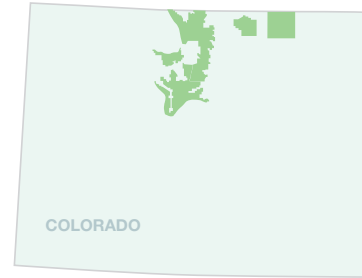


Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland



Grandview



Current Issues

Forest Health and Fuels

Grand County, Colorado, home to the Sulphur Ranger District, is the epicenter of the state's bark beetle epidemic. The epidemic is spreading to all other units on the forest, affecting a greater area and more communities and people. Hazardous fuels reduction continues to be a major issue on the forest. In 2002, the forest became part of the Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership with the goals of substantially increasing the rate of hazardous fuels reduction and restoring ponderosa pine. The partnership has been successful with an almost 400-percent increase in acres treated annually. The forest is also actively involved with the Front Range Roundtable, a diverse group of organizations with an interest in facilitating hazardous fuels reduction and ponderosa pine restoration. While the acres treated has increased substantially, the effort has not yet reached the goals set in the original partnership strategy. Higher project costs and overall funding limitations are the major obstacles to further increasing treatment acreage.

Wind Generation

The Clear Creek Ranger District, Idaho Springs, Colorado, has received an application for installation of meteorological towers and a more-than-50-turbine wind farm overlooking Georgetown, Colorado, and the I-70 scenic corridor. The Forests and Grassland strongly support green energy production. However, just as with any other activity on National Forest System lands, the effects of implementing this project will need to be analyzed, especially the effects on the Mount Evans scenic corridor, viewshed and wilderness, and an associated proposed roadless area. The forest has also received some interest in adding additional towers to the existing Cedar Creek Wind Project located adjacent to the Pawnee National Grassland, near Ault, Colorado. The additional towers are proposed for placement on grassland jurisdictional lands.

Water Diversion and Development

The forest is the source of most of the water for irrigation, municipal, and industrial use along the northern Front Range. The forest contains seven major and many smaller reservoirs;

Headquarters

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Ranger Districts

Boulder Ranger District

District Ranger: Christine Walsh
2140 Yarmouth Avenue
Boulder, Colorado 80301
303-541-2500

Canyon Lakes Ranger District

District Ranger: Position Vacant
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970-295-6700

Clear Creek Ranger District

District Ranger: Daniel Lovato
PO Box 3307
101 Chicago Creek Road
Idaho Springs, Colorado 80452
303-567-3000

Pawnee National Grassland

District Ranger: Lori Bell
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Greeley, Colorado 80631
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Sulphur Ranger District

District Ranger: Craig Magwire
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12 trans-basin diversions, of which five cross the Continental Divide; and hundreds of large and small ditches, diversions, pipelines, and water developments. Water in the forest is critical for aquatic and riparian life and is also essential for recreational and aesthetic uses. Four major water infrastructure projects within or adjacent to the forest are currently undergoing environmental review.

Recreational Shooting

Centered at the Boulder Ranger District, the recreational shooting issue is already affecting the forests and grassland. Three key elements in this issue follow: The intermix pattern on the forests and

grassland lends itself to conflicts generated by noise and safety in association with recreational shooting; municipalities, counties, and other resource management agencies no longer allow unmanaged shooting, commonly called plinking, and all of this use is focused on National Forest System lands; and recreational shooting causes a considerable amount of vandalism and recreational damage. The forest is currently working as part of group called the Front Range Shooting Sports Partnership to provide safe, environmentally self-sustaining shooting ranges and other appropriate dispersed recreational opportunities along the Front Range.

Forest Size	Total land area is 2,073,308 acres within the following units, all in Colorado: Arapaho National Forest - 770,604 acres Roosevelt National Forest - 1,088,376 acres Pawnee National Grassland - 214,328 acres		
Number of Employees - Permanent	215		
Number of Employees - Seasonal	250		
Average Annual Budget	\$19,374,000		
Elevations	Lowest - 4,300 feet above sea level Highest - 14,270 feet above sea level		
Wilderness Areas	Byers Peak Cache La Poudre Comanche Peak Indian Peaks	James Peak Mount Evans Neota Never Summer	Rawah Vasquez Peak
Wild and Scenic Rivers	Cache La Poudre Wild and Scenic River		
National Scenic or Historic Trails	Continental Divide National Scenic Trail		
National Recreation Areas	Arapaho National Recreation Area		
Scenic Byways	Cache La Poudre Scenic and Historic Byway Guanella Pass Road Mount Evans Scenic Byway Pawnee Pioneer Trails Peak to Peak Scenic and Historic Byway		
Outfitter Guides	77 outfitter guides		

Grazing	176 active allotments on 551,890 acres 137 term grazing permits
Forest Management and Timber	Timber Volume Sold in fiscal year 2008 – 22,787 ccf Forest Vegetation Improved in fiscal year 2008 – 1,088 acres
Hazardous Fuels Reduction Treatments	17,937 acres in fiscal year 2008
Unique Features or Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Cache La Poudre River within the Canyon Lakes Ranger District is the only Wild and Scenic River in Colorado.• The Arapaho National Recreation Area on the Sulphur Ranger District is the only Forest Service-managed national recreation area in Colorado.• The forest is among the top three most-visited national forests in the United States.
Web Address	http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/arnf/