



**For Immediate Release  
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Save The Poudre Coalition  
[www.SaveThePoudre.org](http://www.SaveThePoudre.org)  
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## **Lacking Science, NISP/Glade proponents resort to p.r. and political pressure on Bennet, Markey to salvage doomed project**

**Northern Water Conservancy District makes plans to drain and kill the Poudre River even if Army Corp denies Glade permit**

Fort Collins, CO -- An article appeared in the Friday, Feb. 13th *Fort Morgan Times* that told how the proponents of the NISP/Glade Reservoir scheme intend to ramp up their p.r. campaign by pressuring newly elected officials including U.S. Senator Michael Bennet and U.S. Representative Betsy Markey. Using public relations support from lobbyists and pollsters, the NISP/Glade Reservoir scheme continues wasting millions of dollars of taxpayer money and years of sensible water planning as it spirals downward.

The article is here:

<http://www.fortmorgantimes.com/news/2009/feb/13/nisp-group-push-support-water-project/>

A pollster is quoted in the article saying that "The new posture of NISP participants is to be more proactive in support of the project." In addition, Carl Brouwer, Northern Water manager for the project, says NISP/Glade will spend more time and money lobbying "...new federal lawmakers who have recently taken office, including U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet and Rep. Betsy Markey."

"Science has driven numerous nails in the Glade coffin," said Gary Wockner of the Save The Poudre Coalition. "Northern Water is now resorting to public relations and political pressure to try and salvage this doomed project."

Ironically, and quoting NISP manager Carl Brouwer, the article also states what Northern Water intends to do "...if an Army Corps permit is denied." ...and that is to circumvent the entire permitting process and still drain and kill the Poudre River by building the Cactus Hill Reservoir northeast of Fort Collins instead of the Glade Reservoir. Quoted from the article: "So there is an option we've looked at that could be done without a permit," Brouwer said.

The proposed Cactus Hill Reservoir is Alternative #2 in the DEIS, but it still involves the exact same diversion and draining of the Poudre River, storing the water northeast of Fort Collins instead of northwest of Fort Collins in Glade.

"NISP/Glade is nearly dead," said Wockner. "Now they think they can avoid another long and expensive permitting process by moving the reservoir onto the plains -- we disagree and we'll fight that project just as hard. Northern Water Conservancy District seems obsessed with draining and killing the Poudre River."

The huge coalition of environmental groups representing the Save The Poudre Coalition inserted the "Healthy Rivers Alternative" (HRA) into the NISP/Glade EIS process. The Alternative is a positive win-win solution that is cheaper, better for farms, will supply cities with water, and will better protect the Poudre River than NISP/Glade or Cactus Hill.

"Call it whatever you want -- Glade or Cactus Hill -- the Northern Integrated Supply Project is doomed," said Gary Wockner. "If you're a NISP-subscribing city, you should look at the Healthy Rivers Alternative as soon as possible. Fort Morgan is looking at buying more water from C-BT, and that's exactly one of the many options we've outlined in the HRA."

The Healthy Rivers Alternative is described here:

[http://savethepoudre.org/docs/stp\\_healthy\\_rivers\\_alternative.pdf](http://savethepoudre.org/docs/stp_healthy_rivers_alternative.pdf)

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The Save The Poudre Coalition is made up of 14 national, state, and regional groups including: National Wildlife Federation, Clean Water Action, Defenders of Wildlife, American Rivers, Western Resource Advocates, Colorado Environmental Coalition, Environment Colorado, Sierra Club – Rocky Mountain Chapter, Fort Collins Audubon Society, Citizen Planners, Wolverine Farm Publishing, Poudre Paddlers, Friends of the Poudre, and the Cache la Poudre River Foundation. Membership in these groups totals over 3 million American citizens.