

# White Rocks State Natural Area



- Owner: City of Boulder Open Space & Mountain Parks
- Originally designated in 1979; 105 acres
- Amended designation in 2023; expansion to 1477 acres

**Description of Natural Features:** White Rocks is the largest outcrop of Fox Hills sandstone along the Front Range. The assemblage of plants on the top of the rocks is unique; three state critically imperiled plant species are present: black spleenwort fern (*Asplenium adiantum-nigrum*), fork-tipped three awn (*Aristida basiramea*), and American groundnut (*Apios americana*). Numerous species of greatest conservation need occur here including grasshopper sparrow, various raptors, and plains topminnow. Researchers have recently discovered two species of lichen new to science at the site.

**Additional Info:** Most of the natural area is only open to the public through guided hikes led by Boulder OSMP staff. However, the recently expanded portion to the east can be accessed via the East Boulder- White Rocks Trail. For more information, visit the [City of Boulder OSMP website](#).



Learn more about CNAP:  
<https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/CNAP.aspx>

Learn more about City of Boulder  
Open Space & Mountain Parks:  
<https://bouldercolorado.gov/osmp>

