

Lake Pueblo

12 May 2025 – 13 May 2025

A RMCC trip in combination with RMSKC

Back in 2017, I joined a RMSKC trip on Lake Pueblo. On that day, we put in at the old Wildlife Boat Ramp, on the north side of Lake Pueblo and paddled west into the delta, where the Arkansas River runs into the lake. It was early season and the lake was high, so the delta itself was full of water, and you could find pathways of water into and among the trees. We paddled past a couple of big beavers' lodges and lots of birds, include a yellow-headed grosbeak.

Since that outing, I've been wanting to return to the delta in early season, starting at the Swallows Road Access so we would have ample time to explore the delta in leisurely manner.

Monday, 12 May 2025

Sue and I arrived at our campsite at Lake Pueblo at 5:10, a 4 hour drive from Longmont, which included a foray to check out the Swallows Road Access. It was hot and I was glad to be at camp! After setting up camp, it was time to relax and our fellow paddlers, Jay G and Leslie T, came over to visit.

The forecasted wind for tomorrow was originally to be 10 mph or less for most of the day, but now the predictions are for 18 mph in the morning.

Tuesday, 13 May 2025

Overnight, it seems like there were baby birds chirping without stopping! In the morning, I could not pick out a nest in the tree nor could I identify the birds in question based on their call.

I am pleased that the wind was quiet which surprised me as the sky was overcast.

We are ready to leave by 8 AM. The bad news is that the wind has started to come up though it's not too strong, maybe 10 mph.

We head out of the park, back toward US 50, west to Swallows Road, then south to the lake. We arrive at 9AM. Leslie is here, as well as Jay and Karen A.

It is a bit windy, more than 10 mph. But we go ahead and launch. There is a cove to our right that we paddle into, but it does not take long to reach the end. We turn around and head back, past our launch point and head southeast down-lake. We pass another, larger cove, on our right but do not investigate. Evidently, we need to paddle southeast for at least a mile to reach the opening we can paddle up to reach the point where the river meets the lake.

The wind was increasing. We group up and decide to do a test run back into the wind. We meet up and I make the call to not go any further. We all head back, making slow but steady progress along the weeds. Jay stops for a minute in an opening in the trees. I wonder if it goes thru but do not investigate.

Finally, we are back at the Swallows. Sue and Karen and Leslie get out. Jay and I continue back into the first cove then back to the access.

We paddled from 10 AM to noon. Not as long as desirable but a good day anyway and it's always nice to be paddling.



Sue and Jay



Karen and Leslie



Sue, Leslie, and Karen

