

Welcome to Our Side of the Divide. We invite you to enjoy a drive through our countryside, made up of orchards, vineyards, farms and ranches. Take home some wine, fresh greens, tree ripened fruit and other farm fresh products.

Watch for the banners along the roadside. They are displayed when a tour is available and not visible when the producers are in the fields.

Thank you for spending time on Our Side of the Divide.

TO GRAND JUNCTION

Thanks to all who participated in and funded this project: our producers, County Commissioners and the Delta County Tourism Cabinet. If you would like your Tour included on this map call 874-9532.

Fruitgrowers Reservoir (Hart's Basin): This reservoir is the best place for migrating shorebirds on the west slope in the fall and is also great in the spring. The water level is typically low, exposing wide mudflats, in the fall as the reservoir is used for irrigating during the summer. In early spring, this is a great place to see migrating Sandhill Cranes. Large flocks of sandhills spend the night here on their journey north. There is a Great Blue Heron nesting area (heronry) located in the southwest corner of the reservoir. The shrubby areas surrounding the reservoir are great for sparrows in migration and in winter. N.00 road that crosses the reservoir near the inflow area is the best place to view the reservoir. Additional viewing is near the dam at the south end (from M.00 Rd). This is also a great place to view many species of raptors.

Sweitzer Lake State Park: This reservoir is good for viewing all types of waterbirds. The trees around the in the park are good for passerines in migration. The shrubby habitat surrounding the lake is also good for sparrows.

Confluence Park: The lake is great any time of the year for waterbirds. There are also a large amount of cattails throughout the park. The Uncompahgre River flows into the Gunnison River in the park, hence the name. Many trails, which are good for migrating passerines, wonder through the extensive riparian forests along both rivers. Great-tailed Grackles can be found here throughout the year.

Escalante State Wildlife Area (eastern tracts): There are eight independent tracts in this state wildlife area. Several of these are closed to the public March 15 through July 31 to protect nesting birds. Some tracts have large cottonwood galleries along the Gunnison River are good for migrating and breeding passerines. Some areas have newly

constructed wetlands and should prove beneficial to marshbirds and all waterfowl during migration. There are also several areas with grassy fields with shelterbelts that provide safe cover for several species of sparrows throughout the year.

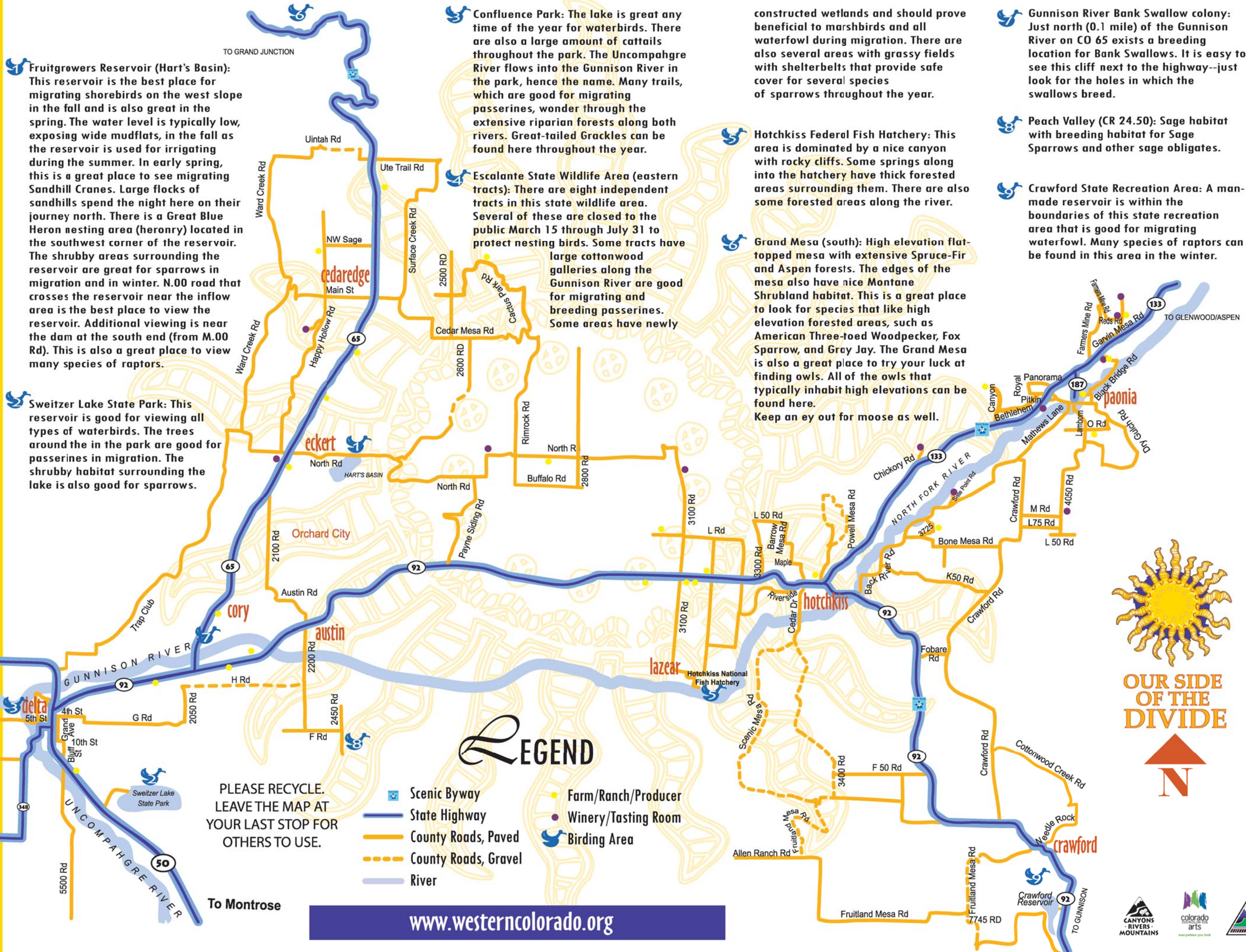
Hotchkiss Federal Fish Hatchery: This area is dominated by a nice canyon with rocky cliffs. Some springs along into the hatchery have thick forested areas surrounding them. There are also some forested areas along the river.

Grand Mesa (south): High elevation flat-topped mesa with extensive Spruce-Fir and Aspen forests. The edges of the mesa also have nice Montane Shrubland habitat. This is a great place to look for species that like high elevation forested areas, such as American Three-toed Woodpecker, Fox Sparrow, and Gray Jay. The Grand Mesa is also a great place to try your luck at finding owls. All of the owls that typically inhabit high elevations can be found here. Keep an eye out for moose as well.

Gunnison River Bank Swallow colony: Just north (0.1 mile) of the Gunnison River on CO 65 exists a breeding location for Bank Swallows. It is easy to see this cliff next to the highway--just look for the holes in which the swallows breed.

Peach Valley (CR 24.50): Sage habitat with breeding habitat for Sage Sparrows and other sage obligates.

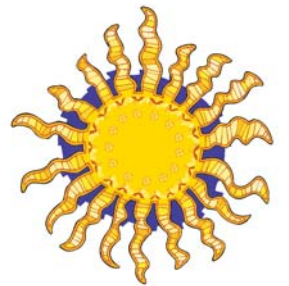
Crawford State Recreation Area: A man-made reservoir is within the boundaries of this state recreation area that is good for migrating waterfowl. Many species of raptors can be found in this area in the winter.



PLEASE RECYCLE.
LEAVE THE MAP AT
YOUR LAST STOP FOR
OTHERS TO USE.

- LEGEND**
- Scenic Byway
 - State Highway
 - County Roads, Paved
 - County Roads, Gravel
 - River
 - Farm/Ranch/Producer
 - Winery/Tasting Room
 - Birding Area

www.westerncolorado.org



OUR SIDE OF THE DIVIDE

