



Barr Lake Water Quality Report



February 13, 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.

February – Barr Lake is ice free as of February 10. Typically, ice stays on until the first part of March. The lake is fully mixing top to bottom which means temperature and oxygen are the same everywhere. With snowpack at 142% above normal and the reservoir a couple of feet from being full, Barr should have plenty of water for most of the spring and early summer. Summer snowmelt coming down the S. Platte River usually has lower phosphorus and can dilute concentrations in Barr Lake. The total phosphorus in January for Barr was down to 190 µg/L.

Water Quality Stats (as of 02-13-17)

Maximum Depth: 31.2 feet (between dam outlets) Water Temperature: 40.4° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 2.5 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 96.1% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.43 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <20 ppb (How green, ≤ 25 is good)

Just like fertilizers, it is best to keep salt out of our lakes and streams. If you do use salt, please use it sparingly and even consider sweeping it up after the snow melts.



Watershed News

CU-Denver graduate students are working on several projects in the watershed to help gather data to better understand how phosphorus gets to Barr Lake. They will be presenting their results May 10th at the Nature Center. Please come to hear what they found out.

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



South Platte River Basin Time Series Snowpack Summary
Based on Provisional SNOTEL data as of Feb 13, 2017

