

STAUNTON STATE PARK

Park Zones

Lower Camp

This zone serves to greet and orient visitors to the 3,700 acre state park. The lower camp will be easily accessible and family-friendly complete with many opportunities for outdoor education through a variety of activities. This zone will also provide a secure overnight camping experience in close proximity to the Visitor's Center and Parks Office.

Improvements:

- Visitor's Center/Park's Office
- Entry Monument/Signage
- 40 - Tent Sites
- 10 - Car Camping Sites
- Camper Services Building
- 5 - Sleeper Cabins
- 3 – Comfort Stations
- Family Activity Area
- Outdoor Ed Center
- Interpretive Trails
- 3 Group Picnic Areas
- Wildlife Observation Area
- Fishing Ponds
- Visitor Parking/Bus Drop-off
- Trail Head for Multi-use Trail
- Horse Trailer/Car Parking
- Overlook/Activity Area
- Outdoor Classroom

Use and Activity:

- Hiking
- Picnicking
- Fishing
- Wildlife Viewing
- Camping
- Outdoor Ed Programs
- Outdoor Lecture
- Children's Play

Middle Camp

This area presents an opportunity to commemorate the precious gift that Francis Staunton has given to the State of Colorado. The historic Staunton Cabin will be the centerpiece of this zone with a museum/interpretive exhibits that tell the story of mountain ranching in the area. The rocky foothills in the zone allow for some unique primitive camping sites for individuals and groups. A small cluster of sleeper cabins will allow a special opportunity for small groups to hold mountain retreats.

Improvements:

- Staunton Cabin Museum
- Renovation to other cabins
- Group Cabin Area
- Group Camping Area
- Back-Country Camping
- Maintenance/Storage Facility
- Hiking Trails
- Activity Areas
- Trailhead with Parking
- Group Picnic Area

Use and Activity:

- Historic Education
- Outdoor Education
- Back Country Camping
- Group Camping (i.e. Scouts)

- Hiking
- Picnicking
- Retreat or Learning Site for Groups
- Maintenance and Operations Staging

Rocks Camp

This area, located at the base of the most accessible rock formation in the park, will serve as a base camp/check point for climbers, hikers and other more adventurous park visitors. The area will provide tools for learning about climbing and for team building activities. This zone will also provide a more secluded cabin experience at its western end, backing up to the National Forest. Opportunities for winter activities in this area will help extend the seasons of Staunton to represent a more year-round park experience.

Improvements:

- Base Camp Building
- 20 Back-Country Camping Sites
- Parking and turn-around
- Rocks Cabins
- Drop-off/Parking
- Ropes Course

Use and Activity:

- Climbing
- Primitive Camping
- Hiking
- Cross-country Skiing
- Overnight stay in cabin
- Team Building Exercise
- Outdoor Education
- Snowshoeing

Old Mill Site

Remnants of the Old Mill site, located just below Black Mountain provide a destination for hardy hikers, cyclists, and horsemen to get a glimpse of turn of the century industry in a pristine mountain environment. The zone also provides access to some expert climbing areas and an overlook area at the parks northern most perimeter of the park, just below Black Mountain.

Improvements:

- Mill Shelter (renovated bldg.)
- Interpretive Exhibit
- Trail to Black Mtn. Overlook
- Access to Climbing (expert)

Use and Activity:

- Hiking
- Climbing
- Biking
- Horse Riding

East Preserve

The north eastern reach of the site is a collection of dramatic cliffs, thick conifer forest and aspen groves. Mason Creek runs along the eastern edge of this rugged area allowing for significant wildlife migration to occur. The East Preserve will host a majority of the multiuse trail, allowing horses, bikes, and hikers to reach other destinations within the site. Much of this trail will following existing road alignments

from the site's historic use as a ranch. Leaders from the main trail will be implemented to allow access to magnificent views of the entire site.

Improvements:

- Multi-use Trail
- Overlooks
- Wildlife Observation Area
- Interpretive Trails

Use and Activity:

- Hiking
- Biking
- Snowshoeing
- Wildlife Viewing
- Horse Riding
- Outdoor Education

West Preserve

The western zone of the site promises to be the most popular destination in Staunton Park with Lion's Head looming above from every view and the magnificent Elk Falls drawing many visitors. The west side of the site is physically divided from the rest of the site by a mountain landform that allows western access only through a narrow corridor that is on USFS Property. The Elk Falls Cabin will provide an opportunity to develop a check-station for park use, emergency services, and during peak use as a possible secondary visitor's center with services or a meeting room. The West Preserve would be primarily for hiking, nature studies, outdoor education programs with some limited expert climbing. A series of yurts at the extreme western edge of the park would be provided as a very remote overnight camping experience.

Improvements:

- Elk Falls Cabin – Renovation
- Outdoor Interpretive Area
- Fishing – Stream and Pond
- Seasonal Access to Climbing
- Yurt Camping Meadow
- Interpretive Wetland Area

Use and Activity:

- Back-Country Camping
- Hiking
- Picnicking
- Outdoor Education
- Retreat or Learning Site for Groups
- Maintenance and Operations Storage

Trail System

The trails at Staunton Park will link all of the natural and man-made amenities of the park using as many existing road and trail corridors as possible. There will be two types of trails established within the park, multi-use, that allows hikers, mountain bikes and horses and single-track, hiking trails for pedestrian use only.

Multi-Use Trail (non-motorized) - 11.2 Miles

Hiking Trail (single-track) – 17.5 Miles