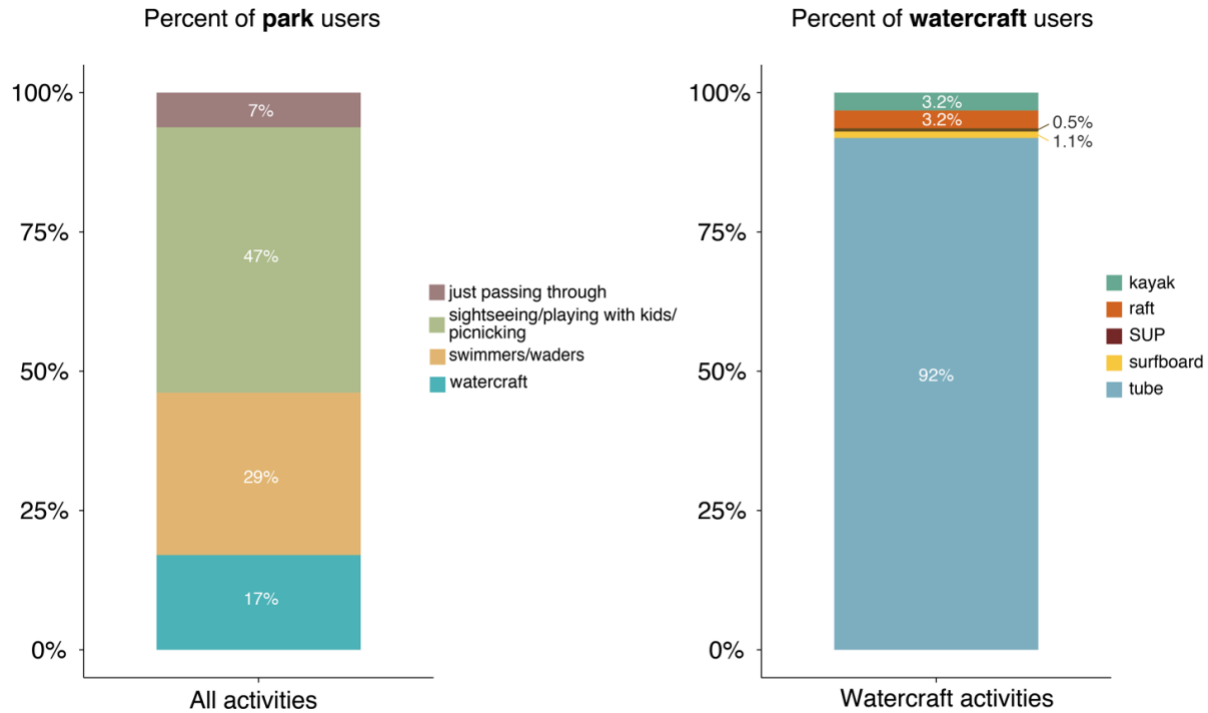


Figure 12. Percentage of park users and watercraft users categorized by activity engagement type.

4.3 Discussion and Challenges

- We devised an assumptions list to accurately categorize people, with the overarching assumption that each person's activity per photo is the only activity they are engaging in for that timestamp. While people are likely to engage in multiple activities during their stay, only one activity per person was captured.
- The total counts reported here are conservative. If there were any people at the park between the periods when images were taken, those people were not accounted for. The last photo taken each day was at 6:30pm. There are certainly park visitors after 6:30pm that were not counted in this study. Additionally, low resolution downloaded images likely caused undercounting of total people in the images.
- For recent photos on the webcam webpage, including the week of July 7 to July 14 at the time of this study, the webpage had two different photos per timestamp, where one photo is wider/higher resolution and the other narrower/lower resolution. We opted to work with the wider/higher resolution for the timestamps where that option was available.
- The webcam image database has a gap between March 17, 2020 and July 7, 2020. This means the peak flow months are not recorded.
- We spent 3-5 minutes counting per photo, equating to 1.5–2 hours in total to count a day for one person. This results in 10.5–14 hours to count a week's worth of photos.

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6 Appendix A – Flow preference curves for all reaches

Filter Plant Flow Preference Curve

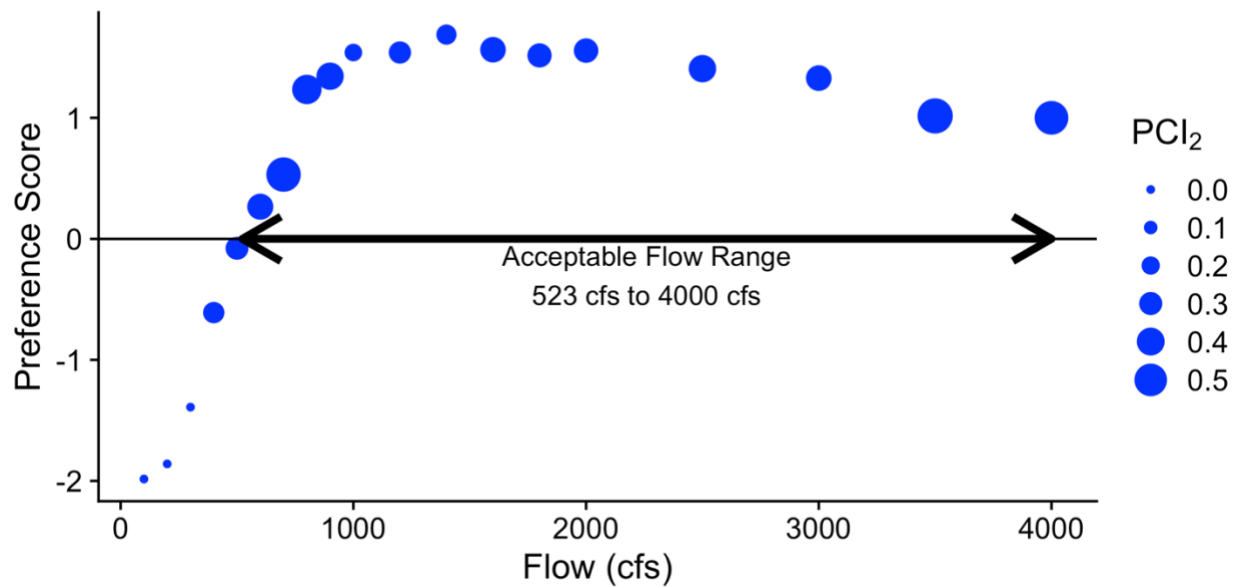


Figure 13. Flow preference curve for Filter Plant

Big South Flow Preference Curve

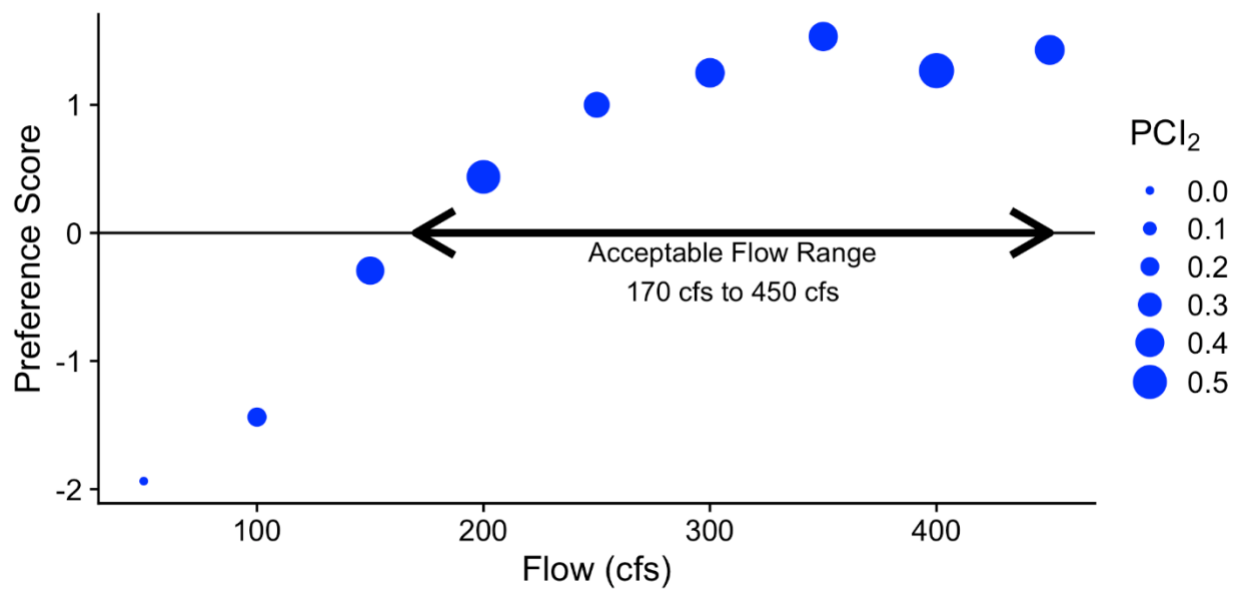


Figure 14. Flow preference curve for Big South

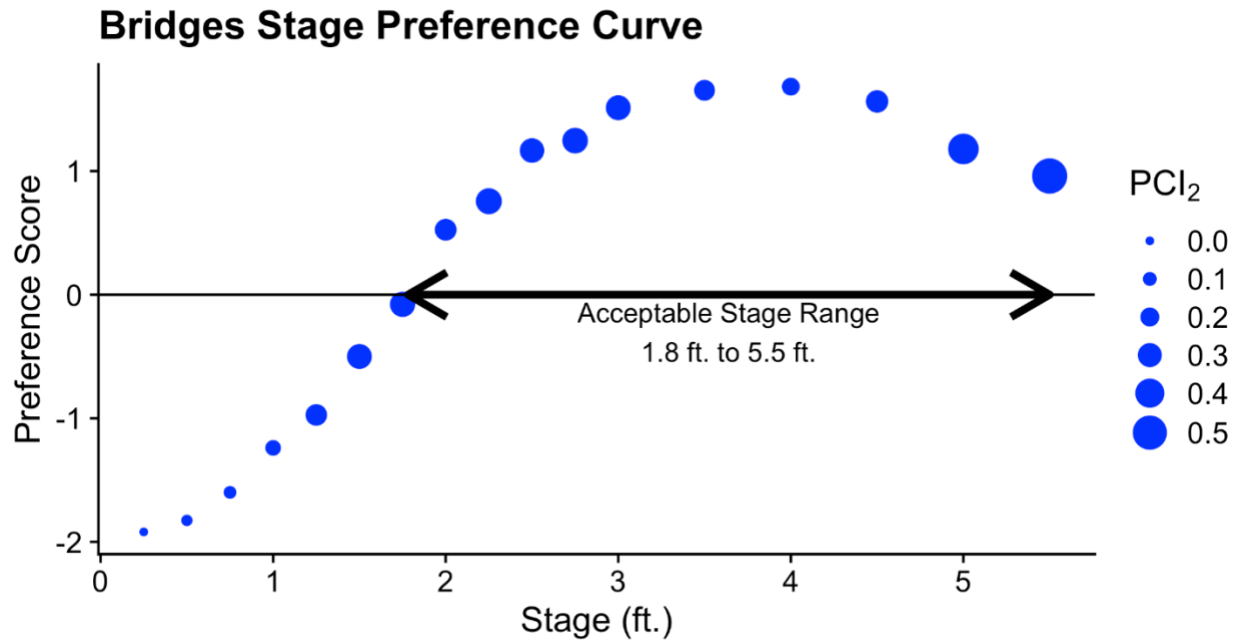


Figure 15. Stage preference curve for Bridges

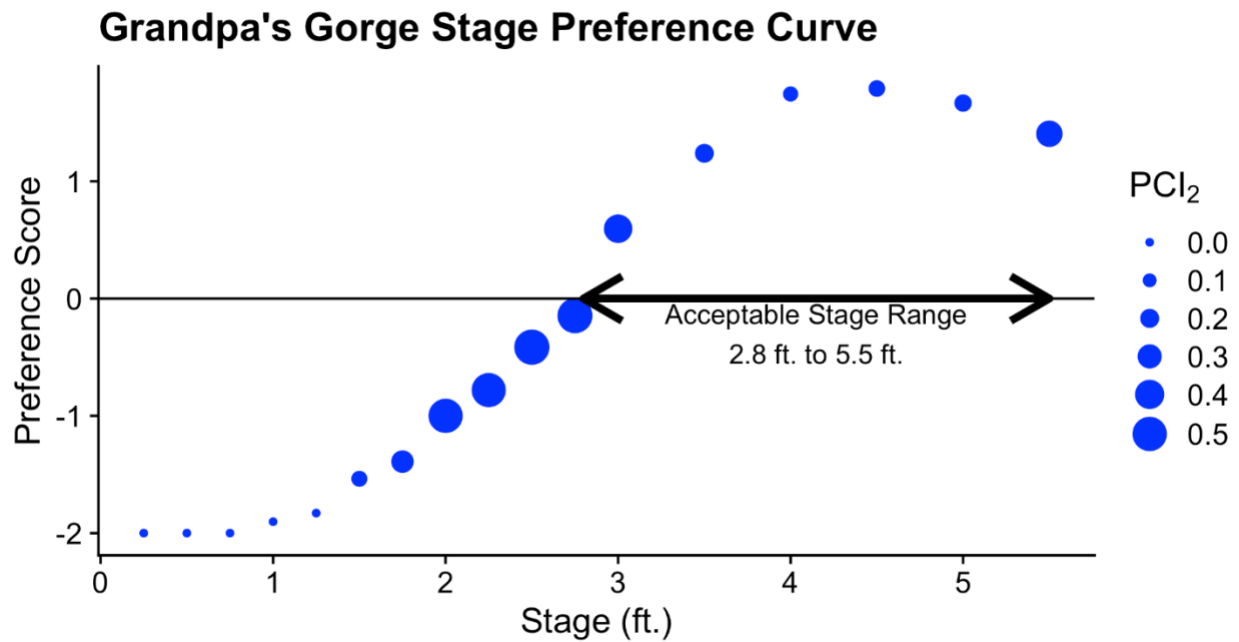


Figure 16. Stage preference curve for Grandpa's Gorge

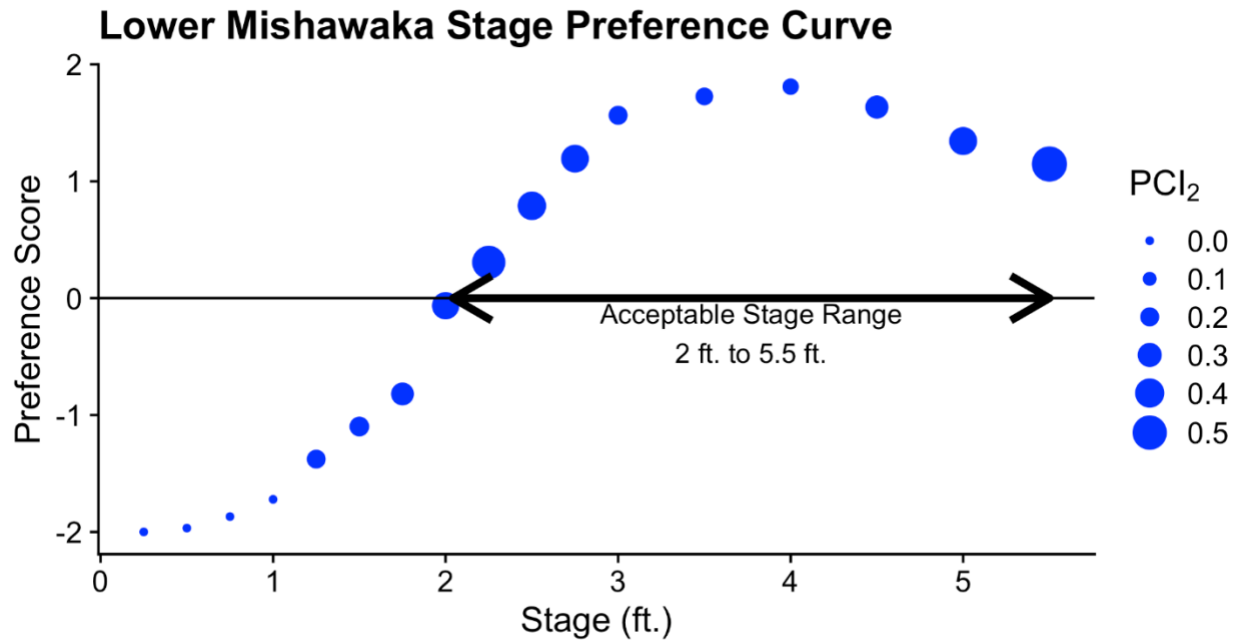


Figure 17. Stage preference curve for Lower Mishawaka

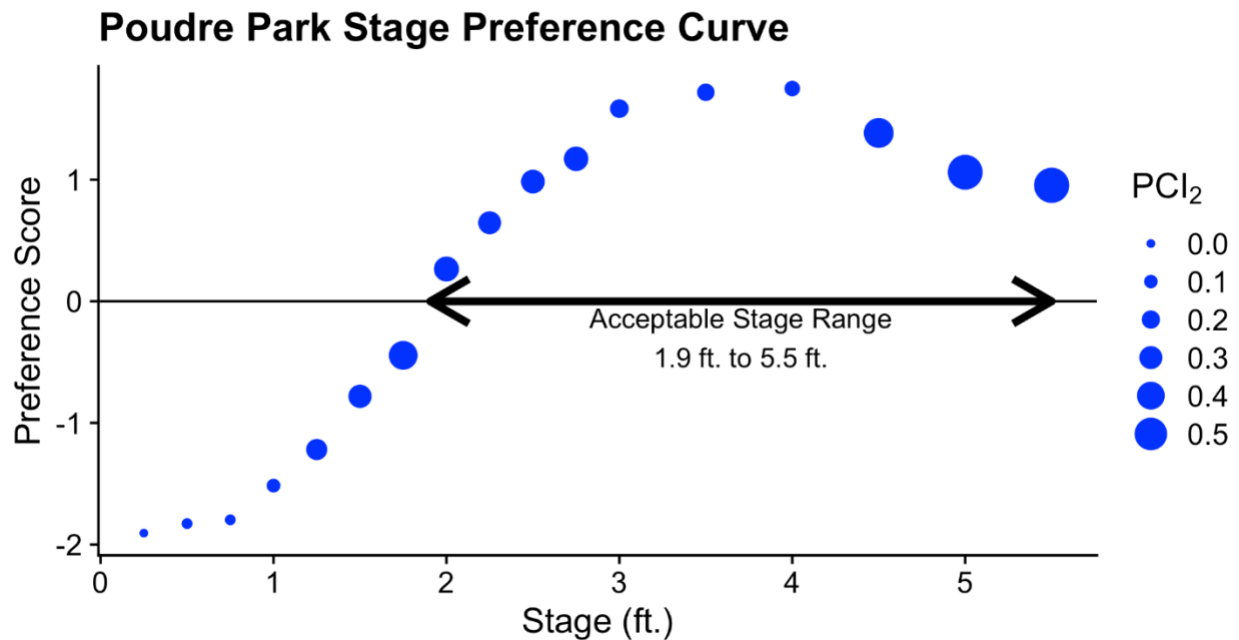


Figure 18. Stage preference curve for Poudre Park

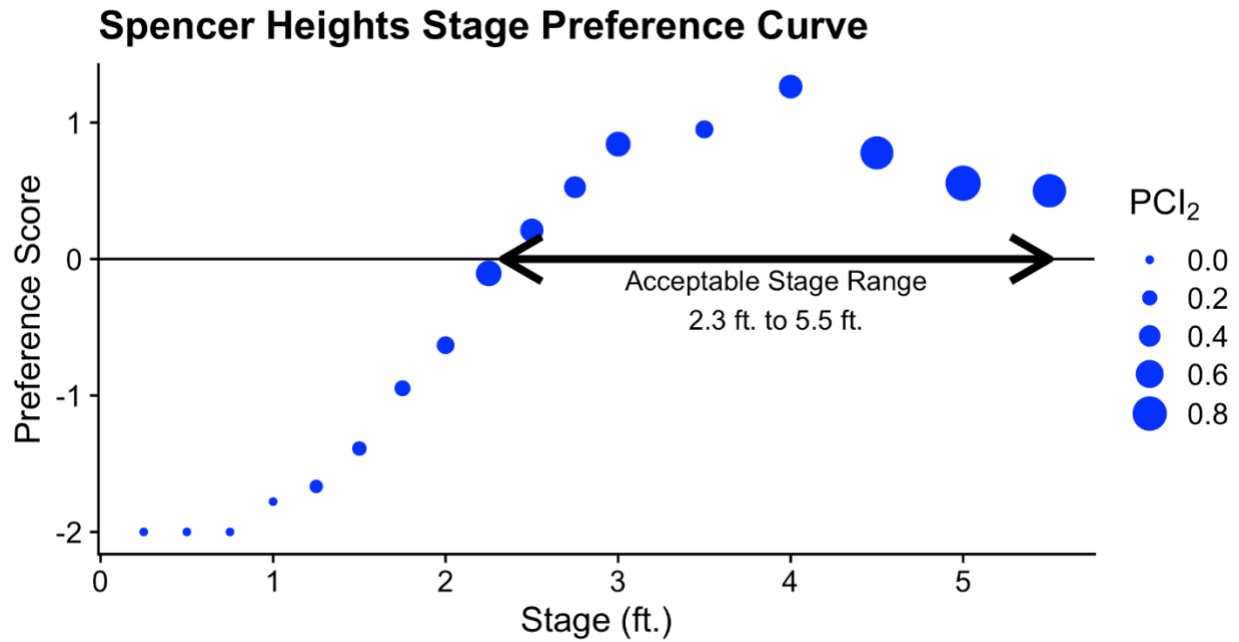


Figure 19. Stage preference curve for Spencer Heights

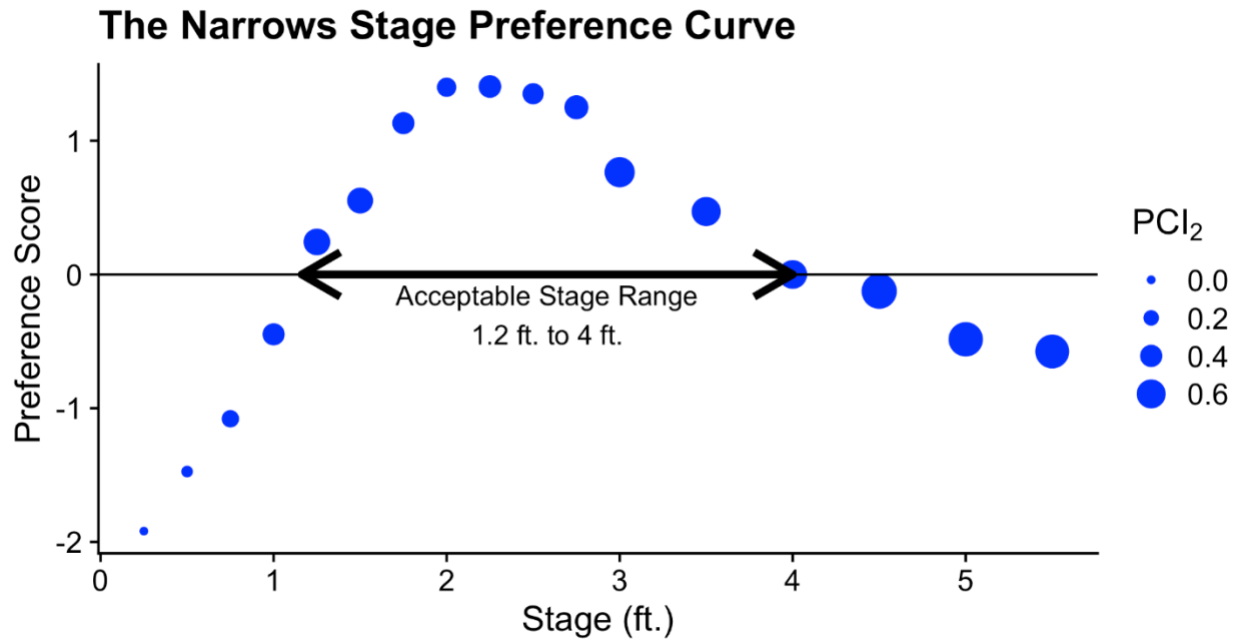


Figure 20. Stage preference curve for The Narrows

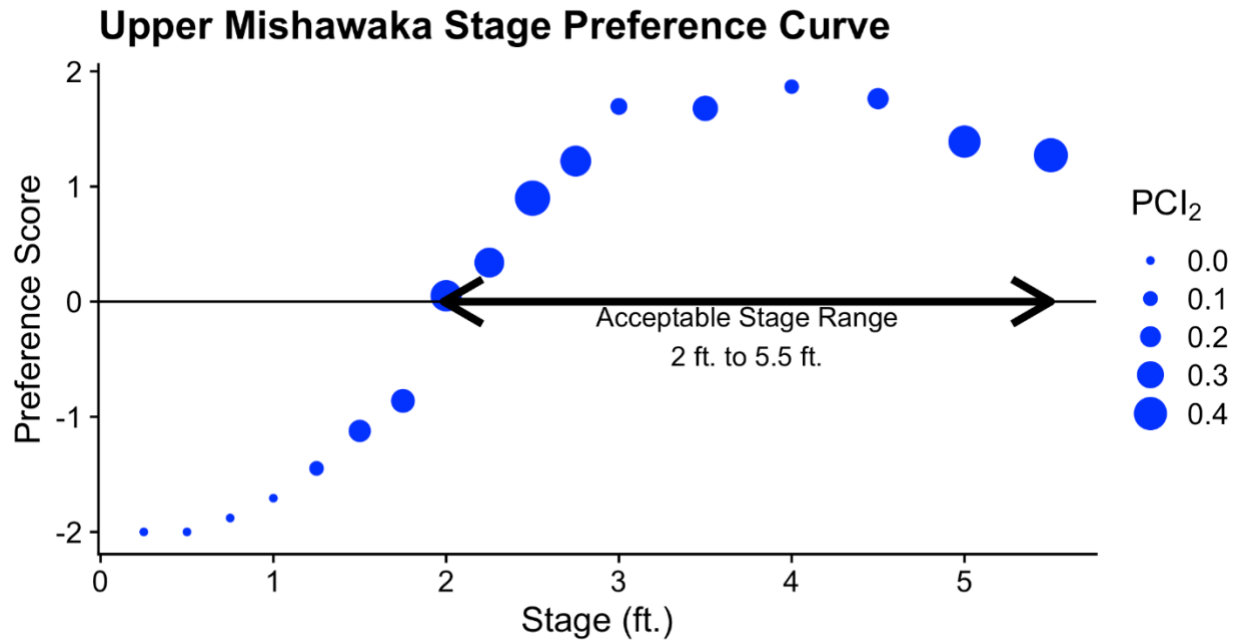


Figure 21. Stage preference curve for Upper Mishawaka

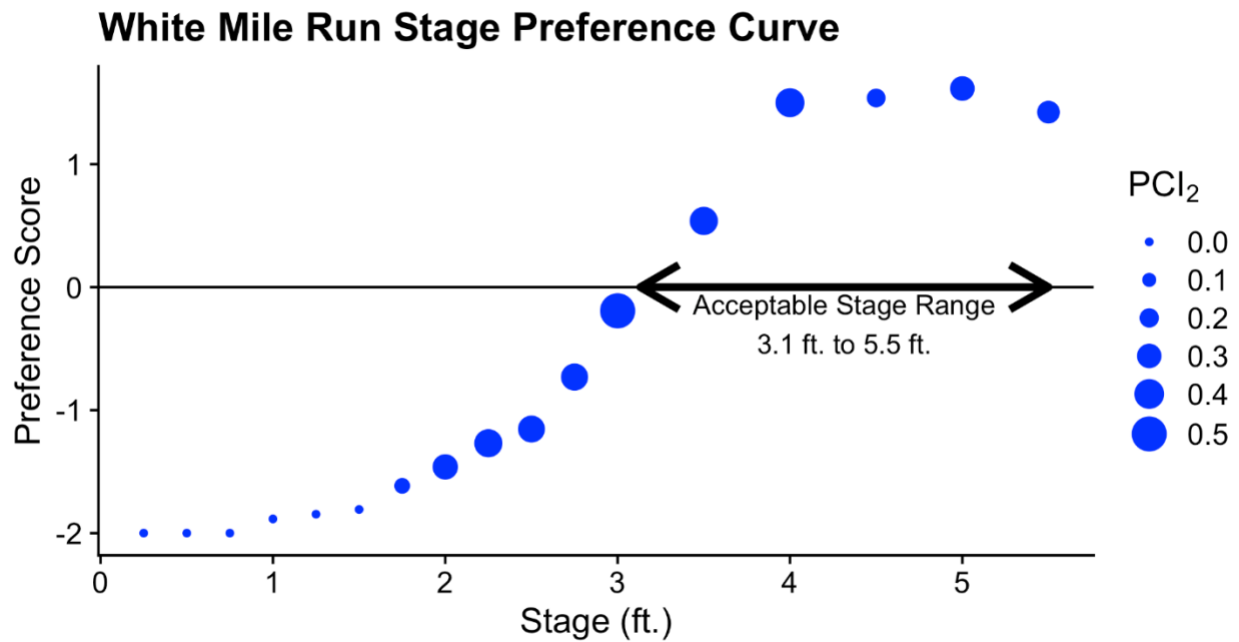


Figure 22. Stage preference curves for White Mile Run

7 Appendix B – Northern Integrated Supply Project Impacts

Table 8. Table digest of Figure 4 and **Error! Reference source not found.**, includes hydrologic year type.

| Year | Historical boatable days | Post-NISP boatable days | Absolute change in boatable days | Hydrologic year type |
|------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1980 | 82 | 72 | 10 | Wet |
| 1981 | 9 | 8 | 1 | Dry |
| 1982 | 27 | 23 | 4 | Wet-typical |
| 1983 | 111 | 106 | 5 | Wet |
| 1984 | 90 | 70 | 20 | Wet |
| 1985 | 21 | 15 | 6 | Dry-typical |
| 1986 | 55 | 32 | 23 | Wet-typical |
| 1987 | 24 | 12 | 12 | Dry |
| 1988 | 14 | 11 | 3 | Dry |
| 1989 | 7 | 2 | 5 | Dry |
| 1990 | 16 | 12 | 4 | Dry-typical |
| 1991 | 20 | 17 | 3 | Dry-typical |
| 1992 | 20 | 8 | 12 | Dry |
| 1993 | 38 | 25 | 13 | Wet-typical |
| 1994 | 9 | 6 | 3 | Dry |
| 1995 | 59 | 49 | 10 | Wet-typical |
| 1996 | 51 | 41 | 10 | Wet-typical |
| 1997 | 55 | 50 | 5 | Wet |
| 1998 | 39 | 12 | 27 | Wet-typical |
| 1999 | 68 | 51 | 17 | Wet |
| 2000 | 17 | 5 | 12 | Dry |
| 2001 | 9 | 3 | 6 | Dry |
| 2002 | 3 | 0 | 3 | Dry |
| 2003 | 19 | 10 | 9 | Dry-typical |
| 2004 | 29 | 13 | 16 | Dry-typical |
| 2005 | 33 | 16 | 17 | Dry-typical |
| 2006 | 24 | 3 | 21 | Dry-typical |
| 2007 | 22 | 0 | 22 | Dry-typical |
| 2008 | 38 | 11 | 27 | Dry-typical |
| 2009 | 40 | 27 | 13 | Dry-typical |
| 2010 | 55 | 43 | 12 | Wet-typical |
| 2011 | 70 | 59 | 11 | Wet |
| 2012 | 3 | 0 | 3 | Dry |
| 2013 | 42 | 27 | 15 | Wet-typical |
| 2014 | 62 | 47 | 15 | Wet |
| 2015 | 70 | 66 | 4 | Wet |
| 2016 | 78 | 60 | 18 | Wet |
| 2017 | 67 | 57 | 10 | Wet |
| 2018 | 39 | 26 | 13 | Wet-typical |
| 2019 | 42 | 28 | 14 | Wet-typical |

Table 9. Historical and post-NISP average monthly discharge categorized by hydrologic year types.

| Month | Wet | | | Wet-typical | | |
|-------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| | Historical average discharge (cfs) | Post-NISP average discharge (cfs) | Percent change (%) | Historical average discharge (cfs) | Post-NISP average discharge (cfs) | Percent change (%) |
| 1 | 75.6 | 62.7 | 17.1 | 30.1 | 30.1 | 0.0 |
| 2 | 76.4 | 76.4 | 0.0 | 31.4 | 31.4 | 0.0 |
| 3 | 84.8 | 77.3 | 8.9 | 44.7 | 44.7 | 0.0 |
| 4 | 285.1 | 222.8 | 21.9 | 71.3 | 61.3 | 14.0 |
| 5 | 1399.7 | 1010.2 | 27.8 | 380.3 | 278.7 | 26.7 |
| 6 | 1890.6 | 1347.9 | 28.7 | 1014.6 | 782.3 | 22.9 |
| 7 | 464.1 | 384.5 | 17.2 | 274.4 | 221.2 | 19.4 |
| 8 | 168.4 | 121.3 | 27.9 | 71.1 | 57.3 | 19.4 |
| 9 | 103.6 | 103.6 | 0.0 | 141.7 | 141.7 | 0.0 |
| 10 | 84.1 | 77.6 | 7.8 | 62.0 | 62.0 | 0.0 |
| 11 | 82.0 | 82.0 | 0.0 | 39.5 | 39.5 | 0.0 |
| 12 | 66.4 | 65.2 | 1.8 | 42.4 | 42.4 | 0.0 |

| Month | Dry | | | Dry-typical | | |
|-------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| | Historical average discharge (cfs) | Post-NISP average discharge (cfs) | Percent change (%) | Historical average discharge (cfs) | Post-NISP average discharge (cfs) | Percent change (%) |
| 1 | 21.5 | 21.5 | 0.0 | 19.9 | 19.9 | 0.0 |
| 2 | 20.3 | 20.3 | 0.0 | 19.3 | 19.3 | 0.0 |
| 3 | 11.1 | 11.1 | 0.0 | 17.7 | 17.7 | 0.0 |
| 4 | 17.6 | 15.7 | 11.0 | 41.6 | 34.3 | 17.5 |
| 5 | 202.6 | 150.9 | 25.5 | 181.0 | 114.8 | 36.6 |
| 6 | 231.2 | 157.7 | 31.8 | 526.3 | 339.0 | 35.6 |
| 7 | 75.2 | 57.9 | 23.0 | 119.7 | 85.4 | 28.7 |
| 8 | 49.2 | 44.4 | 9.8 | 59.0 | 47.8 | 18.9 |
| 9 | 19.8 | 19.8 | 0.0 | 46.4 | 46.4 | 0.0 |
| 10 | 14.4 | 14.4 | 0.0 | 81.8 | 81.8 | 0.0 |
| 11 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 0.0 | 16.0 | 16.0 | 0.0 |
| 12 | 9.8 | 9.8 | 0.0 | 17.5 | 17.5 | 0.0 |



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Clayton Ancona <claytoncts@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 7:39 AM

Reply-To: claytoncts@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South

It's also a ridiculous and embarrassing for you.. waste of taxpayers money

Sincerely,

Clayton Ancona

540 S Bryan Ave Fort Collins, CO 80521-3337

claytoncts@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Thomas Balue <tbalanceiv@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 10:32 PM

Reply-To: tbalanceiv@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Thomas Balue

328 N Sunset St Fort Collins, CO 80521-1434

tbalanceiv@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Craig Beasley <cwbeasley55@everyactioncustom.com>

Thu, Aug 20, 2020 at 12:27 PM

Reply-To: cwbeasley55@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Craig Beasley

28001 Bonanza Dr Evergreen, CO 80439-6363

cwbeasley55@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP1 message

Jenna Beattie <jennabeattie@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 7:45 AM

Reply-To: jennabeattie@comcast.net

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jenna Beattie

2900 Radcliff Cir Fort Collins, CO 80521-3026

jennabeattie@comcast.net



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Chad Berardo <chadberardo@everyactioncustom.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 6:50 PM

Reply-To: chadberardo@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Chad Berardo

723 N 10th St Gunnison, CO 81230-2809

chadberardo@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Comments for NISP hearing on August 24 at 2:00 PM

3 messages

Serena <serenaservicesco@gmail.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 9:16 PM

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Cc: beilbykm@co.larimer.co.us

I will be appearing via Zoom with the second group from Eagle Lake HOA. Please include these as part of the record. Serena Bieritz

Commissioners, my name is Serena Bieritz. My husband and I have lived on Eagle Lake Drive for 10 years.

NISP WANTS TO TAKE OVER ONE-THIRD of our residential 2.6 acre property FOREVER.

first slide please (2 slides submitted with Mark Heiden's Eagle Lake HOA PowerPoint presentations)

Don't look at US in this photo... look at the house BEHIND us it belongs to our next door neighbors, Bonnie and John.

We are standing on our deck and NISP wants all of the property between our two homes!

next slide please

NISP wants a PERMANENT easement, shown by the RED SHADED area on this map provided by NISP. It would be 60 feet wide, running west to east along the ENTIRE south side of our property, from our back and side yards through our front yard to the street, for their 10 feet deep trench and 54" diameter pipe.

That path includes full grown fruit trees, landscape irrigation, our septic tank, and underground utilities for water, gas and internet cable to our home, as well as landscaped berms in both back and front.

The BLUE SHADED area next to the red shaded area is their proposed ADDITIONAL 40 foot "temporary" easement used for construction. That placement on our property is to be determined "during negotiation" with us LATER, according to NISP, and would remain for AT LEAST 2 YEARS.

According to NISP, construction would last several MONTHS, including the Water Supply property immediately adjacent to our back yard, and these easements would be

used for ingress and egress of all of their construction machinery, trucks, equipment and supplies, and storage of the dirt they dig out of the trench.

From the south wall of our home to our southern property line is 98 feet. The back of our property at the west (left) side is 350' feet and the front at the east (right) side at the street is 225' feet, according to the GIS map on the Larimer County website.

That proposed easement TAKES in essence ONE-THIRD of our 2.6 acre lot!!

That south wall is where our master bedroom, office and glassed in sunroom are located on the first floor and where two more bedrooms are located on the second floor. It also contains the finished portion of our basement. These rooms constitute the majority of our daily living area.

We would not be able to plant trees or build anything EVER AGAIN on the permanent easement.

We would be required to have maintenance people frequently on our property FOREVER.

We are concerned about subsidence issues as a result of trenching so close to our home.

We may never be able to sell at market value because of the easement restrictions FOREVER.

We do not live on 110 acres or 40 acres or even 10 acres, like all of the vacant land just north of us, much of which is listed for sale right now!

We live on 2.6 total acres!

NISP should not be allowed to plow through someone's yard in a private neighborhood. This is TOTALLY inappropriate and unnecessary!!

How would YOU feel if NISP was disrupting your lives and taking YOUR property?

PLEASE PLEASE listen to your constituents and COME SEE FOR YOURSELF before making your final decision on this life-changing project!

Serena and Terry Bieritz
SerenaServicesCO@gmail.com

P.S. We wish we could have addressed you in person, but Terry and I both were very ill with COVID-like symptoms in December and January, so we will Zoom In to protect ourselves and everyone else! Best of continued good health to you all.

Good morning Serena,

Thank you for this information. Please send us the presentation slides that you referenced in this email so we can make sure to have them ready.

Kind regards,



Katie Beilby
Office Supervisor

Community Development Department
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, 80522 | 3rd Floor
W: (970) 498-7719
beilbykm@larimer.org | www.larimer.org/planning

[Quoted text hidden]

Serena <serenaservicesco@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 24, 2020 at 9:18 AM

To: Katie Beilby <beilbykm@co.larimer.co.us>

Cc: Rob Helmick <rhelmick@larimer.org>, Don Threewitt <threewdl@co.larimer.co.us>

Hello Katie, thank you for your email. You are doing a great job!! The two slides will be sent to Rob before noon today by Mark Heiden as part of the slides in the Eagle Lake HOA presentation.
Serena Bieritz

[Quoted text hidden]



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Scott Bolte <sbolte90@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 9:06 AM

Reply-To: sbolte90@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am concerned that the NISP proposal does not currently meet all applicable criteria for a 1041 permit outlined in Section 14 of the Larimer County Land Use Code including Criterion 3's provisions for environmental protection and Criterion 10's provision to protect agricultural lands' productivity. I am not confident that reasonable conditions can be imposed on the proposal to mitigate risks to our river's health and the positive benefits it provides to our communities and our economy.

Annd, it sucks for for people who live here and enjoy this river!
Scott

Sincerely,
Scott Bolte
417 Garfield St Fort Collins, CO 80524-3855
sbolte90@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Michael Bone <southern1084@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 8:29 AM

Reply-To: southern1084@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Michael Bone

PO Box 4 Snowmass, CO 81654-0004

southern1084@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Please Please Vote AGAINST Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP1 message

Matt Booth <georgiavet@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 7:17 AM

Reply-To: georgiavet@icloud.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Matt Booth

310 McConnell Dr Lyons, CO 80540-3805

georgiavet@icloud.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: Please deny the 1041 permit for NISP (my final argument)

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 12:50 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <quailspg@frii.com>
Date: Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 2:10 AM
Subject: Please deny the 1041 permit for NISP (my final argument)
To: bocc@larimer.org <bocc@larimer.org>

COMMISSIONERS DONNELLY, JOHNSON, and KEFALAS:

I ordinarily would attend the public comment portion of the NISP hearing in person but I'm COVID sequestering and don't have the computer ability to join via Zoom. Nevertheless, please imagine me there in the room, hoping against hope that you will vote in favor of the river and against the 1041 permit.

In June I submitted written comments to the NISP hearings for the record, covering my longstanding support for the Poudre River and unwavering concern for its attendant ecosystems. Let me now reiterate a personal and slightly selfish argument for rejecting the permit.

County commissioners may not receive feedback on all their decisions so I offer this to get you up to speed with the situation in Bellvue (Pleasant Valley). Some years ago Larimer County Commissioners gave the thumbs up to a business expansion project near my home (of forty years). Commissioners asked a few questions, including, "Will there be noise?" The applicant said, "Some," but was not pressed on the matter. What followed the next few years was noise beyond belief! These were some of the worst years of my life. I endured the construction phase and now that they have settled in and gotten the kinks out, the noise level has gone from shocking to merely unacceptable. It's not 24/7 but it is most certainly most days and most nights, for most of the day and most of the night. My point here is that projects seem to be okayed without strict conditions, guarantees, further oversight, or a mechanism for enforcement to protect the public's interests.

Bellvue seems to be a hot spot for water-related activity and especially pipelines. Some years ago the expanded Pleasant Valley pipeline was pushed through right behind our house so I have personally experienced the unpleasantness that projects of that order bring. A NISP pipeline running through the valley between Glade and Horsetooth reservoirs is currently off the table but how can I – and other residents of the valley -- trust that

it won't reappear in the future? The pipeline that is currently proposed will run along Highway 287 at the north end of Pleasant Valley, close enough to impact my home with construction noise – a very unwelcome prospect. And for how long – a year? More? And for how many years will we be subjected to the noise from heavy construction vehicles rumbling up the highway while the reservoir itself is being built? Residents of Larimer County don't deserve this, especially when the benefits of this project will accrue to people elsewhere.

Please deny the 1041 permit for NISP.

Donna Braginetz
[3817 N. County Road 25E](#)
Bellvue, CO 80512
(970) 484-7402



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: Don't Kill the River, Oppose NISP, Please!

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:16 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Preston Brown** <pbrown.eco@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 12:12 PM
Subject: Don't Kill the River, Oppose NISP, Please!
To: Steve Johnson <swjohnson@larimer.org>
Cc: <jkefalas@larimer.org>, <tdonnelly@larimer.org>, <bocc@larimer.org>

Dear Commissioner Johnson,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Northern Integrated Supply Project NISP and encourage the Larimer County Planning Commission and County Commissioners to reject the 1041 County permit for the project. Let me explain why I do not support this project and encourage you to reject the permit.

This annual spring "rise" on the Cache la Poudre River is a sacred event, a living pulse of water that lasts just about a month but refreshes and re-nourishes the entire river ecology. As the Poudre reaches Fort Collins these floodwaters spill the banks, filling secondary channels where frogs, birds, and fish rear and lay eggs. Fresh layers of sediments drop out over the floodplains, nourishing the deep, lush cottonwood forests and marshes.

Something unique about the Poudre is that despite roughly 2/3 of the flow already diverted out, there is still enough of a spring "rise" to flood the banks, clean out the river of lingering sediments, redeposit nutrients, and refresh the ecology. This is rare, nearly all of the rivers and creeks along Colorado's Front Range have been dammed or diverted where the natural rhythm of the spring "rise" is gone, turning the echoing drumbeat of the river into a muted whine.

The Poudre still has its spring heartbeat, but not for long if the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District builds their gluttonous Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). If this project is built it will take 71% of the water out of the river during the spring "rise", flat-lining the river and putting it on life support.

My expertise is in river restoration and geomorphology, it's my job to know how river and stream mechanics respond to changes in flow. A major problem that NISP would have on the river is that by reducing the spring "rise", the river will not be able to redistribute and transport sediments out of the river channel where they can deposit onto floodplains and wetlands. By functionally limiting the peak flow and eliminating the annual flushing effect, those sediments will stack up in the channel year after year, eventually raising the channel higher and higher to a point that will create regular flooding problems. The annual flush is needed to improve hydraulic conveyance and move sediments downstream. Not allowing this annual pulse will create a clog, similar to a blood clot.

Additionally, if NISP were built and the sediments are not annually flushed out with large spring pulses, the water quality will greatly suffer. This will occur because the sediment and nutrients trapped in the channel will decompose and consume oxygen levels within the water, thereby decreasing dissolved oxygen available for fish and other wildlife. The annual spring "rise" is not "extra unused water", it's the force that cleans the river environment, flushing sediments and nutrients out and distributing them on floodplains.

Taking the last of the peak flow and storing it behind a dam to feed sprawling suburbs, while turning the river into a putrid algae-filled ditch, is not a good starting point.

This is not my vision for the Poudre River or the Northern Colorado region. Instead, my vision is to keep the wild character of the river, meet growing water needs, and retain the farmland and rustic character of the region. We don't need another river-destroying boondoggle like NISP that creates more urban sprawl. We need intelligent planning, water conservation, recycling, water sharing agreements between cities and farms, and water efficiency upgrades. These solutions have been done in places like Las Vegas where water use has gone down even through growth has skyrocketed. These methods are common and would be significantly cheaper than a billion-dollar dam, paid for by ratepayers.

Only 35 years ago, a 415 ft tall dam was proposed along highway 14 near the mouth of the Poudre Canyon. The Grey Mountain Reservoir proposal was pushed by Northern Water, the same agency pushing NISP. Thankfully Grey Mountain Dam was rejected by Larimer County, and I hope that NISP will be defeated too, but only with your help in rejecting the 1041 County Permit.

Please stand with the river and all the constituents in Larimer County that do not want to see our beloved river put on life support to feed the growth of cities in other Counties.

Thank you,

Preston Brown

Fort Collins, CO.



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: Please Oppose NISP, don't Kill the River

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:16 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Preston Brown** <pbrown.eco@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 12:13 PM

Subject: Please Oppose NISP, don't Kill the River

To: <tdonnelly@larimer.org>Cc: Steve Johnson <swjohnson@larimer.org>, <jkefalas@larimer.org>, <bocc@larimer.org>

Dear Commissioner Donnelly,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Northern Integrated Supply Project NISP and encourage the Larimer County Planning Commission and County Commissioners to reject the 1041 County permit for the project. Let me explain why I do not support this project and encourage you to reject the permit.

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Only 35 years ago, a 415 ft tall dam was proposed along highway 14 near the mouth of the Poudre Canyon. The Grey Mountain Reservoir proposal was pushed by Northern Water, the same agency pushing NISP. Thankfully Grey Mountain Dam was rejected by Larimer County, and I hope that NISP will be defeated too, but only with your help in rejecting the 1041 County Permit.

Please stand with the river and all the constituents in Larimer County that do not want to see our beloved river put on life support to feed the growth of cities in other Counties.

Thank you,

Preston Brown

Fort Collins, CO.



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: Listen to the Voters, Oppose NISP!

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:17 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Preston Brown** <pbrown.eco@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 12:14 PM

Subject: Listen to the Voters, Oppose NISP!

To: <jkefalas@larimer.org>Cc: Steve Johnson <swjohnson@larimer.org>, <tdonnelly@larimer.org>, <bocc@larimer.org>

Dear Commissioner Kefalas,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Northern Integrated Supply Project NISP and encourage the Larimer County Planning Commission and County Commissioners to reject the 1041 County permit for the project. Let me explain why I do not support this project and encourage you to reject the permit.

This annual spring "rise" on the Cache la Poudre River is a sacred event, a living pulse of water that lasts just about a month but refreshes and re-nourishes the entire river ecology. As the Poudre reaches Fort Collins these floodwaters spill the banks, filling secondary channels where frogs, birds, and fish rear and lay eggs. Fresh layers of sediments drop out over the floodplains, nourishing the deep, lush cottonwood forests and marshes.

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Thank you,

Preston Brown

Fort Collins, CO.



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Monica Bruzza <monicalbruzza@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 3:16 PM

Reply-To: monicalbruzza@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Monica Bruzza

921 Pear St Fort Collins, CO 80521-3100

monicalbruzza@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Jeffrey Buchman <wwk1jeff@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 9:15 AM

Reply-To: wwk1jeff@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Buchman

1423 Clayton St Denver, CO 80206-2432

wwk1jeff@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Im kindly asking for a Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP1 message

Caleb Hoover <calebhoover@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 4:42 PM

Reply-To: calebhoover@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Caleb Hoover

1001 Laporte Ave Fort Collins, CO 80521-2414

calebhoover@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Id appreciate a Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Caleb Hoover <highcountryretreats@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 4:43 PM

Reply-To: highcountryretreats@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

Continued...

I am also concerned that the NISP proposal does not currently meet all applicable criteria for a 1041 permit outlined in Section 14 of the Larimer County Land Use Code including Criterion 3's provisions for environmental protection and Criterion 10's provision to protect agricultural lands' productivity. I am not confident that reasonable conditions can be imposed on the proposal to mitigate risks to our river's health and the positive benefits it provides to our communities and our economy.

Sincerely,

Caleb Hoover

1001 Laporte Ave Fort Collins, CO 80521-2414

highcountryretreats@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Kimberly Carson <snopleez@everyactioncustom.com>

Thu, Aug 20, 2020 at 7:39 AM

Reply-To: snopleez@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

When I come to Fort Collins to use the river park, I always stop for food and to go shopping.

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Carson

124 River View Rd Gypsum, CO 81637

snopleez@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Thomas Carter <ubertrooper@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 5:24 PM

Reply-To: ubertrooper@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Thomas Carter
738 Gilpin Cir Erie, CO 80516-2578
ubertrooper@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Christie Catania <ccatania@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 2:30 PM

Reply-To: ccatania@newbelgium.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Christie Catania
1132 Elm St Fort Collins, CO 80521-1757
ccatania@newbelgium.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Heather Chappell <hezz71@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 5:42 PM

Reply-To: hezz71@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Heather Chappell
4013 Granite Ct Fort Collins, CO 80526-3155
hezz71@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Wade Coonce <wacfgc@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 4:02 PM

Reply-To: wacfgc@outlook.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Wade Coonce

1709 Steamboat Ln Columbia, MO 65201-7328

wacfgc@outlook.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Telford Crisco <endure26@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 10:39 PM

Reply-To: endure26@aol.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Telford Crisco

203 Brook Meadow Rd Lansing, KS 66043-4301

endure26@aol.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

John Cunningham <Johnkat@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 5:27 PM

Reply-To: Johnkat@swbell.net

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

John Cunningham

1116 Haynes St San Marcos, TX 78666-7012

Johnkat@swbell.net



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Dylan Johnson <dylan.dj187@everyactioncustom.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 8:04 AM

Reply-To: dylan.dj187@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Dylan Johnson

637 Smith St Fort Collins, CO 80524-3120

dylan.dj187@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: 1041 Criteria Not Met for NISP, Please Oppose it

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:15 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.



Linda Hoffmann
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ann Desheart** <ann11desheart@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 12:07 PM

Subject: 1041 Criteria Not Met for NISP, Please Oppose it

To: Steve Johnson <swjohnson@larimer.org>

Cc: <jkefalas@larimer.org>, <tdonnelly@larimer.org>, <bocc@larimer.org>

Dear Commissioner Johnson,

The Northern Integrated Supply Project, (NISP), does not adhere to all 12 of the requirements for approval of the 1041 permitting criteria.

One criterion not met, for example, is the requirement for balanced and adequate mitigation for impacts.

Simply by the nature of NISP, cutting off the last spring flood to the river will forever alter the river environment in an unnatural way. And Northern Water's suggested "mitigation" by elevating the base flows a bit through Fort Collins does not even compare to adequate and equal mitigation.

Adding some base flows while slicing off the spring rise is like **giving someone crutches after you break their leg, it's not equal**. Therefore at least 1 of 12 criterion for the 1041 permit are not met and should be rejected.

By not adequately addressing all 12 criteria for the 1041 Permitting Process, NISP should not be accepted. If NISP were to be approved, even through appeal, while still not meeting all 12 criteria, Larimer County leaves itself vulnerable to litigation.

In its current form NISP cannot be approved. Northern Water can and should return to the planning phase to develop a water supply and conservation plan that is truly integrated and not a one-size-fits-all dam building boondoggle of what we would see last century.

Please reject NISP in its current form.

Ann Desheart,

8/24/2020

co.larimer.co.us Mail - Fwd: 1041 Criteria Not Met for NISP, Please Oppose it

Loveland, CO



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: NISP doesn't meet 1041 requirements

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:15 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ann Desheart** <ann11desheart@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 12:08 PM

Subject: NISP doesn't meet 1041 requirements

To: <tdonnelly@larimer.org>Cc: Steve Johnson <swjohnson@larimer.org>, <jkefalas@larimer.org>, <bocc@larimer.org>

Dear Commissioner Donnelly,

The Northern Integrated Supply Project, (NISP), does not adhere to all 12 of the requirements for approval of the 1041 permitting criteria.

One criterion not met, for example, is the requirement for balanced and adequate mitigation for impacts.

Simply by the nature of NISP, cutting off the last spring flood to the river will forever alter the river environment in an unnatural way. And Northern Water's suggested "mitigation" by elevating the base flows a bit through Fort Collins does not even compare to adequate and equal mitigation.

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Please reject NISP in its current form.

Ann Desheart,

8/24/2020

co.larimer.co.us Mail - Fwd: NISP doesn't meet 1041 requirements

Loveland, CO



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: Oppose NISP, 1041 Criteria Not Met

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:16 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ann Desheart** <ann11desheart@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 12:09 PM

Subject: Oppose NISP, 1041 Criteria Not Met

To: <jkefalas@larimer.org>Cc: Steve Johnson <swjohnson@larimer.org>, <tdonnelly@larimer.org>, <bocc@larimer.org>

Dear Commissioner Kefalas,

The Northern Integrated Supply Project, (NISP), does not adhere to all 12 of the requirements for approval of the 1041 permitting criteria.

One criterion not met, for example, is the requirement for balanced and adequate mitigation for impacts.

Simply by the nature of NISP, cutting off the last spring flood to the river will forever alter the river environment in an unnatural way. And Northern Water's suggested "mitigation" by elevating the base flows a bit through Fort Collins does not even compare to adequate and equal mitigation.

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In its current form NISP cannot be approved. Northern Water can and should return to the planning phase to develop a water supply and conservation plan that is truly integrated and not a one-size-fits-all dam building boondoggle of what we would see last century.

Please reject NISP in its current form.

Ann Desheart,

8/24/2020

co.larimer.co.us Mail - Fwd: Oppose NISP, 1041 Criteria Not Met

Loveland, CO



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Robert Dodds <abcdodds@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 4:25 PM

Reply-To: abcdodds@msn.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Robert Dodds

16992 Georgetown Way Rosemount, MN 55068-5155

abcdodds@msn.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Roger Duggan <rdggn@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 7:07 AM

Reply-To: rdggn@yahoo.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I live in Denver but I drove up to the whitewater park multiple times this summer and after I kayaked in the whitewater park, I stayed in Fort Collins to shop and eat.

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Roger Duggan

728 Vine St Denver, CO 80206-3740

rdggn@yahoo.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

David Farkas <dave-farkas@everyactioncustom.com>

Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 10:32 AM

Reply-To: dave-farkas@hotmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

David Farkas

110 Conestoga Way Unit 2 Hesperus, CO 81326-7801

dave-farkas@hotmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: Glade reservoir proposal Mark as private (pertains to elected officials only)

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 5:46 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Linda Hoffmann** <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
Date: Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 5:45 PM
Subject: Re: Glade reservoir proposal Mark as private (pertains to elected officials only)
To: Thomas H. Smith <farqsmith@icloud.com>

Thank you for your prompt response!

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

On Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 3:37 PM Thomas H. Smith <farqsmith@icloud.com> wrote:

Ms. Hoffman,
Thank you. Please include my comments as part of the public record. I was unsure about what that choice meant. I appreciate that you clarified this for me.

Respectfully,

Toni Farquhar

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 19, 2020, at 1:46 PM, Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us> wrote:

Good Afternoon,

I am Linda Hoffmann, Larimer County Manager. I administer this email address on behalf of the Commissioners. The message you sent addresses an active land-use application and cannot be kept private due to laws on public transparency.

It would be considered ex parte communication for your views on the application to be provided to the Commissioners without the benefit of public access to it. I am reaching out to you to ask if you would prefer to either 1) authorize me to include your message in the public record for the application, or 2) direct me to take no further action to transmit the message.

Thank you for letting me know of your preference. I'll act promptly to carry it out when I hear back from you.



Linda Hoffmann
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Larimer.org** <noreply@larimer.org>

Date: Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Subject: Glade reservoir proposal Mark as private (pertains to elected officials only)

To: <bocc@larimer.org>

Submitted on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 - 10:00am

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Emailing (to) bocc@larimer.org

Subject Glade reservoir proposal

Your Name Toni Farquhar

Phone 9702187581

Your Email farqsmith@icloud.com

Confirm Email farqsmith@icloud.com

Message

Over the years, we have written many letters in opposition to Glade Reservoir. Nothing has changed our minds over the years even as the realtors and Chambers of Commerce in the area continue to promote a region that has limited water. The public and private sectors have done little to mitigate the wasteful use of water as subdivisions surrounded by water demanding blue grass are approved, water restrictions in times of drought are not imposed, the citizenry is not reminded on a daily basis of the need to conserve water and the population of Larimer County continues to explode. All of these factors lead people to believe that another reservoir will solve the problem! It is mind boggling that in the 16 years that Glade has been under review none of these things have changed and neither has the need to save the Poudre River and the natural areas surrounding it. Glade will not solve the problem of too little water. Only conservation can do that. We, as a community, have not begun to work on that. The county commissioners can take a huge role in helping with conservation by refusing to permit Glade and the disruption and destruction it will cause and demanding the conservative use of this precious resource.

Sincerely,

Toni Farquhar and Thomas Smith

Privacy Setting Mark as private (pertains to elected officials only)

This form was submitted from a /contact email link on larimer.org.



FORT COLLINS-LOVELAND WATER DISTRICT

5150 Snead Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80525

Phone 970.226.3104 Fax 970.226.0186

www.fclwd.com

August 24, 2020

Dear Commissioners,

The Fort Collins-Loveland Water District (FCLWD) Board of Directors would like to express its support of the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). We believe NISP to be beneficial not just for Fort Collins and Loveland, but for Northern Colorado as a whole. Water in the west is a finite resource that is important to everyone. With the ongoing wildfires, we can see it is abundantly clear that water is the lifeblood of Northern Colorado. Without it, we will suffer from droughts, floods, and more wildfires.

FCLWD, like many Front Range water providers, benefit from a diverse water supply portfolio. With supplies originating in the Colorado River Basin and Poudre River Basin, hydrologic and climatic conditions are usually not the same - or of the same degree - in both river basins simultaneously. This redundancy is crucial when one river basin or watershed is experiencing drought, flood, or wildfire.

Having water from both basins provides the FCLWD with an additional increment of drought protection. If conditions are dry in the Colorado River Basin and supplies are limited, there may be less severe conditions in the Poudre River Basin or vice versa.

Wildfires can negatively impact the quantity and quality of water available in a river for potable use. These effects occur not only during the active burn but for years following a fire. Vegetation that holds soil in place and retains water is burned away. The absence of vegetation in the watershed can contribute to erosion and even flooding, impacting drinking water quality.

Due to the unpredictable nature of wildfires, drinking-water utilities face a considerable challenge to develop plans and strategies for managing floods and treating polluted water. A tool like Glade Reservoir, which is off-channel storage not directly connected to the Poudre River, can help provide an alternative water source when other supplies are affected.

NISP will create the redundancy needed to ensure that existing and future customers are water secure. The FCLWD Board of Directors advocates strongly for NISP as a key tool to help supply water to our growing region. NISP will deliver two new reservoirs, providing the entire northern Front Range with 40,000 acre-feet of new, reliable water at a time when additional sources are becoming hard to come by.

Projections indicate that by 2032, just 12 years from today, FCLWD will need an additional 8,000 acre-feet of water to meet the needs of our growing service area. We believe this collaborative, long-term regional water supply project is the best option to secure water for our future and our children's future.

NISP is the solution to the future of water security in Northern Colorado, and it has the Fort Collins-Loveland Water District's full support.

Sincerely,

Fort Collins Loveland Water District Board of Directors



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Brian Finkle <bfinkle1019@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 5:20 PM

Reply-To: bfinkle1019@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Brian Finkle

2812 Chaparral Dr Fort Collins, CO 80526-5551

bfinkle1019@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Barbara Finkle <bfstargeezer1@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 5:17 PM

Reply-To: bfstargeezer1@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Barbara Finkle
2812 Chaparral Dr Fort Collins, CO 80526-5551
bfstargeezer1@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Ben Fletcher <givemefletch@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 7:46 AM

Reply-To: givemefletch@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ben Fletcher

1755 Glenwood Dr Fort Collins, CO 80526-1554

givemefletch@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Letter in Support of NISP

1 message

Brittany Lamb <blamb@fclwd.com>

Mon, Aug 24, 2020 at 9:40 AM

To: "rhelmick@larimer.org" <rhelmick@larimer.org>, "jkefalas@larimer.org" <jkefalas@larimer.org>, "tdonnelly@larimer.org" <tdonnelly@larimer.org>, "swjohnson@larimer.org" <swjohnson@larimer.org>

Hello,

Attached is a letter from the Board of Directors for Fort Collins Loveland Water District in regards to the NISP project.

Brittany Lamb*Executive Administrative Professional**Fort Collins – Loveland Water District**South Fort Collins Sanitation District**Phone: 970-226-3104 x 119*

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Declarations of Emergency by both FCLWD and SFCSD, our Mission Statement to provide "High Quality, Secure, Reliable and Affordable Water" requires us to prioritize our system operations over administrative activities. Please understand that we will do our best to respond in accordance with this mission statement. We appreciate your patience as we navigate through this event.

**FCLWD - NISP Board Letter.doc**

136K



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Darcy Gaechter <darcygaechter@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 8:34 AM

Reply-To: darcygaechter@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Darcy Gaechter

1512 County Road 137 Glenwood Springs, CO 81601-9767

darcygaechter@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Hattie Johnson <hattie@everyactioncustom.com>

Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 9:57 AM

Reply-To: hattie@americanwhitewater.orgTo: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Hattie Johnson

395 S 2nd St Carbondale, CO 81623-2109

hattie@americanwhitewater.org



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Erik Haagenson <ehaagenson@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 10:29 PM

Reply-To: ehaagenson@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Erik Haagenson

227 Osiander St Fort Collins, CO 80524-4466

ehaagenson@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP1 message

steve Haire <stevehaire1@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 11:52 AM

Reply-To: stevehaire1@aol.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

steve Haire

201 Vencino Dr Grand Junction, CO 81503-2372

stevehaire1@aol.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Thomas Hayes <tomhayes1@everyactioncustom.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:02 AM

Reply-To: tomhayes1@hotmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Thomas Hayes

1631 Trailwood Dr Fort Collins, CO 80525-2076

tomhayes1@hotmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: NISP

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 3:08 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.



Linda Hoffmann
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Larimer.org** <noreply@larimer.org>
Date: Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 1:00 PM
Subject: NISP
To: <bocc@larimer.org>

Submitted on Friday, August 21, 2020 - 1:00pm

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Emailing (to) bocc@larimer.org
Subject NISP
Your Name Connie Hermann
Phone 970-482-8339
Your Email ehermann@frii.com
Confirm Email ehermann@frii.com
Message
Subject: NISP
Date: 8/21/2020

Dear Larimer County Commisioners,

Why I oppose NISP:

1. The 3 million dollars just spent on building the new Whitewater Park will be wasted because of the lack of water that will be pulled out of the river to fill the NISP project. You can't boat on gravel or just a few inches of water let alone play in it.
2. The Wild & Scenic designation for the Poudre River will become a joke when it's turned into nothing more than a ditch & the water level is reduced to a trickle that people can easily walk across. You can already do that now at certain times of the year in certain areas.
3. Less water flowing in the Poudre River will negatively impact those who enjoy & depend on the river for boating, fishing, camping & a place to have a picnic. It will also affect our economy when the rafting companies can no longer operate because there's not enough water for rafting.
4. The NISP project will have a negative impact especially on the native trout because of reduced water flows and warmer water.
5. The dam is designed to provide water not to people in the Fort Collins area but to those in Weld County.
6. Without adequate water many of the trees & vegetation along the river will die off leaving a bleak landscape instead.
7. A geology professor at CSU questioned the wisdom of locating a dam in an area with unstable rock formations that

8/24/2020

co.larimer.co.us Mail - Fwd: NISP

would allow water to escape and increase the amount of water needed to keep it filled.
8. It will be a hugely expensive boondoggle & negatively impact our quality of life.

Sincerely,

Connie Hermann
[722 Whedbee St., Fort Collins 80524](#)

Privacy Setting

This form was submitted from a /contact email link on [larimer.org](#).



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

1041 Permit, don't stop the flow

1 message

Mickaela Hime <mickaelahime@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 3:23 PM

Reply-To: mickaelahime@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mickaela Hime

6117 NE 9th Ave Unit B Portland, OR 97211-3778

mickaelahime@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Elisabeth Hoover <elisabethannehoover@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 3:49 PM

Reply-To: elisabethannehoover@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am also concerned that the NISP proposal does not currently meet all applicable criteria for a 1041 permit outlined in Section 14 of the Larimer County Land Use Code including Criterion 3's provisions for environmental protection and Criterion 10's provision to protect agricultural lands' productivity. I am not confident that reasonable conditions can be imposed on the proposal to mitigate risks to our river's health and the positive benefits it provides to our communities and our economy.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Hoover

1001 Laporte Ave Fort Collins, CO 80521-2414

elisabethannehoover@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Allison Horsch <allisonchorsch@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 5:33 PM

Reply-To: allisonchorsch@hotmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Allison Horsch

507 S Whitcomb St Fort Collins, CO 80521-3643

allisonchorsch@hotmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Kelsey Ireland <kelsey.desostoa@everyactioncustom.com>

Mon, Aug 24, 2020 at 8:38 AM

Reply-To: kelsey.desostoa@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kelsey Ireland

742 Sandpiper Pt Fort Collins, CO 80525-3111

kelsey.desostoa@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP1 message

Kyle Ireland <kyle.ireland3@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 2:38 PM

Reply-To: kyle.ireland3@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kyle Ireland

742 Sandpiper Pt Fort Collins, CO 80525-3111

kyle.ireland3@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please DENY The Permit For NISP

1 message

Jordan Stouffer <JordanStouffer@gmail.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 10:37 PM

To: jkefalas@larimer.org, swjohnson@larimer.org, tdonnelly@larimer.org, rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Commissioners,

The Cache la Poudre River is the crown jewel of Fort Collins. If the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) is built, so much water would be drained out of the Poudre that the river would resemble a muddy, stinky ditch through Fort Collins. Please DENY the County permit for NISP.

1. The Poudre already has about 60% of its water drained out by farms and cities before the river reaches downtown Fort Collins.
2. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit documents indicate that NISP would drain 68% of the remaining water out of the river in the month of May, 25% in June, and 45% in July.
3. The peak flow of the river -- which is integral for the ecological health of the river through Fort Collins -- would be drained by 50%.
4. Draining this much water out of the river would cause severe negative impacts including:
 - The river water would be warmer which can lead to fish die-offs,
 - More sediment and mud would build up on the bottom of the river,
 - Native trout can't spawn in mud, and would be overtaken by warm-water fish like carp and bullheads,
 - Algae would increasingly grow in the riverbed and on rocks,
 - Pollution of City's stormwater and wastewater would be much worse due to lack of dilution,
 - Water quality would worsen, including an increase in E. coli bacteria, making the river unhealthy for human enjoyment,
 - Wetlands along the river would be increasingly dried up,
 - The forest canopy along the river corridor through town -- cottonwoods and willows -- would be increasingly dried up and die off,
 - Recreational opportunity at the new Whitewater Park would be severely diminished,
 - Flooding would increase,
 - The river would be ugly, more like a muddy stinking ditch.

NISP is by far the most controversial project in the history of Larimer County due to these severe negative environmental impacts which cannot be mitigated. Further, the proposed 'mitigation plan' for NISP is a farce and would have little impact against the overwhelming environmental devastation caused by NISP. Finally, NISP towns have other alternatives to get water that don't include destroying Fort Collins' beloved Poudre River.

Please DENY this permit and begin the more important work of restoring the Poudre River through Fort Collins instead of further draining it.

Sincerely,

Jordan Stouffer
Breck Stouffer- Age 4
Madden Stouffer - Age 2
Jordan Stouffer
JordanStouffer@gmail.com
3337 Pineridge Place
Fort Collins CO 80525



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

A Question & A Solution

7 messages

K.A. Wagner <kaswagner@me.com>

Thu, Aug 13, 2020 at 3:54 PM

To: bocc@larimer.org, Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>, Lesli Ellis <ellislk@co.larimer.co.us>, Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>

Commissioners,

Please advise how citizens can check to be sure that their public comment letters regarding NISP (the Northern Integrated Supply Project) are included in the August 17th 1041 application packet? This is a frequent question among county residents, as the NISP hearing nears. Citizens are concerned that their comments may have not been received.

As of this morning, the hearing agenda and planning materials had not been finalized. There is still time for Mr. Helmick to create an index with a chronological list of all NISP comments that have been included in the hearing packet.

Citizens should not have to scan nearly 1,000 NISP comments, just a few days before the hearing, in order to be sure their concerns have been registered. The comment index would be new to the county land use process, but essential for accommodating public input on the largest land use project in Larimer County's history.

For the first time, the Board has decided to severely limit opportunities for residents to be heard regarding NISP. Considering the size and potential impacts of NISP, one would hope that the Board would want to encourage public input, rather than restrict it.

The county has accommodated Northern Water for years to insure that their every word is included in the 3,000+ page packet. Time to publish an index of public comments, so citizens don't have to wonder if their concerns have been heard.

For the sake of your constituents, please instruct the Planning Department to publish a chronological index of public comments before in-person comment begins on August 24.

Karen Wagner

Fort Collins

Lesli Ellis <ellislk@co.larimer.co.us>

Fri, Aug 14, 2020 at 8:23 AM

Reply-To: ellislk@larimer.org

To: Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>, Katie Beilby <beilbykm@co.larimer.co.us>, Don Threewitt <threewdl@co.larimer.co.us>

Rob and Katie -

What are the pages and/or Attachment name for these materials, so we can provide that information to members of the public? Also, will you please clarify the timing when materials were posted -- wasn't Aug. 7? Finally, we'll have an addendum on Monday Aug. 17 for any later incoming materials, correct? And on 24th and 31st for even later materials?

Thank you!
Lesli



Lesli Ellis, AICP CEP
Community Development Director

Community Development Department
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, 80521 | 3rd Floor
W: (970) 498-7690
ellislk@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

[Quoted text hidden]

Katie Beilby <beilbykm@co.larimer.co.us>

Fri, Aug 14, 2020 at 8:37 AM

To: Lesli Ellis <ellislk@larimer.org>

Cc: Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>, Don Threewitt <threewdl@co.larimer.co.us>

Hi Lesli, welcome back.

All of the agenda items were uploaded to the NISP site last Friday night.

The Agenda and Staff report for BCC and the PC staff report are available on the agenda site, with links to the other items on our site (Frank said that would work due to the size). We have all the attachments from the PC Application i s Attachment E and all new comments for BCC (there are some duplicates I noticed) in Attachment D.

Let me know if you need anything else.



Katie Beilby
Office Supervisor

Community Development Department
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, 80522 | 3rd Floor
W: (970) 498-7719
beilbykm@larimer.org | www.larimer.org/planning

[Quoted text hidden]

Lesli Ellis <ellislk@co.larimer.co.us>

Fri, Aug 14, 2020 at 10:14 AM

Reply-To: ellislk@larimer.org

To: Katie Beilby <beilbykm@co.larimer.co.us>

Cc: Lesli Ellis <ellislk@larimer.org>, Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>, Don Threewitt <threewdl@co.larimer.co.us>

Thanks for all the information! I presume an interested party could type in their name and find their email comment? Is that a fair assumption? Can we test that?



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ellislk@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

[Quoted text hidden]

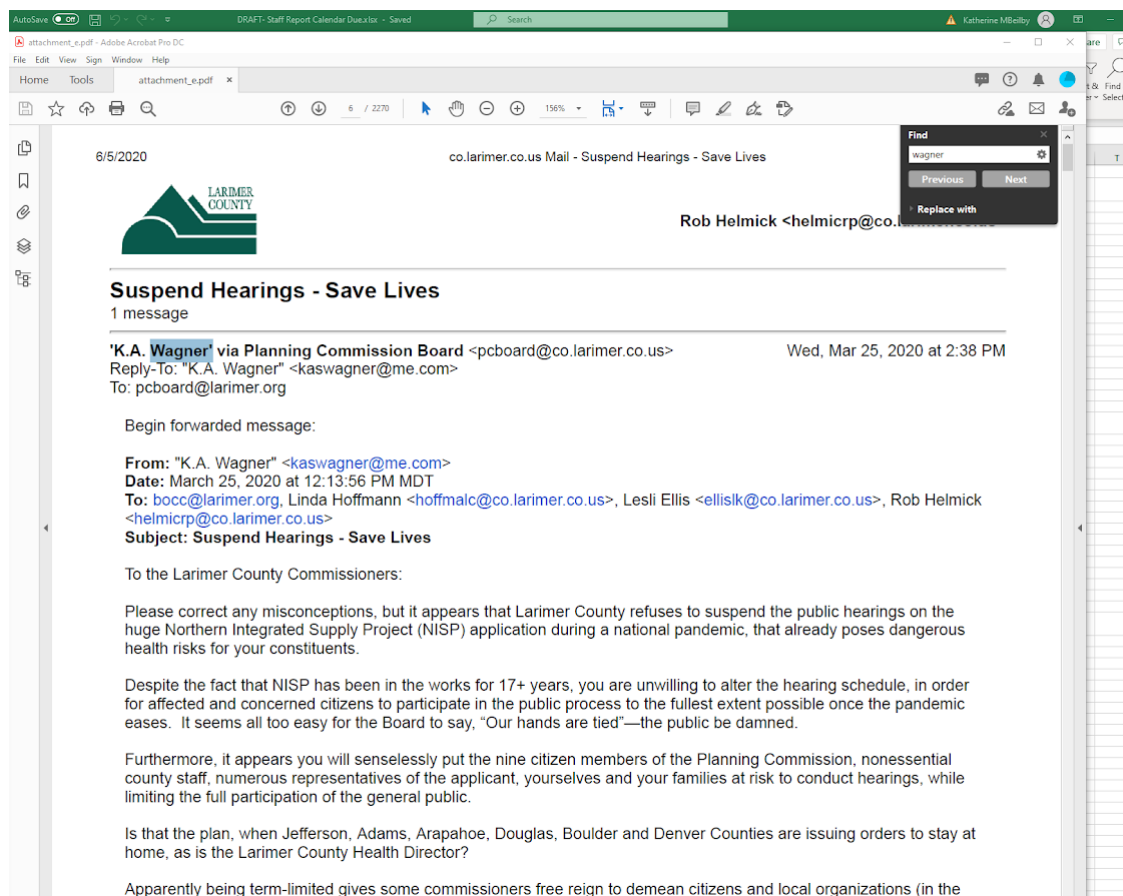
Katie Beilby <beilbykm@co.larimer.co.us>

Fri, Aug 14, 2020 at 10:20 AM

To: Lesli Ellis <ellislk@larimer.org>

Cc: Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>, Don Threewitt <threewdl@co.larimer.co.us>

I was able to download Attachment E and then search for Wagner:



I am not sure if what type of Adobe you use will play into that search.



Katie Beilby
Office Supervisor

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W: (970) 498-7719
beilbykm@larimer.org | www.larimer.org/planning

[Quoted text hidden]

Lesli Ellis <ellislk@co.larimer.co.us>

Fri, Aug 14, 2020 at 10:36 AM

Reply-To: ellislk@larimer.org

To: Katie Beilby <beilbykm@co.larimer.co.us>, Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>, Don Threewitt <threewdl@co.larimer.co.us>

Thank you!



Lesli Ellis, AICP CEP
Community Development Director

Community Development Department
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, 80521 | 3rd Floor
W: (970) 498-7690
ellislk@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

[Quoted text hidden]

Lesli Ellis <ellislk@co.larimer.co.us>

Mon, Aug 17, 2020 at 7:48 AM

Reply-To: ellislk@larimer.org

To: "K.A. Wagner" <kaswagner@me.com>

Cc: Linda Hoffmann <bocc@larimer.org>, Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>, Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>

Good morning Ms. Wagner -

Thank you for your input and suggestion to make it easier to search the files for public comments. This response is to assist with that.

The staff report and all the attachments have been posted online since Aug. 7 at <https://www.larimer.org/planning/NISP-1041> (look under "Schedule - Board of County Commissioners" for Aug. 17). It is broken in parts because of the large file size.

- The memo is here: https://www.larimer.org/sites/default/files/uploads/2020/final_nisp_bcc_memo_attachment_a.pdf.
- **Attachment D** to the memo contains all the public comments received for the Board of County Commissioners through Aug. 6 since July 15, 2020. The PDF file has bookmarks that lists entries by name. It is also possible to do a search by name to find an entry -- in essence the index. Here: https://www.larimer.org/sites/default/files/uploads/2020/attachment_d.pdf
- Attachment E contains all the public comments received for the Planning Commission through July 15, 2020, here: https://www.larimer.org/sites/default/files/uploads/2020/attachment_e.pdf It is also searchable.

If you are not able to locate a particular submitted email, please let Rob Helmick know and it can be included in an Addendum for the Commissioners before they deliberate.

Kind regards,
Lesli



On Thu, Aug 13, 2020 at 3:54 PM K.A. Wagner <kaswagner@me.com> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Don't Sacrifice The Poudre For A Dry Reservoir

2 messages

K.A. Wagner <kaswagner@me.com>

Mon, Aug 17, 2020 at 1:57 PM

To: boccc@larimer.org, Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Three Larimer County citizen groups—representing thousands of concerned residents—submitted CORA (Colorado Open Records Act) requests to get the official records for Johnson's and Donnelly's 10 years of cheerleading for Glade Reservoir and their enthusiastic endorsement of the NISP project. The CORA requests were costly, but unfortunately are the only way citizens can learn what's going on behind the scenes in county government.

With the release of those documents, we learned that the two commissioners have repeatedly stated that Glade Reservoir will be the "legacy" of their twelve years in office. In a text message just last year, Donnelly cautioned Northern Water not to blow "the deal." The communications between the two commissioners and Northern Water (about the deal) are a blatant violations of the ex parte standards that the commissioners are so fond of lecturing citizens to avoid.

After 10 years of NISP bias and direct communications with Northern Water, Commissioner Johnson has gone even further by severely limiting public comment on the single, largest and most destructive land use application in Larimer County's history. With COVID-19 restrictions in place, group presentations (where individuals relinquish their minutes to a single speaker) would limit the public risk of speaking in person at the hearing. But Chair Johnson has decided to prohibit group presentations at the August 24 hearing.

Instead of soliciting the maximum public input on the massive project, the Board is limiting hearing room seating to 40, and will cut off all citizen commenters at 3 minutes. A convoluted registration process for speaking either virtually or in person will further limit comment, based on the technical glitches of the recent Planning Commission hearing.

After 10 years of working directly with Northern Water and endorsing NISP as their "legacy," Donnelly and Johnson are trying to convince the public that they can deliberate the NISP application fairly and without bias. That's the fairy tale the landed gentry tell the lowly serfs.

At the June 24 NISP hearing, 3 members of the Planning Commission recused themselves, with the approval of the county attorney's office, for considerably lesser bias. Tonight Donnelly and Johnson should follow the example of the citizen volunteers they appointed to the Planning Commission.

If they don't recuse, they will most likely decide that the Poudre River can be sacrificed for the flawed and environmentally, destructive Glade Reservoir. What public official wants to list the death of a river among their accomplishments? Johnson and Donnelly do.

Karen Wagner

Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Mon, Aug 17, 2020 at 2:22 PM

To: Don Threewitt <threewdl@co.larimer.co.us>, Lesli Ellis <ellisk@larimer.org>

[Quoted text hidden]

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**Robert Helmick**
Senior Planner

Community Development Department
200 West Oak Street, Suite 3100
PO Box 1190
Fort Collins, CO 80521
970-498-7682
rhelmick@larimer.org
<https://www.larimer.org/planning>



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Acknowledge Overwhelming Public Opposition - Deny NISP

1 message

K.A. Wagner <kaswagner@me.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 3:41 PM

To: boccc@larimer.org, Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Commissioners,

By now, we know how much two members of the Board really, really want a new county recreation venue at Glade and how they have worked for years with Northern Water to seal "the deal" on NISP (Tom Donnelly's word choice.)

Now those two commissioners tell us that they can be fair and impartial in deliberating the NISP 1041 application, the largest and most environmentally destructive land use proposal in Larimer County's history. Pardon my skepticism...

Is the board willing to sacrifice the "National Heritage" Poudre River, the parks, trails and natural areas associated with the river and the Downtown Fort Collins economy for empty pipelines from a dry reservoir, intended only to benefit entities outside Larimer County?

The ultimate goal of NISP is to further drain the struggling Poudre River. Climate change, predicted drought, massive wildfires, higher temps, lower snowpack and extreme weather remind us that the practice of damming and draining rivers has not worked to improve the scarcity of water in the West.

The Poudre River currently offers more benefits to a greater number of income levels than another flat water reservoir ever will. No power boats, jet skis or costly equipment are needed to enjoy the Poudre River.

Your constituents have little hope that you value the Poudre River as we do. But, Larimer County could use some good news right now. Prove us wrong.

Please acknowledge the overwhelming public opposition to draining the Poudre River, as you deliberate the NISP proposal. Deny the NISP application, as you did in voting down the Thornton Water Project, because of the incompleteness of the application and the impacts on county residents and quality of life.

Karen Wagner
Fort Collins



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Don't Sacrifice The Poudre For A Dry Reservoir

1 message

K.A. Wagner <kaswagner@me.com>

Mon, Aug 17, 2020 at 3:51 PM

To: boccc@larimer.org, Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Three Larimer County citizen groups—representing thousands of concerned residents—submitted CORA (Colorado Open Records Act) requests to get the official records for Johnson's and Donnelly's 10 years of cheerleading for Glade Reservoir and their enthusiastic endorsement of the NISP project. The CORA requests were costly, but unfortunately are the only way citizens can learn what's going on behind the scenes in county government.

With the release of those documents, we learned that the two commissioners have repeatedly stated that Glade Reservoir will be the "legacy" of their twelve years in office. In a text message just last year, Donnelly cautioned Northern Water not to blow "the deal." The communications between the two commissioners and Northern Water (about the deal) are blatant violations of the ex parte standards that the commissioners are so fond of lecturing citizens to avoid.

After 10 years of NISP bias and direct communications with Northern Water, Commissioner Johnson has gone even further by severely limiting public comment on the single, largest and most destructive land use application in Larimer County's history. With COVID-19 restrictions in place, group presentations (where individuals relinquish their minutes to a single speaker) would limit the public risk of speaking in person at the hearing. But Chair Johnson has decided to prohibit group presentations at the August 24 hearing.

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After 10 years of working directly with Northern Water and endorsing NISP as their "legacy," Donnelly and Johnson are trying to convince the public that they can deliberate the NISP application fairly and without bias. That's the fairy tale the landed gentry tell the lowly serfs.

At the June 24 NISP hearing, 3 members of the Planning Commission recused themselves, with the approval of the county attorney's office, for considerably lesser bias. Tonight Donnelly and Johnson should follow the example of the citizen volunteers they appointed to the Planning Commission.

If they don't recuse, they will most likely decide that the Poudre River can be sacrificed for the flawed and environmentally, destructive Glade Reservoir. What public official wants to list the death of a river among their accomplishments? Johnson and Donnelly have shown us which way they're leaning.

Karen Wagner



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Marie Kirkpatrick <mkirkpatrick@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 2:28 PM

Reply-To: mkirkpatrick@newbelgium.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Marie Kirkpatrick

212 Gary Dr Fort Collins, CO 80525-4108

mkirkpatrick@newbelgium.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Matthew Klema <mrklema@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 2:50 PM

Reply-To: mrklema@hotmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Matthew Klema

605 Brown Ave Fort Collins, CO 80525-1803

mrklema@hotmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

James Knight <j*****4@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 10:15 AM

Reply-To: j*****4@yahoo.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

James Knight

3341 Yukon Ct Wheat Ridge, CO 80033-6132

j*****4@yahoo.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

David Konigsberg <dk@everyactioncustom.com>

Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 3:33 PM

Reply-To: dk@davekoni.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
David Konigsberg
13805 W 67th Pl Arvada, CO 80004-2029
dk@davekoni.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Kris Kopren <kkopren85@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 4:44 PM

Reply-To: kkopren85@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kris Kopren

418 Apodaca Hill St Santa Fe, NM 87501-5902

kkopren85@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please DENY The Permit For NISP

1 message

Ron Krutel <krutelr@ohio.edu>

Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 11:58 AM

To: jkefalas@larimer.org, swjohnson@larimer.org, tdonnelly@larimer.org, rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Commissioners,

I just wrote a 3 page personal summary of "Cadillac Desert" by Marc Reiser. In my last paragraph, it brought up the following current, local related questions.

"Does the NISP Glade Reservoir project have anything to do with the story in this book? Although we need water for towns and cities along the Front Range, I have a question about who will actually use most of the water.

I believe I heard (on an Internet meeting) from the director of the project, forcibly stated, that 90% of the water will go to ranchers, probably mainly to irrigate grass for cows. He didn't mention fracking, but I'd like to know if this is one of the uses of the water as well. If this is true, I have a serious problem with this project. Will the ranchers (and the gas industry?) bear the major part of the cost of the project or will their water use be subsidized by the taxpayers? If so, this sounds like socialism for the few, just what most of the conservative ranchers and gas developers who would get the water are against when tax dollars are spent for social welfare. These objections may not be justified, but if they are, they need to be scrutinized very carefully."

I'd now add this question: Will the towns who receive this water have the option to sell their water to ranchers and the gas industry to help defray their enormous cost for the water?

Ron Krutel

krutelr@ohio.edu

612 Sycamore Atreet

Fort Collins Colorado 89521



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP1 message

Greg Kus <gkus78@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 5:55 PM

Reply-To: gkus78@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Greg Kus

3717 Mead St Fort Collins, CO 80526-5311

gkus78@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Keith Kvam <keith.a.kvam@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 7:01 PM

Reply-To: keith.a.kvam@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Keith Kvam

227 Urban Prairie St Unit B Fort Collins, CO 80524-2153

keith.a.kvam@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

NISP - Poudre River

1 message

Deni LaRue <denilarue@gmail.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 2:58 PM

To: jkefalas@larimer.org, Tom Donnelly <tdonnelly@larimer.org>, sjohnson@larimer.org

Cc: Save the Poudre <info@savethepoudre.org>, rhelmick@larimer.org, skane@fcgov.com

Hi,
I urge you to vote no on NISP. The Poudre River is such an important landmark in northern Colorado. It is a fragile river as it flows through Fort Collins and eastward.
The very thought of taking additional water from it is unconscionable to me. I am a caring person yet I am not at all convinced that our southern and eastern neighbors, the cities and towns that want the Poudre water, have done everything in their power to find another solution. This is the easy way out for them and I believe a devastating decision for the people of Larimer County.

For the people of Larimer County, please keep the Poudre River a free-flowing, clean and clear icon for our region.

Thank you for your time,

Deni LaRue

--

Deni La Rue

cell: 970-227-9935

denilarue@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Aaron Lavanchy <alavanchy@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 3:19 PM

Reply-To: alavanchy@newbelgium.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Aaron Lavanchy

1204 Juniper Ct Fort Collins, CO 80521-1728

alavanchy@newbelgium.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Garrett Lazenby <gunnyping@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 4:50 PM

Reply-To: gunnyping@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Garrett Lazenby

1356 Hanover St Aurora, CO 80010-3334

gunnyping@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

John Legel <patlegel@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 7:05 AM

Reply-To: patlegel@aol.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

John Legel

3500 Bingham Hill Rd Fort Collins, CO 80521-1018

patlegel@aol.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP1 message

peter limbach <petelimbach@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 3:01 PM

Reply-To: petelimbach@yahoo.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

peter limbach

113 Yale Ave Fort Collins, CO 80525-1717

petelimbach@yahoo.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Kenny Malara <kamalara@everyactioncustom.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 8:54 AM

Reply-To: kamalara@hotmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

The Poudre Canyon River is a unique and special waterway. The NISP is not the right answer for our needs as a community. The project has so much opposition that you would be in violation of your oath if you approve it. You have a responsibility to your constituents to reject this permit and seek a more neutral solution. It is disgusting what humans have done to our special waterways, don't add Larimer County to that list. We have something special and we should work together to protect it. Thank you.

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kenny Malara

58 Rio Vista Cir Durango, CO 81301-4344

kamalara@hotmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: Against NISP

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Mon, Aug 17, 2020 at 4:35 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application if that is still possible.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ed Mass** <ed@greyrock.org>
Date: Mon, Aug 17, 2020 at 3:50 PM
Subject: Against NISP
To: <bocc@larimer.org>

As a Larimer County resident, I encourage all Larimer County Commissioners to vote AGAINST NISP 1041 Permit!

I don't see how anyone can think there's any benefit at all to Larimer County and its residents to allow NISP to proceed. In fact, not only are there no benefits, there are huge detriments if it proceeded.

You've heard all the arguments - none for and lots against - and now need to finally take into account what is best for Larimer County residents and vote NO on NISP 1041 Permit!

Thank you for your consideration,
Ed Mass



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

We love the Poudre! Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP1 message

Nora McCombs <noraprazan@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 2:35 PM

Reply-To: noraprazan@hotmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I am also concerned that the NISP proposal does not currently meet all applicable criteria for a 1041 permit outlined in Section 14 of the Larimer County Land Use Code including Criterion 3's provisions for environmental protection and Criterion 10's provision to protect agricultural lands' productivity. I am not confident that reasonable conditions can be imposed on the proposal to mitigate risks to our river's health and the positive benefits it provides to our communities and our economy.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Nora McCombs

330 E Magnolia St Fort Collins, CO 80524-2906

noraprazan@hotmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: As a Farmer, I Oppose NISP

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
 To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 12:55 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.



Linda Hoffmann
 County Manager

Commissioners' Office
 200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
 W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ken McCullough** <k.mcculough1231@gmail.com>
 Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 11:41 AM
 Subject: As a Farmer, I Oppose NISP
 To: <tdonnelly@larimer.org>
 Cc: <jkefalas@larimer.org>, Steve Johnson <swjohnson@larimer.org>, <bocc@larimer.org>

Dear Commissioner Donnelly,

My name is Ken McCullough, I am a life-long resident of Larimer County and a third-generation alfalfa farmer. My 45-acre farm is irrigated with water diverted directly out of the Cache la Poudre River via a canal operated by the Larimer and Weld Irrigation Company. This canal is located just east of Taft Hill Road and is downstream of the diversion point for the proposed Glade Reservoir.

As someone with deep ties to the agricultural economy and rural culture of the Fort Collins area, I am opposed to the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) being pushed by the Northern CO. Water District. For many reasons, I urge you as Commissioner to oppose this God-awful project. Let me explain why I am so strongly opposed to this project and believe you should be too.

My farm diverts about 30-acre feet of water from the river annually, primarily June through September. This is a reliable water right, although my water rights are not senior to many upstream and downstream users, I have never suffered from an inadequate supply when I needed it most. There have been many years when I don't get my full 30-acre feet, but my alfalfa operation has always received enough water, even in the driest years of 2000-2006, to get a reliable crop and stay in the black. After review of the NISP project and discussions with others in the agricultural economy, including leadership Larimer and Weld Irrigation Company, the NISP project will not benefit me at all, in fact, it could make me lose my farm.

The NISP project does not supply any new additional water to irrigators, agricultural users, or farmers in Larimer County. However, the water diverted into Glade Reservoir would be water that is *already* allocated and exists in paper water rights with farms in Larimer and Weld Counties. A major problem with NISP is that the water to be stored in Glade would need to be purchased in order to be allocated to the project, which it isn't, and unless Northern Water and NISP customers purchase thousands of acres of farmland, that water will never make it to Glade except for years with incredibly exceptional runoff. Since most of the water NISP is hoping to capture is already allocated for downstream users, NISP would need to purchase the farmland where the water rights are held in order to divert and eventually sell that water to customers. This issue was pointed out in the 2018 Final Environmental Impact Statement for the NISP project produced by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Despite this incredibly problematic detail, Northern Water thinks they can purchase these farms eventually over the next 30-40 years. Frankly, that is unrealistic, this is a billion-dollar pipe dream that won't likely operate at full capacity unless billions of more dollars are sourced to purchase farmland.

The issue I fear most that could jeopardize my farm is if Northern Water begins purchasing farmland and water rights in Larimer and Weld Counties. If farms are purchased for their water rights, the value of the farmland will skyrocket because the water rights associated with the land will be "developed" and stored behind a dam and made available for urban users instead of kept in the river. This would result in a major economic incentive for farmers to sell their land and water rights to NISP in order to "cash out". Farmers would of course have to sell their land willingly but imagine if a big fat "green

carrot' was dangled in front of a farming family? We all know what will happen, the pressure to sell the land for cash would be too overwhelming for most, and the multi-generation farms will be turned over for a quick buck.

Developers would then be able to buy the land from NISP and turn the land into homes and subdivisions, knowing that the farmland being paved over and has fed the Country for generations and will forever be lost.

My biggest fear about NISP is that if it were successful, which is unlikely, it would incentivize the development of Larimer and Weld Counties rich farmlands and rural charaters, resulting in appalling urban sprawl and will contribute to the loss of a stable and reliable agricultural economy. At best NISP would waste billions of dollars and never become operational, but at worst, it would turn our beautiful rich agricultural lands into cement cul-de-sacs and parking lots.

My family and I have weathered through many years of drought, lost revenue, pest diseases, broken equipment, labor disputes, and market swings, but we've always kept our heads above water. However, I see NISP as the grim reaper, a sign of danger coming to turn my farm and our neighbors' farms into lawns and asphalt driveways, forever destroying the traditions we have established in Larimer County.

This is not the future I want to leave my daughter, who will inherit the farm and be the first woman in the family to run it. I want her to have the same lifestyle and traditions that my grandfather had when he came to Larimer County in 1910 to farm alfalfa and corn. As someone who is trying to find their way in this chaotic world and walk tall as a steady and honorable person, I find myself feeling helpless and in utter despair if NISP were built. That's why I am writing, to urge you to hear my story and see my perspective as a farmer who wishes the best for his home. Please stand with me and do not issue a 1041 permit for the Northern Integrated Supply Project.

Sincerely,

Ken McCullough

Laporte, Colorado



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: I farm Alfalfa, and I OPPOSE NISP

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:14 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ken McCullough** <k.mccullough1231@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 11:43 AM
Subject: I farm Alfalfa, and I OPPOSE NISP
To: <jkefalas@larimer.org>
Cc: Steve Johnson <swjohnson@larimer.org>, <tdonnelly@larimer.org>, <bocc@larimer.org>

Dear Commissioner John Kefalas,

My name is Ken McCullough, I am a life-long resident of Larimer County and a third-generation alfalfa farmer. My 45-acre farm is irrigated with water diverted directly out of the Cache la Poudre River via a canal operated by the Larimer and Weld Irrigation Company. This canal is located just east of Taft Hill Road and is downstream of the diversion point for the proposed Glade Reservoir.

As someone with deep ties to the agricultural economy and rural culture of the Fort Collins area, I am opposed to the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) being pushed by the Northern CO. Water District. For many reasons, I urge you as Commissioner to oppose this God-awful project. Let me explain why I am so strongly opposed to this project and believe you should be too.

My farm diverts about 30-acre feet of water from the river annually, primarily June through September. This is a reliable water right, although my water rights are not senior to many upstream and downstream users, I have never suffered from an inadequate supply when I needed it most. There have been many years when I don't get my full 30-acre feet, but my alfalfa operation has always received enough water, even in the driest years of 2000-2006, to get a reliable crop and stay in the black. After review of the NISP project and discussions with others in the agricultural economy, including leadership Larimer and Weld Irrigation Company, the NISP project will not benefit me at all, in fact, it could make me lose my farm.

The NISP project does not supply any new additional water to irrigators, agricultural users, or farmers in Larimer County. However, the water diverted into Glade Reservoir would be water that is *already* allocated and exists in paper water rights with farms in Larimer and Weld Counties. A major problem with NISP is that the water to be stored in Glade would need to be purchased in order to be allocated to the project, which it isn't, and unless Northern Water and NISP customers purchase thousands of acres of farmland, that water will never make it to Glade except for years with incredibly exceptional runoff. Since most of the water NISP is hoping to capture is already allocated for downstream users, NISP would need to purchase the farmland where the water rights are held in order to divert and eventually sell that water to customers. This issue was pointed out in the 2018 Final Environmental Impact Statement for the NISP project produced by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Despite this incredibly problematic detail, Northern Water thinks they can purchase these farms eventually over the next 30-40 years. Frankly, that is unrealistic, this is a billion-dollar pipe dream that won't likely operate at full capacity unless billions of more dollars are sourced to purchase farmland.

The issue I fear most that could jeopardize my farm is if Northern Water begins purchasing farmland and water rights in Larimer and Weld Counties. If farms are purchased for their water rights, the value of the farmland will skyrocket because the water rights associated with the land will be "developed" and stored behind a dam and made available for urban users instead of kept in the river. This would result in a major economic incentive for farmers to sell their land and water rights to NISP in order to "cash out". Farmers would of course have to sell their land willingly but imagine if a big fat "green carrot" was dangled in front of a farming family? We all know what will happen, the pressure to sell the land for cash would be too overwhelming for most, and the multi-generation farms will be turned over for a quick buck.

Developers would then be able to buy the land from NISP and turn the land into homes and subdivisions, knowing that the farmland being paved over and has fed the Country for generations and will forever be lost.

My biggest fear about NISP is that if it were successful, which is unlikely, it would incentivize the development of Larimer and Weld Counties rich farmlands and rural charters, resulting in appalling urban sprawl and will contribute to the loss of a stable and reliable agricultural economy. At best NISP would waste billions of dollars and never become operational, but at worst, it would turn our beautiful rich agricultural lands into cement cul-de-sacs and parking lots.

My family and I have weathered through many years of drought, lost revenue, pest diseases, broken equipment, labor disputes, and market swings, but we've always kept our heads above water. However, I see NISP as the grim reaper, a sign of danger coming to turn my farm and our neighbors' farms into lawns and asphalt driveways, forever destroying the traditions we have established in Larimer County.

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Sincerely,

Ken McCullough

Laporte, Colorado



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: As a Farmer, I Oppose NISP, and you should too

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
 To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 12:55 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.



Linda Hoffmann
 County Manager

Commissioners' Office
 200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
 W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

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From: **Ken McCullough** <k.mccullough1231@gmail.com>
 Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 11:39 AM
 Subject: As a Farmer, I Oppose NISP, and you should too
 To: Steve Johnson <swjohnson@larimer.org>
 Cc: <tdonnelly@larimer.org>, <jkefalas@larimer.org>, <boccc@larimer.org>

Dear Commissioner Johnson,

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instead of kept in the river. This would result in a major economic incentive for farmers to sell their land and water rights to NISP in order to “cash out”. Farmers would of course have to sell their land willingly but imagine if a big fat “green carrot” was dangled in front of a farming family? We all know what will happen, the pressure to sell the land for cash would be too overwhelming for most, and the multi-generation farms will be turned over for a quick buck.

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Sincerely,

Ken McCullough

Laporte, Colorado



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Kelly McDonnell <kellylynn.mcdonnell@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 4:27 PM

Reply-To: kellylynn.mcdonnell@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kelly McDonnell

803 Alta Vista St Fort Collins, CO 80524-2319

kellylynn.mcdonnell@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

My position is to not approve the 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Daniel Miller-Lionberg <danlionberg@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 4:24 PM

Reply-To: danlionberg@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). While I presently live in Denver, I own and work at a company based in Fort Collins - and I lived in Fort Collins from 2007-2016 and know the Poudre River and NISP proposal well!

Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Daniel Miller-Lionberg

1474 Bellaire St Denver, CO 80220-2413

danlionberg@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Mark Neitenbach <markneitenbach@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 10:29 AM

Reply-To: markneitenbach@icloud.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

You need to protect our world class river. I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mark Neitenbach

3000 Pheasant Run Berthoud, CO 80513-8476

markneitenbach@icloud.com

**Rob Helmick** <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

No on 1041 for NISP.

1 message

Sarah Neubert <neuboyd@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 2:57 PM

Reply-To: neuboyd@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

Hello, I would like to express my concern that, in addition to damaging our ecology, reducing the beauty of our river and hindering recreation, the NISP does NOT meet the Land Use Code criteria required for a 1041 permit! Criterion 3 and Criterion 10, which protect environmental and agricultural interests, respectively, are not met by this proposal. We must not allow this plan to go through.

Sincerely,

Sarah Neubert

2257 Milton Ln Fort Collins, CO 80524-2673

neuboyd@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Ryan Nichols <ryanbandit14@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 2:53 PM

Reply-To: ryanbandit14@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ryan Nichols

4403 Breitenstein Ave Louisville, KY 40213-2127

ryanbandit14@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: NISP

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:17 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Larimer.org** <noreply@larimer.org>
Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 6:16 PM
Subject: NISP
To: <bocc@larimer.org>

Submitted on Sunday, August 23, 2020 - 6:16pm

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Emailing (to) bocc@larimer.org
Subject NISP
Your Name John F. Oberle
Phone 239-287-5733
Your Email jfoberle@hotmail.com
Confirm Email jfoberle@hotmail.com
Message
Commissioners,

I wish to express my support for approval of the NISP 1041 permit. The water and recreational opportunities it will provide are essential to the ability of the front range communities to survive and grow.

Thank you,
Privacy SettingThis form was submitted from a /contact email link on larimer.org.



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Bonnie OBrien <bonjeanne@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 5:01 PM

Reply-To: bonjeanne@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Bonnie OBrien
Obrien Fort Collins, CO 80521
bonjeanne@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Sam Ovett <ovett.samuel@everyactioncustom.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 6:00 AM

Reply-To: ovett.samuel@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Sam Ovett

256 Bonanza Dr Nederland, CO 80466-9725

ovett.samuel@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

NISP Comment

1 message

Tim Pearson <timp1600@comcast.net>
To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 10:06 PM

Dear Larimer County Commissioners

By now you will have read hundreds of letters about how the NISP project will degrade the Poudre River in numerous ways. I care about the health of the river too but I also care about the loss of the beautiful valley between Ted's Place and Bonner Peak. I work at the University of Wyoming and have commuted along 287 for the last 10 years. The whole drive is beautiful but the section along that hogback ridge is particularly beautiful. I would mourn the loss of that lovely valley almost as much as I would mourn the loss of the Poudre as a vibrant and viable river. Northern Water says the reservoir that would replace the valley is an asset. I disagree. A large reservoir with a brown bathtub ring much of the time is no replacement for the scenic valley it would displace.

I urge you to vote no the NISP application to preserve the health of the river, because the project violates the county's land use code, and to preserve the lower 287 corridor.

Dr. Timothy Pearson
Fort Collins, CO



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Northern Integrated Supply Project

1 message

R F (ray5star@yahoo.co.jp) Sent You a Personal Message <automail@knowwho.com> Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 9:56 PM
To: pcboard@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Commissioners,

I respectfully request that you deny 1041 permit for the proposed Northern Integrated Supply Project based on solid studies that show it would be destructive to the Poudre River and its ecosystem as it flows through Fort Collins and beyond.

Currently, almost 60% of the Poudre's water is diverted for agricultural, municipal, and industrial uses. If built, during peak flows, NISP could dry up another 71% of the flow through Fort Collins. Studies show that such a reduction would have dire consequences to fish and other aquatic life, riparian ecosystems, water quality, flow volume, and recreation use.

The NISP is expected to cost at least \$1.2 billion, although those costs will rise because Northern Water has not obtained enough water rights to date to fill the reservoir. Northern Water must buy ?dozens and dozens? of Larimer and Weld County farms to obtain the water rights needed. Of the 15 communities and water districts that hold shares in NISP, many are outside the Poudre's watershed.

The NISP is an extremely expensive project that would cause great destruction; disrupt and displace residents around the proposed reservoir, residents along Highway 287, and residents along the proposed pipeline route; and it isn't needed. There are many conservation actions that would provide all the water proposed to be delivered by Glade, including improved water efficiency by municipal districts, industry, and agriculture; public education and awareness programs; repairs to leaking ditches and pipelines, landscape irrigation improvements, and much more.

The NISP is a controversial project that is of great interest to many people in Larimer County who want full opportunity to comment on the permitting process and to appear at public hearings. Because of the scope and controversy surrounding this proposed project, the Commissioners should wait until the coronavirus pandemic has subsided enough to allow for full in-person public participation.

Sincerely,

R F
1437 W MOUNTAIN AVE
FORT COLLINS, CO 80521
ray5star@yahoo.co.jp
(303) 456-2345

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at core.help@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5500.



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Ruth Wallace <ruth.arnoldwallace@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 5:03 PM

Reply-To: ruth.arnoldwallace@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

Please save our valuable community resource by voting against the 1041 permit for the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). If you vote in favor of the 1041 permit for this project, it will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality and quantity in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ruth Wallace

1007 W Mountain Ave Fort Collins, CO 80521-2403

ruth.arnoldwallace@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Ethan Reese <eareese123@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 3:59 PM

Reply-To: eareese123@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ethan Reese

2212 Vermont Dr Apt N301 Fort Collins, CO 80525-6667

eareese123@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: Consider the Economy, OPPOSE NISP

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:14 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jeffery Rivera** <livebog777@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 11:48 AM
Subject: Consider the Economy, OPPOSE NISP
To: <jkefalas@larimer.org>
Cc: <swjohnson@larimer.org>, <tdonnelly@larimer.org>, <bocc@larimer.org>

Dear Commissioner John Kefalas,

I am writing to express that you Oppose the NISP Dam and Pipeline Project.

I am requesting that you consider the economic benefit to Larimer County and neighboring areas for maintaining water in the Poudre River, instead behind a dam used to spread suburbia over good farmland.

Investing in the health and well-being of our waterways and watersheds can keep the existing jobs in water sports, rafting, tubing, fishing, and hunting, while maintaining jobs in research, management, and natural lands stewardship. Healthy rivers and parkways are good sources of grants and revenue and become treasured assets among the citizens and businesses.

A healthy, reliable, free-flowing river is one of the most stable and important economic assets the County can have. Dooming the river to low, placid flows, and stagnant, warm water is not a money maker or even enjoyable to be around.

The City of Fort Collins invested millions of dollars in a new whitewater park downtown and in order for the whitewater park to function, the spring flows need to be high enough to create the rapids. NISP would dull the flows and doom the whitewater park to a trickle. Instead, use that assets to bring in money to business with whitewater events, festivals, competitions, and more.

Keeping the Poudre River healthy with a strong spring rise will re-hydrate the habitats for wildlife, setting seeds for Cottonwood forests to regenerate, and renewing the water chemistry in the river is the most important function of the spring melt.

Larimer County has invested millions of dollars in purchasing land along the river as a recreation resource, wildlife habitat, and flood control. The County has also contributed to floodplain restoration in County-owned natural areas. NISP would dehydrate those areas.

Limiting the spring runoff even more than it is already will undoubtedly stress those habitats, leading to a conversion of those forests to drier woodlands. Doing so would undercut the asset that the County has with the healthy riparian forests along the river. Don't allow NISP to de-hydrate those forests and lose the valuable assets the County has already spent millions to protect and steward.

NISP would end the spring rise, flat-lining the river and forever damaging the resource, limiting it to watering lawns over once good farmland.

For new water supply, there are many other alternatives, including by those pioneered at CSU, for several decades. Turns out they study and build new water supply systems all over the western US, you would think they can be called upon to help in Larimer County. Why not try these new approaches to Larimer County? These include: groundwater banking, irrigation ditch lining to prevent seepage, water-sharing agreements, stormwater capture and banking, and simple conservation.

Lastly, NISP does not adhere to all 12 of the requirements for approval. One criteria not met is the need for equal mitigation. By the nature of cutting off flow to the river, will forever alter the source of the river environment, water, in an unnatural way,

Please do not support NISP.

Best,
Jefferey Rivera,

Windsor, CO



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: Keep a Strong Economy, NO NISP, Please!

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:14 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jeffery Rivera** <livebog777@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 11:51 AM

Subject: Keep a Strong Economy, NO NISP, Please!

To: <swjohnson@larimer.org>Cc: <jkefalas@larimer.org>, <tdonnelly@larimer.org>, <bocc@larimer.org>

Dear Commissioner Steve Johnson,

I am writing to express that you Oppose the NISP Dam and Pipeline Project.

I am requesting that you consider the economic benefit to Larimer County and neighboring areas for maintaining water in the Poudre River, instead behind a dam used to spread suburbia over good farmland.

Investing in the health and well-being of our waterways and watersheds can keep the existing jobs in water sports, rafting, tubing, fishing, and hunting, while maintaining jobs in research, management, and natural lands stewardship. Healthy rivers and parkways are good sources of grants and revenue and become treasured assets among the citizens and businesses.

A healthy, reliable, free-flowing river is one of the most stable and important economic assets the County can have. Dooming the river to low, placid flows, and stagnant, warm water is not a money maker or even enjoyable to be around.

The City of Fort Collins invested millions of dollars in a new whitewater park downtown and in order for the whitewater park to function, the spring flows need to be high enough to create the rapids. NISP would dull the flows and doom the whitewater park to a trickle. Instead, use that assets to bring in money to business with whitewater events, festivals, competitions, and more.

Keeping the Poudre River healthy with a strong spring rise will re-hydrate the habitats for wildlife, setting seeds for Cottonwood forests to regenerate, and renewing the water chemistry in the river is the most important function of the spring melt.

Larimer County has invested millions of dollars in purchasing land along the river as a recreation resource, wildlife habitat, and flood control. The County has also contributed to floodplain restoration in County-owned natural areas. NISP would dehydrate those areas.

Limiting the spring runoff even more than it is already will undoubtedly stress those habitats, leading to a conversion of those forests to drier woodlands. Doing so would undercut the asset that the County has with the healthy riparian forests along the river. Don't allow NISP to de-hydrate those forests and lose the valuable assets the County has already spent millions to protect and steward.

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Please do not support NISP.

Best,
Jefferey Rivera,

Windsor, CO



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Fwd: Save Money, OPPOSE NISP Please!

1 message

Linda Hoffmann <hoffmalc@co.larimer.co.us>
To: "Helmick, Rob" <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:15 PM

Please include this message in the public record for the application.

**Linda Hoffmann**
County Manager

Commissioners' Office
200 W Oak St, Fort Collins, CO 80521 | 2nd Floor
W: (970) 498-7004
lhoffmann@larimer.org | www.larimer.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jeffery Rivera** <livebog777@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 11:54 AM
Subject: Save Money, OPPOSE NISP Please!
To: <tdonnelly@larimer.org>
Cc: <swjohnson@larimer.org>, <jkefalas@larimer.org>, <bocc@larimer.org>

Dear Commissioner Donnelly,

I am writing to express that you Oppose the NISP Dam and Pipeline Project.

I am requesting that you consider the economic benefit to Larimer County and neighboring areas for maintaining water in the Poudre River, instead behind a dam used to spread suburbia over good farmland.

Investing in the health and well-being of our waterways and watersheds can keep the existing jobs in water sports, rafting, tubing, fishing, and hunting, while maintaining jobs in research, management, and natural lands stewardship. Healthy rivers and parkways are good sources of grants and revenue and become treasured assets among the citizens and businesses.

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Keeping the Poudre River healthy with a strong spring rise will re-hydrate the habitats for wildlife, setting seeds for Cottonwood forests to regenerate, and renewing the water chemistry in the river is the most important function of the spring melt.

Larimer County has invested millions of dollars in purchasing land along the river as a recreation resource, wildlife habitat, and flood control. The County has also contributed to floodplain restoration in County-owned natural areas. NISP would dehydrate those areas.

Limiting the spring runoff even more than it is already will undoubtedly stress those habitats, leading to a conversion of those forests to drier woodlands. Doing so would undercut the asset that the County has with the healthy riparian forests along the river. Don't allow NISP to de-hydrate those forests and lose the valuable assets the County has already spent millions to protect and steward.

NISP would end the spring rise, flat-lining the river and forever damaging the resource, limiting it to watering lawns over once good farmland.

For new water supply, there are many other alternatives, including by those pioneered at CSU, for several decades. Turns out they study and build new water supply systems all over the western US, you would think they can be called upon to help in Larimer County. Why not try these new approaches to Larimer County? These include: groundwater banking, irrigation ditch lining to prevent seepage, water-sharing agreements, stormwater capture and banking, and simple conservation.

Lastly, NISP does not adhere to all 12 of the requirements for approval. One criteria not met is the need for equal mitigation. By the nature of cutting off flow to the river, will forever alter the source of the river environment, water, in an unnatural way,

Please do not support NISP.

Best,
Jefferey Rivera,

Windsor, CO



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Eric Robbins <erguide23@everyactioncustom.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 12:44 PM

Reply-To: erguide23@hotmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Eric Robbins

PO Box 7186 Gunnison, CO 81230-7186

erguide23@hotmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please DENY The Permit For NISP

1 message

Deborah Robinson <debrobin02@gmail.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 4:25 PM

To: jkefalas@larimer.org, swjohnson@larimer.org, tdonnelly@larimer.org, rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Commissioners,

The Cache la Poudre River is the crown jewel of Fort Collins. If the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) is built, so much water would be drained out of the Poudre that the river would resemble a muddy, stinky ditch through Fort Collins. Please DENY the County permit for NISP.

1. The Poudre already has about 60% of its water drained out by farms and cities before the river reaches downtown Fort Collins.
2. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit documents indicate that NISP would drain 68% of the remaining water out of the river in the month of May, 25% in June, and 45% in July.
3. The peak flow of the river -- which is integral for the ecological health of the river through Fort Collins -- would be drained by 50%.
4. Draining this much water out of the river would cause severe negative impacts including:
 - The river water would be warmer which can lead to fish die-offs,
 - More sediment and mud would build up on the bottom of the river,
 - Native trout can't spawn in mud, and would be overtaken by warm-water fish like carp and bullheads,
 - Algae would increasingly grow in the riverbed and on rocks,
 - Pollution of City's stormwater and wastewater would be much worse due to lack of dilution,
 - Water quality would worsen, including an increase in E. coli bacteria, making the river unhealthy for human enjoyment,
 - Wetlands along the river would be increasingly dried up,
 - The forest canopy along the river corridor through town -- cottonwoods and willows -- would be increasingly dried up and die off,
 - Recreational opportunity at the new Whitewater Park would be severely diminished,
 - Flooding would increase,
 - The river would be ugly, more like a muddy stinking ditch.

NISP is by far the most controversial project in the history of Larimer County due to these severe negative environmental impacts which cannot be mitigated. Further, the proposed 'mitigation plan' for NISP is a farce and would have little impact against the overwhelming environmental devastation caused by NISP. Finally, NISP towns have other alternatives to get water that don't include destroying Fort Collins' beloved Poudre River.

Please DENY this permit and begin the more important work of restoring the Poudre River through Fort Collins instead of further draining it.

Sincerely,
Deborah Robinson
debrobin02@gmail.com
4111 Stonegate Ct
Fort Collins CO 80525



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Matt Rossi <minirossi008@everyactioncustom.com>

Mon, Aug 24, 2020 at 10:20 AM

Reply-To: minirossi008@yahoo.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Matt Rossi

30120 VILLAGE Dr Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

minirossi008@yahoo.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please place in the public record for the NISP hearings.

2 messages

Steve Johnson <johnsosw@co.larimer.co.us>
To: Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Mon, Aug 17, 2020 at 11:32 AM

It is the duty of County Commissioners in a quasi-judicial hearing to consider every application with an open mind, weighing it against the criteria of the land use code. On any large project of interest to the public for many years or decades, every elected official has undoubtedly been asked questions about such a project in general terms. Now we are considering a specific application against the terms of our land use code. I have no doubts that I can consider that application on its merits and weigh it against the land use code and render an impartial and just decision.

Steve Johnson
Larimer County Commissioner, District 2

--
Steve Johnson
Larimer County Commissioner Dist. 2
follow me on Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Steve-Johnson-Larimer-County-Commissioner/338760390694>
Larimer County Information: www.larimer.org

Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>
To: Don Threewitt <threewdl@co.larimer.co.us>, Lesli Ellis <ellislk@larimer.org>

Mon, Aug 17, 2020 at 2:21 PM

[Quoted text hidden]

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Robert Helmick
Senior Planner

Community Development Department
[200 West Oak Street, Suite 3100](#)
PO Box 1190
Fort Collins, CO 80521
970-498-7682
rhelmick@larimer.org
<https://www.larimer.org/planning>



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP1 message

Hanna Selassie <hannamulu@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 3:46 PM

Reply-To: hannamulu@yahoo.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Hanna Selassie

1225 Maple St Fort Collins, CO 80521-1733

hannamulu@yahoo.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Dejan Smaic <dejan80501@everyactioncustom.com>

Thu, Aug 20, 2020 at 2:58 AM

Reply-To: dejan80501@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Dejan Smaic

2216 Billings Ln Longmont, CO 80504-2307

dejan80501@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Oliver Smith <77ravens@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 9:02 AM

Reply-To: 77ravens@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Oliver Smith

634 2nd Ave Lyons, CO 80540-5065

77ravens@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Jennifer Steinberg <jateinberg1@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 7:06 PM

Reply-To: jateinberg1@yahoo.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Steinberg
16101 Waterbury Bnd Granger, IN 46530-8396
jateinberg1@yahoo.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please DENY The Permit For NISP

1 message

Caitlin Stouffer <CNStouffer@gmail.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 10:33 PM

To: jkefalas@larimer.org, swjohnson@larimer.org, tdonnelly@larimer.org, rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Commissioners,

I am sending this email that I found after researching how to get involved in the very important decision you are making. I have lived in Fort Collins 30 years (my entire life), I own a home here, my entire family lives here, and now I will raise my children here. The decisions you make today are going to affect the next generations. Make a decision for them, please.

The Cache la Poudre River is the crown jewel of Fort Collins. If the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) is built, so much water would be drained out of the Poudre that the river would resemble a muddy, stinky ditch through Fort Collins. Please DENY the County permit for NISP.

1. The Poudre already has about 60% of its water drained out by farms and cities before the river reaches downtown Fort Collins.
2. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit documents indicate that NISP would drain 68% of the remaining water out of the river in the month of May, 25% in June, and 45% in July.
3. The peak flow of the river -- which is integral for the ecological health of the river through Fort Collins -- would be drained by 50%.
4. Draining this much water out of the river would cause severe negative impacts including:
 - The river water would be warmer which can lead to fish die-offs,
 - More sediment and mud would build up on the bottom of the river,
 - Native trout can't spawn in mud, and would be overtaken by warm-water fish like carp and bullheads,
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 - Water quality would worsen, including an increase in E. coli bacteria, making the river unhealthy for human enjoyment,
 - Wetlands along the river would be increasingly dried up,
 - The forest canopy along the river corridor through town -- cottonwoods and willows -- would be increasingly dried up and die off,
 - Recreational opportunity at the new Whitewater Park would be severely diminished,
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NISP is by far the most controversial project in the history of Larimer County due to these severe negative environmental impacts which cannot be mitigated. Further, the proposed 'mitigation plan' for NISP is a farce and would have little impact against the overwhelming environmental devastation caused by NISP. Finally, NISP towns have other alternatives to get water that don't include destroying Fort Collins' beloved Poudre River.

Please DENY this permit and begin the more important work of restoring the Poudre River through Fort Collins instead of further draining it.

Sincerely,
Caitlin Stouffer
CNStouffer@gmail.com
3337 Pineridge Place
Fort Collins CO 80525



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

NISP

1 message

Jim Swanstrom <j.swanstrom@comcast.net>
To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 3:18 PM

Additional water storage should be constructed, most if not all of the people against the additional storage already have much more water stored then what they need but they want to fight other Cities or areas from storing the water that belongs to them. If they want additional flow thru the City of Fort Collins they can request that Fort Collins release additional flow from their reserves. Pulling water from the river during heavy flows is not going to hurt the river. If not for the storage system the river would be dry during some times of the year causing the fish to disappear. The additional water would be a great addition for water activities.

James Swanstrom**Fort Collins property owner for over 35 years**



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Jeremy Syz <JPSyz@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 4:58 PM

Reply-To: JPSyz@hollandhart.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Syz

1800 Broadway Boulder, CO 80302-5234

JPSyz@hollandhart.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Make the Right Choice and Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Joel Thomas <j.thomas152@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 4:23 PM

Reply-To: j.thomas152@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Joel Thomas

1188 Caelum Ct Loveland, CO 80537-3277

j.thomas152@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

**For the benefit of all that experience this great river and it's surroundings, please
Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP**

1 message

darren turner <srfin64@everyactioncustom.com>

Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 3:22 PM

Reply-To: srfin64@yahoo.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered. The flows are only available to the public for only a short period of the summer. Many residents rely upon the river for respite from the heat of the summer. The river's flow actually enhances our lives and elevates the spirits of all that experience it.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time and energy! darren r turner

Sincerely,

darren turner

968 Eagle Dr Loveland, CO 80537-8064

srfin64@yahoo.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP1 message

Maria Vishnyakova <maria.a.vishnyakova@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 11:00 PM

Reply-To: maria.a.vishnyakova@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Maria Vishnyakova

44 Papahi Loop Kahului, HI 96732-2584

maria.a.vishnyakova@gmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Kurt Vogel <krvogel66@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 9:19 AM

Reply-To: krvogel66@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kurt Vogel

3115 Bell Dr Boulder, CO 80301-2279

krvogel66@gmail.com

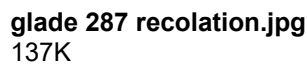


2 messages

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 1:04 PM

I have signed up to speak at the NISP hearing (remotely) and I would like to comment on the proposed 287 realignment. Attached is a map I would like to have shown during my comment period.

Thank you,
Rose Walker

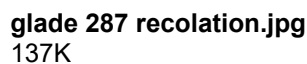


Mon, Aug 24, 2020 at 7:11 AM

—



Community Development Department
200 West Oak Street, Suite 3100
PO Box 1190
Fort Collins, CO 80521
970-498-7682
rhelmick@larimer.org
<https://www.larimer.org/planning>





Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Tom Wallace <tgwallace@everyactioncustom.com>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 4:18 PM

Reply-To: tgwallace@aol.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

BIG HUGE decision happening for the Poudre River. Comments due today.

You can sign this and use my address!!

Two tips to strengthen your comment:

1. Personalize the subject line
2. Copy / paste this into the body of the letter:

I am also concerned that the NISP proposal does not currently meet all applicable criteria for a 1041 permit outlined in Section 14 of the Larimer County Land Use Code including Criterion 3's provisions for environmental protection and Criterion 10's provision to protect agricultural lands' productivity. I am not confident that reasonable conditions can be imposed on the proposal to mitigate risks to our river's health and the positive benefits it provides to our communities and our economy. I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

I request you to vote against the approval of a 1041 permit for NISP. As a frequent user of the Poudre River, I want to be able to enjoy the world-class recreation opportunities of this river. If NISP is approved, two generations of children will not get to experience the Poudre River in the ways that we do, and the loss of local identity that the river brings to Larimer County will be felt from the Canyon's mouth to the confluence with the South Platte.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Tom Wallace
1007 W Mountain Ave Fort Collins, CO 80521-2403
tgwallace@aol.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

2 messages

Mark Wardell <mwardell22@everyactioncustom.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:24 AM

Reply-To: mwardell22@hotmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Fish habits will also disappear.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mark Wardell

285 Coyote Dr Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-9705

mwardell22@hotmail.com

Mark Wardell <mwardell22@everyactioncustom.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 7:53 AM

Reply-To: mwardell22@hotmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mark Wardell

8/24/2020

co.larimer.co.us Mail - Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

285 Coyote Dr Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-9705

mwardell22@hotmail.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Jeff Wasielewski <wasiel@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 7:32 PM

Reply-To: wasiel@yahoo.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jeff Wasielewski

8634 Gunner Way Fair Oaks, CA 95628-5347

wasiel@yahoo.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Cameron Williams <roowilliams@everyactioncustom.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 1:02 PM

Reply-To: roowilliams@yahoo.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Cameron Williams

829 Valley View Rd Fort Collins, CO 80524-1536

roowilliams@yahoo.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Thomas Wolfe <wolfetom402@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 1:43 PM

Reply-To: wolfetom402@yahoo.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Thomas Wolfe

3821 Adamy St Columbus, NE 68601-2986

wolfetom402@yahoo.com



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

James Worthington <denalli4743@everyactioncustom.com>

Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 8:58 PM

Reply-To: denalli4743@gmail.com

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the water quality in the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and will negatively affect the water quality and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

James Worthington

2835 B Monroe Ln Grand Junction, CO 81503-3148

denalli4743@gmail.com

MEMORANDUM

To: Larimer County Board of County Commissioners

From: Development Staff

Date: August 24, 2020

RE: Addendum to Staff
Report for NISP 1041
File #20-ZONE2657 /
Citizen Comments

Attached to this memo please find the following information received by staff after August 17, 2020 and since the packet for the August 24th meeting was published and posted.

1. Corrections to the staff report: On Aug. 24, the memo was updated to correct a drafting error and reintroduce text that was in the Planning Commission memo and inadvertently omitted in this draft, as staff explained during the Aug. 17 presentation.
2. Public comments: Comments in the form of email strings and comments submitted from the NISP webpage

MEMORANDUM

To: Larimer County Board of County Commissioners

From: Development Staff

Date: August 24, 2020

RE: Addendum to Staff
Report for NISP 1041
File #20-ZONE2657 /
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2. Public comments: Comments in the form of email strings and comments submitted from the NISP webpage



Rob Helmick <helmicrp@co.larimer.co.us>

Please Vote Against Approval of 1041 Permit for NISP

1 message

Lennard Zinn <l.zinn@everyactioncustom.com>

Tue, Aug 18, 2020 at 3:07 PM

Reply-To: l.zinn@comcast.net

To: rhelmick@larimer.org

Dear Larimer County Senior Planner Rob Helmick,

I love paddling the Poudre, and I am writing to you today to express my concern about the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP). Your vote on the 1041 permit for this project will prove to be a vote that will impact the Poudre River Watershed for future generations of Coloradans, and the hundreds of thousands of visitors that recreate in Larimer County. NISP's impacts on the Poudre River will remove peak flows from the river at the mouth of the canyon, and dramatically affect the ecological and recreational benefits of the river. The Poudre River Whitewater Park, which only opened in October of 2019, will indefinitely experience reduced recreational opportunities due to flow reduction. This multi-million dollar project was built using both public and community funding in order to create a space where people can access the river safely in the heart of Fort Collins. Throughout the entire summer, the park has been filled each and every day with people boating, tubing, wading, and relaxing by the river. If NISP is approved, the flows in this stretch of river will be reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of current flows, and this valuable resource will be squandered.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Lennard Zinn

7437 S Boulder Rd Boulder, CO 80303-4641

l.zinn@comcast.net