



Dillon Ranger District Recreation Guide

White River National Forest Summit County, Colorado

CAMP HALE-CONTINENTAL DIVIDE NATIONAL MONUMENT

On October 12th, 2022, President Biden established the 53,804-acre Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument preserving a unique era of military history, as well as a visually and culturally rich landscape with broad recreation opportunities. The President established the Monument on lands managed by the White River National Forest in Eagle and Summit Counties, Colorado, using authority under the 1906 Antiquities Act. The Antiquities Act grants the President authority to designate national monuments to protect “objects of historic or scientific interest.”



The peaks and valleys within this monument forged the elite soldiers of the famed 10th Mountain Division – the Army’s first and only mountain infantry division – which helped liberate Europe during World War II. The Monument designation preserves the story of 10th Mountain Division veterans

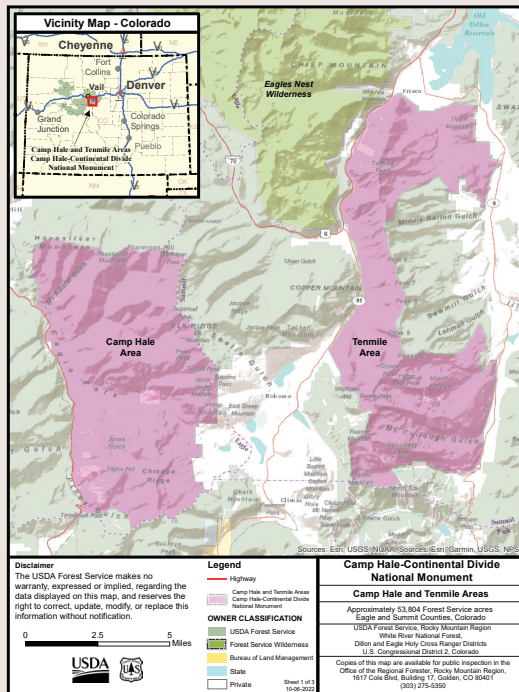
who, after their return from World War II, applied their experiences and skills learned in the Camp Hale and Tenmile Range area of the continental divide to help establish America’s skiing industry. They were also trailblazers in conservation, outdoor education, and recreation. At its height, Camp Hale sprawled across nearly 1,500 acres and contained 1,000 buildings, including 245 barracks that could house more than 15,000 soldiers as well as parade grounds, recreation areas, gunnery ranges, a combat range, ski hills, stockade, motor pool, railyards, and an extensive road and bridge network.

The area is also rich in ancient human history. For thousands of years, the Parianuche and Uncompahgre bands of Ute people traveled to the area to reap the bounty of the Eagle River and nearby wetlands and meadows when winter snows melted. The Camp Hale and Tenmile Range area remains culturally important to the Ute people, who return to their homelands to pray, hold ceremonies, honor their ancestors, hunt, fish and harvest plants for medicinal purposes, ceremonial use, and basketry.

The area is well known for its outstanding, world class outdoor recreation opportunities, including winter sports like backcountry skiing and snowmobiling as well as year-round activities like hunting, fishing, hiking, and backpacking. The Tenmile Range contains portions of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail and features ten mountain peaks higher than 13,000 feet, including the 14,265 foot Quandary Peak, one of Colorado’s iconic and most visited “Fourteeners.”

The two areas of Camp Hale and the Tenmile Range form a geologically and ecologically linked landscape that includes numerous features of interest, including tarns, waterfalls, alpine tundra, and habitat for rare plants and wildlife.

To best experience the newly designated Monument here on the Dillon Ranger District, consider the following hiking trails: **Mount Royal/Masontown #1, Wheeler National Recreation Trail #39, Miner’s Creek #38, McCullough Gulch #43, Crystal Lakes #44, Spruce Creek/Mohawk Lakes #58, or Quandry Peak #47 (see map on pp. 6-7).**



GENERAL INFORMATION

BIKING/WALKING: The Summit County Recreational Pathway System (Recpath) is a 55 mile long network of paved pathways opened to non-motorized uses. It runs throughout Summit County and to Vail. <https://summitcountyco.maps.arcgis.com/>

BOATING/SWIMMING: Boating is permitted on Dillon Reservoir. Boating and swimming are permitted at Green Mountain Reservoir. See Pg 2.

CAMPING: Opportunities for camping on National Forest lands include: developed campgrounds (tent and RV), backcountry (backpacking), and vehicular (dispersed) camping. Different regulations apply for each, especially in Wilderness Areas. See Pg 2.

FIRE RESTRICTIONS: At certain times, fire bans and/or restrictions may apply to the National Forest and Summit County. Check with local officials for more information.

FISHING: Permitted on most public waters in the county. Check with Colorado Parks and Wildlife for information. Fishing licenses are not sold at the Ranger District office but are available throughout the county and online. See Pg 10.

MINING/GOLD PANNING: Summit County has many existing mining claims on National Forest and other lands. Before any mining or panning activities, contact the Dillon Ranger District for specific details.

GUNS/FIRE-ARM USE in the National Forest: Shooting is prohibited within 150 yards of any residence, building, campsite, developed recreation site, or occupied area. Shooting across roads, trails or bodies of water is prohibited as well as in any manner or place which exposes a person or property to injury or damage. Damaging natural features is prohibited. Please collect spent casings.

HUNTING: Allowed on National Forest lands with certain restrictions and regulations. A valid Colorado hunting license, available at businesses throughout the county and online, is required. Check with Colorado Parks and Wildlife for information. Dillon Ranger District does not sell hunting licenses.

LIVESTOCK: Saddle, pack, and draft animals are permitted in the National Forest unless otherwise posted. Use only certified weed-free forage and minimum impact techniques (e.g. do not tie animals to trees or within 100 ft of a body of water or trail). Hay and straw are prohibited in Wilderness Areas; use pelletized feed and rolled grain.

MOUNTAIN BIKING: Permitted on designated trails within the National Forest, but prohibited in all Wilderness Areas. See Pg 10.

NATURAL HERITAGE: Removing any pre-historic, historic, or archeological resource, structure, site, artifact or property from the National Forest is prohibited.

NATIONAL FOREST PERMITS & PASSES

PERMITS

Available at the Dillon Ranger District Visitor Center

Fuel Wood

A permit allowing individuals to harvest standing dead or downed dead trees for firewood use. Expires at the end of the calendar year. (\$10/cord, 2 cord minimum)

Mushroom (seasonal)

A permit allowing individuals to harvest up to 67 pounds of mushrooms. (No Fee)

Christmas Tree (seasonal)

A permit allowing individuals to harvest lodgepole pines in designated areas during the Christmas season (Thanksgiving through Christmas). (\$10 per tree)

Fuel Reduction Tree Removal

A permit allowing property owners to remove hazardous dead or dying trees from adjacent National Forest land. (Fee)

FEDERAL PASSES

Available at the Dillon Ranger District Visitor Center

Senior Pass

A Lifetime pass for \$80 or an Annual Pass for \$20 are available for US citizens or permanent residents 62 or older with proof of age.

All passes admit the passholder and accompanying passengers in a private vehicle for entrance fees of all Federally managed sites. Passes may provide discounts at other federal recreation sites.

Access Pass

A lifetime pass for US citizens or permanent residents with a documented permanent disability. (No fee)

Military Pass

Annual Pass (free) is available for active-duty service members and Lifetime Pass (free) is available for veterans and Gold Star family members with proof of service.

Every Kid Outdoors Pass

Annual Pass (free) available to current 4th graders and expires at the end of August. For more information, visit everykidoutdoors.gov

Annual Pass

An annual pass covering entrance and day-use fees on federal lands. Valid 12 months from purchase. (\$80)

Dillon Ranger District Office

(970-468-5400) is located at 680 Blue River Parkway (Colorado Hwy 9) in Silverthorne across from Target.

Summer Hours

(Memorial Day to Labor Day)
Monday – Saturday 8:00AM - 4:30PM

Winter Hours

Monday – Friday 8:30AM - 4:00PM
Closed for Lunch 1:00pm - 1:30pm

Closed Federal Holidays

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DILLON RESERVOIR

Encircled by Swan Mountain and the dramatic Gore and Tenmile Ranges, Dillon Reservoir is the heart of Summit County. It is owned and operated by Denver Water and is one of Denver's main water sources. In addition to boating, it offers a variety of other activities including fishing, bicycling, paddle boarding, canoeing, kayaking, and hiking. Personal Flotation Devices (PFD) are required for any water activity on a vessel. Swimming and water skiing are prohibited. During the winter season, non-motorized uses are allowed on the ice. Camping and campfires are allowed only in designated campgrounds around the reservoir when open may be May to October. [More information is available at denverwater.org/Recreation/Dillon](http://denverwater.org/Recreation/Dillon)

GREEN MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR

(Recreation Fee Area)



Green Mountain Reservoir is located 15 miles north of Silverthorne along Hwy 9 and has views of the Williams Fork and Gore mountain ranges. In addition to boating, it offers a variety of activities including camping, fishing, picnicking, jet skiing, water skiing, swimming and hiking. [More information is available at greenmountainreservoir.com](http://greenmountainreservoir.com).

ATTENTION BOATERS!

Boat inspections are REQUIRED for all motor boats on Dillon AND Green Mountain Reservoir! Check out friscobaymarina.com, dillonmarina.com and heeneymarina.com for more information and for launch ramp hours of operation.



DISPERSED CAMPING

This term is used for vehicle-based camping anywhere in the National Forest OUTSIDE of a designated campground. It is generally allowed anywhere except within 100 feet of a lake, trail, or stream, or where posted as closed. No toilet facilities, garbage services, treated water, or fire grates are provided. Typically, dispersed camping is not allowed in the vicinity of campgrounds, picnic areas, or trailheads. Occupying any dispersed campsite is limited to 14 days.

For a list of suggested sites, contact the Dillon Ranger District or see: <https://fdrd.org/where-to-car-camp-for-free-in-summit-county/>

DESIGNATED DISPERSED CAMPING

The USFS is now designating camping spots at popular dispersed camping areas. Designated camping spots are marked and numbered with a stake, and will be first-come, first-serve. Camping outside of designated spots is not allowed.

For a list of suggested sites, contact the Dillon Ranger District or see: www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver

BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING

Registration is required for overnight camping in Wilderness Areas only. Free, self-issue registration forms are available at Wilderness trailheads. Please follow Leave No Trace ethics (pg. 10) while in the backcountry, and observe the specific regulations which pertain to Wilderness Areas (pg. 4). Occupying a backcountry campsite is also limited to 14 days. Campfires are dependent on current fire restrictions in place.

WELCOME TO YOUR NATIONAL FOREST!

The White River National Forest (WRNF) is one of 154 National Forests found across the United States. The 2.3 million acre WRNF (about 3,600 square miles) is a world-renowned recreation destination with nearly 18 million visitors creating a \$1.5 billion annual outdoor recreation economy. The Forest spans 8 Wilderness Areas, 12 ski areas, 10 peaks higher than 14,000 feet in elevation, 2,500 miles of trails, and 1,900 miles of Forest Service system roads, 4 major reservoirs, 4,000 miles of streams, 14,000 acres of lakes, and 120,000 acres of wetlands. The 312,000-acre Dillon Ranger District (about 500 square miles) is one of five field units of the WRNF and receives over 8 million annual visits. The major towns within the Dillon Ranger District are Breckenridge, Dillon, Frisco and Silverthorne. Smaller towns in the District include Blue River, Heeney and Montezuma.

As demonstrated by this Recreation Guide, the Dillon Ranger District has much to offer with a wide range of recreational activities for every season within a spectacular setting of the Rocky Mountain high country. During summer months you can enjoy more than 200 miles of hiking trails,

150 miles of mountain bike trails and 100 miles of off highway vehicle routes. There are 14 campgrounds in the District providing 400 campsites for use from late spring to early fall. Of the 14 campgrounds, 5 border the Dillon Reservoir and 6 border the Green Mountain Reservoir. Along with the campgrounds there are several day use areas. In the winter, the Dillon Ranger District also offers spectacular recreation opportunities like skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling. Four major alpine ski resorts and two Nordic ski resorts operate on the Dillon Ranger District through a permit: Arapahoe Basin, Breckenridge, Copper Mountain, Keystone, Breckenridge Nordic Center, and Frisco Nordic Center. Additionally, visitors can enjoy 55,000 acres and 119 miles of motorized and non-motorized trails at the Vail Pass Winter Recreation Area. With an average snowfall of 300 inches per year there is plenty of snow to go around for any activity that you want to enjoy.

In addition to world-class recreation, the WRNF is tasked with balancing resource utilization and resource protection through integrating ecological, economic, and social factors to provide water, timber, rangeland, minerals, fish, wildlife, wilderness, and aesthetic values for the American people – all of which are crucial to the

economies of Western Colorado and help to meet the mission of the United States Forest Service.

While you visit the Forest, please be a responsible land steward by practicing Leave No Trace techniques, respecting the land, wildlife, and other visitors, abiding by all posted rules and regulations, and most importantly, being extremely careful with campfires and anything that can start a catastrophic wildfire.

Much of the valuable work we achieve on the district is not possible without the passion and contribution from our partners and a host of dedicated volunteers. Annually, partners and volunteers on the Dillon Ranger District contribute nearly 25,000 volunteer hours! We are very fortunate to have strong partners such as Friends of the Dillon Ranger District (FDRD), Eagle Summit Wilderness Alliance, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps, Vail Pass Task Force, Colorado Trail Foundation and many, many more. A huge "thank you" to all our partners, volunteers, and to FDRD!

Adam Bianchi
DISTRICT RANGER
Dillon Ranger District



OUR PRECIOUS WATER

Water, essential to all living things, is especially precious in the arid West. Our lakes and streams are particularly vital to animals such as fish and beaver, and aquatic insects which live in and around water. Improper camping and day use around water sources can negatively impact the wetlands, stream banks, and stream habitats that are their homes.

Camping too close to water can cause too much sediment to wash into a stream or lake, impacting the ability of fish to feed and reproduce, or can cause banks to fall apart, making it challenging for beavers to build dams and for stabilizing bank-side vegetation to grow. This vegetation also provides homes and food to many animals.

Driving a vehicle through a stream or lake can cause major damage to the bottom of a stream as well as kill

incubating fish eggs and the aquatic insects that the fish eat. Gas and oil leaking from a stream-side vehicle can damage both aquatic and land animals.

TO HELP US PROTECT OUR STREAMS AND LAKES:

- Remember, it is illegal to camp within 100 feet of a stream or lake unless the site is designated for camping, and campfires are not allowed at lakes or within 100 ft of streams.
- Choose an existing campsite and park at least 100 feet from water unless designated.
- Stay on established roads and trails. Do not drive through streams or wetlands.
- Pack out all garbage. Do not burn

aluminum foil or cans in campfires.

- Keep fires small, bring your own firewood, and never leave a fire unattended.
- Protect fish and their young: Don't build play dams, avoid fish spawning areas, leave driftwood and log jams in place, and know fishing and hunting rules.
- Protect the water: Wash well away from the water, use biodegradable soaps, dispose of all waste water and fishing spoils 200 feet from water.
- If no toilet is available, dig a 6 inch deep hole at least 200 feet from water and pack out paper waste.
- Respect restoration sites and structures.



DILLON RANGER DISTRICT CAMPGROUND & DAY USE AREAS

For Campground Reservations: 877-444-6777 or recreation.gov.

Reservations may be made from a minimum of 4 to a maximum of 240 days in advance. Most campgrounds are open from mid-May through September. Maximum length of stay at all sites is 14 days. RV Dumping stations are located at the Silverthorne and Breckenridge Sanitation Plants.

Please consider filling RV water tanks outside of campground areas. Fees charged at all campgrounds.

DILLON RESERVOIR CAMPGROUNDS

| Site Name | Max. RV/Trailer Length | # of Sites | Site Services | Can Reserve? |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Giberson Bay | 25 ft | 4 picnic | | NO |
| Heaton Bay ** | 70 ft | 81 | H ₂ O, electricity | YES |
| Heaton Bay Picnic Area ** | 35 ft | 7 picnic | | NO |
| Lowry | 35 ft | 24 | electricity | YES |
| Peak One | 50 ft | 79 | H ₂ O | YES |
| Pine Cove | 40 ft | 33 | | NO |
| Pine Cove Day Use | 40 ft | Parking only | | NO |
| Prospector | 32 ft | 107 | | YES |
| Windy Point Group Site Forest Loop | 50 ft | 1 Group site | | YES |
| Windy Point Group Site Lake Loop | 50 ft | 1 Group site | | YES |

GREEN MOUNTAIN RESERVOIR CAMPGROUNDS*

| Site Name | Max. RV/Trailer Length | # of Sites | Can Reserve? |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Blue River | 25-35 ft | 25 | YES |
| Cataract Creek | 21 ft | 5 | NO |
| Cow Creek North | 30 ft | 5 Group sites | YES |
| Cow Creek South | 30 ft | 44 | YES |
| Elliot Creek | 25 ft | 24 | YES |
| McDonald Flats | 21 ft | 12 | NO |
| McDonald Flats Day Use | 25 ft | Parking only | NO |
| Prairie Point | 20 ft | 22 | YES |
| Willows | 20 ft | 25 | YES |



**Special note for Heaton Bay campers: Vehicles over 10 ft in length, RVs, panel trucks, and trailers of any type are prohibited at all times on the dam portion of the Dillon Dam Road. Use Frisco Exit 203 on I-70 to gain access to campground.



*No electricity or water at any Green Mountain Reservoir sites.



WHERE DO I PARK THE CAR?

PARKING AND HIGH-USE RECREATION

Heading out to that famous waterfall that you keep seeing on your social media feed? What about the great hike that is behind your friend's condo, or a "secret" access point in a nearby neighborhood? The Dillon Ranger District is famous for its year-round recreation opportunities, and of course not all of them are at ski resorts, with large, clearly marked parking lots. Although it might seem trivial to park on a County Road or in an HOA area where street parking is prohibited, it is never fun to return from your hike on the National Forest to find that your car has been ticketed or towed.

In Summit County, many of the trails that lead out onto the Dillon Ranger District begin in neighborhoods, on Summit County Open Space, or on Municipal lands. Sometimes parking areas, both on and off the National Forest are small, and can only hold a few cars. Often, these areas fill up quickly, and parking on nearby roads may not only be illegal, but can also jeopardize safe traffic flow and emergency access to an area.

So what does a Forest visitor do? Some areas, such as Quandary Peak and McCollough Gulch, have a shuttle and paid parking lot run by Summit County and the Town of Breckenridge. Other favorite areas, such as Buffalo Cabin Trailhead and Second Avenue Trailhead in Frisco, are conveniently located near a bus stop served by the free Summit Stage. You may also consider enjoying the National Forest without parking by simply walking or cycling to a nearby trailhead or access portal from your home, hotel, or rental property.

WATCH OUT! FALLING TREES ARE A HAZARD IN THE FOREST



- Be aware of your surroundings and avoid dense patches of dead trees. They can fall without warning.
- Stay out of the forest when there are strong winds that could blow down trees. If you are already there when winds increase, head to a clearing out of reach of any potential falling trees.
- Place tents and park vehicles in areas where they will not be hit if trees fall.
- When driving in remote areas of the National Forest, park close to a main road rather than a spur or one way section. If trees fall across a road, you may be trapped.
- Bring an axe or a chainsaw to remove fallen trees from roads in case you become trapped.
- Do not rely on cell phones for safety as there is no coverage in many areas of the National Forest.

FIREWISE IN THE FOREST



With the large amount of beetle-killed trees in the forest, everyone must do their part to prevent wildfires. A few simple precautions will diminish the possibility of a wildfire:

- Do not discard cigarettes, matches, and smoking materials from moving vehicles, or anywhere in the forest.
- Possessing or using any kind of fireworks is illegal on our National Forest lands.
- Use caution when cooking on an open flame or grill anywhere, even in the backyard.
- All internal or external combustion engines (including chainsaws) must be equipped with a spark arrestor.
- All Off Highway Vehicles (OHV's) must have an approved spark arrestor.
- When camping, take care when using and fueling lanterns, stoves, and heaters. Make sure they are cool before refueling. Avoid spilling flammable liquids and store fuel away from appliances.

Forest fires often start from campfires.

NEVER LEAVE A CAMPFIRE UNATTENDED, NOT EVEN FOR A MINUTE!

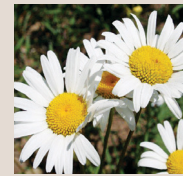


NOXIOUS WEEDS - THE BAD GUYS

A noxious weed is a non-native plant which, having no natural checks in our environment, damages grazing land, crops, the environment, ecosystems, humans, or livestock. Some are truly "weeds" and some are escaped ornamentals. Most were introduced here from abroad by ignorance, mismanagement, or accident. They out-compete native plants and wildflowers for space and nutrients. Many produce thousands of seeds that can live in the soil for years.

Noxious, invasive weeds are a serious threat everywhere. Over thirty-three are in Summit County. The five most threatening here are:

Oxeye Daisies, a perennial, reproduces from seeds and roots. It has one flower per stem with 10-30 white rays per flower from a yellow disc center. It irritates the legs and faces of animals. Its rampant growth chokes out other plants. Blooms in early summer (do not confuse with native Shasta Daisy.) Up



Non-native Thistles crowd out other plants and are toxic to wild and domestic animals. **Canada Thistle**, a perennial, is extremely difficult to kill, reproducing from roots and seeds. Small purplish fading to white flowers (less than 1") with a single flower head on each stalk. 2 to 4 ft. tall.



Musk and Plumeless Thistle, biennials, have pink to purplish flowers, and grow only from seed, starting their first year as ground rosettes. **Musk thistles** have large flowers (1.5" to 3") and leaves with a white midrib and/or white edges. **Plumeless thistle** stalks and leaves are very thorny with flowers 1/2" to 1". Both grow up to 6 ft. tall.

PHOTOS OF NOXIOUS WEEDS COURTESY OF DR. MARY DUBLER AND THINKSTOCKPHOTOS.COM



Yellow Toadflax (Butter and Eggs), a perennial resembling a snapdragon, is toxic to cattle, very invasive, and difficult to control. Often sold in seed packets as "wild snapdragons", it reproduces from seeds and roots. 1 – 3 ft. tall.

False Chamomile, an annual, reproduces from seed and has small (less than 1") daisy-like flowers with ferny or feathery leaves. Its sap can irritate skin and mouths. Up to 3 ft. tall.

Houndstongue, a biennial, has five-petaled, drooping reddish-purple flowers with hairy, pointed leaves. It is toxic to animals and makes Velcro-like seeds that stick to clothing and animal fur. Up to 4 ft. tall.

WILDFIRES



Fire suppression resources in Summit County have worked together diligently to be prepared for wild fires. Visit co.summit.co.us/extension for valuable information from Summit County government. Then register at scalert.org for text messaging on all emergency concerns.

In case of a threatening wild fire, Summit County will also use landline phone messages via reverse 911 to alert people in target areas as well as emergency alerts delivered by radio and television.

If you are in the forest and see smoke or flames, return immediately to a safe area. Call 911 with the location of the area of concern. The emergency operator will call the proper response team.

This is not the time to be concerned with a false alarm!

Noxious weeds can be controlled culturally (adaptive seeding), mechanically (mowing, digging, pulling), chemically (spraying), or biologically (with natural enemies). **To eradicate noxious weeds:**

- Identify the plant. Use plant identification tools or take a sample in for identification.
- Find out what methods work best for that weed.
- Plant adapted grasses which are proven competitors.
- To avoid spreading weed seeds, put any picked weed flowers and plants in trash bags.
- Keep properties weed free and participate in local weed pull projects.
- Use only certified weed-free forage for livestock on public lands and only pelletized feed and rolled grain in Wilderness Areas.

For more information on noxious weeds, visit www.ext.colorado.edu/sam/weed-pocket.pdf or the Summit County website at www.co.summit.co.us/index.aspx?nid=114 or call Summit County Weeds Management (970-668-4218). Report noxious weeds on National Forest lands to Dillon Ranger District.



WILDERNESS ... OUR LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS



SUMMIT COUNTY WILDERNESS AREAS

EAGLES NEST WILDERNESS AREA

This area was designated Wilderness in 1976 and has a total of 133,471 acres. The Gore Range begins north of Interstate 70 near Frisco and continues north toward Green Mtn. Reservoir. Heavy snow accumulates on the heights of the mountains of the Gore Range, providing a major contribution to the waters of the Colorado River. This is an area more vertical than horizontal, with sheer rock faces, steep ridges, deep valleys, jagged peaks, and dense forests in the lower elevations. Approximately 180 miles of trail provide access to this area, many of them dead-ending at a spectacular lake.

What Is Wilderness? "A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."

-Federal Wilderness Act of 1964

PTARMIGAN PEAK WILDERNESS AREA

This area was designated Wilderness in 1993 and has a total of 12,760 acres. The Williams Fork Mountains leap up and away into Ptarmigan Peak Wilderness from just below the western entrance to the Eisenhower Tunnel on Interstate 70. A typical lodgepole-pine forest rises to Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir and then on to alpine tundra at the highest elevations. From the boundary along the top of the mountain ridgeline, the terrain drops into the wet, lush, and lovely drainages of the South and Middle Forks of the Williams Fork Rivers.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS THAT APPLY TO LOCAL WILDERNESS AREAS:

- Motor vehicles, motorized or mechanized equipment, and mountain bikes are prohibited.
- Group size is limited to 15 people.
- Dogs must be leashed at all times on a leash 6' or shorter.
- Backcountry, overnight campers must self register their stay at Wilderness trailheads
- Campfires are not allowed at the lakes, within 1/4 mile of streams or trails, or above treeline.
- Camps must be at least 100 ft from lakes, streams and trails
- Hay and straw are prohibited for livestock..
- Pack and saddle animals should not be hitched or tethered within 100 ft of lakes, streams or trails.
- Equipment, supplies, and personal property cannot be left longer than 72 hours.

"If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt, we must leave them something more than the miracles of technology. We must leave them a glimpse of the world as it was in the beginning, not just after we got through with it."

-President Lyndon B. Johnson, on the signing of the Wilderness Act of 1964

WILDERNESS FACTS

- The National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS) was created on September 3, 1964, when President Lyndon B. Johnson signed The Wilderness Act.
- The NWPS now includes 757 areas (109 million acres) in 44 states and Puerto Rico.
- About 5% of the entire United States—an area slightly larger than the state of California—is protected as Wilderness.
- Wilderness areas represent a variety of landscapes including desert, mountains, rivers, prairies, saltwater marshes, swamps, beaches and sand dunes.
- Alaska, California, Arizona, Idaho and Washington have the most wilderness acres.



TIPS FOR HIKING WITH YOUR DOG ON THE TRAIL

- OTHER HIKERS:** No one wants to be licked or approached by an unknown dog and not everyone loves your dog as much as you do. Pull your dog off to the side when meeting other hikers and give them room to pass.
- OTHER DOGS:** Ask another owner before letting your dog approach his. Not all dogs are friendly toward other dogs. For your pet's sake, be cautious.
- BICYCLES:** In order to prevent possible injury to the cyclist and your pet, remove yourself and your dog from the trail until cyclist passes.
- HORSES:** Many horses are easily spooked by dogs and their barking.

- Make sure your dog is fully under control as horses and their riders pass. If possible, move downhill well off the trail.
- WILDLIFE:** An unleashed, uncontrolled dog can chase, harass and injure wildlife. Your pet could also be injured by animals like porcupines, coyotes and moose.
- The best policy is to keep your dog leashed. It protects him not only from wildlife, but from getting lost as well. In our Wilderness Areas, dogs must be on a six-foot leash at all times.
- Don't forget to carry water for your pet as well as yourself.

Common Trees and Wildlife of Summit County

All illustrations © Zackery Zdinak

Subalpine Fir

Needles are soft and flat. Cones are Purple and long. Fir has a silvery smooth bark when small.



Spruce

Has sharp needles and grayish- brown, scaly, rough bark. Engelmann spruce is the most common spruce here; the Blue Spruce is Colorado's state tree. Many animals eat its twigs, bark and seeds.



Lodgepole Pine

Needles grow in twisted clusters of two. Most here are now affected by pine beetles. Red needles indicate dead or dying trees.



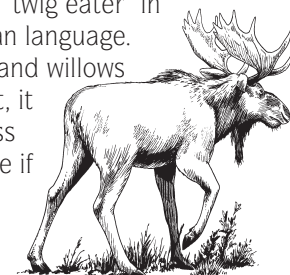
Aspen

Deciduous trees with heart shaped leaves and silvery bark. Often, aspen groves are one organism connected at root system.



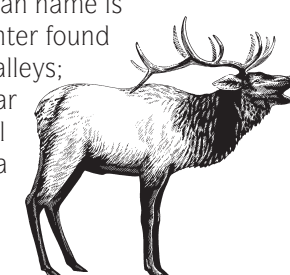
Moose

Name means "twig eater" in the Algonquian language. Found in wetland willows and the forest, it can be fearless and aggressive if threatened.



Elk

Native American name is "Wapiti". In winter found in mountain valleys; in summer near timberline. Fall mating call is a distinctive "bugle".



Mule Deer

Gray in color, known for large "mule size" ears. In winter found in mountain valleys and in summer forest wide.



Mountain Goat

White with black horns. Found above timberline on steep, rocky slopes. Male is bigger with larger horns. Often unafraid of humans.



Big Horn Sheep

Tan colored. Male has large, curved horns; female has smaller spikes. Found on rocky, exposed cliffs and talus slopes. Often seen grazing by roadsides.



WILDLIFE SAFETY ... The animals that live in the forest are not tame. Although they may become somewhat accustomed to humans, at any time their behavior can be unpredictable and even dangerous.

- Always observe wildlife from a safe distance. Use a camera or binoculars to "get close." Do not approach or try to feed a wild animal.
- Always leave a wild animal an escape route to avoid a confrontation.
- Keep a clean camp to discourage unwanted encounters.
- To protect yourself, your pet, and wildlife, keep your pet on a leash in the forest.
- Animals with young are especially sensitive to disturbance and can be very aggressive. Please observe any posted spring closures.

For more information on wildlife and wildlife safety: www.wildlife.state.co.us

Black Bear

All Colorado bears are "Black Bear". Colors range from black and brown to cinnamon. Take precautions with food and garbage in bear country.



Mountain Lion

Large cat often found where deer and elk are abundant (main food source). Usually solitary animals. Very secretive and seldom seen by humans.



Can you tell them apart? They both live on the ground and are important food sources for many predators. They eat plants, fruits, seeds, and insects and are ready guests at any picnic. But don't feed them! It's bad for their health.

Golden-Mantled Ground Squirrel

Lives on the ground, not in trees. Stripes are only on the body, not on face. Are deep hibernators during the winter.



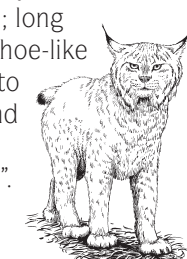
Chipmunk

Small rodent with stripes on head and body. Uses its cheek pouches to carry food. Is seldom seen above ground in winter.



Lynx

Medium sized cat; grayish brown; long ear tufts; long legs and large snowshoe-like paws. Reintroduced to Colorado in 1997 and protected as a "Threatened Species".



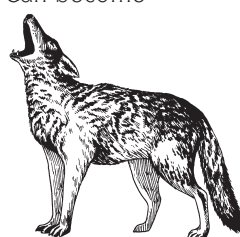
Red Fox

Small canine, majority are reddish in color. Has long, bushy tail with white tip. Unafraid, commonly seen in towns.



Coyote

Medium-sized canine; gray to tan with a bushy tail. Can become unafraid of humans. Makes a variety of high-pitched howls, yips, yelps, and barks.



Bobcat

Cat with gray to brown spotted coat and black-tufted ears. Can be mistaken for lynx, but have shorter legs and smaller paws.



Porcupine

Nocturnal, loves to chew anything. Eats tree bark and plants. Cannot throw quills, but each is needle sharp and barbed. Forest dweller.



Snowshoe Hare

Forest dweller. Changes color with the season: brown in summer, white in winter. Can run up to 32 mph. Primary food for the lynx.



Yellow-Bellied Marmot

Found in steppes, meadows, talus fields and other open habitats. When approached, marmots will give a warning whistle - hence, the nickname "whistle pig".



Beaver

Second largest rodent in the world. Found in wetland areas building dams, canals and lodges. Primarily nocturnal. When alarmed, dives rapidly while slapping water with its broad tail.



Pika

Small relative of the rabbit, lives in talus slopes at or above timberline. Its gathered piles of flowers and grasses can be seen in summer drying on rocks for its winter food supply. Often detected by its shrill alarm call, "Peeeeeek".



Red-Tailed Hawk

Most common hawk in North American. Tail is uniformly brick-red above and pink below. Its cry is a hoarse rasping scream of "Kree-eee-ar."



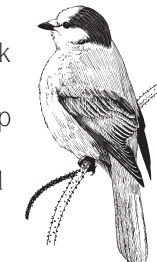
Osprey

Large raptors often seen near lakes and streams. Eats almost exclusively fish. Brown upper parts and grayish white head & belly. Common resident in Summit County.



Gray Jay

Common resident of the forest. Hides food in bark and trees for later use. Also known as the "Camp Robber", will approach people for handouts and boldly snatch food left unsecured, even for an instant.



Steller's Jay

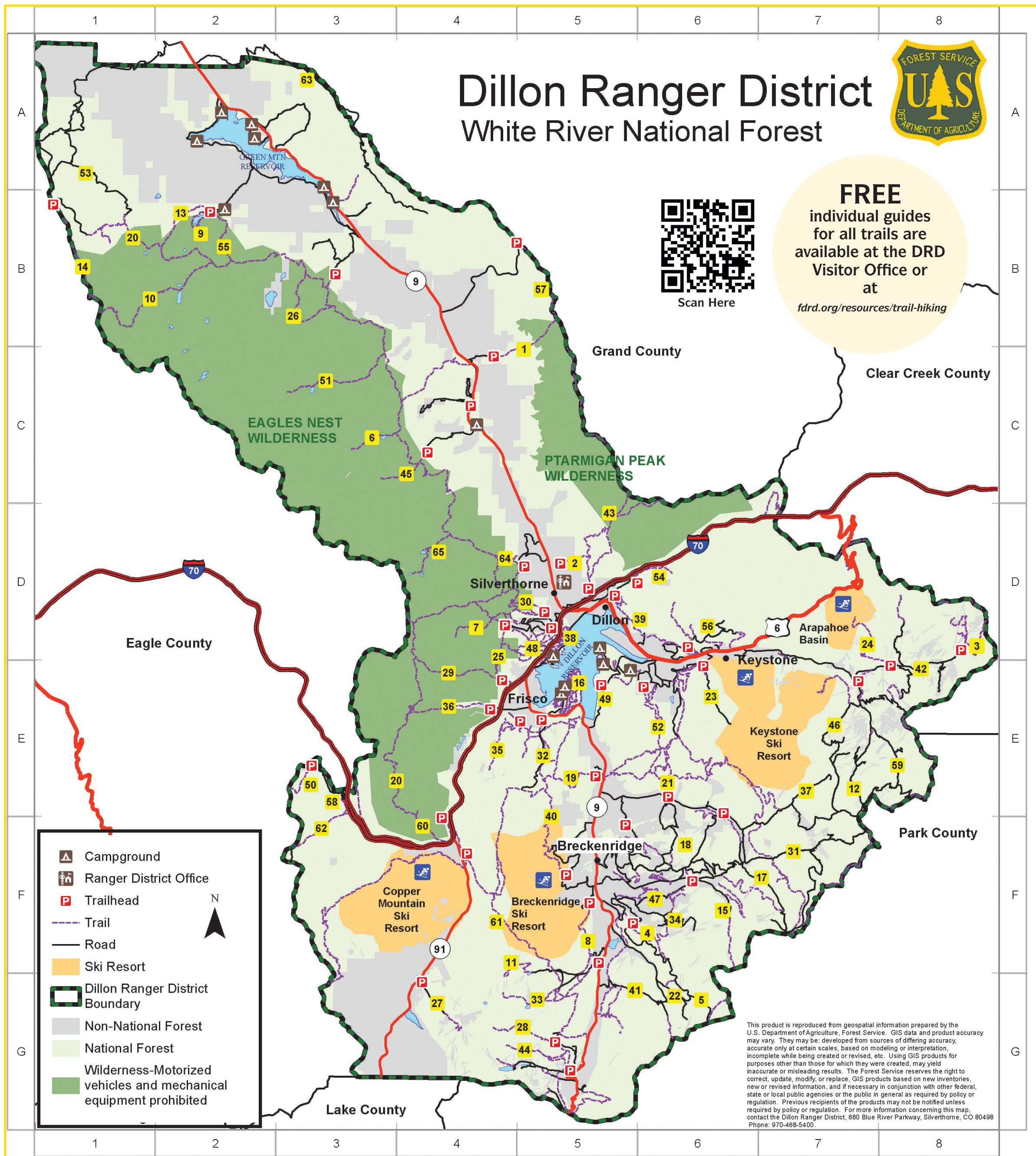
Large jay found year-round in evergreen forests. The head/crest is charcoal-colored; lower body is an iridescent silvery blue. May become used to people.



FEATURED TRAILS AND ROADS

Challenge Level: E = Easy; M = Moderate; S = Strenuous
(W) = Trail is all or part in Wilderness Area; V = Varies

| Key # | Trail / Road Name | Miles One Way | Hiking Challenge Level | Horse | Mountain Biking | OHV Motorbike E-Bikes | 4x4 | X/C Ski & Snow-shoe | Snow mobile | Map Coordinates |
|-------|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Acorn Creek (W) | 4.0 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | B5 |
| 2 | Angler Mountain | 2.5 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | D5 |
| 3 | Argentine Pass | 2.2 | S | • | • | • | • | • | • | D8 |
| 4 | Bakers Tank Trail System | V | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | F6 |
| 5 | Boreas Pass Road | 6.6 | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | G6 |
| 6 | Boulder Lake - Lower (W) | 2.7 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | C3 |
| 7 | Buffalo Mountain (W) | 2.8 | S | • | • | • | • | • | • | D4 |
| 8 | Burro | 4.0 | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | F5 |
| 9 | Cataract Lake - Lower (W) | 2.0 | E | • | • | • | • | • | • | B2 |
| 10 | Cataract Lake - Upper (W) | 5.0 | S | • | • | • | • | • | • | B1 |
| 11 | Crystal Lakes- Lower/Upper | 5.0 | S | • | • | • | • | • | • | F4 |
| 12 | Deer Creek Road | 4.0 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | E7 |
| 13 | Eaglesmere Lakes (W) | 3.6 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | B2 |
| 14 | Elliott Ridge (W) | 6.1 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | B1 |
| 15 | French Gulch | 4.1 | E-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | F6 |
| 16 | Frisco Penninsula Trail System | V | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | E5 |
| 17 | Georgia Pass Road (S. Fork Swan) | 4.5 | S | • | • | • | • | • | • | F7 |
| 18 | Golden Horseshoe Trail System | V | E-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | F6 |
| 19 | Gold Hill | 3.0 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | E5 |
| 20 | Gore Range (W) | 45.0 | E-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | E3/B1 |
| 21 | Horseshoe Gulch Trail System | V | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | E6 |
| 22 | Indiana Creek Road | 1.8 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | G6 |
| 23 | Keystone Gulch Road | 6.6 | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | E6 |
| 24 | Lenawee | 3.8 | S | • | • | • | • | • | • | D7 |
| 25 | Lily Pad Lake (W) | 1.4 | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | D4 |
| 26 | Lost Lake (W) | 5.6 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | B3 |
| 27 | Mayflower Gulch | 2.8 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | G4 |
| 28 | McCullough Gulch | 1.3 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | G5 |
| 29 | Meadow Creek (W) | 4.7 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | E4 |
| 30 | Mesa Cortina to So. Willow Falls (W) | 4.2 | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | D5 |
| 31 | Middle Fork Road (Swan River) | 9.2 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | F7 |
| 32 | Miners Creek Road | 2.5 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | E5 |
| 33 | Mohawk Lakes via Spruce Creek | 3.4 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | G5 |
| 34 | Mount Baldy | 4.5 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | F6 |
| 35 | Mount Royal/Masontown | 2.0 | S | • | • | • | • | • | • | E4 |
| 36 | North Ten Mile Creek (W) | 3.4 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | E4 |
| 37 | North Fork Road (Swan River) | 4.2 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | E7 |
| 38 | Old Dillon Reservoir | 0.8 | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | D5 |
| 39 | Oro Grande | 4.4 | E | • | • | • | • | • | • | D6 |
| 40 | Peaks | 7.8 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | E5 |
| 41 | Pennsylvania Creek Road | 2.5 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | G5 |
| 42 | Peru Creek Road | 4.0 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | E8 |
| 43 | Ptarmigan Peak (W) | 6.1 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | D5 |
| 44 | Quandary Peak | 3.1 | S | • | • | • | • | • | • | G5 |
| 45 | Rock Creek-North (W) | 1.6 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | C4 |
| 46 | Saints John Road | 2.9 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | E7 |
| 47 | Sallie Barber | 1.4 | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | F6 |
| 48 | Salt Lick Trail System | V | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | D5 |
| 49 | Sapphire Point | 0.7 | E | • | • | • | • | • | • | E5 |
| 50 | Shrine Mountain Trail | 2.3 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | E3 |
| 51 | Slate Lake - Lower/Upper (W) | 9.3 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | C3 |
| 52 | Soda Creek Trail System | V | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | E6 |
| 53 | Spring Creek Area | V | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | A1 |
| 54 | Straight Creek | 5.4 | E-M | • | • | • | • | • | • | D6 |
| 55 | Surprise Lake (W) | 2.6 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | B2 |
| 56 | Tenderfoot Trail System | V | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | D6 |
| 57 | Ute Peak | 4.9 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | B5 |
| 58 | Vail Pass Winter Recreation Area *fee | V | E-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | E3 |
| 59 | Webster Pass Road | 3.7 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | E8 |
| 60 | Wheeler Lakes (W) | 3.1 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | F4 |
| 61 | Wheeler National Recreation Trail | 14.0 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | F4 |
| 62 | Wilder Gulch | 3.5 | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | F3 |
| 63 | Williams Peak Road | 11.4 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | A3 |
| 64 | Willow Creek Trail System (W) | V | M | • | • | • | • | • | • | D4 |
| 65 | Willow Lake / Salmon Lake (W) | 7.7 | M-S | • | • | • | • | • | • | D4 |



SUGGESTED HIKES:
(#) = KEY # FROM TRAIL/ROAD INFORMATION TABLE, SHOWN AS TRAILHEAD ON MAP.

EASY TRAILS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
 French Gulch (#17)
 Lower Cataract Lake (#9)
 Oro Grande (#39)
 Sapphire Point (#49)
 Rainbow Lake (#40)
 For Summit County's Interactive Trail map: <https://summitcountyco.maps.arcgis.com/>

WATERFALLS AND CASCADES
 Cataract Creek Falls (#9)
 Continental Falls (#33)
 White Falls (#28)
 South Willow Falls (#30)

SCENIC & DESTINATION HIKES
 Baker's Tank (#4)
 Buffalo Mountain (#7)
 Lenawee (#24)
 Mayflower Gulch (#27)
 Shrine Mountain (#50)
 Willow and Salmon Lakes (#65)

Featured Wildflowers of Summit County

The height and abundance of wildflowers are in proportion to the amount of moisture they receive. July is the peak season for wildflower viewing. Favorite places are Acorn Creek (#1), Boreas Pass Rd (#6), Shrine Mountain Trail (#50), Wilder Gulch (#64), Tenderfoot (#57), Gore Range Trail (#20), Upper Cataract Lake (#11), and Ute Peak (#59). Wildflowers are beautiful but fragile. Please don't pick. Leave them to multiply so that they will return to be enjoyed by future generations.



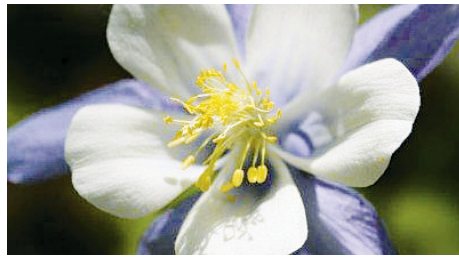
Alpine Sunflower
(*Aster/Sunflower*) Large, bright yellow, nodding flowers on woolly stems. Flowers always face the east. Also called Old-Man-of-the-Mountain. Up to 10" tall.



Buckwheat
(*Knotweed*) Cream colored clusters of flowers that turn rose-pink as they age. Has stout, hairy stems. Also called the Umbrella Plant and Indian Tobacco. Up to 8" tall.



Chiming Bells
(*Borago*) Pink buds mature into light blue, bell-shaped, nodding blossoms that hang in dense clusters. Also called Bluebells. Both tall (to 4 ft.) and short (to 12") varieties.



Columbine
(*Hellebore*) Blue columbine became Colorado's state flower in 1896. It represents the colors of the state flag: the blue of the skies, the gold of the mineral wealth, and the whiteness of the snow. Up to 3 ft. tall.



Little Pink Elephants, Elephant Head
(*Figwort*) Dense pink to reddish to purple flowers on tall spikes that look like tiny little pachyderms-trunks, ears, head and all. This shape is helpful to pollination. Up to 2 ft. tall.



Fireweed
(*Evening Primrose*) Pink to red to purplish flowers with 4 rounded petals. Leaves can be 8" long. Named because it readily populates burned or disturbed areas. Up to 6 ft. tall.



Green Gentian
(*Gentian*) Greenish-white, cross-shaped flowers with a purple center clustered along a tall stem. Can live up to 60 years storing energy to bloom and make seeds! Also called Monument Plant and Elkweed. Up to 6 ft. tall.



Heart Leaved Arnica
(*Aster/Sunflower*) Yellow, daisy-like flowers that grow in huge patches under shade of pines or aspen trees. All parts of the plant have medicinal uses. Up to 20" tall.



Indian Paintbrush
(*Figwort*) Color ranges from white or pale yellow to dark red. Flowers are dense upright spikes at the top of a stem. Is semi-parasitic and cannot survive without a host plant. Up to 24" tall.



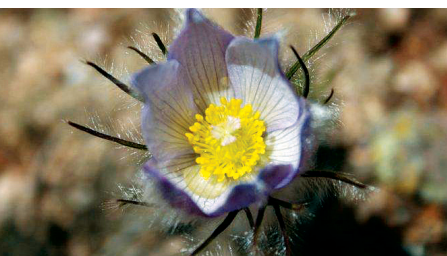
Lupine
(*Pea*) Related to the Bluebonnet. Blue or purple pea-like flowers on a tall stem. Has large, hairy seed pods. Elk and bear eat the seeds and pods, but they are poisonous to humans. Up to 24" tall.



Mariposa Lily
(*Mariposa*) Three cupped white to purple petals with lavender to light green centers. Mariposa is Spanish for "butterfly". Grows on a slender stem from a bulb. Also called Sejo Lily. Up to 20" tall.



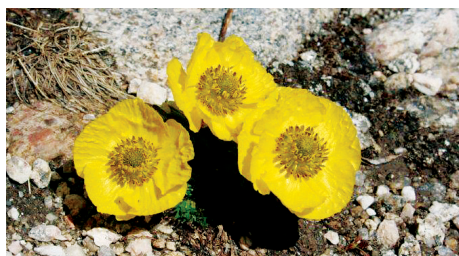
Frosty Ball Thistle
(*Aster/Sunflower*) Striking native thistle with nodding heads on white hairy stems with long spines. Found in sunny areas. Also called Dragonhead Thistle. Up to 2' tall.



Pasqueflower
(*Buttercup*) White to dark lavender petals with bright yellow centers. Plant is covered in fine silky hairs, which help insulate it. Blooming as early as March, its name means Easter flower. Up to 12" tall.



Penstemon
(*Figwort*) Light blue to dark purple small, tubular flowers in tiered clusters. Their upper lip has 2 lobes; the lower has 3. Found in disturbed soil. There are over 250 varieties of Penstemon! Up to 30" tall.



Snow Buttercup
(*Ranunculus*) Golden yellow flowers with overlapping petals. Grows in wet areas. Common above tree line. Up to 10" tall.



Tansy Aster
(*Aster/Sunflower*) Purple daisy-like flower with small yellow centers. Blooms late summer and fall. The many different asters, sunflowers and daisies all belong to the same plant family! Up to 3 ft. tall.



Wild Geranium
(*Geranium*) Lavender flowers up to 1 1/2" across growing in bushy clumps. Potted geraniums come from a different genus. Up to 30" tall.



Wild Iris or Western Blue Flag
(*Iris*) Purple flower with sword-like leaves growing in wet areas. Poisonous! Indians are rumored to have made arrow poison from them. Up to 2 ft. tall.



Wild Rose
(*Rose*) Pink, five-petaled flowers with yellow centers on thorny bushes. Typical rose leaves. Fall fruit (hip) is red and edible. Up to 6 ft. tall.



Yarrow
(*Aster/Sunflower*) Small, flat-topped, white flowers with yellow centers. Leaves are flat and very fine, and have been used for medicinal purposes since the time of the ancient Greeks. Up to 3 ft. tall.



SCENIC DRIVES

These drives are suitable for 2WD passenger vehicles. They access beautiful scenery, historic places, and mountain views. Before attempting any drives in the winter, please check for road closures or adverse conditions.

Boreas Pass Road: (unpaved)

Follows old narrow gauge grades to the town of Como. No vehicle access in the winter. (Map F, G8)

Fremont Pass*: (paved, State Hwy 91) to historic Leadville past Climax molybdenum mine. (Map G3)

Hoosier Pass*: (paved, State Hwy 9) to South Park, Alma, and Fairplay. (Map G5)

Loveland Pass*: (paved, State Hwy 6) the world's highest mountain pass open in winter. Drive carefully in winter weather and be aware of closures. (Map D6-7)

Shrine Pass Road: (unpaved), a 4WD trail which can be traveled by sturdy 2WD vehicles and light trucks in good weather. No vehicle access in the winter. (Map F3)

Ute Pass Road: (paved, County Rd 15) follows a Native American trail into the Williams Fork Range. (Map B4)

**These cross the Continental Divide*

HOW TO RECREATE WITH WILDLIFE: SHARE THE FOREST

BY ELISSA SLEZAK
COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE (CPW)

Wildlife Use the Same Trails That We Do!

- Our favorite places to recreate are also home to deer, elk, moose, black bears, mountain lions, foxes, coyotes, porcupines, weasels & more.
- Wild animals are most active at dawn and dusk and night, and may be taking a nap somewhere near a favorite path during the day.
- Approaching any wild animal is not only dangerous and unethical, but can result in legal charges of harassment of wildlife.



Stay the Trail & Stay Out of Closed Areas!

- Mountain bikes, dirt bikes, and ATVs that illegally go off-trail, erode the landscape and damage vegetation that wild animals rely on for forage and shelter.

HIKE THROUGH HISTORY - YELLOW GOLD TO WHITE GOLD



BY RICK HAGUE
BRECKENRIDGE HERITAGE ALLIANCE

For over 100 years, these mountains heard the drilling, blasting, and shoveling of miners searching for gold and silver. In recent years, these sounds have been replaced by the "swish" of ski against snow and the loud sounds of snowmobiles roaring through the forests.

While the beginnings of modern skiing can be traced to Summit's early days, skiing was almost entirely for transportation during the Pikes Peak gold rush in the 1860s. The equipment differed significantly from that seen on today's ski slopes. In fact, early skis, which were actually called snowshoes, were made of wood and measured 10 to 12 feet in length. The skier steered and stopped with a single wood pole dragged behind him. Local preacher Father Dyer probably best exemplified this type of ski transportation. He skied between early gold mining camps during the winter to deliver mail and to preach sermons.

Photographs and accounts of the late 19th and the early 20th centuries indicate that similar equipment was used not only for transportation but for recreation and perhaps even competition. It appears that much of the early recreational skiing resembled today's cross-country or Nordic skiing.

In 1910, a Norwegian named Peter Prestrud, who lived in Frisco, introduced what became a popular local sport - ski jumping. It became so popular that just after WWI, residents constructed ski jumps near old Dillon, Breckenridge, and elsewhere. In 1919, Anders Haugen, a famous Norwegian skier, jumped to a world record of 213 feet at the Dillon jump located near the present-day Glory Hole/overflow outlet of Dillon Dam. The following year he broke his record with a jump of 214 feet.

In the years leading up to the 1960s, Summit County saw a great deal of recreational skiing in which women wearing long dresses and men enjoyed outings using long wooden skis. A number of privately owned ski areas opened to the public for downhill skiing in this period as well.



well. In the mid-1930s, the Hoosier Pass ski area opened and probably hosted skiers until the early 1940s. Two parallel cleared runs can still be seen to the left of Route 9 when ascending Hoosier Pass. One of the original four log cabins still stands within view of the old runs.

Chalk Mountain, located on the right at the top of Fremont Pass between Copper Mountain and Leadville, and directly across the road from the present-day Climax Mine, opened in 1934-35. Built by Climax Mine employees and used mainly by them, the area also welcomed the public before closing around 1962.

The Arapahoe Basin Ski Area, located on Route 6 below and to the west of Loveland Pass was developed by 10th Mountain Division veterans and locally famous Max and Edna Dercum. It opened to the public in 1946 and is, of course, alive and well today and very much a part of modern-day Summit County skiing.

But the real story of modern skiing in the county began in about 1959 when Wichita, Kansas-based Rounds and Porter Lumber Company (RPLC) became interested in acquiring land in Summit County to build a year-round, second-home recreational community. RPLC was not only a purveyor of lumber products but also a real estate developer and oil and gas explorer. The Dillon Reservoir, under development at the time, and the magnificent snow-covered mountains surrounding Breckenridge attracted the company for their winter and summer recreation potential.

Exploration geologist Bill Stark was an acquaintance of RPLC executive Bill Rounds, and a skiing enthusiast. Stark approached Rounds with the thought that the mountains around Breckenridge offered the potential for winter activities to complement the summer lake-based recreation activities at Lake Dillon. Rounds, when skiing in Aspen in 1959-60, recruited the services of two Norwegian ski instructors to help



evaluate the potential of Breckenridge. And, as the saying goes, the rest is history.

In 1960, the company applied to the U.S. Forest Service for a permit to build a ski area on Peaks 8, 9, and 10. The Forest Service completed its evaluation in March 1961, and granted a permit on July 27, 1961, for 1,764 acres. Trail cutting on Peak 8 began immediately. The Peak 8 Ski Area, its original name, opened for business on December 16, 1961. Depending upon who you ask and what you consider a "run," either six or seven original runs (Springmeier, Rounders, Swinger, Crescendo, Four O'Clock, Boreas Bounce, and Ego Lane) awaited skiers at the new area.

Over the years, crews cut many more trails and built more lifts on Peak 8. Peaks 9, 10, 7, and 6 opened in subsequent years in that order. The Berghof Restaurant on Peak 8 served its first customers during the 1961-1962 season, while the Vista Haus began operating during the 1997-1998 season on Peak 8. Peak 9, originally named Royal Tiger Mountain, opened in 1971-1972 with a restaurant, originally named the Eagle's Roost and subsequently re-named the Peak 9 Restaurant and The Overlook, first providing meals during the 1973-1974 season.

Peak 10 came next, during the 1985-1986 season, with the TenMile Station restaurant welcoming diners in 1998-1999. Peak 7 followed in the 2002-2003 season and then Peak 6 in 2013-2014, rounding out what today is the Breckenridge Ski Resort. Other notable dates at Breckenridge include the inauguration of the Peak 8 SuperConnect, connecting Peaks 9 and 8, during the 2002-2003 season, and the construction of the BreckConnect Gondola for the 2006-2007 season.

Elsewhere, Keystone Ski Resort opened in 1970-71, while Copper Mountain opened the following ski season.



themselves and their young very aggressively, especially when barked at or chased.



Pack Out Your Trash!

- Leaving your trash, food, and waste behind is illegal and degrades wildlife habitat and water sources.
- Human food that is left unsecured can habituate wild animals, like foxes and black bears, to seek human food sources and ultimately lead to the animal's death.
- Feeding or baiting wildlife is illegal!

Please remember to stay on the trail, leash your dog, keep your distance, and do not litter or feed. CPW encourages you to watch and enjoy YOUR wildlife, but do it responsibly, and from a distance!

See CPW.STATE.CO.US for more information.



GIVE A HOOT, DON'T POLLUTE!

Did you know litter can last this long?

- Orange Peels..... 6+ mos
- Cigarette Butts..... 2-5 yrs
- Toilet Paper..... 2-3 yrs
- Plastic Bags..... 10-100 yrs
- Aluminum Cans..... 200-500 yrs
- Disposable Diaper..... 450 yrs
- Plastic Bottles..... 500+ yrs
- Glass..... 1,000+ yrs
- Styrofoam..... Forever

SUMMER RECREATION

TRAVEL MANAGEMENT

The White River National Forest Travel Management Plan (TMP) provides for a wide range of uses and experiences to suit the public's recreation and travel needs while protecting the forest's natural resources. The TMP designates roads, trails, and areas that are open to motorized and mechanized travel in both summer and winter.



MAPS

MOTOR VEHICLE USE MAPS (MVUM)

The MVUM displays National Forest System routes or areas that are open to motorized travel. It also displays allowed uses by vehicle class, seasonal allowances, and provides information on other travel rules and regulations. MVUM's are available at the Dillon Ranger Station for free or online on the Avenza app. For additional trail information and maps, download the CORTEX app.



Leave No Trace Seven Principles

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

FISHING

Great fishing opportunities abound in the Dillon Ranger District's alpine lakes and streams, the Blue River (tributary of the Colorado), and Dillon and Green Mountain Reservoirs. State fishing regulations must be followed, including those governing artificial lures, bag and size limit, and "catch and release only" areas. **All anglers 16 years and older must be in possession of a valid Colorado fishing license**, available at local stores and angling shops. Colorado fishing licenses are not sold at the Dillon Ranger District. Consult your local guide services or Colorado Parks and Wildlife for more info www.wildlife.state.co.us/fishing.



Recycle your used fishing line in these bins, located in popular fishing areas around the county!

MOTORIZED TRAVEL

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE TRAVEL

All Off-Highway Vehicles (ATVs, 4WD, and all non-highway licensed vehicles) must be on designated roads and trails in the Dillon Ranger District. These roads and trails vary in level of difficulty and degree of technical expertise needed. **Cross-Country (off-route) travel is prohibited.** This is to reduce the impact to natural resources such as wildlife, fragile wetlands, and alpine environments in this spectacular area.

Note: Motorized vehicles are prohibited in Eagles Nest and Ptarmigan Peak Wilderness Areas.

OHV REGISTRATION

Off Highway Vehicles (ATVs, OHVs and motorbikes) operated on public land or trails in Colorado must be registered with Colorado State Parks. Out of state residents who bring OHVs into Colorado must purchase a Colorado Non-Resident permit. Registration fee is \$25.25. Info & Permits are available At the Dillon Ranger District Store or www.parks.state.co.us



STAY THE TRAIL:

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ETIQUETTE

- Ride only on routes wider than your vehicle.
- Ride only on routes open to your vehicle.
- Ride over obstacles; not around them.
- Be an ambassador to non-motorized trail users including livestock and wildlife.
- Louder doesn't mean faster.
- Slow down for your fellow riders.



E-BIKES

Silverthorn, Colo - With summer fast approaching and interest in e-bikes increasing, the Dillon Ranger District offers these tips to help e-bike riders understand where they can go.

In the Dillon Ranger District, e-bikes are allowed on all roads and trails that are open to motorized vehicles during the summer travel season. Summer travel dates vary by location, so riders are encouraged to check with the Dillon Ranger District or use the Motor Vehicle Use Maps at www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver.

All e-bikes (class 1, 2, and 3) are considered motorized vehicles by the Forest Service, so they are not permitted on non-motorized trails in the Dillon Ranger District, including those that are open to non-motorized mountain bikes.

There are a few exceptions in areas where another agency or organization is managing trails on the Dillon Ranger District under a permit or agreement:

- Class 1 e-bikes are allowed on the Summit County Recpath System, which is a paved pathway.
- All classes of e-bikes are allowed at the Frisco Peninsula Recreation Area (https://www.townoffrisco.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Frisco_Trail_Map_Detail_2020.pdf)
- All classes of e-bikes are also allowed at Copper Mountain Resort. E-bikes are available for rent and may be used to ride up the Mountain Road to access the downhill bike trails. E-bikes are not authorized to be hauled up via the lift due to size and weight. E-Bikes are not authorized on the Colorado Trail.

For more information, contact the Dillon Ranger District, 680 Blue River Parkway in Silverthorne, (970) 468-5400.

HIKING AND TRAIL SAFETY REMINDERS THE "TEN ESSENTIALS" OF BACKCOUNTRY TRAVEL

1. **Navigation** - Map & Compass, GPS & Extra Batteries, Watch
2. **Signaling** - Whistle, Mirror, Cell Phone, Surveyor Tape
3. **Light Source (two)** - Headlamp, Flashlight, Extra Batteries
4. **Nourishment** - Water & High Energy Food for 24-48 hours
5. **Shelter** - Lightweight Waterproof Tarp, Bivy Sack, Parachute Cord
6. **Fire Building** - Waterproof Matches, Fire Starter, Heat Tabs, Knife, Saw
7. **Personal Protection** - Medications, First-Aid Kit, Sunscreen, Dark Glasses, Bug Repellent
8. **Weather Protection** - Extra Clothing, Rain Gear, Hat, Gloves, Large Heavy-Duty Plastic Bag
9. **Winter Add-Ons** - Avalanche Beacon, Probe Pole, Shovel with Metal Blade
10. **Rules to ALWAYS Follow ---**

- a. Never go alone; sorry, dogs don't count!
- b. Always tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.
- c. Stay on the trail; never "bushwhack" unless you are very familiar with the area.
- d. If lost and waiting for Search & Rescue, REMAIN CALM, STAY WHERE YOU ARE, and DO NOT WANDER.
- e. The best equipment won't help unless you know how to use it. Take a training course, and practice frequently, especially with your Map & Compass, and Beacon/Probe/Shovel.

SCRC has been organized for over 40 years and we operate year-round. We are an all-volunteer team of 60 members, funded through donations and grants. We DO NOT charge a fee for SAR services. NEVER be reluctant to request our help through 911 Emergency Dispatch. 02/14

Be aware there are always prolonged rescue times in backcountry



NON-MOTORIZED TRAVEL



MOUNTAIN BIKING

Summit County offers great mountain biking for all skill levels. Please check the trail chart on Page 6 for a list of trails open to mountain bikes.

With the implementation of the new White River Travel Management Plan, mountain biking is only allowed on trails that display a mountain biking symbol on the trail sign post. For more information and trail conditions, see www.summitfattiore.org.

MOUNTAIN BIKING RULES OF THE TRAIL

- Ride only on open trails (all Wilderness Area trails are closed to mountain biking.)
- Yield to hikers, horses, and uphill mountain bikers- they have the right of way.
- Stay in control of your bicycle.
- Avoid skidding around corners, riding on muddy trails, and riding off the trail.
- Never scare an animal



NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL ETIQUETTE

- Travel in small groups to avoid undue stress to forest resources. In Wilderness Areas, group size is limited to 15 people.
- Be considerate of other trail users. Slower hikers should allow faster hikers to pass.

- Dogs should be leashed or under voice control. Dogs should be restrained by leash or hand when encountering other hikers and users. In Wilderness Areas dogs must be on a 6 ft. leash.

- **ALL users yield to horses.** When encountering horses, mountain bikers and hikers should stand quietly off the downhill side of the trail and allow horses to pass.
- Mountain bikers should yield to hikers and horses, announcing their presence to them well in advance of passing.

- Livestock should be tied OFF the trail at rest stops (even short ones!)

- During snow melt (mud) season, all users (motorized and non-motorized) should stay on paved trails and roads. For hikers and bikers, Summit County Recpaths are a good alternative.



CROSS COUNTRY SKIING AND SNOWSHOEING



Many summer trails can be used for cross-country skiing or snowshoeing in the winter. (See Pg 6). Many of these routes are not marked in winter, so please use caution while route finding. Avoid snowshoeing directly on top of ski trails; if possible, snowshoe next to the ski tracks.



Join us for Ski with a Ranger tours at all Summit County ski resorts this winter.



SKI RESORTS

Four ski areas operate under Special Use Permits from the White River National Forest, Dillon Ranger District. Each offers a wide variety of winter and summer activities. For additional information please visit their websites.

Arapahoe Basin: www.arapahoebasin.com
Breckenridge: www.breckenridge.com
Copper Mountain: www.coppercolorado.com
Keystone: www.keystoneresort.com



NORDIC CENTERS

Breckenridge Nordic Center: www.breckenridgenordic.com
970-453-6855

Frisco Nordic Center: www.frisconordic.com
970-668-0866

Keystone Nordic Center: www.keystoneresort.com/activities/nordic-center.aspx
970-496-4386

Gold Run Nordic Center: www.townofbreckenridge.com
970-547-7889

BACKCOUNTRY HUT SYSTEM

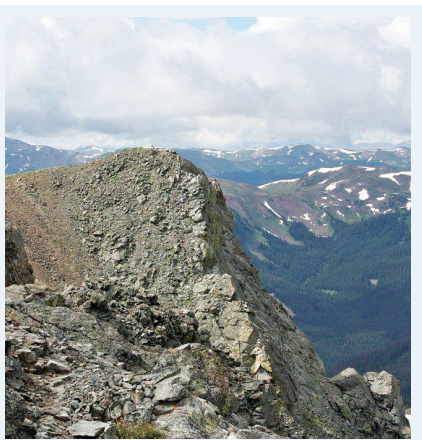
A system of reservable lodging in backcountry locations in Summit and neighboring counties provides a variety of huts, cabins, and backcountry shelters for public use. All are open November to May; some are open in summer.

Summit Huts: For more information contact www.summithuts.org

Tenth Mountain Division Huts: For more information contact www.huts.org



WINTER RECREATION



Summit of Buffalo Mountain, 12,777 ft.

HIGH ALTITUDE PRECAUTIONS

Above 8000 feet barometric pressure decreases, the air is thinner, and less oxygen is available. Heart rate may increase and breathing can become faster and deeper, especially with physical exertion. Some people experience headaches, nausea, trouble sleeping and unusual tiredness. These usually go away in a couple of days. If symptoms are severe, persist or worsen, consult a doctor as these can be symptoms of Acute Mountain Sickness.

At higher altitudes the air is also drier and the sun's ultraviolet rays are more intense.

Effects of high altitude can be minimized with these recommendations:

- Take time to allow your body to adjust. Minimize physical activity your first day.
- Drink plenty of fluid- two or three times more than usual. Take water with you to avoid dehydration.
- Avoid alcoholic beverages, caffeine, and salty foods.
- Get plenty of rest.
- Always wear hats, sunscreen, and sunglasses - even in the winter!
- Avoid hypothermia in all seasons: Dress in layers and be prepared for changing weather and colder temperatures, even in the summer.
- Remember - children, babies and pets can be affected, too!

SNOWMOBILING REGISTRATION



Snowmobiles operated on public land or trails in Colorado must be registered with Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Out of state residents who bring Snowmobiles into Colorado must purchase a Colorado Non-Resident permit. Permits are available at www.parks.state.co.us and the Dillon Ranger District Store. The annual registration fee is \$30.25. Registrations are valid Oct. 1st through Sept. 30th each year. This is a flat administrative fee. All funds go directly back to maintain the lands used. Users must obtain current information about the areas and the boundaries.

- Be respectful of wildlife's wintering habitats.
- Do not ride on trails with less than 6 inches of Compacted snow.
- Snowmobiling is not allowed in Wilderness Areas.

There are designated areas for snowmobiles throughout the Dillon Ranger District. With the implementation of the new White River Travel Management Plan, it is the user's responsibility to obtain a Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) to know which routes are open to snowmobiling. Users must obtain current information about the areas and know the boundaries.

- **Swan Valley Snowmobile Area**

Located near the town of Breckenridge at the end of Tiger Road, this area offers miles of groomed roads that climb through spruce and fir forests. A great option is riding to the

Continental Divide at Georgia Pass to enjoy spectacular views of the surrounding mountains. (Map E7)

- **Spring Creek Snowmobile Area** Located north of Green Mountain Reservoir, miles of forested roads are groomed by the High Country Snowmobile Club for all skill levels. Closer to Elliot Ridge there are open meadows and alpine terrain. This area borders the Eagles Nest Wilderness which is CLOSED to snowmobiles, so please observe all posted boundary signs. (Map A1)

For snowmobile information see www.snowmobilecolo.com.

RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS

- Ride single file, keep to the right and pass on the left only when the trail is clear.
- Yield the right-of-way to skiers, snowshoers and those passing or traveling uphill.
- Use common snowmobiling hand signals to communicate with your group and other riders.

EDUCATE YOURSELF

- Obtain a map of your destination and determine which areas are open to snowmobiles.
- Always check the weather forecast and avalanche conditions.
- Pack a small backpack full of emergency items.
- Be prepared with tools and supplies for repairs.
- Carry an avalanche beacon, shovel and probe at all times in avalanche terrain.

VAIL PASS WINTER RECREATION AREA

Vail Pass Winter Recreation Area is open to motorized and non-motorized uses and requires the purchase of a day (\$10) or season pass (\$65) to enter the area. It is open from approximately November to mid April, snow conditions permitting. Fee stations to purchase passes are located at the trailheads. Interagency passes are not valid. Season passes may also be purchased at the Dillon Ranger District

Visitor Center. Maps are available and show users which routes are open to motorized and non-motorized travel.

Vail Pass Facts:

- Total Area- 55,000 acres
- Elevation Range- 9,200 ft to 12,693 ft.
- Motorized Trails- 67 miles
- Groomed Trails- 50 miles
- Non-Motorized Trails- 52 miles
- Motorized-Assisted ski terrain- 3,300 acres

AVALANCHE SAFETY

Be prepared when traveling into the backcountry during the winter! Check the weather/avalanche forecast with the Colorado Avalanche Information Center, choose safe routes, carry avalanche safety equipment and know how to use it. Avalanche education is the best way to avoid being injured or killed in an avalanche. Before traveling into the backcountry make sure that you have the knowledge and education to make informed decisions.

Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) website: <http://avalanche.state.co.us>, smart phone app or Summit County Hotline #970-668-0600.

Know Before You Go: www.kbyg.org
Up to Date Local Colorado Avalanche Info



IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Dillon Ranger District-Summit County
(970) 468-5400

www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver

Holy Cross Ranger District - Minturn
(Vail)

(970) 827-5715

www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver

USFS Campground Reservations

(877) 444-6777

www.recreation.gov

Colorado Road Conditions

(877) 315- 7623 or (Cell) 511

www.cotrip.org

Summit County Road Information

(970) 668-1090

National Weather Service

(303) 494-4221

www.weather.gov

Colorado Avalanche Information
Center

(970) 668-0600

avalanche.state.co.us

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Hotline (970) 725-6200

www.wildlife.state.co.us

Summit Stage Bus Service

Free county wide transportation

(970) 668-0999

www.summitstage.com

St. Anthony Summit Medical Center

Frisco, CO

(970) 668-3300

Summit County Noxious Weeds

(970) 668-4218 or (970) 668-4252

Summit County Non-Emergency
Dispatch

(970) 668-8600

FOR ALL EMERGENCIES, CALL 911

DO NOT RELY ON CELL PHONE
COVERAGE IN FOREST OR SKI AREAS!

Please recycle this guide or pass it on!

Our Many Thanks!

Comments or questions about this publication should be made to

Friends of the Dillon Ranger District:
970-262-3449 or info@fdrd.org

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YOUR SAFETY IN THE NATIONAL FOREST

Users of National Forest lands have a great responsibility for their own safety. Hazards in the forest include changing weather, snow, avalanches, landslides, caves, overlooks, falling trees or limbs, high or fast water, contaminated water, wild animals, becoming lost, overexertion or hypothermia, mining hazards involving excavations, tunnels and equipment, shafts, and decaying structures; changing road and trail conditions, and potential exposure to unreasonable acts of others.

It is the user's responsibility to be aware of hazards and to use proper safety procedures and equipment to minimize risks and hazards.

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION

YOU CAN HELP



FRIENDS OF THE DILLON RANGER DISTRICT (FDRD)

FDRD is a community nonprofit organization that engages hundreds of volunteers each year in projects and programs that directly benefit the National Forest in Summit County. Since our founding in 2005, FDRD has worked tirelessly in the focus areas of public forest stewardship, wildlife habitat improvement, youth education and development, and recreation improvements.

Please join us for a family-friendly trail maintenance or forest health project, or a fun and free guided educational hike this summer. In the winter FDRD offers guided on-hill naturalist tours at

our ski resorts through our Ski With A Ranger program, as well as educational snowshoe outings. FDRD projects and other activities are a great way to meet members of our mountain community who share a love for this special place.

Our website, fdrd.org, is a great place to find more information about our rewarding volunteer opportunities, or to make a donation to support our forest stewardship programs. Your contribution will directly benefit the public lands that form the heart and soul of our community! And we invite you to stop by the FDRD Store at the Dillon Ranger District Station in Silverthorne to learn more about where to explore in Summit County, or to pick up a unique souvenir.



EAGLE SUMMIT WILDERNESS ALLIANCE (ESWA)



The Eagle Summit Wilderness Alliance (ESWA) is the local all-volunteer non-profit that helps the US Forest Service preserve and protect the Eagles Nest, Ptarmigan Peak, and Holy Cross Wilderness Areas. ESWA Volunteer Wilderness Rangers and Trailhead Hosts educate trail users about Leave No Trace principles and Wilderness ethics, and provide local knowledge. ESWA Sawyers clear fallen trees from trails, and WeedSpotters help the USFS locate and manage invasive weed infestations. ESWA Trail Crews maintain and improve Wilderness trails and campsites. We welcome all visitors to the Dillon Ranger District, and ask that you recreate responsibly and Leave No Trace. We invite you to join our efforts to encourage active stewardship of our fragile local Wilderness Areas. To find out more about ESWA and learn about upcoming events, visit eaglesummitwilderness.org. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram. Please help us Keep Wilderness Wild!

The Eagle Summit Wilderness Alliance (ESWA) is the local all-volunteer non-profit that helps the US Forest Service preserve and protect the Eagles Nest, Ptarmigan Peak, and Holy Cross Wilderness Areas. ESWA Volunteer Wilderness Rangers and Trailhead Hosts educate trail users about Leave No Trace principles and Wilderness ethics, and provide local knowledge. ESWA Sawyers clear fallen trees from trails, and WeedSpotters help the USFS locate and manage invasive weed infestations. ESWA Trail Crews maintain and improve Wilderness trails and campsites. We welcome all visitors to the Dillon Ranger District, and ask that you recreate responsibly and Leave No Trace. We invite you to join our efforts to encourage active stewardship of our fragile local Wilderness Areas. To find out more about ESWA and learn about upcoming events, visit eaglesummitwilderness.org. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram. Please help us Keep Wilderness Wild!



Do You Want to Contribute to Your National Forest? There are all kinds of ways to get involved - maintaining and improving trails, planting trees, restoring wildlife habitat, free educational tours, fundraising events and more!



FDRD.ORG

TRAIL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

With over 400 miles of trails on the Dillon Ranger District, the USFS needs the help of volunteers to provide additional hands for boots on the ground trail maintenance and construction. Project work includes:

- New trail construction
- Trail maintenance
- Bridge construction
- Structure maintenance
- Corridor clearing
- Installation of drainage structures
- Buck & rail fence construction

OTHER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Ranger Patrol
- Fundraising/Events
- Outreach Ambassadors
- Adopt a Trailhead
- Adopt a Bin
- Educational Hike Leaders
- Forest Monitoring
- Farmer's Market

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Are you involved with a youth group or organization? Whether you are a local or from the Front Range, reach out to schedule an education program or service project at info@fdrd.org. All FDRD programming is FREE and open to the public.

FOREST HEALTH PROJECTS

The White River National Forest is one of the most visited forests in the country. With growing visitor use, it is imperative to help the USFS keep our beautiful forest growing strong for future generations to enjoy. Project work includes:

- Closing illegal campsites
- Wildlife habitat restoration
- Watershed health
- Noxious weed removal
- Native seed collection
- Tree thinning
- Tree planting
- Burn pile restoration
- Forest monitoring
- Wildlife monitoring

These projects are less physically demanding and great for all ages!

FREE EDUCATIONAL HIKES/TOURS

Join us for a leisurely paced hike, led by an expert in one of the following topics:

- Wildflowers
- Wild Edibles
- Streams & Lakes
- History
- Geology
- Wildlife

FDRD hosts over 60 volunteer projects every summer! For a full listing of opportunities, and to register for a project, check out the FDRD calendar at fdrd.org/calendar OR scan here:



FDRD.ORG



EAGLESUMMITWILDERNESS.ORG

ESWA LLAMA-SUPPORTED WILDERNESS CLEANUP TRIPS

July 7-9: Soda Lakes - Eagles Nest Wilderness

July 21-23: Wheeler and Lost Lakes - Eagles Nest Wilderness

August 4-6: Gore Lake - Eagles Nest Wilderness

August 18-20: Willow Lakes - Eagles Nest Wilderness

August 24-27: Turret Creek - south end of Flat Tops Wilderness



EAGLESUMMITWILDERNESS.ORG

Scan above or visit ESWA's website at eaglesummitwilderness.org to learn more about their volunteer opportunities and to register.