



CHALLENGES

The following factors cause concentrated visitation that impact our public lands, natural resources, and outdoor experiences.

GROWTH, OUTDOOR CULTURE, INCREASED VISITATION

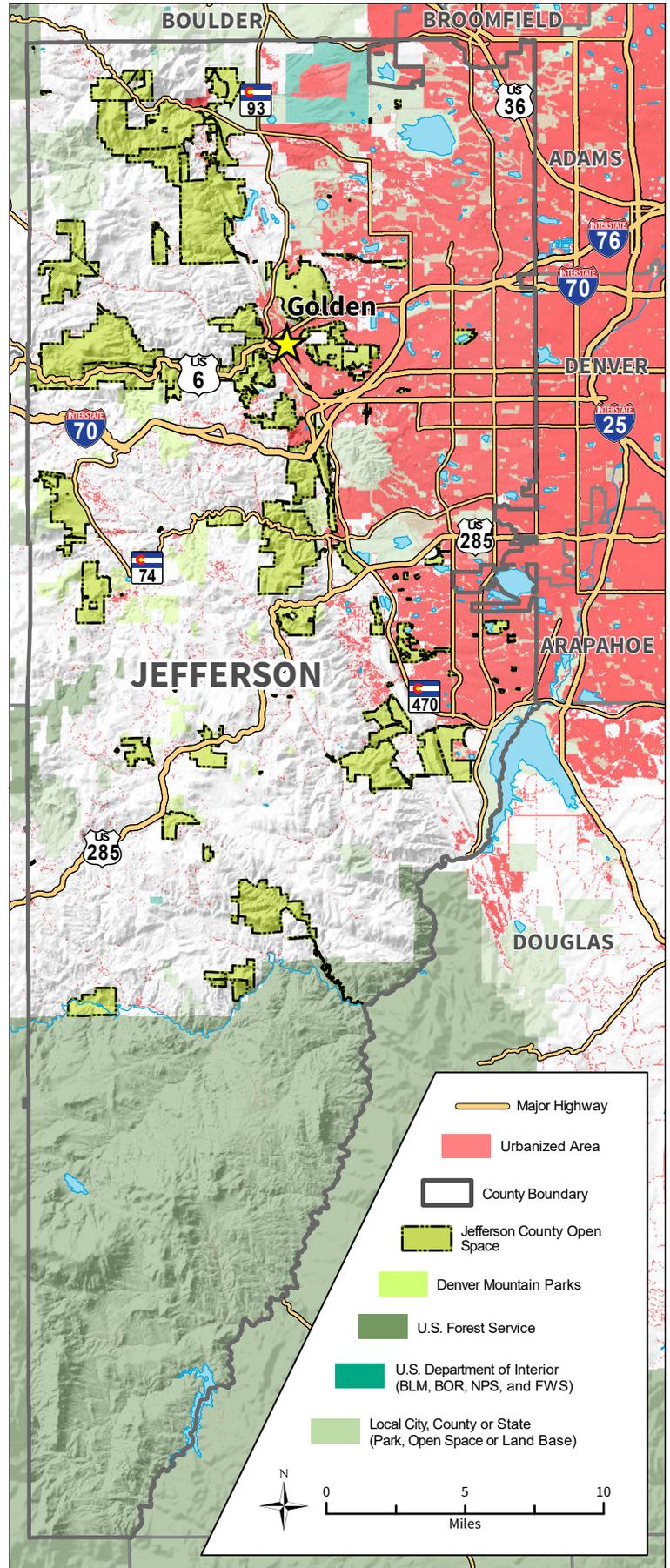
The Denver Metro Area population is growing at a rate of 2% per year. Many residents are outdoor enthusiasts, and Jeffco Open Space park visitation has steadily increased to an estimated 6.9 million visitors a year.

OUTSTANDING PARKS, FREE ACCESS

We offer exceptional public parks, facilities, trails and information that are all available without entry fees.

PROXIMITY AND CONVENIENT ACCESS

We offer nearby mountain experiences to 560,000 Jeffco residents and three million people in the Denver Metro Area. Jeffco Open Space manages about 45,000 acres that are close to urban areas. Just 109,000 of the 2.7 million acres of Front Range National Forests are located in Jeffco at its far southern tip.



OPPORTUNITIES

To address our challenges, Jeffco Open Space is committed to these five key initiatives aligned with our mission—Preserve open space and parklands, Protect park and natural resources, and Provide healthy, nature-based experiences.

PRESERVE

1 Acquire additional open space and parklands

STRATEGIES

- Focus on lands that enhance conservation, trail opportunities, and close access to the outdoors for all, including underserved areas
- Elevate partnerships with local governments and nonprofit organizations
- Secure additional grants and gifts

DESIRED RESULTS

Increased access to quality outdoor experiences, dispersed visitation, and reduced resource impacts.

PROTECT

2 Enhance stewardship of existing Jeffco Open Space lands and assets

STRATEGIES

- Implement tools to reduce visitor impacts
- Study and align funding and resources
- Develop and implement Asset Management Program
- Maximize stewardship volunteerism and partnerships

DESIRED RESULTS

Healthy landscapes and sustainable assets.

PROVIDE

3 Increase trail development, connectivity, and designated-use

STRATEGIES

- Develop and implement Jeffco Trails Plan
- Improve connectivity through collaboration
- Increase designated-use trail opportunities

DESIRED RESULTS

Safer, more enjoyable trails.

4 Expand visitor management practices

STRATEGIES

- Balance public access with protection of resources
- Increase regional collaboration and use of best practices
- Develop and activate Visitor Management Plan
- Use funding for services that provide broad community benefit and access

DESIRED RESULTS

Safer, more enjoyable park experiences, and minimized impacts to resources.

5 Emphasize visitor stewardship education

STRATEGIES

- Train and empower everyone at Jeffco Open Space to be an educator
- Shift focus and resources to education in our parks and the community
- Leverage multi-media, networks and partnerships

DESIRED RESULTS

Visitors become stewards.