

Hello SaveBCLP friends,

Hopefully you've been enjoying this beautiful spring in BCLP. See below for a message I received from USACE Project Manager Chris Fassero:

"I wanted to let you know that a USACE drill crew mobilized to Bear Creek Dam this week (02 June) and will be there for several weeks performing investigative drilling, mostly in the spillway area. This work is intended to help us characterize the erodibility of the spillway soils. If any of the reallocation alternatives under consideration would increase the likelihood of spillway flow, we'll need this erodibility information to evaluate whether the alternatives would be feasible.

We thought it'd be a good idea to let you know the purpose of this work, so if any community members ask about it, you'll know that it's in support of the reallocation study. We didn't want anyone to assume that any decisions regarding reallocation had been made as they haven't yet.

The reallocation study is progressing more slowly than we anticipated for several reasons. One of the items that has taken us longer than anticipated is development of a HEC-WAT model, which is a Watershed Analysis Tool model that'll allow us to evaluate whether and how reallocation alternatives would impact the Tri-Lakes system of dams and the flood risk management benefit they provide. We're getting close to having that model ready to use and will hopefully have some meaningful new information to share with the public by late summer or fall this year. We'll work with Erik Skeie to schedule a public meeting once we have information to share."



The spillway area arcs around the north side of the dam. The photo above, taken from Morrison Road, shows the drill rig in the spillway. The wide, earth spillway (with elevated banks on both sides) is designed to convey excess flood water around the north side of the dam.

The City of Lakewood also maintains a website with information and updates related to the reallocation study here: <https://www.lakewood.org/Government/Departments/Community-Resources/Projects/Bear-Creek-Reservoir>

In case you missed it, the Denver Post ran this article on the front page of the Saturday, April 28 issue. <https://www.denverpost.com/2025/04/28/bear-creek-lake-park-lakewood-water-storage-project-update/>

Finally, for those of you who would like to add your voice to the public input being gathered, here's a link to our Take Action page: <https://savebearcreeklakepark.org/take-action/>. You'll find addresses for submitting a comment, a link to the public comments that have been submitted so far, and tips/talking points.

Happy trails,

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Katie Gill
Director
Save Bear Creek Lake Park