



ridgway state park

FY09-10



who we are

Nestled at the base of the spectacular San Juan Mountains in southwestern Colorado, Ridgway is truly an outdoor recreation paradise. The park offers camping with modern facilities for comfort and convenience. Natural surface trails pass through the piñon/juniper forests and onto mesas offering spectacular views of the surrounding mountain peaks. Ridgway's great outdoors provides views of the towering Sneffels Range, known as the "Switzerland of America." Ridgway is also one of the nation's most accessible recreation areas.

Visitors to Ridgway State Park spend about \$20 million annually in local communities.

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

top attractions

- Camping
- Fishing
- Boating
- Hiking
- Sightseeing



our partners

- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Chambers of Commerce: Ridgway, Ouray, and Montrose
- Town of Ridgway
- Friends of Ridgway State Park
- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Veterans Administration
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Colorado State Patrol
- Uncompahgre Trail Riders
- Ouray County Government
- School District: 50, RE1J, and R1
- Department of Corrections
- Tri-County Water Conservancy District
- Black Canyon Audubon
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Gunnison Gorge Anglers
- Colorado Bird Observatory

challenges we face

- Park facilities are showing signs of age after 20 years of use. Addressing the deterioration and extending the useful service life of facilities requires adequate funds.
- Park staff work closely with Tri-County Water and in most years, the water elevation remains high enough for the swim beach and slip/buoys. In low-water years, these facilities become unusable.
- State Parks took over marina operations when private concessions could not effectively operate the marina. Many in the boating public still want a "full-service" marina. Currently State Parks is doing what is possible with available funds, for example, replacement of slips and buoys as well as offering dry storage to the public.

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: **331,775**

Estimated expenditures within 50 miles of the park: **\$20,013,583 (2008-2009)**

Full-time staff: **8**

Visitor to full-time staff ratio: **41,472:1**

Number of temporary employees: **30**

Volunteers: **91**

Total volunteer hours contributed: **16,250**

County: **Ouray**

Congressional District: **3**

State Legislative Districts
Senate: **6**
House: **58**

expenses/revenue

Total operating expenses: **\$967,163**

Total construction expenses: **\$0**

Total revenue generated: **\$779,392**

Self-sufficiency ratio: **81%**
(FY 09-10 revenue/operating expense)

park inventory

Year became a state park: **1989**
Land acres: **2,207**
Water acres: **994**
Elevation: **6,870'**

Ownership

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

Miles of Roads

Paved: **16.3**
Unpaved: **.1**

Miles of Trails

Hiking: **14.0**
Biking: **14.0**

Boat Ramps: **1**

Marinas: **1**

Campsites: **283**

Cabins/yrurts: **3**

Picnic sites: **50**

Concessions: **4**

Major buildings/structures:

Visitor center
Swim beach and bath house
Camper services building
Satellite shop/office
Group event facility

land acquisitions FY 08-09

There were no new acquisitions in FY 09-10.

volunteer activities

- Volunteers serve as campground hosts, entrance station attendants, maintenance workers, and visitor center staff.
- The Friends of Ridgway State Park also contribute in many ways, including funding and support for the Environmental Education and Interpretation Programs.

to contact us:

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42 great
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