



PRIME FISHING
South Park Ranger District
P.O. Box 219, Fairplay, CO 80440
(719) 836-2031
www.fs.fed.us/r2/psicc/sopa



All of the fishing areas listed are regulated by the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) and are open to the public. CDOW stocks many of the lakes and streams; for a recording of their stocking report, call (303) 291-7531; for a recording of fishing conditions, call (303) 291-7534; or visit their web site at www.wildlife.state.co.us/fishing. Please consult the current Fishing Season Property and Directory Guide for information on bag and possession limits as well as license fees and other regulations. Some of the areas listed here are surrounded by private property and permission to hunt and fish on these lands is required. This also includes Colorado state trust lands..

There are 5 reservoirs and numerous lakes on the South Park Ranger District. Jefferson Lake is the largest lake. The main stream fishing occurs on the North, Middle and South Forks of the South Platte River; however, smaller creeks and streams also offer good fishing.

ANTERO RESERVOIR

- Open year round. Ice fishing is permitted; ice fishing shelters must be portable.
- Motorized & non-motorized boats are allowed; no size restrictions.
- Fishing from shore and from belly boats is allowed; no bodily contact is allowed with water (no jet skies).
- Campers must stay in one of the 44 designated primitive campsites around the reservoir. Sites are first-come, first-serve. Site have a picnic table and fire ring.
- No fee for camping, but anyone in area must possess a valid fishing license or a habitat stamp (if they are 19 to 64 years old).
- Facilities include some vault toilets and boat ramps (between 4 a.m. and 9 p.m.); no electrical hook-ups.
- Dogs must be on a leash at all times.
- No off-highway vehicles allowed.
- No access to North shore or the South dam parking area at night.
- Fish include rainbow, splake, brown and cutthroat trout.
- Owned and managed by the Denver Water Board. (Elevation 7,360 ft; 4,102 acres)

ELEVENMILE RESERVOIR

- Open year-round; ice fishing is permitted..
- A state parks pass is required at this area; Camping is allowed in designated sites only; reservations may be made.
- Facilities include 349 developed campsites, picnic tables, fire rings, restrooms, showers, drinking water, RV dump stations and laundry. Electrical hook-ups in one campground only. Boat ramps and fishing jetties are also available.
- Motorized and non-motorized boats are allowed, as well as belly boats.
- Water-contact sports such as swimming, water-skiing, wading and scuba diving are prohibited. Wind surfing is permitted.

- Fish include rainbow, brown, & cutthroat trout, kokanee salmon, northern pike & carp.
- Sudden storms, strong winds and high waves can develop quickly and underwater hazards are not always marked.
- Public access is prohibited on all islands and the southeast side of the dam.
- Owned by the Denver Water Board and managed by Colorado State Parks (Elevation 8,687 ft; 3,400 acres).

MONTGOMERY RESERVOIR

- Open from June 1 to November 30, but opening is weather-dependent.
- No boats of any kind allowed.
- No camping allowed around reservoir.
- Fishing is allowed only from shore; public swimming is not allowed. Fishing is prohibited on the South side of the reservoir and from the West face of the dam as posted.
- Fish include rainbow trout.
- Owned and managed by the City of Colorado Springs. (Elevation 10,820 ft; 80 acres)

SPINNEY MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR

- A state parks pass is required at this area; this is a day-use only area; no camping allowed.
- Facilities include restrooms, picnic tables and drinking water.
- Opening is weather dependent when ice-off occurs (usually open May 1- Nov 15).
- Motorized and non-motorized boats are allowed, as well as belly boats.
- Water skiing & swimming are prohibited; windsurfing is allowed.
- Fish include trophy-size cutthroat trout, northern pike, rainbow and brown trout.
- Special fishing restrictions apply; see current fishing brochure; Gold Medal Waters.
- Owned by the Denver Water Board and managed by Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (Elevation 8,687 ft; 2,500 acres).

TARRYALL RESERVOIR

- Open year-round; ice fishing is permitted.
- Motorized and non-motorized boats are allowed.
- Fishing from shore and belly boats is allowed; public swimming is not allowed. Public access is prohibited on the dam.
- There are approximately 100 primitive campsites around the reservoir; facilities include vault toilets, drinking water, boat ramps and fishing jetties.
- No fee for camping, but anyone in area must possess a valid fishing license or a habitat stamp (if they are 19 to 64 years old).
- Fish include rainbow, brown, and cutthroat trout and northern pike.
- Owned and managed by the Colorado Division of Wildlife (Elevation 8,860 ft; 175 acres)

JEFFERSON LAKE

- Opening is weather dependent; usually opens between Memorial Day weekend and June 15.
- Motorized and non-motorized boats allowed; however, boats are not allowed to make a wake.
- Fishing from boats, shore and belly boats is allowed; ice fishing is permitted but is access dependent; swimming and wading is allowed if you can stand the cold.
- Fish include rainbow trout and mackinaw.
- Owned and managed by the USDA Forest Service. (Elevation 10,687 ft; 145 acres)

ALMA STATE WILDLIFE AREA
(MIDDLE FORK OF THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER)

- Open year-round but is access dependent; day-use only area; no camping allowed.
- Anyone in the area must possess a valid fishing license or a habitat stamp (if they are 19 to 64 years old).
- Access from State Hwy 9 near Alma.
- Fish include rainbow, brown and cutthroat trout.
- Facilities include restrooms and primitive campsites.
- Owned and managed by the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW).

63 RANCH STATE WILDLIFE AREA
(SOUTH FORK OF THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER)

- Open year-round but is access dependent; day-use only area; no camping allowed; no facilities.
- Anyone in the area must possess a valid fishing license or a habitat stamp (if they are 19 to 64 years old).
- Access from US Hwy 285 approximately 10 miles south of Fairplay.
- Fish include rainbow, brown and cutthroat trout. Owned and managed by the Colo Div of Wildlife (CDOW).

TOMAHAWK STATE WILDLIFE AREA
(MIDDLE FORK OF THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER)

- Open year-round but is access dependent; this is a day-use only area; no camping or fires are allowed.
- Access allowed on designated roads only.
- Fish include rainbow, brown and cutthroat trout.
- Prime flyfishing area; Gold Medal Waters; special regulations apply; see current fishing brochure.
- Anyone in the area must possess a valid fishing license or a habitat stamp (if they are 19 to 64 years old).
- Access from two points along State Hwy 9 between Fairplay and Hartsel.
- Owned and managed by the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW)

FAIRPLAY BEACH

- Open year-round; this is a day-use only area; no camping allowed.
- Owned and managed by the Town of Fairplay.
- Fish include rainbow/cutthroat trout.
- From traffic light in Fairplay go south ½ mile on US Hwy 285 to Platte Drive (by Pizza Hut).
- Facilities include restroom & fishing dock.

BEAVER CREEK

- Open year-round but Beaver Creek Road (FDR 659) is closed during spring thaw.
- Public fishing as the waters flow through USDA Forest Service Land.
- Swimming and wading allowed if you can stand the cold.
- Fish include cutthroat, brook and rainbow trout.
- Primitive camping allowed; no facilities.

CROOKED & TROUT CREEKS

- Open year-round but Crooked Creek Road (FDR 669) is closed during spring thaw.
- Access from FDR 194.
- Public fishing as the waters flow through USDA Forest Service land.
- Swimming and wading allowed if you can stand the cold.
- Fish include brook trout.

FOURMILE CREEK

- Open year-round unless FS Road 18 is closed by snow.
- Public fishing as the waters flow through USDA Forest Service land.
- Swimming and wading allowed if you can stand the cold.

DREAM STREAM (SOUTH FORK OF THE SOUTH PLATTE BETWEEN SPINNEY & ELEVENMILE RESERVOIRS

- Open year-round.
- State Parks Pass is not required.
- Gold Medal Waters; special restrictions apply.
- Fish include large browns, rainbows and cutbows.

ELEVENMILE CANYON (SOUTH FORK OF THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER)

- Open year-round.
- Special restrictions on upper two miles of canyon.
- Fish include wild browns and rainbows.
- Daily use fee of \$5 or annual pass (\$40.00) required.

TARRYALL CREEK

- Open year-round but is access dependent.
- Best access is near Spruce Grove and Selkirk Campgrounds.
- Swimming and wading allowed if you can stand the cold.
- Fish include brook trout.
- Recreational Gold Panning allowed (near Spruce Grove and Selkirk Campgrounds)

KITE LAKE

- Open year-round but is access dependent.
- Boats are not appropriate for this lake.
- Swimming and wading allowed if you can stand the cold.
- Fish include rainbow trout.
- Facilities include parking area, vault toilets and 5 designated campsites with picnic tables; no campfires are allowed.
- This is a fee area. (\$8.00 camping; \$3.00 for parking.)
- Owned and managed by the USDA Forest Service. (Elevation 12,000 ft; 6 acres).

LAKE EMMA

- Open year-round but is access dependent.
- Boats are not appropriate for this lake.
- Swimming and wading allowed if you can stand the cold.

- Fish include rainbow & cutthroat trout.
- No motorized access; hike in 1 mile to access.
- Owned & managed by the USDA Forest Service (Elevation 12,600 ft; 9 acres)

WHEELER LAKES

- Open year-round but is access dependent.
- Boats are not appropriate for this lake, which is reachable only via a very difficult 4WD road.
- Swimming and wading allowed if you can stand the cold.
- Fish include rainbow and cutthroat trout.
- Access from SH 9 and CR4 to FDR408.
- Owned & managed by the USDA Forest Service (elevation 12,280 ft; 4 acres & 28 acres, respectively).

COONEY LAKE

- Open year-round but is access dependent.
- Boats are not appropriate for this lake.
- Swimming and wading allowed if you can stand the cold.
- Fish include cutthroat trout.
- Owned & managed by the USDA Forest Service (elevation 12,600 ft, 8 acres).
- From Alma take CR 12 to FDR 452, then short 4WD to lake.

TWELVEMILE LAKES

- Open year-round but is access dependent.
- No motorized access; 1 mile hike to lakes.
- Swimming and wading allowed if you can stand the cold.
- Fish include brook and cutthroat trout.
- Five miles S. of Fairplay, take FDR 20 west approximately 6 miles to FDR 175. FDR 175 south 1 mile to FDR 173. Follow 173 to end of road and trailhead #684.
- Owned & managed by the USDA Forest Service (elevation 11,580; 3 acres & 8 acres, respectively)

RUBY LAKE

- Open year-round but is access dependent.
- Boats are not appropriate for this lake.
- Swimming and wading allowed if you can stand the cold.
- Fish include cutthroat trout.
- Owned & managed by the USDA Forest Service (elevation 11,850; 2 acres)
- Five miles south of Fairplay, take CR5 to CR 22. Follow this route to Weston Pass. Lake is at the top of the pass

For more information, please contact South Park Ranger District at (719) 836-2031.