# St. Vrain State Park



## Who we are

St. Vrain is a perfect place for anglers, campers, birders, bikers, photographers and just about anyone who loves nature! Anglers find many opportunities to seek out their next big catch – the ponds in this popular park boast some of northern Colorado's best fishing. The park is a great place for campers and RVers traveling through Colorado. Park visitors enjoy breathtaking views of Longs Peak with lots of opportunities to spot a variety of wildlife. Winter wildlife at St. Vrain includes many waterfowl, deer and bald eagles.

## Top attractions

- Great fishing in the ten ponds stocked with rainbow trout, largemouth bass, crappie, channel catfish, bluegill, walleye and pike
- Camping conveniently located close to I-25 with 41 electric and 46 full hook-up (water, sewer and electric) campsites, many close to the park's ponds
- · Excellent wildlife viewing and bird watching opportunities
- Universally accessible fishing piers and multi-use trail system

## Our partners

- · City of Longmont
- Thorne Nature Experience
- St. Vrain Valley School District
- Weld County
- Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado
- Wildlands Restoration Volunteers
- Town of Firestone
- Frederick Firestone Fire Protection District
- Great Outdoors Colorado

# Challenges we face

- Due to increased popularity of camping and fishing and the encroachment
  of housing developments adjacent to the park, St. Vrain State Park is seeing increasing visitation. Efficiently managing the additional operation and
  maintenance costs associated with this increased visitor use is challenging,
  especially during tight state budgetary conditions.
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife has signed a non-surface occupancy agreement to develop the mineral resources underneath the park boundaries. As the extraction of these resources progresses, staff will need to continue to advocate and monitor for the integrity of all the natural resources under its stewardship, the quality of the recreation, and for the overall public health and safety of our visitors.
- Ecological restoration continues to be a focus of the park's maintenance program. Securing sufficient multi-year funding to implement an effective integrated noxious weed management plan remains a challenge.

### Volunteer activities

- The park campground host program continues to grow, providing full maintenance and friendly customer service to the 87 busy campsites and their campers. These dedicated volunteers allow park resource staff to concentrate on the many other maintenance activities in this maturing Front Range park.
- The Weld County Court-Ordered Volunteer (COV) program continues to grow and provide vital labor to assist with park maintenance projects.



/ERDON TOMAJKO/CPW

## Manager's message

We are excited to connect more with our neighboring communities. Trail connections to the east into Firestone and Frederick will complete the Front Range Trail into the park. To the west, we hope to one day complete the Front Range Trail into Longmont's St. Vrain Greenway system. Educational efforts with the St. Vrain Valley School District and Thorne Nature Experience helps connect 2nd graders to nature. Additional opportunities exist with the GOCO Inspire Initiative, Environment for the America's in Longmont, the Schools and Outdoor Learning Environments (SOLE) program, and by connecting people to the outdoors with skill-based experiences, like boating, fishing, camping and archery. We are also excited to continue our connection with stewardship projects, including trail building and plant restoration with youth groups like Weld County Youth Corps Wildlands Restoration Volunteers (WRV), and Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC) (corporate, youth and adult).

#### Geography

Region: Northeast County: Weld Year Acquired: 1965 Elevation (ft): 4,900 Miles From Denver: 30

#### Acreage

Total Acres: 689

#### Governmental

US Cong Dist: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> CO Senate: 17<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> CO House: 19<sup>th</sup>, 64<sup>th</sup>

#### **Employees**

Permanent: 5 Temporary: 5 Volunteers (FY 22): 79

Volunteers (1 1 22), 77

Volunteer Hours (FY 22): 6,715

#### **Annual Visitation**

FY 22: ~240,000

#### **Facilities**

Dump Station Fishing Piers Picnic Sites, 14 Showers

#### Roads

Paved: 1.4 miles Unpaved: 4 miles

#### **Trails**

Biking: 7 miles Hiking: 7 miles Multi-use (paved): 2.5 miles Cross Country Skiing/

Snowshoeing: 7 miles

Total: 7 miles

#### Recreation

Boating
Fishing
Ice Fishing
Biking
Ice Skating
Picnicking
Panger/Nat

Ranger/Nature Programs Wildlife/Bird Viewing Winter Camping

#### **Camping**

Campsites (electrical, year-round): 20 Campsites (electrical, seasonal): 41 Campsites (full-hookup, year-round): 20 Campsites (full-hookup, seasonal): 46



