

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

Cooley Lake: reservoir; 145 acres; in South Platte Park, 3.9 km (2.4 mi) NNE of Chatfield Lake; named for the Cooley Mining Company, former owners of the property; Arapahoe County, Colorado; Sec 30, T5S, R68W, Sixth Principal Mer.; 39°35'11"N, 105°02'13"W; USGS map – Littleton 1:24,000.

Proposal: to make official a name in recent local use

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: Cooley Lake (City of Littleton; local realtors)

Published: Cooley Lake (Littleton Parks, Trails and Open Space, City of Littleton, 2008; Google Maps; PaleoCurrents.com, 2003)

Case Summary:

The name Cooley Lake is proposed for another of the seven newly-created reservoirs in South Platte Park. This 145-acre reservoir lies 3.9 km (2.4 mi) north-northeast of Chatfield Lake. The name would recognize the fact that the reservoir site was formerly owned by the Cooley Mining Company; in the company's documentation, the pit was identified as the Cooley Mining Pit. According to a report presented by the Parks and Recreation Department to the Littleton City Council in October 2008, "Ecologically, Cooley Lake is [a] nationally recognized Audubon area for migration and refuge of birds." Following the City's approval of the name, numerous local real estate companies have begun to refer to property in "the Cooley Lake area." Google Maps already labels the reservoir Cooley Lake. There are six other mines, all in Denver County, named for the mining company: three named Cooley Gravel Company Pit; two named Cooley Sand and Gravel Company Pit, and one Cooley Sand and Gravel Pit.