

Fishing at Colorado's State Parks



Fishing is available at 37 state parks across Colorado. Below are some highlights of fishing at state parks. For more information, visit www.cpw.state.co.us, Select A Park, then select Park Activities.

A valid fishing license is required for all anglers 16 years and older.

Arkansas Headwaters

Excellent fishing opportunities for every type of angler, whether fishing from the river bank or a boat. More than 65% of the river corridor is open to the public.

- Fish Population: The Arkansas River has a trout population consisting of 85% wild brown trout and 15% rainbow trout, with about 3,500 fish per mile.
- Boating: Fish from river bank or boat. There are 23 boat ramps along the 150 mile river corridor.
- Location: Along the Arkansas River, Leadville to Pueblo, CO.

Barr Lake

Great fishing, close to Denver/Boulder.

- Fish Population: Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) has stocked the lake with channel catfish, largemouth and smallmouth bass, rainbow trout, walleye, bluegill, wiper and tiger muskie.
- Boating: Only sailboats, hand-propelled craft, and boats with electric trolling motors or gasoline motors of 10 horsepower or less are allowed.
- Location: Short drive northeast of Denver, CO.

Boyd Lake

1,700 acre reservoir, open for year-round fishing.

- Fish Population: Catfish, crappie, trout, walleye, white bass, and yellow perch. Ice fishing in winter, when conditions permit.
- Boating: All types of watercraft welcome, with three boat ramps and a marina open in the summer.
- Location: Located in Loveland, CO.

Chatfield

Some of the best open water fishing in the Denver-area.

- Fish Population: Healthy population of bass, bluegill, carp, channel catfish, crappie, sunfish, and walleye. CPW stocks the reservoir with rainbow trout in the spring.
- Boating: Marina and floating restaurant.
- Location: Nestled next to foothills southwest of Denver, CO.

Crawford

Stunning scenery convenient to the Black Canyon of Gunnison, with great fishing on the reservoir.

- Fish Population: Bass, catfish, crappie, pike, yellow perch.
- Boating: All boats types welcome.
- Location: Located in Crawford, CO.



Eleven Mile

Gold-medal fishing opportunities exist throughout the year including multiple tournaments.

- Fish Population: Brown, cutthroat, and rainbow trout, northern pike and Kokanee salmon.
- Boating: Motor boats, sailboats, windsurfing and kayaking.
- Location: Located south of Lake George, CO, about 1 hour outside of west of Colorado Springs.

Jackson Lake

This "Oasis in the Plains" is a popular spot for anglers.

- Fish Population: Variety of warm and cold water species, including walleye, catfish and perch.
- Boating: All boats types welcome.
- Location: Located in Orchard, CO.

James M. Robb - Colorado River

5 sections of fishing waters along the Colorado River.

- Fish Population: Variety of warm and cold water species, including trout.
- Boating: Varies by location.
- Location: Located outside of Grand Junction, CO.

John Martin Reservoir

The reservoir offers excellent fishing year round. Some seasonal boat/access restrictions.

- Fish Population: Crappie, catfish, walleye, saugeye, white bass, wipers, black bass.
- Boating: All boat types welcome. Check park's web conditions for boat ramp access.
- Location: Located outside of Hasty, CO.

Lake Pueblo

4,000 surface acres of reservoir and four additional ponds adjacent to Arkansas River offer a diversity of fishing opportunities.

- Fish Population: Bluegill, catfish, crappie, bass, wiper, trout, walleye, and yellow perch.
- Boating: All boat types welcome.
- Location: Located outside Pueblo, CO.

Mancos

The calm waters of the Jackson Gulch Reservoir provide great family-friendly fishing.

- Fish Population: Stocked with rainbow trout.
- Boating: Canoes, kayaks and wakeless boating (boats cannot create a wake here).
- Location: Located outside of Dolores, CO.

Navajo

The 15,000 acre reservoir between Colorado and New Mexico welcomes anglers year-round.

- Fish Population: Catfish, crappie, large and smallmouth bass in the shallows as well as Kokanee salmon, northern pike and trout in the deeper water.
- Boating: All boat types welcome.
- Location: Located in Arboles, CO.

North Sterling

Popular for spring, summer and fall fishing on the shore or by boat.

- Fish Population: Excellent catfish, walleye and wiper, also rainbow trout, large and smallmouth bass, crappie, bluegill and northern pike.
- Boating: All boat types welcome.
- Location: Located in Sterling, CO.

Paonia

Beautiful reservoir surrounded by the Ragged Mountains.

- Fish Population: Northern pike and trout.
- Boating: All boat types welcome.
- Location: Located in Paonia, CO.

Pearl Lake

160 acre reservoir with ice-fishing opportunities when conditions permit.

- Fish Population: Cutthroat trout and grayling.
- Boating: All boat types welcome.
- Location: Located in Clark, CO (near Steamboat Springs).

Spinney Mountain

Gold Medal fishery on 2,500 acre reservoir with views of the Collegiate Peaks.

- Fish Population: cutthroat, brown, and rainbow trout, and northern pike.
- Boating: All boat types welcome.
- Location: Located south of Lake George, CO. Open seasonally from April to October.

Stagecoach

Home of the 2006 record pike, offers great lake and river fishing.

- Fish Population: Rainbow, brown, brook, and Snake River cutthroat trout, pike.
- Boating: All boat types welcome.
- Location: Located in Oak Creek, CO.

Sylvan Lake

The 42 acre lake, and 10 miles of mountain stream provide excellent fishing opportunities.

- Fish Population: Rainbow, brown, brook and cutthroat trout.
- Boating: Non-motorized boating.
- Location: Located in Eagle, CO.

Vega

Two-mile reservoir in the Grand Valley with ice fishing from December – March.

- Fish Population: Rainbow, brown, brook, and Snake River cutthroat trout, pike.
- Boating: All boat types welcome.
- Location: Located in Collbran, CO.

Yampa River

Great warm and cold water fishing opportunities along the river.

- Fish Population: Trout, smallmouth bass, northern pike, catfish.
- Boating: River boaters welcome.
- Location: Located in Hayden, CO.

*** Anglers:**

Help keep our waters and aquatic species healthy! Visit our Resources & Tips webpage for information on boat inspections and preventing the spread of aquatic nuisance species: cpw.state.co.us/Fishing/ResourcesTips.