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Survey reveals substantial support for water storage, Glade Reservoir and conservation

BERTHOUD – An overwhelming majority of Larimer and Weld county residents support the Northern Integrated Supply Project, which includes the proposed Glade Reservoir northwest of Fort Collins.

That is according to results released Sept. 12, 2008, of a survey conducted by pollster Floyd Ciruli. Ciruli conducted the survey to determine the level of support for NISP.

The survey's findings include:

- 63 percent of Larimer County residents and 81 percent of Weld County residents support NISP
- By a nearly 2-to-1 margin, Fort Collins residents support NISP
- 65 percent of Larimer County residents and 75 percent of Weld County residents believe northern Colorado needs more water storage
- 93 percent of Larimer County residents and 98 percent of Weld County residents agree that maintaining agricultural open space and the farm economy is important to our area. They do not support the dry up of agriculture to provide water to cities
- 73 percent of Larimer County residents and 82 percent of Weld County residents agree with the cooperative regional approach to water-supply planning that NISP employs
- 71 percent of Larimer County residents and 85 percent of Weld County residents agree that Glade Reservoir is good for protecting the area against future droughts, and 40 percent indicate they will use the reservoir for recreation
- 70 percent of Larimer County residents are sympathetic toward and/or active in the environmental movement, yet fewer than one-fourth of Larimer County residents oppose NISP
- 73 percent of Larimer County residents and 87 percent of Weld County residents believe water conservation is important but that it alone cannot provide sufficient water for future growth and recurring droughts and that more water storage is needed

Research design:

- Conducted by: Ciruli Associates
- Sample: Random samples of active Larimer and Weld counties' registered voters
- Sample size: Larimer: 500, Weld: 300.
- Margin of Error: Larimer: ± 4.4 percentage points, Weld: ± 5.7 percentage points
- Date in Field: Larimer: August 8-11, 2008; Weld: August 11-14, 2008