



staunton state park

FY 07-08 PARK FACTS

about the park

Staunton State Park is located just north of U.S. Highway 285 approximately 6 miles west of Conifer, Colorado. The 3,700-acre property is bisected by Park and Jefferson counties, approximately 45 miles southwest of downtown Denver. The park is currently not open to the public but is expected to open as the 43rd state park in the system. A donation by Frances Hornbrook Staunton of 1,680 acres, including her parents' original homestead, established the original land base for Staunton. Additional purchases in 1998 added the Elk Falls Section (1,042 acres) and the Davis Ranch Section (860 acres). Some of the outstanding features at Staunton State Park include rugged rock outcroppings, lush grassy meadows, rolling hillsides forested with conifers and aspens and a dramatic waterfall. Numerous streams (including Elk Creek, Black Mountain Creek, Jones Creek, and Mason Creek) wind through the park and have associated water rights that have historically been used to support agriculture. These streams contribute to the natural diversity and natural beauty of Staunton. With the abundant resources available, it is no wonder that deer, elk, bears, mountain lions, coyotes and bobcats call Staunton State Park home. Staunton will remain closed to public use until a full public planning process is completed.

total visitation, FY 07-08
(July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008)

N/A

counties

Park, Jefferson

congressional district

6

state legislative districts

Senate 4, 22

House 25, 60

year became a state park

N/A*

**Staunton is currently not open to the public*

ownership

83% State Parks

17% other

land acres

3,646 acres

water acres

6 acres

elevation

8,040-10,120'

park inventory

miles of road

paved 0.0

unpaved 3.5

miles of trails

0

number of boat ramps

N/A

number of campsites

N/A

number of cabins/yurts

N/A

number of picnic sites

N/A

concessions at the park

N/A

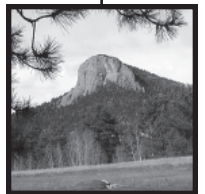
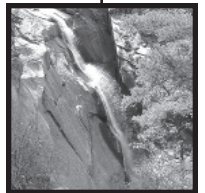
major buildings/structures

park office

seasonal work office

fire equipment storage

temporary staff housing



top attractions

scenic and cultural history values

pre-development, ground floor novelty

contact information

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challenges

- Staunton State Park is currently in the process of developing a master plan for the park. It is scheduled to be completed by the spring of 2009. The master plan will address access, infrastructure and what recreational opportunities will be at the park. Once the master plan is completed we will then need to secure funding to be able to build and ultimately open the park to the public.
- We are currently working with the USFS to provide access from the upper portion off the park to the Pike National Forest and connecting to the Mt. Evans Wilderness. We will also need to work with the USFS on an easement for the road that travels through the National Forest Service land. Upon development of the park, this easement will be critical, as it is the link to Elk Falls. An alternative to the easement is a land exchange between CSP and USFS eliminating the problem altogether.
- Access to the park is a very critical issue. Elk Creek road will be the main access to the park and CDOT is expected to complete the changes to the intersection of US 285 and Elk Creek within the next couple of years. The master plan process will determine the location of the main entrance into the park off of Elk Creek road.
- Insect control and prevention projects have been conducted at Staunton State Park since the early 1980s. By thinning out trees, we are reducing competition for sunlight, water and nutrients, thereby making the remaining trees healthier and giving them a better chance to fight off the mountain pine beetle (MPB). We have also been working to establish multi-age stands of trees, which should help to reduce any MPB impacts. This continues to be one of our top priorities; infestation has been relatively low allowing the park to be proactive in preventing future insect epidemics.
- With wildfire being an ever-present threat, Colorado State Parks has initiated an ambitious multi-year fuels reduction project at Staunton State Park. This project includes patch cuts in the lodgepole pine, removal of select conifers from areas with aspen (increasing elk habitat) and thinning the ponderosa pine. These projects not only reduce the threat of fire but also improve the vigor of the forest, increase wildlife habitat and provide more resistance to insect infestations.

budget and operations

number of full-time employees

1.0

number of temporary employees*

4.0

*temporary employees are hired for periods up to six months in length

number of volunteers*

2

total volunteer hours contributed*

407

* Volunteer and volunteer hours figures are from calendar year 2007.

total operating expenses

\$168,848

capital construction expenses

\$372,132

total revenue generated

N/A

partners

Boy Scouts of America

Colorado State Forest

US Forest Service

Colorado Division of Wildlife

Mile High Youth Corps

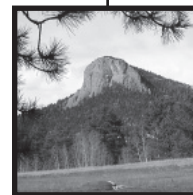
International Mountain Biking Association



ratios

full-time staff to annual visitors

N/A



land acquisitions

FY 07-08

none



volunteer activity

Fence repair, irrigation, weed work, forest mitigation, controlled and pile burns, miscellaneous inventories, and future staff recruitment.

vision statement for Colorado State Parks

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.