

# Colorado State Parks North Sterling State park FY09-10



#### who we are

Majestic bluffs and expansive views along with diverse wildlife viewing opportunities provide a memorable recreational experience at North Sterling State Park. This boater's paradise offers nearly 3,000 acres of pristine waters, providing an interesting array of coves for recreation visitors to explore. The large, deep reservoir provides water related activities throughout summer months, even in drought years. The park offers a wide variety of recreational opportunities: trails, star gazing, horseback riding, fishing, boating, and hunting.

Visitors to North Sterling State Park spend about \$4.7 million annually in local communities. Source: Corona Research, Colorado State Parks Marketing Assessment, "Visitor Spending Analysis 2008-2009."

#### top attractions

- Cottonwood Cove swim beach and pavilion.
- Excellent warm water fishing opportunities.
- More than six miles of trail along reservoir shore line.
- Excellent star gazing opportunities.
- Camping, boating, water skiing, sailing, and wind surfing opportunities.

#### our partners

- North Sterling Irrigation District
- Colorado State Land Board
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- City of Sterling

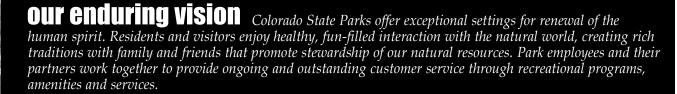
- Behavioral Intervention
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- Sterling Elks Lodge #1336
- Sterling Boat Club

- Northeastern Junior College
- Sterling Correctional Facilities, Department of Corrections
- · Bayside Boat Club

#### challenges we face

- The reservoir is closed to boating from October 1st to April 14th due to reductions in staff and budgets. This will affect boaters interested in off-peak season boating.
- High irrigation demands drop the reservoir's water level in late summer.
- The park staff implemented an educational effort aimed at recreational boaters, designed to prevent the spread of zebra mussels and other aquatic nuisance species.







## north sterling state park

### statistics and ratios

Visitation FY 09-10: 101,475

Estimated expenditures within 50 miles of the park: \$4,706,863 (2008-2009)

Full-time staff: 3

Visitor to full-time staff ratio: 33,825:1

Temporary employees: 11

Volunteers: 158

Volunteer hours contributed: 2,641

County: Logan

Congressional District: 4

State Legislative Districts

Senate: 1 House: 65

#### expenses/revenue

Total operating expenses: \$562,805

Total construction expenses: **\$0** 

Total revenue generated: \$195,526

Self-sufficiency ratio: 35%

(FY 09-10 revenue/operating expense)

#### park inventorv

Year became a state park: 1992 Land acres: 2,820 Water acres: 2,895 Elevation: 4,065'

**Ownership** 

State parks: 19% Other: 81%

Miles of Roads

Paved: **1.9** Unpaved: **3.7** 

Miles of Trails

Hiking/biking: 7.0
Horse: 3.5
Boat ramps: 2
Marinas: 1
Campsites: 141
Picnic sites: 38
Concessions: 1

#### Major buildings/structures:

Visitor center

Camper services buildings Swim beach pavilion amphitheater

#### land acquisitions FY 09-10

There were no new acquisitions in FY 09-10.

#### volunteer activities

- The Bayside Boat Club donated \$30,000 in labor and materials to increase the safety and usability of the boat slips.
- Volunteers helped with tree planting and tree transplanting in the spring and fall and tree maintenance during the summer to increase shade and wind protection.
- Volunteers from Northeast Junior College sponsored star gazing parties in the spring and fall for park visitors using large telescopes provided by the group.

42 great state parks!



#### to contact us: