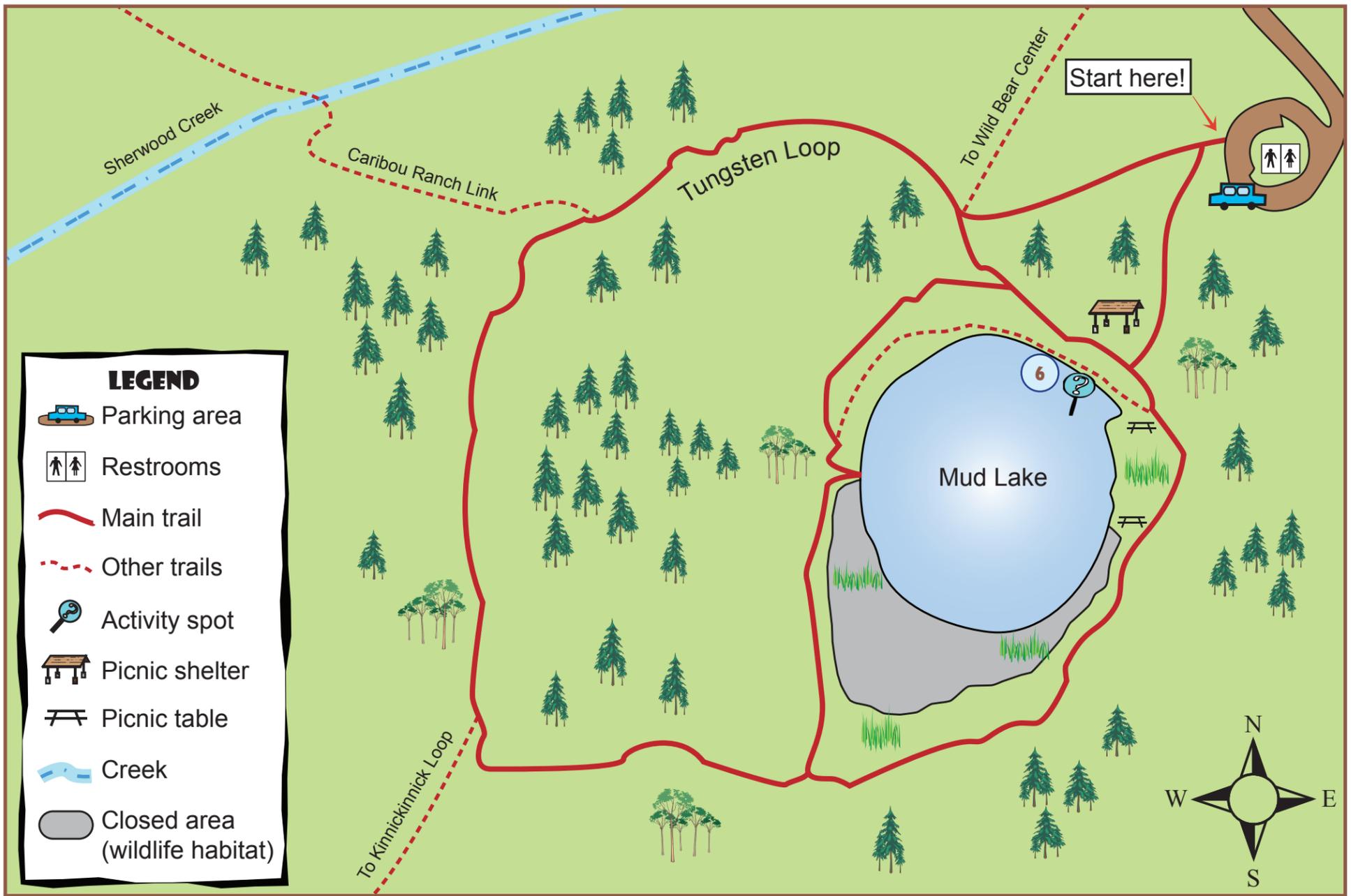


# MUD LAKE OPEN SPACE NATURE DETECTIVES MAP

Feel free to write or draw on your map!



4

## Mystery Animal

These are signs of wild animals you might find at Mud Lake. Draw a line connecting each sign to its appropriate animal.



teeth marks on bark



woodpecker



scat with berry seeds



elk



holes in a tree



black bear

5

## Think Like an Elk

**MAP ACTIVITY!**

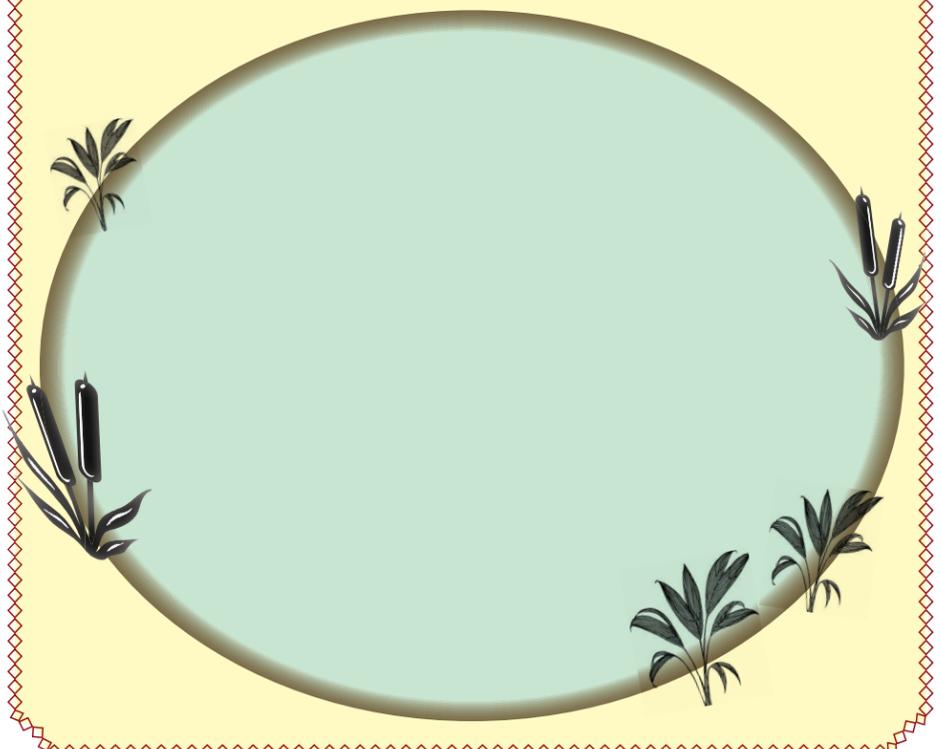
Imagine you are an elk. Draw an elk track on your map (above) at each of the following locations after you visit them. There are many options, so have fun!

- A tree to rub your antlers on
- A place to drink some water
- A nice spot on the ground for you to sleep
- A good place for you to call other elk with your bugle (make a loud whistling noise)

6

## Reflections

Look at Mud Lake. In the oval below, draw only the things that you see reflected in the water.



Butterfly Duck Rabbit

Frog Human Coyote

Circle the two animals listed below that go through metamorphosis.



These pictures show the same tiger salamander at two different times of its life. Some animals change so much as they grow that they look like completely different animals. This is called metamorphosis!

Wow, You Look Different!

3



Find a lodgepole pine (see picture). These trees have very straight trunks and were used to make teepee poles by some Native Americans. Can you think of 3 other uses?

Lodgepole Pine

2



Many miners tunneled into the earth hoping to strike it rich by finding gold, silver, and other valuable minerals. Pretend you are a miner and look on the ground for a rock that might be valuable (or just your favorite rock). Describe what you observe.

Buried Treasure

1

## MYSTERY GUIDE

Start here!

- Take this Mystery Guide and a pen or pencil with you as you explore. To complete your Nature Detective training at this park, complete at least 3 of the 6 activities.
- Inside you will find a map of the park, which will serve as a guide. Some activities correspond to locations on the map, and some activities can be done anywhere.
- Feel free to get help from grown-ups on this, but remember, these activities are for you! You can write or draw anywhere in this mystery guide. The more thoughtful and artistic, the better!

### Nature Detectives Club Mystery Guides can be found at:

- 1) Agricultural Heritage Center
- 2) Anne U. White Trail
- 3) Bald Mountain Scenic Area
- 4) Betasso Preserve
- 5) Caribou Ranch Open Space
- 6) Carolyn Holmberg Preserve
- 7) Heil Valley Ranch
- 8) Mud Lake Open Space
- 9) Pella Crossing
- 10) Walden Ponds Wildlife Habitat

Drop completed mystery guides in the Nature Detectives Club mailbox at each park. If you need to finish at home, mail to:  
Nature Detectives Club, Boulder County Parks & Open Space, 5201 St. Vrain Road, Longmont, CO 80503

Complete the information below so we can send you prizes and return your mystery guides!

Grown-ups, please provide the following information:

Detective's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Look for Nature Detective inserts and activities in each issue of Images.



## NATURE DETECTIVES CLUB



### MUD LAKE OPEN SPACE

A mystery awaits in this county park full of clues!

- Your mission is to become a young Nature Detective, collecting clues from the world around you, and solving mysteries of the forest, prairie, wetlands, and mountains.
- After completing a mystery guide we will send you a useful tool for your future outdoor adventures.
- All right detective, let's go!

(Intended for ages 4-11)

### YOUR CASE: MUD LAKE OPEN SPACE

Moose, elk, snowshoe hares, long-tailed weasels, and bobcats live in the forest around this lake. The forest is made up mostly of lodgepole pine trees, but also aspens, ponderosa pines, and many other types of trees. The shallow lake is home to crayfish, tiger salamanders, ducks, and frogs.