

News Release

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Corps will prepare Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Northern Integrated Supply Project

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District, announced Wednesday that it will prepare a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) for the Northern Integrated Supply Project, which would assist with water supply to meet current needs and in anticipation of population growth. Glade Reservoir would be located north of Fort Collins, Colo., with Galeton Reservoir located east of Ault, Colo.

The project, proposed by the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, would involve the construction of two new reservoirs, Glade and Galeton. The Corps released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the project April 30, 2008. Due to the number and complexity of significant comments received during the comment period, the Corps has determined that additional analysis is required before a decision on whether to approve or deny the permit can be made.

"We will revise key portions of the original draft and conduct additional study in categories such as hydrology modeling, water quality, vegetation and aquatic resources," says Omaha District Commander Col. David Press. "This next stage will also give us the opportunity to encourage public participation, which is an extremely important part of this process."

As the Corps prepares the supplemental draft, it will require that studies for the Northern Integrated Supply Project EIS and the Halligan-Seaman Reservoirs Expansion EIS use common baseline models and data collection to ensure that study results are consistent among all three projects. Halligan-Seaman is a separate water supply study being prepared for the cities of Fort Collins and its partners and Greeley, Colo. The projects are similar in purpose to NISP in that they seek to provide additional reliable water supply. Specifically, the projects propose to expand

the existing Halligan-Seaman reservoirs for additional municipal, industrial and agricultural water supply.

"We want to ensure a fair process where we are using the same sets of data and comparing apples to apples on all three of these projects before we make a final decisions," says Press.