

Hello SaveBCLP friends,

Calling all volunteers! **Saturday, September 27th is National Public Lands Day.** This year, Lakewood is partnering with Jefferson County Open Space. Volunteers in BCLP will work on a 1/2 mile stretch of trail along Bear Creek and plant native sedges, rushes, and grasses to mitigate flood damage. **We'll work from 8:00-12:00 then enjoy a volunteer celebration with live music, food and beer. For details and to sign up, start here and follow the prompts: [Register here](#)**

I hope you're enjoying this cooler weather and welcome rain. We need it. According to the current drought map ([Drought Monitor](#)), conditions in Jefferson County range from abnormally dry to moderate drought. Colorado's West Slope is experiencing a combination of severe, extreme and exceptional drought. In years like this, Bear Creek has little (if any) capacity to deliver additional water storage to Bear Creek Reservoir. That's one of the issues delaying the long-awaited draft of the reallocation study. Will there be enough water in the creek to support a larger storage pool? A preliminary analysis was done four years ago, but important variables have changed since then, so additional analysis is needed. The Corps has also been developing a tool to model how a reallocation in the Bear Creek Reservoir could impact cumulative flood risk for the Tri-Lakes (Bear Creek, Chatfield and Cherry Creek Reservoirs).

We've had two meetings with the Colorado Water Conservation Board project manager this summer (CWCB is the non-federal sponsor of the study). He's hopeful that the Corps will be ready to present the draft study to the public in late January. We've requested a hybrid meeting to accommodate both in-person and virtual attendance. Fingers crossed.

Happy Trails,
Katie Gill and Don Baumgardt
Directors, Save Bear Creek Lake Park