

Supplemental Environmental Assessment
**COAL CREEK
FLOOD MITIGATION**

Larimer County, Colorado

FEMA PDMC-PJ-08-CO-2008-001

January 2011



FEMA

Department of Homeland Security
FEMA Region VIII
Denver, Colorado

Supplement to the
Environmental Assessment (EA)
and
Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)
for the
Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project,
Larimer County, Colorado

January 18, 2011

COAL CREEK FLOOD MITIGATION PROJECT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

INTRODUCTION

Larimer County has applied for funding under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant program. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500 through 1508), FEMA's regulations (44 CFR Part 10) for environmental considerations, and DHS Management Directive 5100.1, FEMA must fully understand and consider the environmental consequences of actions proposed for federal funding.

In June of 2009, FEMA prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and a **Finding of No Significant Impact** (FONSI) was issued July 6, 2009 for the Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project. This supplemental EA is to document and transmit revisions made to the final design of that Project. The design phase is nearly complete, and construction is scheduled take place during 2011. The Project will address the purpose and goals as described in the original EA and approved in the original FONSI, both of which are incorporated here by reference. The overall project elements, location and approach are the same, but refinements in the final design have resulted in fewer impacts than assumed in the original EA. All original stipulations, mitigation measures and project conditions apply, except as noted below.

There are two project components, the outlet channel improvements and the culvert and swale installation in Wellington that are no longer necessary for this project. Analysis by the Larimer County Engineer determined that the existing outlet channel has adequate conveyance and the installation of culverts in Wellington would not have further changed the new floodplain limits. Therefore, both items and their potential impacts have been eliminated from the project.

In addition, the final design has reduced anticipated wetland impacts by 97%, from 11.8 acres to 0.33 acres. The wetland mitigation for this project will still be on a 1:1 basis as stipulated in Item 6 of the original FONSI. Therefore, only 0.33 acres of wetlands will be constructed for mitigation. The amount of material to be dredged from the existing reservoir will be reduced from 500,000 cubic yards to 200,000 cubic yards and the emergency spillway will be raised by 1.0 feet rather than 1.5 feet. The significant reduction in impacts is possible because instead of making the reservoir larger through excavation of existing wetlands, reservoir volume needed to retain floodwaters is being gained through an agreement with the North Poudre Irrigation Company to utilize a portion of their existing storage capacity during the flood season.

The final revision is to eliminate the construction of a temporary roadway at the County Road 7 crossing. Instead, traffic will be detoured to CR-9 to the west or Interstate 25 to the east, a maximum detour of 2 miles. The detour is anticipated to remain effective for approximately 90 days after the start of construction. The public has been duly notified of these changes through project specific meetings, newspaper articles and outreach to individuals within the proposed project area.



Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project

Final Design Comparison to Environmental Assessment

December 20, 2010

Background

The Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project (PDMC-PJ-08-CO-2008-001) is intended to reduce flooding potential along Coal Creek in the Wellington area. The project was selected for funding under the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program, with the federal award to Colorado made September 24, 2009 and the Colorado State (Department of Local Affairs) contract executed with Larimer County January 5, 2010.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) completed a Final Environmental Assessment (EA) dated June 29, 2009 for the project. The result of the assessment was a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and a letter from FEMA to Larimer County dated October 30, 2009 that indicated notification of the completion of the NEPA process.

The EA was completed using information and assumptions used in the PDM grant application which were developed through preliminary engineering work. Since the award of the project from FEMA to the State, final design has been completed. This document:

1. Compares the final details of the project design to the anticipated impacts identified by the EA for the various project components, and
2. Identifies the adherence to the mitigations and stipulations listed in the FONSI.

FONSI Background Information

The **purpose and need** of the project remains the same.

The purpose and need of the project is described in Section 1.2 of the EA and lists: prevent or reduce damages, remove safety hazards, avoid displacements and clean up costs, and prevent loss of public services, and avoid disruption of commerce as needs for the project. Those needs remain and will be addressed by the project.

The final design will still address the **project goals**.

The project goal is to remove much of the old town area of the Town of Wellington from the floodplain. This will include more than 200 existing structures, including two schools and 6 municipal facilities.

The **project elements, location and approach** are the same as assumed in the Environmental Assessment.

The project elements and their location as described in the EA are to widen the inlet canal to capture flood flows, and create 540 acre-feet of dedicated flood storage in Clark Reservoir. The project approach for improvements to Clark Reservoir described in the EA includes some dredging, some excavation, and raising the spillway to establish the needed storage. The final design includes less dredging than assumed, raising the spillway less than assumed, and the excavation will not be needed. While the general approach remains the same, the ultimate impacts are less than those anticipated and cleared through the EA.



Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project

Final Design Comparison to Environmental Assessment

Review of Specific Project Descriptions and Components

The project description and components listed in the FONSI dated May 26, 2009 remain the same. The impacts of those components are generally either the same, reduced or eliminated. Details for each item are listed below:

Information / Assumption in EA	Final Design	Impact / Difference
<p>Improvements to North Poudre Inlet Canal</p> <p>Changes along 2,900 linear feet of Inlet Canal to ensure flow capacity of 1,700 cfs. Excavated material will be hauled to fill area on existing roads.</p>	<p>Approach, including flow capacity and improvement length are the same. Material will be hauled on existing roads to either the fill area or to an existing approved county stockpile location that is closer than fill area.</p>	<p>No change.</p>
<p>CR 7 Crossing Upgrade</p> <p>Conveyance capacity needs to increase to 1,700 cfs at the crossing. New crossing will have the same footprint as old crossing. Work to be done in winter / early spring. Road to be closed for 2 days during demolition, then temporary roadway built.</p>	<p>Structure assumptions, schedule and bridge footprint remain the same. Specific details regarding impact of temporary roadway were not reviewed in EA. Potential for temporary roadway reviewed and determined to be not feasible. With limited traffic and good alternate route available, eliminating the temporary roadway is least impactful.</p>	<p>No change in structure and schedule.</p> <p>Elimination of temporary roadway lessens impact but requires longer duration of detour for limited traffic. (see attached)</p>
<p>Improvements to Clark Reservoir</p> <p>Dredge 370,000 cy and excavate 195,000 cy in Clark Reservoir to provide additional capacity (350 Acre-Feet) for storage of floodwaters. Includes vegetation removal and impacts 11.8 acres of wetlands.</p>	<p>Clark Reservoir will be dredged (170,000 cy) to provide 105 AF of storage. No excavation around reservoir is required. Required capacity accomplished through shared storage agreement. Vegetation removal is very limited and wetland impact is 0.33 acres (only impact is adjacent to existing access roads).</p>	<p>Same capacity for floodwaters. Significantly less overall impact.</p> <p>Less dredging and no excavation around reservoir required. Wetland impact is reduced by 97%.</p>
<p>Staging Area</p> <p>A staging area ~ 4 acres in size west of Clark Reservoir is expected.</p>	<p>No change.</p>	<p>No change.</p>



Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project Final Design Comparison to Environmental Assessment

Information / Assumption in EA	Final Design	Impact / Difference
Fill Area		
Sediment, dredge material and excavated material were assumed to be placed north of reservoir on two properties via pipelines and/or trucks on haul roads.	The fill area will require only one property. Since no soil excavation from around the reservoir is needed, any haul from the reservoir to the fill area is very limited.	Significantly less impact. Instead of > 500,000 cubic yards of material, less than 200,000 cy will be placed at fill area. The fill location is only on one property (~15% or 7 acres less than anticipated)
Vegetation Disposal Area		
Any vegetation cleared will be removed and placed in an area east of reservoir on private land.	No change in location of vegetation disposal. Due to lack of excavation around reservoir, less disturbance is expected than originally assumed.	Less impact.
Emergency Spillway Improvements		
Raise emergency spillway 1.5 ft in height to add 190 acre-feet of storage.	The final design shows a spillway raised only by 1.0 foot.	Less impact. (spillway being raised 33% less than anticipated)
Outlet Channel Improvements		
Outlet channel needs to convey 220 cfs and as such three road crossings will need to be replaced.	Existing conveyance is adequate and no crossings need to be modified.	Impact eliminated.
Local Conveyance Improvements Within Wellington		
Install twin 48" culverts and grass-lined swale in Wellington area.	No local improvements needed.	Impact eliminated.

The summary of the Project Components listed in the FONSI and their resultant impacts are listed below:

North Poudre Inlet Canal	No change
CR 7 crossing	No change from bridge, and less environmental impact without temporary roadway construction
Improvements to Clark Reservoir	Less impact
Staging area	No change
Fill area	Less impact
Vegetation / disposal area	Less impact
Emergency spillway improvements	Less impact
Outlet channel improvements	Impact eliminated
Local conveyance improvements	Impact eliminated



Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project Final Design Comparison to Environmental Assessment

Mitigations and Stipulations

The mitigations and stipulations listed in the FONSI are also still valid. Each item is listed below.

1. Erosion Control Plan must be submitted and approved by Larimer County.
2. Floodplain development permit required from Wellington and Larimer County
3. Land Development Fugitive Dust permit and Dust Control Plan
4. Colorado Discharge Permitting System and Section 401 Certifications
5. Woody vegetation removed between August 15 and January 31
6. Mitigate 11.8 acres of wetlands on a 1:1 basis
7. Work adjacent to wetlands conducted between October 1 and May 1
8. Comply with guidelines of Colorado Noxious Weed Act
9. Dredging, excavation and vegetation removal completed in accordance with Best Management to reduce impacts to soils and water resources
10. Prior notice to residents for any 24-hour dredging
11. Equipment must be equipped with proper mufflers and construction other than dredging limited to daylight hours
12. If cultural resources are encountered, work would be stopped for appropriate coordination with FEMA and Colorado SHPO.

The only change is to stipulation #6 indicating the requirement for 11.8 acres of wetland mitigation. The final design resulted in a 97% reduction of existing wetland impact. The final amount of wetland impact is only 0.33 acres of wetland impact that are adjacent to access roads.. As noted in the stipulation, the mitigation will continue to be on a 1:1 basis, therefore, the mitigation area will be at least 0.33 acres.

Summary of Final Design Comparison

The project purpose, need, goals, location, and approach all remain the same when comparing the information in the Environmental Assessment to the final design. The project components listed in the FONSI are the same, and their impacts are either the same, reduced, or eliminated. In some cases the lessened impacts are substantial, including a 97% reduction in wetland impact, and impact elimination in two project areas (outlet canal and Town of Wellington).

The final design process of the CR 7 bridge has determined that a temporary roadway is not feasible for this project, and even if possible, would result in significant impact to adjacent properties, and require construction and removal whose impacts were not reviewed in the EA. The elimination of the proposed temporary road will have significantly less adjacent impacts. The detour length and duration is typical for both county and state highway projects utilizing local and federal funding. The resulting roadway closure has been and will continue to be communicated to the public with opportunities for questions, comments, and discussions.

Review of CR 7 Bridge Project – Elimination of Temporary Road

The Environmental Assessment for the project indicated that the CR 7 bridge would be replaced and that constructing a temporary roadway could minimize complete road closure time to just 2 days. The EA, however, did not review whether this road would be feasible, how a temporary road would be built, and its related impacts.

The aerial below shows the bridge location, and the construction limits for the bridge contract. The orange hatching indicates the construction limits within the inlet canal, and the light blue hatching indicates the construction limits north of the canal for access roads, etc. The construction limits are greater than a typical bridge replacement project due to the canal capacity requirements for the FEMA project, and establishing tie in points for upcoming inlet canal work to be completed in the fall 2011.



Feasibility of Constructing a Temporary Road

A temporary road to the west is not feasible as there are numerous utilities, and an existing embankment on the southern side of the inlet canal that cannot be impacted by this project (due to FEMA requirements related to the potential determination of levees).

A temporary roadway to the east is not feasible due to an existing aerial irrigation crossing and concrete ditch just east of the existing bridge, and adjacent private property development.

Even if a roadway construction would be feasible, it would require substantial disruption to agricultural and native ground, significant fill in the existing irrigation canal, and subsequent removal and disposal of material that was not addressed in the EA.

Schedule Impact

The EA limited the timeframe for constructing the bridge project to winter / early spring. Even if the temporary roadway was feasible to build, there would have been weeks of impact to the project schedule for construction and subsequent removal, as well as slower work progress due to working under traffic. Completing the project by April 15th would not be feasible.

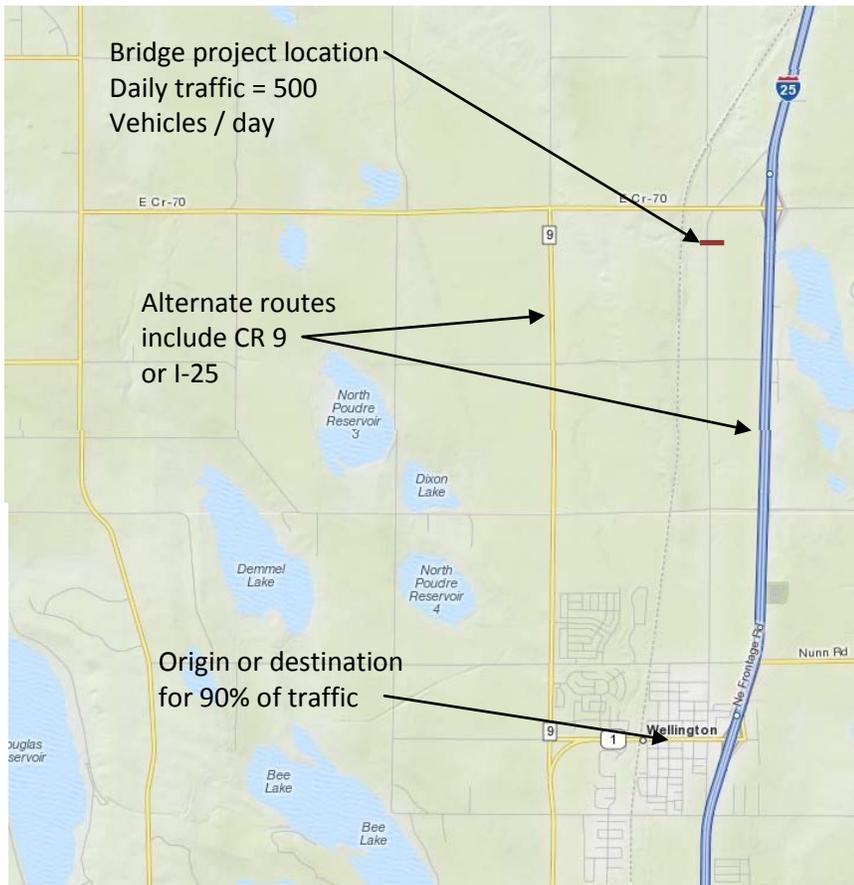
Detour and Impact to Traveling Motorists

The detour during a road closure would include either CR 9 to the west, or I-25 to the east (see map on following page). This is a rural area, and the daily traffic on CR 7 at this location is only 500 vehicles per day. It is estimated that more than 90% of the existing traffic is using the roadway as a regional connection between CR 70 and the Town of Wellington. For this traffic, the detour to use I-25 or CR 9 between CR 70 and Wellington is less than 0.5 miles. For the remaining 30-50 vehicles per day that have more local destinations, the maximum detour is 2 miles to utilize CR 9.

Similarities to Other Projects

It is very common in the County on both county roads as well as state highways to complete bridge projects with roadway closures.

Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project Eliminating Temporary CR 7 Road



For instance, Mary's Lake Road was closed in Estes Park in the spring of 2010 for 3 months for a bridge replacement. The daily traffic on that road is more than 5,000 vehicles per day and the detour exceeded 6 miles.

Another example is the Department of Transportation replaced two bridge structures on US 34 in the Big Thompson canyon in 2010 with closures of multiple weeks. The daily traffic on that road is also in excess of 5,000 vehicles per day and the detour was between 15 and 50 miles. Much like the CR 7 bridge project, temporary roadways were not feasible or potential impacts of a temporary road exceeded the inconvenience to the traveling public.

These similar projects had daily traffic more than 10 times the traffic on CR 7, and detours that were more than 10 times as long.

Public Notification of the Closure and Comments to Date

The necessary closure of the roadway has been communicated to the public in a number of ways, with options for comment and/or discussion. This has included a specific project open house in the summer of 2010, and brief verbal project status report presented during monthly public meetings of the Authority. A preconstruction public meeting will be held in early 2011 to discuss timing specifics of the closure. The meeting will be listed in the local paper. Adjacent land owners most impacted by the closure are each contacted personally. Variable message signs with information on the closure for the regional traveling public will be placed in the corridor for a full week in advance of the closure. The county website will include information on the closure, and typical notification of various service providers (emergency services, school district, mail etc) will take place.

To date there has been only one question regarding the closure that included a concern about agricultural traffic. This impact is minimized by the construction being complete by April 15th, before the majority of the summer growing season.

Summary

The elimination of the temporary roadway and subsequent closure of CR 7 is a reasonable approach for this project with the minimum impact. This is a typical approach and it has been and will continue to be communicated to the public in a number of ways without significant concern to date.

Mailing to Residents



COAL CREEK FLOOD MITIGATION PROJECT

As you may know, Larimer County is undertaking a flood control project in and around Clark Reservoir north of Wellington.

The project is called the Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project, and will route stormwater in the area just west of CR 70 and CR 7 via the inlet canal into Clark Reservoir where floodwater storage capacity will be added.

Project elements include:

- Enlarging the Clark Reservoir Inlet Canal from the Railroad to Clark Reservoir
- A new CR 7 bridge over the inlet canal
- Adding capacity to the reservoir to hold floodwaters
- Improvements to the emergency spillway and an outlet canal diversion structure

Once complete, the project will reduce the potential for flooding through much of the Town of Wellington. This will remove approximately 200 existing structures out of the 100-year floodplain, including homes, commercial buildings, and two schools.

The total project cost is almost \$4 million. 75% of the funding for the project is coming from a federal grant, while the remaining funding comes from local sources.

Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2010 and continue through 2011.

Neighborhood Open House Meeting

The project team is holding a neighborhood open house meeting to provide information about the project. The meeting will take place Tuesday, June 15th from 6:00 until 8:00 pm at the Leeper Center in Wellington.

The meeting is an open house format with no formal presentation. You are welcome at anytime during the meeting to come learn about the project, the expected benefits to the floodplain, the construction schedule, as well as ask questions and submit comments. We hope you can attend.

If you are unable to attend the meeting and need more information, visit www.larimer.org/engineering, or call Martina Wilkinson at 970.498.5731.

This project is being done on behalf of the Boxelder Basin Regional Stormwater Authority. They can be reached at www.boxelderauthority.org or 970.443.9505.

Neighborhood Open House Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project

Please join us on

**Tuesday, June 15th between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.
Leeper Community Center (3800 Wilson Ave) Wellington**

to learn about the upcoming construction of the Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project.
Information will include project overview, project impacts and benefits,
and anticipated construction schedule



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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E-mail: bocc@larimer.org

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Deni La Rue, Community Information Manager, (970)498-7150
Martina Wilkinson, Project Manager, (970)498-5731, mwilkinson@larimer.org

DATE: June 7, 2010

SUBJECT: Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project Open House

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Larimer County, Colorado – Larimer County’s Engineering Department will hold an Open House on Tuesday, June 15th, 2010, from 6-8 p.m. at the Leeper Center in Wellington to share information on Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project.

This project will route stormwater north of Wellington via the inlet canal to Clark Reservoir where floodwater storage capacity will be added. Once complete, the project will reduce the potential for flooding through much of the Town of Wellington. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in late 2010 and continue through 2011.

The meeting will take place from 6 until 8 p.m. at the Leeper Center in Wellington located at 3800 Wilson Avenue. The meeting is an open house format with no formal presentation and the public is welcome at anytime during the meeting to come learn about the project, the expected benefits to the floodplain, the construction schedule, as well as ask questions and submit comments.

If you are unable to attend the meeting and have questions, or need more information, visit www.larimer.org/engineering, or contact Martina Wilkinson, project manager for Larimer County Engineering at 970.498.5731 or mwilkinson@larimer.org.

This project is being done on behalf of the Boxelder Basin Regional Stormwater Authority. They can be reached at www.boxelderauthority.org or 970.443.9505.



Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project Project Status Report

July 15, 2010

Contracts

FEMA / State (DOLA)

- Quarterly report and reimbursement request submitted.

Significant Work Tasks for Project Design

Completed

- Larimer County Flood Review Board meeting (June 22, 2010)
- Individual landowner meetings
- Further discussions with North Poudre Irrigation Company

Ongoing

- Final design plans for CR 7 bridge
- Final design for Coal Creek project
- Minor refinements of CLOMR package based on Flood Review Board comments
- Legal documents for ROW and easement needs
- North Poudre agreement for construction
- Further analysis for Indian Creek questions
- Ongoing communications and negotiations with property owners, North Poudre, RR.

Upcoming

- CLOMR submittal (end of July)
- Submittal of draft agreement to NPIC for review

Budget / Schedule

- Preliminary Bid Tab for project prepared. Project remains on budget.
- CR 7 bridge expected to bid in October for January start.
- Rest of the project expected to bid in January 2011 for April start.

Key Issues

- Addressing the concerns of Indian Creek residents
- Agreements – NPIC, excavation material, CDOT, Railroad, property owners
- Submittal of CLOMR to FEMA

Newspaper Ad for Original Open House

COAL CREEK FLOOD MITIGATION PROJECT — OPEN HOUSE



Open House Meeting
Tuesday, June 15, 2010
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Leeper Community Center (3800 Wilson Ave.) Wellington

Please Join Us! On Tuesday, June 15, the Larimer County Engineering Department will hold an open house meeting to provide information on the following project:

Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project: This project will route stormwater in the area just west of CR 70 and CR 7 via the inlet canal into Clark Reservoir where floodwater storage capacity will be added. Once complete, the project will reduce the potential for flooding through much of the Town of Wellington. Construction will begin in late 2010 and continue through 2011.

The meeting is an open house format with no formal presentation. You are welcome at anytime during the meeting to come learn about the project, the expected benefits to the floodplain, the construction schedule, as well as ask questions and submit comments.

If you are unable to attend the meeting and need more information, visit <http://www.larimer.org/engineering>, or call Martina Wilkinson at 970.498.5731.

This project is being done on behalf of the Boxelder Basin Regional Stormwater Authority. They can be reached at boxelderauthority.org or 970.443.9505.

Boxelder stormwater fees could be reduced this year

By Cherry Sokoloski
North Forty News

Property owners within the Boxelder Basin Regional Stormwater Authority fee area could see lower fees this year, if the entities involved approve a change to their intergovernmental agreement.

The Boxelder Authority board voted at its Dec. 16 meeting to make recommendations involving both the fee area and rate brackets for the project. The board wants to expand the fee area to include an additional 554 homes. Partly because of the added properties, the authority

foresees lower fees for 2011. In the unincorporated county, the lower fees would be reflected in 2012 bills, since the county bills in arrears.

To accommodate the lower fees, the authority board is also requesting a change in fee brackets. In the original IGA, the board was allowed to charge between 3 and 4 cents per square foot of impervious surface. The suggested new bracket would put fees between 2 and 4 cents.

Fort Collins, Wellington and Larimer County must agree on any changes to the Boxelder Stormwater IGA. Authority

manager Rex Burns said the proposed changes will be sent to all three entities by mid-January.

Properties that could be added to the Boxelder fee area are in Adriel Hills and Vista Bonita, plus areas north of County Road 70 and south of the Soil Conservation Service dams, and west of the current fee area's western boundary.

According to Burns, the board is also recommending credits for some properties whose runoff is captured by irrigation ditches and reservoirs. The "thumb" area near the Windsor #8 reservoir will likely be credited 100 percent, he said, but it will still remain within the fee area.

The proposal to expand the Boxelder fee area is not popular with everyone. The law firm Lawrence Jones Custer Grasmick LLP, acting on behalf of James Fry and Richard Seaworth, submitted a letter to Larimer County, Fort Collins and Wellington on Dec. 16, asking them to "resist any proposed expansion of the Authority's fee area." Fry and Seaworth also want the "thumb" area taken out of the fee area.

The letter asks that the power of the Boxelder Authority be "sharply curtailed," arguing that "the Authority's ambitions have exceeded the public mandate supporting it."

The letter states that "the upstream rural property owners receive no discernible benefit, and serve only as a source of funding for improvements benefitting the downstream properties."

The county plans to send out Boxelder Authority bills for 2010

some time in January. The county sends out bills just once a year, whereas both Fort Collins and Wellington send monthly stormwater bills to their residents.

County engineer Mark Peterson said the total amount that will be billed for 2010 in the unincorporated parts of the county will be the same as last year, \$322,000. During 2010, the county collected \$303,633. Unpaid fees of more than \$18,000 will be referred to the county treasurer for collection.

Some properties were not billed last year, pending a more thorough hydrological study of the service area. Properties credited for 2009 will also be credited for 2010.

At the Dec. 16 work session, Commissioner Tom Donnelly expressed concern about the county's role as project manager for the Boxelder work, including the billing function for unincorporated areas.

Johnson said he wants to look closely at the benefits of Phase II and Phase III of the project. He said Phase I, which involves the expansion of Clark Reservoir, has clear benefits, since many homes and two schools in Wellington will be removed from the 100-year floodplain as a result of that work.

Phase II and III will make improvements farther downstream in the Boxelder Basin. The intergovernmental agreement signed by the three entities instructs the authority to do all three phases, so in order to change the scope of the project all three entities would have to agree.

In the meantime, construction plans for the Boxelder improvements are moving ahead. It is expected that most Phase I work will be completed by the end of 2011. Besides enlarging Clark Reservoir, work will include widening the Inlet Canal flowing into Clark Reservoir and building a new bridge over the canal.

Work on the new County Road 7 bridge will begin in mid-January, according to Martina Wilkinson of the county engineering department. On Jan. 6, 6 p.m. at the Leeper Center, county staff will be on hand to provide information and answer questions. The county will also post information on its web site in advance of road closures related to the project.

To access this information, go to www.larimer.org/engineering. People may also call Wilkinson at 498-5731.

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Preschool offered by Larimer School District Open House Events

District's Early Childhood Education Program is so families can learn more about the preschool meet the staff. Attend any date or location, here your child will attend school. (Programs at several locations throughout the district.)

- 8pm, Putnam Elementary
- 8pm, Laurel Elementary
- 8pm, Kruse Elementary
- 8pm, Shepardson Elementary

• Full-time based preschool programs fill up fast, so your attendance. Children are welcome!

For information call or visit:
www.larimer.org/schools/earlychildhood

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Historic Preservation Office, and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Based on the results of the analysis and following the public comment period, A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was made for the proposed Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project

Current Status

The project is in the final stages of design and is beginning to move into the construction phase.

During the design phase, some of the items completed included: holding an open house to share information and receive input on draft plans, completing the technical design and plans, submitting design and analysis information to FEMA for review and approval, and working on numerous agreements with both the North Poudre Irrigation Company and other landowners.

The project construction will be completed in two parts:

The first part is the construction of the County Road 7 bridge over the North Poudre Inlet Canal just south of CR 70. This work will be completed during the spring of 2011 and will necessitate the closure of CR 7. Advance notice of the closure will be noted on this website and on variable message boards' along the road. **A preconstruction public meeting about the upcoming work on the bridge is scheduled for Thursday, January 6th, 2011 at 6 pm at the Leeper Center in Wellington (3800 Wilson Avenue).**

The second part of the construction will include the dredging of Clark Reservoir, an addition to the emergency spillway of the reservoir, and the widening of the remainder of the inlet canal. That construction is expected to begin during the summer of 2011.

Each month, Larimer County provides a "Status Report" of the project to the Boxelder Stormwater Authority Board of Directors. Those reports can be accessed below.

Status Reports **JUMP**

Overall Project Timeline

Construction is expected to begin in early 2011. Project completion is expected in 2012.

Public Open House Information

A preconstruction public meeting for the upcoming work on the County Road 7 bridge project is scheduled for Thursday, January 6th at 6:00 pm at the Leeper Center in Wellington. This meeting will address the construction schedule including road closures and detours.

Exhibits from the Open House held Tuesday, June 15, 2010:

- [Purpose Need Approach](#)
- [Project Components](#)
- [Aerial with Construction Components](#)
- [Bridge Plans](#)

Web information

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http://larimer.org/engineering/Stormwater/Boxelder/CoalCreek.htm

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LARIMER COUNTY BOXELDER STORMWATER INFORMATION					
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BOXELDER STORMWATER AUTHORITY

Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project

Last Updated: January 4, 2011

NEW! The first construction elements of the Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project will begin in mid-January. Work this spring is the replacement of the County Road 7 bridge over the North Poudre Inlet Canal just south of County Road 70.

A preconstructoin public meeting for the upcoming work on the County Road 7 bridge project is scheduled for Thursday, January 6th at 6:00 pm at the Leeper Center in Wellington. This meeting will address the construction schedule including road closures and detours.

This project is the first regional project identified in the adopted Boxelder Creek Regional Stormwater Master Plan. The project is being designed and constructed by Larimer County on behalf of the Boxelder Stormwater Authority and will reduce the potential for future flooding downstream of the North Poudre Inlet Canal by diverting floodwaters from Coal Creek through Clark Reservoir. The result of the project will be to eliminate the need for flood insurance for more than one hundred properties, avoid cleanup costs, limit resident displacement and prevent the loss of public services.

The project components include:

- Enlarging The North Poudre Inlet Canal From The Railroad to Clark Reservoir
- New County Road 7 Bridge Over Inlet Canal
- Improvements to Clark Reservoir
 - Emergency Spillway
 - Adding Capacity to Reservoir to Hold Floodwaters

Project Funding

The total project cost is estimated to be \$ 3.9 million dollars. Larimer County received a national PDM (Pre-Disaster Mitigation) Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that will cover \$2.9 million dollars of the cost. The remaining \$1 million dollars is funded through the three local entities participating in the Boxelder Stormwater Authority (Town of Wellington, City of Fort Collins, and Larimer County).

Environmental Assessment



Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project Summary of Communication Regarding Indian Creek

December 22, 2010

During the summer of 2010, area resident Elizabeth Kaufman expressed concern about the Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project. The project was in the design phase, with various options being considered. A number of phone calls and site visits took place, additional analysis was completed, designs were refined, and information communicated back and forth via phone and email.

While this was taking place, Ms. Kaufmann hired an attorney to represent her in opposing the Coal Creek Flood Mitigation Project. The summary of official communication is noted below.

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| July 16, 2010 | Lind, Lawrence, and Ottenhoff send letter to Larimer County, City of Fort Collins, Wellington, and Authority questioning legality of the project and requesting via open records act review of numerous pieces of information |
| July 23, 2010 | Larimer County sends response letter with detailed and accurate information on each point raised in initial letter, and providing instructions on making an appointment to review information per open records act. |
| July 26, 2010 | Larimer County sends newsletter to all affected residents in Indian Creek detailing analysis, results of both existing and proposed conditions, and detailing project plans and impacts. |
| August 11, 2010 | Lawrence, Jones, Custer and Grasmick (same attorney with new firm) send letter to Larimer County asking to review information per open records act. The letter also claims that project impacts to Indian Creek were not addressed and questioning legality of project as it relates to water rights. |
| August 11, 2010 | Lawrence, Jones, Custer and Grasmick send letter to Dave Nettles, Division Engineer for State Engineer's Office requesting he halt the project based on water rights issues. |
| August 24, 2010 | Larimer County sends response letter indicating all records and project information are public documents, and as noted in the first letter, are available for review. Instructions on making an appointment to review the information is repeated. |
| September 27, 2010 | Response letter from State Engineer's Office regarding the August 11, 2010 request. Dave Nettles indicates 'it appears this project can be operated without injury to water rights'. |

No appointment was ever made to review information or records, and no further communication from Ms. Kaufmann or her attorney regarding this matter has been received.