

## Media Kit

# **Coalition Name**

NoCo means Northern Colorado, and our tagline is: A common voice for public lands.

## **Overview Statement**

Nine county, state, and federal public land agencies from north-central Colorado are actively collaborating on ways to address the challenges the mountains and foothills in this region are facing from high visitation and a growing population. We are committed to sustainable solutions, equitable actions, and beneficial land management practices for the long-term conservation of Colorado's public lands and the quality of the visitor experience.

# Background and the Challenge

NoCo Places (NoCo) was formed in 2019 as an outgrowth of the Northern Front Range Recreational Sport Shooting Management Partnership. This group of decision-makers from county, state, and federal public land agencies in north-central Colorado had formed several years earlier to address conflicts around recreational sports shooting. Their plan was developed, and they were moving on to the implementation stage when the challenge of increased visitation and outdoor recreation in the region began to reach distressing levels, negatively impacting wildlife, the environment, and the Colorado outdoor experience. The group decided it needed to focus on this challenge and renamed their group NoCo Places.

NoCo's focus is the county, state, and federal lands in the region of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests, with the hope that the model it creates can be used by other areas in Colorado facing similar challenges.

### **Member Agencies**

- National Park Service, Rocky Mountain National Park
- U. S. Forest Service, Arapaho & Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland
- Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Northeast Region
- Boulder County
- Clear Creek County
- Denver Mountain Parks

- Gilpin County
- Jefferson County
- Larimer County

#### **Main Contact**

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# Approved Facts & Figures

- The Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests saw 7.5 million visitors in 2020, making it the third most visited national forest in the country (including ski area visitation).
- Rocky Mountain National Park was the third most visited national park in the country in 2019, when it saw more than 4.6 million visitors, which was a 42% increase over a seven-year period.
- The estimated minimum number of visits to Boulder County Parks & Open Space properties increased 84% from 2010 to 2020. Estimated number is based on vehicle and trail counts.
- The 15 state parks in Colorado Parks & Wildlife's Northeast Region hosted 19.6 million visitors combined in the years 2020 and 2021. Those same 15 parks in 2020 saw a 42%

increase over 2019 visitation, emphasizing the drastic impact the COVID-19 pandemic had on outdoor recreation in the region.

# **Approved Photos**

For approved photos and associated captions and credit please contact Katie Matthews at katie@creativecontentkm.com or 720-879-8159.