

Spring Into Summer Update

Greetings Save It Supporters! As we transition from Spring to Summer, here's an update and a few things for you to know and do as temperatures rise:

Reallocation Feasibility Study (aka the Save Bear Creek Lake Park issue)- We've received no new news from the Corps of Engineers. Our previous update noted they will be analyzing reallocation alternatives this month and estimate having meaningful information to report to the public at the end of the summer. Thanks to everyone who submitted a comment. It's not too late to share your concerns. The Study Team cannot evaluate community impact without community input. Information on how to send a comment is here: <https://savebearcreeklakepark.org/take-action/>

BCL Dam Gate Project- On a related, but totally separate issue, the Army Corps of Engineers has determined that the gates within the dam at Bear Creek Lake need to be replaced. The work will be significant and will effect the water levels in BCL over the next two years. The Corps of Engineers will be holding an open house on Tuesday, June 25th to give the public more information about this project. Although this is a different project from the reallocation study, we encourage you to attend.

Bear Creek Dam Maintenance Open House
Tuesday, June 25, 5:30 - 7:00pm
Red Rocks Baptist Church (14711 West Morrison Rd)

Park Entrance- Many of you have noticed a traffic flow change at the park entrance along Morrison Road. CDOT removed the acceleration lane for eastbound traffic that turns right leaving the park. Several accidents have occurred and park staff are working to address the issue. Please be careful there and spread the word to others to proceed with extra caution when exiting the park.

High Water at Chatfield- In May of last year, Chatfield Reservoir filled to a much higher level as a result of a reallocation there to store water for downstream users. Large areas with previously healthy trees have been under water now for over a year. A recent newsletter about the project stated, "the extended duration of the high-water storage likely will have health impacts to the trees in the fluctuation zone". Read more here: <https://chatfieldreallocation.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/CSRP-Newsletter-Spring-2024.pdf>. In other words, all those trees are likely to die. While we've repeatedly stated that BCLP is not the same as Chatfield, the damage to submerged trees would lead the the same fate for "our" trees. So, write your first or second comment to the Corps today about the need to Save It!

Happy trails,

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