

Conservation Partners

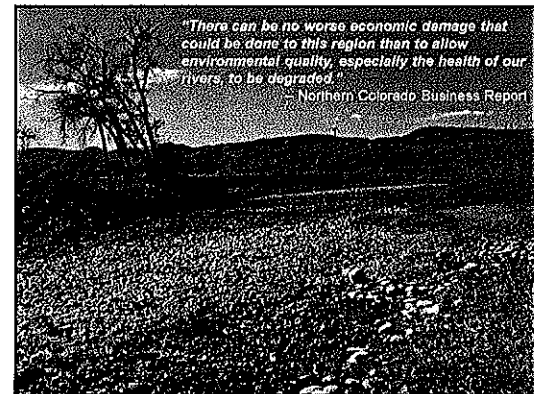
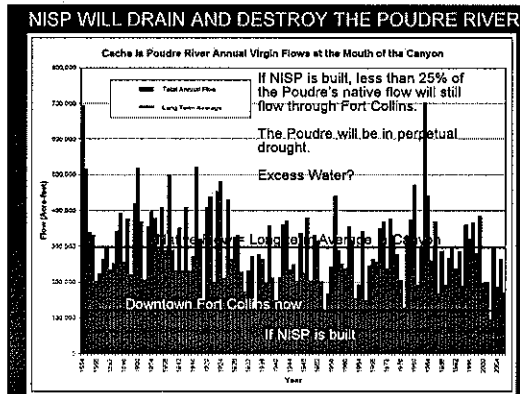
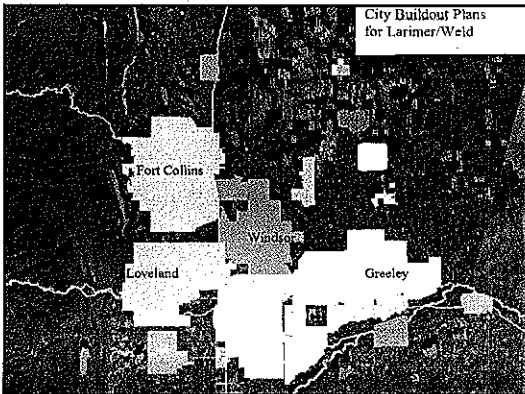
This presentation and the research behind it were supported in numerous ways by the following 16 organizations:

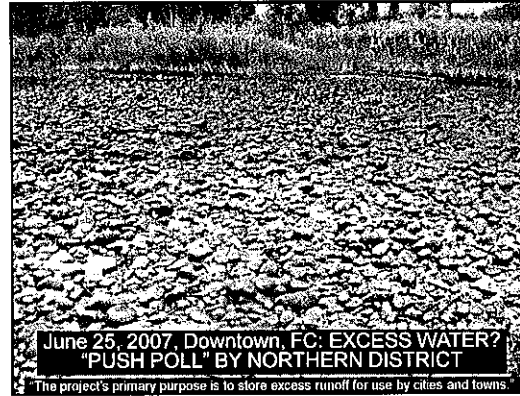
NISP WILL DRY UP AND DESTROY FARMS

1. If NISP is built, the NISP-subscribing communities will be forced to grow on top of 76,000 acres of farms, of which 48,000 are irrigated.
2. Because of the water trade in the South Platte Water Conservation Plan in NISP, at least 3,000 acres of irrigated farmland on the "Larimer and Weld" and "New Cache la Poudre" ditches will become too saline to farm.
3. The Grey Mountain Water Right -- which includes 20,000 acre feet of new water that will be taken out of the Poudre River for NISP -- currently irrigates 14,000 acres of farms on the eastern plains of Colorado.
4. The NISP DEIS states that the Northern District plans to lease and rent all the farm water they can to do an initial 100,000 acre-foot fill of Glade Reservoir's 177,000 acre-foot capacity. At least 35,000 acres are in Northern Colorado (the rest is on the Western Slope).

TOTAL = ~100,000 acres of irrigated farms will be dried up due to NISP/Glade

➤ That's 1 out of every 7 acres of irrigated farms in northern Colorado. NISP can cost the farm economy \$85 million/year in lost income, which is over \$1 billion over the 30-year life of the debt.





NISP WILL CREATE MASSIVE PUBLIC DEBT FOR STRUGGLING, SMALL TOWNS

Entity	Share of NISP (AF)	2005 estimate \$100 million	2008 estimate \$800 million?
Birchoud			
CW/CWD*	7,100	\$71,887,500	\$146,000,000
Eaton	1,300	\$13,162,500	\$27,000,000
Evo	6,500	\$65,812,500	\$136,000,000
Evans	1,500	\$15,200,000	\$33,000,000
FCLWD	3,000	\$30,375,000	\$63,000,000
Ft. Lupton	3,000	\$30,375,000	\$63,000,000
Ft. Morgan	3,000	\$30,450,000	\$75,000,000
Lafayette	1,800	Cash (\$18 mil)	Cash?
LHW	4,800	\$48,812,500	\$102,000,000
Morgan County	1,300	\$13,162,500	\$27,000,000
Savannah	1,300	\$13,162,500	\$27,000,000
Windeor	3,300	\$33,412,500	\$69,000,000

Paid for by:

- Revenue Bonds (Not voted on by the citizens)
- Tap fees on new homes
- State Loans backed by taxpayers
- Raise water rates on existing water users

The Healthy Rivers Alternative

A Balanced Proposal for Water Supply Security that Protects the Poudre River

NISP communities can get the water they need without destroying farms, without destroying the Poudre River, and with less money and debt.

The Healthy Rivers Alternative Will Protect Farms

1. Less growth will occur in NISP towns if NISP is not built. Supplies can come from "growth-displaced water", from water conservation, and from "rotational fallowing programs" on farms.
2. No South Platte Water trade will occur.
3. The Grey Mountain Right will not be diverted.
4. No massive "reservoir fill" will occur.

Result: NISP will dry up and destroy at least 100,000 acres of farms. The Healthy Rivers Alternative will only require the dry up ~25,000 acres of farms, and those farms would be dried up by the growth anyway. Other impacted farmers could stay in business with "rotational fallowing."

Comparison: HRA vs. NISP

The Healthy Rivers Alternative:

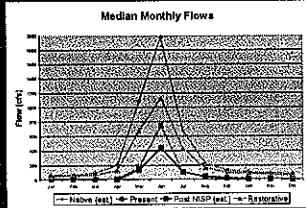
1. Better protects farms
2. Won't force rapid population growth (NISP will)
3. Invests in Water Conservation (NISP doesn't)
4. LEDPA

Comparison Item	NISP	Healthy Rivers Alternative
Total Cost	\$700 - \$800 million plus finance charges of ~\$400 million	~\$450 million
Total Cost per Acre Foot	\$18,000 plus finance charges of ~\$10,000/acre foot	~\$11,000
Total Acres of Irrigations Agricultural Taken Out of Production	~100,000 (85,000 permanently)	~25,000 acres (growth area only)
Total New Acre Feet of Water Removed from the Cache la Poudre River	40,000 acre feet	0
Environmental Impacts to Poudre River and its Fort Collins Corridor	Extensive "Violate Clean Water Act"	Minimal to 0

A Vision for the Future Science-based Restoration Proposal

A "restoration proposal" has been created by scientists that defines "minimum ecological health" for the lower Poudre River.

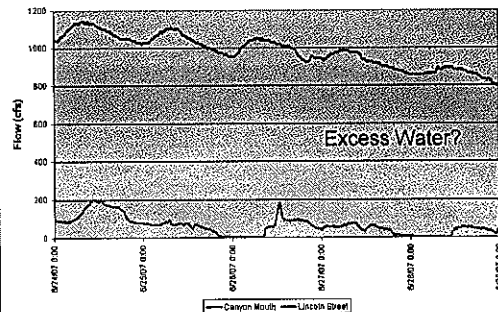
The Save The Poudre Coalition will measure NISP alternatives and options, as well as future water supply projects, against this restoration proposal.



The Save The Poudre Proposal Achieves Ecological Health By:

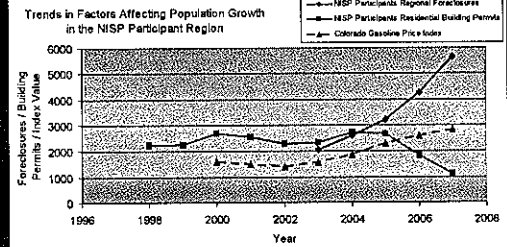
- Increasing winter-time flows.
- Increasing peak flows.
- Minimizing daily fluctuations

Poudre River Flows - June 24 - June 28, 2007

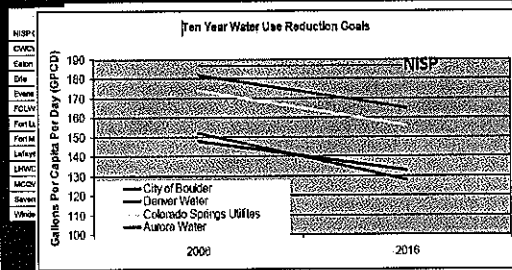


Healthy Rivers Alternative: Revised Growth Projections

Population growth in NISP cities could be considerably lower than DEIS projections. We used U.S. Census and State Demographers data to conclude that likely 2050 numbers are 117,000 fewer people. Home foreclosures are up. Building permits are down.



The Healthy Rivers Alternative Will Utilize Proven Water Conservation Programs



"Municipal and industrial conservation may stretch the individual Participants' existing supplies, but it is not a viable source of new firm water supply for NISP as a regional project." -- NISP DEIS section 2.1.3, page 2-9

Bad News:

The Poudre is wildly out of balance.
Bad Water Quality.

