

## Huerfano Park



### Geology

Huerfano Park is an inter-montane basin located in south-central Colorado, between the Sangre de Cristo Range and Wet Mountain trending to the northwest. It is physiologically and structurally similar to North, Middle, and South Parks and these four basins are, remarkably, in alignment with one another. Huerfano Park is particularly interesting because it merges with the high plains to the southeast and exhibits a series of complex thrusting and folding. The Park is unique because of the presence of a mammal-bearing formation – the Huerfano Formation - so intimately associated with orogeny.

Paleo highlights: Paleocene – lower Eocene – Wasatchian/ Bridgerian mammals – Huerfano Formation; Poison Canyon Formation – tropical plants similar to the Denver Formation. Because of the presence of a diverse fauna, the environment has been interpreted as warm – probably subtropical - with streams, rivers, and forested areas.

Mineral Resources: Coal, Gas, Oil