A seal tag hangs from the Pendleton family’s boat during a boat inspection Tuesday at Carter Lake west of Loveland.

“With funding changes (to the inspection program), we looked at how we do business and Pinewood was a vulnerability in the system.”

Dan Rieves manager of Carter Lake District

Boat inspections now required

BOATING

Reservoir connected to Colorado-Big T system will get new scrutiny

from page 1A

To prevent these species from spreading to Colorado waters, the state implemented an Aquatic Nuisance Species program in 2009 that requires motorboats to be inspected before launching on many popular waters in the state. If mussels are found, the vessel is cleaned before it can hit the water.

During the past eight years, the more than 3.5 million inspections statewide were paid for by Colorado Parks and Wildlife through gas severance taxes. A Colorado Supreme Court decision caused that funding to dry up, and many park managers were left scrambling to figure out how to pay for the process this year. Locally, Larimer County, Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Northern Water each kicked in $100,000 to cover the gap this summer only. By next year, new state fees are expected to cover the program statewide.

As the county was looking at its program this year, officials decided, at the request of Northern Water, to add inspections at Pinewood to protect that body of water as well. Pinewood gets less use than Carter with an estimated 200 motorboats that hit the water per year.

Canoes, kayaks and other paddle boats that are popular at Pinewood do not need to be inspected.

County officials balanced the number of boats at Pinewood with the cost of placing an inspector there, and decided the most prudent method would be a program in which boaters have their vessel inspected and sealed before arriving at Pinewood. They can do so at nearby Carter Lake or any other inspection facility in the state.

When they launch on Pinewood, the boater must cut that seal and deposit it in a drop box at the boat ramp.
Rangers will check the drop box several times each day to make sure all boats have been inspected, and if they haven’t, the boaters could face a fine.

“We still have a layer of increased inspection, but it’s not as robust as having an inspector on the ramp,” said Nieves.

Because of the new inspection requirement, the hours for boating on Pinewood Reservoir will be limited to those at Carter Lake, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days per week.

Inspectors still will be stationed at Carter Lake to check all boats there before they are allowed to launch.

Pamela Johnson: 970-699-5405, johnsonp@reporter-herald.com, twitter.com/RHPamelaJ.
Couple rescued after being stranded at Horsetooth Reservoir

Two people were taken to a hospital for treatment of exposure and minor injuries after boat capsized.

Report-herald Staff
Loveland Reporter-herald

Posted: Thu Jun 22 19:22:06 MDT 2017

Firefighters with Poudre Fire Authority were called to Horsetooth Reservoir for a water rescue at 12:15 p.m. Thursday and assisted a couple who had been stranded on shore overnight.

A man and a woman were boating in the reservoir Wednesday night when their boat capsized at about 7 p.m. near the east shore, just south of the Sail and Saddle Club, a press release from PFA said.

The couple attempted waving down someone for help, but were unsuccessful. They swam to shore, where they spent the night, the release said.

This morning, the woman swam back out to the overturned boat and was able to wave down a passerby who called 911.

PFA personnel was assisted by Larimer County Park Rangers in rescuing the two individuals and their two dogs, the release said.

Emergency medical respondents transported the couple to Poudre Valley Hospital for exposure and minor injuries, the release said.
Bear shot, killed at campground

ACY MARMADUKE
JMARMADUKE@COLORADOAN.COM

It’s not all that strange to run into a black bear at Hermit Park Open Space.

But one day in early June, three black bears were behaving strangely at the Larimer County campground and open space just southeast of Estes Park. The events that followed led to the fatal shooting of a mother bear by a Larimer County Natural Resources ranger and rehabilitation for its two cubs.

The bear’s death will likely inspire new policies for the Larimer County Department of Natural Resources, the department’s visitor services manager told the Coloradoan on Tuesday.

That’s because the county doesn’t have a specific procedure for dealing with “unusually habituated” bears that don’t respond to usual hazing tactics without killing the bears, visitor services manager Ken Brink Jr. said. He hopes to change that this fall in coordination with Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

The idea stems from events on June 2 and June 3 at Hermit Park.

Three black bears first appeared at the campground midday on June 2, Brink said. By about 7:15 that night, the sow and its two cubs had gotten acquainted with some campers who were renting out one of the campground’s cabins. The campers sat at a picnic table and watched the bears for a while but retreated to their cabin once the bears got too close.

The bears stuck around, padding up to the cabin’s porch and peering in the windows before beginning to scratch and sniff around the door.

For several hours, the bears continued to explore the campground. They got into a cooler and came within a few feet of a couple of campers sitting around a campfire. Dogs barked and people yelled as Larimer County rangers tried to deter the bears with air horns, pots and pans and bear spray.

Nothing worked.

The bear sow in particular “seemed very unusually comfortable being around people,” said Brink, who noted that black bears usually steer clear of humans. “And that paired with the fact that the bear had young was a pretty stressful situation for the staff.”

During the ruckus, a few camping groups left. After three hours of unsuccessful hazing, a ranger loaded a shotgun with bird shot and shot at the bear sow in an attempt to scare it from the campground.

The bear didn’t die until the following day, when rangers found it apparently sleeping on a rock in the campground as its cubs hung out in a tree. When the bear sow didn’t respond to rubber buckshot, they realized it had died.

A Colorado Parks and Wildlife necropsy found the bear died as a result of shotgun blasts with penetrating small pellets to its left side, CPW spokeswoman Jennifer Churchill said.

The ranger who shot the bear self-reported and was “very remorseful,” Churchill said. He won’t face criminal charges and remain on staff with the county, although in a “slightly different role,” Brink said.

CPW “doesn’t recommend” shooting bears with birdshot but does recommend hazing to discourage bears from hanging around populated areas, Churchill said.
Larimer County plans to revamp policy after ranger shoots, kills bear at Estes Park campground

The mother bear, who was with two cubs, did not leave the campground despite three hours of hazing

By THE DENVER POST | newsroom@denverpost.com
PUBLISHED: June 28, 2017 at 9:35 am | UPDATED: June 28, 2017 at 10:35 am

The Larimer County Department of Natural Resources plans to revamp its policies for dealing with bears that fail to respond to hazing after a ranger shot and killed a mother bear earlier this month at an Estes Park campground.

Ken Brink Jr., the department’s visitor services manager, said the department doesn’t have a specific procedure for dealing with “unusually habituated” bears and hopes the department can work with Colorado Parks and Wildlife to craft a new policy, the Fort Collins Coloradoan reported.

In early June, three black bears were behaving strangely at the campground southeast of Estes Park. On the evening of June 2, campers using a cabin at the campground reported the bears came up on the cabin’s porch and peered into the windows before scratching at the door, the Coloradoan reported.

The bears explored the campground for several hours and got into a cooler and walked within a few feet of campers sitting around a campfire. Although dogs barked and people yelled as Larimer County rangers tried to deter the bears with air horns, pots and pans and bear spray, nothing worked.
Dedicated to informing

Larimer County employees celebrate at the dedication and official opening of the Horsetooth Area Information Center on Wednesday. The center, located at 4200 W. County Road 38 E, Fort Collins, opened unofficially last September. Visitors to the Horsetooth area can stop by the center to get information on recreation areas, trails, camping, boating, fishing and more.
Larimer County offers wildflower guide book

Area residents can learn about what’s blooming in Larimer County with a wildflower guide published by the Department of Natural Resources.

People can learn to identify flowers and other showy plants they see on the trail with the guide that offers photos, tips and more.

The guide includes information on more than 100 species of local, native wildflowers, grasses and woody plants, and comparison pages of similar species.

Find out where you can purchase the guide at larimer.org/wildflowerguide.

—Reporter-Herald Staff
Horsetooth Reservoir information center was years in the making

Behind every impressive building stand the people who made it that way.

Such is the case with Larimer County’s new Horsetooth Area Information Center located in the South Bay section of Horsetooth Reservoir.

The shining facility is designed to be a one-stop shop for visitors seeking information about the reservoir, which is a county park, and other nearby recreation and natural areas. It’s meant to be a regional resource.

County officials celebrated the grand opening of the center Wednesday, although it’s been open since September. Visitors enjoyed snacks and conversation while admiring a stunning view of the reservoir from the deck.

The “longest soft opening ever,” as one official described it, happened to allow time for the installation of a variety of informational displays in the building’s lobby. The displays include a 3-D map of the park.

Got a question about water conditions, camping, trails or the weather? You’ll find answers at the center.

Look back: Why Horsetooth Reservoir was nearly drained (/story/news/2017/04/15/look-back-why-horsetooth-reservoir-nearly-drained/109463850/)

A large video screen behind the reception desk displays a steady stream of words and graphics. The display can be changed if something big comes up, such as a forest fire.

The building is the final piece of a 10-year master plan that directed millions of dollars toward improvements aimed at making the park a more enjoyable place to visit.

Horsetooth District Manager Mark Caughlan gets a bit choked up while holding a picture of Elton Collins and Tuck Howell, who together started the recreation department, and for whom the Eltuck Coves at the reservoir are named for. (Photo: Joel Blocker / For The Coloradoan)

Directing much of that work was Mark Caughlan, Horsetooth district manager. Caughlan was project manager for the building and other facilities built at the reservoir.

Caughlan joked that the building was a “typical low-bid government job” in that it was 63 years in the making. But he was entirely kidding.
Guest Editorial - Progress on streets, trails, community center and emergency response thanks to 1A sales tax

by Frank Lancaster
Estes Park Town Administrator
Estes Park Trail-Gazette

Posted: Fri Jun 30 09:49:54 MDT 2017

It has been three years since the citizens of Estes Park approved a 1 percent additional sales tax for specific improvements in the Town. I want to report back to you how the additional sales tax is working in our community. For background, voters approved the 1 percent additional sales tax in Ballot Issue 1A during the April 2014 Municipal Election. The tax is in effect until 2024 and must be used for the following purposes:

• 60 percent for the construction, repair, replacement, expansion, rehabilitation and renovation of existing streets within the Town of Estes Park.
• 12.5 percent for the construction and expansion of public trails within the Estes Valley Planning Area.
• 25 percent for the construction of a community recreation center, including facilities for the Estes Park senior center.
• 2.5 percent for capital acquisitions associated with emergency response capabilities of the town, such as emergency public AM radio station and emergency operations.

Since its inception, the 1A sales tax has raised just over $6.7 million. This is for the period from July 2014, when it went into effect, through March 2017, since sales tax is received about 45 days after the end of the month. By the end of 2017, it will raise an estimated $9.1 million.

Streets (60 percent)
Fixing roads is expensive and takes planning, equipment and labor. Although 10 years may seem like a long time, it's not very long to address all of our road needs. In 2017 we expect to spend approximately $2.28 million on Town streets. To most effectively use the sales tax revenue, we have developed project priorities and a schedule based on sound engineering principles and a knowledge of the condition of the pavement network. We have a dedicated Pavement Manager in the Public Works Department, and he coordinates all the work accomplished with 1A street funds. Learn more at www.estes.org/streetimprovements.

One of the most active programs of the 1A street funding is the spray patcher machine that allows us to very efficiently fill and repair potholes during most months of the year with just one operator. This year we have filled over 759 potholes. We completed 1,948 repairs in 2015 and another 1,516 in 2016. We can even arrange a ride along if you are interested. You can learn more about the patcher and see where we have been repairing potholes and doing other repairs at www.estes.org/potholepatching.

Major road improvements funded by the 1A street funds include Dry Gulch Road, with a new attached concrete trail on the west side of the road, and the bike trail extension under U.S. 34 connecting to the Lake Estes Trail. Currently we are working on major improvements to MacGregor Avenue north of Wonderview Avenue. These include repaving, an attached concrete trail, storm drainage improvements, and an enhanced pedestrian crossing at the Wonderview Avenue intersection. Other improvements include about 20 miles of roadway crack sealing, large asphalt patch repairs at 11 locations, chip seal resurfacing on 20 streets and new asphalt overlays on four streets. New to the program this year is resurfacing of the Town parking lots. A new asphalt overlay of the Riverside lot was completed in June.

Community Center (25 percent)
Each month the Town transfers 1A funds to support the construction of the Estes Valley Community Center. So far $1.6 million have been used in the construction of the new Community Center that is under construction and slated for opening next winter. The Estes Valley Recreation and Park District is the leader of this project to build a great new amenity for our community.

Public multiuse trails (12.5 percent)
As part of the Dry Gulch Road rehabilitation project, we built a new trail underpass at U.S. 34 that connects the bike/pedestrian lanes along Dry Gulch Road with the Lake Estes Trail. This means bikes and pedestrians don't have to cross U.S. 34 -- one of the busiest roadways in the valley. Also, paired with $300,000 in Larimer County Open Lands funds, we're using $250,000 in 1A Trail Expansion funds for the construction of the MacGregor Avenue trail.

Emergency Response (2.5 percent)
One of the very first things we did with 1A funds, in December 2014, was to launch our own information and emergency radio station -- Estes 1470 AM. Listen to the new station next time you get in the car, or check it out online through a link at www.estes.org. With this new radio station we can quickly broadcast emergency information. When there's no emergency, we include other public information updates about facilities, events and road closures, weather emergencies and traffic updates. Other investments we have made to improve emergency response include upgrading our mobile command truck with equipment to safely monitor and manage incidents from a long distance, purchases of hazardous material safety equipment for Town first responders, and the purchase of a HAM antenna system for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) folks to be able to assist with emergency communications should traditional communication infrastructure be compromised. These funds also are allowing us to provide hazardous material training to front line staff in the utilities, streets and parks departments.

We take the fiduciary responsibility of using your tax funds very seriously and we want to be completely transparent with how your investment in our community is being spent. So you can easily track the revenue, we set up separate funds for each purpose in the town budget -- to separate it from all other operating funds of the Town. We also have a special page on our website at www.estes.org/ballotissue1a just for the 1 percent sales tax. We update this page to show you how much tax is coming in and how we have been using it in each of the four specific areas.
On Patrol: Boat Rangers balance growth, education to keep reservoir safe

Michael Reiley, Coloradoan  Published 7:00 p.m. MT July 1, 2017 | Updated 7:23 p.m. MT July 2, 2017

No day is like the last for the Larimer County boat rangers at Horsetooth Reservoir.

From towing boaters experiencing engine failures to enforcing the laws of the lake, these rangers have their hands full every day at the office.

The job is unpredictable. Anything can transpire at a moment's notice. One minute they might be asked to respond to a medical assistance call. The next? They may have to issue a citation to a boater for not having the proper number of lifejackets on board.

"As far as typical days, it's pretty atypical," boat ranger Trey Reilly said. "There's always something different."

At times, this can be ultra-demanding depending on the number of boats in the water. At the water level on June 24, the reservoir could hold a maximum of 350 vessels, according to senior ranger and boat safety coordinator Jim Hawkins.

The boat traffic at the reservoir has only increased over the last couple years. It can often reach capacity on weekends and holidays while activity throughout the week has also gone up.

Boating on Thursdays has increased and turned into "the new Friday," Hawkins said. Meanwhile, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays are slower but still see a couple hundred trailers pass through.

"Overall we've seen an increase from out-of-county residents," Hawkins said. "Also, our day-use visitation and camping visitation has gone up. I just think it's just people moving into the Northern Colorado area."

More: Horsetooth Reservoir information center was years in the making (http://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/2017/06/29/horsetooth-reservoir-information-center-years-making/439697001/)

There are a multitude of reasons why a ranger will stop a boat. The most common violation involves boaters circulating the reservoir in the wrong direction, Hawkins said. Horsetooth requires boaters to travel in a counter-clockwise pattern and on the right-hand side of the lake, similar to driving on the road.

Another major point of emphasis is ensuring children under the age of 13 are wearing lifejackets, a rule they take very seriously.

"The biggest thing we're out looking for is personal flotation devices for children," Hawkins said. "That's our biggest concern."

(Story continues below the photos)
Look back: Why Horsetooth Reservoir was nearly drained (http://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/2017/04/15/look-back-why-horsetooth-reservoir-nearly-drank/100463850/)

The citations can vary based on the severity of the offense, but generally they are either $50 or $100.

On each stop by patrol, they conduct a thorough safety check of each vessel. This check includes asking boat occupants to show their boat registration, an appropriate number of life jackets that should match the number of individuals in the boat, a Type 4 throw device, and a functional fire extinguisher.

At times, people become irritated when a ranger flips on the sirens and pulls them over on the water. Reilly said that confrontations with boaters, although rare, do happen. But at the end of the day, they have an important job to do.

And that’s to keep the reservoir safe.

“Everyone out here wants to go home at the end of the day and just recreate safely,” Reilly said. “And it’s our job to make sure that happens. You can be annoyed that I stopped you, and I understand why you’re annoyed because you’re out and just want to have a good day. But at the end of the day, if we don’t stop you, then you may hit head-on with somebody. Or maybe somebody else isn’t going to see you and hit you because you’re on the wrong side. We have a responsibility to stop that.”

Popular Carter Lake campground to undergo $1 million renovation

Posted by editor on June 29, 2017 in Local News | 0 Comment

By Katie Harris

The Surveyor
The county is accepting comments and suggestions on the 2017 version of the Master Plan through Aug. 7. A complete version of the drafted plan can be found at www.co.larimer.co.us/parks/Draft-Parks-Master-Plan.pdf.

Tags: campground, camping, carter lake, renovation

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Jun
Fort Collins, Loveland trail connection to be completed in the fall

Published 4:13 p.m. MT July 5, 2017 | Updated 9:45 a.m. MT July 6, 2017

The first trail connection between Fort Collins and Loveland will soon be available to bicyclists and pedestrians, as part of the Colorado Front Range Trail.

The concrete trail is expected to be completed in September when a 2-mile section will connect Loveland's Recreation Trail — just west of Boyd Lake State Park — to Fort Collins' Fossil Creek Trail at Carpenter Road between Lemay Avenue and Timberline Road. The new connection will tie 18 miles of trail in Loveland to 35 miles of trails in Fort Collins.

The section cost $1.2 million, with grant funding of $450,000 from the Colorado Department of Transportation and $350,000 from Colorado Parks and Wildlife's State Trails Program, city of Loveland Parks and Recreation Planner Scott Sinn said.

"I just think it's a good step in the right direction to giving every citizen, community member (access to) a different form of transportation ... and provide a safe option for people to commute back and forth," he said.


The project, which has been in the works since 2002, is a partnership between the cities of Fort Collins and Loveland and Larimer County, and is part of the North Front Range Metropolitan Organization long-range plans for regional trail connections in Northern Colorado.

Larimer County Resource Specialist Zac Wiebe said residents are "overwhelmingly supportive" of the project. Even the three homeowners associations "at the trail runs through, he said, have been "supportive and I would say even anxious to see the trail built."

Wiebe said the trail connections are also a statewide priority, part of a plan to connect trails from Wyoming to New Mexico.

Outdoors: How to dodge crowds at Fort Collins, Larimer County trails (/story/news/local/2017/07/01/how-dodge-crowds-fort-collins-larimer-county-trails/432276001/)
Commissioners opt for fire ban in Larimer County

Time to rethink that campfire plan in Larimer County's backcountry.

The Board of County Commissioners barred open fires, smoking in the open, fireworks, incendiary devices — including exploding targets and tracer ammunition — and welding in unincorporated Larimer County through at least Aug. 22.

Violating the ban can result in a $100 fine for the first offense, $250 fine for a second offense within 60 days and a $500 fine for each additional offense within 60 days of the first.

Representatives from the Larimer County Sheriff's Office, which made the recommendation, acknowledged shifting weather patterns could limit fire danger, but opted for the better-safe -than-sorry approach. A key factor was the number of wildfires nationally that are tying up critical resources for fighting a large blaze locally.


The Fort Collins area is going to see high temperatures near 90 degrees the next several days, with chances of thunderstorms and lightning, according to the National Weather Service (http://f1.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=40.573230&lon=-105.1003715#WWUuHYTyteN).

"We really don't know what the weather pattern is going to be," Capt. Michael Loberg, part of the LCSO Executive Services Division, said. "We could get the afternoon thunderstorms, or move into more monsoon patterns, which would obviously change things drastically."

Commissioner Steve Johnson described the temporary ban as an "ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," though Commissioner Lew Gaiter initially questioned the need. He noted the 2012 Hewlett Gulch and High Park fires weren't prevented by a similar prohibition. The former was started by a cookstove (http://www.denverpost.com/2012/05/18/camper-ticketed-for-starting-hewlett-fire-with-alcohol-fueled-stove-last-evacuees-returning-home/) and the latter was caused by lightning.

"It sounds like you're a little bit on edge, which makes me a bit leery of restricting people's rights," Gaiter said, though he ultimately voted for the prohibition.

The National Forest Service placed a similar fire restriction (https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/arp/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD549188) on portions of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests on July 6 and ending Oct. 1. Those restrictions apply to the portions of the forests in Boulder, Gilpin, Jefferson, Park and Clear Creek counties. Larimer County officials said they expect Larimer County to be added to that list following the county's actions.

Fire Restrictions at a glance

Not allowed: Open fires, including camp or cooking fires; smoking in the open, including trails, parks and open spaces; fireworks or firework displays; incendiary devices, including sky lanterns, exploding ammunition, exploding targets, and tracer ammunition; welding

Allowed: Contained open fires in permanently constructed stationary masonry or metal fireplaces specifically designed for the purpose of combustion; Internal or external combustion engines with a spark arresting device properly installed, maintained and in effect; working order and meeting established standards; fireplaces or wood stoves located inside permanent structures; fires in commercially operated wood and/or charcoal fired grills designed for cooking; charcoal-fired grills when used at a private residence and location on a non-combustible surface of at least 10 feet in diameter; fires such as those in camp stoves and grills using gas or pressurized liquid; welding and other torch work within an enclosed building; outdoor welding and other torch work in an area free of all vegetation at least 30 feet, wind speed is less than 10 mph and fire suppressant is immediately available; fires in air curtain burners.

Fines: $100 for first offense; $250 for a second offense within 60 days of the original; $500 for each offense following that within 60 days of the initial offense.

Read or Share this story: http://noconow.co/2uNWHRi
Flames ignite as fire restriction approved

FIRE

Restriction limits open fires and use of incendiary devices, fireworks through Aug. 22
from page 1A

WILDFIRES

BY SAM LOUNSBERRY

Reporter-Herald Staff Writer

FORT COLLINS — As if on cue, flames ignited in two areas of Larimer County on Tuesday afternoon as county commissioners approved a fire restriction in unincorporated Larimer just hours before.

Although county leaders were hesitant to implement the fire restriction recommended by Larimer County Undersheriff Bill Nelson and Emergency Operations Manager Justin Whiteshell, commissioners Lew Gater, Tom Donnelly and Steve Johnson approved the restriction unanimously Tuesday morning.

The restriction will stay in place through midnight Aug. 22.

Blazes started Tuesday in the 5200 block of Glade Road northwest of Loveland, and near Arthur’s Rock just east of Howard and West Ridge trails.

Human activity is thought to be the cause of the fire along Glade Road that burned just over an acre before it was contained, according to LFRAs spokesman Scott Pringle. Firefighters said a witness saw a man toss a cigarette out of a car window while driving a north on Glade Road.

A lightning strike on a tree is the suspected cause of the Arthur’s Rock fire.

“When we first started talking about it last week, we definitely needed a restriction,” Nelson said. “Since then, we’ve gotten a bit of moisture. We’re right on the edge, and could go either way (with or without a restriction).”

Whiteshell said the U.S. Forest Service had been considering a fire ban on its lands in the county, and agency managers were waiting to see how the commissioners voted on the restriction Tuesday and would likely go the same way, so as to not confuse residents.

Whiteshell also said that if a large fire were to ignite in Larimer County, resources to fight it could be sparse as crews are still battling a blaze near Breckenridge, which investigators have determined was human-caused, in addition to fires burning throughout the West, including in California, Idaho, Arizona and Montana as well as British Columbia, Canada.

“I’m right on the edge, and if it weren’t for those two things — the U.S. Forest Service and the resources that might not be available — I
Lonetree Reservoir to remain open to public under new leaseholder

LOVELAND, Colo. -- Visitors of a popular northern Colorado lake are receiving some good news.

According to a new operating agreement which starts next summer, Lonetree Reservoir in Larimer County will remain open to recreation.

Last week, Colorado Parks and Wildlife said public access would be cut off after being outbid on a lease to operate the 300-acre lake and recreation area.

But the new leaseholder, Berthoud Heritage Metropolitan District, said public access for boating and fishing at the southwest Loveland reservoir will continue when the state’s lease expires in July 2018.

The leaseholder said it has plans to improve the reservoir.

"We are thrilled to have been awarded the lease of Lonetree Reservoir," said John Turner, president of the district.

"We will keep this amenity open to the public. We have the resources to improve, manage and maintain this reservoir to an elevated level in which we have not seen with the current lessee."

The Berthoud Heritage Metropolitan District is developing property in the area around the reservoir. A new golf course has also been announced.