



staunton state park

FY 06-07 PARK FACTS

about the park

Staunton State Park is approximately 40 miles southwest of downtown Denver and lies in both Park and Jefferson Counties. 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 have significant riparian areas adding to the 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 06-07 (July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007)

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

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

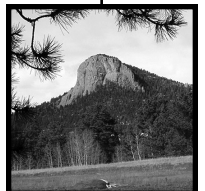
major buildings/structures

park office

seasonal work office

fire equipment storage

seasonal employee housing



top attractions

scenic and cultural history values

pre-development, ground floor novelty

contact information

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challenges

- Staunton does not yet have a master development plan. Once this is completed we will be able to proceed with full park build-out and will better be able to address challenges like access, fuel mitigation, and trail development. Colorado State Parks is moving forward with the master planning of Staunton State Park and will be facing many new issues in the planning process and selection of qualified consultants to carry out the development and opening of the park.
- We have not yet received an easement from the USFS to access the upper portion of the park. Without this easement, we are unable to continue pile burns and other fuel mitigation work. 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. Viable options include an easement from local private property owners, which would be the most desirable and least intrusive to the surrounding neighborhood; using the existing county right-of-way where the current road lies, which would affect all of the neighbors on Upper Ranch Drive, and coming through the Davis property and across property owned by parks, which would require a variance from the home owners association.
- Insect control and prevention projects have been conducted at Staunton State Park since the early 1980s. 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 seasonal employees*

4.0

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

number of volunteers*

108

total volunteer hours contributed*

8077

*These figures represent combined volunteer activity at Staunton and Chatfield.
Volunteer and volunteer hours figures are from calendar year 2006.

total operating budget

\$97,913

capital construction budget

\$58,798

total revenue generated

N/A

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.

partners

Colorado State Forest

US Forest Service

Colorado Division of Wildlife

Mile High Youth Corps

Southwest Youth Corps

International Mountain Biking Association

ratios

full-time staff to annual visitors

N/A

land acquisitions

FY 06-07

80 acres for \$1,200,000

