

2016 ENR Team Activity

Many residents in Davis County have never known a time without the Conrad Reservoir and the 16-mile-long, 3-mile-wide Lake Florence. It was where they fished, swam and marveled at the wildlife.

Some would like to see the dam breached and the Florence River reconnected to the St. James River as it was 47 years ago.

“By restoring the natural flow, water quality will improve,” state environmentalists claim. The reservoir, created by a dam that was built as part of the ill-fated canal system, has grown into a popular recreation and fishing area and has hosted years of bass fishing tournaments. A study showed the reservoir contributed about \$41 million a year to the area’s economy.

When state officials began debating whether to restore the St James River, tempers flared. Certain environmental groups want the river restored. Others in Davis County (businesses and anglers) want the dam and reservoir left alone. The state Legislature this year ordered a detailed study of the dam's ecology and economics.

You are a group from the local College invited to help in the study. You are to come up with a presentation using the resources provided. Preserve the 47-year-old dam or restore the river to its original state.