

**ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM**

Date: 11/21/2014

<b>ISSUE:</b>	<b>Should St. Vrain State Park allow boats with electric or gas motors of 10 horsepower or less to be launched and operated at a wakeless speed on Blue Heron Reservoir?</b>	
<b>DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):</b>		
<p>St. Vrain State Park currently only allows hand launched vessels that are hand propelled craft, sailboats, and boats with electric motors on all 10 ponds within the park.</p> <p>Since 2006, the park has been planning for and developing amenities that will allow for the opening of an 11<sup>th</sup> pond, named Blue Heron Reservoir in the summer of 2015. This 80 acre reservoir will offer a boat ramp, ANS inspection, and trailer parking. The lake management plan for this reservoir calls for allowing larger vessels propelled by electric or gasoline engines with 10 horsepower or less to be operated at a wakeless speed.</p> <p>Article II, #103 currently would prohibit trailer launched vessels at Blue Heron Reservoir, and only allow for hand launched vessels that are hand propelled craft, sailboats, and boats with electric motors.</p> <p>The desired outcome of this request would be to implement the lake management plan for Blue Heron Reservoir and allow larger vessels to launch at the boat ramp, operate electric or gasoline engines with 10 horsepower or less at a wakeless speed, provide a new recreational opportunity, and to provide the public with sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities while promoting visitor safety and stewardship of Colorado's natural resources.</p>		
<b>WHO ARE THE INTERNAL/EXTERNAL PUBLICS IN THIS ISSUE? WHAT INPUT PROCESS HAS OCCURRED?</b>		
<p>Colorado Parks and Wildlife Ben Pedrett - Park Manager – St. Vrain State Park</p> <p>St. Vrain State Park Master Plan, 2005</p>		
<b>ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):</b>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Article II Water Restrictions: #103.c.3: St. Vrain State Recreation Area, <b>except Blue Heron Reservoir</b>. A new regulation would also be created for Blue Heron Reservoir allowing hand and trailer launched vessels with 10 horsepower or less operated at a wakeless speed.</li> <li>No Action.</li> </ol>		
<b>Issue Raised by:</b>	Ben Pedrett	
<b>Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):</b>		
<b>CC:</b>	Tom Kroening, Margaret Taylor	
<b>APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:</b>	<b>STEVE YAMASHITA</b>	
<b>REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?</b>		<b>NO</b>
<b>ISSUE PAPER HAS BEEN EMAILED TO REG REVIEW MGRS GROUP?</b>		<b>YES</b>
<b>RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?</b>		<b>NO</b>

**ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM**

Date: 11/19/2014

<b>ISSUE:</b>	<b>Should Eldorado Canyon State Park limit or prohibit the use of portable grills and stoves (charcoal, gas, etc.) outside of designated areas?</b>	
<b>DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):</b>		
<p>On summer weekends and holidays the parking and picnic facilities at Eldorado Canyon State Park's (ECSP) picnic area are typically occupied prior to 11 AM and the entire Park reaches vehicle capacity before noon. Once vehicle capacity is reached, more than one hundred vehicles are often turned away while an occasional car is let in when random openings occur (totaling several hundred cars throughout the course of a day). Most of the people with the later vehicles want to picnic in the picnic area. Having to park at the lower end of the Park (one mile away) or illegally in the town of Eldorado Springs doesn't dissuade them from carrying their supplies to the picnic area. These people, finding all the tables and grills occupied, simply set up their picnic and grills wherever they can find space such as parking lots, grassy areas, and simply by the side of the road.</p> <p>The use of grills outside of the high use pads constructed in appropriate areas (surrounded by fire breaks such as roads and the creek) present an obvious fire hazard. Areas of tinder dry tall grass with overhanging tree branches would not be an area park management would designate for grilling. Perhaps a less obvious associated fire hazard is the fact that people may not properly extinguish and dispose of charcoal from their portable grills once they are done with their picnic, even if the grill is used on designated high-use pads. Charcoal used in permanent facilities is simply left in the grill and Park personnel maintain the grills. Much of ECSP is comprised of steep hillsides densely forested with Ponderosa Pine and Douglas Fir, with an abundance of fine and ladder fuels, exactly the environment fire behaviorists know to be particularly hazardous. This not only threatens Park natural resources, facilities (Visitor Center, etc.) and visitor safety but also the adjacent communities of Eldorado Springs and the Kneale Subdivision. Grilling outside of designated areas also exacerbates resource degradation as picnickers trample vegetated areas not intended to support such use. In recognition of these concerns, The City of Boulder and Boulder County prohibit fires outside of permanent facilities on their park lands, much of which borders ECSP.</p> <p>The desired outcome of this request would be to provide the public with sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities while promoting visitor safety and stewardship of Colorado's natural resources.</p>		
<b>WHO ARE THE INTERNAL/EXTERNAL PUBLICS IN THIS ISSUE? WHAT INPUT PROCESS HAS OCCURRED?</b>		
<p>Ben Pedrett - Park Manager - Eldorado Canyon State Park                  The current management plan addresses general issues related to reducing the risk of wildfire in the inner canyon.</p>		
<b>ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):</b>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>*Preferred Alternative*:</b> PARK SPECIFIC REGULATIONS 100.d.19: Eldorado Canyon State Park: a. The use of portable grills and stoves (charcoal, gas, etc.) is prohibited outside of designated high-use pads.</li> <li>PARK SPECIFIC REGULATIONS 100.d.19: Eldorado Canyon State Park: a. The use of portable charcoal grills and wood stoves is prohibited outside of designated high-use pads.</li> <li>No Action.</li> </ol>		
<b>Issue Raised by:</b>	Ben Pedrett	
<b>Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue): Steve Muehlhauser</b>		
<b>CC:</b>	Steve Muehlhauer, Tom Kroening, Margaret Taylor	
<b>APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:</b>	<b>STEVE YAMASHITA</b>	
<b>REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?</b>	<b>YES</b>	
<b>ISSUE PAPER HAS BEEN EMAILED TO REG REVIEW MGRS GROUP?</b>	<b>YES</b>	

<b>RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?</b>	<b>NO</b>
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**ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM**

Date: 11/24/2014

<b>ISSUE:</b>	<b>Should a new regulation be added that requires bear proof containers at Eleven Mile State Park?</b>
<b>DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):</b>	
<p>Human/bear interactions have become increasingly common within the campgrounds at Eleven Mile State Park in recent years, especially during years that follow late frosts or dry conditions. Areas most vulnerable are in the Backcountry campsites, Rocky Ridge Campground and North Shore Campground, but have occurred in each of the 9 distinct campground areas within the park. Signs are posted at each campground entrance at this sprawling campground operation that contains 320 campsites one can drive to, and 28 tent-only sites that users must hike or boat to. All trash cans in the park were switched over to bear-resistant containers several years ago, and bear-resistant food storage lockers are located in the tent-only camping areas for the convenience of the visitors to lessen encounters with opportunistic bears.</p> <p>Park staff spends a lot of time educating campers about the hazards of leaving coolers, food, pet food, hummingbird feeders etc. outside, in beds of pickups, or in other structures or vehicles with nylon, canvas, or other pliable materials. Most visitors comply and store food appropriately. Some fail to do so even after repeated contacts. In August and September, reports of bears in campsites occurred several times each week. While most reports stated that bears came through, got food left out in the open when they could, one visitor reported an aggressive bear that pushed repeatedly on their camper even though they had no food inside.</p> <p>This regulation is necessary to allow the park manager to formally designate campground areas where food must be secured in appropriate hard-sided vehicles or food storage lockers to minimize human/bear conflicts.</p> <p>Cheyenne Mountain, Golden Gate, and Mueller State Parks currently have the same regulation as the one being proposed for Eleven Mile.</p>	
<b>WHO ARE THE INTERNAL/EXTERNAL PUBLICS IN THIS ISSUE? WHAT INPUT PROCESS HAS OCCURRED?</b>	
<p>The park staff and the district wildlife manager are the current internal publics in this issue and have all had to deal with human/bear interactions at the park, and have been called out to deal with problem bears on occasion. The visitors camping at the park are the external publics in this issue. We receive complaints when people's food or equipment is affected, or campers are frightened by the sights, sounds or actions of the bears in the campgrounds. No formal process has been carried out to get public input about this proposed regulation change.</p>	
<b>ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):</b>	
<p>1. <b>*Preferred Alternative*:</b> Add the regulation mirroring the ones currently in place at Cheyenne Mountain, Golden Gate and Mueller State Parks allowing the park manager to designate areas within the park where food, trash and equipment used to cook or store food must be stored properly.</p> <p>“Where necessary to prevent or address bear/human interactions or related issues, the park manager may designate all or a portion of a park area where: food, trash and equipment used to cook or store food must be kept sealed in a hard-sided vehicle, in a camping unit that is constructed of solid, non-pliable material, or in a food storage box provided by the park for those persons entering the park in something other than a hard-sided vehicle or appropriate camping unit. This restriction does not apply to food that is being transported, consumed, or prepared for consumption. A hard-sided vehicle is defined as: the trunk of an automobile, the cab of a pickup truck, the interior of a motor home, fifth wheel, camping trailer or pickup camper. A hard-sided vehicle does not include any type of tent, pop-up campers or pickup campers with nylon, canvas, or other pliable materials, car top carriers or camper shells on the back of pickup trucks.”</p> <p>2. The other alternative is to do nothing, and have staff continue to try to educate people whenever</p>	

possible, without a formal designation for affected areas, which will likely result in continuing issues as bears pursue easy ways to try to put on as much weight as possible prior to winter .	
<b>Issue Raised by:</b>	Kevin Tobey, Park Manager
<b>Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):</b>	
<b>CC:</b>	Margaret Taylor, Tom Kroening
<b>APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:</b>	<b>STEVE YAMASHITA</b>
<b>REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>ISSUE PAPER HAS BEEN EMAILED TO REG REVIEW MGRS GROUP?</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?</b>	<b>NO</b>