

bent county

Located on the banks of the Arkansas and Purgatoire Rivers, Bent County was named for William Bent, who established three trading posts in the area in the 1800s. Today, county businesses trade in products and services with markets across the country.

The Twin Buttes Wind Power Project puts Bent County at the center of the new energy frontier. Energy produced by the wind farm's 50 turbines provides enough electricity to power more than 22,000 homes. The project has also brought specialized operations, support and maintenance jobs to the region.

Agricultural roots continue to run deep in Bent County. Farms in the area produce wheat, alfalfa and other crops, as well as raise cattle, goats, swine and honey bees.

The towns of Las Animas, McClave and Hasty feature stores, restaurants and parks within walking distance of homes and schools.

Cultural attractions paying tribute to the settlement of the region, such as the Boggsville Historic Site and the Kit Carson Museum, draw tourists to the county. John Martin Reservoir is considered one of the premier destinations in the country for bird watching, with a record of more than 400 species sighted. It is also a popular spot for fishing, boating, hiking and camping.



Population¹

Total	6,301
Caddoa ²	21
Hasty ²	234
Las Animas	2,335
McClave	941

Workforce²

Labor force	2,466
Employment rate	95.2%

County Taxes

Sales Tax ⁴	1.0%
Mill Levy Rate ⁵	30.64 mills
Lodging Tax ⁴	0.9%

Sources

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2007

²Self-Reported Statistics

³Colorado Department of Labor, 2007

⁴Colorado Department of Revenue, 2009

⁵Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Property Taxation, 2008

Attractions, Recreation & Events

Attractions

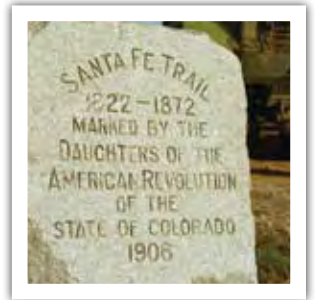
Boggsville Historic Site
John W. Rawling Museum
Kit Carson Museum
Old Trail Art Gallery

Recreation

Bent County Municipal Golf Course
Blue Lake
John Martin Reservoir

Events

Huck Finn Days Fishing Contest
Santa Fe Trail Day



business profile: Iberdrola Renewables

Two of the largest wind farms in the state are operated by Iberdrola Renewables in the southeast region. The 158 turbines of the Colorado Green Wind Energy and Twin Buttes Wind Power Projects range across 20,000 acres of Bent and Prowers Counties. The 1.5 megawatt turbines generate electricity for Xcel Energy customers – enough to power approximately 74,000 homes. Iberdrola Renewables is currently the world's leading provider of wind power.