**Garden of the Gods**

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*For other uses, see* [*Garden of the Gods (disambiguation)*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garden_of_the_Gods_(disambiguation))*.*

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| **Garden of the Gods** | |
| [IUCN](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IUCN) category III ([natural monument or feature](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_monument)) | |
| Garden of the Gods, Colorado Springs, Colorado | |
|  | |
| **Location** | [El Paso County](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/El_Paso_County,_Colorado), [Colorado](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado), [USA](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States) |
| **Nearest city** | [Colorado Springs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado_Springs), [Colorado](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado) |
| **Coordinates** | [38°52′04″N 104°53′28″W﻿ / ﻿38.867769°N 104.8910877°W﻿ / 38.867769; -104.8910877](http://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Garden_of_the_Gods&params=38.867769_N_104.8910877_W_type:landmark_)[Coordinates](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system): [38°52′04″N 104°53′28″W﻿ / ﻿38.867769°N 104.8910877°W﻿ / 38.867769; -104.8910877](http://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Garden_of_the_Gods&params=38.867769_N_104.8910877_W_type:landmark_) |
| **Area** | 3,300 acres (1,300 ha) |
| **Established** | 1909 |
| **Governing body** | [Colorado Springs, Colorado](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado_Springs,_Colorado) |
|  | |
| [**U.S. National Natural Landmark**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Natural_Landmark) | |
| **Designated:** | 1971 |



*Balanced Rock* presents a popular photo opportunity



The formation known as the *Three Graces*

**Garden of the Gods** is a [public park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_park) located in [Colorado Springs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado_Springs,_Colorado), [Colorado](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado), [USA](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USA). It was designated a [National Natural Landmark](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Natural_Landmark) in 1971.

**History**

The Garden of the Gods red rock formations were created during a geological upheaval along a natural fault line millions of years ago. Archaeological evidence shows that prehistoric people visited Garden of the Gods about 1330 BC. About 250 BC Native American people camped in the park. They are believed to have been attracted to wildlife and plant life in the area and used overhangs created by the rocks for shelter. There are many native peoples who have reported a connection to Garden of the Gods, including [Ute](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ute_people), [Comanche](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comanche), [Apache](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apache), [Kiowa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kiowa_people), [Shoshone](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shoshone_people), [Cheyenne](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cheyenne_people), [Pawnee](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pawnee_people) and [Lakota people](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lakota_people).

The Utes oral traditions tell of their creation at the Garden of the Gods. [Petroglyphs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petroglyphs) have been found in the park that are typical of early Utes. They found red rocks to have a spiritual connection and camped near [Manitou Springs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manitou_Springs,_Colorado) and the creek near [Rock Ledge Ranch](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_Ledge_Ranch_Historic_Site) bordering Garden of the Gods. Other tribes traveled through Garden of the Gods. The Old Ute Trail went past Garden of the Gods to [Ute Pass](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ute_Pass) and led later explorers through Manitou Springs. Starting in the 16th century, Spanish explorers and later European American explorers and trappers traveled through the area, including Lt. [John C. Freemont](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_C._Freemont) and Lt. [George Frederick Ruxton](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Ruxton) who recorded their visits in their journals.

The area was first called Red Rock Corral. Then, in August 1859, two [surveyors](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surveyor_(surveying)) who helped to set up [Colorado City](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Colorado_City) explored the site. One of the surveyors, M. S. Beach, suggested that it would be a "capital place for a [beer garden](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beer_garden)." His companion, the young Rufus Cable, awestruck by the impressive rock formations, exclaimed, "[Beer Garden](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beer_garden)! Why it is a fit place for the [gods](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Olympian_Gods) to assemble. We will call it the Garden of the Gods."

In 1879, [Charles Elliott Perkins](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Elliott_Perkins), a friend of [William Jackson Palmer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Jackson_Palmer), purchased 480 acres of land that included a portion of the present Garden of the Gods. Upon Perkin’s death, his family gave the land to the City of Colorado Springs in 1909, with the provision that it would be a free public park. Palmer had owned the Rock Ledge Ranch and upon his death it was donated to the city.

[Helen Hunt Jackson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helen_Hunt_Jackson) wrote of the park, "You wind among rocks of every conceivable and inconceivable shape and size... all bright red, all motionless and silent, with a strange look of having been just stopped and held back in the very climax of some supernatural catastrophe."

Having purchased additional surrounding land, the City of [Colorado Springs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado_Springs,_Colorado)' park grew to 1,364 acres. In 1995 the Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center was opened just outside of the park.

**Geological formations**



A row of hogbacks. The *Kissing Camels* formation is the nearest hogback on the right. The "llama's heads" are above the hole in the rock through which sky can be seen.



A view of *Cathedral Valley* showing some of its unusual [hogback](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hogback_(geology)) formations

The outstanding geologic features of the park are the ancient [sedimentary](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sedimentary_rock) beds of deep-red, pink, and white [sandstones](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sandstone), [conglomerates](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conglomerate_(geology)) and [limestone](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limestone) that were deposited horizontally, but have now been tilted vertically and faulted by the immense mountain building forces caused by the uplift of the [Rocky Mountains](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rocky_Mountains) and the [Pikes Peak](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pikes_Peak) [massif](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Massif). The following [Pleistocene Ice Age](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pleistocene_Age) resulting in erosion and glaciation of the rock, creating the present rock formations. Evidence of past ages; ancient seas, eroded remains of ancestral mountain ranges, [alluvial fans](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alluvial_fan), sandy beaches and great sand dune fields can be read in the rocks.

The resulting rocks had different shapes: toppled, overturned, stood-up, pushed around and slanted. *Balanced Rock*, a Fountain formation, is a combination of coarse sand, gravel, silica and hematite. It is hematite that makes the large [balancing rock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balancing_rock) red. It toppled off of a ledge, rested on sand that was worn away at the base. *Gateway Rock* and *Three Graces* are stood-up rocks that had been pushed up vertically. The *Tower of Babel* is Lyons formation, a stone made of fine sand from an ancient beach.

**Ecology**

The Garden of the Gods Park is a rich ecological resource. Retired biology professor Richard Beidleman notes that the park is "the most striking contrast between plains and mountains in North America" with respect to biology, geology, climate, and scenery. Dinosaur species [*Theiophytalia kerri*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theiophytalia_kerri) was found in the park in 1878, and studies of the skull in 2006 reveal it to be a new species. A [honey ant](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Honey_ant) never before recorded was also discovered in 1879 and named for the park. [Mule deer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mule_deer), [bighorn sheep](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bighorn_sheep), and [fox](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fox) abound in this area. The park is also home to more than 130 species of birds including [white-throated swifts](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White-throated_swift), [swallows](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swallows) and [canyon wrens](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canyon_Wren).

**Recreation**

The Garden of the Gods Park is popular for hiking, technical rock climbing, road and mountain biking and horseback riding. It attracts more than two million visitors a year and becomes the city’s most visited park. There are more than 15 miles of trails with a 1.5 mile trail running through the heart of the park that is paved and wheelchair accessible. Annual events including two summer running races, recreational bike rides and Pro Cycling Challenge Prologue also take place in this park.

The main trail in the park, Perkins Central Garden Trail, is a paved, wheelchair-accessible 1.1 mile trail, "through the heart of the park's largest and most scenic red rocks." The trail begins at the North Parking lot, the main parking lot off of Juniper Way Loop.

Because of the unusual and steep [rock formations](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_formation) in the park, it is an attractive goal for [rock climbers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_climbing). Rock climbing is permitted, with annual permit obtained at the Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center. The requirements are following the "Technical Climbing Regulations and Guidelines," using proper equipment, climbing with a "buddy", and staying on established climbing routes. [Precipitation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Precipitation_(meteorology)) makes rocks unstable and therefore climbing is not allowed when the rocks are wet or icy. There are fines for unregistered climbers, and possibly rescue costs. Several fatalities have occurred over the years, generally because the climber was not wearing safety equipment or the equipment failed.

**Visitor and nature center**

The Garden of the Gods Visitor and Nature Center is located at 1805 N. 30th Street and offers a view of the park. The center's information center and 30 educational exhibits are staffed by Parks, Recreation and Culture employees of the City of Colorado Springs. A short movie, *How Did Those Red Rocks Get There?* runs every 20 minutes. A portion of the proceeds from the center's privately-owned store and cafe support the non-profit Garden of the Gods Foundation; the monies are used for maintenance and improvements to the park.

[Natural history](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_history) exhibits include [minerals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minerals), [geology](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geology), plants and local [wildlife](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wildlife), as well as [Native Americans](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Native_Americans_in_the_United_States) who visited the park. Programs include nature hikes and talks, a Junior Ranger program, narrated bus tours, movies, educational programs and special programs.

**Hours and admission**

The Garden of the Gods Park and Visitor and Nature Center are free to the public. As of July, 2013, the park hours are 5 am to 11 pm from May 1 to October 1; 5 am to 9 pm from November 1 to April 30. The Visitor and Nature Center is open 8 am to 8 pm from [Memorial Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memorial_Day) weekend through [Labor Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labor_Day) weekend; the remainder of the year it is open from 9 am to 5 pm.

**Designations**

* [National Natural Landmark](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Natural_Landmark) in 1971.
* Great American Public Place of 2011 by the [American Planning Association](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Planning_Association). The Great American Places are defined by many criteria, including architectural features, accessibility, functionality, and community involvement.

**Gallery**



The entrance to Garden of the Gods with [Pikes Peak](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pikes_Peak) in the background



[Photochrom](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photochrom) of the *Cathedral Spires* (center), ca. 1900



A segment of the *Cathedral Spires*, March 2010



*Steamboat Rock* in the late 1950s



[Steamboat Rock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steamboat_Rock_(Garden_of_the_Gods)) & [Balanced Rock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balanced_Rock_(Garden_of_the_Gods)), March 2010



Dedication plaque

**See also**

* [Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_Ledge_Ranch_Historic_Site), immediately adjacent to Garden of the Gods

**Further reading**

* Bob D'Antonio (2000). [*Garden of the Gods, Colorado*](http://books.google.com/books?id=1jlhEykuCbsC). Falcon. [ISBN](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Standard_Book_Number) [978-1-56044-678-1](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:BookSources/978-1-56044-678-1).
* [*Views of the Garden of the Gods*](http://books.google.com/books?id=zT1OAAAAYAAJ). P. Goerke. 1905.

**External links**

* [Official Garden of the Gods website](http://www.gardenofgods.com/)
* [Garden of the Gods](http://www.onlycolorado.com/Unique/Garden_of_the_Gods.php) at "Only In Colorado"
* [Virtual Tour](http://www.roundus.com/listing/658/#1) – Roundus

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | [**Protected Areas**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protected_areas_of_the_United_States) **of the** [**State of Colorado**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_of_Colorado) | | |  |  | | [**Federal**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_government_of_the_United_States) | |  |  | | --- | --- | | [**National Parks**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Park) | * [Black Canyon of the Gunnison](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Canyon_of_the_Gunnison_National_Park) * [Great Sand Dunes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Sand_Dunes_National_Park_and_Preserve) * [Mesa Verde](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mesa_Verde_National_Park) * [Rocky Mountain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rocky_Mountain_National_Park) | |  |  | | [**National Monuments**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Monument) | * [Canyons of the Ancients](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canyons_of_the_Ancients_National_Monument) ([BLM](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bureau_of_Land_Management)) * [Chimney Rock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chimney_Rock_National_Monument) ([USFS](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Forest_Service)) * [Colorado](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado_National_Monument) * [Dinosaur](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dinosaur_National_Monument) * [Florissant Fossil Beds](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florissant_Fossil_Beds_National_Monument) * [Hovenweep](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hovenweep_National_Monument) * [Yucca House](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yucca_House_National_Monument) | |  |  | | [**National Recreation Areas**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Recreation_Area) | * [Arapaho](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arapaho_National_Recreation_Area) ([USFS](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Forest_Service)) * [Curecanti](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curecanti_National_Recreation_Area) | |  |  | | [**National Historic Sites**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Historic_Site) | * [Bent's Old Fort](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bent%27s_Old_Fort_National_Historic_Site) * [Sand Creek Massacre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sand_Creek_Massacre_National_Historic_Site) | |  |  | | [**National Historic Trails**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Historic_Trail) | * [Old Spanish Trail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Spanish_National_Historic_Trail) * [Pony Express Trail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pony_Express_National_Historic_Trail) * [Santa Fe Trail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Fe_National_Historic_Trail) | |  |  | | [**National Scenic Trail**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Scenic_Trail) | * [Continental Divide Trail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continental_Divide_National_Scenic_Trail) | |  |  | | [**National Forests**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Forest) | * [Arapaho](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arapaho_National_Forest) * [Grand Mesa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Mesa_National_Forest) * [Gunnison](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gunnison_National_Forest) * [Pike](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pike_National_Forest) * [Rio Grande](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rio_Grande_National_Forest) * [Roosevelt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roosevelt_National_Forest) * [Routt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Routt_National_Forest) * [San Isabel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Isabel_National_Forest) * [San Juan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Juan_National_Forest) * [Uncompahgre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uncompahgre_National_Forest) * [White River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_River_National_Forest) | |  |  | | [**National Grasslands**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Grassland) | * [Comanche](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comanche_National_Grassland) * [Pawnee](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pawnee_National_Grassland) | |  |  | | [**National Wilderness**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Wilderness_Area) | * [Black Canyon of the Gunnison](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Canyon_of_the_Gunnison_National_Park) * [Black Ridge Canyons](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Ridge_Canyons_Wilderness) * [Buffalo Peaks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buffalo_Peaks_Wilderness) * [Byers Peak](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Byers_Peak_Wilderness) * [Cache La Poudre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cache_La_Poudre_Wilderness) * [Collegiate Peaks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Collegiate_Peaks_Wilderness) * [Comanche Peak](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comanche_Peak_Wilderness) * [Dominguez](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominguez_Canyon_Wilderness) * [Eagles Nest](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eagles_Nest_Wilderness) * [Flat Tops](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flat_Tops_Wilderness) * [Fossil Ridge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fossil_Ridge_Wilderness) * [Great Sand 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[Uncompahgre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uncompahgre_Wilderness) * [Vasquez Peak](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vasquez_Peak_Wilderness) * [Weminuche](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Weminuche_Wilderness) * [West Elk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Elk_Wilderness) | |  |  | | [**National Conservation Areas**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Conservation_Area) | * [Dominguez-Escalante](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominguez-Escalante_National_Conservation_Area) * [Gunnison Gorge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gunnison_Gorge_National_Conservation_Area) * [McInnis Canyons](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/McInnis_Canyons_National_Conservation_Area) | |  |  | | [**National Wildlife Refuges**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Wildlife_Refuge) | * [Alamosa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alamosa_National_Wildlife_Refuge) * [Arapaho](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arapaho_National_Wildlife_Refuge) * [Baca](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baca_National_Wildlife_Refuge) * [Browns Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Browns_Park_National_Wildlife_Refuge) * [Monte Vista](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte_Vista_National_Wildlife_Refuge) * [Rocky Flats](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rocky_Flats_National_Wildlife_Refuge) * [Rocky Mountain Arsenal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rocky_Mountain_Arsenal_National_Wildlife_Refuge) * [Two Ponds](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Two_Ponds_National_Wildlife_Refuge) | |  |  | | [**BLM ACECs**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Area_of_Critical_Environmental_Concern) | * [66 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Areas_of_Critical_Environmental_Concern_in_Colorado) | | |  |  | | [**State**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado) | |  |  | | --- | --- | | [**Colorado State Parks**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Colorado_state_parks) | * [Arkansas Headwaters](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arkansas_Headwaters_Recreation_Area) * [Barr Lake](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barr_Lake_State_Park) * [Bonny Lake](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonny_Lake_State_Park) * [Boyd Lake](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boyd_Lake_State_Park) * [Castlewood Canyon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castlewood_Canyon_State_Park) * [Chatfield](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chatfield_State_Park) * [Cherry Creek](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cherry_Creek_State_Park) * [Cheyenne Mountain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cheyenne_Mountain_State_Park) * [Crawford](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crawford_State_Park_(Colorado)) * [Eldorado Canyon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eldorado_Canyon_State_Park) * [Eleven Mile](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eleven_Mile_State_Park) * [Golden Gate Canyon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_Gate_Canyon_State_Park) * [Harvey Gap](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harvey_Gap_State_Park) * [Highline Lake](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Highline_Lake_State_Park) * [Jackson Lake](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jackson_Lake_State_Park_(Colorado)) * [James M. Robb - Colorado River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_M._Robb_%E2%80%93_Colorado_River_State_Park) * [John Martin Reservoir](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Martin_Reservoir_State_Park) * [Lake Pueblo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake_Pueblo_State_Park) * [Lathrop](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lathrop_State_Park) * [Lone Mesa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lone_Mesa_State_Park) * [Lory](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lory_State_Park) * [Mancos](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mancos_State_Park) * [Mueller](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mueller_State_Park) * [Navajo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Navajo_State_Park) * [North Sterling](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Sterling_State_Park) * [Paonia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paonia_State_Park) * [Pearl Lake](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pearl_Lake_State_Park) * [Ridgway](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ridgway_State_Park) * [Rifle Falls](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rifle_Falls_State_Park) * [Rifle 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This page was last modified on 7 July 2013 at 01:36.