Barr Lake Water Quality Report

April 25, 2018

Water Summary

Barr Lake is sampled twice a month between March and October and monthly between November and February. The Barr Lake and Milton Reservoir Watershed Association coordinates all of the efforts to monitor, test, and improve the water quality in Barr Lake. Regular lake sampling started in 2002 and will continue into the future. It is important to closely monitor water quality to observe any major changes that would impact wildlife, park users, or downstream water users.

April – This month has provided a wide range of weather conditions. The weather during sampling today was sunny, calm, and warm. Yesterday was snowy, windy, and cool. Despite the storms, the lake has warmed up a few degrees from the beginning of the month and is stratified (warm water on top of cooler water). Water clarity is high thanks to zooplankton (mainly the daphnia) grazing on the algae. Dissolved oxygen can sometimes be low in April but because of wind mixing from the storms, oxygen is staying above the standard of 5 parts per million or 5.0 mg/L. The pH level is just above 8.2 which is expected without algae growth.

Water Quality Stats (as of 04-25-18)

Maximum Depth: 33.5 feet
(between dam outlets)

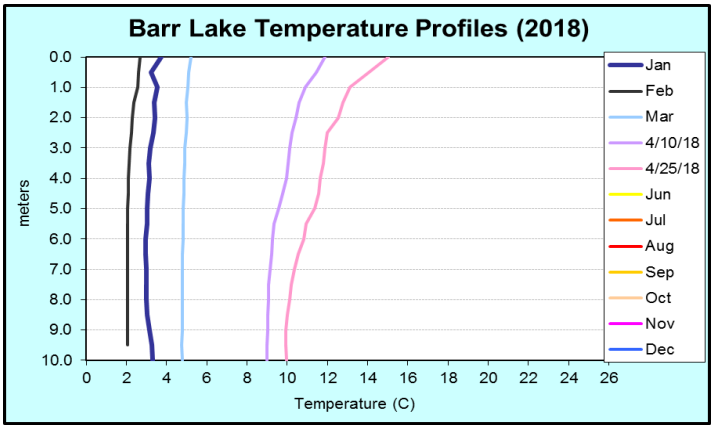
Water Temperature: 55.9^0 F
(taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 15.6 feet
(≥ 3 feet is good)

Dissolved Oxygen: 65.6%
(>80% is good)

pH: 8.26
(between 6 and 9 is good)

Chlorophyll-a: <5 ppb
(How green, ≤ 25 is good)



Runoff from snow and thunder storms this spring creates lots of flow from our streets, parking lots, and driveways. Do your part by keeping the drains clear of trash and debris.

Watershed News

Two great events are being planned for this coming June. June 5th and 6th there is the annual free bike tour that will follow Sand Creek from Bluff Lake to the S. Platte River. Then June 26th is the annual watershed tour. This year's tour will highlight the big changes going on around the Western Complex and the S. Platte River.

Join BMW Association

BARR LAKE AND MILTON RESERVOIR ASSOCIATION

The BMW Association's mission is to improve the water quality by encouraging cooperation, involvement, and awareness with people living near and upstream of Barr.

You can learn more about the lake and what is going on in the watershed by going to www.barr-milton.org.

Contact Amy Conklin, watershed coordinator, at amy.conklin@comcast.net or 303-795-5925.

Cooperation, Involvement, and Awareness