



## McCullough Gulch – FDT 43

**Difficulty:** Moderate

**Trail Use:** Heavy

**Length:** 1.3 miles one-way

**Elevation:** Start at 11,105 feet and ends at 11,919 feet (highest point 11,920 feet)

**Elevation Gain/Loss:** 814 ft

**Open to:** **HIKING, HORSE (not recommended), X-C SKIING, SNOWSHOEING**

**Closed to:** **MTN. BIKES AND MOTORIZED VEHICLES**

---

## GETTING THERE

The parking lot for Quandary Peak is located off of Highway 9 at the intersection of Blue Lakes Road, approximately 9 miles south of Breckenridge in the Blue River neighborhood.

In the summer months, access to the trailhead is available only through parking reservation or by shuttle from Breckenridge to the Quandary Peak Trailhead parking lot. A separate shuttle will go from there to the McCullough Gulch Trailhead. Up to date information regarding parking reservation and shuttle information can be found through this Summit County website:

<https://summitcounty.civilspace.io/en/projects/quandary-peak-mccullough-gulch-trip-information>

Alternatively, visitors can be picked up and dropped off at the parking lot without a reservation. Parking on area County roads, such as McCullough Gulch Rd, Blue Lakes Rd, and Highway 9 will not be permitted and enforced by Summit County.

---

## ATTRACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- Although private property exists along this trail, hikers and mountain bikers are allowed access and are asked to stay on the trail and to respect private property.
- The trail is located on the north side of Quandary Peak, elevation 14,265 feet. From the trailhead you will be hiking on an old mining road through the McCullough Gulch drainage.
- The trail continues through lodgepole pine and eventually comes to a clearing that contains a large boulder field. Follow the rock cairns marking the trail through the boulder field and cross the bridge.
- After you cross the bridge, you can hear White Falls to the left of the trail.
- Approximately .0.3 miles above White Falls is a glacial lake providing a magnificent view of the entire McCullough Gulch drainage.



---

## ETHICS AND REGULATIONS

- **Horses are not recommended on this trail due to the difficult terrain and the number of hikers.**

## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!

Before you go check on current road conditions, ownership of land, posted areas and certain regulations that apply. Visit the White River National Website for current weather and alerts in the area. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/whiteriver/alerts-notice>.



Download the COTrex app for additional trail maps and information.



---

970-468-5400 | [www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver](http://www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver) | [www.facebook.com/WhiteRiverNF](http://www.facebook.com/WhiteRiverNF) | Twitter @WhiteRiverNews

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

*THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS INTENDED TO BE A GENERAL GUIDE ONLY,  
**NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES.***