

Date:

RE: Need for State Reclamation Permit: "Is It Mining?"

Name:				
Street Address:				
Telephone:	()	Mobile:	()	
Email Address:				

Enclosed are pertinent sections of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board (Board) Rules governing activities that do not require a reclamation permit. To determine if you need a permit for you proposed activity, first check Rule 1.2 which describes activities the Board has determined do not require state reclamation permits. If you find a match, you can proceed based on your interpretation of the rule, but at your own risk. If you are uncertain how the Rule may apply to your activity, you should answer the list of questions below with as much detail as possible. Please feel free to use additional paper, maps, and attachments to explain your project.

Please include in your determination request answers to the following questions:

1. Please provide the legal location of the proposed project and submit a site map that clearly delineates the location of the proposed extraction site and the location of the nearest city, town, and county location name.

Section:	Township:	Range:	PM	
			<u> </u>	
Or NAD 27 GPS	X UTM	Y UTM		_
Direction and nearest town/	I Miles to		County:	



2. Is the site of material extraction on public or privately owned property?

Public Private The land is owned by Northern Water.

3. What type(s) of material or metal is/are proposed to be extracted and describe the physical nature of the site i.e., river terrace, rocky knob, in-stream gravel deposit, etc.?

4. What processing or extraction method(s) will be used on site? Include any equipment or chemical(s) that will be used in the processing and extraction of the materials.

5. Will the extracted material be hauled offsite or used on the same parcel of property where the material is extracted?

- 6. How will the extracted material be used on site?
- 7. If the material is hauled offsite, where will it be hauled to and what it the intended use?

- 8. What is the approximate areal extent of the proposed extraction in acres?
- 9. To what approximate depth will the extraction extend?

This is anticipated max depth. Average depth will be shallower.

- 10. In cubic yards, approximately how much material will be removed:
- 11. Will material extraction involve the use of explosives?
 - Yes No
- 12. Will site of extraction result in the exposure of tributary ground water?
 - Yes No
- 13. Will either the landowner or the mine site operator receive any type of compensation, i.e., monetary, in-kind, haulage fees, etc., from the proposed material extraction? The landowner will not receive any compensation for material extraction. A third party contractor will be paid to complete the

Yes No

- geotechincal assessments.
- 14. Please supply a copy of any documents that will ensure that the area of extraction will be reclaimed to some beneficial land use once extraction activities have been Please see attached site plan and handouts. The geotechnical completed. assessment quarry areas will be below the reservoir normal pool elevation.
- 15. Do you have permits for this activity from any other governmental agencies such as building, construction, or grading permits, and if so, what are they?

16. Are there state/federal/local agency participants in terms of funding?

Funding	Yes	No	
	Yes	No	
Design		Page 3	of 6

Percentages

State _____ Federal _____ Local Agency _____

17. What post mining land uses will be made of the extraction and why? (This question helps us determine the intent of the activity.)

18. What types and sizes of equipment will be used in the extraction?

<u>Please send the completed questionnaire to the Division at the address above for review.</u> The Board has directed the Division to make a decision based on the information you have supplied. We trust that the activities will be performed as represented. If we receive a complaint, we are required by law to conduct an inspection of the site. Which could result in a violation, a cease and desist order, and other corrective actions including submittal of a permit application.

If you have any questions, please contact the Division at (303)866-3567. Please feel free to visit our web site at: <u>https://colorado.gov/drms</u> for further access to the full Act and Rules governing extraction of metals, non-metals, and construction materials in the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,

Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety Staff

Enclosure: Rule 1.2 excerpt for Hard Rock Metal Mines and Construction Materials Rule 1.2 excerpt for Hard Rock/Metal Mining

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1.2 SCOPE OF RULES AND ACTIVITIES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE A RECLAMATION PERMIT

1.2.1 Specified by Rule

The Board has determined that certain types of activities do not need reclamation permits either because the excavated substance is not a mineral as defined in Section 34-32-103(7), Colorado Revised Statutes 1984, as amended or because the activity is not a mining operation as defined by Section 34-32-103(8), C.R.S. 1984, as amended. Such activities include the following:

- (a) the exploration and extraction of natural petroleum in a liquid or gaseous state by means of wells or pipe;
- (b) the development or extraction of coal (refer to the Colorado Surface Coal Mining Reclamation Act Section 34-33-101, et seq., C.R.S. 1984, as amended);
- (c) smelting, refining, cleaning, preparation, transportation, and other off site operations not conducted on affected land;
- (d) a custom mill.

1.2 ACTIVITIES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE A RECLAMATION PERMIT

103(3) and 1.2.1 Specified by Rule

(13)

The Board has determined that certain types of activities do not need reclamation permits either because the excavated substance is not a construction material as defined in Section 34-32.5-103(3}, Colorado Revised Statutes 1984, as amended or because the activity is not a mining operation as defined by Section 34-32.5-103(13), C.R.S. 1984, asamended. Such activities include the following:

- (a) the exploration and extraction of natural petroleum in a liquid or gaseous state by means of wells or pipe:
- (b) the development or extraction of coal (refer to the Colorado Surface Coal Mining Reclamation Act Section 34-33-101, et seq., C.R.S. 1984, as amended);
- (c) cleaning, preparation, transportation, and other off-site operations not conducted on permitted land: and
- (d) the extraction of geothermal or groundwater resources.
- 1.2.2 Reserved
- 1.2.3 Reserved
- 1.2.4 Extraction or Exploration on Federal Lands

Any person who Intends to extract or explore for construction materials on federal lands shall apply for a Mined Land Reclamation Board permit or submit a Notice of Intent to conduct exploration operations unless specifically exempted by the Board according to the provisions of this Subsection 1.2.





Two new reservoirs that will help Northern Colorado communities meet their future water needs

The Northern Integrated Supply Project will supply 15 Northern Front Range water providers with 40,000 acre-feet of new, reliable water supplies. Northern Water is pursuing permitting, design and construction of this estimated \$1.5 billion project on behalf of the participants, who will be providing water to nearly half a million residents by 2050. The project components include:

- Two reservoirs (Glade Reservoir northwest of Fort Collins, and Galeton Reservoir northeast of Greeley)
- A forebay reservoir below Glade Reservoir
- Five pump plants
- Pipelines to deliver water for exchange with two irrigation companies and for delivery to participants
- Improvements to an existing canal to divert water off the Poudre River near the canyon mouth

Since 2009, streamflows have been high enough in most years that, had the project been complete and storing water, millions of acre feet of water still would have flowed into Nebraska. NISP will help put more water to beneficial use here in Colorado through a 1980 storage right on the Poudre River, a 1992 water right on the South Platte River, and exchanges with two local ditch companies.



The future site of Glade Reservoir northwest of Fort Collins.

A project that will improve river flows and protect wildlife and our environment

The NISP Fish and Wildlife Mitigation and Enhancement Plan – approved by the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission, Colorado Water Conservation Board and Gov. John Hickenlooper in 2017 – includes an array of components that address issues raised during the permitting and public comment processes, such as:

- An operational configuration that releases 18 cubic feet per second to 25 cfs year-round from Glade Reservoir to the Poudre River, eliminating existing dry-up points in the river and improving streamflows
- A Poudre River peak-flow operations program that results in little to no diversions during peak flow conditions during 90 percent of years
- Wildlife habitat conservation
- Water quality improvements
- Retrofitting four existing diversion structures to allow fish to migrate freely up and down river – and for flows to continue downstream
- Stream channel and habitat improvements
- Fishery and recreation benefits at Glade Reservoir

Current Status & Upcoming Timeline

- 2017 Approval of Fish and Wildlife Mitigation and Enhancement Plan
- 2018 Final Environmental Impact Statement released
- 2020 401 Water Quality Certification Permit granted by the State of Colorado
- 2020 1041 Permit granted by Larimer County, regarding recreation commitments and pipeline routes
- 2021 Anticipated Record of Decision and 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- 2021-2023 Project design to be finalized
- 2023-2027 Anticipated construction dates
- 2028 First water stored in Glade Reservoir



The NISP Delivery Pipeline will connect to the existing Southern Water Supply Project pipelines northeast of Longmont to complete the delivery of NISP supplies to the project's southern participants.

Glade Reservoir

Glade Reservoir will be located northwest of Fort Collins near the intersection

of U.S. Highway 287 and State Highway 14. It will be 5 miles long, 280 feet deep at its deepest, and have the capacity to store 170,000 acre-feet of water, slightly larger than Horsetooth Reservoir. Glade Reservoir will divert water from the Poudre River during mostly high flow times, using the already existing Poudre Valley Canal near the canyon mouth. As part of NISP, the PVC's diversion structure will be upgraded. The reservoir site is divided by U.S. Highway 287, and therefore, about seven miles of the highway will be relocated to the east.

Galeton Reservoir

PARTICIPATING WATER PROVIDERS

(Yield from project, in acre feet)

- Central Weld County Water District (3,500)
- Dacono (1,250)
- Eaton (1,300)
- Erie (6,500)
- Evans (1,200)
- Firestone (1,300)
- Fort Collins-Loveland Water District (3,400)
- Fort Lupton (2,050)
- Fort Morgan (3,600)
- Frederick (2,600)
- Lafayette (1,800)
- Left Hand Water District (4,900)
- Morgan County Quality Water District (1,300)
- Severance (2,000)
- Windsor (3,300)

Galeton Reservoir will be located east of Ault and northeast of Greeley,

and store about 45,600 acre-feet at full capacity. To fill Galeton Reservoir, water will be diverted from the South Platte River downstream from Greeley at high flow times. Galeton Reservoir water will be delivered to two ditch companies in exchange for a portion of the Poudre River water they currently use – an effort called the South Platte Water Conservation Project. More than half of NISP's planned diversion from the Poudre River includes water that's already been diverted for decades by these two ditch companies.

Colorado Water Plan

The Colorado Water Plan reinforced the necessity of additional

water storage to help meet the state's future water gap. The gap is the difference between the estimated future water demands and existing supplies by the year 2060. The plan identifies the need for 400,000 acrefeet of additional storage statewide. NISP can play a role in meeting a portion of the impending water gap in Colorado. The plan also identifies water conservation and increased water transfers between the agricultural and municipal sectors as additional solutions to help meet the impending gap.

NISP Participants

The 15 NISP participants include 11 fast-growing communities and four

water districts within the Northern Front Range. They currently serve water to about 250,000 residents, with that number expected to double by 2050. The NISP participants are pursuing an all-of-the-above strategy to meet their future water needs. In addition to NISP, they are embracing conservation efforts, alternative transfer methods with ag-water suppliers and reuse opportunities. The participants have already collectively reduced their water consumption by nearly 30 percent in recent years through these efforts.

Two reservoirs that will help Northern Colorado meet its future water needs

NISP will supply 15 water providers with **40,000 acre-feet of new, reliable water supplies**. Northern Water is pursuing permitting, design and construction of this estimated **\$1.5 billion project** on behalf of the participants, who will be providing water to nearly half a million residents by 2050.

The project's main components include:

- Two new reservoirs (Glade Reservoir northwest of Fort Collins, and Galeton Reservoir northeast of Greeley)
- Pipelines to deliver water to the participants and for water exchanges with two irrigation companies
- Five pump plants

Glade Reservoir



- Glade will be located northwest of Fort Collins near the intersection of U.S. Highway 287 and State Highway 14.
- The reservoir will divert water from the Poudre River during mostly high-flow times.
- The project will use the already existing Poudre Valley Canal near the canyon mouth to divert water from the river to the Glade Reservoir forebay. As part of NISP, the PVC's diversion structure will be upgraded.
- The reservoir site is divided by U.S. Highway 287, and therefore, about seven miles of the highway will be relocated to the east

Bringing new recreation opportunities to the region

In addition to needed water storage and environmental-protection measures, NISP will bring new recreation opportunities to Northern Colorado, with a recreation concept plan that calls for **motorized and** non-motorized boating, fishing, camping, hiking and biking at Glade Reservoir.

Growing communities taking diverse steps to meet future demands

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

These 11 fast-growing communities and four water districts **currently serve water to about 250,000** residents, with that expected to double by 2050. In addition to NISP, they are embracing conservation efforts, reuse and other opportunities to meet their future water demands, **having already** collectively reduced their per capita water consumption by nearly 30 percent since 2000.



Current status and upcoming timeline

2017 – Approval of Fish and Wildlife Mitigation and Enhancement Plan 2018 – Final Environmental Impact Statement released 2020 – 401 Water Quality Certification Permit granted by the State of Colorado 2020 - 1041 Permit granted by Larimer County, regarding Glade Reservoir and pipeline routes 2021 – Anticipated Record of Decision and 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2019-2023 – Project design to be finalized 2023-2027 – Anticipated construction dates 2028 - First water stored in Glade Reservoir

A project that aligns with the goals of the Colorado Water Plan

The Colorado Water Plan reinforced the necessity of additional water storage to help meet the state's future water gap. The gap is the difference between the estimated future water demands and existing supplies by the year 2060.

The Colorado Water Plan identifies the need for 400,000 acre-feet of additional storage statewide. NISP can play a role in meeting a portion of the impending water gap in Colorado.

The plan also identifies water conservation and increased water transfers between the agricultural and municipal sectors as additional solutions to help meet the impending gap.

Galeton Reservoir



- This reservoir will be located east of Ault and northeast of Greeley.
- Water will be diverted from the South Platte River downstream from Greeley at high flow times.
- Galeton Reservoir water will be delivered to the Larimer-Weld and New Cache ditch companies in exchange for a portion of the Poudre River water they currently use. (About half of NISP's planned diversion from the Poudre River includes water that's already been diverted for decades by these two ditch companies.)



A project that will also help protect local farms

In order to fill Glade Reservoir, NISP will strategically utilize water exchanges with the Larimer-Weld and New Cache ditch companies in Weld County, both of which have senior rights on the Poudre River. In return, the NISP participants will provide compensation for the two participating ditch companies, including:

- Monetary payments
- Additional water supplies from Galeton Reservoir
- Ditch-system improvements

Additionally, the ditch-company shareholders will maintain control of their water and water will continue flowing to their farms and ranches, while the compensation from the NISP participants will enhance the long-term viability of those ag operations.

Furthermore, without NISP, the communities participating in the project will most likely be left to purchase more water from existing farms and ranches — needing to dry up more than 64,000 acres of irrigated farmground to attain the amount of water that NISP would provide.

You can learn more about NISP at www.gladereservoir.org

A project that will help maintain the Poudre River's streamflows and protect our environment and wildlife

The NISP Fish and Wildlife Mitigation and Enhancement Plan – approved by the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission, Colorado Water Conservation Board and Gov. John Hickenlooper in 2017 – includes an array of components that will benefit our environment and local wildlife. Northern Water has also made additional environmental commitments in its Conceptual Mitigation Plan that are included in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Overall, NISP is committing nearly \$60 million toward mitigation and enhancement for the local environment and wildlife. These measures include:

Streamflow Commitments

- Water releases from Glade Reservoir of 18 cubic feet per second in the winter and 25 cfs in the summer, which will eliminate existing dry-up points in the river through downtown Fort Collins and improve streamflows year-round.
- Curtailing diversions when Poudre River flows are less than 50 cfs in the summer and less than 25 cfs in the winter.





Flushing Flow Commitments

- Commitments in which Glade Reservoir won't divert Poudre River water during peak flows in 2/3 of years, and will bypass diversions for up to three days – equivalent to as much as 6,000 acre-feet in most years.
- The project's streamflow commitments will result in little to no diversions during peak flow conditions in 90 percent of years.

Stream Channel Commitments

- Building bypass/fish passage structures at four diversion dams through Fort Collins and at the Poudre Valley Canal diversion at the canyon mouth.
- Stream channel improvements on two reaches that cover 2.4 miles.
- Commitments of nearly \$8 million for channel and riparian vegetation improvements.





Other Commitments

- Wildlife habitat conservation covering about 1,400 acres around Glade Reservoir.
- Wetlands and endangered species mitigation.
- Recreation/fishery benefits at Glade Reservoir.

NISP Endorsements

With NISP bringing so many benefits to the region, the project has earned support from numerous entities and individuals.

Erie Review • Fort Collins Coloradoan • Fort Morgan Times • Greeley Tribune Lafayette News • Longmont Times-Call • Lost Creek Guide • Louisville Times

Berthoud Area Chamber • Carbon Valley Chamber • Erie Chamber • Evans Area Chamber Fort Collins Chamber • Fort Lupton Chamber • Fort Morgan Chamber • Greeley Chamber Lafayette Chamber • Longmont Area Chamber • Mead Area Chamber • Windsor Chamber

Morgan County Commissioners • Weld County Commissioners

AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATIONS

Colorado Farm Bureau • Rocky Mountain Farmers Union • Colorado Livestock Association Colorado Pork Producers Council • Larimer County Farm Bureau • Weld County Farm Bureau

WEST SLOPE ORGANIZATIONS

Colorado River District • Club 20 • Southwestern Water Conservation District • Ute Water Conservancy District

CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Boulder Valley Conservation District • Longmont Conservation District • West Greeley Conservation District Big Thompson Conservation District • Fort Collins Conservation District

PUBLIC OFFICIALS

U.S. Sen. Cory Gardner • U.S. Rep. Ken Buck • State Sen. Randy Baumgardner State Sen. John Cooke • State Sen. Don Coram • State Sen. Kevin Grantham • State Sen. Cheri Jahn State Sen. Kevin Lundberg • State Sen. Vicki Marble • State Sen. Kevin Priola • State Sen. Jerry Sonnenberg State Rep. Jon Becker • State Rep. Perry Buck • State Rep. Steve Humphrey • State Rep. Hugh McKean State Rep. Bob Rankin • State Rep. Lori Saine • State Rep. Yeulin Willett Former U.S. Sen. Hank Brown • Don Ament, former state agriculture commissioner

LOCAL PUBLICATIONS

- Loveland Reporter-Herald Windsor Beacon
 - **CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE**
 - **BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS**
- Accelerate Colorado Action 22 Associated General Contractors of Colorado Colorado Association of Commerce & Industry

 Colorado Contractors Association Fort Collins Board of REALTORS • Front Range District, Colorado Counties, Inc. Morgan County Economic Development Corporation • Northern Colorado Home Builders Association Northern Colorado Legislative Alliance • Poudre Valley REA • Progressive 15 • United Power Upstate Colorado Economic Development • Weld Community Development Group Weld County Builders Association Inc. • Weld County Council

COUNTY COMMISSIONS

Colorado Corn Growers Association • Colorado Cattlemen's Association Rocky Mountain Agribusiness Association • Western Sugar Cooperative Colorado Sugarbeet Growers Association • Boulder-St. Vrain Valley County Farm Bureau Colorado Association of Wheat Growers • Colorado Egg Producers Association

WATER DISTRICTS

- Central Colorado Water Conservancy District Lower South Platte Water Conservancy District
- Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District St. Vrain & Left Hand Water Conservancy District





The Northern Integrated Supply Project:

A water-storage project that will help rapidly growing Front Range communities meet their future water needs, while also implementing protections for the environment and wildlife, creating new recreation opportunities, and helping preserve our local farms and ranches.

