



sweitzer lake state park FY09-10



who we are

Built solely for recreation use and managed by Colorado State Parks, the Sweitzer Lake State Park encompasses a 137 surface acre reservoir. Coined the “oasis on the edge of the desert,” Sweitzer has become a popular bird sighting area and a waterfowl observation site. Observers have recorded more than 170 species of birds at the park. A day-use area with no overnight camping, Sweitzer Lake State Park offers sightseeing, picnicking, swimming, boating, water-skiing, fishing and small game hunting.

Visitors to Sweitzer Lake State Park spend about \$1.4 million at businesses in nearby communities each year. *Source: Corona Research, Colorado State Parks Marketing Assessment, “Visitor Spending Analysis 2008-2009.”*

top attractions

- Swimming
- Water-skiing
- Bird watching
- Waterfowl hunting

our partners

- Delta County Tourism Council
- Smart Shelter Network
- Colorado Department of Corrections
- Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW)
- City of Delta



challenges we face

- The biggest challenge facing Sweitzer Lake State Park is finding the means to address the crumbling infrastructure and overall age of the facility. Much of the infrastructure (water, sewer and irrigation systems) is old and needs frequent repairs. The swim beach, roads and picnic areas also need rehabilitation.
- Continue working with the Colorado Division of Wildlife to establish regular fish stocking and fishing regulations for Sweitzer Lake State Park.
- There have been some recent land sales and development plan approvals related to adjacent private lands. Park staff are working with the developers and the City of Delta to minimize security concerns and other impacts this may bring to Sweitzer Lake State Park.
- Given the financial situation facing the agency, keeping Sweitzer Lake State Park open as a state park may be difficult.

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: **55,824**

Estimated expenditures within 50 miles of the park: **\$1,444,078 (2008-2009)**

Full-time staff: **.5**

Visitor to full-time staff ratio: **111,648:1**

Temporary employees: **6**

Volunteers: *Sweitzer Lake State Park shares volunteers with Crawford State Park.*

County: **Delta**

Congressional District: **3**

State Legislative Districts

Senate: **5**

House: **54**

expenses/revenue

Total operating expenses: **\$65,614**

Total construction expenses: **\$0**

Total revenue generated: **\$47,174**

Self-sufficiency ratio: **72%**
(FY 09-10 revenue/operating expenses)

park inventory

Year became a state park: **1960**
Land acres: **73**
Water acres: **137**
Elevation: **5,000'**

Ownership

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

Miles of Roads

Paved: **.1**
Unpaved: **1.8**

Miles of Trails

Hiking: **1.5**

Boat Ramps: **1**

Picnic sites: **32**

Major buildings/structures:

Park office
Park shop
Maintenance area

land acquisitions FY 09-10

There were no new acquisitions in FY 09-10.

volunteer activities

- Sweitzer Lake State Park had residential volunteers on site year-round. Several previous employees also worked volunteer hours this past year.
- We are also working with an organization called Hand Up Homes for Youth, conducting enhancement projects such as wildlife habitat improvement.

to contact us:

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