

NEWS RELEASE

Colorado Springs, Colorado
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CHATFIELD RESERVOIR VEGETATION REMOVAL PROJECT COMPLETED BY MARKIT! FORESTRY MANAGEMENT FOR THE CHATFIELD RESERVOIR MITIGATION COMPANY

Markit! Forestry Management ("Markit! Forestry") has completed a highly complex environmental forestry project on approximately 380 acres in the Chatfield State Park in Douglas and Jefferson counties in Colorado. The park encompasses the Chatfield Reservoir, which has a surface area of 1423 acres, and is fed by the South Platte River, Plum Creek and other smaller creeks.



Aerial view of the Chatfield Reservoir, near Littleton, Colorado.

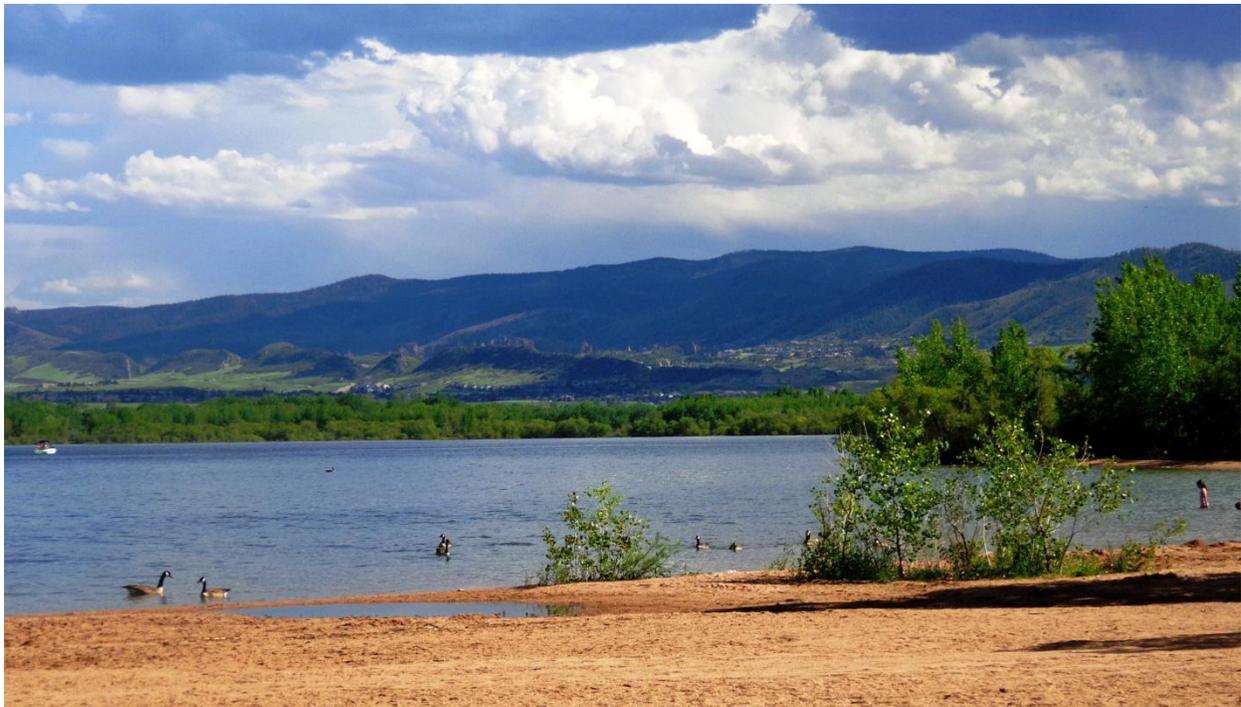
To help control flooding, the Chatfield Reservoir was built in 1975 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the confluence of the South Platte River and Plum Creek. The reservoir has the ability to store more than 350,000 acre-feet of water. The primary purpose of the reservoir is flood control, but it also provides storage space for conservation water, which is used for municipal, industrial, agricultural and recreational uses, as well as maintaining fisheries and wildlife habitat, and providing drinking water to the Denver metropolitan area.

A new water management project, the Chatfield Reservoir Reallocation Project, came about as the result of a growing demand for water in Colorado's Front Range. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined that the Chatfield Reservoir could accommodate an additional 20,600 acre feet of water storage for water supply without compromising its flood control function. The additional water storage will be accomplished by raising the level of the reservoir by 12 feet.

Markit! Forestry was engaged by the Chatfield Reservoir Mitigation Company -- which was formed to implement the Chatfield Reservoir Reallocation Project -- to provide tree and debris removal services over approximately 380 acres of cottonwood, willow, and other deciduous tree and shrub species within the identified fluctuation zone area within Chatfield State Park.

Pat Gayner, Vice President of New Business Development at Markit! Forestry remarked:

The Chatfield Vegetation Removal Project was an interesting challenge, requiring Markit! Forestry to use virtually every tool in our toolbox. Markit! Forestry had to remove trees and shrubbery on wet acres and dry acres. We used hand crews and helicopters. We used masticators and timber harvesters. We used a wood grinder to process wood fiber, and we arranged trucking to remove approximately 300 truckloads of wood chips. While Markit! was conducting its forestry operations, we had to work around the civil engineering and earth moving aspects of the larger Chatfield project, and we had to conduct our forestry work while allowing the public to safely use the trails and recreational facilities in the park. This was a huge undertaking, and Markit! is extremely proud to have successfully completed the project with excellence, and well in advance of the project deadlines.



Swimming Beach at Chatfield Reservoir.

Meg Halford, a Supervisor Forester for the Colorado State Forestry Service, and the lead forester on the project commented:

I was very impressed that Markit! Forestry was able to get the vegetation removal phase of the reservoir expansion project completed in nine months, especially considering delays in getting work approvals, the weather, and having to hopscotch around construction schedules. Kudos to Markit! Forestry for a

phenomenal job with the vegetation removal and going above and beyond the Scope of Work. I believe that the work far surpassed the Ecological Functional Units' requirements, and drastically improved the health of the residual forest stands and wetland areas while maintaining critical bird, wetlands, aquatic and wildlife habitat. Markit! Forestry removed a tremendous amount of tree hazards and improved safety for all park users!

Work commenced on the Chatfield Vegetation Removal Project in August 2018, and was completed in April 2019, well in advance of the deadline required by the larger Chatfield Reservoir Reallocation Project. The President of Markit! Forestry, Leigh Ann Wolfe, reflected on the project:

The Chatfield Reservoir and the Chatfield State Park are precious resources for all Coloradans. It was a unique challenge and a privilege to complete environmental mitigation at Chatfield State Park while keeping the Park open to the public. There were many days in which we were flying trees with a helicopter in closed areas while boating, water sports, hiking, biking, bird watching, horseback riding, and camping remained open to Park users. While all of the Park activities posed safety and operational challenges to our forestry operations, Markit! Forestry was happy to see recreational activities remain open to the public. Markit! Forestry is proud to have played a part in the larger Chatfield Reservoir Reallocation Project, knowing that the project will benefit Colorado for years into the future.

Markit! Forestry Management is a full-service environmental forestry management company headquartered in Colorado Springs. Markit! Forestry provides Forest Fuels Reduction, Forest Health Restoration, Post-Fire Rehabilitation, Defensible Space, Timber Harvesting and Trail Building services on Municipal, State, Federal and private land. Markit! Forestry specializes in steep slope and difficult terrain forestry, helicopter logging, and multidiscipline forestry projects. For more information on Markit! Forestry Management please visit www.markitforestry.com, or call Pat Gayner at 719-593-2365.