

Mancos State Park



Who we are

Mancos State Park is located in the heart of Mesa Verde Country and provides a great base camp for exploring all of southwest Colorado. The park is conveniently located near the Four Corners Monument, Mesa Verde National Park, the San Juan Scenic Byway, Durango and the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. The park's scenic campground, nestled within a mature Ponderosa pine forest at an elevation of 7,800 feet, offers cool comfort during the hot summer months. For those who desire a less rustic camping experience, two yurts with electrical outlets and propane gas heaters are available. Excellent fishing and wakeless boating await the visitor ready for a relaxing day on Jackson Gulch Reservoir, known to the locals as "Jackson Lake." A five-mile trail system weaves through the park, providing great nature watching for the hiker, equestrian, mountain biker or cross-country skier. When winter conditions permit, guests can also partake in a unique igloo camping experience.

Top attractions

- Excellent fishing throughout the year
- Cool, tree-sheltered camping within 30 minutes of Mesa Verde National Park
- Hiking trails connected to the extensive U.S. Forest Service trail network in the area
- Winter recreation, including cross country skiing, ice fishing and nearby snowmobiling

Our partners

- Businesses of the Mancos Valley, Durango and Cortez
- Southwest Conservation Corps
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Mancos Water Conservancy District
- U.S. Forest Service
- Mancos Valley Water Stakeholders
- Majestic Dude Ranch

Challenges we face

- Resource protection related to aquatic nuisance species (ANS): maintaining a high quality ANS inspection program with limited on-site facilities, relatively low boater volume and seasonal temporary staff members.
- Increasing utilities costs related to higher rates and increased year-round visitation.

Volunteer Activities

- Because the park does not have any full-time staff onsite, volunteers are critical to the operation of Mancos State Park.
- Volunteers are involved in campground hosting, operating the small entrance station, interpretation, outdoor education, entertainment and park maintenance, including fence repair and trail work.



CHRIS STARK/CPW

Mancos State Park

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Park Manager: Vacant

As of June 30, 2020

DUSTIN DOSKOCIL/CPW

Manager's Message

Mancos State Park provides a valuable niche of clean and well-kept facilities and is proud of its newly built welcome center. The basic nature of the park's infrastructure and its relatively small size have unique appeal. Fishing is wonderful here, making it a great place to bring a young or novice angler for an excellent opportunity to catch fish. I can't think of a better base camp in southwest Colorado for launching out to explore the incredible array of attractions across the Four Corners.

Geography

Region: Southwest
County: Montezuma
Year Acquired: 1988
Elevation: 7,800 ft
Miles From Denver: 362

Acreeage

Total Acres: 553

Governmental

US Cong Dist: 3rd
CO Senate: 6th
CO House: 59th

Employees

Permanent: 0.5
Temporary: 5
Volunteers (FY 22): 3
Volunteer Hours (FY 22): 1,158

Annual Visitation

FY 22: ~30,000

Facilities

Welcome Center
Boat Ramp
Dump Station
Group Picnic Area
Horse Trailer Parking
10 Picnic Sites

Trails

Biking: 5.2 miles
Hiking: 5.2 miles
Horseback: 5.2 miles
Cross Country Skiing/
Snowshoeing: 5.2 miles
Total: 5.2 miles

Recreation

Boating
Fishing
Geocaching
Picnicking
Ranger/Nature Programs
Volleyball
Wildlife/Bird Viewing
Winter Camping

Camping

Yurts (year-round): 2
Campsites (basic, seasonal): 9
Campsites (basic, year-round): 23
Igloo (seasonal): 1



DUSTIN DOSKOCIL/CPW