



# PRESS RELEASE

*City of Pueblo Police Department  
Pueblo County Sheriff's Office  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife*

For Immediate Release

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## Arkansas River Restrictions Lifted

**Pueblo, CO:** The Pueblo Police Department, the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) announced today that the restrictions on the use of the Arkansas River from the spillway of the Pueblo Dam to the Pueblo County/Otero County line have now been lifted. The restrictions were implemented on June 11, 2019 due to dangerously fast-flowing and high water along the river.

The decision to lift restrictions on the Arkansas River by the Police Department, Sheriff's Office and CPW is partly a result of the water flow rate along the affected area dropping below 3,000 cubic feet per second (CFS). Flows in excess of these have been determined to be dangerous and pose an increased risk to people in the water, as well as emergency responders.

The public may now resume normal recreational activities, to include tubing, in and around the river. Whitewater canoes and kayaks may continue to be used, as they were not included in the restrictions. A Type III personal flotation device, approved by the United States Coast Guard, is required to be worn when entering the Arkansas River (PMC 11-1-700; CRS § 33-13-110 (2)(a) and (2)(c)).

The public is reminded to remain vigilant of the inherent dangers of entering the waters of the Arkansas River. Please keep the following items in mind:

- Always wear a properly fitted life jacket when on or in the water.
- The strength of the currents can be deceptive. What may appear to be a slow-moving current can actually challenge even experienced swimmers.
- It is important to ensure that recreation devices are rated for the flows in the river. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) website can be consulted for current water flow information (<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?07099970>).

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