

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Monday, November 28th, 2022

CONTACT: Megan Hiler, Public Information Officer

Cell: 970-409-2784

mhiler@clearcreekcounty.us

## CLEAR CREEK COUNTY ANNOUNCES SEASONAL CLOSURE OF GUANELLA PASS

Media Partners,

Guanella Pass Road and Scenic Byway has closed for the 2022-2023 seasonal winter closure. The gates were closed today (Nov. 28th) at approximately 5:00 a.m. after a sweep of the summit parking lots and surrounding area. The pass is also closed on the Park County side. Reopening of the pass will likely take place Friday, May 26th, 2023 leading into Memorial Day weekend.

Dispersed camping along Guanella Pass Road is now prohibited. Camping is only allowed in formally designated areas by the U.S. Forest Service.

A gate at the Naylor Lake Road intersection (on the Georgetown/I-70 side) is installed next to a large parking lot for winter recreation. This gate is 0.8 miles from the summit and the Mount Bierstadt Trailhead. A gate is also placed at the Duck Creek Picnic Area turnoff (on the Park County/Highway 285 side) which is 6.5 miles from the summit and the Mount Bierstadt Trailhead.

Despite the seasonal closure, there are still some winter recreation areas that people can visit. On the Georgetown side, there is Silver Dale Recreation Area (1.5 miles from downtown Georgetown) which includes loops of trails that are great for hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and mountain biking. You can see a map of it here.

Leavenworth Creek Road (two miles from downtown Georgetown) includes a moderate climb up switchbacks for hiking, mountain biking, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing. It is important to keep in mind that this is for high-clearance vehicles only. *Please be sure to check weather forecasts, ensure you are prepared, and dress appropriately before heading out during winter months.* 

For camping questions on the Georgetown/I-70 side of the pass, please call 303-567-4382. For camping questions on the Grant/Highway 285 side of the pass, please call 303-275-5610.

Guanella Pass Scenic Byway is 22 miles of picturesque views and climbs to above treeline. On it, visitors can see multiple mountain peaks including Mt. Bierstadt, Mt. Evans, and Argentine Pass.

For traffic and other information, you can call the Guanella Pass Road Information Line at 303-679-2422 x2. For more information on Guanella Pass, click here.

Below are photos you are welcome to use for your publications.

###



