



Northern Water

August 2009

WATERNEWS



INSIDE MOTHER OF INVENTION

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proves innovative solution

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Farmers Rally

Nearly 350 farmers, ditch company officials and elected representatives flocked to Russ and John Leffler’s farm near Eaton on June 30 for what was described as “a good old-fashioned get-together.”



That get-together was organized by members of Colorado’s agricultural community to show their overwhelming support for the Northern Integrated Supply Project. Spearheaded by the Colorado Farm Bureau, the rally included a barbecue lunch and a dozen speakers explaining why NISP is crucial to the future of Northeastern Colorado.

Co-emcees Don Ament and Sean Conway introduced the rally speakers, most of whom represented the leading ag organizations in the state. Numerous elected officials attended the rally led by Colorado Sen. Mary Hodge (D-Brighton) and Rep. Jerry Sonnenberg (R-Sterling), both of whom spoke in favor of NISP.

Both Mike Hungenberg and Barry Anderson, presidents of the New Cache Irrigating and Larimer and Weld Irrigation companies, respectively, told the crowd they wholeheartedly support NISP. These two ditch companies will be most directly affected by NISP and the proposed water exchange with Galeton Reservoir.

Larimer County Commissioner Tom Donnelly and his Weld County counterpart Doug Rademacher expressed their commissions’ respective support, while Troy Bredenkamp with the

Colorado Farm Bureau and Mark Sponsler with Colorado Corn Growers said NISP is critical to the future of farming in the region.

As the no action alternative describes in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, without NISP the potential negative impact on agriculture in Northern Colorado is huge.

Without NISP, growing Northern Front Range communities have few options for acquiring their much needed future supplies. The DEIS indicates that between 40,000 and 70,000 acres of additional farmland will be dried up to meet those needs in the absence of NISP.

Longtime farmer and agricultural spokesman Bob Sakata may have summed it up best in discussing the legacy we will leave for future generations, “That is what NISP is all about. We are investing in our future.”

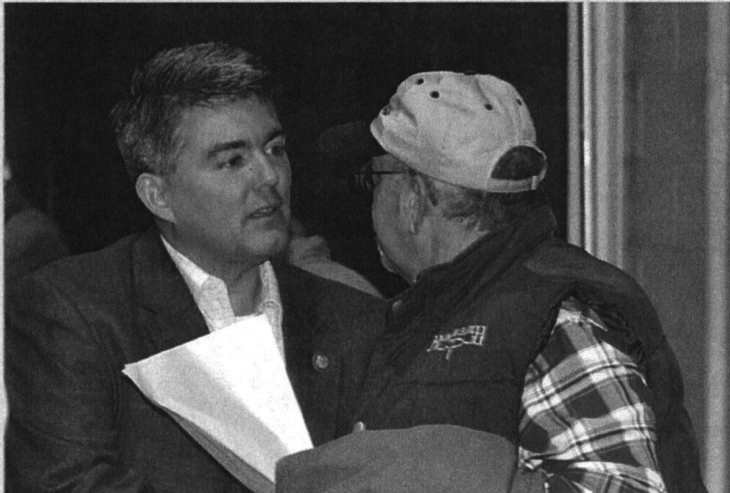
In addition to the 15 NISP participants and editorial support from eight newspapers, more than 35 organizations, ditch companies, chambers of commerce and agribusinesses have formally endorsed NISP. This number continues to grow and will be updated.

For a complete list of endorsers see www.gladereservoir.org and go to Latest News. ♦

Speakers at May 19 NISP Business Rally

- Eric Wilkinson, Northern Water general manager
- Larimer County Commissioners Tom Donnelly, Steve Johnson and Lew Gaiter
- Mayor Eric Doering, Mayor of Frederick
- Colorado State Senator Mary Hodge
- State Representative Jerry Sonnenberg
- U.S. Congressman Cory Gardner
- Mitch Anderson, general manager & CEO, Agland, Inc.
- Dave Stewart, president & CEO, Stewart Environmental Consultants
- Don Marostica, former director, Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade
- Mayor John Vazquez, Mayor of Windsor
- Mayor Chad Auer, Firestone Weld County Commissioners
- Kathy Peterson - Chairman of NISP and General Manager of Left Hand Water District
- Weld County Commissioners David Long, Douglas

300 Rally in Support of NISP (*Continued*)



U.S. Congressman Cory Gardner talks to Severance Town Administrator John Holdren

Fueling the Economy into the Future

A number of speakers commented about the importance of water planning to ensure adequate water supplies for future generations. Don Marostica, a former Loveland lawmaker and former Director of the Colorado Office of Economic Development, indicated that Colorado's current birth rate adds five people for every 1,000, resulting in a population that will double in just four decades. When migration into the state is added, the population will rise by about four people for every 1,000. Marostica said that to serve just those Colorado residents who choose to stay in the area and raise their families, NISP is needed. The recently published Statewide Water Supply Initiative Study (SWSI) conducted for the state's leading water policy board estimates that there will be a water supply gap of between 190,000 and 630,000 acre feet statewide by 2050. The lower estimate requires a host of local projects, including NISP, are built. Without NISP, the gap will be much higher. In the South Platte Basin alone, the demand "gap" is estimated to be between

NISP NORTHERN INTEGRATED SUPPLY PROJECT

Farmers for NISP Rally

June 30, 2009

Program

- 11 am** Meet and greet
- 11:15 am** Barbecue begins
- 11:30 am** Welcome by Russ Leffler
- 11:35 am** Sean Conway and Don Ament recognize state and federal elected officials and introduce speakers
- 11:40 am** Speakers:
- Mary Hodge, Colorado State Senator
 - Jerry Sonnenberg, Colorado State Representative
 - Troy Bredenkamp, Colorado Farm Bureau
 - Mark Sponsler, Colorado Corn Growers
 - Barry Anderson, Board President,
Larimer & Weld Irrigation Company
 - Mike Hungenberg, Board President,
New Cache la Poudre Irrigating Co.
 - Bob Sakata, Sakata Farms
 - Doug Rademacher, Weld County Commissioner
 - Steve Johnson/Tom Donnelly, Larimer County Commissioners**
 - Larry Burkhardt, Upstate Colorado
- 12:20 pm** Kathy Peterson, Chair, NISP Participants Committee
- 12:30 pm** Thank you and conclusion of formal presentation
- 1:30 pm** Rally ends



Special thanks to the Leffler family for providing the rally site.

Supporting the Northern Integrated Supply Project and its importance to the future of agriculture in Northeastern Colorado:

NISP participant communities and water districts

Central Weld County Water District	Fort Morgan
Dacono	Frederick
Eaton	Lafayette
Erie	Left Hand Water District
Evans	Morgan County Quality Water
Firestone	Severance
Fort Collins-Loveland Water District	Windsor
Fort Lupton	

Associations/Water Districts

Boulder Conservation District	GreenCO
Central Colorado Water Conservancy District	Lafayette Chamber of Commerce
Colorado Corn Growers Association	Lake Canal Ditch Company
Colorado Dairy Producers	Larimer and Weld Irrigation Company
Colorado Egg Producers	Longmont Conservation District
Colorado Farm Bureau	Lower South Platte Water Conservancy District
Colorado Livestock Association	New Cache la Poudre Irrigating Co.
Colorado Pork Producers Council	Rocky Mountain Agribusiness Association
Colorado State Grange	Rocky Mountain Farmers Union
Colorado Sugar Beet Growers Association	St. Vrain & Left Hand Water Conservancy District
Community Development Group – Southwest Weld County	Upstate Colorado – Weld County business group
District 6 Water Users Association	West Greeley Conservation District
Fort Collins Board of Realtors	Western Sugar Cooperative
Greeley Chamber of Commerce	Windsor Reservoir & Canal Company

Public Officials

Former Senator Hank Brown
Morgan County Commissioners
Weld County Commissioners

Editorial support

Erie Review
Fort Morgan Times
Greeley Tribune
Lafayette News
Longmont Times-Call
Louisville Times
Loveland Reporter-Herald
Windsor Beacon