

Regulations

Trinidad Lake State Park was built and is maintained for your enjoyment. In the interest of safety and for the preservation of your park, we must insist that you:

1. Keep all vehicles on designated roads and pull-offs. Off-road driving can damage the resources and wildlife habitats.
2. Keep pets on a leash no longer than six feet to avoid confrontations with people, other pets or wildlife.
3. Build fires only in grills and barbecues, not on the ground.
4. Camp only in designated sites.
5. Avoid using fireworks.
6. Report any vandalism or littering to a Park Ranger.

First Aid/Emergencies

Park rangers are trained to give first aid. In case of emergency, go to or call the Visitor Center, (719) 846-6951; the Las Animas County Sheriff, (719) 846-2211; State Patrol, (719) 846-2227; or call 911.



Trinidad Lake State Park
32610 Hwy. 12
Trinidad, CO 81082
(719) 846-6951
trinidad.lake@state.co.us


Colorado State Parks

 GREAT OUTDOORS
COLORADO

Funded in part through Great Outdoors Colorado with Colorado Lottery proceeds.

For current information on all of your Colorado State Parks visit us online at www.parks.state.co.us.

Any person who is excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program of the Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation on the grounds of race, creed, color, sex, age, handicap, or national origin, should contact the park manager, the nearest local regional office, the Division headquarters in Denver, Colorado - telephone (303) 866-3437 - or the National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Cualquier persona que sea excluida, negado los beneficios, o discriminado en cualquier programa del Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation por su color, raza, credo, sexo, edad, desventaja o nacionalidad debe avisar a la oficina mas cercana de esta organizacion o por telefono a numero (303) 866-3437 o National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C., 20013-7127.

CSP-TRIN-26M-5/06



Colorado State Parks

TRINIDAD LAKE



Visit all your Colorado State Parks at
www.parks.state.co.us

Trinidad Lake State Park, nestled in the southern Colorado foothills of the Culebra Range of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains is a 2,700-acre park filled with wildlife and natural beauty. At an average elevation of 6,300 feet, the lake, forest, hills and wetlands of the park offer a wide variety of recreational activities.

Ten miles of trails wander through the pinon and juniper forests at the park, which is part of the Purgatoire River Valley. Trinidad's 800-acre lake provides ample opportunities for boating and fishing while individual and group picnic facilities make getting together with family and friends a memorable experience.

The Carpios Ridge Campground provides modern facilities for overnight stops and longer stays for those exploring southern Colorado and northern New Mexico. The park is bordered by the Scenic Highway of Legends and the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. Four of southern Colorado's finest museum complexes are located in Trinidad just three miles east.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built the dam that created Trinidad Lake as an irrigation and flood-control project in 1978. The park has been managed by Colorado State Parks since 1980.

Passes & Permits

Visitors to Trinidad Lake State Park are required to display a current Colorado State Parks Pass on their vehicle windshield. A daily pass is valid from the day purchased until noon the following day. An annual pass is good at any Colorado State Park for the calendar year. Annual pass holders with additional vehicles may purchase multiple passes at a reduced fee. Passes are sold at the Visitor Center, park entrances and self-service dispensers.

Colorado disabled veterans displaying Colorado Disabled Veteran (DV) license plates are admitted free without a pass. Colorado seniors, 64 years of age or older, qualify for the Aspen Leaf annual pass available at a discounted rate. In addition to a parks pass, campers are required to purchase and display a camping permit at their campsite.

Camping

The 62-site Carpios Ridge Campground can accommodate RVs, trailers or tents and includes centrally located water taps, electrical hookups,

laundry, showers and flush toilets. There are also basic campsites available seasonally on the South Shore.

It is illegal to dump waste and sewage, including dishwater, anywhere except into the dump station so please use the facility conveniently located near the Carpios Ridge Campground entrance.

Campsites may be reserved in advance by calling 1-800-678-CAMP (2267) or (303) 470-1144 in the Denver metro area. Reservations may also be made online at www.parks.state.co.us.

Please, camp only in designated sites and display your camping permit in the site marker. Checkout time is noon. The campgrounds are patrolled for your safety and to assure quiet hours after 10 p.m.

Picnicking & Group Facilities

Picnicking is permitted throughout the park with individual picnic shelters offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Group picnic and camping facilities are available for a fee and must be reserved. You may call the Visitor Center at (719) 846-6951 for information, to request a free brochure or to make a group area reservation.

Fishing

Fishing is permitted anywhere on the lake except in the boat launching and docking area. Species caught at Trinidad Lake include rainbow and brown trout, largemouth and smallmouth bass, channel catfish, walleye, saugeye, crappie, bluegill, perch and wipers.

Boating & Water Sports

A variety of water sports are possible at Trinidad Lake including boat fishing, water-skiing, sailing and jet skiing. Boaters are required to follow the Colorado boating statutes and regulations which are available in pamphlet form at the Visitor Center and park entrances or online at www.parks.state.co.us.

All boats must observe wakeless speeds around the boat launch area, within 150 feet of shore fishermen and as buoyed. Boats are not allowed within 300 feet of the outlet structure or as buoyed.

The water level at Trinidad Lake can fluctuate. Boaters are warned to be especially alert to submerged hazards. Because of the changing water level, there is no designated swim area and swimming is prohibited.

Facilities for the Physically Challenged

The Carpios Ridge Campground and picnic area have reserved parking spaces and campsites adapted for persons with disabilities. A half-mile hard-surfaced interpretive trail is also available. Restrooms, showers, picnic tables, drinking fountains and grills are also accessible.

Interpretation

Guided nature walks and interpretive programs on various topics such as wildlife, Native Americans and the history of the Trinidad area are presented periodically from Memorial Day through Labor Day at the amphitheater located near the campground.

A functional horno (beehive shaped adobe oven used by the Spanish and Native American cultures for cooking) and an archeological site featuring the remains of Native American dwellings are located close to the amphitheater. Interpretive signing is provided at both of these structures to further explain their history and uses.

In addition, there are interpretive displays in the Visitor Center and a watchable wildlife kiosk located in the campground by the washhouse. These displays provide information on wildlife and other topics of local interest.

A watchable wildlife area has been established in Long's Canyon, located in the southwest corner of the park. This site features a three-quarter-mile self-guided nature trail with two wildlife observation blinds overlooking a pond and wetland area. A variety of wildlife can be observed here including several different species of birds. Long's Canyon also contains a unique geological feature called the KT boundary; interpretive signing explains its significance. This site is accessible via Highway 12 to the Madrid Bridge (see map).

Special interpretive and environmental education programs can be arranged for school groups or other organizations. Please call the Visitor Center at (719) 846-6951 for more information.



Colorado State Parks

Trinidad Lake State Park

LEGEND

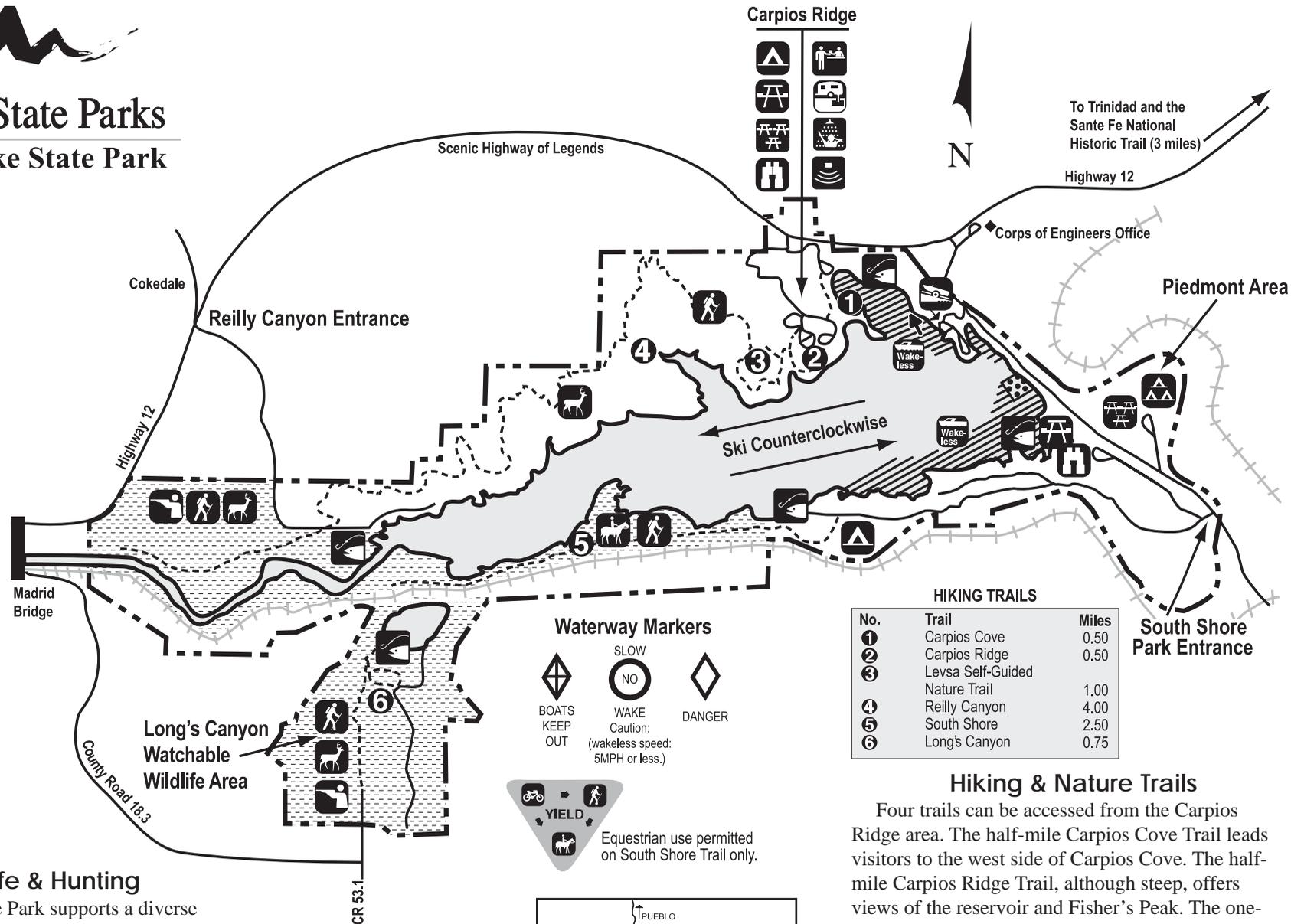
	Visitor Center
	Amphitheater
	Boat Ramp
	Camping
	Dump Station
	Fishing
	Group Camping
	Group Picnic Area
	Hiking
	Horses Permitted
	Hunting
	Overlook
	Picnic Area
	Showers
	Wildlife
	Wakeless Boating
	Boundary
	Road
	R&R Tracks
	Trail
	Hunting Area
	Outlet Structure
	Wakeless Area

Wildlife & Hunting

Trinidad Lake State Park supports a diverse community of wildlife with mule deer, collared lizards, cottontail rabbits and broad-tailed hummingbirds being just some of the animals commonly seen. On most summer nights, the lonely howl of the coyote can be heard from the campground.

Hunting is permitted in posted areas of the park between Labor Day and Memorial Day. It must occur during legal seasons using only shotguns or bow and arrow. Information on seasons and regulations are available from a park ranger or at the Visitor Center.

<i>Distance (miles) from:</i>	
Albuquerque	252
Amarillo	237
Colorado Springs	131
Denver	201
Pueblo	89



Hiking & Nature Trails

Four trails can be accessed from the Carpios Ridge area. The half-mile Carpios Cove Trail leads visitors to the west side of Carpios Cove. The half-mile Carpios Ridge Trail, although steep, offers views of the reservoir and Fisher's Peak. The one-mile self-guided Levsa Canyon Trail loops back to the campground area and is perfect for a short, informative hike. For the hiking enthusiast, the Reilly Canyon Trail continues four miles further west toward the Reilly Canyon entrance and the historic town of Cokedale.

Across the lake, the 2.5-mile South Shore Trail takes hikers to Long's Canyon and seldom-explored areas of the park. The Long's Canyon area features a 0.75-mile self-guided nature trail that leads to two observation blinds overlooking a wetland.

