A MUCH NEEDED RESERVOIR

As Northern Colorado’s growth continues, the region will need collaborative projects that not only help us meet its future water demands, but also protect the environment and wildlife, help maintain local food production and preserve the region’s quality of life.

We need to take action now to protect our communities and plan for future generations. The communities developing Chimney Hollow Reservoir are taking a multi-faceted approach to protect our future, consistent with the statewide water plan.

By 2050, the water providers’ combined population will have far more than doubled what it was in 2005, to about 825,000. Projections show a shortage in supply of 64,000 acre-feet in 2030 and 110,000 acre-feet by 2050.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

The project participants are committed to providing environmental commitments and improving the Colorado River. The environmental commitments add more than $23 million in improvements and more than $45 million worth of water for the West Slope.

The commitments will:
- Improve Streamflow & Aquatic Habitat
- Construct the Windy Gap Reservoir Connectivity Channel
- Provide West Slope Water Supplies

RESERVOIR FACTS

90,000 acre-feet of storage
740 surface acres
30,000 acre-feet of firm yield for the 12 project participants

CHIMNEY HOLLOW DAM will be one of the first and largest rockfill asphalt core dams in the United States

350-foot tall dam
2,640-foot long dam spanning Chimney Hollow valley
Chimney Hollow Reservoir will provide another recreation destination in Larimer County for an estimated 50,000 people. Larimer County will manage the recreation on the reservoir and the lands west of the reservoir, which will include an additional 3,400 acres of open space.

Recreation will include:
- Non-motorized boating
- Fishing
- Hiking
- Horseback riding

The reservoir connects to existing infrastructure by storing water diverted into Windy Gap’s system, which pumps water into Lake Granby and uses C-BT Project facilities for delivery to participants. This project will not take away water from agriculture or other users, but would utilize the water rights associated with the existing Windy Gap Project, which has been delivering water since 1985.

**RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**CHIMNEY HOLLOW RESERVOIR PROJECT TIMELINE**

1985: Windy Gap Project construction completed

2003: Thirteen water providers enter the formal federal permitting process for Windy Gap Firming Project; The Subdistrict publishes an alternatives report detailing 171 methods to potentially accomplish project goals and how they were narrowed down to seven

2005: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation publishes two reports, one describing the purpose of and need for the project, and one identifying a range of alternatives that could meet the needs

2008: Reclamation publishes the Draft Environmental Impact Statement

2009: The Subdistrict offers West Slope benefits to facilitate project implementation

2011: State officials approve the fish and wildlife mitigation plan and a voluntary enhancement plan; Reclamation publishes a Final EIS

2012: Grand County and the Subdistrict board approve agreements to improve Colorado River habitat and stream flows

2014: Reclamation issues its Record of Decision and signs a carriage contract to transport water to Chimney Hollow Reservoir

2016: Colorado issues a 401 Water Quality Certification

2017: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issues its final Record of Decision

2019: Barnard Construction chosen to build Chimney Hollow Reservoir

2020: Construction of an asphalt-core dam will commence at the Chimney Hollow site in Larimer County