

*Entry from United States Board on Geographic Names Quarterly Review List # 400,  
February 26, 2009*

**Bufflehead Lake:** reservoir; 5 acres; in South Platte Park, 2.9 km (1.8 mi) NE of Chatfield Lake; named for the blue herons found in South Platte Park; Arapahoe County, Colorado; Sec 31, T5S, R68W, Sixth Principal Mer.; 39°34'43"N, 105°02'24"W; USGS map – Littleton 1:24,000.

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Littleton 1:24,000

Proponent: South Suburban Parks and Recreation; Littleton, CO

Administrative area: South Platte Park

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: Heron Lake (Littleton Parks, Trails and Open Space, City of Littleton, 2008)

**Case Summary:**

This five acre reservoir, proposed to be named Bufflehead Lake, is located just south of the reservoir proposed to be named Cooley Lake (q.v.), on the south side of West Mineral Avenue, and north of "Eaglewatch Lake" (q.v.). According to the proponent, the recommended name was chosen because the reservoir provides a diverse combination of shallow and deep water marsh habitat that attracts large numbers and diversity of ducks throughout the winter. Because of its size, the bufflehead is one of the more noticed species on the lake, and "the name fits nicely with the other reservoirs being named in the Littleton area." Previously, the name Heron Lake had been used by the Littleton Parks Department, but after the BGN staff questioned whether the feature's proximity to another body of water named Blue Heron Lake might cause confusion, the proposal was amended to Bufflehead Lake. There are no other features in Colorado known to be named "Bufflehead."