

# Eldorado Canyon State Park: Planning for the Future

Update to the Colorado Parks & Wildlife Commission  
March 14, 2019



**COLORADO**

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

# Eldorado Canyon State Park

- Designated a State Park in 1978
- World-class rock climbing destination, popular for hiking and picnicking
- Annual visitation = 520,000 & projected to increase
- Limited space and facilities to handle demand
- Transportation issues
  - Traffic congestion
  - Illegal parking
  - Negative impacts on nearby community and open space lands



# Multi-use Trail Connection Feasibility Study

- Study initiated in 2014, completed in 2018
- Partnership with Boulder County Parks & Open Space/City of Boulder Open Space & Mountain Parks
- Studied possible alignments to expand biking recreation opportunities
- Identified a northern route as technically feasible
- Process has highlighted challenges of increasing visitation and current traffic congestion issues
- Partner agencies are delaying final decision until a comprehensive plan could consider these issues



# Visitor Use Management Plan

- Update park management plan (2000)
- Consider transportation planning in the context of visitor use & resource protection
- Develop potential management alternatives, including:
  - Shuttles
  - Permit or reservation system
  - Infrastructure improvements
- Consider adjacent community & public lands
- Public process kicks off summer 2019

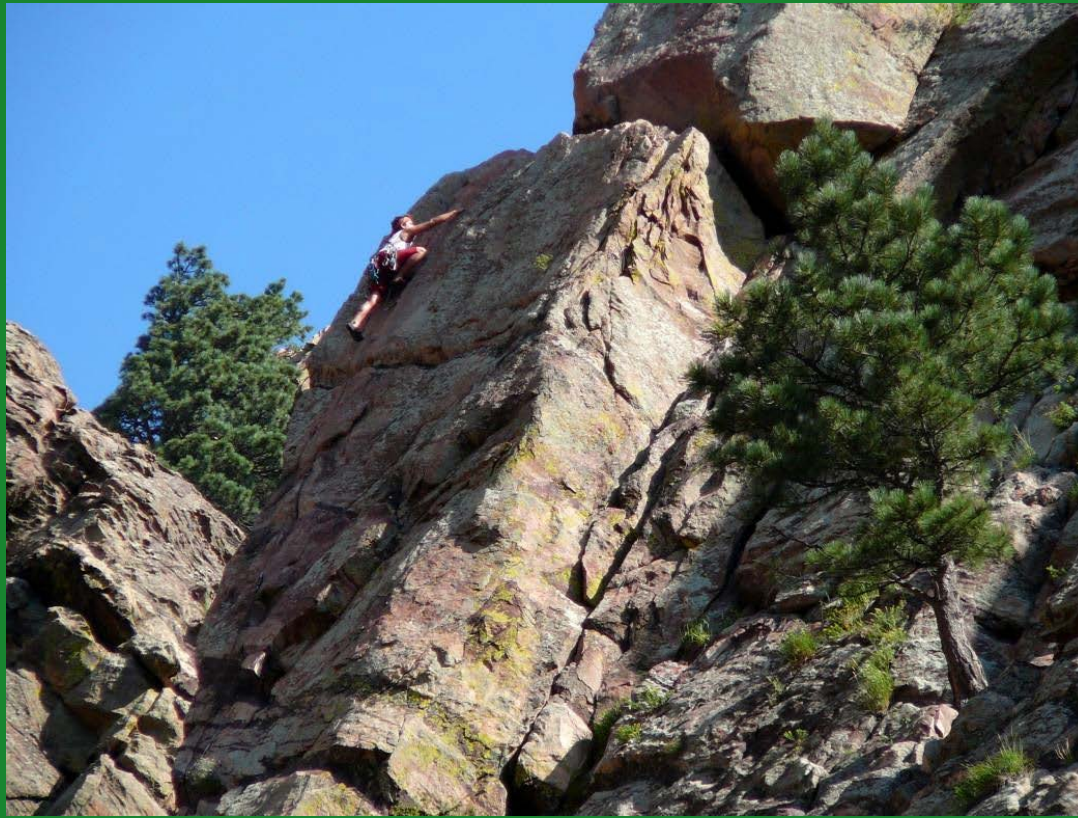


# Current & Pilot Efforts

## Current efforts to address traffic congestion

- Entrance station redesign to improve traffic flow - current CPW capital project, construction in late 2019, early 2020
- Ongoing discussions with Boulder County & Eldorado Artesian Springs on maintenance & improvements of road to the park
- Exploring shuttle bus pilot





Questions?



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