FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BERTHOUD – The Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District today increased the 2008 Colorado-Big Thompson to 80 percent. This is an increase of 10 percent from the 70 percent quota set in April, and an increase of 20 percent from the initial 60 percent quota set last November.

“The Board determined the increase is warranted primarily because of the lack of precipitation this year, currently 40 percent below normal,” said Northern Water General Manager Eric Wilkinson.

Board members also indicated a desire to help those water users currently unable to acquire water on the rental market. They indicated there is an additional demand for water in the region and they felt this will help the region’s overall water supply while leaving adequate Project water in reserve. Another factor is the status of local storage reservoirs which continue to be below normal.

This supplemental quota will provide an additional 31,000 acre-feet of water for delivery.

Northern Water is a public agency created in 1937 to help operate the Colorado-Big Thompson Project in conjunction with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Northern Water encompasses portions of eight counties in northeastern Colorado and delivers supplemental water to approximately 780,000 people.

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