

Steinaker State Park



Utah State Parks

Overview:

Fish for rainbow trout and largemouth bass or boat, waterski and swim at Steinaker Reservoir. Picnic and relax on warm, sandy beaches or find a secluded campsite overlooking the water and sleep under the stars of Dinosaurland.



History

Steinaker State Park and reservoir were named for John Steinaker, a member of a pioneer ranching family of the region.

Steinaker Reservoir was one of the first units to be constructed in the vast Central Utah Project. This reservoir stores runoff water from Ashley Creek to provide irrigation water for the Ashley Valley. This area is named for General William H. Ashley, famous for leadership in the western fur trade during the 1820s and 30s.

Geology

Steinaker State Park is located in a region well known to geologists. Fossilized relics once found in ancient seas, such as oysters, clams, and other shellfish, have been found here.

The surrounding area intrigues anyone interested in geology, paleontology or archaeology. From high points in the park, view spectacular geologic formations. On the east side of Highway 191, the variegated red, purple, gray and tan soils of the Cedar Mountain Formation can be seen at the base of the hills. This ancient flood plain was once home to dinosaurs.



Plants and Animals

Juniper and sagebrush dominate Steinaker's landscape. In spring, the park blooms with wildflowers including larkspur, penstemon, Indian paintbrush and Utah's state flower, the sego lily.

Many wildlife species live in the park including elk, mule deer, jackrabbits, cottontails, porcupines and ground squirrels.

Moose, coyote, black bear and mountain lion make rare appearances.



Facilities

Tent and RV camping is available in the 31-site campground. Select sites have electricity and sewer hookups, and all sites include a picnic table, grill and fire pit. Group day-use and overnight areas are available. Day-use facilities include sandy



beaches, swim dock, boat ramp, courtesy docks, fish cleaning station and fishing pier.

Things To Do

Steinaker Reservoir is one of Utah's prime fisheries. Fish for Bluegill, Rainbow Trout, Largemouth Bass and an occasional Brown Trout.

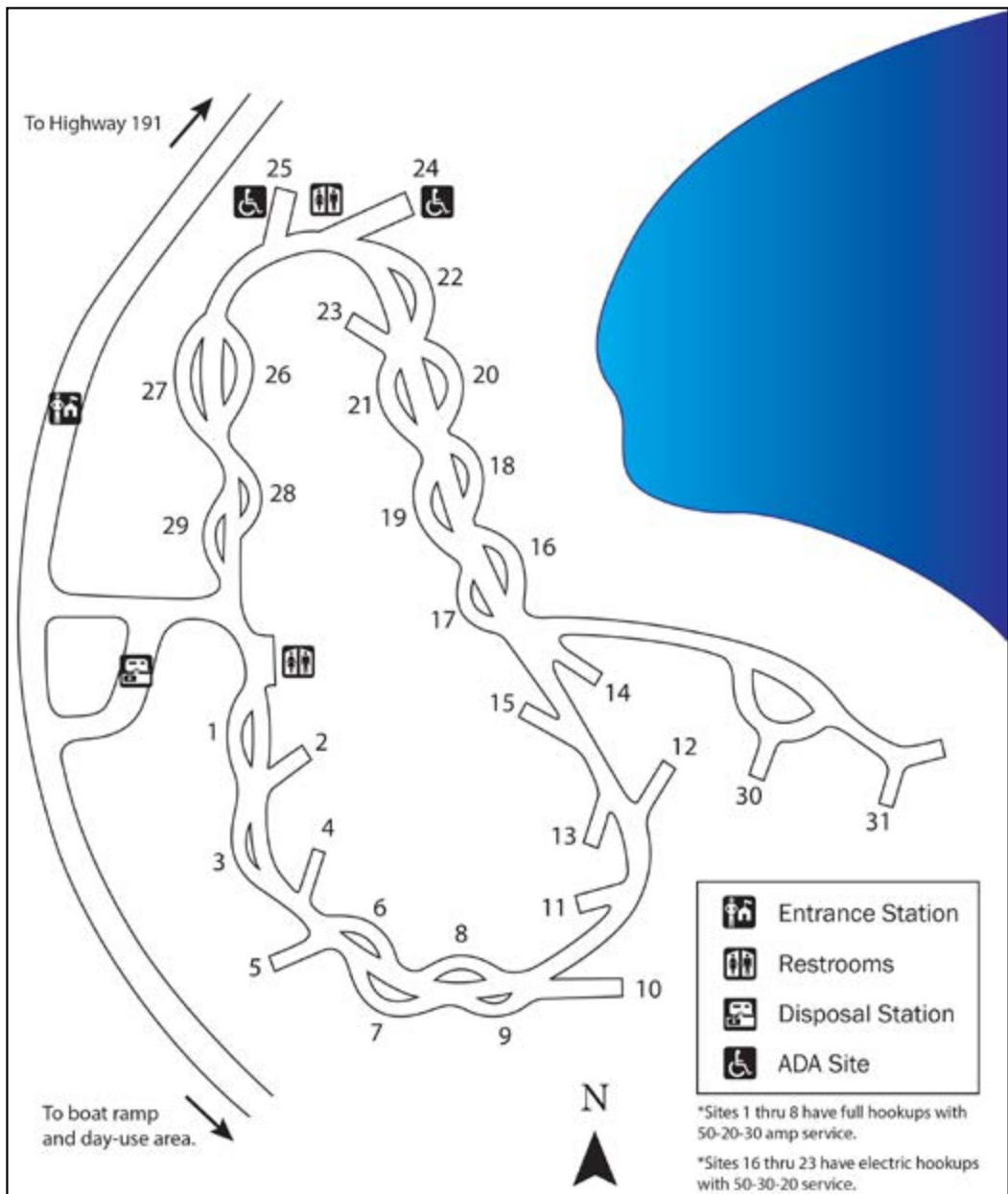
The park is also a popular destination for bird watchers. Cottonwood trees along nearby Ashley Creek and around the edge of the reservoir provide roosting habitat for Golden and Bald Eagles. Other raptors include the Red-tailed Hawk, Osprey and Great Horned Owl. Winter months are best for viewing Bald Eagles near the reservoir.

Steinaker Reservoir serves as an important migratory stopover for birds in fall and spring. Commonly observed water birds include the Western Grebe, Mallard, Cinnamon and Green-winged Teals, American White Pelican, Great Blue Heron and Canada goose.

Other common birds at Steinaker Reservoir include Magpies, Scrub Jays, Killdeer, Western Kingbirds, Yellow Warbler, Mountain Bluebird, Pheasants and Turkey Vultures.



Campground Map



Directions

Seven miles north of Vernal on Highway 191.

Park Guidelines

Please observe the following park regulations to ensure everyone's visit is pleasant.

Camping – Camp only in designated areas. Each permit covers one vehicle and any attached recreational equipment. There is an extra fee for additional vehicles or camping equipment. Up to eight people are allowed in a campsite. Boat ramp and picnic areas are for day-use only.

Fires – Campfires may be built in specified areas only and gathering firewood is prohibited.

Fireworks – Fireworks or firecrackers are prohibited in state parks.

Pets – Pets are allowed in state parks, but must be on a maximum six-foot leash. Service animals are the only animals admitted in park buildings. Pets are not permitted on developed beaches. For safety and courtesy, please keep pets under control and clean up after them.

Off-highway vehicles – Contact park personnel for nearby riding opportunities.

Parking – Park only in designated parking areas.

Plants and animals – All plants, animals, minerals and other natural features in state parks are protected. It is unlawful to remove, alter or destroy them.

Speed limit – The speed limit within all park areas is 15 m.p.h.

Wastewater – It is unlawful to dump or drain water from campers or trailers onto the ground or into lakes and streams. A sanitary disposal station is provided for registered campers.

Vandalism – It is unlawful to mutilate or deface any natural or constructed feature or structure. Please help keep our parks beautiful.

Accidents – Please report accidents or suspicious activities to a ranger.

Permits – A Special Use Permit is required for all special events and commercial or professional filming and photography.

Quiet hours – 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.

**Your park fees provide for the care,
protection and enhancement of this
park.**

Operating Hours:

Summer: 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Winter: 8 a.m. to
5 p.m.

Open year-round with no holiday closures.

Address Inquiries To:

Steinaker/Red Fleet

4335 N Highway 191

Vernal, UT 84078-7800

435-789-4432

or

Utah State Parks and Recreation

P.O. Box 146001

Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6001

801-538-7220

stateparks.utah.gov

For Reservations Call:

801-322-3770 or toll-free 800-322-3770

Utah State Parks Mission:

To enhance the quality of life by preserving and providing natural, cultural and recreational resources for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations.

