



***Mounds Lake Reservoir  
Follow-up to UWRWA Position Statement  
May 30, 2014***

*In response to recent inaccuracies in the media, the UWRWA offers the below statement as a means of providing clarity to our position about the proposed Mounds Reservoir project.*

As a steward of this waterway and its critical fringe elements (floodplains, forested buffers, and wetlands) that contribute to water quality, the UWRWA does not advocate for this or any project that permanently alters or eliminates water quality benefits provided through natural biologic processes, nor do we support any endeavor that creates additional impediments to the protection or restoration of the White River ecosystem.

Additionally, we do not agree that river impoundment is the best long-term strategy to meet future daily water needs, let alone anticipated shortages. Given that an impoundment will not improve ecological functions nor mitigate consumer demand, this leaves only economic arguments for the immediate region. On these, the UWRWA does not presume to have the required information or expertise to comment. We do know that the White River has already been severely impacted by industry, agriculture, and urbanization, and further impacts driven by economic arguments should be weighed against the permanent environmental impacts of such an expansive project. As this project currently has support at the state level, we recognize that only a rational, thoughtful dialogue will advance our concerns in a substantive manner.

Although we are not in favor of this or any other similar project from an environmental perspective, it is our hope to be consulted and given due consideration by those making decisions in the interest of our community's watershed.