

# Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnerships

Parks and Wildlife Commission March 13, 2024



Jody Kennedy, Colorado Parks & Wildlife



# **Outdoor Regional Partnerships Initiative**

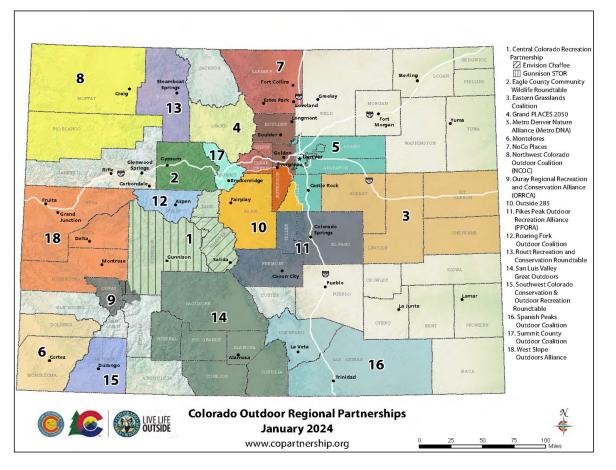
- Regional collaboration and leadership
- > Resources and information sharing
- Networking and coordination across regional and statewide initiatives
- Informing future funding investments







- 18 Regional Partnerships
- 70% of Colorado covered
- 31 grants awarded
- \$3,565,000 total funding









## **Conservation & Recreation Planning for Colorado**



**Statewide Plans:** Conservation, Recreation, Climate, Water, etc.

**Regional Partnerships:** Plans & Implementation



## Final Plan Released September 2024





**Outdoor Recreation Plan** 

## 2024-2028 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan



### Data Collection:

- Outdoor Recreation Participation Study
- Land Managers Survey
- Recreation Access Analysis

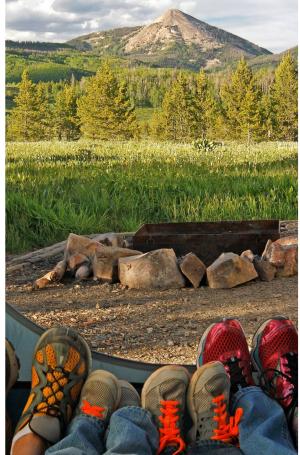
- Literature & Trends Review
- Engage CPW Public Comments
- Economic Contributions of Outdoor Recreation

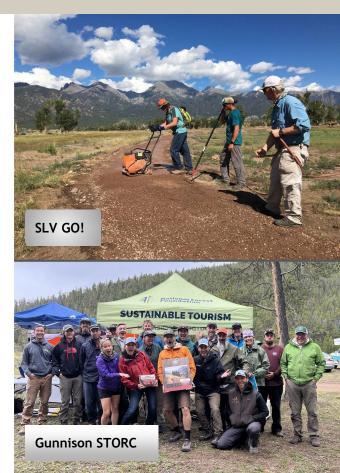




# **Outdoor Regional Partnerships**









PEOPLE | LAND | ACCESS | CONSERVATION | ECOSYSTEMS | SUSTAINABILITY

# NoCo Places

**Coalition Overview** 



A common voice for public lands

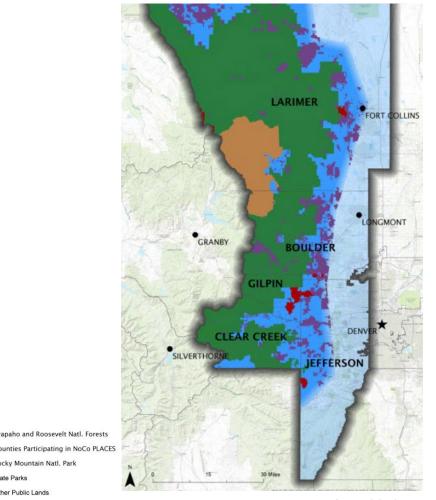


- Began meeting in 2018
  - Increased visitation to public lands in our region was impacting wildlife, the environment, and threatening the Colorado outdoor experience
  - United by a desire to protect and preserve what makes this region so special and a recognition that the solution requires landscape scale collaboration between all land agencies – county, state and federal
  - Formally signed our MOU in 2019; updated in 2024
- Our mission: collaborate to protect and conserve natural and cultural resources while providing equitable access and a quality recreation experience for current and future generations.



- U.S. Forest Service, Arapaho & Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland
- Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Northeast Region
- National Park Service: Rocky Mountain National Park
- Boulder County
- Clear Creek County
- Gilpin County •
- Jefferson County
- Larimer County •

Additionally, a larger NoCo partners group meets every other month and includes local groups and organizations related to conservation and recreation.



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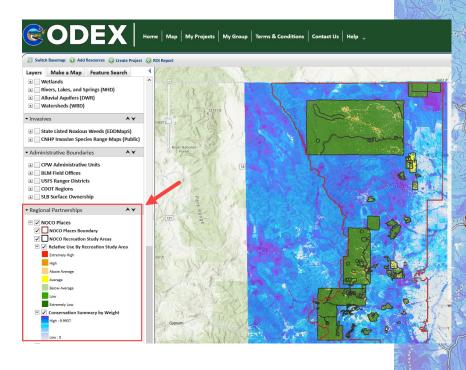


- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Communications and Common Messaging
- Conservation and Recreation Vision each agency will incorporate into their plans (e.g., Forest Management Plan Update)
  - Conservation Summary Map
  - Mobile Phone Data
  - Stakeholder Engagement
- Exploring Issue and Geographic-Specific Pilot Projects
  - Unauthorized Trails
  - Forest Service Concessionaire Opportunities
  - Pilots from Conservation and Recreation Vision
  - Others



#### Conservation Summary Map (codex.cnhp.colostate.edu)

- 1. Create free account
- 2. Go to Map tab
- 3. Choose layers under Regional Partnerships





## Mobile Data Dashboard

#### **NoCo PLACES 2050** MOBILE LOCATION DATA DASHBOARD

#### Introduction

This interactive dashboard enables comparisons of all locations by visitor origin. drivetime/drive distance, trends over time (patterns by year/month/day/day of week), demographics, and dwell time (how long users were at the location), and more.

The dashboard consists of several figures. For any figure, click the ① icon for additional information and definitions.

All views may be filtered by season or residential location in order to allow for the inclusion/exclusion of devices with inferred home locations within the boundary of a particular location. Additionally, observations within a bufferred radius of roadways may be included or excluded from all views. Access these options using the filter options above.

The figure at right shows the number of sites by entity.

#### 1) To begin, select an entity by clicking a bar at right.

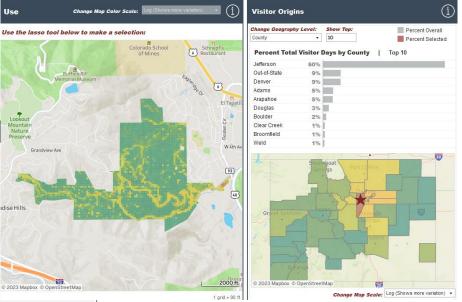
This will display the total visitor days for each location in that entity. A visitor day is defined as a unique device per location per day, i.e. one device id observed at a location on three different dates equals three visitor days. Overall visitor day counts should be thought of as a sample size, and caution should be used when making inferences about total visitation as the amount of available data may fluctuate over time or differ by location. This is due to a variety of factors such as available cell reception or a user's propensity to be on their mobile device while visiting the location.

#### 2) Select a location to view a map and additional metrics.

Use the bar charts to change entity or location selections.

Note: Because this dashboard runs on large datasets, selections may take several moments to load.

Sele	e Filter actions:	Residents: Exclude Season: (ALL)		hy Location	Lookout Mountain Nature	E.	
	an Entity:			by Looution	Preserve Grandview	v Ave	
	USFS: 20 Lo	cations			$\mathcal{A}$		
	Clear Creek (	County: 15 Location	IS		12	the state	- Haller - Haller
	Boulder Cou	nty POS: 9 Location	s		adise Hills	The second	A STREET
	Larimer Cou	nty: 5 Locations					
	Jefferson Co	unty: 5 Locations				Nr K	
	Gilpin Count	y: 4 Locations			© 2023 Mapbox © Op	enStreetMap	
	Fort Collins:	4 Locations					
	City of Bould	der OSMP: 4 Locatio	ns				
	State Parks:	2 Locations					



September 2023 |

MOVEMENT

Use

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- 16 focus groups conducted from November 2023 to January 2024
- 140 participants
  - Youth Stewardship & Education
  - Cycling & Mountain Biking
  - Tourism & Economic Development
  - NoCo Partners
  - Conservation NGOs
  - Motorized Recreation
  - Tribal & Indigenous Organizations
  - Non-Motorized Recreation
  - Water & Trails Stewardship Organizations
  - Commercial Outfitters & Guides
  - Climbing
  - All Abilities
  - Hunting & Angling
  - Private & Working Lands
  - Forest Health & Fireshed Planning
  - Historically Underrepresented Communities





- Our strength and success would not be possible without the funding support received from multiple sources over the years
  - Colorado Parks and Wildlife
  - Each of the eight NoCo Agencies
  - Colorado Department of Local Affairs
  - Great Outdoors Colorado
  - The Gates Family Foundation
  - The Boettcher Foundation
  - The Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation
  - Western Resource Advocates
  - Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation
  - The Colorado Forum
  - Mighty Arrow Family Foundation



- We have just begun
- The commitment of each NoCo agency is stronger today than ever before; each tremendous long-term opportunity and potential for greater collaboration, sharing management approaches
- Hiring part-time programmatic staff support
- Hiring a new full-time Executive Director by year-end
- Considering forming a 501(c)(3)



## NoCo Places *A common voice for public lands*

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