Keep in mind when visiting Colorado state lands that archaeological sites are fragile, non-renewable cultural resources. We ask that you follow these guidelines during your visit. To contact the Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, email hc_oahp@state.co.us.

**ARTIFACTS**

Artifacts might be made from stone, ceramic, bone, glass, or many other materials. If you find an artifact, it is important to leave it where you found it. Removing artifacts from state lands is illegal. If you find anything you think may be an artifact, photograph the object(s), record the location and share the information with a professional archaeologist. Never collect artifacts from state lands.

**ROCK ART**

Rock art should be observed only, not touched! Rock art includes pecked, carved and painted imagery. Touching rock art can cause damage, and any kind of graffiti is highly destructive.

**WALLS & ROCK ALIGNMENTS**

Walls and rock alignments should be observed, not touched. These are fragile. Don’t lean, sit, stand or climb on these features, remove any rocks, or rebuild fallen walls. Altering the current state of walls or rock alignments affects what can be learned about their placement and possibly their use or function.

**CULTURAL & NATURAL DEPOSITS**

Cultural and natural deposits should be left intact. Soils, plants, and other natural deposits within archaeological sites have scientific and cultural value. Stay on established paths or trails to help control erosion and preserve the site.

**PHOTOS**

Don’t post photographs of sites on social media. If you do post, please remove locational information. Site locations are sensitive information. Protecting this information can protect sites from looting and vandalism.

**RECREATE RESPONSIBLY**

Don’t leave anything behind. Modern trash can contaminate archaeological sites, and attract animals that may dig, nest, burrow or otherwise impact the integrity of the site. Please be courteous and clean up after your pets.

These guidelines were adapted from those developed by the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office. This Site Etiquette Guide is a publication of the Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation—2023.