



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Rocky Mountain National Park  
Continental Divide Research Learning Center  
1000 Highway 36, Estes Park, Colorado 80517  
(970) 586-1282  
ROMO\_Research\_Administration@nps.gov

## McGraw Ranch Research Center 2013: What to Expect



### The Facility

Each researcher will be assigned a private or shared room. Two cabins are single occupancy with private baths; four are private rooms with shared baths; two are shared rooms with shared baths. Each cabin has a closet, bed, desk, chair, small dresser, and lamps.

The main house has two kitchen stations that include an electric range/oven, refrigerator, sink, microwave, dishwasher, and storage cabinets. Cookware and dishes are provided. Limited laundry facilities are available on site.

Wi-Fi is available in the main house.

The field lab includes a pH meter, conductance meter, balance, microscopes, dishwasher, freezer, and refrigerator. Any chemicals brought to or used in the lab are subject to government regulations.

There is limited storage capacity in each of the rooms. Small items may be kept in locked cabinets provided by the park. The park will provide a key to the cabinet lock. Large items may be kept in the barn's storage room, which has a common lock. Common storage is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

### What to bring

Occupants will need to bring their own linens (mattress sizes vary), food (in rodent-proof containers), computer, special field equipment, and sundries.

### Rates

The 2013 rate is \$5/day. Rent is due in advance, corresponding to federal government pay periods. The first two week's rent is due upon check-in. Payment is by check made payable to the National Park Service.

### Reservations

To make a reservation, a researcher must have a valid, signed research permit. Only researchers (principal investigators and assistants) listed on current RMNP Research Permit or NPS employees or volunteers on special assignments are permitted to stay overnight. Preference is granted to researchers needing long-term (eight weeks or more) accommodations. Reservations must be made through Research Administration at [romo\\_research\\_administration@nps.gov](mailto:romo_research_administration@nps.gov). Researchers should also contact the ranch office at least one week in advance of arrival to establish a check-in time. Failure to do so may result in a room being reassigned to another occupant. Check-in hours are between 9am and 4pm. Day-use of the facility must be arranged through the research staff.

### Please note

McGraw Range Road is privately owned. Failure to abide by roadside regulatory signs could lead to loss of housing privileges.

### Overnight guests

Because the complex is limited to 2,000 gallons of water per day, residents must receive permission to have overnight guests.



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### **Communication**

Limited cell phone coverage and Wi-Fi is available in the main house at McGraw. Non-NPS personnel are not permitted to use NPS computers. To receive US mail at the park, researchers must request a post box from the property manager (at the warehouse) or from the US Post Office in Estes Park. **Researchers are not permitted to have mail delivered to the park administrative address.**

### **Housekeeping**

Each occupant will be responsible for cabin and common area housekeeping. A list of general housekeeping chores is posted and every resident will complete at least one chore from the list, at least once every other day. This is a condition of occupancy. Some cleaning supplies, including vacuum cleaners, are available for use. On-site laundry facilities are available.

### **Smoking**

Smoking is not allowed in any building at McGraw Ranch.

### **Pets**

Pets are not allowed in buildings at McGraw Ranch and may not be left outside or in vehicles unattended for any period of time.

### **Accessibility**

The kitchen, laundry, work room, conference room, one cabin, and field lab are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Researchers should discuss special needs when making a reservation.

### **Travel to and from McGraw Ranch**

The closest airport is Denver International. Because McGraw Research Ranch sits six miles northeast of Estes Park, a private car is necessary. Access is via an unpaved, narrow, steep, private road. The 20 mph speed limit should be obeyed at all times. Exceeding the speed limit is grounds for loss of housing privileges.

### **Parking**

An agreement with the road owners restricts the number of parking spaces available to researchers and to visitors. If necessary, the ranch staff will assign parking spaces. Visitors must park on the road between the designated signs. Bicycles may be stored in the barn; bicycles are not to be stored inside rooms.

### **Recycling**

Recycling for paper, glass, and certain plastics is available at the ranch. If an item is recyclable, please choose to recycle rather than throwing it in the trash.