



June 10, 2008

Research essential

At this point, it is more than evident that the Glade Reservoir proposal has caused far more harm than good. If the purpose of the proposal is to better the well-being of Northern Colorado's future residents, then proponents should first consider focusing on the well-being of Northern Colorado's current residents. The hasty proposal, which calls to virtually eliminate the existence of the Poudre River within the city of Fort Collins, is in dire need of a more thorough examination.

Thankfully, the Fort Collins City Council has stepped up to the plate, while surrounding area officials only continue to talk this issue to death. The City Council's approval of an additional \$410,000 to conduct further research on the NISP project is nothing short of a logical necessity, as it will allow economic, ecological and legal experts to closely evaluate all aspects of this, until now, very hurried process. The City Council's current total investment expenditure of \$750,000 is indeed steep but has the potential to pay highly valuable dividends in the future. Those who oppose this use of tax revenue to conduct the study must first consider the dramatic loss of tax revenue that may occur otherwise. The grim sight of a dry, weed ridden river bed running through our town is highly likely to push commercial and recreational development away, not to mention tourists and visitors.

I hope that further studies of the Glade proposal will expose its many negative externalities, not only for our sake, but for the sake of future residents.

Brandon Wathke,

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