

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN HANG GLIDING AND PARAGLIDING ASSOCIATION (RMHPA), BOULDER PARAGLIDING CLUB (BoPaC) AND CITY OF BOULDER OPEN SPACE & MOUNTAIN PARKS (OSMP)

### BOULDER FLIGHT SITE GUIDELINES

#### PURPOSE

These guidelines are to be used by all pilots who fly on the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) in the North Boulder area. Their purpose is to detail the OSMP requirements for flying the launch and landing areas where hang gliding and paragliding are suitable. It is the RMHPA's and BoPaC's hope that informal regulation of its own pilots who fly OSMP will mirror United States Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association's (USHPA) self-regulation under the FAA. As we have experienced, it isn't difficult to lose a launch or landing area due to development or landowner concerns. Hang glider and paraglider pilots have been flying in Boulder since the early-seventies. Cooperation and good stewardship are necessary to keep these sites open.

#### PHILOSOPHY

RMHPA and BoPaC support hang gliding and paragliding activities within the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks. All pilots **must** abide by the *requirements* and follow all of the *strong encouragements* as well as the *City Regulations* mentioned below to stay within the spirit of these guidelines and ensure our continued access to OSMP lands. Contact any of the officers of the RMHPA or BoPaC if you wish to record a significant deviation from these guidelines. This will help in the effort to monitor the Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks flying sites. Contact OSMP at 303-441-3440 if you wish to report an illegal activity or call 9-1-1 for an emergency. RMHPA and BoPaC will continue to work with the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks on

future recreational management plans concerning hang gliding and paragliding activities. These guidelines are subject to revision if any new issues arise.

### CITY OF BOULDER - OPEN SPACE AND MOUNTAIN PARKS GENERAL SITE GUIDELINES

1. USHPA's site insurance policy requires all pilots, including first-day students and visiting pilots, be USHPA members at the time of their use of OSMP sites. This provides uniform third party liability insurance for all pilots. You may call USHPA at 800-616-6888, or visit online at [www.ushpa.aero](http://www.ushpa.aero).

All students are encouraged to hire only USHPA-rated paragliding or hang gliding instructors. All students can and should report any safety related complaints to USHPA. Local schools can be found in the yellow pages or on the RMHPA's or BoPaC's websites:

[www.rmhpa.org](http://www.rmhpa.org) [www.boulderparaglidingclub.org](http://www.boulderparaglidingclub.org)

Schools are *strongly encouraged* to distribute a copy of these guidelines to each student before they receive instruction at any Boulder OSMP site. Copies are distributed free upon request from the RMHPA BoPaC or can be downloaded from their web sites.

2. RMHGA and BoPaC *require* all pilots to join either of these clubs before flying at OSMP sites. This is necessary for two reasons. First, OSMP requires RMHGA to insure the sites on their property. This insurance provides different coverage than your USHPA membership insurance. Your membership supports this expense. Second, USHPA site insurance requirements specify that all pilots that fly an insured site be members of the organization insuring the site. In addition, your membership is a way for you to ensure you are informed of current site issues, concerns, and events. Membership information can be found at both clubs web sites.

3. All pilots are *strongly encouraged* to wear a suitable helmet while ground handling and *required* to wear one when flying a USHPA insured site. All pilots are *strongly encouraged* to wear a parachute except where explicitly supervised by a USHPA-rated Instructor. Pilots are *strongly encouraged* to have ratings equal to or greater than those shown for the sites in these guidelines.

4. All pilots are advised that *City Regulations* prohibit litter, such as flagging, as well as the removal of rocks or plants from their place on OSMP land. Any flagging used must be removed at the end of each flying day. Pilots are *strongly encouraged* to consider their small incremental impact on the erosion of the land.

The following **OSMP SITE USE INSTRUCTIONS** will help to minimize erosion:

- Large groups are encouraged to carpool in Do not use the sites at all when the ground is very wet or muddy.
- Use only designated trails to get to/from launch and landing areas, stay on the trail
- Diversify your exit from landing areas to the nearest designated trail.
- Do not create social trails by repeatedly using the same unofficial path to a launch area.
- Whenever possible, launch from, or close to, a designated trail.
- Avoid travelling in or through the gullies except on existing designated trails.
- Shake out your gear in the LZ before going back up to launch to minimize unwanted weeds, like cheat and jointed goat grass, that hitchhike.
- If a set-up or launch area is looking worn, diversify your activity to allow the area time to recover.

## **GUIDELINES FOR THE HANG GLIDING & PARAGLIDING FLIGHT SITES LOCATED AT THE WONDERLAND LAKE AREAS (NORTH BOULDER)**

Parking in the Locust Avenue area is generally not a problem for small numbers of pilots. However, large groups are encouraged to carpool in from the Foothills Nature Center Trailhead at 4201 North Broadway, Boulder.

UPPER, THREE QUARTER & LOWER LAUNCH WONDERLAND SITES. These are H2/P2 or Supervised H1/P1. Follow the OSMP site use *requirements* listed above. Further specific information for pilots is available from RMHPA's and BoPaC's web sites. **NOTE:** *Scott Westfall's property (above the upper launch) is Private. Please do not Trespass. Launching from there is by invitation only.*

### SOUTH WONDERLAND LAKE LAUNCH SITE

**This is a drive-up / drop off only launch site. Do not park on Pine Needle Road.** Please respect the privacy of property owners. Do not drive beyond the pull-out area, as there are no other places to turn around. Do not turn around in private driveways.

Pilots accessing the launch from the west side of the ridge are *required* to be dropped off with their gear BEFORE the gate at the end of Pine Needle Road while the driver returns to the Foothills Nature Center or Locust Avenue parking areas. Parking on the back of the ridge is not allowed.

This launch site is H2/P3 or Supervised H1/P2. Every pilot is requested to follow the OSMP site use *requirements* listed above. Further specific information for pilots is available from RMHPA's and BoPaC's web sites.

## **FINAL NOTES: OTHER BOULDER FLIGHT SITES**

*Dakota Hogback* is no longer an authorized hang gliding or paragliding site. This launch and landing area closed effective June 23, 2003.

*Mount Sanitas* is not an authorized hang gliding or paragliding site.

*The First Flatiron* is not an authorized hang gliding or paragliding site.

The *West Beech* property is not an authorized hang gliding or paragliding site.

*Flagstaff* is not an authorized hang gliding or paragliding site.

*HWY128/Windfarm* - was closed on March 26, 2003

*Eldorado/Matterhorn* - was closed on March 26, 2003

## **CONTACTS**

CITY OF BOULDER OPEN SPACE AND MOUNTAIN PARKS - NORTH BOULDER FLYING SITE GUIDELINES

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Questions, Issues, Concerns?

Visit [www.rmhpa.org](http://www.rmhpa.org) "Contact Us"  
or [www.boulderparaglidingclub](http://www.boulderparaglidingclub) "Contact Us"

or contact the current OSMP Liaison:

**Matt Jones**, phone 720-840-5380,  
e-mail [JonesM@bouldercolorado.gov](mailto:JonesM@bouldercolorado.gov) .