

**What did you learn today that encouraged you?**

- Was encouraged and appreciated Ken Bennett's book report on, Oil and Water, especially the discussion about how to encourage open mindedness/ discourage polarization. This theme keeps coming up again and again, understanding and mastering this seems to be critical to making positive steps in solving water complexities. "There are always options" - Spock
- I was encouraged by the prospect of NISP being built and the associated environmental improvements it will provide for the Poudre River through Fort Collins. I was also encouraged by Brian Werner and Eric Wilkinson.
- Brian Werner presentation was great. He had a lot of information and I enjoyed it. Eric Wilkinson presentation was also great. Enjoyed listening to him.
- While we have some significant storage projects in the works the dollars that they are spending on mitigation improvements are tremendous. Eric Wilkinson was a tremendous speaker. He is passionate, knowledgeable, articulate, and a true leader. Northern Water was lucky to have him at the helm and we (Northern Colorado residents) were lucky to have him representing our water interests.  
Eric has always been amazing, but it was even more fun to hear his thoughts on leadership. As for NISP, I've heard much of that before, but never tire of hearing more. The book report was more fulfilling than I had expected, so quite enjoyed that, too.
- I was encouraged by the mitigation measure of the Northern Integrated Supply Project. I was encouraged by all of the expanded storage facilities. Communities are being proactive.
- Eric Wilkinson's talk was very encouraging. The reminder to look at challenges as opportunities is a good one and to try to find solutions that are multi-focused instead of single-focused.
- How much work is being done to secure needed water supplies.
- Eric Wilkinson's definition of leadership. (which I can't quote but recall being very moved by). Also, I am not sure if it encouraged me or discouraged me – I am sure it depends on which side of an issue an individual is sitting – but, all of the time and deliberation that goes into the permitting process. I recognize this adds challenges, costs, time, etc. but, at the end of the day, I have to trust that this messy imperfect process is far better than no process at all.
- The apparent collaboration among the Army Corp, cities, (some) environmental groups, and other players to move the projects forward.
- Water challenges are opportunities!

**What did you hear today that discouraged you?**

- I was discouraged by the frivolous lawsuits sponsored by DU law school.
- Permitting process for reservoirs is just too long. Frustrating just thinking about spending 20 years getting a permit!
- The permitting process for new reservoirs appears to be broken. While I understand that there is a tremendous amount of modelling and analysis for the impacts these projects can cause, I can't believe that it takes decades for approvals.  
I was discouraged by the time it takes to approve the storage projects. I understand there are numerous factors and no better way, but it did seem discouraging.
- I was pretty discouraged by the voices in the class that seem to poo-poo the timeline of the permitting process. When you look at all of the historical pictures that we were seeing, it goes to show that these things are built to last generations and will be an almost permanent fixture in our landscapes. I sincerely hope that the permitting process takes a long time and goes through multiple iterations because this is not the kind of thing you want to screw up just because you are

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in a hurry. If something is going to last 150+ years, an extra 5-10 years to make sure it is safe, sustainable, and the right decision is just a drop in the bucket of time (pardon the pun).

- Not enough water for everyone. I fear the strong entities in this class will win at the expense of the weaker entities.
- The amount (quantity) of storage it takes to yield a (much lower) quantity of delivered supply.
- The time and cost of the major water projects, as well as the still-adversarial, zero-sum, dynamics among major water players.
- 1957, 150,000 people: 2019, 1 million, 85% ag to 30% ag, with est. 10 years left? We are in a 10 - 18 year drought? 13 years permitting so far for Halligan, uncertain time frame for a storage project, cost equates to \$1M/year for permitting! No easy solutions.

**What did you learn today that surprised you?**

- Thought I understood the NEPA process and time involved to execute the provisions- a little stunned at the protracted timelines for approval on these projects. I understand the necessity but honestly wonder if it ends up being an endurance contest versus what makes sense ecologically. Also, the cost of projects was staggering and gave some perspective to just how much \$5 billion is and what it can buy (sorry for the political commentary- feel free to delete it)
- I was surprised to learn that the City of Fort Collins is teaching Polarity Thinking to its staff.
- This was the first time that I heard a definitive schedule for NISP. It appears as if we are closer than ever to being able to predict when that system could come online.
- If I understand correctly, I was surprised that NISP will not divert water from the Poudre river in low flow years. This in itself seems like a big mitigation measure.
- I was surprised to hear from Brian Werner that CB-T water goes off the table in about a decade or so as a supplemental water supply. I find that pretty scary but it is also a good way to visualize the population growth we will be experiencing.
- None of the entities promoted a rising tide floats all ships plan
- I still think it is fascinating that there is not a standard unit when we are talking about water (or that there are so many different “standard” units) i.e.: acre foot / unit / share / etc. And, for the average Joe, this is all very abstract – making it hard for people to understand and relate to.
- The size and engineering requirements of the dams required for these projects.
- \$60M towards fish and wildlife mitigation with NISP.

**What did you learn today that you want to know more about?**

- The power of the legislative process, wondering if there is a streamlined way to follow water legislation more closely? A specific Twitter account or FB page? Trying to track via the standard CO Legislative channels is so tedious. Wondering if there will be a redirection of priorities with the new CO administration?
- I would like to learn more about the opportunities for habitat enhancement (especially fisheries) associated with the proposed projects.
- I would like to learn more about the changes that we have made since the 2002 drought. It appears from a lot of the speakers we have had this year that that drought was the catalyst for significant changes and planning.  
I would like to know more about how NISP has address the environmental concerns and what the opponents are still concerned with.
- I would like to look into what the City of Tucson did for their water conservation/water back into their river program and see if it could work for us at the City of Fort Collins. From the discussion in

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the class, it sounds like it was a revolutionary program a few years ago but nothing has been heard about it since.

- How Fort Collins can get back to full Halligan project. What happened to its lost water rights? Did they go back to the river? Did someone else pick them up?
- I am loving the book reports and hope I can read more of them myself! I am also curious about having a little “In the news” portion of our meetings. There always seems to be water issues in the news – to discuss them and a little extra context could be very useful to me.
- How the individual city projects could potentially be regionalized or their needs met through Windy Gap and NISP.
- Polarity Thinking (Kelly DiMartino), Fort Collins' approach to inclusiveness and stakeholder engagement.

**Was there anything today that captured your attention to the extent that you could see yourself engaging in it further—to study it further, to play a leadership role in bringing it to the attention of others?**

- I will be an advocate for water projects and attempt to educate those who have previously been unwilling to have meaningful conversations.
- I would like to learn more about what the potential impacts could be to Colorado should we be forced to send more water down the Colorado River for an insurance pool in Mead and Powell.
- I will definitely look to read Virtual Rivers thanks to Sean Dougherty's book report. I, too, prefer to read fiction so any time I can find an informative non-fiction book that will read like fiction, I pursue it!
- Overall, the water future is grim. Global warming will mean longer hotter irrigation season with short reservoir fill season. Reinforces that local on-site toilet to tap is needed.
- History is a powerful lens. Brian Werner did an amazing job of bringing the CBT story to life.
- The magnitude of the pending projects, when taken together as a system.