

PIERRE AUGER COSMIC RAY OBSERVATORY

The Pierre Auger Project is a collaboration of 17 countries and more than 350 scientists coming together to study one of the greatest mysteries in science today, ultra-high energy cosmic rays, the universe's highest energy particles. The Auger Observatory is located at two sites: the completed southern hemisphere site is located in Malargue, Argentina and the northern hemisphere site will be located in a region of 4,000 square miles in the counties of Baca, Bent, Kiowa and Prowers. With access to both sites, scientists will be able to "view" the entire universe and to study the entire sky. Lamar Community College in Lamar was chosen as the Education and Outreach Host Institute for the observatory. It will host the future administration and scientific headquarters facility on its campus as well as a permanent visitor center. One demonstration tank is located on the LCC campus and a second tank at the Bent County fairgrounds in Las Animas, with future demonstration tanks to be placed in other locations within the region, encouraging visitors to stop and examine the tanks. By securing this observatory, Southeast Colorado will be home to a world-class attraction and a cutting edge research project.

www.auger.org

WIND POWER PROJECTS

Wind power is becoming the fastest growing renewable energy source. Here in Prowers County we are home to the Colorado Green Wind Power Project. It was built to help meet Colorado's demand for clean, renewable energy. The Colorado Green Wind Power Project, located 23 miles south of Lamar, is the largest wind power project in Colorado and the fifth largest in the world. 108 GE 1.5 MW wind turbines, the largest assembled in America, stand 328 feet tall across 11,000 acres of prairie. Only 2% of the 11,000 acres of land area is actually used for the wind farm and the rest is able to be used for other purposes such as ranching and grazing. Wind energy is plentiful, renewable, and clean. The project generates local income, boosts the local tax base, attracts tourists and uses the clean power of the wind to deliver electricity to Colorado consumers. In addition to this project, Prowers County also has 5 other wind turbines generating power for Lamar Light and Power.

www.procolorado.org

PROWERS COUNTY DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Prowers County Development, Inc. is comprised of business owners and managers operating within the communities of Prowers County who work with city and county officials to bring new business to Prowers County as well as supporting expansion of existing businesses that contribute to economic growth within Prowers County. PCDI also supports entrepreneurial training, community enhancement projects and promotional endeavors that highlight local events and sites.

THEIR MISSION STATEMENT IS: Prowers County Development, Inc. shall be a community leader, enhancing and improving the economy of Prowers County through job creation and recruitment, improved infrastructure, and business enhancement.

PCDI PROGRAMS

- New Business and Industry Location
- Business Consulting and Referral
- Community Resource/Business Assistance
- Community Marketing and Promotion
- Enterprise Zone

www.procolorado.org

SOUTHEAST COLORADO ENHANCED ENTERPRISE ZONE

An enterprise zone is an economically distressed area of Colorado in which special tax incentives are offered to businesses that expand or locate in the zone. The purpose of the tax incentives is to create new jobs and investments in the zone. The enterprise zone program provides the following incentives for businesses located in designated enterprise zones, as well as for taxpayers making donations to qualified non-profit projects in enterprise zones.

1. Three percent investment tax credit
2. \$500 job tax credit (New)
3. Double job tax credit for agricultural processing
4. \$200 job tax credit for employer health insurance
5. Research and Development tax credit
6. Credit to rehabilitate vacant buildings
7. Credit for contributions to zones
8. Ten percent job training credit
9. Exemption from state sales and use tax for manufacturing and mining equipment
10. Local government tax incentives

www.seced.net

SOUTHEAST COLORADO ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Created in 1986 by the counties of Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa and Prowers, SECED administers programs in cooperation with our 24 members, comprised of local governments.

SECED provides incentives and develops promotional activities that will market and advertise the advantages of locating a business in the Southeast Colorado area, create a positive identity, encourage retention and expansion of existing business, promote redevelopment, expand the region's tourism industry, attract new businesses, and generally enhance the economic growth of the area.

- Promotes economic development through tax credit incentives
- Business loan fund within our 5 county area
- Owner occupied housing rehab within Baca, Kiowa and Prowers county
- Technical assistance
- Regional Transportation Planning representing Region 2
- Region 6 planning and management agency
- SECOG Southeast Council of Governments
- Santa Fe Trail Film Commission
- Pierre Auger Cosmic Ray Project Facilitator

The vision of SECED is to challenge our citizens to continually reach for superior social and economic characteristics, utilize natural resources to the fullest potential in cooperation with a multi-agricultural economy, and assert a vigorous campaign for aesthetic improvements to enhance business recruitment and retention.



Southeast Colorado Enterprise Zone Administrator

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Watermark photo by Mary Root



Photo by Barbara Preskorn



Photo by Pat Johnson



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PROWERS COUNTY



PROWERS COUNTY

Prowers County is located in Southeast Colorado, on the Colorado-Kansas border at the crossroads of Highways 50, 287, the Ports to Plains trade courier route, and 385. Founded in 1889, it was named after John Wesley Prowers, a leading pioneer, plainsman, cattleman and legislator of the lower Arkansas Valley. The area is rich with recreational activities, historical sites and western traditions as well as birding trails, excellent schools, and renewable energy sources. Rich in agricultural production, it is the industrial and retail center of Southeast Colorado and has great opportunities for business expansion and relocation. The local amenities, museums, art galleries, annual festivals and cultural events help to round out the balance and attraction of the area as a great place to visit but a better place to live.

Home of the towns of Bristol, Granada, Hartman, Holly, Lamar and Wiley

- Lamar, county seat
- Low crime rate / Safe communities
- Low cost of living index (2008) 78.2%
- Unemployment rate (2007) 3.5%
- Elevation 3,622 feet
- Population 13,407 / 8 people per square mile
- Area 1,644 square miles
- Average January temp 36° F
- Average annual snowfall 27 inches
- Average July temp 83° F
- Average annual precipitation 14.8 inches
- Climate semi-arid/mild
- Downtown shopping
- 2 Airports
- Assisted living facility
- 2 Nursing care facilities
- 30+ Churches
- 2 Theaters
- Golf course
- Trap club
- Art center
- Lamar Community College
- 11 Public schools
- 35+ Organizations
- 2 Libraries
- Bowling alley
- 2 Swimming pools

www.procolorado.org

COLORADO WELCOME CENTER

Welcome centers are staffed with volunteers who are available to welcome travelers and assist visitors to the area. Lamar was selected as the site for a Welcome Center because it sits at the intersection of three major highways-50, 287 and 385. The Welcome Center, as well as the Chamber of Commerce, is housed in a beautifully restored 1907 rail depot which is still in use with daily Amtrak service between Chicago and Los Angeles. While at the center, visit the Madonna of the Trail Monument, one of twelve in the nation commissioned by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution to honor the pioneer mothers who came west with great strength and faith. The Lamar monument was dedicated on September 24, 1928 with Judge Harry S. Truman the keynote speaker. He later became the 33rd President of the United States.

www.lamarchamber.com

SANTA FE TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY

In 1821, the Santa Fe Trail trade route that connected Franklin, Missouri and Santa Fe, New Mexico was first used by William Becknell when he organized a trading party and hauled goods to Santa Fe to trade and sell. Later it was used as an international commercial highway, a military route and finally a route to help open the region to economic development and settlement. Today, the highway route that roughly follows the Santa Fe Trail's path through Colorado is called the Santa Fe Trail Scenic Byway. As you travel along the 188 mile byway you can view monuments, actual wagon ruts, rubble from homesteads and historical sites.

www.santafetrailscenicandhistoricbyway.org

WORKS PROJECTS ASSOCIATION

In 1935, Franklin D. Roosevelt created the WPA, a massive employment relief program created to provide jobs and income to the unemployed during the Great Depression. The philosophy was to put the unemployed back to work in jobs which would serve the public and save the skills and self esteem of the workers. All across Prowers County, as well as Southeast Colorado, these hand built projects are visible and in use even today.

www.coloradopreservation.org/newdeal

CAMP AMACHE

Amache National Historic Landmark, also known as Camp Amache is located 1½ miles west of Granada on U.S. Highway 50. The camp was named after Amache Ochine, a Cheyenne Indian Chief's daughter who was married to John W. Prowers, an early pioneer and cattleman for whom Prowers County is named. Amache understood the difficulties of living in two cultures much as the internees must have felt. Camp Amache was the smallest of ten Japanese-American internment camps created in 1942 by Franklin D. Roosevelt. Over the course of three years the population peaked at 7,566 men, women and children. Although little remains of Camp Amache, you can visit the site and see signs posted near concrete foundations to show the locations of buildings such as the school, the post office, and the silk screen shop. You can visit the small cemetery tucked into a corner and the memorial that is dedicated to the 31 Japanese-Americans from Camp Amache that volunteered, fought and were killed in action during WWII. Following the Camp Amache self-guided tour, visit the Camp Amache museum located in Granada.

www.amache.org

HOLLY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

Old Holly City Hall, a 1938 WPA project, houses the Holly Historical Society Museum filled with historical artifacts and treasures. It is located south of Highway 50 and east of Main Street in Holly.

www.townofholly.com

BIG TIMBERS MUSEUM

Located on the historic Santa Fe Trail you can find Big Timbers Museum 1 mile north of Lamar on U.S. Highway 50. Here at Big Timbers Museum you can view the 1928 Fleagle Bank Robbery display which includes photographs, documents and artifacts from the robbery, the search for the gang and their trial and conviction in Prowers County. This case was the first case where the FBI used fingerprints to obtain a criminal conviction as well as the first case where an airplane was used during the investigation of a crime in Colorado. You can also view a vast collection of war memorabilia, war posters, pioneer treasures and antique fashions.

www.bigtimbersmuseum.org

TWO BUTTES TRAIL REGION COLORADO BIRDING TRAIL

Birding is becoming one of the fastest growing outdoor activities in North America. Here, in Southeast Colorado, with our fresh air, abundance of natural habitats, diversity of scenery, solitude and amazing skies, we are fortunate to be home to 5 of the 14 trails making up the Colorado Birding Trail. The trail connects outdoor recreation sites where visitors can view birds, plant life and wildlife, as well as experience the local historical and archeological sites. The section of the trail located in Prowers County is a portion of the Two Buttes Trail. Although best known for migratory birds such as the snow goose and sand hill crane, many other species of wildlife, birds, mammals and reptiles are here to be observed, photographed and enjoyed.

www.coloradobirdingtrail.com

HIGH PLAINS SNOW GOOSE AND BIRDING FESTIVAL

In February, the High Plains Snow Goose and Birding Festival co-hosted by the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Lamar Chamber of Commerce, Lamar Community College, Kiowa County and Southeast Colorado Regional Heritage Taskforce offers tours, lectures, field trips, films, demonstrations and more. During the weekend festival you will have the opportunity to learn about hunting, photography, birding and history as well as browsing the local artisan's booths and exploring Southeast Colorado.

www.highplainssnowgoose.com

HUNTING AND FISHING

Southeast Colorado is a mecca for hunting and fishing opportunities. Hunting is available for mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, Canadian geese, snow geese, ducks, pheasants, quail, dove and wild turkeys. Fishing is wide open for walleye, bullheads, wipers, trout, channel catfish, drum, large and small mouth bass, bluegill, crappie, and tiger muskie. West of Prowers County, John Martin Reservoir is excellent for skiing, wind surfing, jet skiing, camping and swimming. To the north you can experience the Great Plains Reservoirs and all they have to offer. The Arkansas River that flows through Prowers County also offers fishing and hunting at its best.

www.wildlife.state.co.us

Watermark Photo by PCDI

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