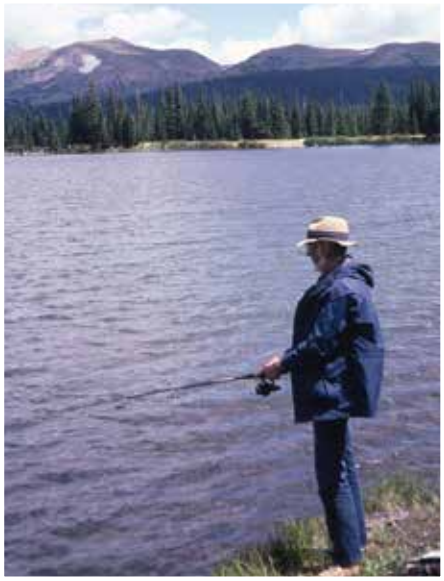
Visitor Guide

Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland



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www.fs.usda.gov/arp
ARP Central Office
2150 Centre Ave, Bldg E
Fort Collins, CO 80526
970-295-6700

Meet the Forest Service

The Beginning

The Louisiana Purchase encompassed portions of more than a dozen states, including Colorado. Congress enacted several laws to encourage the settlement and use of these Federal lands. Through the Homestead Act of 1862, the Mining Act of 1872, and the Timber Culture Act of 1873, millions of acres of Federal land were earned or purchased from the government for private use. In 1891, Congress established forest reserves to protect the remaining land and its timber. In Colorado, many of these forest reserve lands were located in between old homesteads and mining claims resulting in an intermix of ownership. These forest reserves later became our National Forests.

During this expansive period of our nation's history, timber was an important product and trees were considered a crop. In 1905, forest reserve management was assigned to an agency under the Department of Agriculture. This new agency was called the Forest Service.

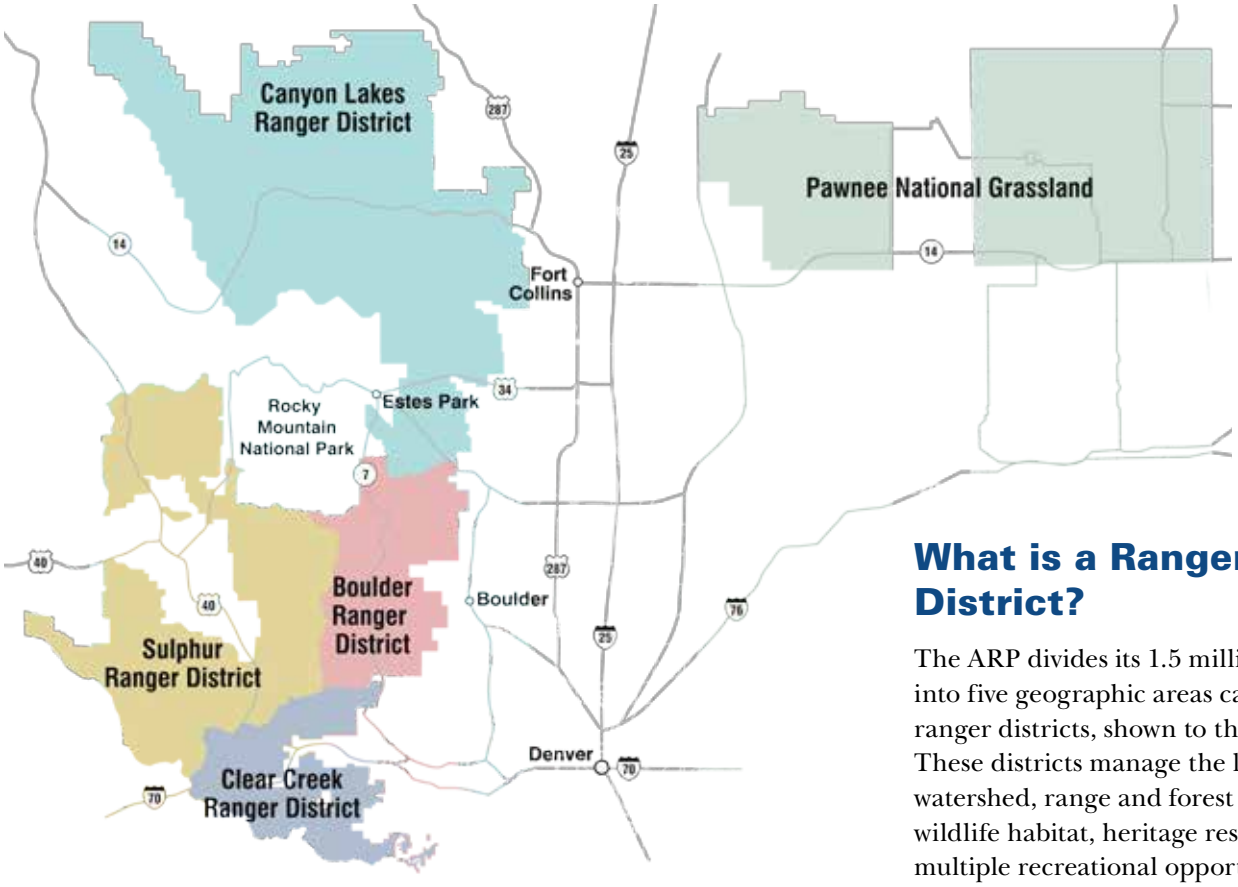
Where in Colorado?

Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland (ARP)

A Brief History

The Arapaho National Forest was established in 1908 by President Theodore Roosevelt and named for one of the Native American tribes that had occupied the region for summer hunting. One of the oldest national forests in the country, the Roosevelt National Forest began back in 1897 as part of the Medicine Bow Forest Reserve, then was renamed the Colorado National Forest in 1910, and finally was renamed to honor President Roosevelt in 1932. The area that is now the Pawnee National Grassland was originally acquired by the Soil Conservation Service (SCS, now called the Natural Resources Conservation Service) during the 1930s "dust-bowl" days, was transferred to the Forest Service in 1954, and was designated a national grassland in 1960.

Near Rollins Pass, circa 1920



Boulder Ranger District office – Boulder
Sulphur Ranger District office – Granby
Canyon Lakes Ranger District office – Fort Collins
Clear Creek Ranger District office – Idaho Springs
Pawnee National Grassland Ranger District office –Ault

The Greatest Good

"Where conflicting interests must be reconciled, the question shall always be answered from the standpoint of the greatest good of the greatest number in the long run."

This statement is from a letter signed in 1905 assumed to be written by Gifford Pinchot, the first chief of the Forest Service. The Forest Service endeavors to manage all national forest and grasslands in this way: the greatest good for the greatest number in the long run. As populations grow and demand for forest recreation increases, this goal continues to become more difficult.

What is a Ranger District?

The ARP divides its 1.5 million acres into five geographic areas called ranger districts, shown to the left. These districts manage the land for watershed, range and forest health, wildlife habitat, heritage resources, and multiple recreational opportunities. Consequently, you may be sharing the land with ranchers, loggers, scientists, and people enjoying hiking, four-wheel driving, birding, and much more. These lands are a shared resource that belong to everyone.

Because this guide covers the entire ARP, information contained within is a general overview of this large area. For detailed recreation information on trails, campgrounds, roads, current conditions and closures, or management information, always seek out the local ranger district office. See back cover for addresses and phone numbers.

Be Prepared. Have a Map. Make a Plan.

Over a recent five-year period, 6,475 searches for lost people were conducted by Colorado search and rescue organizations. Review the following pages to ensure you are ready to explore the outdoors safely.

Play by the Rules.

Special regulations often exist on different areas of the national forest. Make sure to read all signs and postings to avoid potential fines. For further information, contact the local ranger district office.

What to Do?

Explore the Outdoors . . . Recreation Opportunities Abound!

The ARP offers a diversity of outdoor opportunities. These lands are yours—to visit, to care for, but most of all, to enjoy. So, what are you waiting for? Pack up your family and friends and head for adventure in Colorado's great outdoors on the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland!

Camping

Looking for an organized place to camp?

Are you driving a motor home? Pulling a trailer? Wanting to pitch a tent? One of our 52 campgrounds has a spot for you! Most are open Memorial Day through Labor Day or longer. Some accept reservations; others are first come, first served. Fees vary. Don't hesitate—in July and August, many campgrounds fill fast. See campground list on pages 16 and 17.

Prefer to sleep in an undeveloped area?

Where allowed, just pull off the road and park in a way that does not obstruct traffic or damage resources. Never drive in fragile wetlands or meadows. Some areas allow camping only in designated sites, or not at all. No overnight camping is allowed at trailheads, picnic areas or in day-use parking areas.

Picnicking

Bring your picnic basket to one of our developed picnic areas scattered throughout the forests and grassland. Most locations have picnic tables, vault toilets, and fire grates or rings. These day-use areas are open from sunrise to sunset. All picnic areas are on a first-come basis (except for Crow Valley and Pickle Gulch picnic areas, which accept reservations). Some picnic areas may charge a fee, but others are free; see list of fee areas under American Lands & Leisure Day Use Pass on page 13.

Scenic Drives

Five State Scenic Byways, one National Scenic Byway, and other back roads will entice you past spectacular scenery and through historical towns, offering abundant opportunities to observe wildlife along the way (see page 4).

Wildlife Viewing

Focus your binoculars or camera lens on the wide array of animals that enrich any ARP recreational experience—from elk to eagles, prairie dogs to prairie falcons, bighorn sheep to burrowing owls and bluebirds. Practice responsible viewing and keep your distance—wildlife may run away, abandon a nest or young, or even attack if you get too close. Learn to watch wildlife without being watched back!

Hiking Trails

Hundreds of miles of trails will lure you from open prairie to gently sloping foothills and open forest to steep rocky slopes and wind-swept tundra. Hiking guides are available at ranger district offices. The guides describe the trails and identify special regulations, such as restrictions on dogs or horses, permit requirements, or other special trail regulations (see www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/hiking).

Mountain Biking

Pedal along numbered roads and trails, except in wilderness areas or other trails as posted. Enjoy the serenity and peacefulness of the great outdoors.

Rock Climbing

Rock climbing opportunities can be found on the forest. As the popularity of this sport increases, it is becoming more important that everyone help prevent resource damage. Removable hardware and temporary anchors are preferred. Climbers are responsible for making sure they are on public land open to climbing. If unsure, please contact the local ranger district office.

www.treadlightly.org

Travel and recreate with minimum impact
Respect the environment and the rights of others
Educate yourself, plan and prepare before you go
Allow for future use of the outdoors by leaving it better than you found it
Discover the rewards of responsible recreation

Canoeing and Flat Water Boating

Paddle quietly among the many lakes and reservoirs found throughout the forests, such as Shadow Mountain, Brainard, Dowdy and Chambers. A few lakes are large enough to allow motorized boating. Be sure to check with Colorado Parks and Wildlife to register your boat if necessary (see back cover). Contact the local ranger district office to find out what is allowed and not allowed when you are canoeing or boating.

Rafting and Kayaking

Experience the thrill of white water on the Cache la Poudre River and parts of Clear Creek and Boulder Creek during spring and summer runoff. Go on your own or pick from a variety of exciting trips offered by commercial rafting companies operating under a special-use permit with the ARP.

Four-wheel Driving

Four-wheel driving is a popular activity on some of the more challenging roads. Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM) designate where you can legally drive. Download these maps at www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/mvum. Check with ranger district offices if you want a free MVUM or to get involved to help maintain these roads. Keep in mind, forest roads are also shared with mountain bikers, hikers and others. Check for forest road openings at ranger district offices or the web at www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/roads.

Dirt Bikes and All-terrain Vehicles

Many roads and trails are open to dirt bikes and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) called off-highway vehicles (OHVs). Roads and trails are designated, by the MVUM, as open or closed to various types of motorized vehicles. Bikes and vehicles must meet all state standards and regulations for noise levels, spark arresters, age of riders, helmet requirements and other restrictions. Your dirt bike or vehicle must be registered with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (see back cover).

Skiing and Snowshoeing

Our high country has been a mecca for skiers for decades and three downhill ski areas operate on the ARP under special-use permits—Winter Park, Loveland and Eldora. Snowshoeing and Nordic (cross-country) skiing are also available in many national forest locations. Always check weather and avalanche conditions before heading out (see back cover).

Snowmobiling

Many areas often have excellent snow conditions for snowmobiling. Snowmobiles are never allowed in wilderness areas. Ranger district offices can direct you to areas with reliable snow cover. Be sure to register your snowmobile with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (see back cover).

Fishing and Hunting

The ARP offers unsurpassed fishing and hunting. State laws and regulations govern your outdoor experience so check with the Colorado Parks and Wildlife for information about licenses, regulations, closures and seasons. Call 303-291-7227 or view www.wildlife.state.co.us.

Horseback Riding

Ride or lead your horse along varied terrain. Ranger district offices offer trail information and detailed maps and can help you locate trailheads with adequate stock trailer parking. Pack animals are not allowed in most developed campgrounds or where otherwise posted. Certified weed-free hay is required (or pelletized feed or grain products).

Where to Go?

Travel the . . . Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways

Our definition of "scenic" reaches beyond breathtaking vistas. Colorado scenic byways are gateways to adventures where no two experiences are the same. The ARP has five State Scenic and Historic Byways and one National Scenic Byway designated for their spectacular scenery, wildlife and history. All listed byways are accessible by passenger car. Scenic byways are identified on most state road maps and on pages 10 and 11. Additional information is available at ranger district offices and online at www.coloradodot.info/travel/scenic-byways.

Mount Evans

Enjoy majestic views and high alpine tundra as you travel along the highest paved road in North America. As you ascend 7,000 feet in 28 miles, you will experience a world above timberline that rare arctic plants, alpine wildflowers, lichens, pikas, marmots, mountain goats and bighorn sheep call home.

Extreme weather in this environment is normal so be prepared for intense sun, wind, rain, lightning, snow, sleet and hail throughout summer. Be prepared for high altitude effects. Usually open from Memorial through Labor Day, the road is occasionally closed during summer for snow removal.

Where	30 miles west of Denver, off I-70, Hwy. 103 to Hwy. 5
Elevation	14,264 feet at summit
Length	28 miles
Travel time	1½–2 hours
Fees	A fee is charged for the upper section of the byway (past Echo Lake) to help support interpretation programs, facilities maintenance and visitor services.
Road surface	Paved
Remarks	Vehicles over 30 feet are not recommended.
Information	Clear Creek Ranger District office. Also see section on permits and passes on page 13.

Guanella Pass

Explore Colorado's flora and fauna at its best. Start your tour at the historic mining town of Georgetown. Travel up the mountainside through stands of aspen, fir, spruce and pine. The road opens up above treeline where spring and summer flowers flourish. Hiking trails near the pass offer summer recreational opportunities.

Where	40 miles southwest of Denver, off I-70 or U.S. 285
Elevation	11,669 feet at the pass
Length	22 miles
Travel time	3 hours
Fees	May be required at some sites
Road surface	Paved at northend. Gravel at southend. Under construction; expect delays.
Remarks	Vehicles over 30 feet not recommended. Passable in good weather by most vehicles. A low maintenance priority; impassable during the winter season.
Information	Clear Creek Ranger District office

Pawnee Pioneer Trail

Discover the subtle diversity of the short-grass prairie on and near the Pawnee National Grassland and take a look at the area's cultural history. Red-tailed hawks soar over prairie dog towns amidst a gentle landscape of prairie and rock bluffs. A short detour accesses a scenic overview of the Pawnee Buttes. Museums in the agricultural towns of Sterling, Fort Morgan and Greeley provide insight into the area's past.

Where	East from Ault, Colo., along Hwy. 14 and various county roads
Elevation	5,000 feet
Length	125 miles
Travel time	3–5 hours
Road surface	Part paved, part gravel
Remarks	Travel on gravel roads after rain or snowfall may be difficult. LIMITED SERVICES IN THE AREA; start with a full tank of gas.
Information	Pawnee National Grassland Ranger District office

Peak to Peak

Where	Hwys. 7, 72 and 119, from Estes Park to Black Hawk
Elevation	Up to 9,300 feet
Length	55 miles
Travel time	1½ hours
Road surface	Paved
Information	Boulder Ranger District office

This byway includes spectacular views of snow-capped peaks along the Continental Divide and access to historical mining communities with architecture from the late 1800s, such as Black Hawk and Central City. At the northern end, Estes Park is the gateway community to Rocky Mountain National Park. Many recreation opportunities are accessible along its length.

Cache la Poudre North Park

Where	Hwy. 14, north of Fort Collins
Elevation	10,276 feet at Cameron Pass
Length	101 miles
Travel time	3 hours
Road surface	Paved
Information	Canyon Lakes Ranger District office

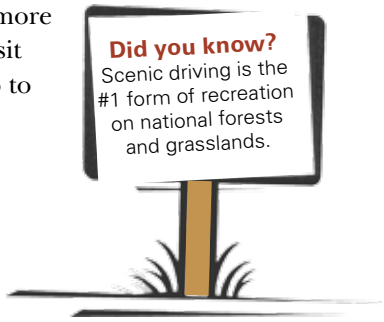
The byway follows Colorado's only designated wild and scenic river, the Cache la Poudre, from Fort Collins toward Cameron Pass. Fishing, rafting, kayaking, bighorn sheep viewing, picnicking and camping are all popular activities in the Poudre Canyon. The Cameron Pass area offers scenic views of snowy peaks; the road then travels through North Park to Walden where a wide valley offers viewing opportunities of antelope, deer and moose.

Colorado River Headwaters

Where	Hwy. 34 from Grand Lake to Granby, Hwy. 40 to Kremmling, County Road 1 to State Bridge
Elevation	6,886–8,720 feet
Length	75 miles
Travel time	3–6 hours
Road surface	Highways paved, remainder gravel
Remarks	Avoid travel on gravel portion after rain or snow. There are no service stations between Kremmling and State Bridge.
Information	Sulphur Ranger District office

Follow the mighty Colorado River as it begins its journey west to the Pacific Ocean. This nationally designated scenic byway passes through mountain valleys and magnificent canyons, beside glorious lakes, along historical ranchlands and through bustling Colorado high-country communities.

Wildlife abounds and year-round recreation is plentiful with easy access to thousands of acres of public land offering spectacular views of mountain landscape and geology. For more information and places to visit along this majestic byway, go to www.fhwa.dot.gov/byways/byways.



Where to Go? (continued)

Adventure into... Wilderness Areas

Wildernesses consist of some of the most natural and undisturbed places in America. Congressionally designated wildernesses are protected and preserved in their natural condition by the Wilderness Act of 1964. These are areas where one can retreat from the civilized and mechanized world. The ARP manages 10 designated wildernesses, identified on pages 10 and 11. Before heading out, be familiar with the special regulations that apply to the wilderness you are visiting such as campfire and pet restrictions, as well as permit requirements.

Byers Peak Wilderness

The Byers Peak Wilderness encompasses more than 8,000 pristine acres with a variety of habitats from low-lying lodgepole pine forest and riparian drainages to alpine tundra fields over 12,000 feet in elevation. Along with this variety of vegetation and climate comes a wide variety of flora and fauna. The wilderness also contains two glacial lakes, three major creek drainages and two peaks over 12,500 feet. The highest is Byers Peak with an elevation of 12,804 feet.

Cache la Poudre Wilderness

This 9,258-acre wilderness is characterized by steep, rugged terrain along the Poudre River and the Little South Fork of the Poudre. Elevation ranges from 6,200 feet to 8,600 feet and the area is accessible most of the year. Use is low and only one trail, the Mount McConnell National Recreation Trail, exists in the wilderness. Cross-country travel is accomplished only by scrambling and bushwhacking in stream bottoms, on ridges and along game trails.

Comanche Peak Wilderness

Comanche Peak Wilderness, named for the prominent 12,702-foot peak, boasts 66,791 acres of wilderness and many scenic trails that provide access to the area that borders the north and east sides of Rocky Mountain National Park. Miles of forest trails eventually give way to alpine tundra and the rugged Mummy Range.

Indian Peaks Wilderness

The 76,586-acre Indian Peaks Wilderness is located adjacent to Rocky Mountain National Park's southern boundary. The Indian Peaks is one of the most visited wilderness areas in the United States. To encounter fewer people, hike and camp on weekdays and use less popular backcountry zones. For more information about the Indian Peaks Wilderness visit www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/indianpeaks. CAMPING PERMITS REQUIRED (see page 12).

James Peak Wilderness

The James Peak Wilderness is the newest addition to the ARP, designated in 2002. This 17,000-acre wilderness is on the east side of the Continental Divide in Boulder, Gilpin and Clear Creek counties. Parry Peak at 13,294 feet and James Peak at 13,391 feet are the highest peaks in the wilderness. Campfires are not allowed.

Area	Location	Elevation (in feet)	Topography	Trail Miles	Information
Byers Peak	Between Fraser and Williams Fork rivers	8,900 to 12,804	Glacially carved ridges and cirques, talus slopes and forested drainages	20	Sulphur Ranger District office
Cache la Poudre	South border of the Poudre River	6,200 to 8,600	Steep and rugged	3	Canyon Lakes Ranger District office
Comanche Peak	North of Rocky Mountain National Park	8,000 to 12,700	Dense forests, wind-swept tundra	121	Canyon Lakes Ranger District office
Indian Peaks	South of Rocky Mountain National Park	8,400 to 13,000	Glacial cirques and tundra above dense forest	100	Boulder and Sulphur Ranger District offices
James Peak	Between Rollins Pass and Berthoud Pass	9,200 to 13,391	Glacial cirques and tundra above dense forest	17	Boulder and Clear Creek Ranger District offices

Mount Evans Wilderness

Mount Evans Wilderness was designated by Congress in 1980 and has a total of 74,400 acres. The wilderness area includes two 14,000-foot peaks. A free, self-issuing permit is required to access approximately 120 miles of trails in the wilderness.

Neota Wilderness

The Neota Wilderness is 9,924 acres on the Canyon Lakes Ranger District and is bordered on the south by Rocky Mountain National Park. Elevation ranges from 10,000 to 11,896 feet and includes flattened ridges of granite atypical of the steep-sided Rockies. There are only 1.5 miles of a single primitively maintained trail in this wilderness, so this area is for the adventurous recreator.

Rawah Wilderness

The high peaks in the Rawah Wilderness area were carved by glaciers, resulting in spectacular cirque lakes and moraines. There are 25 named lakes, ranging in size from 5 to 39 acres. This high alpine area has a total of 78,000 acres and contains the headwaters of the McIntyre, Rawah and Fall creeks, as well as the Laramie River.

> "Wilderness ... an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain ... an area protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions."
>
> —1964 Wilderness Act

Remember

Special regulations apply within wildernesses and vary by area. Map and compass skills are essential. Restrictions include:

- Mechanized vehicles, including bicycles, are prohibited;
- Dogs must be leashed;
- Camping, campfires, and livestock are restricted in some areas; and
- Group size is limited to 12 people and packstock combined.

For specific regulations, check out our web site at www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/wilderness or call the local district office.

Never Summer Wilderness

The Never Summer Wilderness shares its eastern boundary with Rocky Mountain National Park. This 21,000-acre wilderness includes landscapes from forested ridges to steep tundra ranging in elevation from 8,900 to 12,520 feet. Spruce, fir and lodgepole pine blanket the lower elevations. This area receives large amounts of snow, and four of its peaks have names that hint at their cloud-kissed heights: Cirrus, Cumulus, Stratus and Nimbus. This area is the scenic backdrop to portions of Trail Ridge Road's path through Rocky Mountain National Park.

Vasquez Peak Wilderness

This 12,300-acre high country wilderness sits entirely above 10,000 feet with more than half its area above timberline. There are over 15 miles of trail across the alpine tundra and only one trail that climbs through a spruce/fir forest. These trails lead up to two small lakes, across six peaks above 12,500 feet in elevation, and above numerous small creeks that start in high alpine basins.

Area	Location	Elevation (in feet)	Topography	Trail Miles	Information
Mount Evans	40 miles southwest of Denver	8,400 to 14,264	Dense forest, steep granite cirques, alpine tundra	77	Clear Creek Ranger District office and South Platte Ranger District, Pike National Forest
Neota	Above the northwest corner of Rocky Mountain National Park	10,000 to 11,896	Flattop ridges along the tundra flanked by deep forests	1.5	Canyon Lakes Ranger District office
Never Summer	West of Rocky Mountain National Park	8,900 to 12,520	Steep tundra-covered ridges	26	Sulphur Ranger District office
Rawah	East edge of Medicine Bow Range, near the Wyoming border	8,400 to 13,000	Steep glaciated slopes, forested at lower elevations, many lakes and streams	85	Canyon Lakes Ranger District office
Vasquez Peak	West of Winter Park	10,500 to 12,947	Rugged high peaks along the Continental Divide	15	Sulphur Ranger District office

Where to Go? (continued)

Visit and Enjoy . . . Special Places

Over the years, Congress has been responsible for designating areas unique for the special characteristics and the opportunities they offer. Within the ARP, there are two special places that meet these criteria: Cache la Poudre Wild and Scenic River and the Arapaho National Recreation Area (ANRA). In addition, Congress has passed laws protecting historical and archaeological sites, several of which are on the ARP.

What is a Wild and Scenic River?

For a river area to be eligible as wild and scenic it must possess one or more "outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural or other similar values."

Cache la Poudre Wild and Scenic River

The Cache la Poudre River is located in Larimer County. The upper stretch was designated under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act because of its outstanding recreation, scenic and hydrologic features. Recreation opportunities abound along its length: enjoy one of our 11 campgrounds along its banks, picnicking, fishing, hiking, and white-water rafting and kayaking in late spring and early summer.

Legend has it that the river was named in 1836, when a party of westward traveling fur trappers of the Hudson's Bay Company were forced to lighten their load near the banks of the river after being caught in a heavy snowfall. The order was given to "cache la poudre" or "hide the powder" so that it could be retrieved the following spring.

Outstanding features in this beautiful canyon include:

The Narrows: A narrow cleft where the river has cut through rock walls.

Bighorn Sheep Viewing Area: Overlooks a spot frequented by these magnificent animals.

Profile Rock and Sleeping Elephant: Two picturesque granite rock formations.

Poudre Falls: This deep chasm roars with churning water much of the year.

Information: Canyon Lakes Ranger District office

What is a National Recreation Area?

National Recreation Area is a designation for a protected area in the United States, usually centered on large reservoirs and emphasizing water-based recreation for a large number of people. Areas with this designation are managed by different Federal agencies. For a place to be eligible as a national recreation area, the Forest Service must be able to manage the area to provide public recreation and enjoyment; conserve and develop scenic, natural, historical, and pastoral values; and use natural resources.

What is an Historical and Archaeological Site?

People have been living, working and playing in the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland for more than 10,000 years. Evidence of Native Americans, explorers, cattle barons, miners, tie hackers (railroad tie loggers) and homesteaders remain at the thousands of archaeological sites and buildings scattered throughout the ARP.

You can experience this history by visiting Homestead Meadows, Arrowhead Lodge, the Switzerland Trail, the Moffat Road and the Waldorf Mining District, and other sites. You can even rent the Stub Creek Cabin and spend a night in a Forest Service work center built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the 1930s. Remember that these special places (anything more than 50 years old) are protected by the Archaeological Resources Protection Act; removal or disturbance of any artifacts, structures, or buried materials is illegal. Enjoy the cultural resources of the ARP but please help us protect them for future visitors.

Arapaho National Recreation Area

The Arapaho National Recreation Area (ANRA) is located in Grand County, along the upper reaches of the Colorado River Valley. It encompasses over 35,000 acres and includes five major reservoirs: Shadow Mountain, Monarch, Willow Creek, Meadow Creek and Lake Granby.

The ANRA provides visitors with an abundance of recreational opportunities. Boating, fishing, bird watching, camping, horseback riding, mountain biking and ice fishing are all popular activities. Visitors can hike portions of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail within the recreation area. The ANRA also is home to many different species of wildlife.

The ANRA has six developed campgrounds with 368 overnight camping spaces. Three campgrounds plus two group sites are on the reservation system. The ANRA also has four boat launches for motorized watercrafts and three specifically for non-motorized vessels. These facilities open to the public in late May, weather permitting. Four marinas are open to the public and operate under permit from the U.S. Forest Service.

Under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, the Forest Service charges fees to use the ANRA. Most revenue collected is reinvested in the ANRA for services and facilities. See permits and passes (page 13) for details.

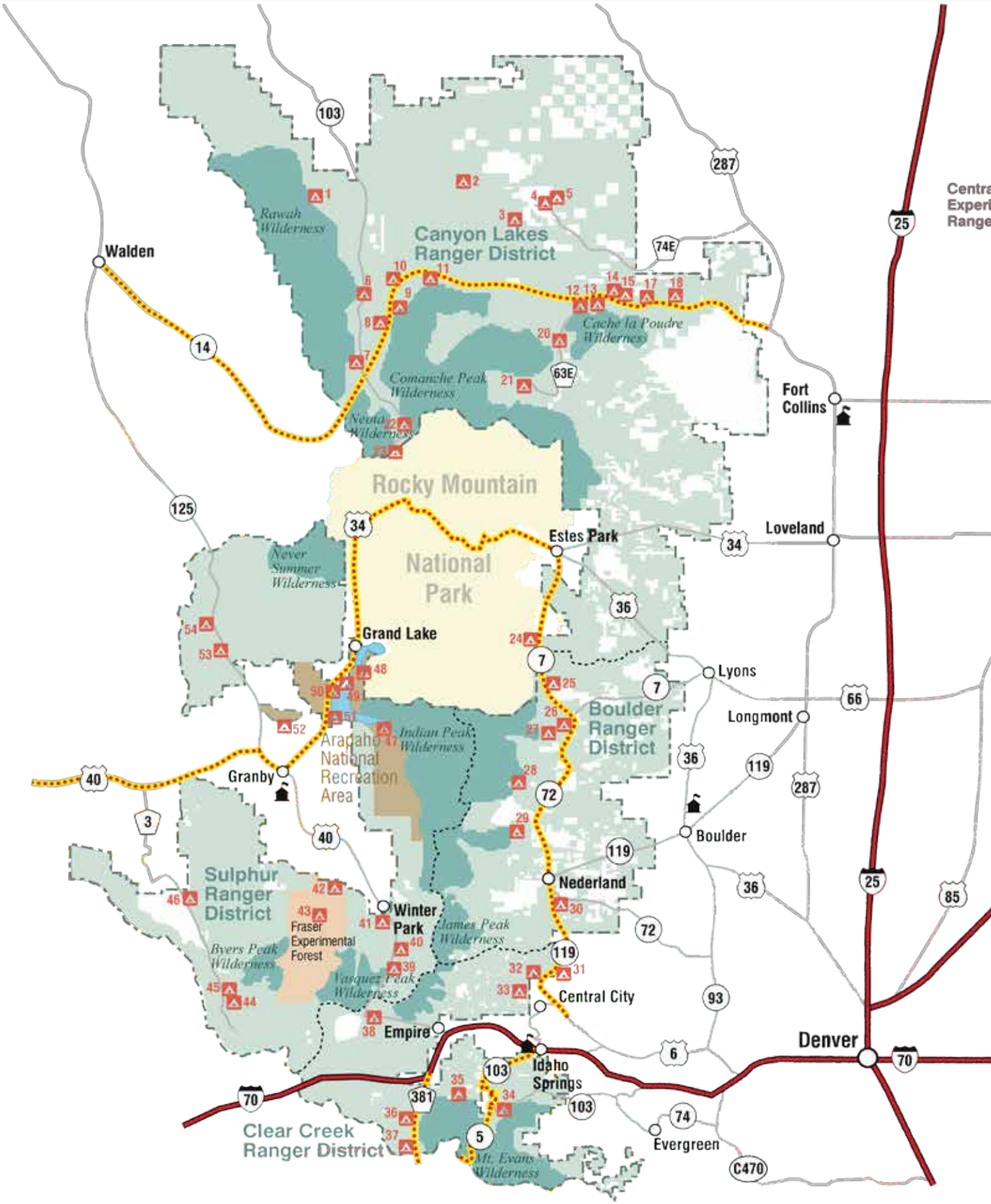
Information: Sulphur Ranger District office

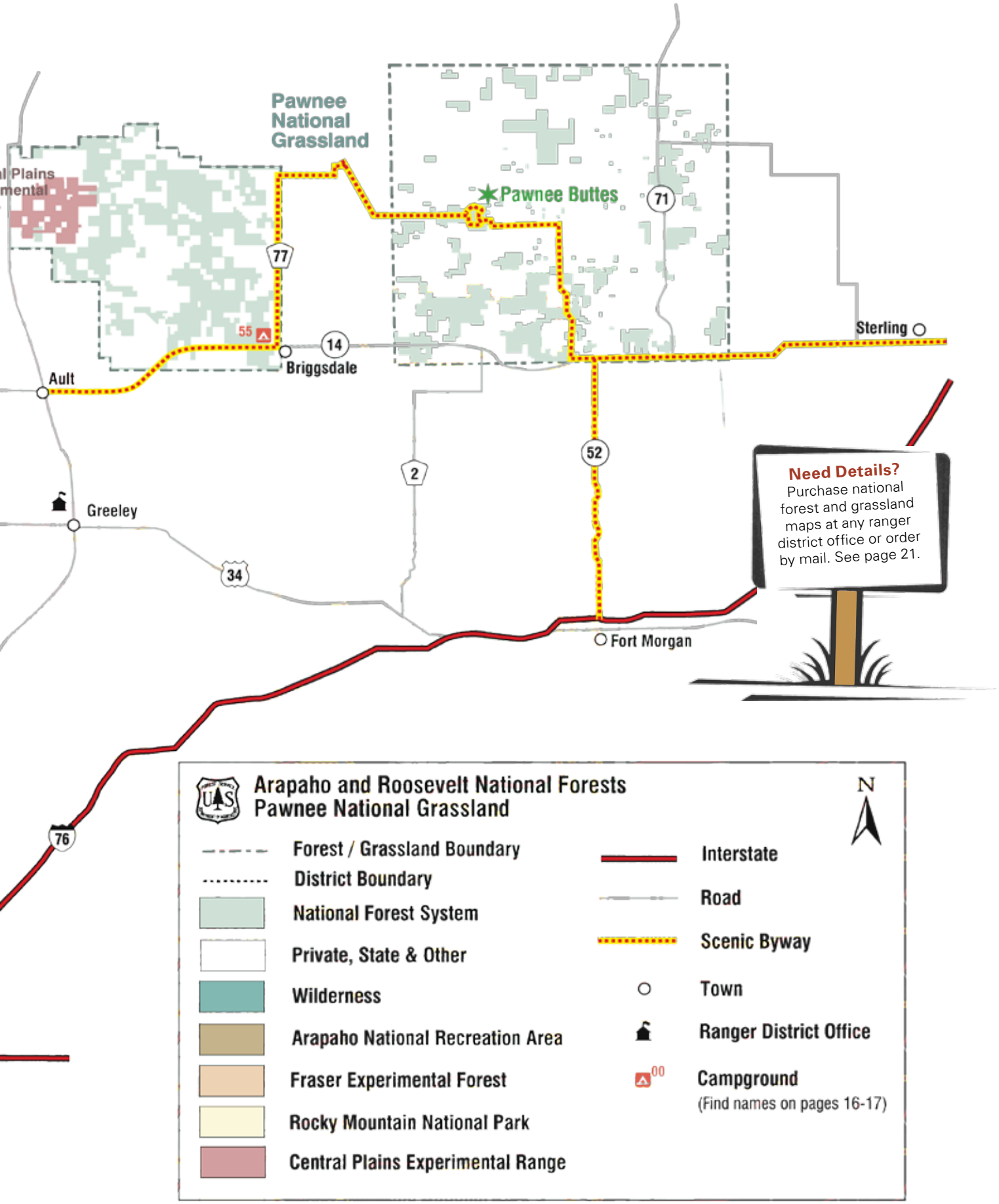
Historical Stub Creek Cabin

This site was originally used as a seasonal ranger station during the pre-Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) era to administer what was then the Laramie River Ranger District. The current log cabin was completed by the CCC around 1936 and is considered significant as a representation of the first use of hewn face logs, later to become a standard design. Visitors can rent the cabin to experience not only the CCC craftsmanship of the cabin, but the wonderful forest surrounding it. The cabin is located approximately 75 miles northwest of Fort Collins in the Laramie River Valley.

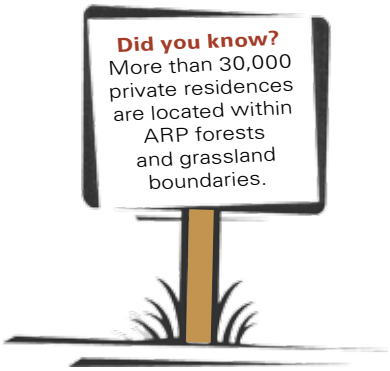
The cabin offers heat, lights and indoor plumbing. The fully furnished cabin will comfortably accommodate five people—just bring your food and linens. Reservations are required and available early June through September and are made by calling the National Recreation Reservation Service toll-free at 1-877-444-6777 or by going online to www.recreation.gov. Reservations can be made up to 180 days in advance.

Information: Canyon Lakes Ranger District office


Canyon Lakes Ranger District
Rawah Wilderness
Cache la Poudre Wilderness
Comanche Peak Wilderness
Neota Wilderness
Rocky Mountain National Park
Never Summer Wilderness
Indian Peak Wilderness
Arapaho National Recreation Area
Boulder Ranger District
Sulphur Ranger District
Fraser Experimental Forest
Byers Peak Wilderness
Vasquez Peak Wilderness
James Peak Wilderness
Clear Creek Ranger District
Mt. Evans Wilderness
Walden
Fort Collins
Loveland
Estes Park
Grand Lake
Lyons
Longmont
Granby
Boulder
Nederland
Winter Park
Central City
Empire
Idaho Springs
Evergreen
Denver


Pawnee National Grassland
Pawnee Buttes
71
77
55
14
Briggsdale
Ault
Sterling
52
2
Greeley
34
Fort Morgan
76
Need Details?
Purchase national forest and grassland maps at any ranger district office or order by mail. See page 21.
Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests
Pawnee National Grassland
N
Forest / Grassland Boundary
District Boundary
National Forest System
Private, State & Other
Wilderness
Arapaho National Recreation Area
Fraser Experimental Forest
Rocky Mountain National Park
Central Plains Experimental Range
Interstate
Road
Scenic Byway
Town
Ranger District Office
Campground
(Find names on pages 16-17)

What to Know?



Most areas of national forests and grasslands are open, free of charge, for your use and enjoyment. Fees or permits may be required for use of some areas, specific facilities or services. Business permit holders, such as campground concessionaires and outfitter guides, may provide services to public land users. Passes and permits are available at ranger district offices. Details online at www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/passes.

Permits

Permits are required for certain individual and group activities and for all commercial activities on national forests and grasslands. Check with your local ranger district office for information and to apply.

Wood Products

Permits are required for collecting many forest resources including firewood, Christmas trees and tree transplants. Fees vary. Contact your local ranger district office for availability.

Indian Peaks Wilderness

Group size is limited to 12 people and pack stock (e.g. horses) combined. Camping permits are required between June 1 and September 15. Large groups of 8-12 people and organized groups require permits year round for day and overnight trips. Purchase from the Boulder or Sulphur Ranger District offices.

Recreation Special Use Permits

- **Commercial and Non-commercial Events:** Any commercial event or event for which a fee is charged, such as races, organized tours, or rides; or for any non-commercial event with 75 participants or more, such as weddings, family reunions, etc., requires a special use permit. Application deadlines and fees may apply.

- **Outfitters and Guides**: Outfitters and guides have the knowledge, skill and equipment to enhance visitors' experiences. The ARP has more than 100 permitted outfitters providing a variety of recreational opportunities including backpacking, horseback riding, hunting or fishing trips, whitewater rafting, rock climbing, snowmobiling, mountain biking, bird watching excursions, and other activities. Operations are regulated to ensure safety and quality public service.

Interagency Passes

A number of national passes may save you money. These passes admit the pass holder and passengers (in a private non-commercial vehicle) to National Forests, National Parks and other federally managed lands and sites charging entrance or standard amenity use fees. Among those available:

Annual Pass

This pass is valid for 12 months from the month of purchase. The cost is $80. Obtain by mail (see back page), online or in person at a ranger district office. This pass is not valid for camping or other discounts.

Senior Pass

This pass is valid for the pass holder's lifetime. The Senior Pass also may provide a 50 percent discount at U.S. Forest Service and other Federal campgrounds. Available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 years of age or older. The cost is $10. Obtain in person at a ranger district office. Proof of age is required.

Access Pass

This pass is valid for the pass holder's lifetime. The Access Pass also may provide a 50 percent discount at U.S. Forest Service and other Federal campgrounds. Available free to U.S. citizens or permanent residents who are legally blind or permanently disabled. Obtain in person at a ranger district office. Documentation is required.

Golden Passes

Some visitors may still have a Golden Age or Golden Access Passport. These passes are also valid for the pass holder's lifetime with the identical benefits described above.

ARP Passes

Arapaho National Recreation Area Pass (ANRA)

A pass is required for recreation within the ANRA. Types of passes accepted: ANRA motorized and non-motorized 1/3/7 day and annual passes; joint ANRA/ Rocky Mountain National Park Pass; Interagency Access, Annual, Senior, Military and 4th Grade EKIP; and Golden Age and Access Passports. Passes can be obtained from the Sulphur Ranger District office or from self-service fee machines on Arapaho Bay Road. For more information on the ANRA pass, visit www.fs.usda.gov/main/arp/passes-permits.

Mount Evans Recreation Area Pass

A standard amenity recreation fee is charged for the recreation area. A Mount Evans three-day or season pass is available. In addition, Interagency Access, Annual, Senior, Military and 4th Grade EKIP; and Golden Age and Access Passports are honored. Passes are sold at the Clear Creek Ranger District office and at the Mount Evans fee station on State Highway 5. For details, go to www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/mountevansroad.

American Land and Leisure Day Use Pass

American Land and Leisure (AL&L) manages some day-use and picnic areas on Boulder and Canyon Lakes Ranger Districts. These areas require a vehicle or individual pass. The Interagency Access, Annual, Senior, Military and 4th Grade EKIP; and Golden Age and Access Passports are also honored. An AL&L Annual Pass is available at Brainard Lake, Chambers Lake, Mountain Park, Bellaire Lake, Dowdy Lake and West Lake day-use areas and all day-use areas operated by AL&L. For more information, contact the Boulder or Canyon Lakes Ranger District offices.

Principles of 'Leave No Trace'

Help maintain the health of the land by practicing outdoor ethics to prevent and minimize your impacts and preserve our land for future generations.

- Plan ahead and prepare
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces
- Dispose of waste properly
- Leave what you find
- Minimize campfire impacts
- Respect wildlife
- Be considerate of other visitors

For more information visit: www.lnt.org

Remember, only you can prevent wildfires!

Do It Right!

Know Before You Go!

Our proximity to growing urban populations greatly influences the way the ARP is managed and the way in which visitors enjoy our great outdoors. Here are a few common-sense tips.

Be Courteous!

Extend your understanding and courtesy to others whose uses of the land may be different from yours. While hiking, you may see horseback riders, cattle grazing or timber harvesting; while riding your ATV you may be prohibited from some trails to enable others to experience a different kind of recreation.

Get Away from the Pack

Try to visit the forest on weekdays or try to space yourself from others so that all may enjoy nature without crowds.

Boundaries

Private land is heavily intermixed within the ARP. As a visitor, it is your responsibility to make sure you know where you are and to stay on public lands. Detailed forest and grassland maps are available at any ranger district office.

Public Roads

Vehicles are permitted on MVUM-designated routes only (see page 3). Look for signs to determine if you can travel the road. Four-wheel drive vehicles are recommended on many forest roads. Always check current road conditions, restrictions and openings before setting out. See www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/roads.

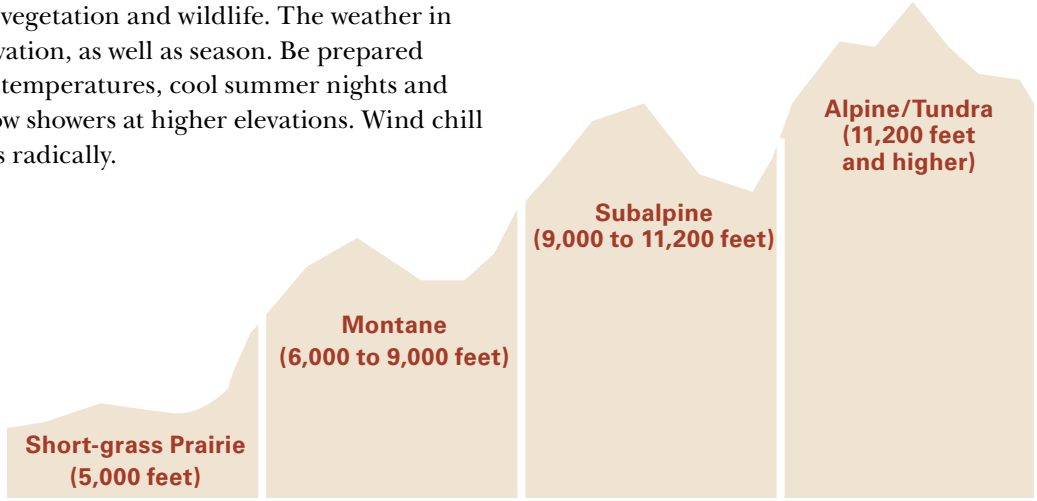
Campfires

Campfires are allowed in many places throughout the ARP. Never leave your fire unattended. Be sure your fire is completely extinguished and out cold before leaving. You may gather enough dead wood to use while visiting. Any leftover wood must be scattered. Consider using a camp stove as an alternative to campfires. Please remember there are some places where you may never have a fire. Check with your local ranger district office for current conditions and restrictions.

What to Know? (continued)

Forests and Grassland Ecosystems

You will find yourself in some very special places, all from one to two miles above sea level. Each elevation has its characteristic climate, vegetation and wildlife. The weather in Colorado varies by elevation, as well as season. Be prepared for sudden changes in temperatures, cool summer nights and summer afternoon snow showers at higher elevations. Wind chill can drop temperatures radically.



	Short-grass Prairie (5,000 feet)	Montane (6,000 to 9,000 feet)	Subalpine (9,000 to 11,200 feet)	Alpine/Tundra (11,200 feet and higher)
	Average Temperatures (in degrees Fahrenheit)			
Summer	High 85 to 95 Low 55 to 65	High 75 to 90 Low 35 to 55	High 60 to 75 Low 30 to 45	High 40 to 60 Low 20 to 40
Winter	High 35 to 45 Low 10 to 20	High 25 to 40 Low 5 to 20	High 15 to 35 Low 0 to 10	High 5 to 25 Low -10 to +5
Spring/Fall	High 50 to 70 Low 30 to 40	High 40 to 70 Low 15 to 35	High 25 to 50 Low 5 to 20	High 20 to 40 Low 0 to 20
	Common Species			
Trees and Shrubs	four-winged saltbush, snake weed; cottonwood and willow	ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, Rocky Mountain juniper, lodgepole pine, cottonwood	subalpine fir, Engelmann spruce, aspen, lodgepole pine	willow
Other Plants	buffalo grass, blue grama grass, needle & thread, prickly pear cactus, yucca, bee plant, evening primrose	Oregon grape, penstemon, wild rose, pasque flower, sulphur flower, wild geranium	huckleberry, columbine, blue gentian, kinnikinnick, bluebells	forget-me-not, alpine avens, moss pink, moss campion, American bistort, king's crown
Birds	burrowing owl, Swainson's and ferruginous hawks, mountain plover, lark bunting, chestnut collared longspur	western bluebird, pygmy nuthatch, great horned owl, magpie, mountain chickadee, raven, plumbeous vireo	mountain chickadee, Stellar's jay, kinglets, blue grouse, Clark's nutcracker, Williamson's sapsucker, raven, dusky grouse	raven, rosy finch, white-crowned sparrow, American pipit, ptarmigan
Mammals	badger, prairie dog, coyote, antelope, swift fox, jackrabbit, deer	mule deer, elk, tassel-eared squirrel, mountain lion, bighorn sheep, coyote, cottontail rabbit, black bear	snowshoe hare, bobcat, elk, pine squirrel, pine marten, black bear, coyote, bighorn sheep	pika, yellow-bellied marmot, elk, coyote, pocket gopher, bighorn sheep

Campgrounds

When you head out to the forests and grassland, you'll find 53 campgrounds available for your enjoyment—either by reservation or on a first-come, first-served basis. Amenities and fees vary by campground and are noted in the table on the following pages. Many (but not all) are open by Memorial Day weekend.

Campground Locations

Campground locations range in elevation from 4,800 to 10,900 feet above sea level (see altitude sickness in outdoor safety section, page 19).

Please refer to the map on pages 10 and 11 for campground locations. The numbers on the map correspond to the numbers listed in the table on pages 16 and 17.

Amenities

Amenities typically include toilets (usually vault toilets), picnic tables, and a fire ring or grate. Some campgrounds may include electricity, water and more. Water may not be available after Labor Day weekend.

Firewood is available for a fee at some campgrounds.

Make Sure You Fit

A single site may hold up to eight people. Tents must fit on the pads provided. RVs, trailers or other vehicles must fit on the parking spur because driving or parking off road is not permitted. The campground table shows parking length ranges. Call the local ranger district office for site-specific measurements.

Housekeeping

Quiet hours are from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. This includes generators. Dogs are welcome in campgrounds but must be on a leash. Operating dirt bikes, ATVs and other non-street legal vehicles in the campgrounds is prohibited.

Stillwater Campground

Peaceful Valley Campground

Season Dates and Stay Limit

In general, many campgrounds are open mid-May through late September depending upon weather and snow conditions. Some close later in the fall and a few are open year round. Due to the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic, the Forest Service cannot guarantee a particular campground will be open. Please call the local ranger district office before planning your trip.

The stay limit in most campgrounds is 14 days. The Arapaho National Recreation Area (ANRA) is limited to seven consecutive days.

Fees

Fees vary by campsite size and location. Fees listed are for standard sized sites. Oversized sites accommodate more people and charge an extra fee. Premium sites, such as lakeside locations, may cost extra.

Interagency Senior, Interagency Access, Golden Age and Golden Access passes provide cardholders half price for campground fees (see page 12). For campgrounds with hookups, the electrical fee is full price for everyone.

Reservation Tips

Some campsites may be reserved (see the "reservable" column on the next page), others are first come, first served. Make your reservations at www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777 as early as 180 days in advance. Reservations must be made at least four days prior to arrival, except for the five-day advanced reservation required in the ANRA. Campgrounds are often fully booked several months in advance.

Group Sites and Equestrian Sites

Be respectful of other campers. Large groups should reserve a group campsite instead of multiple sites at a regular campground. Several campgrounds accommodate large groups (up to 100 people). Reservations may be made 360 days in advance. Equestrian sites are only available at Jack's Gulch and South Fork. The table on the following pages identifies group sites.

Campgrounds

Ranger District	# on Map	Campground	Elevation (in feet)	Standard site fee[1]	Number of sites	Reservable	Parking length (in feet)	Amenities[2]
Boulder (303) 541-2500	27	Camp Dick	8,650	$21 ■	41	✓	20-40	A, T, W
	30	Kelly Dahl	8,600	$21	46	✓	25-40	T, W
	24	Meeker Park Overflow	8,600	$12	29		20-35	
	25	Olive Ridge	8,350	$21 ■	56	✓	20-40	P, T, W
	28	Pawnee (Brainard Lake)	10,400	$21	55	✓	25-40	P, T, W
	26	Peaceful Valley	8,500	$21 ■	17	✓	25-30	A, T, W
	29	Rainbow Lakes	10,000	$15	18		20-40	
Clear Creek (303) 567-3000	36	Clear Lake	10,000	$17	8		15-25	P, T
	31	Cold Springs	9,200	$20	38	✓	32-50	P, T, W
	33	Columbine	9,200	$19	47	✓	20-55	T, W
	34	Echo Lake	10,600	$19	18	✓	20-55	P, T, W
	37	Guanella Pass	10,900	$19	18	✓	35-45	T, W
	38	Mizpah (closed)	9,200	NA	NA		20-30	T, W
	32	Pickle Gulch Group sites 1-5/site 6	9,100	$50-$66+	6	✓	N/A	P, T, W
	35	West Chicago Creek	9,600	$18	16	✓	30	P, T, W
Canyon Lakes (970) 295-6700	18	Ansel Watrous	5,800	$21	17	✓	25-45	A, T, W
	8	Aspen Glen	8,660	$17	8		25-35	T, W
	3	Bellaire Lake	8,600	$22* ■	26	✓	30-75	A, E, P, T, W
	11	Big Bend	7,700	$17	8		35-45	T, W
	9	Big South	8,440	$17	4		20-35	
	1	Browns Park	8,400	$16	26		20-60	
	7	Chambers Lake	9,200	$22 ■	51	✓	20-45	A, BR, P, T, W
	5	Dowdy Lake	8,100	$22* ■	62	✓	30-70	A, BR, E, P, T, W
	14	Dutch George Flats	6,500	$21	20		30-70	A, T, W
	23	Grandview	10,220	$18	8	Call District	tents only	W
	20	Jacks Gulch	8,100	$22* ■	65		30-80	A, E, HT, T, W
	20	Jacks Gulch Group	8,100	$170	1	✓	N/A	A, E, P, T, W
	20	Jacks Gulch Equestrian	8,100	$34*	5	✓	50-80	A, HC, T, W
	12	Kelly Flats	6,600	$22	29		15-65	T, W
	22	Long Draw	10,030	$18	23	Call District	25-40	W
	13	Mountain Park	6,500	$22* ■	54	✓	35-45	A, E, P, S, T, W
	13	Mountain Park Group	6,500	$132	1	✓	N/A	A, P, S, T, W
	15	Narrows	6,400	$21	15	✓	30-50	A, T, W
	2	North Fork Poudre	9,200	$14	9		30-35	
	10	Sleeping Elephant	7,800	$17	15		15-30	T, W
	17	Stove Prairie	6,000	$21	9	✓	30-55	A, T
	21	Tom Bennett	9,000	$14	12		15-25	
	6	Tunnel	8,600	$20	49		25-70	W, T
	4	West Lake	8,200	$22* ■	35	✓	35-100	A, E, P, T, W

Campgrounds

Ranger District	# on Map	Campground	Elevation (in feet)	Standard site fee[1]	Number of sites	Reservable	Parking length (in feet)	Amenities[2]
Sulphur (970) 887-4100	47	Arapaho Bay (ANRA)	8,320	$21* ■	81	✓	20-40	A, BR, P, T, W
	49	Cutthroat Bay Group (ANRA)	8,400	$105*	2	✓	N/A	A, T, W
	54	Denver Creek	8,800	$19	22		25-45	T, W
	48	Green Ridge (ANRA)	8,360	$21* ■	75	✓	25-35	A, BR, D, T, W
	46	Horseshoe	8,540	$16	7		30-50	P, T, W
	41	Idlewild^	9,000	$20	24		20-30	T, W
	40	Midland Group^	9,400	$85	1	970.726.1132	N/A	T
	39	Robbers Roost^	9,830	$20	11		20-25	T
	53	Sawmill Gulch (closed)	8,780	NA	NA		25-40	
	45	South Fork	8,940	$17	21		30-50	HC, P, T, W
	45	South Fork Group	8,940	$50	1	✓	N/A	HC, W
	50	Stillwater (ANRA)	8,300	$24* ■	124	✓	25-40	A, BR, D, E, S, T, W, WH
	42	St. Louis Creek^	8,900	$20	16		25-35	T, W
	44	Sugarloaf	8,970	$17	11		30-35	HT, P, T
	51	Sunset Point (ANRA)	8,300	$24* ■	24		45-50	A, BR, D, T, W
	52	Willow Creek (ANRA)	8,130	$21*	35		15-25	A, BR, T, W
	52	Willow Creek Group (ANRA)	8,130	$83*	1	✓	tents only	BR, T, W
Pawnee (970) 346-5000	55	Crow Valley Family Sites	4,800	$13 ■	10	✓	40-50	A, SD, HT, T, W
	55	Group Camp Sites (Lark, Plover, Hawk)	4,800	$55	3	✓	N/A	A, SD, HT, T, W
	55	Steward J. Adams Education Group Site	4,800	$72-$132	1	✓	tents only	SD, HT, T, W, Shelter w/ electricity

[1] Standard site fees (prices are subject to change): ■ = extra fee for oversized sites * = extra amenity fee
+ = cost increases with group size ^= Operated by Fraser River Valley Lions Club

[2] Amenities:

A = accessible	E = electricity, extra charge	P = additional picnic area	T = trash
BR = boat ramp	HC = horse corral	S = showers	W = drinking water
D = RV dump	HT = trail accessible to wheelchairs	SD = softball diamond	WH = water hookup, extra charge

CAMPGROUND CLOSURES: *Campgrounds close periodically for Mountain Pine Beetle and other insect tree removal or preventative spraying. Check with districts for current campground closures.*

Campground Reservations

Call the National Recreation Reservation Service toll free at **1-877-444-6777**, or reserve online at **www.recreation.gov**.

- Reservations for most individual sites may be made 4–180 days in advance.
- Most sites are reservable Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend.
- Sites on the Pawnee National Grassland are reservable mid-April.
- Group sites may be reserved 4-360 days in advance.
- Sites at the Arapaho National Recreation Area require a 5–day advance reservation.
- There is a limit of four sites per reservation.
- Non-refundable reservation fees: $9-10 per site; $10 cancellation fee.

Reserve Your Place Under the Stars
National Recreation Reservation Service

What to Know? (continued)

Outdoor Safety ... It's Everyone's Responsibility

Whether touring in the backcountry or along the road, travel poses certain risks. You are responsible for educating yourself. In an emergency contact the local sheriff's department.

Travel

Driving on mountain roads requires extra caution. Some dirt roads may narrow to one lane. There may be blind corners—travel slowly and be prepared to stop in half the sight distance.

- Be sure to study a map before heading out.
- When sightseeing, use roadside-pullout areas to allow others to pass.
- Be aware of current forest road and highway conditions (see back cover for phone numbers and websites).

Communications

Tell someone where you are going, when you expect to return and what to do if you don't.

- Cellular phones often have sporadic or no reception in mountain and grassland areas.
- It is a good idea to travel in groups of four so if someone is injured, one person can stay with the injured person and the other two can travel for help.

If You are Lost

If you get lost or become disorientated, stay calm and stay put! Stop and pay close attention to your surroundings and landmarks; relate this to your location on a map.

- Panic is your greatest enemy. Stay calm and try to remember how you got to your present location.
- Trust your map and compass, and do not walk aimlessly. If you are on a trail, don't leave it.
- Stay put if it is nightfall, if you are injured or if you are near exhaustion.
- Keeping warm is more important than finding food and water.
- As a last resort, follow a drainage or stream downhill. This can be hard going but will often lead to a trail or road.

Storms

Storms form quickly in the mountains and on the plains. Bring clothing for all weather conditions—raincoats, jackets, fleece or wool. Remember to pack cold-weather survival gear in case you become stranded. Snow can occur year round at higher elevations.

- Avoid afternoon summer storms by heading out early and getting off mountain peaks and high points before storms arrive.
- If you see a storm approaching, get off of high points or away from lone trees or large rocks.
- If you are caught in a lightning storm, remove your pack and crouch with your hands on your knees until the worst has passed.
- Use caution crossing dry streambeds and low areas; sudden storms may cause flash floods.
- Check the weather before heading out (www.weather.gov).

Fire

Obey fire restrictions. There are some places where campfires are never allowed. For more information contact the local ranger district office.

- Build campfires away from low-hanging branches and in an area clear of vegetation.
- Do not leave fires unattended and be sure your fire is completely extinguished before leaving.
- Check for current restrictions and fire information year round on our recorded fire information lines at 970-498-1030 or 970-498-1031.

Essential Outdoor Items

- Maps and compass
- Sturdy footwear
- Drinking water
- Extra clothing and food
- Flashlight and/or candles
- Rain gear
- Matches
- Pocket knife
- Radio with batteries
- Insect repellent
- Whistle and mirror (to attract attention)
- Blankets (for your car)
- Tire chains and shovel (for your car)
- Personal safety equipment

Dehydration

The dry Colorado air draws moisture out of the body in all temperatures. While traveling, you may be miles away from a clean water source.

- Take and drink water wherever you travel on the forests or grassland.
- If you must drink water from a stream, boil or properly filter all free-flowing drinking water to kill *Giardia* and other parasites.

Altitude

The major cause of altitude sickness is going too high, too fast. Elevations in Colorado range from 5,000 feet to over 14,000 feet. Mild altitude sickness affects up to 30 percent of Colorado visitors. At higher elevations, the air becomes "thinner," which means you get less oxygen to breathe. Altitude sickness symptoms may include shortness of breath, nausea, heart palpitations, extreme thirst, weakness, headaches and "tunnel vision."

- If you experience any of these symptoms, slow down and drink water. If symptoms persist, proceed to a lower elevation and seek medical attention.
- Reduce the chance of experiencing "mountain sickness" by drinking plenty of water and avoiding caffeine, alcohol and heavy meals.
- Allow yourself time (1 to 3 days) to acclimate if arriving from lower elevations. The amount of time needed will depend on your physiology and total elevation changed.
- Ultraviolet radiation (UV) is increased two-fold at 10,000 feet compared to sea level. To prevent sunburn, wear sunscreen and a brimmed hat. Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes.

Hypothermia

Life-threatening hypothermia is possible even in mid-summer and is caused when the body's core temperature is lowered by cold and wind. It can happen even at temperatures of 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Symptoms range from feeling extremely cold to sluggish behavior, slurred speech or unconcern for the cold.

- Stay warm and dry; wool and some synthetic clothing help you stay warm even when wet.
- If anyone in your group begins to show symptoms, act immediately to re-warm them. Get out of the wind and rain, remove wet clothing, build a fire, and give hot liquids only if they are conscious.

Abandoned Mines

Abandoned mines can be safety hazards. Many of these structures contain dilapidated frames, open shafts and water-filled pits, and poor or lethal air quality. Dangers include old explosives, hazardous chemicals, snakes, spiders, mice, bats and vertical shafts.

Avalanches

About 2,300 avalanches are reported to the Colorado Avalanche Center in an average winter. About 98 percent of all avalanches occur on slopes of 25–50 degrees.

- Learn to recognize and avoid avalanche terrain and signs of unstable snow.
- Carry and know how to use avalanche rescue gear.
- Call the Colorado Avalanche Information Center for the latest mountain weather, snow and avalanche conditions at 303-275-5360 or check online at http://avalanche.state.co.us.

Pets

Leashes protect dogs from becoming lost and from hazards such as porcupines and mountain lions. Leashed dogs are less likely to intimidate or harm others.

- Pets must be under voice control or on a leash at all times.
- Dogs must be leashed in campgrounds, picnic areas, most wilderness areas and on some trails.

Forests and Grassland Creatures

Please help keep wildlife "wild" by not approaching or feeding them. If an animal approaches you, move away and maintain a safe distance.

- Use binoculars, spotting scopes and telephoto lenses to minimize stress to animals and provide a safe viewing distance for you.
- Be aware of various wildlife that may be in the area and how to prevent dangerous encounters.
- Check for wood ticks in the spring and early summer.
- Use insect repellent during mosquito season.
- Always secure your food and keep a clean camp.

You Can Help: Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are the heartbeat of the Forest Service and the ARP!

The Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland (ARP) are among the top national forests and grasslands for recreational volunteers in the country. Volunteers have dedicated thousands of hours of service and accomplished projects to enhance recreational opportunities across the ARP, and their support greatly influences the work that is accomplished every year.

Numerous opportunities exist for volunteers on the ARP, from trail work to education to restoration, and much more—almost anything except tasks associated with law enforcement. You can participate in a one-time project or serve over several months, seasons or year round in various programs. Every person who donates time makes immeasurable contributions to the land, our visitors and our employees.

Contact any local ranger district office to find out what opportunities are waiting for you, or check the web at www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/volunteers.

Northern Colorado was greatly impacted by heavy September rains in 2013. The ARP is among those areas affected by the flood. Due to flood damage, forest officials have closed some roads, trails and facilities on the Boulder and Canyon Lakes Districts. Volunteers are assisting with trail restoration.

Please use caution in all flood affected areas. For more information email us: arpflood@fs.fed.us or go online at www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/flood recovery.

Land Management for Multiple Uses

Recreation and So Much More!

While recreating, remember the land is managed for a variety of uses:

- Biodiversity and ecosystem sustainability;
- Air, soil, vegetation, water quality and water supply;
- Sustainable recreational opportunities (developed and dispersed), wilderness use and motorized travel; and
- Land uses and ownership.

Multiple-use management is complicated by:

- Private and public land intermix;
- Invasive species;
- Unmanaged recreation; and
- Fuels and fire.

Fraser Experimental Forest

The 22,400-acre Fraser Experimental Forest (FEF) was established in 1937 near the town of Fraser to study subalpine forests and water yield in the central Rocky Mountains. In 1976, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization designated the FEF as a Biosphere Reserve, dedicated to conserving the diversity and integrity of plant and animal communities. Although the FEF is primarily managed for research, most of this special area is available for limited public use. For information, call 970-726-5220. Please contact the Sulphur Ranger District office for nearby recreational opportunities and restrictions. Additional information is also available on the web at http://www.fs.fed.us/rmrs/experimental-forests-and-ranges/fraser-experimental-forest.

Mountain Pine Beetles and Fuels Management

The Mountain Pine Beetle epdiemic has passed. The impact of this infestation will affect the landscape for years to come. Trees can fall at any time. When visiting the forest, do not park, camp, or picnic under dead trees. The ARP's response to the beetle infestation includes timber harvesting, firewood sales and prescribed fires. We work to reduce the potential of wildfire in our communities, while keeping the public and firefighters safe, increasing forest diversity, and keeping recreation areas open to the public.

Order Form for Maps and the Interagency Annual Pass

National Forest and Grassland Maps

National forests and grassland maps include detailed information on campgrounds, roads, hiking trails and points of interest on land managed by the U.S. Forest Service. Maps also show the location of private land within national forest boundaries. Different forest maps may have different scales, but generally, the scale will be ½-inch to the mile (1:126,720). Maps come in either paper ($9) or plastic ($10). Plastic maps have a Mylar coating, are water-resistant and tear-resistant. There is no charge for shipping Forest Service maps.

U.S. Geological Survey Topographic Maps

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps— also known as quadrangle maps—show contours, roads, and geological and human-made features. These USGS maps have a 1:24,000 scale, are paper, and cost $8 each plus shipping. To find out the quadrangle name for the map you want, consult the quadrangle index (located on all national forest maps). You can also contact any retail store that sells topographic maps or call any ranger district office for assistance. Topographic maps can be ordered online at http://topomaps.usgs.gov/ordering_maps.html.

Purchase items at ranger district offices or by mail.
Questions? Call 970-295-6700.

Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price
Forest Maps – *(free shipping)*			
Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests – Plastic	_____	$10	_____
Pawnee National Grassland – Paper	_____	$ 9	_____
Other Forest and Grassland Maps *(Please call for pricing and availability of maps in Colorado, South Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska and most of Wyoming. Call or consult the web site www.fs.usda.gov/main/r2/maps-pubs*		$9 or $10	_____ (No shipping fee)
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Make checks payable to: USDA Forest Service.
For credit card purchases please call 970-295-6700.

Handy Numbers and Web Sites

ARP Central Office 970-295-6700
www.fs.usda.gov/ARP

EMERGENCY: 911 or _____ (fill in the blank depending on your destination – remember cell phones may not work in the forests or grassland)

ARP Fire Information
970-498-1030 or 970-498-1031
www.inciweb.nwcg.gov

ARP Forest Roads
contact local ranger district office
www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/roads

Colorado Avalanche Information
(November through April)
http://avalanche.state.co.us

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
(hunting and fishing)
303-291-7227
www.cpw.state.co.us

Colorado Highway Conditions
303-639-1111
www.cotrip.org

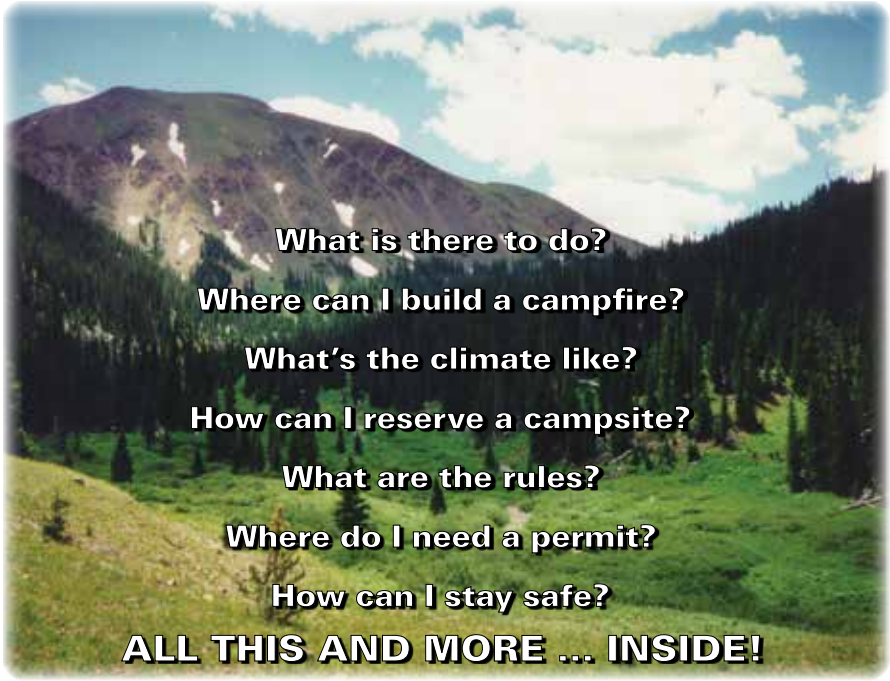
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
(register OHVs, snowmobiles and boats)
303-791-1920
www.cpw.state.co.us

National Recreation Reservation Service
(campground and cabin reservations)
877-444-6777
www.recreation.gov

State Fire Restrictions
www.dola.colorado.gov/dem/public_information/firebans/firebans.htm

Weather
www.weather.gov

Forest Maps
www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/maps



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