

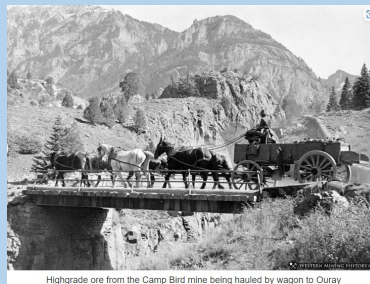
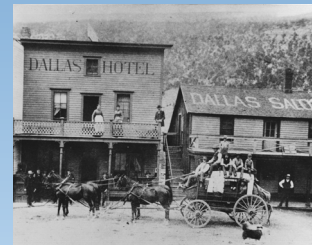
Ridgway State Park



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

Historical Land Use

- Native Ute People
- 1870's Mining and Transportation
- 1881 -1890 Dallas Town Site
- 1900-1977 - Agricultural Uses
- 1977-1988 - Dallas Creek Project
- 1989-Present – Ridgway State Park



Indigenous People



1833-1880 Chief Ouray
1843-1924 Chipeta



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

1870's Mining and Transportation



Dallas Townsite

1881 Town of Dallas Established
1887 Railroad Built
1888 Town Burned and rebuilt
1890 Ridgway Established



Archaeological Work at RSP
1975 Carpenter and Stiger
1976 Baker
1980 Buckles et. al
1992 Baker
2021 Loebiget. al
2023 Newberry-Cushman



1900-1977 Farming & Ranching



OURAY COUNTY RANCH HISTORY MUSEUM
Preserving Western Colorado Ranch Heritage



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

The Dallas Creek Project (Ridgway Dam and Reservoir)

1940's Thoughts Emerge on Storing Uncompahgre River Water

1959 Colorado River Storage Project

1968 Dallas Creek Projects Authorized

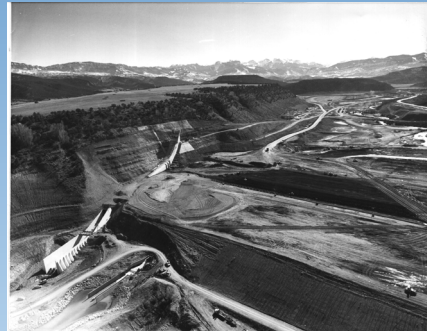
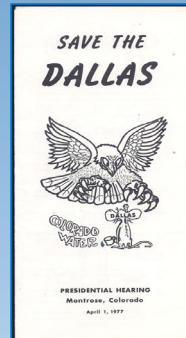
1977 Dallas Creek Project in Danger of Being Cut

1987 Dallas Creek Project Completed

1989 Ridgway State Park Opens



1974



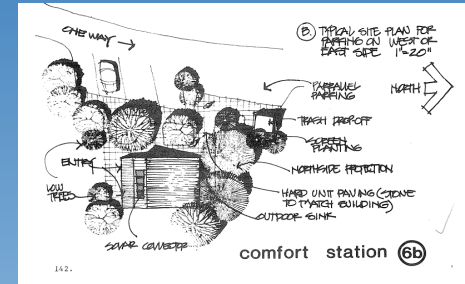
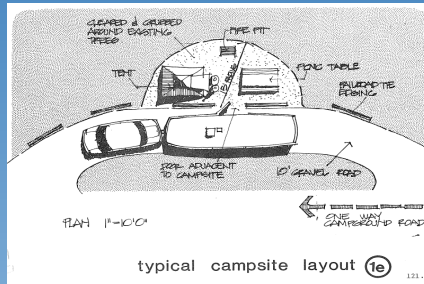
If You Won't Let Us Store
Our Own Water, Then Would
You Please Send Us Some!

WE NEED WATER IN
C O L O R A D O !!!



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

Ridgway State Park Opens 1989



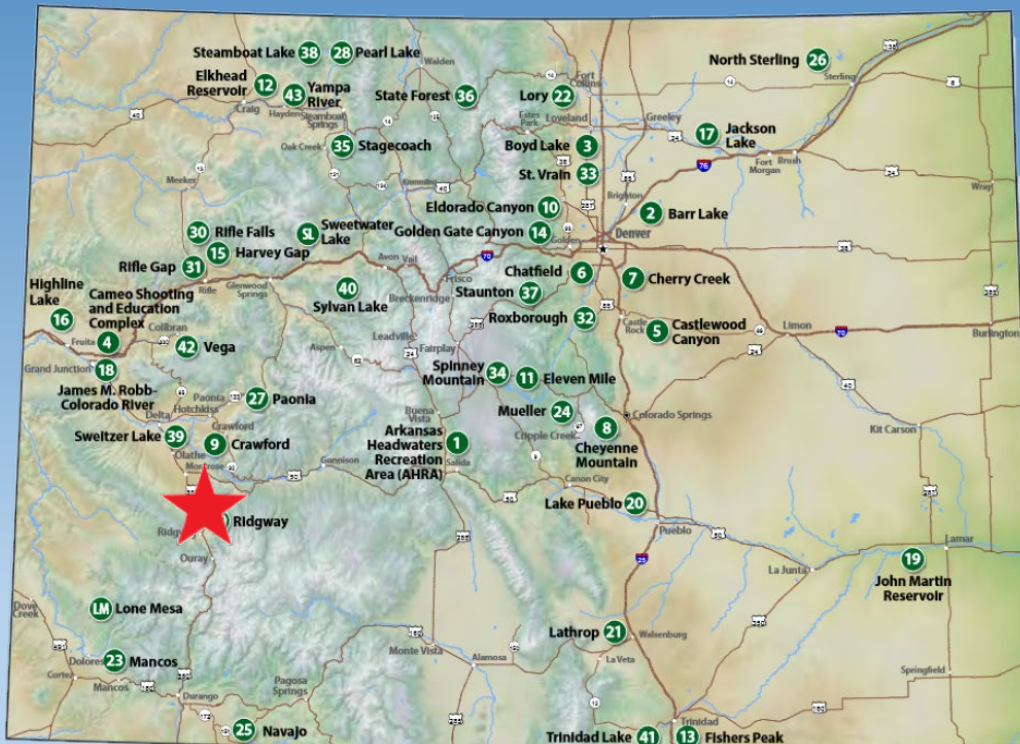
LIVE LIFE OUTSIDE

Ridgway State Park Today



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

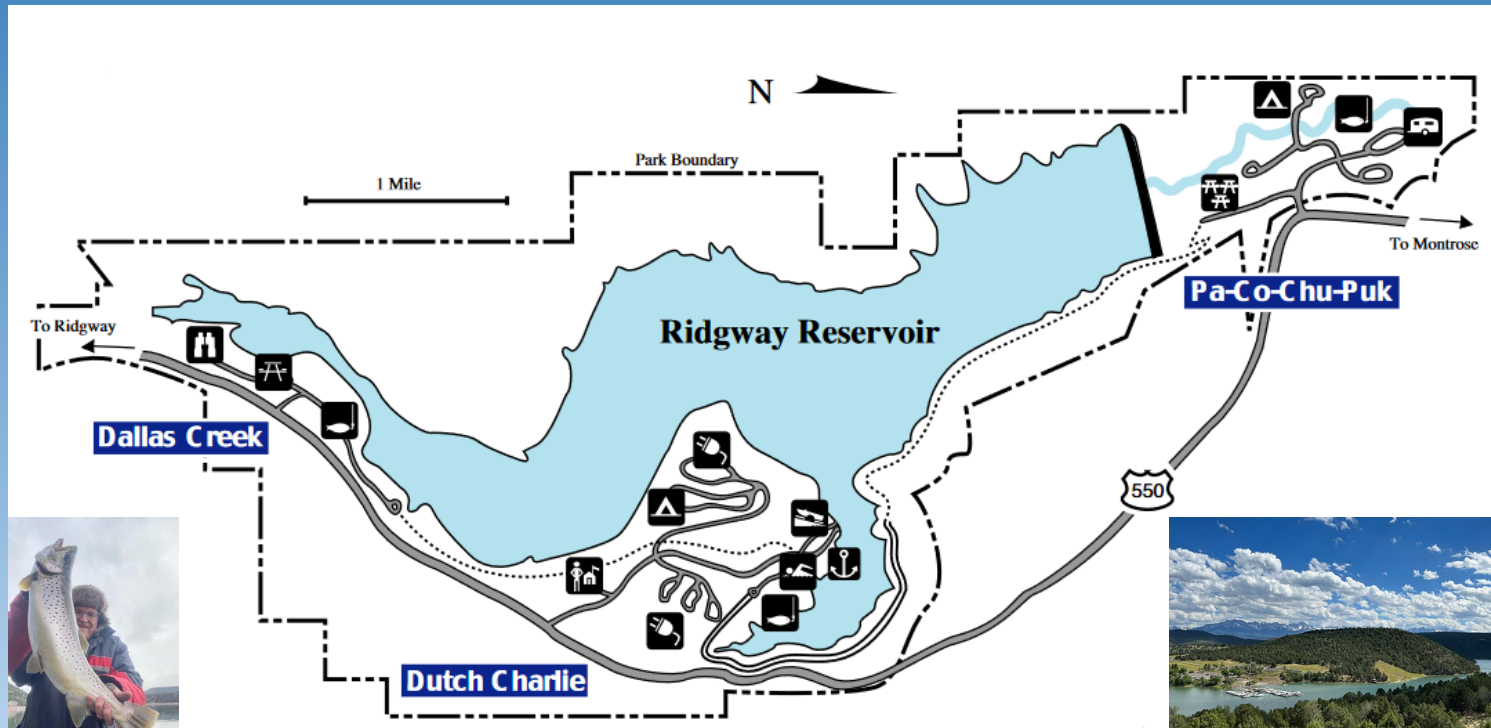
Ridgway State Park Overview



- House District 58
- Senate District 6
- Ouray County
- SW Region
- Property owned by Bureau of Reclamation
- Managed by CPW
- Reservoir managed by Tri-County Water



Ridgway State Park Overview



- Operating Budget: FY24 \$801,000
- Revenue: FY23 \$2 Million
- Visitation: FY23 913,000
- Local Economic Impact: \$48 Million
- 200 Developed Acres
- 1000 Acre Reservoir
- 3201 Total Acres

- 3 Entrances
- 298 campsites (various levels), 3 Yurts, 50 Picnic Sites
- 15.6 miles of trail & 16.3 miles of roads
- Swim beach
- Marina (Store, ramp, 38 slips, 21 buoys, rentals)
- Visitor Center & Gift Shop
- Event Facilities & Group Campground



Ridgway State Park Staff & Volunteers

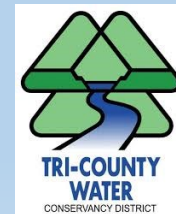
- 9 FTE
- Recently approved for an additional Ranger position
- 30+ SWP (May –October)
- 50+ volunteers (21,000+ hours a year)



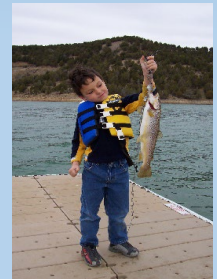
Ridgway State Park Partners

Our partners

- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Uncompahgre Trail Riders
- Friends of Ridgway State Park
- Colorado State Patrol
- Colorado Workforce Center
- Ouray County Government
- School District: RE1J, R-2, R-1 and 50J
- U.S. Forest Service
- Tri-County Water Conservancy District
- Town of Ridgway
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Telluride Adaptive Sports Program
- Gunnison Gorge Anglers
- Chambers of Commerce: Ridgway, Ouray and Montrose
- Great Old Broads for Wilderness
- Bird Conservancy of the Rockies
- Colorado Alliance for Environmental
- Youth groups: Boy Scouts and Voyager
- Blue Mesa National Recreation Area Education
- Black Canyon Audubon
- Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
- GOCO
- Friends of Colorado State Parks
- Friends of Youth and Nature
- Ute Indian Museum



Top Attractions



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

Ridgway State Park Programs

- Volunteer Program
- Education & Outreach
- Accessibility
- ANS
- Revenue
- Maintenance
- Stewardship
- Marina
- Law Enforcement & Emergency Operations
- Boating
- OHV/Snowmobile
- Trails



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

Ridgway State Park Updates

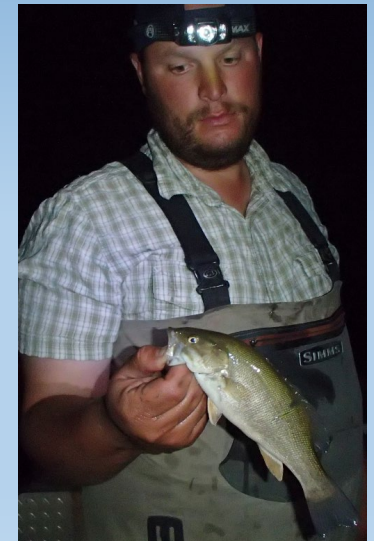
- Volunteer/Employee Campground
- Group Campground
- Lift Stations
- F&G Loop 50 Amp upgrades
- Fish Screen
- Walleye Introduction
- Accessibility Program
- Community Outreach



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

Ridgway State Park Challenges

- Aging Infrastructure
- Limited FTE Staff
- Employee Housing
- Increased Visitation & Natural Resource Protection
- Increased Workloads
- Small Mouth Bass
- ANS Threats



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

Ridgway State Park Moving Forward

The Future

- Maintain Existing Infrastructure
- Stewardship & Natural Resource Protection
- Continued Accessibility Upgrades
- Dark Skies Certified
- Leave No Trace Certified
- Facility Upgrades and Improvements
 - Restroom Improvements
 - Deck Replacements
 - Employee Housing Options
 - Office Space
 - Marina Store & Operations
 - Visitor Center Remodel
 - Archery Range



LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE

Questions?



LIVE LIFE
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