



# bonny lake state park

FY09-10



## who we are

This eastern plains reservoir is widely recognized for the opportunities to catch walleye, channel catfish and different varieties of bass. The park's location on the eastern plains makes this a great spot for the first camping and fishing trip in the spring and the last trip in the autumn. Reductions in services and facility closures at Bonny Lake State Park resulted from budget restrictions. Still, the park is popular with people looking to get away to enjoy fishing and being close to nature.

Visitors to Bonny Lake State Park spend about \$1.7 million annually in local communities.

Source: Corona Research, *Colorado State Parks Marketing Assessment*, "Visitor Spending Analysis 2008-2009."

## top attractions

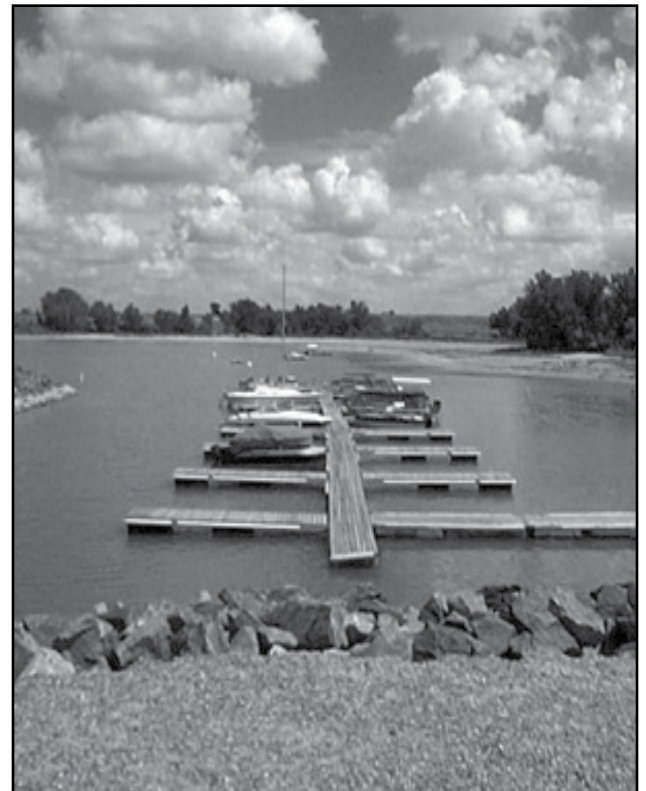
- Bonny Lake State Park is an excellent place to see all types of wildlife, from white-tailed deer and turkeys near the Foster Grove (east) end of the lake, to blue herons, white pelicans and osprey on the north shoreline of the Lake.
- Designated as an "Important Bird Area" by the Audubon Society, life lists for Bonny Lake include over 300 species of migratory and resident birds. The park is one of the best places in Colorado to observe eastern woodland songbirds such as the cardinal and eastern bluejay, migratory birds and plains grassland birds.

## our partners

- Future Farmers of America
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Good Sam Club ("Flatlanders" Club, Burlington, Colorado)

## challenges we face

- Work with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and sister state agencies to maintain enough water between Memorial Day and Labor Day to permit viable boating and other flat-water recreation opportunities.
- Plan to effectively manage and control undesirable vegetation species such as. Staff continue to inventory and remove hazard trees in the campground that present a threat to visitor safety.
- Develop a detailed plan for Colorado State Parks to transfer management at Bonny Lake State Park. This should include a long-term agreement with a partner to manage the area so it remains open for public access and use.



## 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 FY 09-10: **38,201**

Estimated expenditures within 50 miles of the park: **\$1,722,374 (2008-2009)**

Full-time staff: **1**

Visitor to full-time staff ratio: **38,201:1**

Temporary employees: **8**

Volunteers: **76**

Volunteer hours contributed: **1,050**

County: **Yuma**

Congressional District: **4**

State Legislative Districts  
Senate: **1**  
House: **63**

## expenses/revenue

Total operating expenses: **\$291,987**

Total construction expenses: **\$0**

Total revenue generated: **\$ 99,084**

## park inventory

Year became a state park: **1966**  
Land acres: **1,388**  
Water acres: **1,000**  
Elevation: **3,700'**

### Ownership

State parks: **0%**  
Other: **100%**

### Miles of Roads

Paved: **1.9**  
Unpaved: **17.0**

### Miles of Trails

Hiking/biking: **0.3**

**Boat Ramps:** **1**

**Campsites:** **103**

**Picnic sites:** **98**

**Concessions:** **0**

### Major buildings/structures:

Visitor center  
Camper services building  
Shower building

## land acquisitions FY 09-10

There were no new acquisitions in FY 09-10.

## volunteer activities

- To recruit volunteers, Bonny Lake State Park continues to advertise volunteer opportunities on local radio stations and within weekly articles in the local newspapers.
- The Idalia Future Farmers of America planted 14 trees and donated over 150 hours of volunteer labor.
- The Good Sam "Flatlanders" provided over 200 hours of tree care and ground-keeping work.

## to contact us:

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**42 great**  
state parks!



Colorado State Parks