

# colorado state parks

42 great state parks!



## statewide fact sheet

### overview

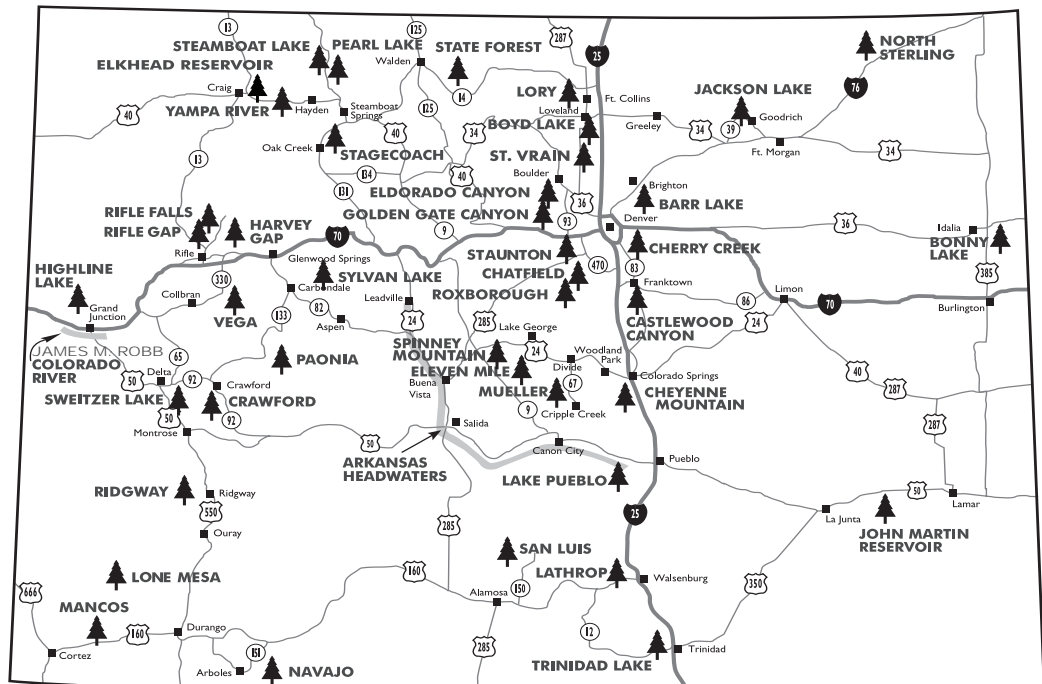
**Public Demand for Parks:** During these challenging times, Colorado's 42 state parks continue to attract over 12 million visitors each year. Colorado's state parks provide clean, accessible and affordable outdoor recreation for families and anyone wanting to explore nature. About half of Colorado's residents visited a state park during the past two years, and nine out of 10 of all state park visitors are Coloradans.

**Tourism Destinations:** Colorado's state parks provide a perfect place for "staycations," where each year more people choose affordable and close-to-home outdoor adventures. The state parks are ideally suited to respond to this getaway trend. Colorado's state parks are a popular component of the state's outdoor recreation economy and an integral part of the Colorado brand.

**Economic Benefit:** Visitors to Colorado's state parks help local communities too. Visitors reported spending \$571 million during their visits to state parks. In smaller, rural communities, the state park down the road may bring customers to local businesses and generate income that would not otherwise occur.

**Resource Conservation:** By reinforcing a "green ethic" and the importance of protecting our finite natural resources, Colorado's state parks act as green buffers, helping to mitigate air pollution, noise and other environmental stressors.

**Health and Wellness:** Colorado's state parks benefit health and wellness. With increasing numbers of obese and sedentary Coloradans, getting people outdoors and active are important components of disease prevention and stress reduction. And, Colorado's state parks give our kids a place to play and many ways to connect to nature and learn about our natural world.



## our enduring vision

*Colorado State Parks offer exceptional settings for renewal of the human spirit. Residents and visitors enjoy healthy, fun-filled interaction with the natural world, creating rich traditions with family and friends that promote stewardship of our natural resources. Park employees and their partners work together to provide ongoing and outstanding customer service through recreational programs, amenities and services.*

## statistics and ratios

Visitation FY09-10: **12,283,440**

Visitor expenditures: **\$571 million statewide** including \$396 million spent by non-local visitors\*

\*Non-local visitors drove at least 50 miles to reach the park.

Total land & water acres managed: **224,447**

Land: **177,920** Water: **46,527**

Full-time employees: **289.5**

Temporary employees: **\*\*742**

\*\*Temporary employees work six months or less.

Volunteers: **4,837\*\*\***

Volunteer hours: **198,238\*\*\***

\*\*\*Full-time employee equivalents: 95.3

## statewide recreation programs

### Recreational Trails Program

- Assists partners with grants and expertise for trail planning, maintenance and construction.
- Responsible for distributing over \$2 million in federal and state grant funding.

### Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Program

- Promotes safe, responsible use of OHVs.
- Registered over 128,962 OHVs in FY2010.
- Awarded and administered over \$3 million in grants for trail improvements, habitat improvement, education and law enforcement.

### Snowmobile Program

- Administers grooming, marking and signing for snowmobile trails and facilities.
- Snowmobile Safety Certification program for safe, responsible use of snowmobiles.
- Registered more than 33,200 snowmobiles, and provided over \$918,000 in contracts and grants in FY2010.

### Colorado Natural Areas Program (CNAP)

- Protects and preserves Colorado's most significant natural features through voluntary agreements with land owners.
- Conserved 229,000 acres in 112 registered or designated natural areas.

### Boating Program

- Registers all motor and sail-operated boats in Colorado; 94,354 boats in FY2010.
- Provides boating safety training and information.

### River Outfitter Licensing Program

- Sets river guide qualifications, provides river safety training, licenses outfitters.
- Licensed 182 river outfitters in 2010.

## park inventory

### Number of Parks: 44\*

Recreational/water-based parks: **25**

Resource-based parks: **16**

River corridor parks: **3**

\*Includes Staunton and Lone Mesa State Parks, which are not yet open to the public

### Park Facilities:

Cabins, yurts and tipis: **63**

Campsites: **4,376**

Visitor/welcome centers: **27**

Marinas: **13** (11 concessionaire-owned, 2 state-owned)

### Ownership of Lands Managed by State Parks

Colorado State Parks: **22%**

Colorado Division of Wildlife & Colorado State Land Board: **36%**

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation: **14%**

U.S. Forest Service & Bureau of Land Management: **3%**

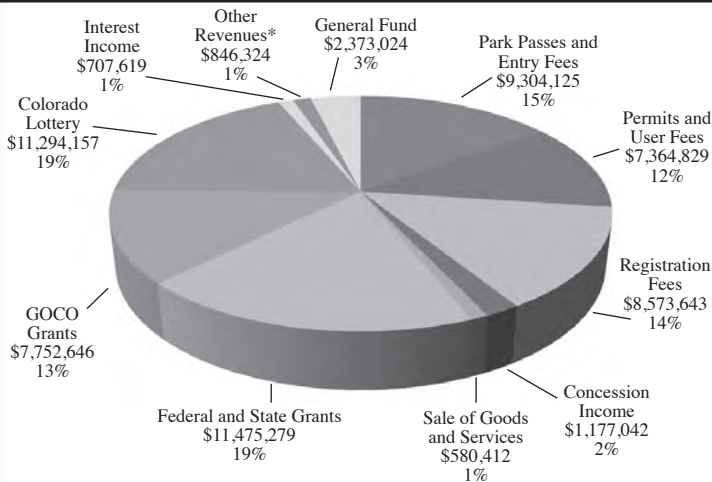
Local governments/other: **8%**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: **11%**

Irrigation companies: **7%**

## FY 2010 revenues

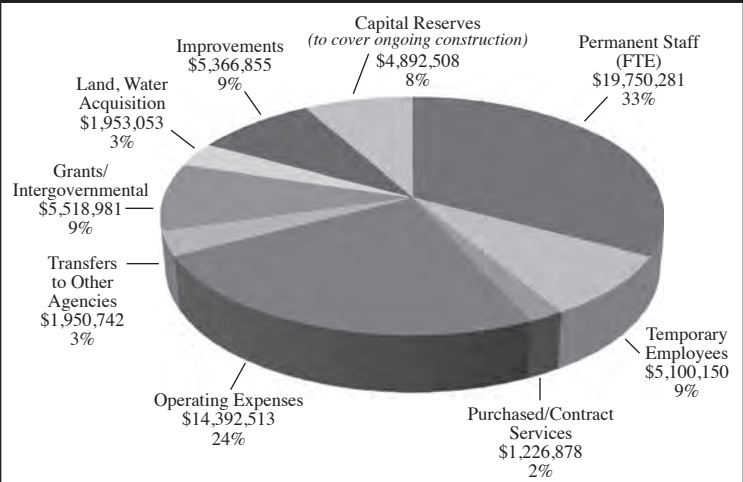
# \$61,449,098



\*Penalties, DUI & DWI fines, insurance recoveries, private donations, court ordered awards

## FY 2010 expenditures

# \$60,151,962



## to contact us:

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