



Milton Reservoir Water Quality Report



October 25, 2017

Water Summary

Milton Reservoir (aka Pelican 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 Milton. 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 – Milton is about three feet below full pool. The reservoir is still experiencing blue-green algae growth, but it is not blooming. Water clarity increased by 7 feet since early October, which is much deeper than average for the end of October. Oxygen and pH were meeting state standards, and the water temperature is right at average for this time of year. There has been drilling activity near the east corner of the dam. The wind was coming out of the south which was causing larger than normal waves near the dam. There was some shoreline erosion causing re-suspension of sediments near the east boat ramp. Turbidity, usually around 1 NTU, was at 160 NTUs.

Water Quality Stats (as of 10-25-17)

Maximum Depth: 23.3 feet (dam outlet) Water Temperature: 52.8° F (taken 3 feet below surface)

Water Clarity: 9.8 feet (≥ 3 feet is good) Dissolved Oxygen: 91.3% (>80% is good)

pH: 8.90 (between 6 and 9 is good) Chlorophyll-a: <30 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 Lake and Milton Reservoir.

You can learn more about the lakes 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

