

# Guide to Fishing Rocky Mountain PFA

Rocky Mountain PFA is located in Northwest Georgia near the Chattahoochee National Forest on 5,000 acres of Oglethorpe Power Corporation land. The area includes two recreation lakes totaling 559 acres. Largemouth bass, sunfish and crappie are the most common game fish species in both lakes. Numerous wildlife species frequent the area, providing visitors an opportunity to observe wildlife in a natural setting. The lakes, with a backdrop of forested ridgelines, offer visitors a scenic and relaxed setting in which to enjoy fishing, hunting, picnicking, hiking, camping and other outdoor activities.

## Hours

Open year-round, 7 days/week, 24 hours/day

## Facilities

- Concrete boat ramp & fishing jetties
- Restrooms
- Picnic shelters
- Hiking trails with scenic overlooks
- Visitor Center
- Tent & RV campsites
- Group facilities (primitive camping, etc.)
- Some facilities ADA accessible

## Regulations

Public fishing areas have special regulations that are posted on site as well as published in the Georgia Sport Fishing Regulations. Anglers 16 years of age and older, except honorary license holders, must possess a current fishing license. For more information, visit [www.gofishgeorgia.com](http://www.gofishgeorgia.com) or call (800) 366-2661.

## Directions

**From Rome:** Located 10.4 miles north of Rome on U.S. Highway 27; left on Sikes Storey Road for 0.4 miles; left on Big Texas Valley Road for 5.4 miles to the entrance.

For more fishing information, visit the Georgia Wildlife Resources Division website at [www.gofishgeorgia.com](http://www.gofishgeorgia.com) or call (478) 825-6151.

## Trip Check List

- Check the current boating regulations about life jackets.
- Boats with enclosed areas that may trap gas or vapors are required to be equipped with a USCG approved fire extinguisher.
- Carry your current license and boat registration with you.
- Check your boat's trailer and navigation lights, and fuel before leaving home.
- Carry a first aid kit, insect repellent, sunscreen, extra clothing, food and drinking water.
- Be aware of and abide by all fishing regulations.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.

### Be an Ethical Angler!

Ethical anglers fish responsibly, consider the rights of others, portray a positive image, and help to protect and conserve our natural resources. Be an ethical angler, the future depends on it.

- Know and obey the fishing regulations.
- Keep only the fish they can use and release all others.
- Pass on the tradition by taking a child fishing.
- Leave a place cleaner than it was found.
- Do not transfer fish or plants between bodies of water.
- Report violations and pollution.
- Do not litter!
- Dispose of fishing line properly.
- Do not trespass.
- Are courteous of others.
- Lend a helping hand.

**T.I.P. (Turn in Poachers):** To report game/fish law violations, fish kills or hazardous spills, call (800) 241-4113.

## Major Fish Species & Fishing Tips

Largemouth bass • Bluegill • Channel catfish • Crappie • Redear sunfish (shellcracker) • Hybrid bass

Standing timber provides excellent habitat in both lakes for crappie and bass. During midday, crappie can be found in the flooded timber. Other locations that may hold crappie include rock piles and rip-rap along fishing jetties. During construction, large rock piles were placed off the corners of the jetties as fish attractors. Fishing minnows or jigs around these structures is a good technique for catching crappie.

Bass will suspend in the thicker cover as they lay in ambush for passing prey. Early in the morning, top-water crank baits fished around the edges of the thicker brush may fool hungry bass. Later in the day, casting diving lures around the edges of the thicker timber or pitching weedless baits right into the thick cover can be productive.

Bluegill and shellcrackers like to spawn over sandy areas with good hard bottoms. Try fishing crickets or earthworms just at or on the bottom in these areas during the late spring and summer for these spawning fish. When the bluegill aren't bedding, try casting small artificial lures, spinners, or top-water poppers around the shallow edges.


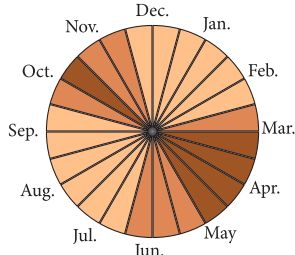

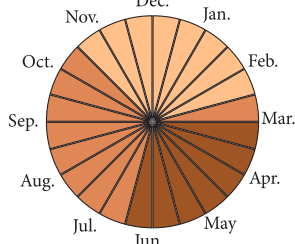

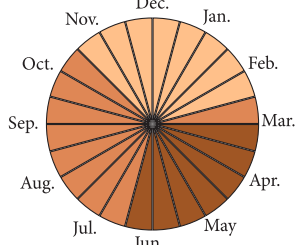

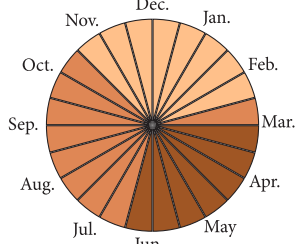
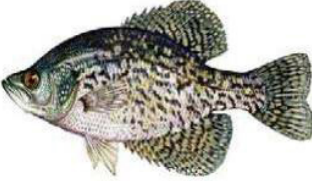
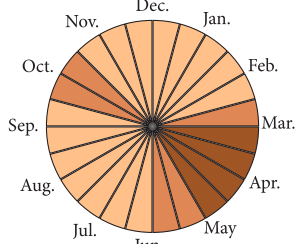
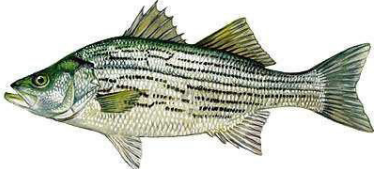
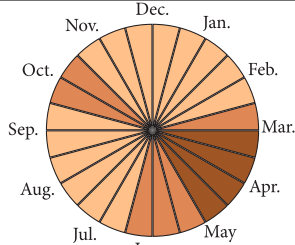
## Rocky Mountain PFA Fish by Lake

| Lake    | Acres | Large-mouth Bass | Redear Sunfish | Bluegill | Channel Catfish | Black Crappie | Hybrid Bass |
|---------|-------|------------------|----------------|----------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| Heath*  | 202   | ■                | ■              | ■        | ■               | ■             | ■           |
| Antioch | 357   | ■                | ■              | ■        | ■               | ■             | ■           |

\* Heath Lake is open the 1-10 of each month; all largemouth bass 14"–20" must be released; anglers may possess only one bass over 20".



# Rocky Mountain Fish Guide

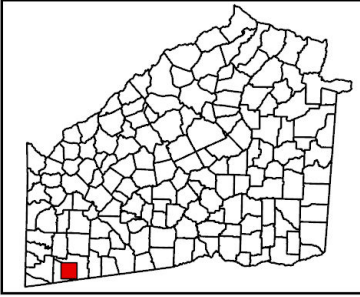
| Fish Species   | Biology   | Best Fishing Times  |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Largemouth Bass</p>    | <p>Bass spawn from February to May. Occupy a variety of habitats in reservoirs and rivers. Feed both day and night motivated by hunger or striking. Females are typically larger and more aggressive than males.<br/> <b>Bait: Crankbaits, plastic worms &amp; jigs</b></p>   |    |
| <p>Redear Sunfish</p>     | <p>“Shellcracker” feed primarily on aquatic insects including midge larvae to snails. Unlike bluegill, shellcracker typically do not stunt. Fast growth, larger size and good flavor make these a desirable fish.<br/> <b>Bait: Crickets, Red Wigglers &amp; small top water lures</b></p>                                    |    |
| <p>Bluegill</p>          | <p>Most likely the first fish caught by children. They aggressively guard nest during spawns. Bluegill are hard fighters, hit a variety of baits, and are abundant in most rivers and lakes. Known as a tasty panfish.<br/> <b>Bait: Crickets, Red Wigglers &amp; small top water lures</b></p>                               |   |
| <p>Channel Catfish</p>  | <p>Channel catfish are a highly adaptable and desirable fish that are easily caught. They can reach Sizes up to 20 lbs and use their barbells for taste. Larger individuals are often confused with Blue catfish.<br/> <b>Bait: Chicken livers, worms, “stink bait” &amp; crickets</b></p>                                    |  |
| <p>Black Crappie</p>    | <p>Has a preference of clear water, and associated with vegetation during spawns. Young prefer insects, switching to fish as it matures. Black crappie commonly reach 2 lbs in size, and the current world record is 5 lbs. An extremely popular game fish in Georgia.<br/> <b>Bait: Minnows, jigs &amp; red wigglers</b></p> |  |
| <p>Hybrid Bass</p>      | <p>Hybrid bass grow rapidly and will aggressively attack bait in spring and early fall. When biting they are easy to catch and can be caught in large numbers. Hybrids are hard fighters and typically found in open water habitats.<br/> <b>Bait: Minnows, deep-diving crank baits &amp; rattletaps</b></p>                  |  |

## Best Fishing Times Key

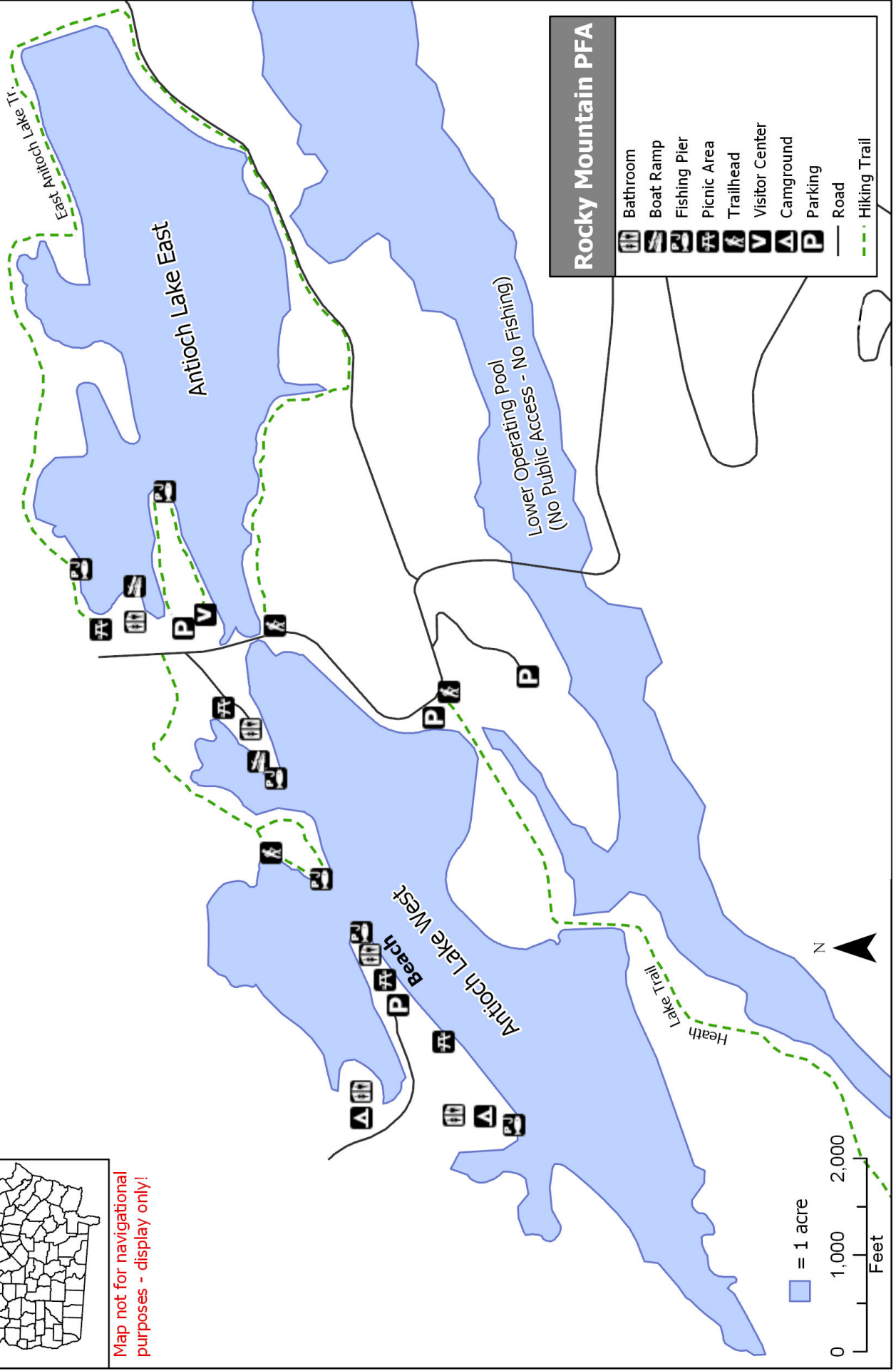
Excellent
  Good
  Fair

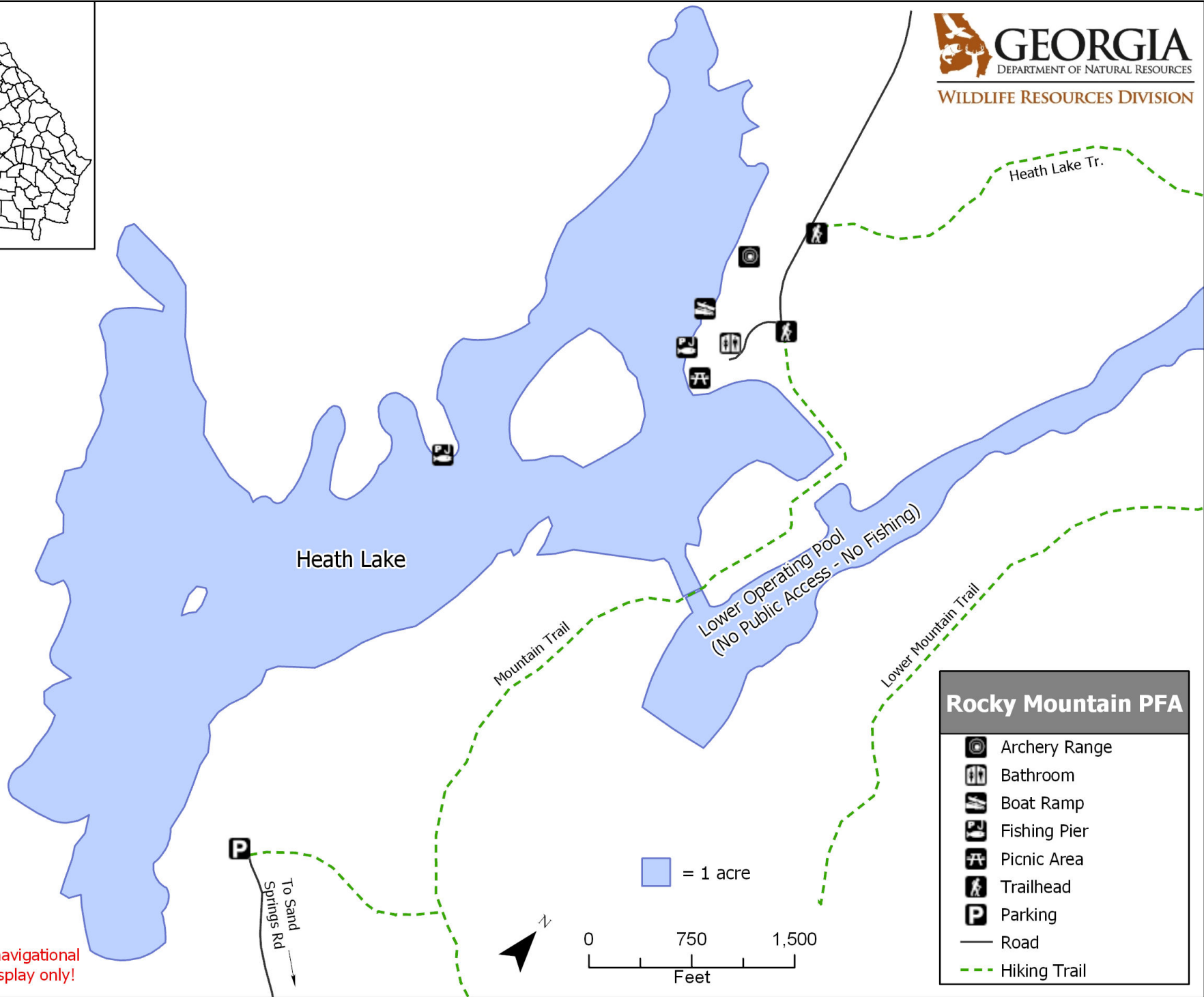
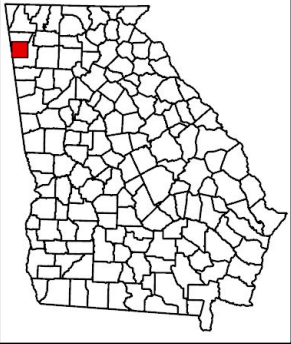


Fish images: Duane Raver/USFWS



Map not for navigational purposes - display only!





**Rocky Mountain PFA**

- Archery Range
- Bathroom
- Boat Ramp
- Fishing Pier
- Picnic Area
- Trailhead
- Parking
- Road
- Hiking Trail

Map not for navigational purposes - display only!

**P**  
To Sand Springs Rd

= 1 acre

0 750 1,500  
Feet

