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Once known primarily for the hunting around its banks, Jackson Lake State Park has become one of Colorado’s finest outdoor recreation and water sports sites. The area is known for its shoreline camping and its large, warm-water reservoir with sandy bottom and beaches. For fun in the sun and unlimited recreational opportunities, Jackson Lake is the place.

Besides providing a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities, the 2,700 surface-acre reservoir holds water used to irrigate thousands of acres of Colorado farmland to the south and east. The reservoir was built during the turn of the century and incorporates an existing lake. The surrounding park land covers an area of 440 acres.

Established in 1965, Jackson Lake State Park is administered by Colorado State Parks. If you have questions or comments about the area, please consult the park manager at Jackson Lake State Park at (970) 645-2551.

PASSES, PERMITS, FEES

Visitors to Jackson Lake State Park are required to display a current Colorado State Parks Pass, issued by vehicle, on their auto windshield.

Two types of passes are available. A daily pass is valid from the day purchased until noon the following day. An annual pass is valid at any state park for the calendar year. For annual pass holders who own another car, a multiple pass is available for an additional fee. Passes are available at the park entrances and at the visitor center.

Colorado residents 64 years of age or older qualify for a special Aspen Leaf Annual Pass, available at a discounted rate. Colorado Disabled Veterans who display Colorado Disabled Veterans (DV) license plates are entitled to a special Disabled Veterans annual pass. In addition to a parks pass, campers are required to purchase and display a camping permit at their campsite.

PICNICKING

Jackson Lake has picnic sites and a group picnic area is available by reservation through the park office.

WATER SPORTS

All areas of Jackson Lake are open to waterskiing. Boats towing skiers must stay 150 feet from the swim area, moored vessels, the concrete dike and shore fishermen. Both an observer and an operator must be in any boat that is towing a skier. Ski counter-clockwise, and please spread out across the reservoir to avoid dangerous congestion.

Jackson Lake’s sandy beaches and gradually sloping lake bottom make it ideal for swimming, which is allowed in the two designated swimming areas only. Swimming is entirely at the individual’s own risk.

Pets, glass containers and fires are not permitted on the swim beaches. Children 12 and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

BOATING

A boat ramp is located on the west shore of the lake. All boats must comply with current Colorado boating statutes and regulations available in pamphlet form at the entrance stations and visitor center. No boats are allowed in or near the swim beaches, outlet tube area, inlet or dike fishing area.

The lake is closed to motorized boating from November 1 through the spring day that all ice is off the reservoir.

Shoreline Marina provides food and drink, boat rentals, boat storage, gas and boating, fishing, camping and picnic supplies.

CAMPING

Jackson Lake State Park has 260 campsites available for your enjoyment. Most accommodate campers or trailers and tents. Facilities include showers, toilets, laundry, electric hookups and drinking water. Quiet hours are observed from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Camping permits expire at noon. If a site is not renewed by noon, it is considered available to be reassigned to another camper.

All campsites are reservable. Please call: in Denver (303) 470-1144, or outside Denver 1-800-678-2267 (CAMP). Off-season camping is available in designated campgrounds only.

To reserve the group campground call the park at (970) 645-2551 or stop in at the visitor center.
VISITOR CENTER
For more information or assistance, please stop in at the visitor center - or call (970) 645-2551. Inquire about available group meeting facilities. A public phone is available outside the visitor center.

FISHING
Jackson Lake is home to trout, walleye, catfish, perch, crappie and wipers. The reservoir is a popular spot for anglers.
Fishing is restricted during waterfowl hunting season, prohibited from the dike between 10 p.m and 6 a.m and is prohibited from the swim beaches year-round.

HUNTING AND WILDLIFE
Hunters come to Jackson Lake State Park for waterfowl, dove, pheasant and rabbits. Hunting in the park is controlled and permitted from the Tuesday after Labor Day through the Friday prior to Memorial Day. Only bow and arrows and shotguns loaded with birdshot are allowed. Waterfowl hunters must use steel shot. Hunting is allowed in designated areas only - please check with a ranger for further details.
An abundance of wildlife can be observed and photographed in the park. The list includes pelicans, eagles, hawks, heron, deer, coyote, waterfowl and numerous shore birds.

WINTER RECREATION
During the winter months, Jackson Lake State Park offers many activities such as camping, wildlife observation, photography, ice fishing and ice skating. Please check with a ranger for weather and ice conditions.

DUMP STATION
A dump station is located on the west side of Jackson Lake State Park and is available to registered campers only. It is illegal and a health hazard to dump waste water and sewage, including dishwasher, anywhere else.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
Cove Campground houses an amphitheater which offers weekend interpretive programs during the summer, a self-guided nature trail and a watchable wildlife kiosk.

REGULATIONS
Jackson Lake State Park was built and is maintained for your enjoyment. In the interests of safety and the preservation of your park, please observe the following regulations:
- Keep your vehicle on designated roads or parking spaces.
- Use proper receptacles for trash, sewage and waste water.
- Keep pets on a leash no longer than six feet.
- Camp only in designated camping sites.
- Only one camping unit (a maximum of two vehicles) per site.
- Fires are allowed only in provided fire grills. Gathering of firewood, of any kind, is prohibited.
- The park closes from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m. to all but registered campers, within the designated camp areas.
Please report any problems to a park ranger.

FIRST AID
First aid can be obtained at the park office or from any park ranger. If a ranger is not on duty dial 911 toll free from the pay phone located outside the visitor center.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES
Medical, commercial and religious facilities are available in Fort Morgan, located 22 miles from the park. Limited facilities are found on the park at the marina and in Wiggins ten miles from the park.