



## Tree Management is a critical component of the Chatfield Storage Reallocation Project (CSRP).

Below is an article — Tree Management Demonstration: Students try out the new protocol — which describes a new protocol for evaluating all of the existing trees in the fluctuation zone around the reservoir. Following the article is the Chatfield Storage Reallocation Project Tree Management chart as found on the [www.chatfieldreallocation.org](http://www.chatfieldreallocation.org) website under the Recreation and Environment tabs where additional information on the CSRP Tree Management program may be found.

### Tree Management Demonstration: Students try out the new protocol

Six eager and enthusiastic young people, high school and college students, visited Chatfield State Park on June 22. They are part of the Urban Rangers program at Environmental Learning for Kids (ELK). The young people received a briefing at the park headquarters on the Chatfield Storage Reallocation Project.

Then they joined Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) foresters at Fox Run picnic area on the west side of Chatfield Lake for a “learning and doing” session on Tree Management. After a brief introduction, they donned hard hats and helped the foresters identify trees by species, size and health in the huge gallery of trees near the picnic area.

“ELK opens new doors of opportunity by engaging and mentoring youth through science education and leadership development programs that provide a real-life context for learning,” their website says. The kids and ELK Education Coordinator Brad Paterson were engaged and impressed as the photos here clearly show. Paterson said he could not believe how much the kids were learning and experiencing.



CSFS Forester Spencer Weston demonstrated how to use a laser range-finder to measure horizontal or vertical distance and calculate the height of a tree.



Forester Spencer Weston helps the Urban Rangers identify tree species by the shape and color of branches and leaves.

CSFS District Forester Meg Halford and Forester Spencer Weston explained that their primary mission at the park is to implement a new protocol for selecting trees by looking at and evaluating every tree in the fluctuation zone around the reservoir. The ELK Urban Rangers recorded their demonstration field results on paper. CSFS and their contractors will, once the new protocol is in place, do their analysis on computers.



CSFS District Forester Meg Halford and the ELK crews measuring diameter of trees and checking them for any signs of disease or incipient decay. Healthy trees will remain in place.

Meg Halford said the trees in the fluctuation zone that are healthy can remain in place. The trees like to be flooded periodically. That is when they propagate and reproduce. They can remain in water for extended periods without damage.

The new CSFS protocol will be used to assess the trees that can stay in place and those that must be removed. Fallen trees, including any woody debris 2” or greater in diameter, must go. Dead or dying trees, even if still standing, will have to be removed. Non-native trees (invasive species), such as Russian olives, will be taken out.



CSFS District Forester Meg Halford and ELK Education Coordination Brad Paterson discuss next steps for the Urban Rangers as they prepare to observe and record data for the Tree Management demonstration at Chatfield Reservoir.

## Recreation and Environment: Tree Management

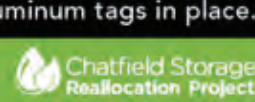
# CHATFIELD STORAGE REALLOCATION PROJECT TREE MANAGEMENT

**OBJECTIVES:** Protect safety of Park visitors by removing dead trees and debris that will be below the higher lake level and keep healthy trees along the new shoreline

<p><b>ASSESSMENT</b> Summer 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blue paint markings on dead/dying trees and invasive trees</li> <li>• Map location and tag healthy trees and wildlife areas</li> <li>• Establish 3 tree monitoring plots (5 year monitoring)</li> </ul>	<p><b>DEMONSTRATION</b> Summer 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a demonstration plot (10 to 15 acres)</li> <li>• Remove blue marked trees and wood debris</li> <li>• Tag healthy trees and wildlife habitat to stay</li> <li>• Evaluate best methods and cost basis for tree management</li> </ul>	<p><b>MANAGEMENT</b> Fall 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove blue marked trees and wood debris in the fluctuation zone around the lake</li> <li>• Leave important wildlife, bird and endangered species habitat intact</li> <li>• Monitor the health of trees for 5 years</li> </ul>
---	---	--

What can you do to help us improve the health of trees in the Park? Leave flagging and aluminum tags in place.

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT OUR WEBSITE, EMAIL OR CALL OUR HOTLINE AT:  
[www.chatfieldreallocation.org](http://www.chatfieldreallocation.org) | [info@chatfieldreallocation.org](mailto:info@chatfieldreallocation.org) | 1-855-387-4660



**Tim Feehan**  
**General Manager**  
**Chatfield Reservoir Mitigation Company**  
[tim.feehan07@gmail.com](mailto:tim.feehan07@gmail.com)

Call us toll free at: **1-855-387-4660**

or contact us at: [info@chatfieldreallocation.org](mailto:info@chatfieldreallocation.org)

