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Comments: Are USFS and CPW conveniently choosing to ignore CPW's own Recommended buffer zones and seasonal restrictions for Colorado Raptors (2020) at Sweetwater Lake?

*Staunton State Park, CPW enforces seasonal trail closures of Lions Head loop & Mason Creek-Upper from March 15 to July 31 for raptor nesting.

*Barr Lake State Park, there is a 1320' Bald Eagle buffer zone and half of the lake was set aside as a wildlife refuge.

*Near Durango, CPW & BLM enforce a half-mile buffer zone for Peregrine Falcons on the upper parts of Animas City Mountain and Perins Peak Wildlife Area from March 15 to July 31.

*In 2021, the Manager of Fishers Peak State Park implemented an extension of the Peregrine Falcon ½ mile buffer zone closure from July 15 to July 31 "for consistency with the CPW's recommended (updated 2020) raptor guidelines."

At Sweetwater Lake, following CPW's own guidelines for Peregrine Falcons will require seasonal closures of the lake surface and most of the proposed >200 people/day park infrastructure as there is:

"No permitted, authorized, or human encroachment activities within ½ mile (2640 feet, 800 meters) mile of the nest cliff(s) from March 15 to July 31."

Historical use averaged just 31 visitors/day during peak months as per USFS' own campground data and a 2017 Colorado DOH public water system study at AJ Brink Outfitters. Increasing human activity beyond historic use or the even lower current usage should immediately trigger the protections recommended by CPW's own scientific research and best management practices.

CPW's tagline is "Keep Colorado Wild" and that is exactly what should happen at Sweetwater Lake.