

The Bear Creek Watershed Association protects and restores water and environmental quality within the Bear Creek Watershed from the effects of land use.

# BCWA PINNACLE



- Clear Creek County
- Jefferson County
- City of Lakewood
- Town of Morrison
- Aspen Park Metropolitan District
- Brook Forest Inn
- Conifer Sanitation Association
- Conifer Metropolitan District
- Denver Water Department
- Evergreen Metropolitan District
- Forrest Hills Metropolitan District
- Genesee Water & Sanitation District
- Geneva Glen
- Jefferson County School District
- Kittredge Sanitation & Water District
- West Jefferson County Metropolitan District
- Evergreen Trout Unlimited
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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## Dredging Evergreen Lake

Evergreen Lake can hold 600 acre-feet of water, but is currently at about 550 acre-feet due to the silt. An acre-foot equals 325,421 gallons of water. A typical Evergreen residence uses about 250 gallons of water per day, or 7,600 gallons per month.

The board of directors of the Evergreen Metropolitan District voted March 16 to award a contract for dredging Evergreen Lake to ESCO Construction of Evergreen. The project is expected to take four months, with a possible start date in May, depending on how long it takes to set up the equipment. A 30-by-50-foot barge will be trucked from Houston to Evergreen. The barges will be used as a platform for a trackhoe that will remove 12,000 cubic yards of silt that piled up after the September 2013 flooding. Operators will use “turbidity curtains” to prevent suspended sediments from spreading to

the rest of the lake. The Evergreen Metro District, which manages treatment plants and delivers water to customers in the central Evergreen area, originally planned to use a pontoon boat and hydraulic pumps to remove the debris. But there were complications involved in getting the permit from the Army Corps of Engineers in time to do the work before a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant expired. The original FEMA grant was about \$880,000, but the district applied for an increase after going through the bidding process last year. The district rebid the entire project, which resulted in the award to ESCO Construction of about

\$1.4 million out of a total FEMA grant of \$1.7 million. The district will have additional costs associated with managing the site, disposal of the silt, sampling, and monitoring. The mechanical dredging method of silt removal doesn’t require the Corps of Engineers’ approval. Most of the cost will be paid for by FEMA. The Metro District has a deadline extension to December 2016. The dredging will be concentrated on the north side near the Lakepoint Center, where Bear Creek flows into Evergreen Lake. The dewatered silt will be transported to the former EDS transfer station on Highway 73, which was the site of an industrial and household waste sorting operation. Denver Mountain Parks, which owns the property, will bring in soil and reseed with natural grasses.

Proposed extent of Evergreen Lake Dredging Operations for summer 2016 (May through September). Approximately 12,000 cubic yards of sediment will be removed from the inlet channel and sandbars into Evergreen Lake.



The parking lot on the north side of the lake will be closed to public use during dredge operations. The parking area will be secured and used for dredge operation equipment and temporary offices. The walking trail on the north side of the lake will be closed at times to allow trucks and equipment access.



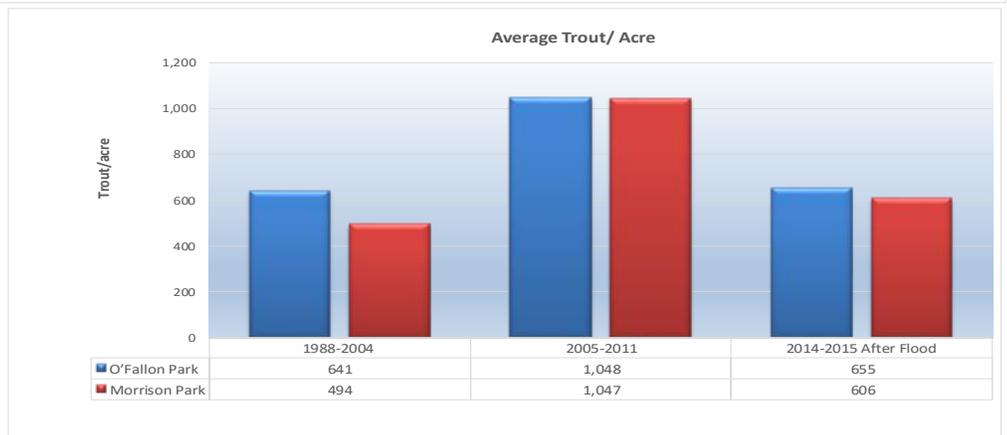
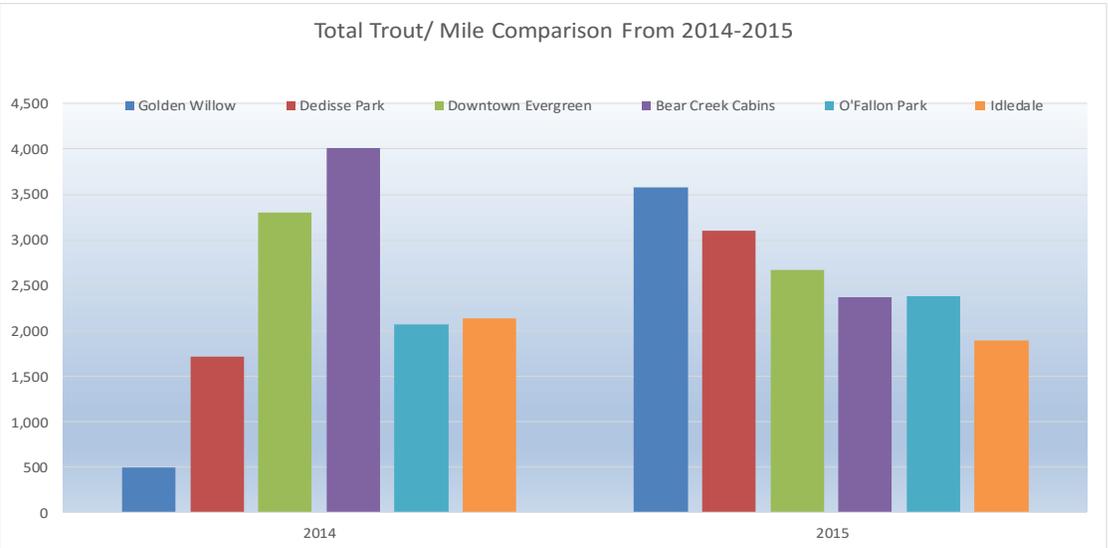
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Tom Hayden, Clear Creek County Board of Commissioners Chairman, passed away in February 29, 2016. Tom served as a Clear Creek County board member on the Bear Creek Watershed Association. He had a passion for watershed management and believed strongly in the preservation of water quality. He was a highly valued colleague and brought necessary political insight to the Association.



Lakewood completes revegetation of a regional water quality pond at Wadsworth and Yale with local high school student volunteers.



Lakewood completed stream bank restoration on Bear Creek caused by extremely high flows in 2015. By diverting flow around the project during construction, downstream water quality was protected.

Within 10 days of Commissioner Hayden's passing, Governor Hickenlooper appointed Peter Monson for the remainder of Hayden's term. Commissioner Monson practiced water law and federal Indian law for 32 years as a trial attorney and managing attorney in the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, and served on the Board of Education of the Clear Creek School District from 2005-2015. He and his family have lived in the Upper Bear Creek area of Clear Creek County since moving to Colorado in 1992. He is a representative on the BCWA Board.

Jefferson County Public School District is completing construction using a \$1 million Natural Disaster Grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment at Mt. Evans Outdoor Laboratory School. This work consisted of sanitary sewer improvements and a new advanced wastewater treatment facility. These improvements complement work performed under the FEMA grant that covered site damage from the September 2013 flood.