

SPANISH PEAKS REGION

RECREATION AND TRAIL GUIDE
ISSUE 1 | 2023



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The Spanish Peaks Guide is funded in part by generous matching grants by the Spanish Peaks Chamber of Commerce, Spanish Peaks Country, and generous donations from business sponsors, nonprofit organizations, and individual donors.



La Veta Trails is a 501(c)3 nonprofit founded in 2015 to develop and maintain parks and trails systems in Huerfano County that connect people of all ages and abilities to the outdoors, inspire volunteerism, and contribute to the health and economic vitality of the region. For more information on its mission and how you can help, please visit www.lavetatrails.org, or contact info@lavetatrails.org.



La Veta Trails assumes no liability for injuries or accidents that occur while engaging in activities that are outlined in this guide. Participants should act in accordance with their abilities and knowledge of the activities described.

MAPS

David Gonzalez

DESIGN AND LAYOUT

Rebecca Leigh Designs, LLC

PRINTING

Publications Printer Corp.

COVER PHOTO

Jason Barnes
(Near Salazar Trail #1392)

BACK COVER PHOTO

Rindy Sciacca
(Hiking on West Spanish Peak)

The pristine beauty of the Spanish Peaks region offers 130+ miles of multi-use trails for you to experience a variety of mountain, community, prairie and wetland environments. Whether you prefer to gravel, mountain or road bike, hike, ride a horse, fish, view wildlife, or simply want an easy trail to walk with your children, the Spanish Peaks region has trails for you.

After a day on the trail, visit La Veta, Walsenburg, or Cuchara to have a meal, a latte, a local crafted beer, an ice cream cone, pizza, or freshly baked bread. Shop at the many galleries for original works of art, pottery and jewelry made by local artists. Top off your day with a play, live music event, or a movie.

La Veta Trails was founded in 2015 to develop and maintain parks and trails systems in Huerfano County that connect people of all ages and abilities to the outdoors, inspire volunteerism, and contribute to the health and economic vitality of the region. We began with a handful of eager volunteers and a wild idea that we could help create a network of parks, trails, and outdoor recreation amenities. We have formed many meaningful relationships through hard work and commitment to this crazy idea. Today, our vision of a system of parks, open spaces and trails is becoming a reality with the support of donors, volunteers, business sponsors, and land management partners.

Thank you for checking out the guide. Please provide your feedback. We want to know about your experience while using this guide. How was your visit? Can you recommend a different trail? Was the information accurate? We want to know the answers to these questions and more. Thank you for leaving feedback that will help us improve the guide.

Please visit www.lavetatrails.org for more information about trails, events, and volunteer opportunities. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



Marilyn Russell

President, La Veta Trails Board of Directors

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VISITOR RESOURCES

La Veta Visitors Center

111 Park St., La Veta, CO 81055
719-742-3676
May 25th - September 3rd

Cuchara Visitor Center

Located at the Cuchara Branch Library
73 Cuchara Avenue | cucharafoundation.org
May 30th to August 31st

Francisco Fort Museum

306 S. Main St., La Veta, CO 81055
719-742-5501 | www.franciscofort.org
May 27th to October 14th

Spanish Peaks Chamber of Commerce

719-742-3676 | www.spanishpeakschamber.com

Spanish Peaks Country Tourism Board

spanishpeakscountry.com

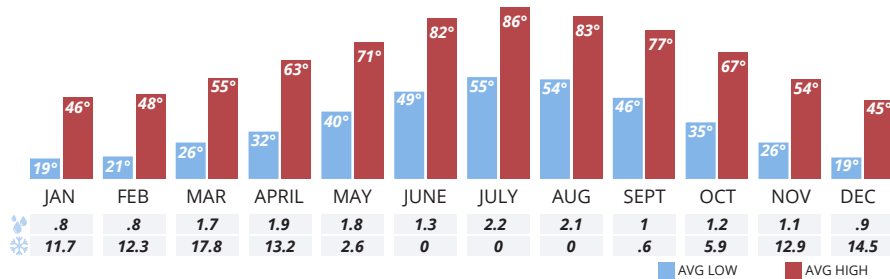
Walsenburg Mining Museum

112 W. 5th St., Walsenburg, CO 81089
719-738-2840 or 719-738-1992 (Seasonal)
www.huerfanohistory.org
Hours subject to change. Call ahead to confirm.

CLOSEST EMERGENCY ROOM

Spanish Peaks Regional Health Center
23500 US-160, Walsenburg, CO 81089
719-738-5100

AVERAGE LOCAL WEATHER



Data courtesy of National Centers for Environmental Information (NOAA)

La Veta Trails is a 501(c)3 nonprofit founded in 2015 to develop and maintain parks and trails systems in Huerfano County that connect people of all ages and abilities to the outdoors, inspire volunteerism, and contribute to the health and economic vitality of the region. We work with our partners to develop and maintain a network of multi-use parks and trails, provide Volunteer Stewardship opportunities for adults and youth, host events, and promote outdoor recreation through this guide and website www.lavetatrails.org.

CORE VALUES



ACCOUNTABILITY. We hold ourselves to the highest standard of excellence, safety, ethics, and transparency in our interactions with each other, our partners, and the community.



INCLUSION. We seek participation of all stakeholders to improve the well-being of the community, access the outdoors, and stewardship.



VOLUNTEERISM. We create opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to connect to the outdoors, develop leadership, and commit to an ethic of environmental stewardship.



OUTDOOR LIFESTYLE. We encourage active, healthy living by providing opportunities that connect all people to natural and built resources.



STEWARDSHIP. We provide opportunities for people to learn, explore and respect the natural environment and serve as a model for best practices that restore, protect, and preserve natural resources.



PHILANTHROPY. We seek to inspire investment in our mission and recognize that we could not achieve success without the generosity, commitment, and philanthropic support of businesses, our volunteers, and donors.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Billy Williams	Judy Fisher
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David Gonzalez	Mark White
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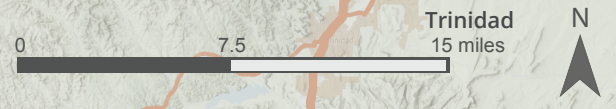
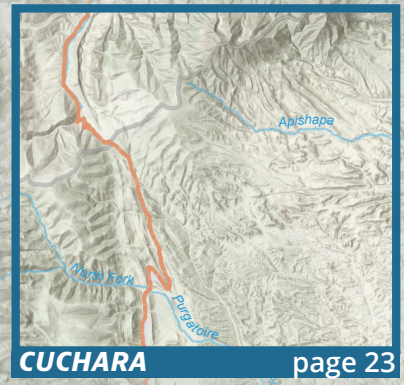
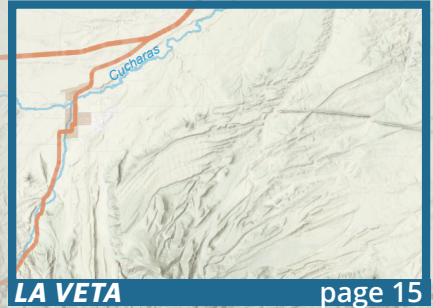
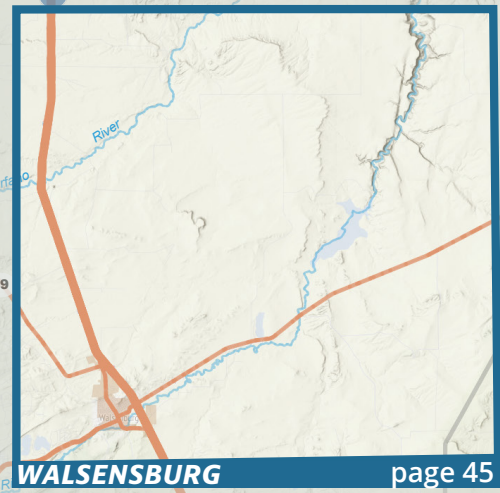
 [@lavetatrails.org](https://www.instagram.com/lavetatrails.org)

WAYS TO SUPPORT

La Veta Trails relies on the generosity of businesses and donors to achieve our mission and goals. Please make a donation to support our work at www.lavetatrails.org.

Connect to La Veta Trails to get updates on our activities, events, projects, volunteer, and sign up for the newsletter.





KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Almost half of Colorado is public land. Learn about the area you plan to visit before adventuring out so you can enjoy and help protect the spaces we all share.
- Colorado's weather and scenic terrain is stunning but can change drastically. Check conditions before you depart, pack layers, sun protection and rain gear, wear appropriate footwear ... and enjoy your trip.
- Journey to places with minimal crowds to maximize your connection with the great outdoors. Have a backup plan in case the parking lot at your original destination is full.
- Pack reusable water bottles to stay hydrated, limit waste and save money.

STICK TO TRAILS

- Embrace the adventure as intended by only walking on designated trails — even if it's wet, muddy, slushy or icy. This will help avoid erosion and protect the homes of local wildlife.
- Shortcuts and that perfect selfie can be tempting, but staying on the path will decrease your risk of injury and protect trailside plants.
- Camping? Set up in one of thousands of designated campsites in Colorado. They boast some of the most scenic views and protect the landscapes. And remember to camp at least 200 feet from waterways to leave space for wildlife.

LEAVE IT AS YOU FIND IT

- Enjoy discovering plants? Rocks? Historical and cultural items? Be sure to leave them as you found them so everyone can experience the joy of discovery.
- Colorado has more than 2,000 different species of wildflowers, all with their own unique part to play in our ecosystem. Admire their beauty by taking a photo, not a flower.
- Cleaning boots, bike tires and water crafts before and after every outing not only makes your gear last longer, it prevents the spread of harmful invasive species.
- Colorado's trees give us beautiful leaf peeping photos, shade on summer days, unmatched ski runs and, of course, oxygen (which at this altitude, is a big help). But the smallest carving can kill or disfigure them.

TRASH THE TRASH

- Pack in the beautiful views by packing out the trash and leaving a place better than you found it. And make sure not to forget the peels and cores. Just because it's good for you, doesn't mean it's good for the wildlife.
- No bathroom around? No worries. Be prepared with a disposable WAG bag (found in most outdoor stores), and conveniently pack out your waste. Alternatively, find privacy 70 steps from water and the trail, dig a 6- to 8-inch hole and then bury your business.

BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE

- Build the perfect Colorado campfire (and avoid sparking a wildfire) by first making sure campfires are allowed in the area. Then, keep them small, manageable and attended. When it's time to extinguish, make sure the embers are cold to the touch to avoid reigniting a flame.
- Buy or gather firewood locally; it'll save you space in your car, plus it prevents the introduction of any invasive species like the destructive pine beetle.
- Use care when smoking anything (and we do mean anything) in Colorado's dry climate. One of the biggest causes of fires are discarded butts.

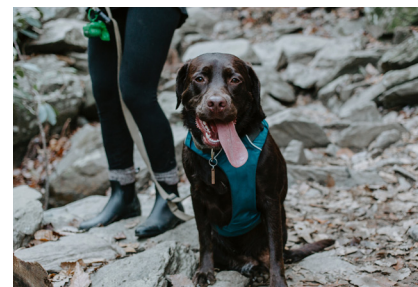
KEEP WILDLIFE WILD

- Colorado is home to tens of thousands of furry, scaly and feathered creatures. To keep them — and you — safe, make sure to keep you (and your dog's) distance. And if you're ever unsure, follow the rule of thumb: If you can cover the entire animal with your thumb, you're at a safe distance.
- Everyone loves the smell of bacon (not just humans). So always store food, trash and anything with a scent in bear proof lockers, canisters or secured vehicles. This will protect you and prevent wildlife from being exposed to behavior changes, predators or even euthanasia.

SHARE OUR TRAILS & PARKS

- Everyone experiences and enjoys the outdoors in different ways. Be mindful of your group's noise level so everyone can appreciate our shared spaces.
- Yield to the uphill hiker and biker — they need the momentum. Wheelchair users and equestrians always have the right of way.

Each and every ride, run, or hike offer an opportunity to be a trail steward. You can help keep trails free of debris, clear of rocks, and free from long-term damage by assisting in the following areas. Thank you for maintaining our public trails and parks!



TRAIL CARE

Everyone can be a trail monitor and/or contribute to everyday trail maintenance.

- If you see branches, weeds, or loose rocks on the trail, stop to throw them aside.
- Do not engage in unauthorized trail modifications, including removing or altering features.
- Extensive trail issues can be reported to info@lavetrails.org.
- Stick to the established trails and avoid creating harmful 'social trails'.

MONITOR CONDITIONS

After rain or snow storms, trails need time to dry out. Leaving footprints, hoof prints, or tire tracks on trails created places where water and mud collect, leading to longer-term damage and poor surface conditions.

- Check LaVetaTrails.org for updates.
- Don't use muddy trails.
- Adhere to all trail use guidelines.

PACK OUT ALL TRASH AND WASTE

Please remember that waste of any kind - pet and human - is a blight on all our trails. Use waste bags and dispose of waste in proper receptacles (no on the side of trails, please).

Plan to use restrooms before you head out to hike or bike. For emergencies, please carry (and use) a waste disposal bag or bury your waste at least 6" deep.



La Veta Trails is a proud member of the Care for Colorado Coalition.

PLEASE STAY ON DESIGNATED TRAILS.

Please comply with posted trail closings and re-vegetation signage. Do NOT trespass on private property.

YIELD TO AND BE MINDFUL OF OTHERS

ON THE TRAIL, including hikers, bikers, and equestrian riders. Use a bell or call out to let others know that you are near. Please dismount and wait on the side of the trail for equestrians to pass; do not assume that they see you and simply ride by.

LEAVE WILDLIFE ALONE. If you encounter wildlife, please remember these lands are theirs, too.

BE PREPARED. Always know your own abilities, limitations, and equipment. You should be able to fix your equipment, provide basic first aid, and navigate trail systems.

OBSERVE ALL FIRE BANS

It is important to note that fire bans may change depending on the governing agency of the land you're camping on. Know if you are on City, County, BLM, or USFS land when you camp.

STAGE 1 RESTRICTIONS

Campfires must be in a developed site (such as a campground or picnic area) in a permanent fire pit. No charcoal grills.



STAGE 2 /3 RESTRICTIONS / RED FLAG DAY

NO WOOD OR CHARCOAL BURNING FIRES. Exception: Stoves or grills that use liquid or gas and include a shut-off valve.



ESSENTIALS

1. Appropriate footwear
2. Map / compass
3. Extra food / water
5. Knife
6. Sunscreen/sunglasses
7. First-aid kit
8. Extra clothing layers
9. Trail map

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR BIKING:

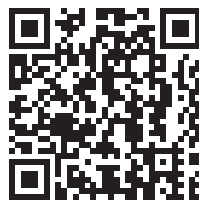
10. Patch kit
11. Spare tube(s)
12. Handheld pump
13. Bike multi-tool
14. Bike bell



For bans for individual counties in Colorado



Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Rocky Mountain Region Fire Ban Information



United States Forest Service (USFS) Rocky Mountain Region Fire Ban Information

LA VETA AREA

- School Nature Trail .25 mi ●

Wahatoya State Wildlife Area

- Daigre Reservoir Trail Loop 1 mi ●■
- Wahatoya Lake Trail Loop 1.0 mi ●■

CUCHARA AREA

San Isabel National Forest (South)

- Baker Trail #1301 3.5 mi ■
- Bear Lake Trail .8 mi ●
- Blue Lake Camp Trail .8 mi ●
- Dike Trail 3.4 mi ■
- Dodegton Trail 4.5 mi ■
- North Fork Trail #1309 4.5 mi ●
- Shortcut Trail #1300A 1.5 mi ■

Spanish Peaks Wilderness Area

- Apishapa Trail #1324 3.5 mi ■
- Levy-Krier Trail #1392 3 mi ◆
- Salazar Trail #1390A .7 mi ●
- Schafer Trail #1392 3.5 mi ●
- Wahatoya Trail 14 mi ◆
- West Peak Trail 2.5 mi ■◆

GARDNER AREA

Huerfano State Wildlife Area

- Stanley Creek Trail 15 mi ◆

WALSENBURG AREA

Lathrop State Park

- Cuerno Verde Trail 3.0 mi ●
- Hogback Trail 2.0 mi ■
- William Henry Jackson Trail 1.2 mi ■

Cucharas Canyon

- Cucharas Trail 7.5 mi ◆

● Easy ■ Moderate ◆ Difficult



Hiking



Horseback Riding



Non-motorized Bike



Motorized Bike



Photo by Dr. Gary Grady



Photo by Rebecca Maguire

The Spanish Peaks Region has a wealth of activities and local businesses to make your trip memorable.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

La Veta

Morning

- Visit the Francisco Fort Museum.
- Fish the Wahatoya State Wildlife Area.
- Ride your bike or walk the town.

Lunch / Afternoon

- Grab a bite to eat in town.
- Hike the School Nature Trail.
- Grab an ice cream cone at Charlie's Market.
- Shop at the many galleries and shops.

Dinner / Evening

- Dinner in La Veta, or grab a take-out and head to the Town Park.
- Attend a concert at La Veta Mercantile.
- Stop for a local crafted beer at Mountain Merman Brewing.

Walsenburg

Morning

- Visit the Walsenburg Mining Museum.
- Ride your bike or walk the town.

Lunch / Afternoon

- Grab a bite to eat at the many restaurants in the city.
- Shop at the many stores and gift shops.
- Visit the Huerfano Heritage Center.

Dinner / Evening

- Attend a concert at Miner's Plaza.
- Attend a movie at Fox Theater.
- Stop for local crafted beer at Crafty Canary.

ADVENTURE ITINERARY

Cuchara

Morning

- Grab a coffee at one of the coffee shops.
- Hike the West Peak Trail.
- Play mini-golf at the Bear's Den.

Lunch / Afternoon

- Have lunch on one of the restaurant decks.
- Shop at the local shops.
- Take a hike, mountain biking ride, or play disc golf at Cuchara Mountain Park.

Dinner / Evening

- Dine at one of Cuchara's restaurants.
- Take an evening hike on one of the nearby San Isabel National Forest trails.

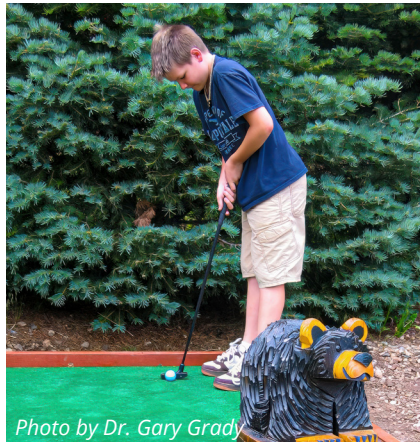


Photo by Dr. Gary Grady



SWIMMING

Lathrop State Park - Martin Lake

The park offers a number of wonderful kid-friendly activities, including a swim beach. No life guard on duty. All vehicles are required to have an entrance pass.



BIKING

Lathrop State Park - Cuerno Verde Trail

Start your bike ride at the Visitor's Center. The 3-mile trail is concrete is easy and circles Martin Lake. All vehicles are required to have an entrance pass.

Cuchara Mountain Park - Bike Park

The pump park offers a fun way for kids to develop their maintain biking skills.



HIKING

School Nature Trail - La Veta

Park at the corner of E. Garland and Birch Streets. The quarter-mile interpretative trail offers signs to people of all ages to the diversity of plants, shrubs, and trees in a prairie eco-system. No bikes are allowed on this crusher-fines trail.

Spanish Peaks Wilderness Area - Salazar Trail

Park at the Cordova Pass day area on Forest Service Road 46. This .5 mile trail takes you to vista point with its fantastic views of the dike walls and the Town of La Veta in the distance.



FISHING

Wahatoya State Wildlife Area - Wahatoya Lake

Park at the west entrance on Elm St. in La Veta, or on the County Road 358 entrance. A fishing license is required for everyone 16 or older. Swimming is not permitted.

San Isabel National Forest - Blue and Bear Lakes

Located on Forest Service Road 442 of CO Highway 12. A day-use pass is required.



EVENTS IN THE SPANISH PEAKS REGION

JUNE 2023

- Fiber Fest and Market (LV)
- National Trails Day 5k (LSP)
- Sonic Bloom Festival (G)
- Rocky Mountain Star Stare (G)
- Outdoor Movie Night (WGC)
- Outdoor Concert - Miners Plaza (W)

JULY 2023

- 4th of July Parade (LV)
- Family Fun Run/Walk (C)
- 4th of July Parade (C)
- Art in the Park (LV)
- Francisco Fort Day (LV)
- Spanish Peaks 5K & Fun Run (LV)
- Hippie Days (G)
- Outdoor Concert-Miners Plaza (W)

AUGUST 2023

- Stonewall Century Ride (LV)
- Vintage Trailer Parade (LV)
- Dog Days of Summer (C)
- Chuckwagon Supper (G)
- Outdoor Movie Night (WGC)
- Outdoor Concert-Miners Plaza (W)

SEPTEMBER 2023

- Caveman Festival (MLR)
- Spanish Peaks Marathon Race (LV)
- Mountain Mining Days (W)
- Outdoor Movie Night (WGC)
- Outdoor Concert-Miners Plaza (W)
- Spanish Peaks Gravel Pounder (LV)

OCTOBER 2023

- Oktoberfest (LV)
- Spanish Peaks Marathon Race & Fun Run (LV)

NOVEMBER 2023

- Holiday Parade of Lights (W)

JANUARY 2024

- First Day Hike (LSP)

FEBRUARY 2024

- Highway of Legends OSO
- Cold Winter Festival

LOCATION LEGEND

LV	La Veta
C	Cuchara
CMP	Cuchara Mountain Park
W	Walsenburg
G	Gardner
LSP	Lathrop State Park
WGC	Walsenburg Gold Course
MLR	Monument Lake Resort

Note: Please check www.discoverbachman.com/community-calendar or scan the QR code for more event information.



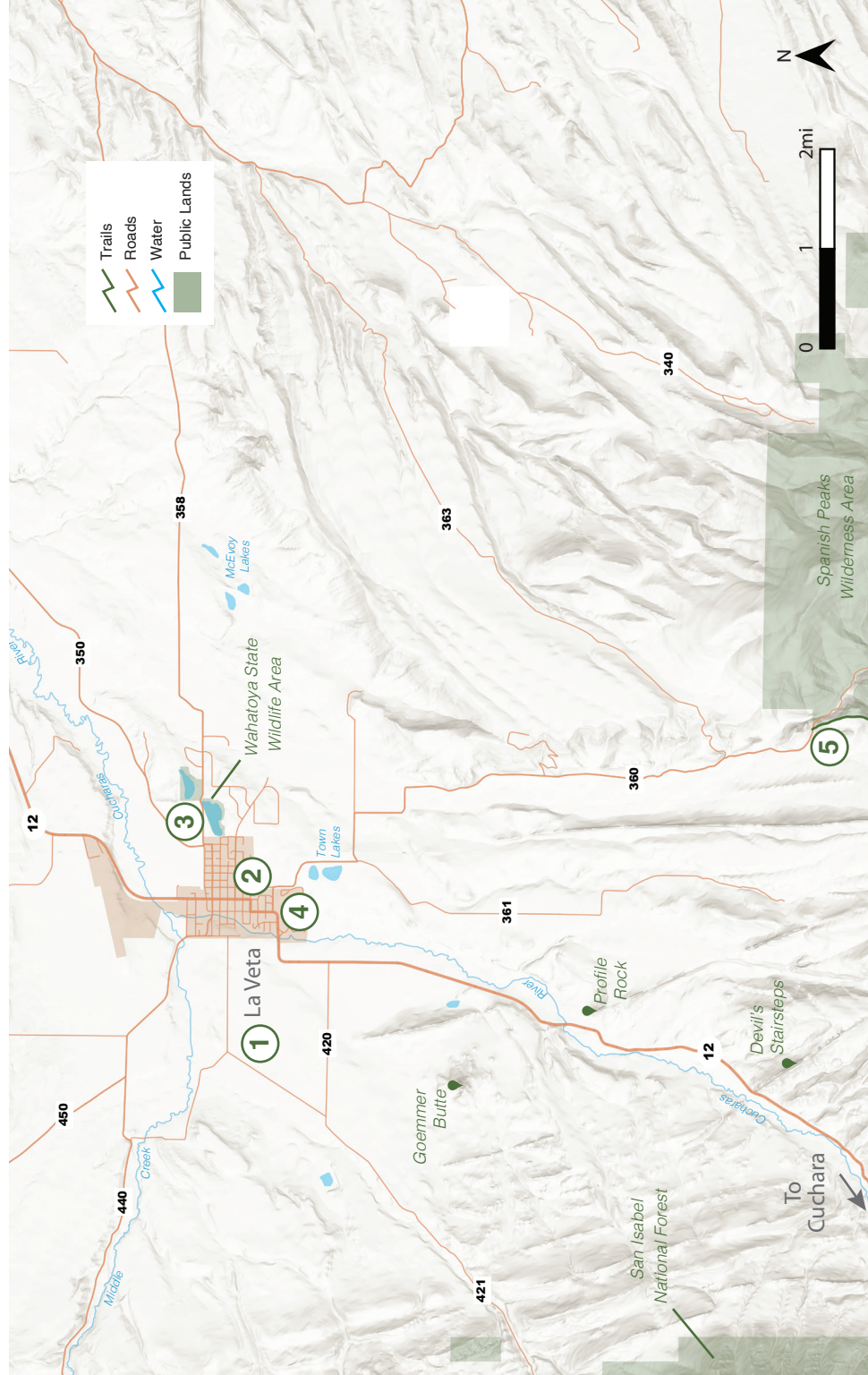
La Veta Area



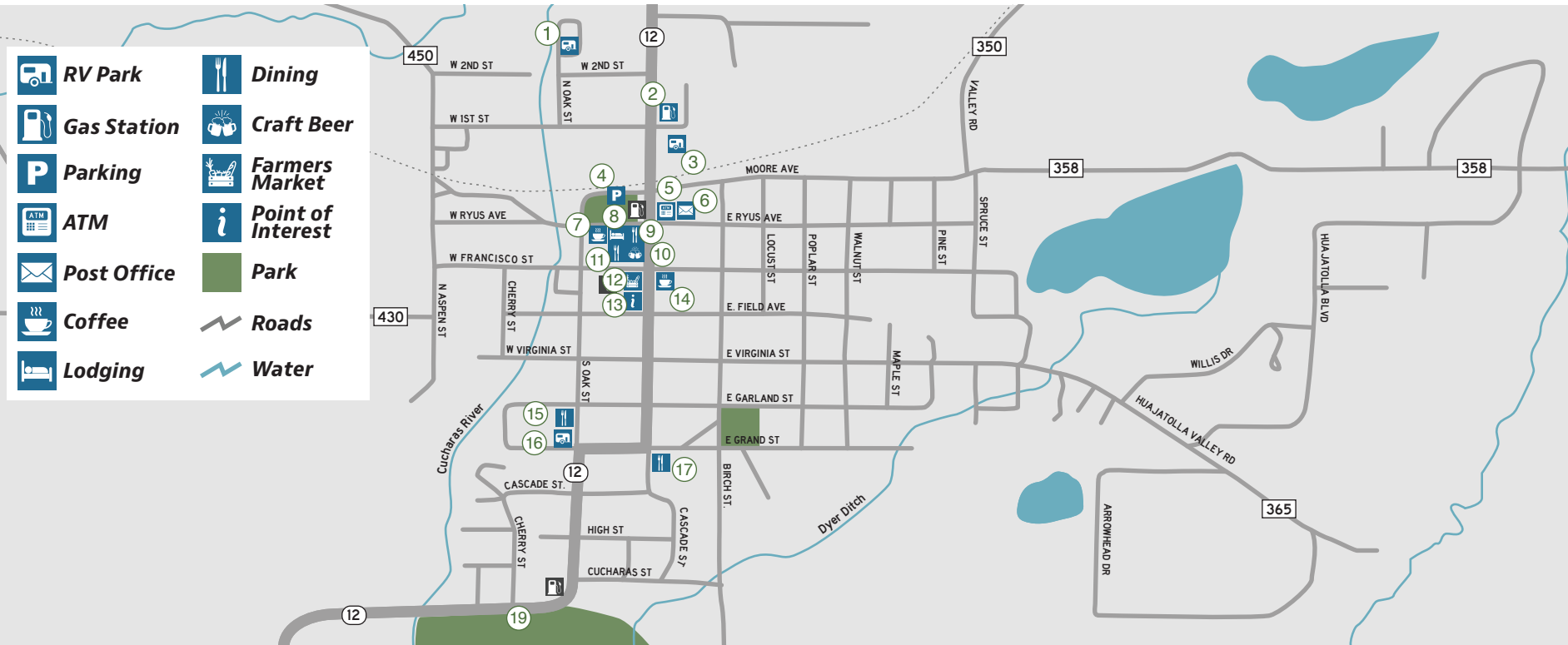
Photo by John Costea

LA VETA AREA RECREATION

FEATURE	Shopping / Restaurants	Hiking / Walking	Horseback Riding	Non-Motorized Biking	Motorized Biking	Jeeping	Golfing	Camping	Fishing
1. Downtown La Veta (page 18)	•	•	•	•				•	
2. School Nature Trail (page 22)		•							
3. Wahatoya State Wildlife Area (page 20)		•							•
4. Grandote Peaks Golf Course (page 60)	•						•		
5. Spanish Peaks Wilderness Area (page 32)		•	•						



DOWNTOWN LA VETA



La Veta is a picturesque, historic railroad stop town nestled in the foothills of Southern Colorado. A haven for artists, the La Veta downtown district features unique galleries and shops. Visitors will find delicious food, a thriving small town theater, and endless recreation opportunities near by from hiking to horseback riding.

PLACES TO STAY, DINE AND VISIT

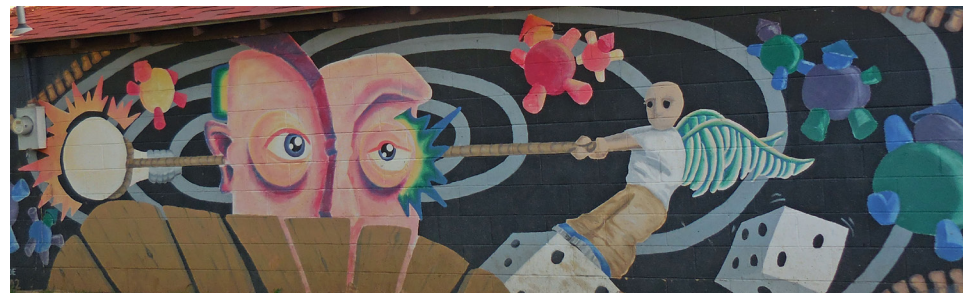
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|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. We RV Champions | 11. Legends on Main |
| 2. La Veta Country Store | 12. Farmer's Market (spring, summer, fall) |
| 3. Sammie's Campground | 13. La Veta Public Library |
| 4. Town Depot / Town Park | 14. Paradise Coffee |
| 5. First National Bank | 15. Alys' Restaurant |
| 6. Post Office | 16. La Veta Pines RV Park |
| 7. The Parkside Art Gallery and Cafe | 17. School Nature Trail |
| 8. La Veta Inn | 18. Lokal Burgers |
| 9. Stiano's Italian Trattoria | 19. Grandote Golf Course |
| 10. Mountain Merman Brewing | |



Photo by John Costea



Photo by Larry Lamsa



WAHATOYA STATE WILDLIFE AREA



The Wahatoya State Wildlife Area, with its 203 acres, offers two cold-water fishing lakes, each with a one-mile hiking trail. County Road 358 divides Wahatoya Lake and Daigre Reservoir. There is a connector trail with a pedestrian crossing to cross the county road safely. Colorado Parks and Wildlife stock the fishing lakes regularly. Allowed activities include fishing with flies and lures only, hiking, and wildlife viewing. Biking is not a permitted activity in order not to disturb wildlife. A Colorado State fishing or hunting license or a State Wildlife Area annual pass is required to access the area.

GETTING THERE

Parking is available at the Wahatoya State Wildlife Area entrance on Elm St. in La Veta. From Main St., drive east on Francisco St. Road bears to the right. The parking area will be on your left; Two parking areas are located on County Road 358. From La Veta, drive east for about 1 mile to a parking area for Wahatoya Lake on the right. Continue through the s-curve to the parking area at Daigre Reservoir on the left.

AREA INFORMATION

START: Begin your fishing/hiking at one of several parking areas.

FITNESS EFFORT: Easy to moderate

SEASONS: Best in the spring, summer, and fall. The trails can be slippery or muddy in the winter or after rain.

TERRAIN: The routes meander on natural surface trails through meadows, woods, and the water's edge.

TRAIL USES: Fishing with flies and lures only, hiking, and wildlife viewing. No boating unless actively fishing. See page 62 for information about fishing.

DOG FRIENDLY: Dogs must be on a leash to protect wildlife. Please bring waste bags and clean up after your pet.

FACILITIES: A vault toilet is located in the Daigre Reservoir parking lot. There are no other facilities.

TRAILS

WAHATOYA LAKE TRAIL LOOP:

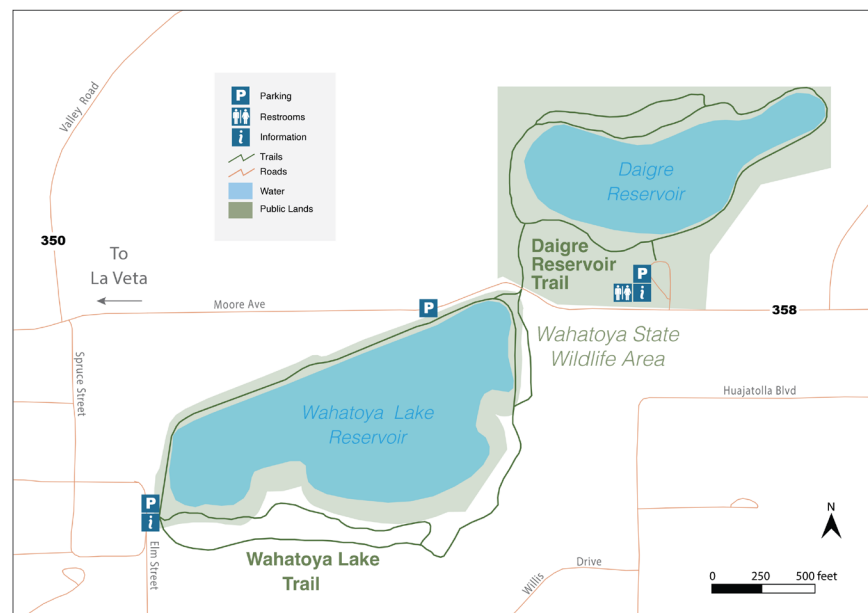
This loop trail is on natural and gravel surfaces. The trail meanders through fields, woods, and along the lake edge. There is a set of steps through a small arroyo on the south side of the lake. The trail follows a berm on the north side, offering a beautiful view of the Spanish Peaks and Mt. Maestas.

Distance: 1 mile. Elevation Gain: n/a

DAIGRE RESERVOIR TRAIL LOOP:

This loop trail is on natural and gravel surfaces. The trail traverses on the top of a berm on the south side and through woods on the north side with stunning views of the Spanish Peaks and Mt. Maestas.

Distance: 1 mile. Elevation Gain: n/a



Note: Biking of any kind and camping are not allowed activities. A Colorado State fishing or hunting license or a State Wildlife Area annual pass is required to access the area.



SCHOOL NATURE TRAIL



The School Nature Trail is a popular quarter-mile interpretative trail that offers beautiful views of Mount Mestas and the Town of La Veta, as well as a unique opportunity to learn about history and vegetation native to a prairie ecosystem via informational kiosks and plant identification markers.

GETTING THERE

Southeast corner of E. Garland and Birch St. in La Veta. Vehicle parking at the corner of Birch and E. Garland Streets.

TRAIL INFORMATION

START: Begin your walk at the corner of Birch and E. Garland St.

ELEVATION GAIN: +/- 10 feet

FITNESS EFFORT: Easy to Moderate

DIFFICULTY: Easy

SEASONS: Year-round

TERRAIN: Crusher fines trail surface

TRAIL USES: Hiking and walking. *Bicycles are not allowed on the trail.*

DOG FRIENDLY: Yes. The Town of La Veta requires all dogs to be on a leash. Please carry bags and pick up your pet's waste.

DISTANCE: .25 mi


FACILITIES: Benches, interpretative signs that describe plants and local history.



Sweet Pea
Lathyrus latifolius

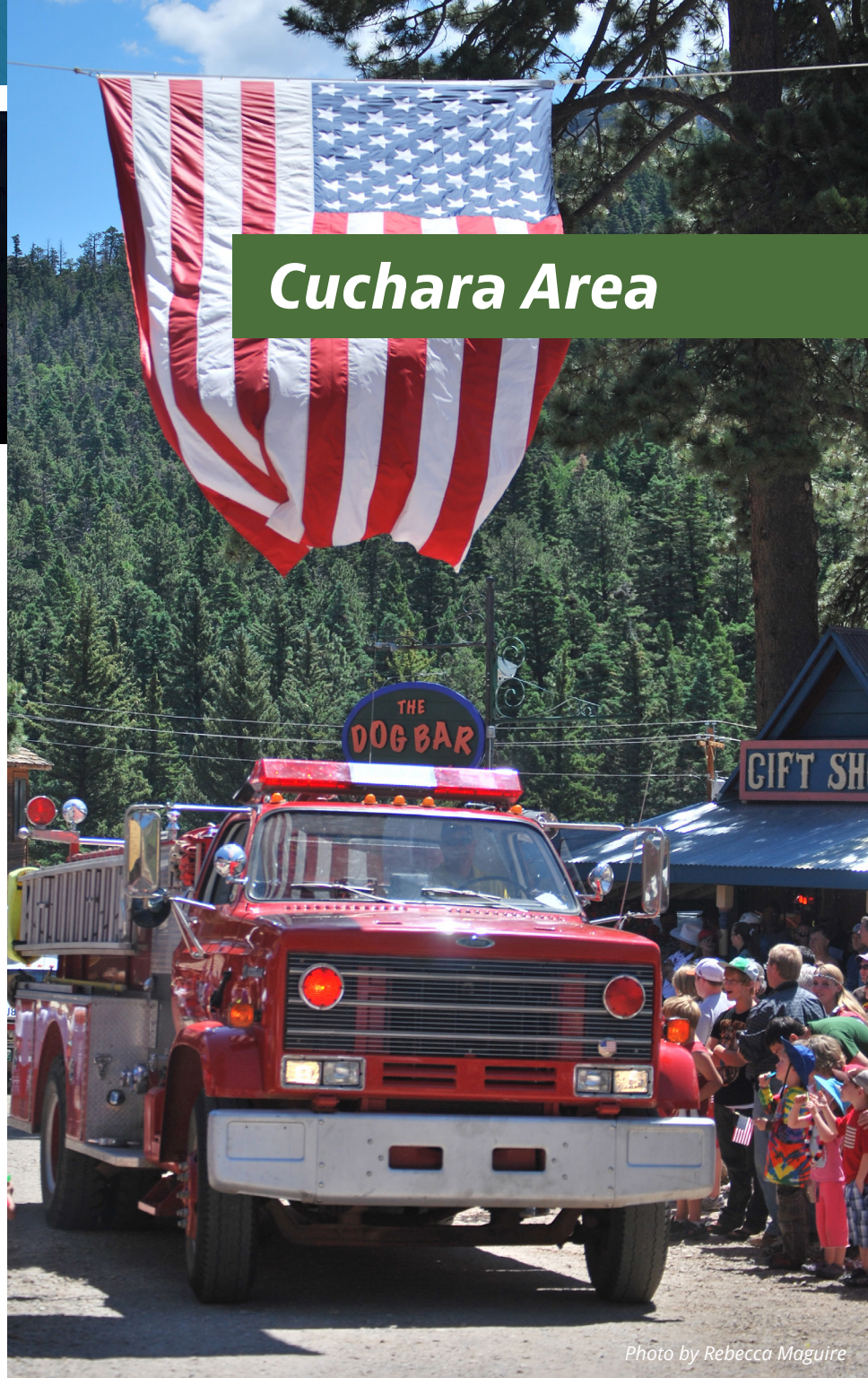
Probably introduced by early settlers, or possibly at the time La Veta's red brick schoolhouse was constructed, this colorful domesticated plant has "returned to the wild" and now flourishes without nurturing. Sweet peas have fragrant pink and white blossoms in July and August and grow best in areas where the soil does not completely dry out. Like other legumes sweet peas do not need much nitrogen and, with the help of beneficial bacteria, they can obtain sufficient amounts from the soil.

Diane Hamilton, 1999





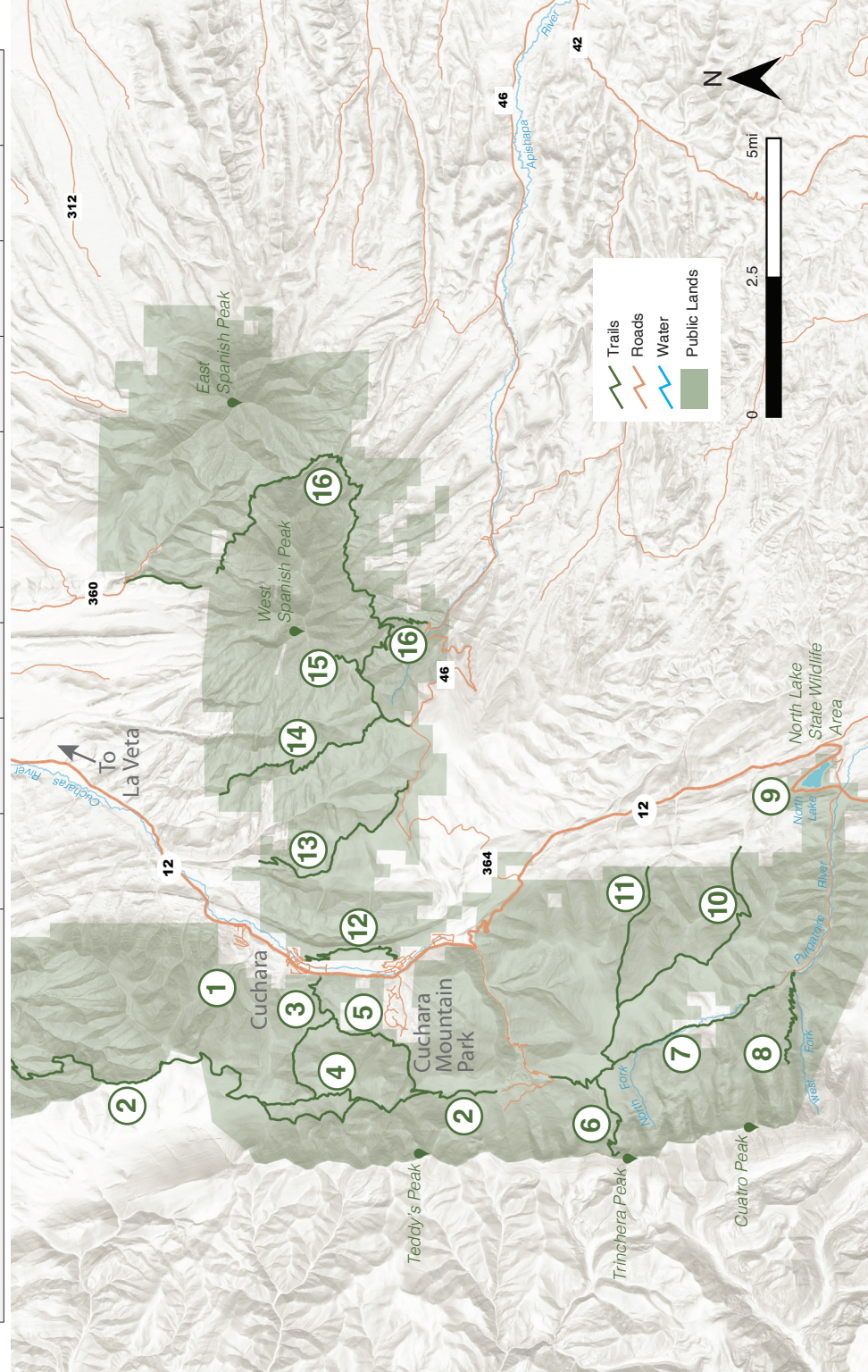
Note: The School Nature Trail was built in 1999-2000 by Emery Ashby, a La Veta High School Science teacher, and his students with help from the community. Students researched the plants that are featured on the interpretative signs.

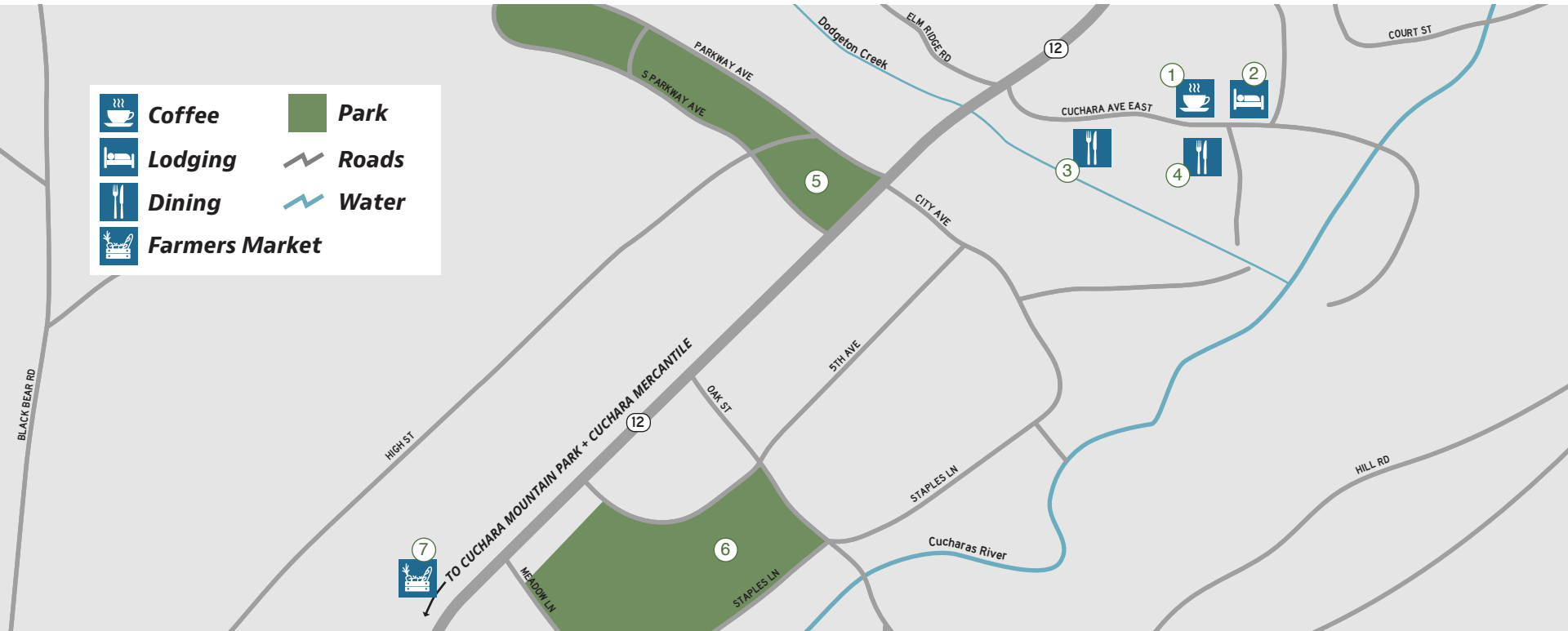


Cuchara Area

CUCHARA AREA RECREATION

FEATURE	Shopping / Restaurants	Hiking / Walking	Horseback Riding	Non-Motorized Biking	Motorized Biking	Jeeping	Golfing	Camping	Fishing
1. Cuchara Village (page 26)	•	•	•	•	•				
2. Indian Creek Trail (page 30)		•			•				
3. Spring Creek / Dodgeton Trail (page 31)		•	•	•	•				
4. Shortcut Trail (page 31)		•	•	•	•		•		
5. Baker Creek Trail (page 31)		•	•	•	•				
6. Trinchera Road (page 59)		•				•			
7. North Fork Trail (page 31)		•	•	•	•				
8. Fan Dike Road (page 59)		•				•			
9. North Lake State Wildlife Area (page 34)		•							•
10. Coal Creek Trail									
11. Wildcat Trail									
12. Dikes Trail (page 31)		•	•	•	•				
13. Schafer Trail		•	•	•	•				
14. Levy-Krier Trail #1392 (page 32)		•	•	•	•				
15. West Peak Trail (page 33)		•	•	•	•			•	
16. Apishapa Trail (page 33)		•	•	•	•			•	
17. Wahatoya Trail (page 33)		•	•	•	•				





Nestled in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, Cuchara is located in southern Colorado. It is a hidden gem, with tremendous views of the East and West Spanish Peak, as well as other mountain ranges and rock outcrops. Down the Highway of Legends people fall in love with the crisp, clean air that takes visitors far away from the city life. With just a few gift shops and restaurants, the town is mainly operational during the summer.

PLACES TO STAY, DINE AND VISIT

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Lokal Perks | 5. Parkway |
| 2. Cuchara Lokal | 6. Community Park |
| 3. Cuchara Yacht Club | 7. Cuchara Mercantile |
| 4. Dog Bar | |

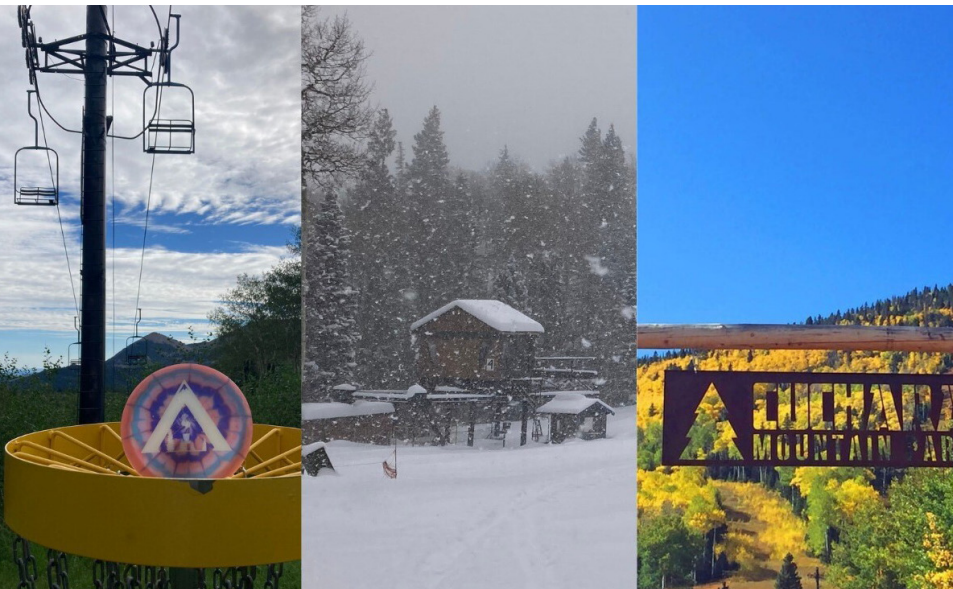


Photo by John Costea



Photo by Dr. Gary Grady

CUCHARA MOUNTAIN PARK



The Parker-Fitzgerald Cuchara Mountain Park is a Huerfano County public park and offers year round outdoor recreation opportunities, surrounded by the beauty of Spanish Peaks Country.

The ski area on Cuchara Mountain first opened in 1981 as “Panadero Resort” and operated under many owners and names until its permanent closure in 2000. Despite management challenges, skiing gave life to Cuchara in the winter, helped to support a year-round economy, and created lifelong memories for locals and visitors alike.

In 2017, using funds raised by Cuchara Foundation, Huerfano County purchased the former resort land and converted it into a county public park, now Parker-Fitzgerald Cuchara Mountain Park.

GETTING THERE

From La Veta take CO Highway 12 to Panadero Ave (south of Cuchara) and turn right. Follow Panadero Ave to 1234 Panadero Ave for parking.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES AT THE PARK

- Hiking
- Disc Golf
- Wildlife & Bird Watching
- Bike Playground
- Kids' Natural Playground
- Access to National Forest and Indian Creek Trail System
- Snowshoeing
- Backcountry Skiing and Snowboarding
- Nordic Skiing
- Mini Golf
- Scenic Views
- Stargazing

WINTER



SUMMER



SAN ISABEL NATIONAL FOREST (SOUTH)



Photo by Dr. Gary Grady

The San Isabel National Forest in southern Huerfano County offers miles of multi-use trails through wooded areas with scenic views of the Spanish Peaks and the Culebra Mountain Range. In addition to scenery, the suggested mountain biking loop landscape offers a variety of ecosystems rich in history, geology, wildlife habitat, and recreation opportunities. The Pike-San Isabel National Forests & Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands covers nearly three million acres from western Kansas and Colorado's highest mountain peaks along the Continental Divide that has been protected starting in 1892.

AREA INFORMATION

TRAILHEAD LOCATIONS:

Spring Creek TH: Co Rd 423, Cuchara, CO 81055;
Baker Creek TH: Access via Cuchara Mountain Park
Other trailheads are currently closed, as of May 2023.

SEASONS: Late spring, summer, and early fall due to early and late snow.

TERRAIN: Natural surface with rocky sections

TRAIL USES: Mountain biking, horseback riding, hiking, and motorbiking.

DOG FRIENDLY: Yes

FACILITIES: Parking, horse trailer parking, and information kiosk at the Baker Creek Trailhead. Restrooms are located at the Spring Creek Trailhead.



Photo by Dr. Gary Grady

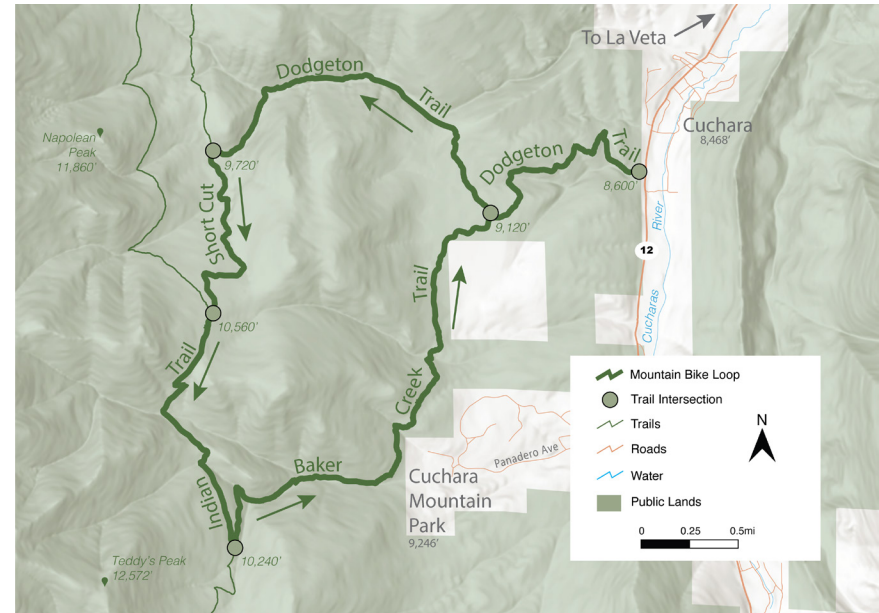
Note: San Isabel National Forest trails are subject to seasonal closures due to snow or rain damage. Please respect closure signs. The San Isabel National Forest is maintained and operated by the U.S. Forest Service, San Carlos Ranger District. Check for current alerts and notices www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/psic/alerts-notice.

SAN ISABEL NATIONAL FOREST TRAILS

Trail	Mileage	Elevation Change	Difficulty
Baker Creek Trail #1301	3.5 mi	1,500'	■
Bear Lake Trail	.8 mi	n/a	●
Blue Lake Camp Trail	.8 mi	n/a	●
Dike Trail #1389	3.4 mi	300'	■
Dodgeton Trail #1302	4.5 mi	1,200'	■
Indian Creek Trail #1300	13 mi	1,880'	◆
North Fork Trail #1309	4.5 mi	1,600'	●
Shortcut Trail #1300A	1.5 mi	1,200'	■

SUGGESTED MOUNTAIN BIKING LOOP ROUTE

BAKER (#1301) - INDIAN TRAIL (#1300) - SHORTCUT TRAIL (#1300.A) - DODGETON (#1302): Park at the Spring Creek Trailhead. The trails in this loop allow non-motorized and motorized uses. Please respect other users by following Trail Etiquette Rules. Please note, this route is an advanced-intermediate route; it's not technically challenging, but requires an advanced level of fitness to enjoy it.
Total Distance: 8.0 mi. **Elevation Gain:** The trailhead starts at 8,600' elevation with an elevation gain of 1,500'



HIKING

BIKING

HORSEBACK RIDING

MOTORBIKING

SPANISH PEAKS WILDERNESS AREA



Photo by Rebecca Maguire

If you are looking for a horseback riding and hiking experience far from crowds, Wilderness trails are for you. The Spanish Peaks Wilderness Area offers a pristine environment and secluded trails with access to the West Peak at 13,623' and the East Peak at 12,708'. We wish to thank the Rocky Mountain Back Country Horsemen for the riding information on Wilderness trails.

GETTING THERE

To West Peak Trailhead at Cordova Pass: From La Veta take CO Highway 12 to Cucharas Pass, turn left on FSR 46 and continue on dirt rd. for 6 mi. to the Cordova Pass Campground. Continue an additional 4 miles (through the Apishapa Arch) for the Apishapa Trailhead.

To the Wahatoya Trailhead: From La Veta take CO Highway 12 to County Road 360, drive six miles to the intersection with FSR 442. High clearance 4WD is needed on the FSR to drive the two miles to the Wahatoya Trailhead.

AREA INFORMATION

START: Begin your ride/hike at one of the several trailheads.

FITNESS EFFORT: Moderate to difficult

SEASONS: Late spring, summer, and early fall due to early and late snow at this elevation.

TERRAIN: Primitive, natural surface with rocky sections

TRAIL USES: Horseback riding and hiking

DOG FRIENDLY: Yes

FACILITIES: Trailer parking at the West Peak, Apishapa, and Wahatoya trailheads. There are no hitching rails or high line posts. There is no water at the trailheads. Water is available from the South Trujillo Creek (Wahatoya Trail) and Apishapa Creek (Apishapa Trail) but must be treated. See page 61 for information about camping at Cordova Pass.

SPANISH PEAKS WILDERNESS AREA TRAILS

Trail	Mileage	Elevation Change	Difficulty
Apishapa Trail #1324	3.5 mi	1,500'	■
Salazar Trail #1390	.5 mi	1,114'	●
Wahatoya Trail #1304	10 mi	1,200'	◆
West Peak Trail #1390	2.5 mi	1,880'	◆

Note: Wilderness trails are non-motorized which means motorized equipment and equipment used for mechanical transport are prohibited. This includes the use of ATVs, motorcycles, and all types of bicycles.



SUGGESTED ROUTES

WEST PEAK TRAIL IN/OUT: Start at the West Peak Trailhead (Elev. 11,248 feet) at Cordova Pass. You ascend the trail towards the West Peak. Treeline or continue to the peak (weather permitting)
Total Distance: 5 mi. **Elevation Gain:** 1,880'.

SALAZAR TRAIL TO VISTA POINT #1392: Start at the West Peak Trailhead (Elev. 11,248 feet) at Cordova Pass. After .3 miles the Vista Point Trail will break off to the left. For a view of the Cuchara Valley, Greenhorn Mountain and the Wet Mountain Valley to the north, and the Culebra Range to the West and South.
Total Distance: 1.4 mi. **Elevation Gain:** 152'.

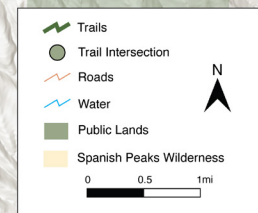
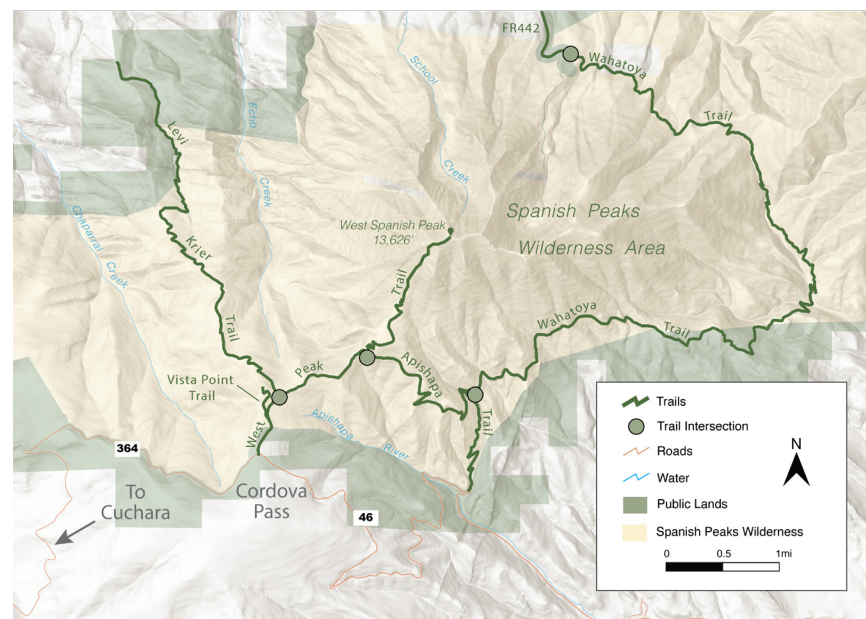




Photo by Dr. Gary Grady

The North Lake State Wildlife Area with its 840-acres offers cold-water lake and stream fishing. Colorado Parks and Wildlife stocks North Lake on a regular basis. A CO State fishing or hunting license, or a State Wildlife Area annual pass is required to access the area.

GETTING THERE

From Cuchara, travel south on CO Highway 12 for 2.3 mi to North Lake.
From Trinidad, travel west on CO Highway 12 for about 62.3 mi to North Lake.

AREA INFORMATION

PARKING LOCATIONS: Parking can be found on various lots around the lake on HWY 12.

FITNESS EFFORT: Easy to moderate

SEASONS: Best in the spring, summer, and fall. In winter ice fishing is possible.

TERRAIN: The routes meander on natural surface trails through meadows, woods, and along the water's edge.

AREA USES: Fishing with flies and lures only, ice fishing, hiking, wildlife viewing, picnicking, and hunting. See page 62 for information about fishing.

DOG FRIENDLY: Yes. Dogs must be on a leash. Bring waste bags and clean up after your pet.

FACILITIES: Boat ramp and restroom

TRAILS: There are no developed trails, but plenty of open space to explore..



Note: Biking of any kind, camping, and horses are prohibited activities in order not to disturb wildlife. Recreational boating is not allowed except while fishing using a float tube, or hand-powered boat. No motorized boat or watercraft is permitted. A Colorado State fishing or hunting license, or a State Wildlife Area annual pass is required to access the area.

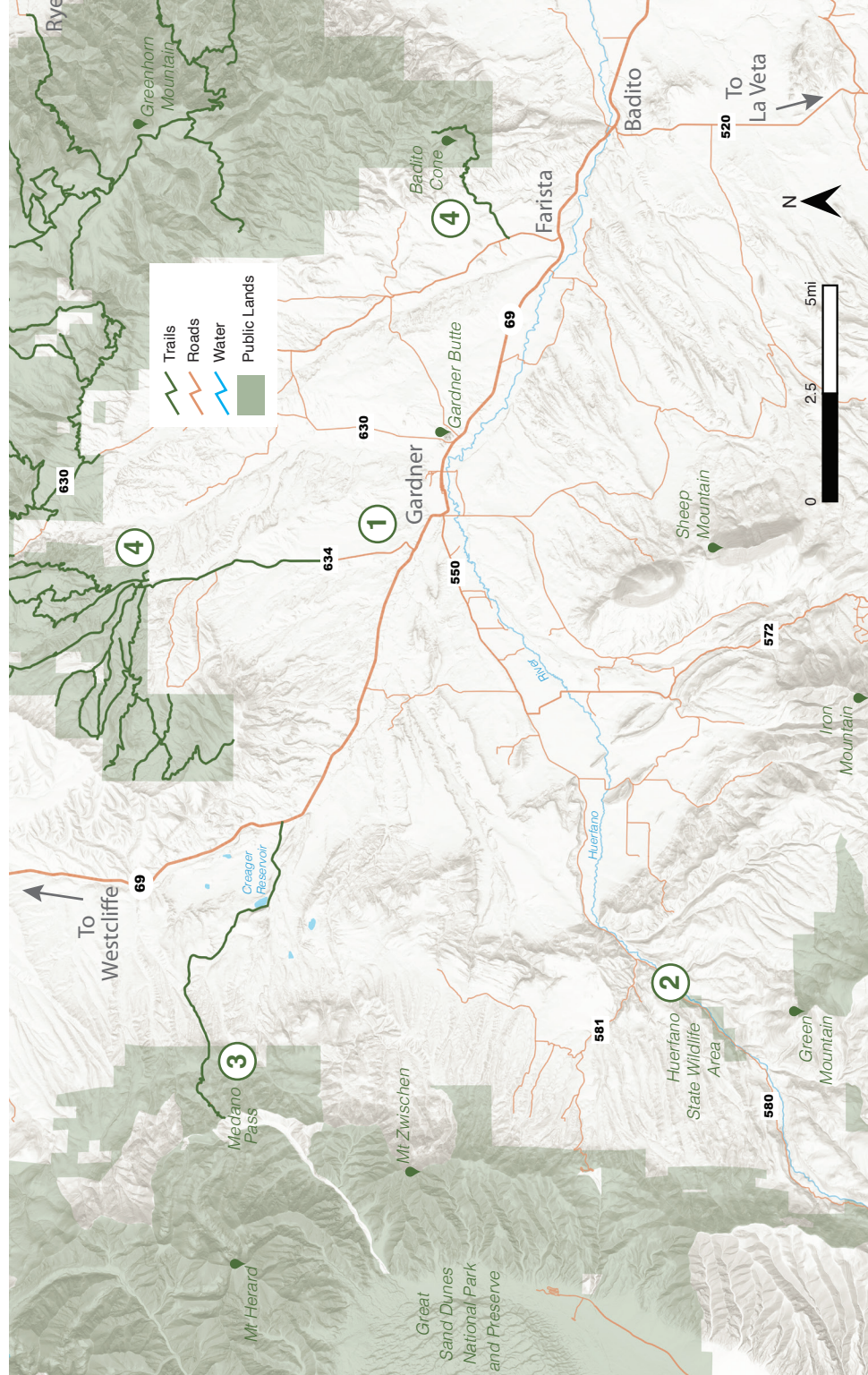
Gardner Area

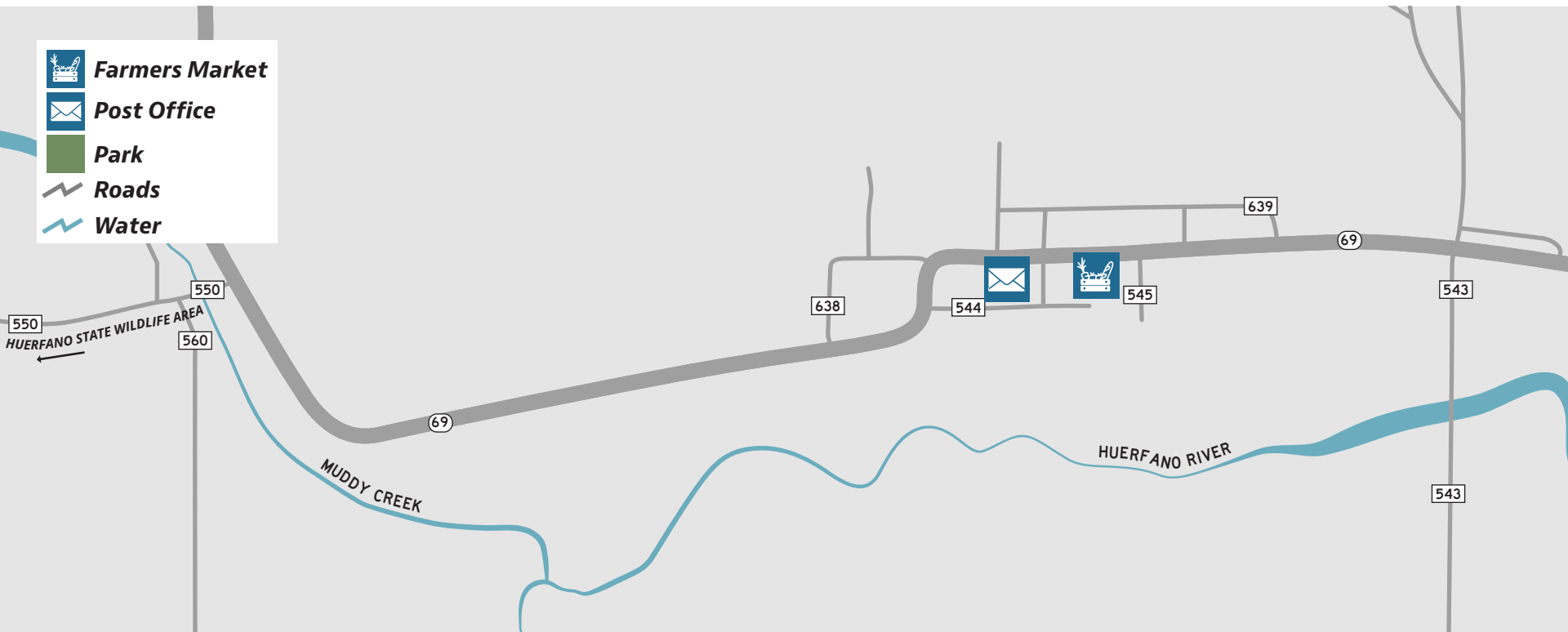


Photo of Gardner Butte

GARDNER AREA RECREATION

FEATURE	Shopping / Restaurants	Hiking / Walking	Horseback Riding	Non-Motorized Biking	Motorized Biking	Jeeping	Golfing	Camping	Fishing	Snowmobiling
1. Gardner Community (page 38)	•	•	•	•				•		
2. Huerfano State Wildlife Area (page 40)		•	•	•					•	
3. Medano Pass Primitive Road (page 57)		•		•		•				•
4. Ophir Creek and Greenhorn Mountain (page 42)		•								
5. Bandito Cone Road (page 56)		•		•		•				





The Gardner community is between the Wet Mountains and the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. The unincorporated town of Gardner, located between the Wet Mountains and the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, is slowly growing. Gardner offers a Farmers Market May-October under the pavilion next to the Methodist church on RT 69 in Downtown Gardner.

PLACES TO STAY, DINE AND VISIT

1. Post Office
2. Gardner Community Center



Photo by John Costea

HUERFANO STATE WILDLIFE AREA



The Huerfano State Wildlife Area is west of Gardner (CO 69). It consists of 544 acres, with the Huerfano River running through it. Operated by Colorado Parks and Wildlife, it offers secluded opportunities for horseback riding, fishing, and camping. A Colorado State fishing or hunting license, or a State Wildlife Area annual pass is required to access the area. We wish to thank the Rocky Mountain Back Country Horsemen for the riding information.

GETTING THERE

From Gardner, drive west on CO 69 to County Road 550. After 7.4 miles, 550 becomes a dirt road. After 4.5 miles on the dirt road, bear left at a "Y" onto County Road 580 following a sign for "Lily Lake Trailhead 10 mi." The group area is located 1.5 miles into the Huerfano State Wildlife Area. The total driving distance from CO 69 is 13 miles.



AREA INFORMATION

START: Begin your horseback ride at the Stanley Creek Trailhead

FITNESS EFFORT: It's mountain riding, so horses/riders should be in shape.

DIFFICULTY: Easy flat meadows to moderate hill climbing. One very steep hill at the beginning.

SEASONS: Summer and fall.

TERRAIN: Mountains.

TRAIL USERS: Horseback riding, fishing, hiking, and hunting.

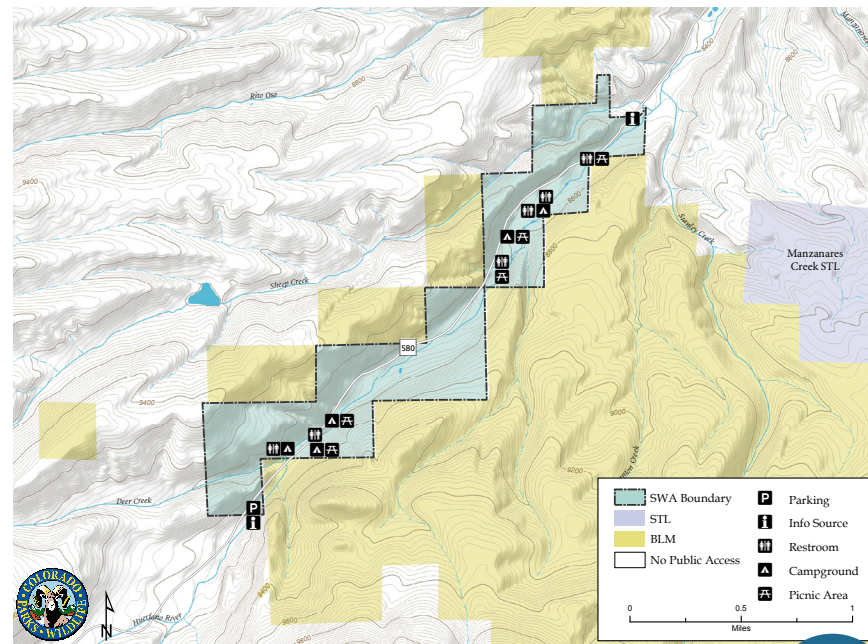
DOG FRIENDLY: Yes - dogs must be under voice control or leashed.

FACILITIES: The Stanley Creek Trailhead is in the group camping area. There are no corrals or high-line posts. There is trailer parking, pit toilets, picnic tables, and an information kiosk. Water is available from the Huerfano River but must be treated. See page 61 for information about camping.

TRAIL

STANLEY CREEK TRAIL: There is a water crossing at the trailhead. Depending on the snowmelt, water can run very fast and deep or be an easy crossing. There is a bridge for hikers. The trail ascends quickly with a very steep climb that takes you to a meadow at the top, where the trail begins to flatten but still climbs. The trail forks after reaching the meadow. Whichever direction you take, you will return to the trailhead like you went up through the meadow, down the steep hill, and back across the water crossing.

Distance: 6 mile loop or 15 mile loop. **Elevation Gain:** 1,000'



Note: Colorado Parks and Wildlife requires weed-free certified livestock forage.



OPHIR CREEK AND GREENHORN MOUNTAIN SNOWMOBILE TRAIL SYSTEM



The Ophir Creek and Greenhorn Mountain area offers 78 miles of groomed snowmobile trails in the San Isabel National Forest. The deep powder, well groomed trails, and beautiful views of the Wet Mountains are a snowmobilers paradise! All trails within the system are marked with orange diamonds and orange poles. All trails are groomed and easy. We wish to thank the Sangre Snowrunners Snowmobile Club for the snowmobile information.

GETTING THERE

The Ophir Creek Trail System is located on Colorado Highway 165, near mile marker 11.

AREA INFORMATION

START: Begin at the Ophir Creek Trailhead.

ELEVATION GAIN: +/- 2,330'

DIFFICULTY: Easy

SEASONS: Winter

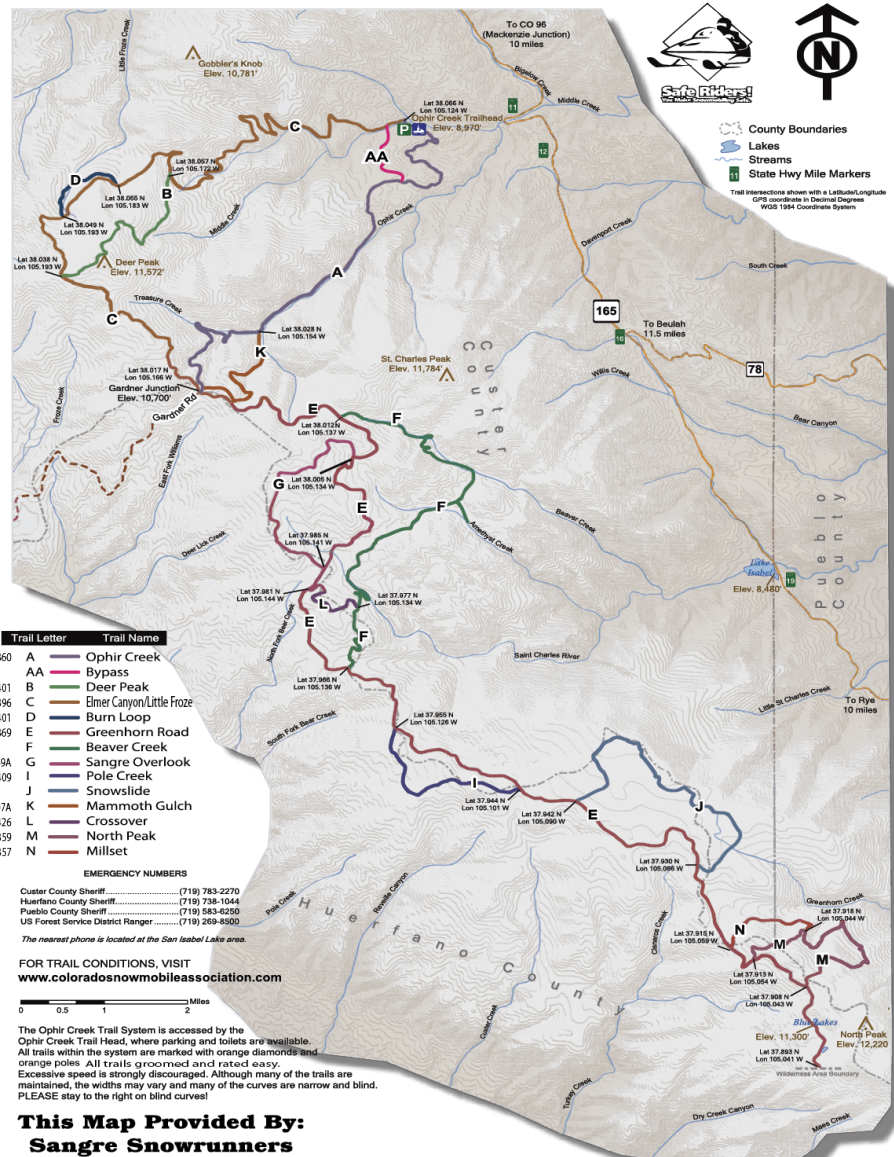
TERRAIN: Groomed snowmobile trails

TRAIL USES: Snowmobiling and cross-country skiing

DOG FRIENDLY: Yes

DISTANCE: Varies.

FACILITIES: Restroom



This Map Provided By:
Sangre Snowrunners



Note: Excessive speed is strongly discouraged. Although many of the trails are maintained, the widths may vary and many of the curves are blind. Please stay to the right on blind curves. Visit sangresnowrunners.com for valuable information about road conditions, weather conditions, and current avalanche forecasts.



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Panadero Ski Corporation is a 501c3 non-profit organization that manages Cuchara Mountain Park, bringing affordable, family friendly outdoor recreation to all.

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Walsenburg Area

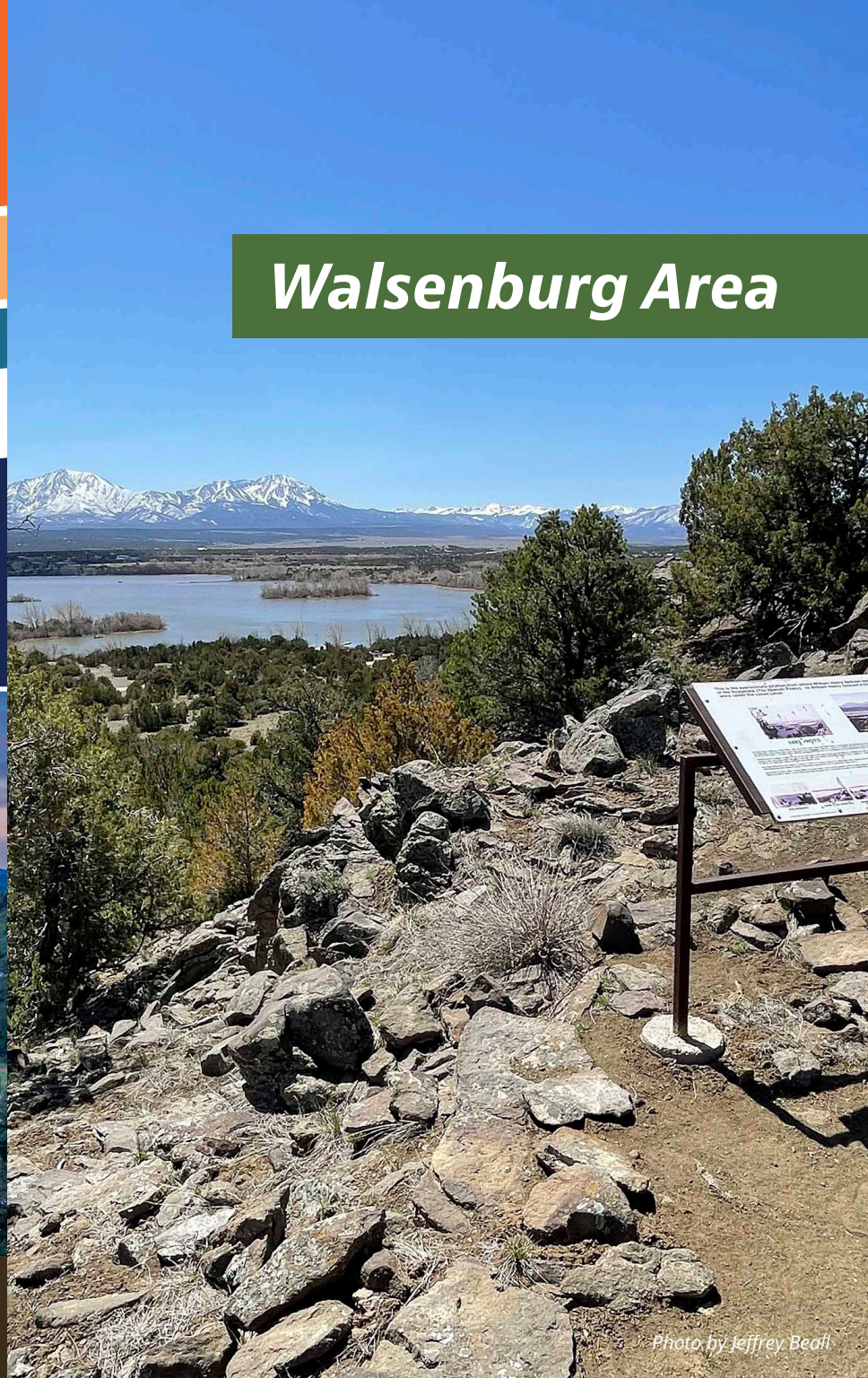
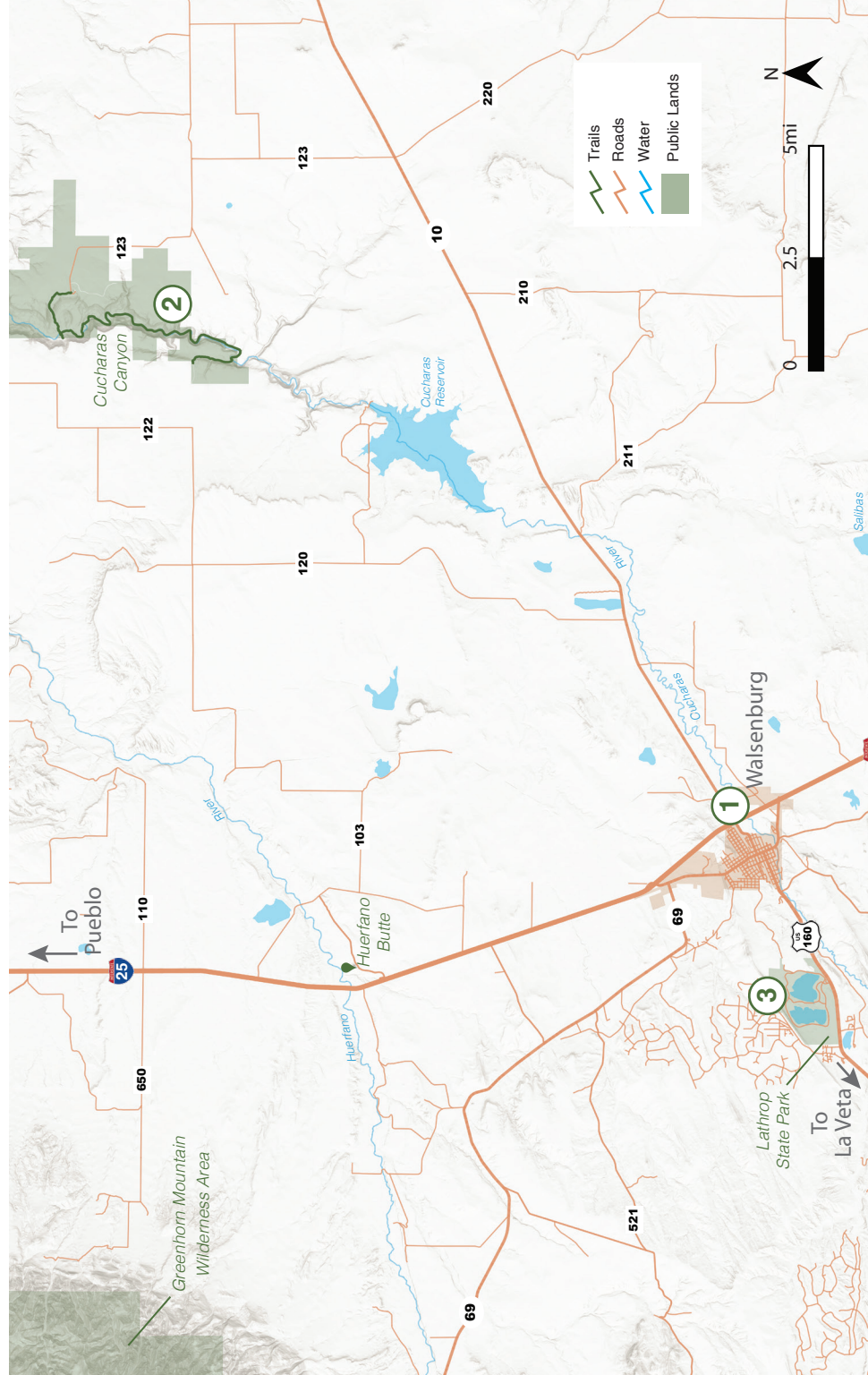




Photo by Jeffrey Beall

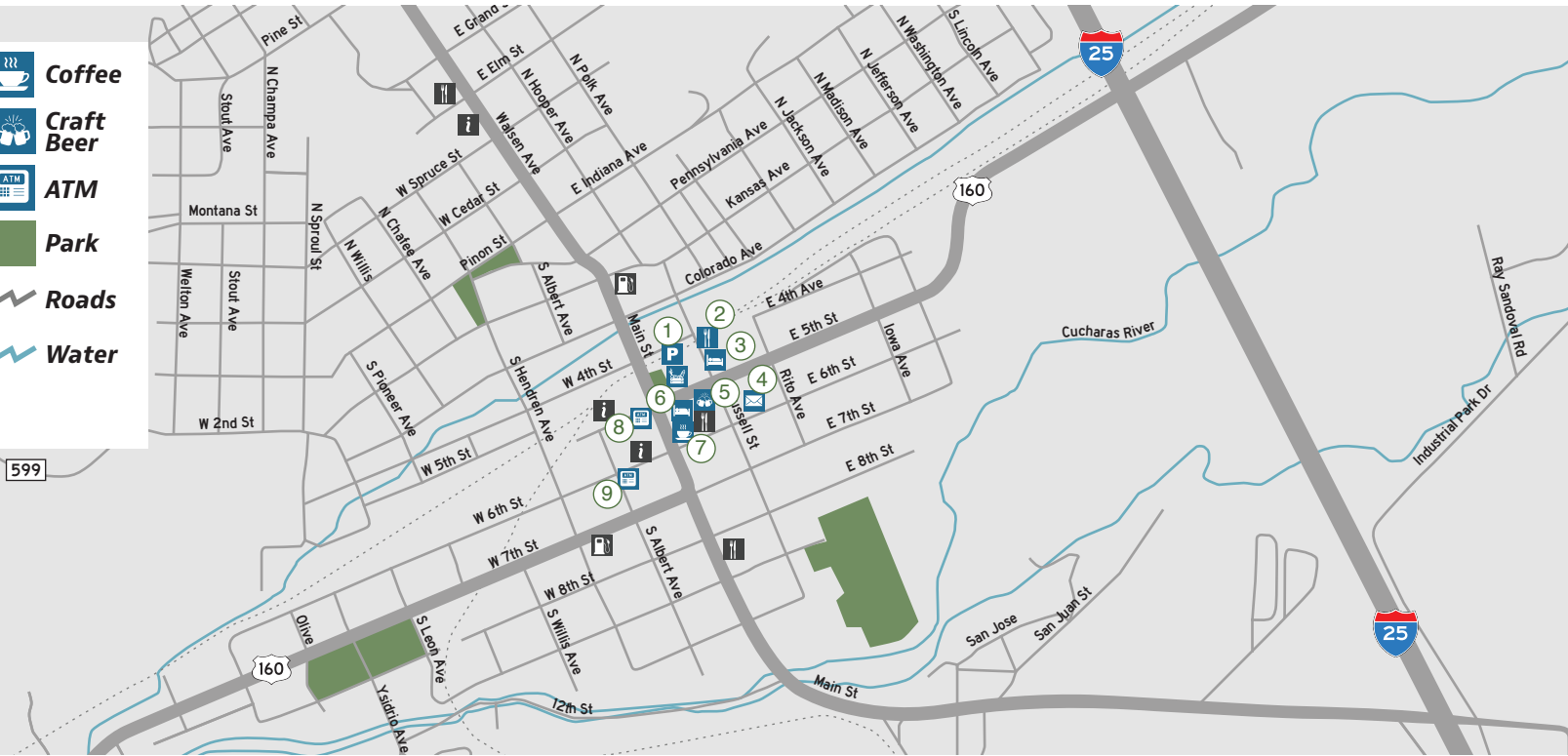
WALSNEBURG AREA RECREATION

FEATURE	Shopping / Restaurants	Hiking / Walking	Horseback Riding	Non-Motorized Biking	Motorized Biking	Jeeping	Golfing	Camping	Fishing
1. Downtown Walsenburg (page 48)	•	•		•			•		
2. Cucharas Canyon (page 52)		•	•					•	
3. Lathrop State Park (page 50)		•	•	•					•



DOWNTOWN WALSENBURG

-  **Dining**
-  **Point of Interest**
-  **Gas Station**
-  **Parking**
-  **Farmers Market**
-  **Lodging**
-  **Post Office**
-  **Coffee**
-  **Craft Beer**
-  **ATM**
-  **Park**
-  **Roads**
-  **Water**



At the junction of I-25, Highway 160, and Highway 10, Walsenburg is a popular stop when heading to and from adventures in the Spanish Peaks region. Downtown Walsenburg features antique shops, restaurants, the Walsenburg Mining Museum, and more!

PLACES TO STAY, DINE AND VISIT

1. Heritage Park / Farmer's Market
2. Walsenburg Mercantile
3. The Whistle Stop Lofts
4. U.S. Post Office
5. Crafty Canary Brewery
6. The Lofts Downtown
7. Serendipity Coffee House
8. Community Banks of Colorado
9. First National Bank in Trinidad



Photo by Jeffrey Beall

LATHROP STATE PARK



As Colorado's first state park, you can explore 1,460 acres of outdoor recreational opportunities with exceptional views of the Spanish Peaks, and Greenhorn Mountain. Just a short drive from Walsenburg and La Veta, Lathrop State Park is a destination for people of all ages.

GETTING THERE

From I-25 north take the Walsenburg exit 52 and from the south take Walsenburg exit 49 once in downtown Walsenburg, take Hwy-160 West to Lathrop State Park. Turn onto County Road 502 into the park. From Alamosa, take Hwy-160 East over La Veta Pass approximately 15 miles. The park is located across the highway from the Spanish Peaks Regional Hospital.

PARK INFORMATION

FACILITIES: Visitors center/gift shop, archery range, boat ramp, camping, conference room, horse trailer parking, showers, restrooms, and swim beach.

ACTIVITIES: The Park's two lakes offer a variety of boating and angling opportunities for all types of water recreation. Martin Lake offers water skiing, power and sail boating, and a swim beach. Horseshoe Lake is a peaceful haven for canoeists, kayakers, sailboats at wakeless speeds. Fishing offers catfish, bass, walleye, trout, pike, blue gill, and large tiger muskies.



Visit the website for a complete description of the facilities and all the things you can do at the park.

LATHROP STATE PARK TRAILS

Trail	Mileage	Elevation Change	Difficulty	Terrain	Uses
Cuerno Verde	3 mi	n/a	●	ADA accessible concrete loop	🚶 🚲
Hogback Nature Trail	2 mi	300'	■	Natural	🚶
William Henry Jackson Trail	1.2 mi	15'	■	Natural	🚶

SUGGESTED ROUTE

CUERNO VERDE LOOP: Start at the Visitor Center parking area and head northeast on the fully paved path. The path will lead you around Martin Lake. This route offers exceptional views of the Spanish Peaks, Sangre de Cristo Mountain Range, and Green Mountain. The path has access to several restrooms, picnic tables, the swim beach, and more. This flat trail is perfect for strollers, inline skates, and wheel chairs. **Distance:** 8 miles **Elevation Gain:** 1,610'



HIKING

BIKING

FISHING

CUCHARAS CANYON



Just east of Walsenburg on the eastern plains of Colorado, the Cucharas River created the Cucharas Canyon, a deep 1,866-acre wild canyon that you can horseback ride or hike. The Bureau of Land Management operates Cucharas Canyon, which offers opportunities for solitude due to few visitors. We wish to thank the Rocky Mountain Back Country Horsemen for the riding information in Cucharas Canyon.

GETTING THERE

To the west side of the canyon to Sheep Crossing, from Walsenburg, travel east on CO Hwy 10 for 5.1 miles, then turn left onto County Road 120. Follow County Road 120 for 10.4 miles, then turn right at the "T" intersection. Follow the road for another three miles. You can go straight ahead for one mile to the Sheep Crossing Trailhead at this intersection.

AREA INFORMATION

START: Begin at the Sheep Crossing Trailhead, off county road 120.

FITNESS EFFORT: Moderate to strenuous on the steep sides of the canyon. Mild at the canyon floor.

DIFFICULTY: The trail descending into the canyon from Sheep Crossing Trailhead is not difficult. It is very rocky in some places, but it is a gradual descent. Going down into the canyon from Wilson Crossing Trailhead is not recommended by horseback. Only experienced horses/riders should attempt the Wilson Crossing Trailhead and only ascend.

SEASONS: Year around depending on ice formation on the Cucharas River and snowfall on the eastern plains.

TRAIL USERS: Horseback riding and hiking.

TERRAIN: Primitive, natural surface with rocky sections along the canyon sides. There are several water crossings since the trail meanders back and forth across the Cucharas River. Some are narrow crossings, and others are wide. There are also rocky sections on the trail; sometimes, the trail is hard to find due to the high water covering what would typically be the trail.

DOG FRIENDLY: BLM requires dogs to be on a leash.

FACILITIES: Sheep Crossing Trailhead has trailer parking, a kiosk, and high-line posts. Water from the Cucharas River must be treated. See page 61 for information about camping at Cucharas Canyon.

SUGGESTED ROUTES

CUCHARAS CANYON IN/OUT TRIP: From Sheep Crossing, you descend the trail towards the canyon floor to see beautiful rock formations. The canyon unfolds before you when you pass through a gate and head to the left. The trail meanders along the bottom of the canyon and crosses the Cucharas River several times. Near the canyon's end is the Wilson Crossing Trail intersection. If you make this ride an in/out, you return to Sheep Crossing when you reach this intersection.
Distance: 8 miles Elevation Gain: 1,610'

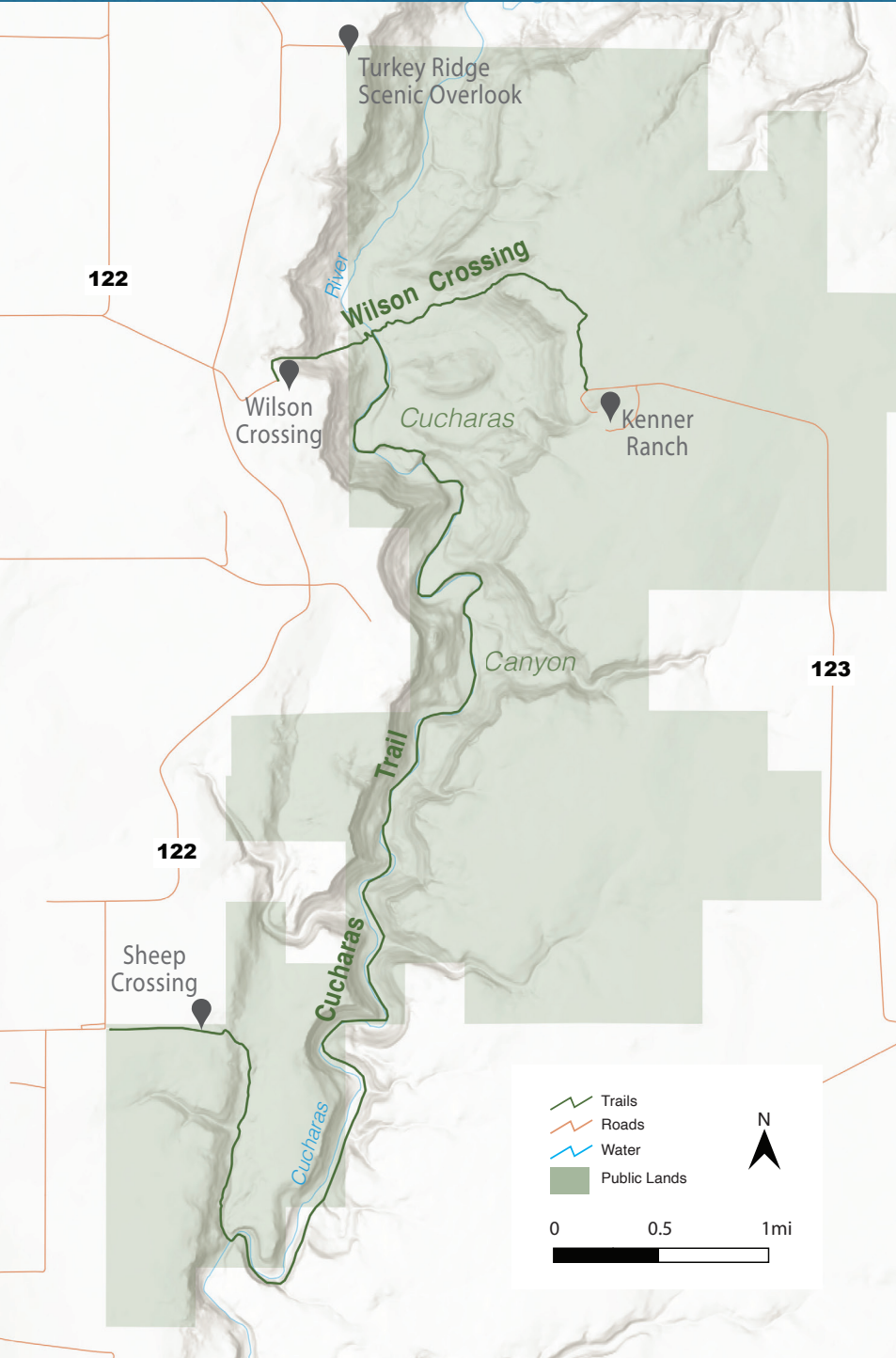
CUCHARAS CANYON LOOP TRIP: The same as above, except you turn left at the Wilson Crossing Trail sign to climb a very steep but short trail to the top, where you end up at the Wilson Crossing Trailhead. Once you reach the trailhead, you can ride the quiet county road back to Sheep Crossing.
Distance: 15 miles Elevation Gain: 1,610'



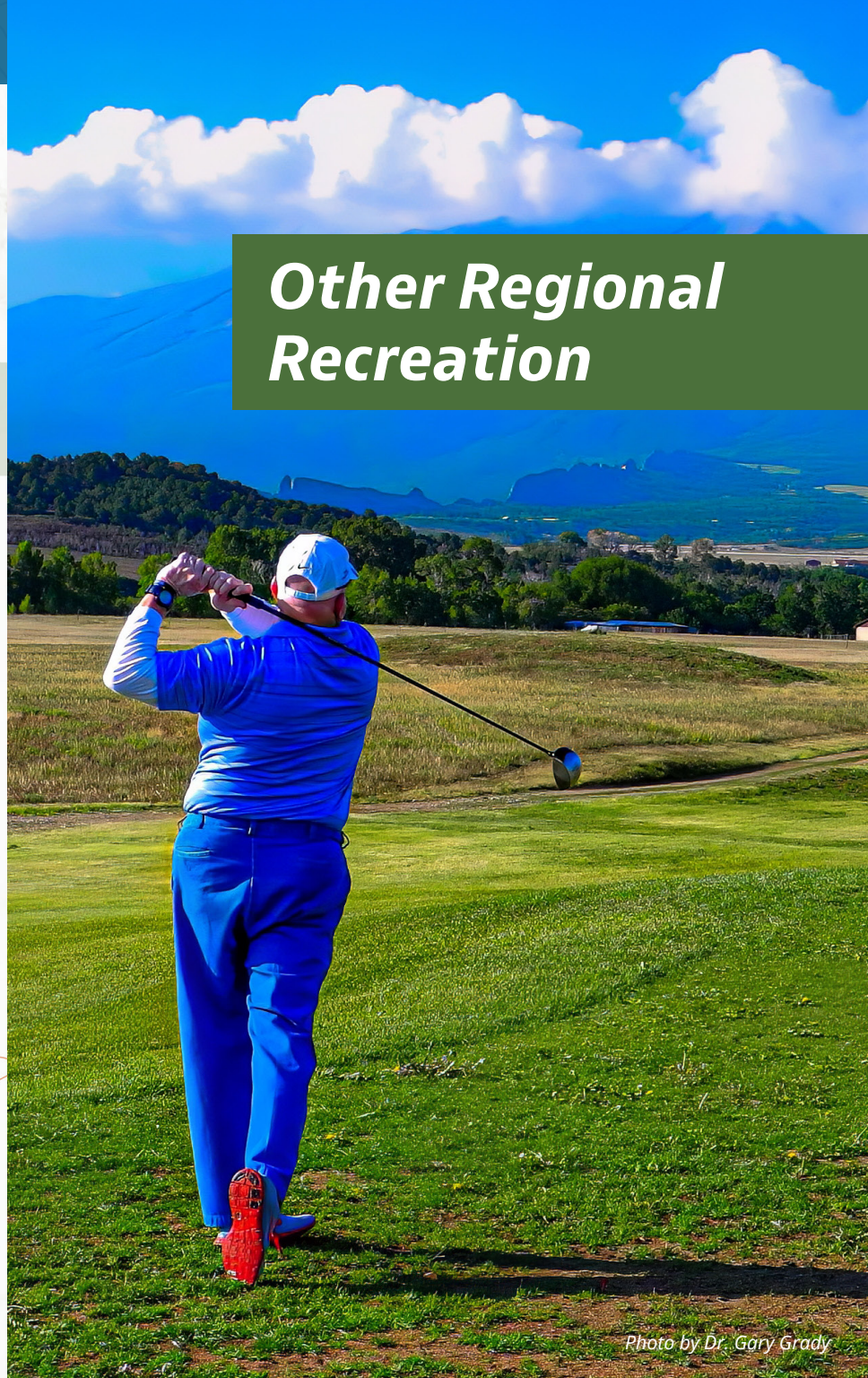
Note: Depending on the time of year, the water will either be low and easy to cross or running high and swift, making some crossings difficult.



CUCHARAS CANYON



Other Regional Recreation



NORTHERN HUERFANO JEEP ROADS



Gardner offers off-road adventures in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains that take you through diverse environments with Alpine forests, mountain terrain, rocks, ledges, and up and down steep hills with spectacular 360-degree views. Grab your picnic basket for a half-day or full-day adventure while exploring the pristine Spanish Peaks region on U.S. Forest Service roads. We wish to thank the Southern Colorado Off-roaders for their assistance with the off-road jeep routes.

GENERAL INFORMATION

START: Begin your Jeep adventures on several U.S. Forest Service roads.

DIFFICULTY: Difficult due to rough roads.

SEASONS: Summer and Fall.

TERRAIN: County and Forest Service Roads that may be rough due to washouts.

ROUTES

BADITO CONE ROAD (FSR 438): The Badito Cone Road is on the south and southwest flanks of and dead ends at the Greenhorn Mountain Wilderness, about seven miles east of the community of Gardner. Public access is limited to the Badito Cone Road, which is very rough and sometimes impassable after washouts from summer thunderstorms. High clearance 4WD is recommended on this in/out road. Badito Cone's distinctive volcanic cone is a landmark for much of the surrounding area, as are the much higher peaks of Greenhorn Mountain Wilderness to the north.

Getting There: From Gardner, drive East approximately 6.5 miles to CR 620 North, stay on 620 for 1 mile to BLM road 6283 which turns into FSR 438. You may encounter closed gates, please close them behind you. **Distance:** 5.5 mi. **Elevation Gain:** 1,200'.



MEDANO PASS PRIMITIVE ROAD (COUNTY ROAD 559): This is a rough road connecting the Great Sand Dunes with the Wet Mountain Valley and Colorado State Highway 69. Set high in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, you will drive through areas of soft deep sand around the dunes, then cross Medano Creek nine times to the summit of Medano Pass. The ride takes about 2.5-3.0 hours. A high-clearance 4WD vehicle is required to drive this road. Reduce your tire pressure to about 20 psi if the sand is dry and soft. A free air station is available near the south entrance to the road in warmer months between the hours of 7AM and 9PM. If you reduce pressure, you will need to reinflate using your own air compressor before driving over rocks in Medano Canyon.

Getting There: From Gardner, drive west on CO State Highway 69 approximately 8 miles to the U.S. Forest Service "Medano Pass Road" sign (County Road 559). **Distance:** 22.0 mi. **Elevation Gain:** 2,017'.

Note: The road is subject to seasonal closure, usually from November to mid-to-late May. Snow can block trail well into summer. It's only passable in good weather during the summer. The road can be closed anytime by heavy snows or high creek levels. It is highly recommended that you contact Great Sand Dunes National Park to assure the pass is not closed due to snow or high water.



LILY LAKE ROAD (COUNTY ROAD 580): Located west of Gardner, the road to Lily Lake takes you through the Huerfano State Wildlife Area. The road will suit most 2WD vehicles for about half of the drive to the Lily Lake Trailhead. 4WD with clearance is recommended due to erosion in the early summer and standing water.

Getting There: From Gardner, drive 0.5 miles west of town and turn left on County Road 550, the Mosca Pass road. Just after the start of the road, a USFS sign should say "Huerfano and Lily Lake Trail heads," 21.5 and 22.5 miles, respectively. After 7 miles, the paved road turns to dirt. Continue 4.8 more miles and stay left on County Road 580. Drive 3.4 miles and enter private property, where another sign indicates Huerfano TH is 5.3 miles away. Continue 3.4 miles and stay left at the entrance to the Singing River Ranch. Drive 0.9 miles and pass the entrance to the Aspen River Ranch. Drive 3.4 miles to enter the San Isabel National Forest. Drive 0.8 miles and pass some signs for the Huerfano and Zapata Trails. Finally, come to the Lily Lake Trail in one more mile. **Distance:** 23 mi. **Elevation Gain:** 1,800'

Note: Forest Service Roads are public roads operated by the U.S. Forest Service to benefit outdoor recreation users. Because of the access road elevations, the Forest Service closes, or may close a road, due to conditions. Please be a good steward of public land. Do not litter, pick up after your dog, follow the principles of Leave No Trace, and follow Off-road Trail Etiquette. cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/TrailEtiquette.aspx



LOWER HUERFANO JEEP ROADS



Photo by Pamela Ward

La Veta-Cuchara area offers off-road adventures in the Spanish Peaks region that take you through diverse environments with Alpine forests, mountain terrain, rocks, ledges, and up and down steep hills with spectacular 360-degree views of the San Isabel National Forest, Spanish Peaks, Culebra Range, and the Sangre de Cristo Range. Grab your picnic basket for a half-day or full day adventure while exploring the pristine Spanish Peaks region on U.S. Forest Service roads. We wish to thank the Southern Colorado Off-roaders for their assistance with the off-road jeep routes.

GENERAL INFORMATION

START: Begin your Jeep adventures on several U.S. Forest Service roads.

DIFFICULTY: Easy to Moderate

SEASONS: Summer and Fall

TERRAIN: Rocky, Sandstone, Rough

TRAIL USERS: Off-road 4WD vehicles, mountain biking, gravel biking.

DOG FRIENDLY: Yes

FACILITIES: There are no public facilities on U.S. Forest Service roads.



Note: Forest Service Roads are public roads operated by the U.S. Forest Service to benefit outdoor recreation users. Please be a good steward of public land. Do not litter, pick up after your dog, follow the principles of Leave No Trace, and follow Off-road Trail Etiquette.

ROUTES

BULL'S EYE MINE: Located at 11,240 feet elevation on the West Peak, the historic Bull's Eye Mine, once part of La Veta's historic mining history, is now part of the San Isabel National Forest. The mine was a past producer of gold, lead, silver, and copper. This trail leads to the Wahatoya hiking trailhead. The primary rock in this area is sandstone from the Eocene epoch 56.00 to 33.90 million years ago.

Getting There: From La Veta take County Road 360, drive six miles to the intersection with Forest Service Rd. 442. High clearance 4WD is recommended on this road. **Distance:** 2 mi. **Elevation Gain:** 2,800'

TRINCHERA PEAK: Located south of Cuchara, Trinchera Peak stands as the highest peak at 13,517 feet in the Culebra Range of the Sangre de Christos Mountains. The peak offers stunning views of the Culebra Range and the San Luis Valley to the west. The first 0.2 mile of Forest Road 436 is passable for ordinary cars, but after that, you will need 4WD. The switchbacks you will encounter are rough and extremely tight, a short-wheelbase vehicle is not a problem. Be aware that the road becomes littered with sharp tire-eating rocks once it emerges above treeline.

Getting There: From Cuchara on CO Highway 12, drive about 4 miles south to Forest Road 422 leading to the Blue Lake/Bear Lake Campgrounds. Adjacent to the Blue Lake Campgrounds is the Trinchera Peak Road aka Forest Road 436.

Distance: 4 mi on FR 436. **Elevation Gain:** 2,100'

FAN DIKE: Located south of Cuchara and Cuchara Pass, Fan Dike is a steep, narrow, out-and-back trail with many switchbacks and areas of loose rock. You will need a high-clearance 4WD vehicle. Some areas have steep drops, and the trail ends abruptly, but there is plenty of room to turn around. There is a wonderful view of Cuatro Peak from the top.

Getting There: Take Highway 12 south from Cucharas Pass to Forest Service Road 437 on your right and drive to the Purgatoire Campground, also known as Potato Patch by locals. Before you reach the campground RSR 437 will be on the left-hand side the road. **Distance:** 3.5 mi. **Elevation Gain:** Starts at 9,600' and tops out at 11,700' - an elevation gain of 2,100'





Photo by Dr. Gary Grady

Enjoy our Spanish Peaks Region golf courses, where you can practice your putts, watch your drives soar or relax and unwind.



GRANDOTE PEAKS GOLF COURSE

5540 US Highway 12, La Veta, CO 91055

TEE TIMES: Daily 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Book and pay online. Golf cart rentals available.

PHONE: 719-999-2000.

WEBSITE: www.playgrandote.com

DINING OPTIONS: The Grandote Grill and Peaks Steakhouse & bar. Check the website for hours of operation.

OVERVIEW

Set in Cucharas Valley, the Grandote Peaks Golf Course offers 18 holes with spectacular views of the Spanish Peaks and Sangre de Cristo mountain range. Enjoy the cooler temperatures of this mountain course, and the abundant wildlife, the Cuchara river, and the artsy town of La Veta. Championship tees play over 7,000 yards, but with four sets of tees to choose from, men and women of all skill levels can challenge themselves to an exhilarating round of golf. At the end of the day, relax on the clubhouse deck and take in a gorgeous mountain sunset.



WALSENBURG GOLF COURSE

1399 County Road 502, Walsenburg, Co.

TEE TIMES: Golf 10:00 am- 2:00 pm, 7 days per week. Golf cart rentals available.

PHONE: 719-738-2730

WEBSITE: www.golfwalsenburg.com

DINING OPTIONS: 2nd Street Grill Restaurant and Bar, 4:00-8:00 PM, 7 days per week.

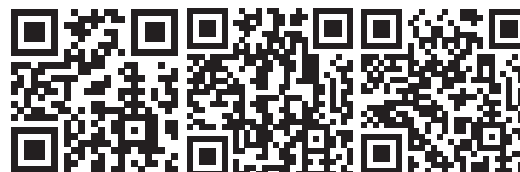
OVERVIEW

Set in Lathrop State Park with spectacular views of the Spanish Peaks, the Walsenburg Municipal Golf Course offers 9 holes with two sets of tees, mini-golf, and a driving range. The front tee plays 3,110 yards, par 36, and the back tees will play 3,285 yards, par 36. The course rating is 65.7, and the slope is 101. Women's tees play 2,970 yards, with a course rating of 67.4 and a slope of 108. At the end of the day, relax in the restaurant and bar and enjoy the stunning views of the mountains.

Note: The golf course shares its main entrance with Lathrop State Park. No state park pass is required to visit the golf course.

	Land Manager	Reservations Required	Electricity	WIFI	Picnic Tables	Fire Rings	Vault/Toilets	Potable Water	Trail Access	Fishing Access
Bear Lake Campground <i>CLOSED FOR 2023</i> fs.usda.gov/recreation/psicc/recreation	USFS	●	▲	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Blue Lake Campground <i>CLOSED FOR 2023</i> fs.usda.gov/recreation/psicc/recreation	USFS	●	▲	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Cordova Pass Picnic Area & Campground fs.usda.gov/recreation/psicc/recreation	USFS				●	●	●		●	
Dakota Campground www.coloradodirectory.com/dakotacamp	Com	●	●		●	●	●	●		
Huerfano State Wildlife Area cpw.state.co.us/learn/Maps/HuerfanoSWA	CPW				●	●	●		●	●
Lathrop State Park Campgrounds cpw.state.co.us/placestogo/parks/Lathrop	CPW	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●
La Veta Pines RV Park lavetapines.com	Com	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	
Purgatoire Campground fs.usda.gov/recreation/psicc/recreation	USFS	●			●	●	●	●	●	●
Sammie's Campground sammiescampground.com	Com	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	
We RV Champions wervchampions.com/communities/we-rv-champions-of-la-veta/	Com	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	

RESERVATIONS + ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



U.S. Forest Service

San Carlos Ranger District

Lathrop State Park

U.S. Forest Service Campgrounds, visit www.recreation.gov, or call 877-4544-6777. For requirements and other specific information about campgrounds managed by the San Carlos Ranger District, visit fs.usda.gov/recreation/psicc/recreation. Lathrop State Park Campgrounds, visit www.cpwshop.com or by calling 1-800-244-5613.

Annual fishing licenses are valid March 1 through March 31 (13 months). Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) provides a range of options for anglers from the annual fishing license to a one-day fishing license. Youth under age 16 fish for free. Buy a fishing license today!

	Land Manager	Day Use / Entrance Fee	Day Use Only	Lake / Reservoir	River / Stream	Artificial Flies / Lures Only	Kid-Friendly	Shore Fishing	Fishing Float tubes / Craft Only	Fishing Hand / Wind Propelled
Bear Lake Day Use Area <i>fs.usda.gov/recarea/psicc/recreation</i>	USFS	●		●			●	●		
Blue Lake Day Use Area <i>fs.usda.gov/recarea/psicc/recreation</i>	USFS	●		●			●	●		
Daigre Reservoir/ Wahatoya State Wildlife Area <i>cpw.state.co.us/placestogo</i>	CPW		●	●		●	●	●	●	●
Huerfano State Wildlife Area <i>cpw.state.co.us/placestogo</i>	CPW				●			●		
Lathrop State Park <i>cpw.state.co.us/placestogo</i>	CPW	●		●			●	●		
Monument Lake Resort <i>themonumentlakeresort.com</i>	Priv			●						
North Lake State Wildlife Area <i>cpw.state.co.us/placestogo</i>	CPW			●	●	●		●	●	●
Wahatoya Lake/ Wahatoya State Wildlife Area <i>cpw.state.us/placestogo</i>	CPW		●	●		●	●	●	●	●

Where to Go from Here

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



Fishing in Colorado



Colorado Park & Wildlife Fishing Brochure



Spanish Colorado Park & Wildlife Fishing Brochure

For specific information about fishing in Colorado, visit cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo

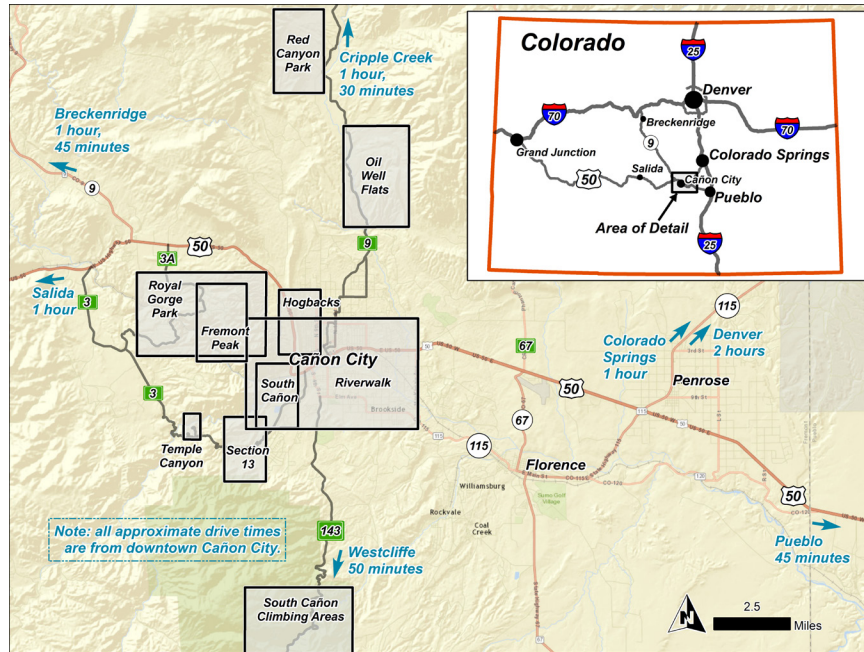


Photo by Pamela Ward

WHERE TO GO FROM HERE

FREMONT ADVENTURE RECREATION

The Royal Gorge Region (including Cañon City, Florence, Penrose, and western communities) boasts over 62 miles of singletrack trails. Divided primarily between four major trail systems - South Cañon Trails, Hogbacks Open Space, Oil Well Flats, and the Royal Gorge Park - there's an adventure for every ability and a wide variety of modalities.



For flat, wide trails walkers, runners, and bikers will enjoy the Arkansas Riverwalk, with several access points along the 7.5-mile scenic trail and access to additional mileage.

Trail users looking for significant elevation changes and technical features will enjoy South Cañon Trails, which links the downtown area to Temple Canyon Park via several singletrack trails. Hikers and mountain bikers will find ample enjoyment (and incredible views) at the Royal Gorge Park, located 10 miles west of town near the famed Royal Gorge Bridge & Park.

For more information, including maps, route suggestions, and more, visit joinFAR.org.



Fremont Adventure Recreation is a volunteer organization dedicated to building, promoting, and maintaining trails in the Royal Gorge Region. Use the QR code to find additional trail information.



WHERE TO GO FROM HERE

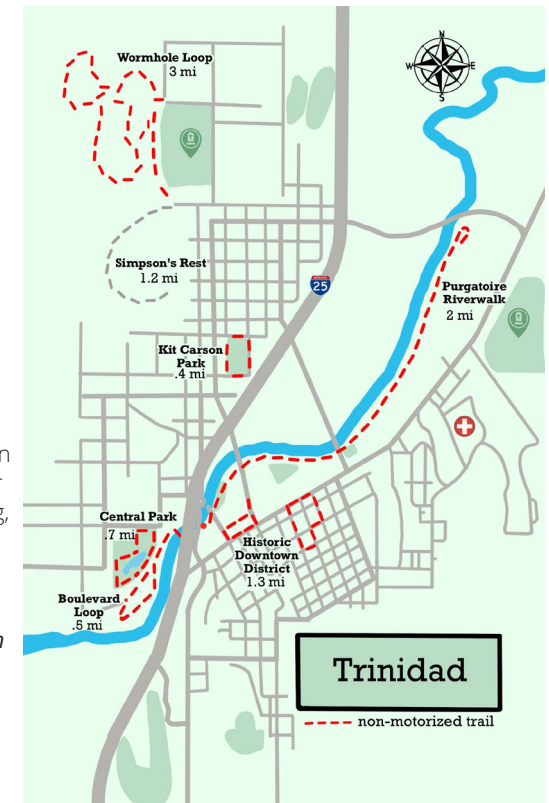
TRINIDAD TRAILS ALLIANCE



The Trinidad Trails Alliance is an all-volunteer organization committed to engaging, educating, and empowering Trinidad residents and visitors in supporting sustainable outdoor recreation through trail building, maintenance, and stewardship of local outdoor spaces.

Contact us at trinidadtrailsalliance@gmail.com

Look for us on Facebook at [Trinidad Trails Alliance](#)



Map of Trinidad City Trails by Jay Gillespie

20th Annual Stonewall Century Ride 204 Miles • August 12, 2023 Scenic. Challenging. Delicious.



VISIT SPCYCLING.ORG OR EMAIL INFO@SPCYCLING.ORG

Sponsors



Photo by Pamela Ward

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WALSENBURG

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TRAIL SUSTAINER - \$2,500



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 P.O. Box 33695, Denver | 303-452-6111 | tristatecoop.com
Tri-State and our cooperative members deliver reliable, affordable and responsible electricity across four Western states.

TRAIL STEWARD - \$1,000



BACHMAN AND ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE
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Four Office Locations: La Veta, Cuchara, Walsenburg, Trinidad. Featuring The Most Spectacular Real Estate In Southern Colorado.



CODE OF THE WEST REAL ESTATE
 215 S. Main Street, La Veta | 719-742-3626 | cotwrealestate.com
COTW Real Estate is your choice for Real Estate. We have the expertise, proven track record, and resources to help you achieve your real estate goals.



CUCHARA FOUNDATION
 P.O. Box 316, La Veta | 720-272-2106 | cucharafoundation.org
Our mission is to honor the history, respect the environment, and support opportunities to learn and have fun in the Cuchara Valley



LA VETA COUNTRY STORE
 200 N. Main Street, La Veta | 719-695-5607 | lavetacountrystore.com
Groceries, beer, wine. Fresh made breakfast burritos, smoked barbeque and pizza. Gifts! Lowest fuel prices and friendly service!



MOUNTAIN MERMAN BREWING
 220 S. Main Street, La Veta | 720-628-9625 | mountainmerman.com
Craft brewery and Taproom, family and dog friendly with food and non-alcoholic drink options

R.A.I. Enterprises
 719-859-3799

R.A.I. ENTERPRISES
 1955 Hwy 12, La Veta | 719-859-1906
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SAMMIE'S CAMPGROUND
 124 N. Main Street, La Veta | 719-742-5435 | sammiescampground.com
Gateway to the Spanish Peaks. Full RV hook-ups, Online Booking, close to downtown

TRAIL BUILDER - \$500



ALYS' RESTAURANT AND GO ASK Alys CATERING
 604 S. Oak Street, La Veta | 719-742-3742 | alysrestaurant.com
Open for dinner only by reservation. We are a fine dining restaurant in a homey setting.



CRAFTED IN COLORADO
 205 S. Main Street, La Veta | 303-366-3339 | craftedincolorado.com
Retail shop carrying home and personal goods made in the state of Colorado. Supporting local artists and industries since 2013



CUCHARA LOKAL
 73 Cuchara Ave., Cuchara | 719-742-3685 | cucharalokalhotel.com
Stay and play at Cuchara Lokal. Our hotel will make you feel at home while you explore this charming mountain oasis.



CUCHARA VALLEY RECREATION PROGRAM
 Cuchara Community Center | cucharavalleyrec.com
Get out and socialize while enjoying summer in Cuchara! Programming includes bingo, hikes, education, and the annual Cuchara Art Show.



CUCHARA YACHT CLUB
 30 E. Cuchara Ave., Cuchara | 719-742-3218 | cucharayachtclub.com
A restaurant, bar and music venue in beautiful Cuchara Colorado offering craft cocktails, local beer, delicious food and live Spring through Fall.



FIRST NATIONAL BANK IN TRINIDAD
 135 W. 6th Street, Walsenburg | 719-738-3549 | fnbtrinidad.com
The Huerfano County Branch provides services such as loans, deposit accounts and mobile banking with excellent customer service.



H'S PLACE GALLERY & MORE
 213 S. Main Street, La Veta, CO | 719-565-8173 | hsplace.art
H's Place is home to Heather Curtis' Photography and other creations, as well as local landmarks on photo notecards. Plus more!



HIGH COUNTRY FENCE
 6840 CO Hwy 165, Colorado City | 719-489-2346 | highcountryfence.com
High Country Fence has been serving Colorado and surrounding areas since 2003, providing a large variety of fence materials at competitive prices



JUDITH DESIGNS
 La Veta | 719-989-8587 | judithbakermontano.com
World-renowned Canadian fiber artist, teacher, photographer, and author. Visit my website for books and class schedule.

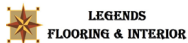


LA VETA INN
 103 W. Ryus Ave., La Veta | 719-742-5566 | lavetainncolorado.com
Take a load off at the historic La Veta Inn where you will enjoy charm and nostalgia, surrounded by breathtaking scenery.



LA VETA MERCANTILE

300 Main Street, La Veta | 719-742-3387 | lavetamercantile.simplexix.com
Art, music, and refreshments. Visit our gift shop and checkout our live music venue.



LEGENDS FLOORING & INTERIOR

726 Main St. Walsenburg | 719-738-2033 | legendsflooringco.com
We carry carpet, commercial carpet, luxury vinyl planks, tile, hardwood, sheet vinyl and laminate flooring. We install everything we sell.



LOKAL BURGERS

701 S. Main Street, La Veta | 719-742-0296 | toasttab.com/local/order/lokal-burger
Lokal burger is more than just a burger joint. We offer breakfast, lunch and dinner using fresh and locally sourced ingredients whenever possible.



LOKAL PERKS

27 Cuchara Ave., Cuchara | cucharalokalhotel.com
Lokal Perks offers coffee, breakfast, and treats in Cuchara. Enjoy a relaxing morning retreat mingling with locals.



NANCY CARROLL, PHOTOGRAPHER

Cuchara | 719-651-2332 | njcarroll.smugmug.com
Nancy is drawn to street, portrait, and travel photographs with a goal to develop fine art Black & White images, seeking the unusual and abstract.



SHALAWALLA GALLERY AND GIFT SHOP

107 W. Ryus Ave., La Veta | 719-742-3453 | shalawalla.com
Batik art by Jonathan and Beth Evans. Visit the studio! Batik classes, all ages and levels. Local art, fair trade gifts, jewelry, and clothing.



STIANO'S ITALIAN TRATTORIA

103 W. Ryus Ave., La Veta | 719-742-5566 | lavetainncolorado.com
Stiano (opening summer 2023) in the La Veta Inn is a Stiano chef driven Trattoria showcasing Reggiani inspired cuisine.



WE RV CHAMPIONS

126 W. 2nd St., La Veta | 719-988-6190 | wervchampions.com
We RV Champions is the perfect adventure destination or quiet retreat for families, groups, or solo travelers.



WORLD JOURNAL NEWSPAPER

504 Main Street, Walsenburg | 719-738-1415 | worldjournalnewspaper.com
Easily the best newspaper in all of Huerfano and Colfax counties, and one of the top two in Las Animas County

CREW LEADER - \$250



BIG R

1010 Cherry St., La Veta | 719-742-3071 | bigronline.com
We are a family-owned business in five states, serving your farm, ranch, and home needs. If you need it, Big R's got it!



BUD HUT INC.

973 US Highway 85 87, Ste 300, Walsenburg | 719-738-2807 | budhutinc.com
Specializing in helping you have the best Cannabis experience. People's choice award 4 years. Discounts for veterans, medical card holders & more.



CAPELLA MORTGAGE

3765 E. Sunset Rd, Ste. B2-Las Vegas | 702-214-4700 | HardMoneyLoansColorado.com
Capella Mortgage is your go to lender for private money loans for fix & flip, commercial, owner occupied, investment & land.



CHARLIE'S MARKET

212-214 S. Main Street, La Veta | 719-742-3651 | Charlie's Market on Facebook
A hometown grocery store serving up the best beef with a full-service meat department and fresh items daily. Don't forget a scoop of ice cream!



COMMUNITY BANKS OF COLORADO

501 Main Street, Walsenburg | 719-738-2234 | cobnks.com
Committed to common sense banking through building relationships that are based on the principles of fairness and simplicity.



EXTREME TERRAIN

600 Cedar Hollow Road, Paoli, PA | 1-877-870-8556 | extremeterrain.com
Clean Trail Initiative provides eligible motorized/non-motorized groups an opportunity to apply for a \$250 trail improvement grant.



FOX WALSENBURG

715 Main St., Walsenburg | 719-695-2199 | .foxwalsenburg.com



ICONIC DENTAL

624 Main Street, Walsenburg | 719-695-1004 | iconicdentalwalsenburg.com
Looking for a Dentist? Iconic Dental provides comfortable dental care using the latest techniques and technology.



LA VETA PINES RV PARK

226 W Grand St, La Veta | 719-742-3252 | lavetapines.com
Full Hook-up RV sites, walking distance to restaurants, shops and galleries. Closest RV Park to Cuchara with plenty of shade.



LA VETA REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT

310 Main Street, La Veta | 719-742-3572 | lvp.org
Books! Activities! Internet! An award-winning public library system. Branches in La Veta (year round) and Cuchara (summertime).



MONUMENT LAKE RESORT

4789 State Hwy 12, Weston | 719-680-0580 | themonumentlakeresort.com
Plan your getaway for great fishing, hiking, camping, dining, and a little rest in the pristine Sangre de Cristo Mountains.



PANADERO SKI CORPORATION

1234 Panadero Ave., Cuchara | 303-883-7208 | cucharamountainpark.org
Fun, affordable, family-friendly outdoor recreation and educational opportunities for everyone.



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719-284-1492 | rebeccaleighdesigns.com
Helping small businesses stand out with unique collateral + strategic marketing. Schedule a free consultation!



SPANISH PEAKS ARTS COUNCIL - SPACE

132 W. Ryus Ave., La Veta | 719-742-3074 | spanishpeaksarts.org
SPACe sponsors La Veta's annual Art in the Park, exhibits original artwork by area artists, and provides a Youth Art Workshop every summer.



SPANISH PEAKS CYCLING ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 586, La Veta | 719-746-0141 | spcycling.org
Spanish Peaks Cycling hosts the Stonewall Century Ride to benefit local nonprofits.



SPANISH PEAKS REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER

23500 U.S. Hwy 160, Walsenburg | 719-501-2595 | sprhc.org
We provide a rural hospital, Veterans Community Living Center, Family, Speciality, La Veta, Outreach and Women's Clinics, and Retail Pharmacy.



SPRADLEY CHEVROLET

Various locations | 719-544-8162 | Spradley.com
Spradley Dealerships are up the road. Factory sales, service and parts. Authorized service all makes, models.



SOUTH CENTRAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

300 Bonaventure Ave., Trinidad | 719-738-2205 | sccog.colorado.gov
Providing services to Huerfano/Las Animas; Care Services, Area Agency on Aging, Housing Rehabilitation, Early Learning and public transportation



URBAN SMOKEN

973 US Hwy 85 87, Ste 100, Walsenburg | 719-738-6420 | facebook.com/UrbanSmoken
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WALSENBURG LUMBER

403 W. 7th St., Walsenburg | 719-738-3700 | sterlinglbr.com/locations
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Denver's original vegan restaurant. We prepare fresh ingredients daily to produce incredibly satisfying vegan comfort foods.

TRAIL EXPLORER - \$100



ARTISANS ON MAIN

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Beautiful art, photography, ceramics, jewelry and more from regional artists, including thoughtful curated goods



BEACH MOUNTAIN ESTATES, LLC

600 E. Ryus Ave, La Veta | 719-890-4154
Beach Mountain Estates, LLC is a family owned and operated business specializing in rental homes for the La Veta community.



CRAFTY CANARY BREWERY

107 E. 5th Street, Walsenburg | 719-214-4150 | craftycanarybrewery.com
A homey little public house offering house-crafted libations, mocktails, food and community!



CUCHARA COUNTRY STORE

34 Cuchara Ave E, Cuchara | 719-742-3450 | facebook.com/CucharaCountryStore
A Cuchara staple providing gifts and apparel for the whole family! T-shirts, hats, cabin decor, groceries & more!



DOG BAR & GRILL

34 Cuchara Ave E, Cuchara | 719-742-6366 | dogbarandgrill.com
Providing burgers and beers @ 8,500 feet, family friendly dining with burgers, pizzas & sandwiches with live music all summer!



GRANDOTE PEAKS GOLF CLUB

5540 State Hwy 12, La Veta | 719-999-2000 | playgrandote.com
Enjoy refreshments, adult beverages at the Grandote Grill. And finish up your day with an outstanding dinner at our Peaks Steakhouse and Bar.



LA VETA LIQUORS

105 W. Francisco Street, La Veta | 719-742-3216 | facebook.com/lavetaliquors
Never leave your happy hour to chance: Visit the BEST Liquor Store in town!



LEGENDS ON MAIN

220 S. Main Street, La Veta | 719-742-3996 | legendsonmainstreet.com
Authentic New Mexican Restaurant. Clean, quality, from scratch food from around the globe.



LOHMAN DESIGN STUDIO

La Veta | 830-456-7958 | lohmandesignstudio.com
We offer a range of services. Our projects include dream homes, vacation cabins, remodels, reimagined interiors.



NICOLE COPEL CERAMICS

La Veta | nicolecopelceramics.com
Making and selling clay art for daily living, based in Southern Colorado. Follow me on Instagram @nicolecopel.



PARADISE COFFEE

305 S. Main Street, La Veta | 719-890-4004 | paradisecoffeelaveta.com
 Family owned since 2012. Serving delicious espressos, lattes, coffees and teas. Homemade muffins and cookies to satisfy that sweet tooth.



PETALS-N-PAPERS

La Veta | 970-231-2065 | CabinPressStudio.com
 We grow beauty! Petals & Papers is a La Veta based, seasonal cut flower farm and letterpress studio. Bouquets, events, stationery, workshops and more.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

P.O. Box 92, Canon City | 303-906-1359 | facebook.com/rmbch
 We are a non-profit that protects trails for equines while educating all users on safe and smart backcountry stock use.



SCENIC HIGHWAY OF LEGENDS

309 Nevada Street, Trinidad | 719-846-9512 | colorado.com/byways/highway-legends
 The Scenic Highway of Legends is an 82-mile stretch from Walsenburg to Trinidad. One of America's Byways, features amazing geological formations.



SERENDIPITY COFFEE HOUSE

528 Main St., Walsenburg | 719-890-4471 | serendipitywalsenburg.com
 A fantastic coffee house, with specialty retail. We have homemade ice cream and fresh baked goods.



SPANISH PEAKS ARTS

La Veta | 719-742-5756 | kathyhill.com
 Original oil and watercolor paintings of the Spanish Peaks and surrounding area, plus matted prints and notecards.



SPANISH PEAKS GUESTHOUSE

6541 County Road 330, Walsenburg | 719-738-9919 | spanishpeaksguesthouse.com
 Spanish Peaks Guesthouse is a 3bed/2bath vacation rental south of Walsenburg at the gateway to Spanish Peaks Country



THE BOOK NOOK (FRIENDS OF THE LA VETA LIBRARY)

207 South Main Street, La Veta | 719-964-1828 | facebook.com/LVbooknook
 A delightful used book shop run by volunteers supporting the La Veta Public Library.



THE LOFTS DOWNTOWN

500 Main Street, Walsenburg | 719-738-8009 | theloftsdt.com
 The Lofts Downtown is a home away from home for anyone looking to vacation, recreate, or visit the Walsenburg area. Rates starting at \$99/night.



THE PARKSIDE ART GALLERY AND CAFE

127 W. Ryus Ave., La Veta | 719-298-2522 | theparksideartgallery.com
 Coffee Shop and Fine Art in the historic Parkside Building across from La Veta Park. Upstairs 3 bedroom vacation rental for max. of 6 persons.



THE SALON

208 S. Main St., La Veta | 719-742-3019 | facebook.com/thesalonlaveta
 Need some TLC after a hike? Visit The Salon for your hair care, massages, and facials.



THREE SISTERS TAVERN & RESTRAUNT

6695 Hwy 165 W., Colorado City | 713-676-2276 | threesisterstavern.com
 Come visit Southern Colorado's best kept secret! SOCO specialties, home cooked meals and a great atmosphere right off I-25!



TWO PEAKS FITNESS

216 S. Main Street, La Veta | 719-742-3555 | twopeaksfitness.org
 Open 5am-midnight; Two Peaks Fitness is a non-profit fitness center. Accepting Silver Sneakers and Renew Active. No contracts or initiation fees!



WALSENBURG GOLF COURSE

1399 County Road 502, Walsenburg | 719-738-2730 | golfwalsenburg.com
 Walsenburg Golf Course is open to the public. Golf cart rentals for your convenience. Restaurant and bar on-site.



WALSENBURG MERCANTILE

408 Russell Ave, Walsenburg | 719-890-1240 | walsenburgmercantile.com
 Admire, shop, and relax. We have handmade soaps, candles, and baked goods as well the work of the very talented artists all in one beautiful building.



Photo by Bruce Johnson



Donate to La Veta Trails

La Veta Trails is a 501(c)3 nonprofit founded to develop and maintain parks and trails systems in Huerfano County that connect people of all ages and abilities to the outdoors, inspire volunteerism, and contribute to the health and economic vitality of the region.