

Steamboat Today

Peabody plans to go public with plans for Trout Creek Reservoir southwest of Steamboat Springs

By [Tom Ross](#) Monday, October 15, 2012

Steamboat Springs — Jerry Nettleton, of Twentymile Coal Company and Peabody Energy, is scheduled to meet Tuesday morning with the Routt County Commissioners to present his company's plans for a significant reservoir on Trout Creek southwest of Steamboat Springs.

Steamboat Today first [reported the news](#) of the planned hydroelectric reservoir in April. Peabody officials at the corporate headquarters in St. Louis, Mo., did not have a comment at the time, but a letter circulated by a consultant working on the project outlined the scope of a project.

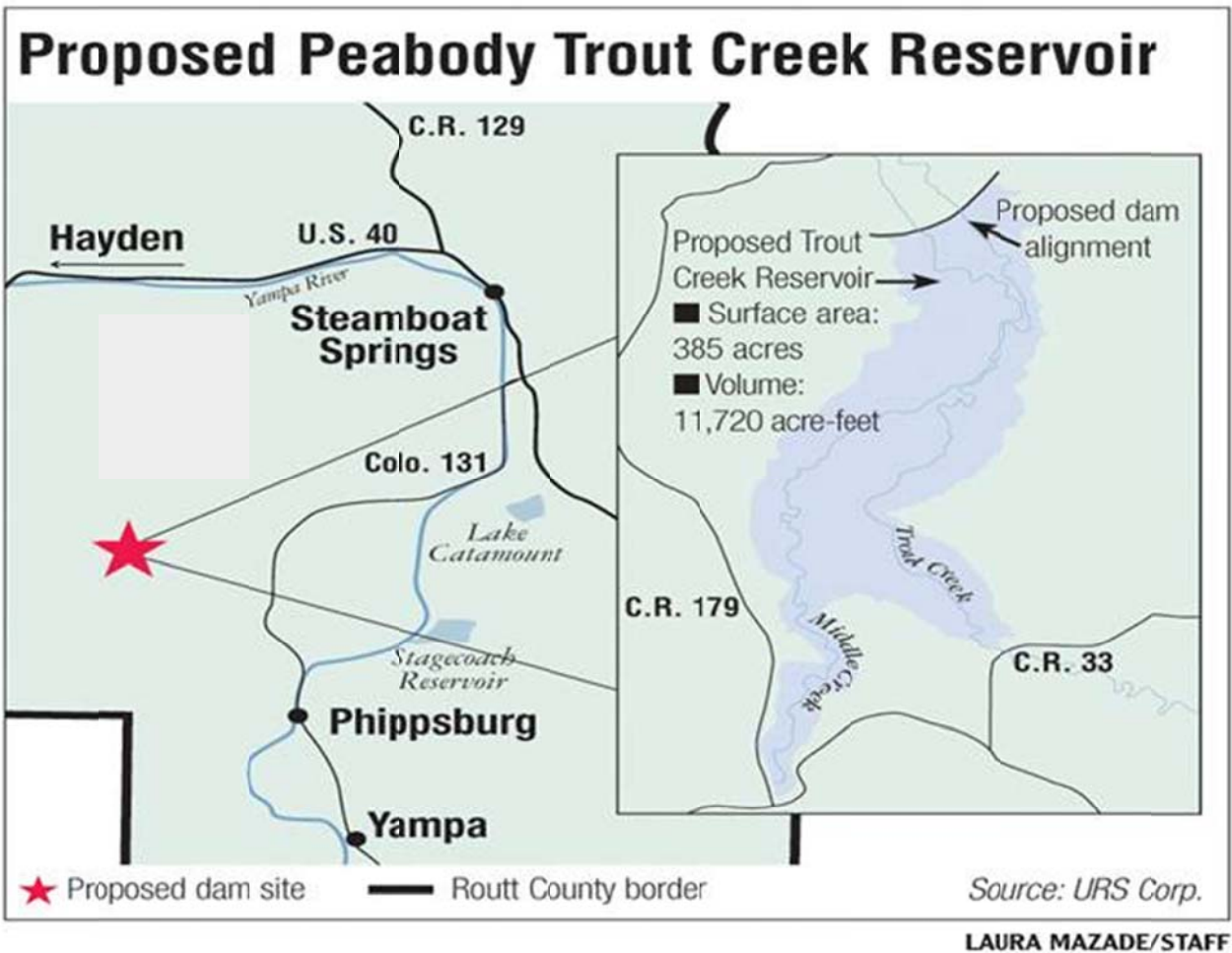
Peabody contemplated in April that the reservoir capturing water from both Trout and Middle creeks would store about 11,720 acre-feet of water with a surface area of about 385 acres, according to a letter sent from a Glenwood Springs water engineer working on the project to Steamboat attorney Tom Sharp, who is involved in a statewide water supply study. In comparison, Stagecoach Reservoir near Oak Creek stores 36,460 acre-feet and has a surface area of 780 acres. Trout Creek flows out of the Flat Tops and into the Yampa River a few miles to the north.

The reservoir would be situated about 15 miles from Steamboat in the vicinity of both the Twentymile and developing Sage Creek coal mines between Routt County roads 179 and 33.

The letter revealed that Peabody had alerted the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission of its intent to file for a hydropower license. In addition, the letter anticipated that the water stored in the reservoir would be used to support residential development, recreation and fish habitat as well as Peabody's mining operations in Northwest Colorado.

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Proposed Peabody Trout Creek Reservoir



If you go

What: Peabody Energy unveils plans for Trout Creek reservoir.

When: 9:55 a.m. Tuesday

Where: Commissioners Hearing Room in the Routt County Courthouse, 522 Lincoln Ave.

See related story

April 4, 2012: [Peabody plans Trout Creek Reservoir in Routt County](#)