



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



October 10, 2017

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.

October – Cooler weather, winds, and inflows have brought the dissolved oxygen back up above 5.0 parts per million. The cooler the water, the more oxygen it can dissolve. As the nights get colder, the lake is quickly cooling down and can hold more oxygen. The lake is still experiencing a diatom growth. Diatoms prefer cooler water and do better in the spring and fall. The pH has been remaining below the standard of 9.0 which is a good thing. Barr Lake's water elevation is 10 feet above normal for this time of year. Inflows from the S. Platte River via the Burlington Ditch have been coming in for the past week.

Water Quality Stats (as of 10-10-17)

Maximum Depth: 27.6 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 55.6° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.1 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 68.5% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.59 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <50 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Rain water only goes down the storm drain. No dumping. BMW Association is helping Denver mark storm drains. Notice in the photo the stain of oil leading to a drain.



Watershed News

The BMW Association is looking into what it will take to install a new storm water monitoring station just upstream of the Burlington Head Gate. The goal would be to sample storm water that is coming down the S. Platte River and entering the Burlington Ditch. The new station will be up and running by next spring.

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



D.O. Average by Month, Barr Lake (0.5 - 2.0 m)

