



## Indian Peaks Wilderness Alliance

Website: [www.indianpeakswilderness.org](http://www.indianpeakswilderness.org)

Email: [hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org](mailto:hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org)

# Volunteer's Handbook



In Partnership with U.S. Forest Service  
Boulder Ranger District  
2140 Yarmouth Ave, Boulder, CO 80301  
2023 Edition



# Emergency Information

## Emergency Phone Numbers

- Dial **911** in emergency situations including but not limited to serious injury, wildfire or unlawful activity that requires immediate attention
- IPW - Boulder County Sheriff's Dispatch: **303-441-4444**
- JPW only - Gilpin County Sheriff's Dispatch: **303-582-5511 or -5500**

## Emergency call box locations

- St. Vrain: Outside Allenspark Fire Station
- Camp Dick: Across Peak-to-Peak Hwy from entrance & north
- Brainard: Winter parking lot near warming hut
- Hessie: End of pavement from Eldora
- East Portal: West end of parking lot near trailhead

## If You Are Injured

**Step 1:** Seek proper medical attention immediately.

**Step 2:** Contact [hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org](mailto:hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org) and one of the following people for injury forms and billing information within 48 hours:

- **Lyle Skaar: 303-541-2521      Lyle.Skaar@usda.gov**
- **Albuquerque Service Center: 1-877-372-7248 #2 OWCP**

## Billing Address

**US Forest Service      Attn: Lyle Skaar  
2140 Yarmouth Ave; Boulder, CO 80301**

## Boulder Ranger District

Visitor Information: 970-295-6600      Press 0 to leave a message

Wilderness Ranger:	Mary Kalendovsky    303-541-2530 Mary.kalendovsky@usda.gov
Recreation Program Manager:	Matt Henry            720-576-9232 Matthew.henry@usda.gov
Wilderness & Trails Manager:	Lyle Skaar            303-541-2521 Lyle.skaar@usda.gov
Law Enforcement Officer (LEO):	Chase Melching      303-541-2513

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## **We welcome you to the Indian Peaks Wilderness Alliance (IPWA).**

Welcome.

Each year, you play an important role in the preservation of two of the most beautiful and valuable Wilderness areas in the country. There are currently over 100 IPWA members that represent the US Forest Service as IPWA Wilderness Volunteers. Together, we contribute over 3,500 volunteer hours a year.

IPWA volunteers use the Leave No Trace principles and Dr. Wallace's *Authority of the Resource* Technique to educate visitors about responsible recreation by emphasizing their potential impact on the natural environment rather than emphasizing regulations. Our shared understanding of the importance and value of this natural resource brings us together as one Alliance for the preservation of Wilderness.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the IPWA, we thank you for helping to keep our wilderness wild.

- IPWA Board of Directors

## What is Wilderness?

Wilderness is a type of protection (as defined in the 1964 Wilderness Act) given to the most pristine wildlands – areas within national parks, forests, recreation areas and other wildlands – where there are no roads or development.

With the signing of the Wilderness Act by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964, the National Wilderness Preservation System was established to “...secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness.”

Since then, Congress has designated nearly 110 million acres of official Wilderness. Less than 3% of the land in the continental U.S. is designated Wilderness. **A designated Wilderness area receives the government’s highest level of land protection.** Wilderness areas are often encompassed by and/or overlap with other public lands such as national parks, federal reserves, and national forests.

## **IPWA History & Mission**

The Indian Peaks Wilderness (IPW) was established on October 11th, 1978. The Wilderness designation increased the already heavy visitation to the area. Impacts by visitors included cutting trees for firewood, erosion around lakes from campsites, and many intertwining social trails.

Concerned about this damage and degradation, Dr. Anne Forrest Ketchin, Anne Vickery and Jan Robertson organized a concerned citizens forum in 1980, which developed general agreements among a diverse group of parties that the Wilderness needed a volunteer patrol presence. The Indian Peaks Wilderness Alliance was incorporated as a Colorado non-profit organization in 1989.

The IPWA partners with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Boulder Ranger District in a collaborative stewardship to preserve and protect the Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness (JPW) areas. The IPWA works closely with the USFS to ensure optimal trail coverage and to coordinate trail maintenance and tree removal work. We also seek to support USFS goals and annual objectives as appropriate.

### **Mission & Goals**

The Indian Peaks Wilderness Alliance is committed to:

- Providing quality education to the public on all aspects of the Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness Areas.
- Providing a volunteer clearing-house to work with the Forest Service to coordinate, train, and supervise volunteers working in the IPW/JPW.
- Providing a forum for exchanging information and for discussing wilderness and area-related management solutions among the Forest Service, local government, and citizens.
- Supporting research on the natural sciences and management problems of the IPW/JPW and adjacent areas.
- Instilling in society a sense of respect and stewardship for public lands.

## **Native Land Acknowledgement**

The Indian Peaks Wilderness Alliance acknowledges that the Indian Peaks and James Peak wilderness areas are the ancestral and unceded lands of the Nuuchu (Ute), Hinono'ei (Arapaho) and Tsistsistas (Cheyenne). Further, we acknowledge that 48 contemporary tribal nations are historically tied to the lands that make up the state of Colorado.

# The Forest Service



The Forest Service is a Federal agency under the Department of Agriculture established by congress in 1905 to manage national forests and grasslands. The United States Forest Service currently has a system of 154 national forests, 20 national grasslands, and 222 research and experimental forests, as well as other special areas, including 445 wilderness areas.

## Mission

*Sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.*

*Caring for the land and serving the people*

## **History**

President Theodore Roosevelt established the Arapaho National Forest in July, 1908. It was named for the Arapaho tribe who lived in the region. Roosevelt National Forest was originally part of the Medicine Bow Forest Reserve, established in 1897. In 1910, it was renamed the Colorado National Forest, and renamed yet again in 1932 to honor Theodore Roosevelt, the man most responsible for its creation.

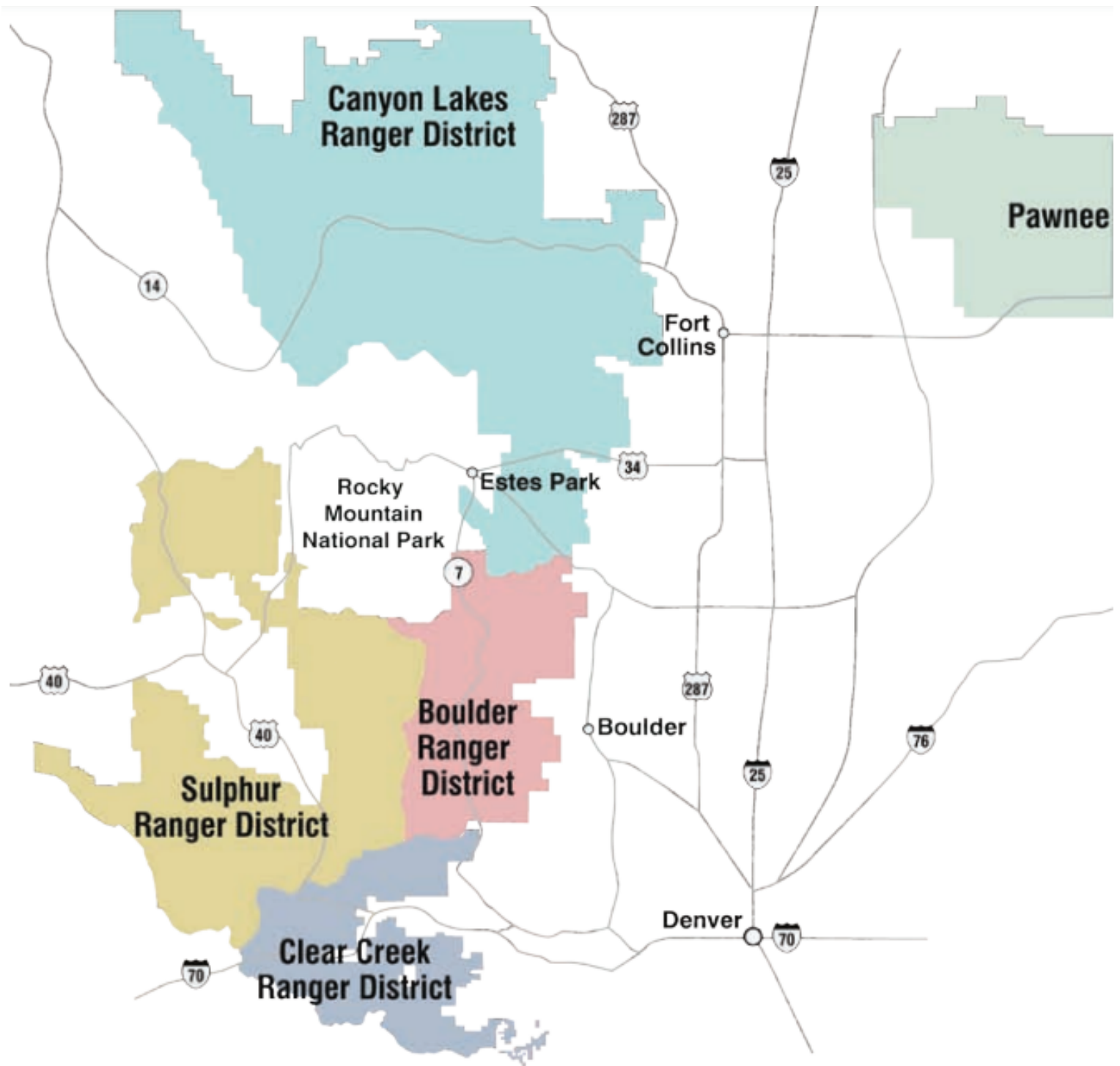
## **Administration**

The Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness areas are situated within the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests with elevation ranging from 8,400 to over 13,500 feet, which includes montane, sub-alpine and alpine ecosystems. The Forest Service manages the Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness areas.

The **Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and the Pawnee National Grassland (ARNFPNG or ARP)** is part of Region 2 (R2) of the Forest Service headquartered in Denver. R2 includes forests and grasslands of Colorado, eastern Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas. The **ARP** is managed as one forest unit, under the Supervisor's Office (SO) in Fort Collins, CO. It is divided into the following 5 Ranger Districts:

- Canyon Lakes (Ft. Collins)
- Clear Creek (Idaho Springs)
- Boulder (Boulder)
- Sulphur (Granby)
- Pawnee National Grassland (Greely)

The **Boulder Ranger District (BRD)** shares the 90,586 acres of the Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness Areas with Sulphur and Clear Creek Ranger Districts. The Indian Peaks is one of the highest-use Wilderness Areas in the nation, receiving around 150,000 visitors annually. **BRD** typically issues hundreds of Indian Peaks camping permits per year.



**Boulder Ranger District office – Boulder**  
**Sulphur Ranger District office – Granby**  
**Canyon Lakes Ranger District office – Fort Collins**  
**Clear Creek Ranger District office – Idaho Springs**  
**Pawnee National Grassland Ranger District office – Greeley**



# **Leave No Trace Seven Principles**

As noted in the Welcome statement, our Volunteer efforts are guided by Leave No Trace Principles and the Authority of the Resource philosophy.

## **1. Plan Ahead and Prepare**

- Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.
- Schedule your trip to avoid times of high use.
- Visit in small groups. Split larger parties into groups of 4-6.
- Repackage food to minimize waste.
- Use a map and compass or GPS to eliminate the use of marking paint, rock cairns or flagging.

## **2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces**

- Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grasses or snow.
- Protect riparian areas by camping at least 100 feet from lakes and streams.
- Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is not necessary.
- In popular areas:
  - Concentrate use on existing trails and campsites.
  - Walk single file in the middle of the trail, even when wet or muddy.
  - Keep campsites small. Focus activity in areas where vegetation is absent.
- In pristine areas:
  - Disperse use to prevent the creation of campsites and trails.
  - Avoid places where impacts are just beginning.

## **3. Dispose of Waste Properly**

- Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your campsite and rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.
- Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.
- To wash yourself or your dishes, carry water 200 feet away from

- streams or lakes and use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater.

#### **4. Leave What You Find**

- Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch, cultural or historic structures and artifacts.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.

#### **5. Minimize Campfire Impacts**

- Campfires can cause lasting impacts to the backcountry. Use a lightweight stove for cooking and enjoy a lantern for light.
- Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, fire pans, or mound fires.
- Keep fires small. Only use sticks from the ground that can be broken by hand.
- Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.

#### **6. Respect Wildlife**

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
- Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
- Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely.
- Control pets at all times, or leave them at home.
- Avoid wildlife during sensitive times: mating, nesting, raising young, or winter.

#### **7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors**

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail.
- Step to the downhill side of the trail when encountering pack stock.
- Take breaks and camp away from trails and other visitors.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.

## **Authority of the Resource**

*Adapted from Wilderness Use Management Law Enforcement  
and the “Authority of the Resource.”*

When an IPWA volunteer approaches visitors about behaviors that do not follow regulations or that are not in line with Leave No Trace practices, the first tendency is to focus on the authority (the power to influence or command thought, opinion or behavior) of the agency. That is, we think that by forcing the visitor to think about the laws and regulations, “the rule is...the sign says...,” we will convince them to change their behavior.

Nature can be said to have its own authority. It has its own rules, operates in certain ways, and has certain laws. Wilderness areas are among the few places on earth where we have agreed to allow nature, for the most part, to operate on its own terms. Desirable behavior is more likely to occur if people understand how their actions affect the way nature operates. That is, when they learn to listen to the voice of the ecosystem.

The Authority of the Resource Technique (ART), developed by Professor George Wallace at Colorado State University, is the preferred tool for changing behavior and is based on a visitor’s understanding of the negative impact of the behavior. ART asks the volunteer to de-emphasize the regulations and instead help the visitor to nature’s requirements, nature’s voice and the impacts recreation-related behaviors can have on the outdoors.

“Resource” refers to ecosystems – land, water and wildlife. “Authority” refers to ecosystems speaking to hikers and campers regarding how their actions are impacting soils, vegetation, water, wildlife and even other visitors. Translating ART into the Voice of the Ecosystem (VOE) is another phrase that may help the concept to be more easily understood by both volunteers and visitors.

The Authority of the Resource/ Voice of the Ecosystem has three sequential parts:

1. After opening a conversation, the volunteer simply makes an objective statement about the visitor's actions as they were observed.

*"I have noticed some people with their dogs off leash."*

The above statement is made without directly blaming the party in question. This is done as a tactic to avoid implication. It is important to avoid terms such as "it's wrong, you shouldn't, don't you know its harmful, it's against regulations" etc.

2. Explain the implications of the action or situation that was observed. It is here that the volunteer attempts to explain the ART or interpret what will happen in nature if the action is continued. ART always uses the positive expectation, which assumes that once the person understands what is happening in nature, or in the wilderness experience of others, that they will want to stop what is considered undesirable behavior.

*"There are many moose in this area and they can become easily startled by and aggressive towards dogs off-leash. Keeping dogs on leash helps to protect the wildlife, visitors and their pets."*

In this example, the authority lies in the wildlife or the moose as well as the safety of visitors and their pets. This approach helps people understand the consequences of their actions.

3. Tell them what can be done to improve the situation – It is acceptable to state how you feel about the possible results of the visitor's undesirable behavior. The visitor will assume that the volunteer is interested and concerned about what is happening.

*"We appreciate it if visitors can keep their pets on leash and help us protect all the wonderful wildlife here in the Indian Peaks Wilderness as well as other visitors."*

The majority of impacts we see in the outdoors are created from visitors not understanding the consequences of their behaviors. That said, always expect the best of people. We hope for long-term changes in peoples' behaviors and in particular, for an increased sense of stewardship of the Wilderness. As a volunteer, you not a ranger who has the authority to write tickets and arrest people. Do not take on this responsibility. Your focus as a volunteer is education, not enforcement.

***Example situations and responses for using the Authority of the Resource/ Voice of the Ecosystem***

Example 1: Instead of telling the visitor that the rules do not allow dogs to be off leash, try “Hi, did you know about all the nesting birds? This is a very crucial time for these animals to be undisturbed that is why it is especially important to keep your dog leashed.”

Example 2: Instead of telling the visitor that the rules do not allow camping within 100 feet of lakes, try “Did you know that wildlife also use these lakes to drink? By camping away from the lake, not only will wildlife be able to access the water but you will be able to watch them from a safe distance.”

## **Wilderness Act Protections**

The Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness Areas are protected as federally designated Wilderness areas and are protected by the 1964 Wilderness Act. They are managed by the US Forest Service, out of the Boulder Ranger District Office.

The regulations in Wilderness areas are designed to protect the resource as well as the area's "Wilderness character". Wilderness character is a concept based on the interaction of nature primarily free from modern human manipulation and impact, personal experiences in natural environments relatively free from the experiences of modern society, and symbolic meanings of humility, restraint, and interdependence that inspire human connection with nature.

The rules and regulations in the IPW and JPW such as dogs being leashed, permitting systems and no flying of drones all support maintaining the area's Wilderness character.

# Regulations at a Glance

## Wilderness Areas and Brainard Lake Recreation Area

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) manages the Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness areas. Regulations listed in this manual are subject to change. If there is any discrepancy between the information, rules or regulations in this handbook and the USFS website, then the USFS site takes precedence.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Brainard Lake Recreation Area (BLRA)</u></b></p> <p><b>Day Hiking:</b> No groups larger than 74. Special permits required for activities where &gt;74 people attend (weddings, reunions, etc.)</p> <p><b>Camping:</b> NO camping except at Pawnee Campground or north of South St. Vrain Trail near Sourdough.</p> <p><b>Campfires:</b> Fires permitted at Pawnee Campground and in the developed day sites in provided (metal, concrete) campfire rings.</p> <p><b>Shooting:</b> No moose hunting within ¼ mile of Brainard Lake. No target or recreational shooting.</p> <p><b>Mechanized Devices:</b> Bikes allowed on all roads and non-wilderness trails June 1 – Sept 15. Strollers, carts, wagons allowed. E-bikes prohibited on trails. Different winter rules apply to bikes and e-bikes.</p> <p><b>Drones:</b> Allowed if operated within line of sight, away from wildlife and not during firefighting. No launching from developed areas (trailheads, parking lots, picnic areas, campgrounds).</p> <p><b>Pack Animals:</b> Not allowed.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>IPW and JPW</u></b></p> <p><b>Day Hiking:</b> No permits required except outfitters and guides must have Special Use Permit. No groups &gt;12 may enter Wilderness.</p> <p><b>Camping:</b> Where permitted, camp 100' away from streams, lakes, trails and ¼ mile from all trailheads.</p> <p><b>Pets:</b> PETS MUST BE ON LEASH AT ALL TIMES. Hunting dogs allowed off leash when hunting.</p> <p><b>Shooting:</b> Hunting allowed in accordance with State law. Target shooting is allowed. No shooting within 150 yards of people, roads, structures, campsites, trailheads, picnic areas, into caves, or over lakes. No open containers of alcohol.</p> <p><b>Boats:</b> Non-Motorized boats allowed.</p> <p><b>Mechanized Devices:</b> No bikes, chainsaws, carts, wagons, portage wheels or strollers. Wheelchairs (motorized included) allowed.</p> <p><b>Drones:</b> No Drones or UAS allowed.</p> <p><b>Fishing:</b> Allowed. License required for persons over 16 years of age.</p> <p><b>Pack Animals:</b> Allowed but count towards group size. No hobbling, tethering, picketing within 100' of lakes, streams or trails. No Hay, straw or unprocessed feed. Prohibited in these BZs: Crater Lake, Four Lakes, Diamond Lake, Cascade Creek (above Cascade Falls).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Indian Peaks Wilderness (IPW)</u></b> <b><u>Unique Regulations</u></b></p> <p><b>Day Hiking:</b> Permits required for groups of 8 – 12 from June 1 to Sept 15.</p> <p><b>Camping:</b> Permits are REQUIRED June 1 – Sept 15 for all visitors. No camping in the Four Lakes BZ May 1 – Nov 30. Camping limited to the zone assigned on permit. Campers must use designated campsites at Crater, Caribou, Jasper, and Diamond BZs.</p> <p><b>Campfires:</b> No fires EAST of Continental Divide and specific areas WEST of Continental Divide. Stoves OK. No campfires during fire bans. No fireworks.</p>
		<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>James Peak Wilderness (JPW)</u></b> <b><u>Unique Regulations</u></b></p> <p><b>Day Hiking:</b> Permits not required</p> <p><b>Camping:</b> Camping permits NOT required</p> <p><b>Campfires:</b> No fires or fireworks; stoves OK</p>

## **The Indian Peaks Wilderness (IPW)**

The Indian Peaks became part of the National Wilderness Preservation System in 1978. Many of the peaks within the area were named for Native American tribes of the west. The 74,195-acre wilderness is located primarily within the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests. A portion along the northern boundary lies in Rocky Mountain National Park. The Indian Peaks is one of the most heavily used wilderness areas in the U.S. and crosses over the Continental Divide.

### **IPW Backcountry Zones (BZs)**

#### **East Side**

Middle St. Vrain  
Coney Creek  
Four Lakes  
Glacier  
Neva  
Diamond Lake  
Devil's Thumb  
Jasper Lake  
Woodland  
Middle Boulder

#### **West Side**

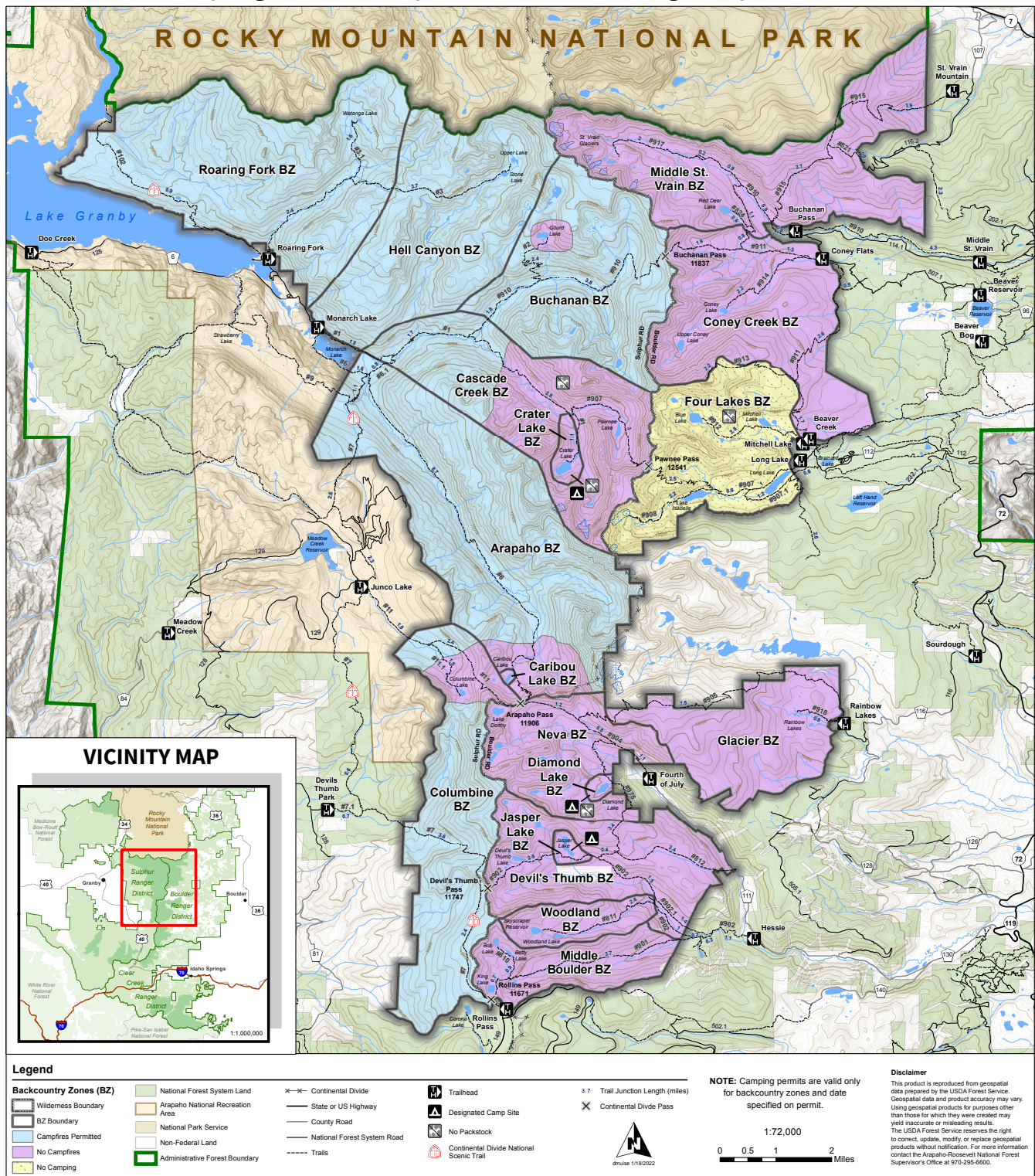
Roaring Fork  
Hell Canyon  
Buchanan  
Cascade Creek  
Crater Lake  
Arapaho  
Caribou Lake  
Columbine

For more information on the backcountry zones, see the map on the next page and the Wilderness Camping section of this handbook.

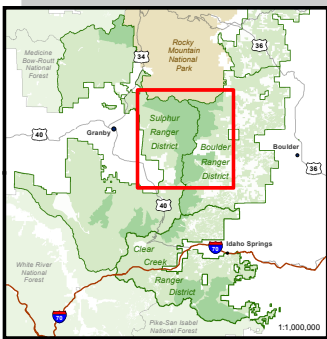


# INDIAN PEAKS WILDERNESS AREA

Camping Permit Required June 1 through September 15



## VICINITY MAP

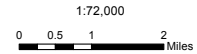


### Legend

- |                               |                                  |                             |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Backcountry Zones (BZ)</b> | National Forest System Land      | Continental Divide          |
| Wilderness Boundary           | Arapaho National Recreation Area | State or US Highway         |
| BZ Boundary                   | National Park Service            | County Road                 |
| Campfires Permitted           | Non-Federal Land                 | National Forest System Road |
| No Campfires                  | Administrative Forest Boundary   | Trails                      |
| No Camping                    |                                  |                             |

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Trailhead                                | Trail Junction Length (miles) |
| Designated Camp Site                     | Continental Divide Pass       |
| No Packstock                             |                               |
| Continental Divide National Scenic Trail |                               |

NOTE: Camping permits are valid only for backcountry zones and date specified on permit.



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## Indian Peaks Wilderness (IPW) Regulations

The purpose of wilderness regulations is to protect the lands, water and wildlife and to ensure that visitors have an opportunity to get the Wilderness experience, as it was intended.

<b>Hiking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Permits required for groups of 8-12 June 1 – Sept 15</li> <li>-Permits required for all outfitter/guides &amp; organized groups</li> <li>-No groups &gt; 12 (including pack stock) year round. Pets do not count toward group size. Groups greater than 12 that break into smaller groups are in violation of this regulation.</li> <li>Organized group permits are issued to only one day-hiking group per zone, per day</li> </ul>
<b>Camping</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Permits required June 1-Sept 15 <u>all</u> visitors</li> <li>-Outfitter/guides &amp; organized groups need permits year-round. Organized group permits are issued to only one overnight group per zone, per day.</li> <li>-No groups &gt;12 (counting pack stock)</li> <li>-No camping in Four Lakes BZ May 1-Nov 30</li> <li>-No camping within 100' of lakes, streams or trails</li> <li>-No camping within ¼ mile of trailheads</li> <li>-Camping limited to zone assigned on permit</li> <li>-Campers must use designated campsites when camping at Crater, Caribou, Jasper, and Diamond BZs</li> </ul>
<b>Pets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Pets must be leashed at all times.</li> <li>-Hunting dogs are permitted off leash when hunting</li> </ul>
<b>Campfires</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-No fires east of Continental Divide</li> <li>-No fires on west side within 100' of lakes, streams, or trails</li> <li>-No fires in these areas west of the Continental divide: Upper Cascade Creek BZ (above Cascade Falls), Crater Lake BZ, Caribou Lake BZ and surrounding areas in the Arapaho BZ, Gourd Lake, Pawnee Lake, Columbine Lake and surrounding areas in the Columbine BZ.</li> <li>-No campfires during fire bans</li> <li>-Stoves permitted</li> </ul>

<b>Shooting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Hunting allowed in accordance with State Law</li> <li>-Target Shooting allowed (including semi-automatic weapons)</li> <li>-No shooting within 150 yards of people, structures, campsites, trailheads, picnic areas; or into caves, over lakes or across roads</li> <li>-Backstop required for target shooting</li> <li>-No open-containers of alcohol</li> </ul>
<b>Mechanized Devices</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-No motorized equipment, bicycles, chainsaws, carts, wagons, portage wheels, or strollers</li> <li>-All wheelchairs allowed (even motorized)</li> </ul>
<b>Drones, UAS Hang gliders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Prohibited</li> <li><i>Note: UAS = Unmanned Aerial Systems</i></li> </ul>
<b>Pack/ Saddle Animals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Not allowed in Crater Lake BZ, Cascade Creek (above Cascade Falls), Four Lakes BZ, Diamond Lake BZ, Diamond Lake Trail</li> <li>-Where allowed, pack animals count towards permit total</li> <li>-No hobbling/tethering/picketing within 100' of lakes, streams or trails</li> <li>-No hay, straw or unprocessed feed</li> <li>-Feed must be certified weed-free and include original and current documentation</li> </ul>
<b>Boats</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Non-motorized boats/boards permitted</li> </ul>
<b>Fishing Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Allowed. License required for people 16 and older</li> </ul>
<b>Other Activities:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Mushroom collecting is illegal in the Indian Peaks Wilderness</li> <li>-Firewood collecting is prohibited in the Indian Peaks Wilderness</li> <li>-Special permits required for: prospecting, research, commercial filming, any commercial activity and any event where a fee is charged.</li> <li><i>Note: No competitions/races ever allowed in Wilderness</i></li> </ul>



# The James Peak Wilderness (JPW)

The James Peak became part of the National Wilderness Preservation System in 2002. James Peak (13,294 feet) was named for Dr. Edwin James, best known for his participation in the 1820 Stephen H. Long expedition to Colorado. This 17,015-acre Wilderness is located within the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and south of the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area.

This map is the James Peak Wilderness Boulder Ranger District Area showing the most heavily visited trails. See Sky Terrain Trail map for entire JPW.



## James Peak Wilderness Regulations

<b>Hiking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Hiking permits NOT required</li> <li>-Outfitter/guides must have Special-use Permits</li> <li>-No groups &gt; 12 (including pack stock) year-round. Pets do not count toward group size. Groups greater than 12 that break into smaller groups are in violation of this regulation.</li> </ul>
<b>Camping</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Camping permits NOT required at this time</li> <li>-Outfitter/guides need Special Use Permits</li> <li>-No groups &gt;12 (counting pack stock)</li> <li>-No camping within 100' of lakes, streams, or trails</li> </ul>
<b>Pets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Pets must be on hand-held leash at all times</li> <li>-Hunting dogs permitted off leash, when hunting</li> </ul>
<b>Campfires</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-No fires</li> <li>-Stoves permitted</li> </ul>
<b>Shooting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Hunting allowed in accordance with State Law.</li> <li>-Target shooting allowed</li> <li>-No shooting within 150 yards of people, structures, campsites, trailheads, picnic areas; or into caves, over lakes or across roads.</li> <li>-Backstop required for target shooting</li> <li>-No open-containers of alcohol</li> </ul>
<b>Mechanized Devices</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-No motorized equipment, bicycles, chainsaws, carts, wagons, portage wheels, or strollers</li> <li>-All wheelchairs allowed (even motorized)</li> </ul>
<b>Drones, UAS Hang gliders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Prohibited</li> <li>UAS = Unmanned Aerial Systems</li> </ul>
<b>Pack Animals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Allowed, but count toward total group size</li> <li>-No hobbling/tethering/picketing within 100' of lakes, streams, or trails</li> <li>-No hay, straw or unprocessed feed</li> <li>-Feed must be certified weed-free and include original and current documentation</li> </ul>
<b>Boats</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Non-motorized boats/boards permitted</li> </ul>
<b>Fishing Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Allowed. License required for people 16 and older</li> </ul>
<b>Other Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Mushroom collecting is illegal in the James Peak Wilderness</li> <li>-Firewood collecting is prohibited in the James Peak Wilderness</li> <li>-Special permits required for prospecting, research, commercial filming, any commercial activity and any event where a fee is charged.</li> <li>Note: No competitions/races are ever allowed in Wilderness.</li> </ul>

## **Brainard Lake Recreation Area (BLRA)**

The Brainard Lake Recreation Area is set in a glacially carved valley. The Indian Peaks Wilderness Area peaks loom to the west. Brainard Lake Recreation Area (BLRA) is the most popular destination in the Boulder Ranger District.

Moose are often present. Be considerate of all wildlife. Approaching closely can threaten wildlife and they can be dangerously unpredictable.

BLRA is a non-wilderness, Federal Recreation Area located within the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests. Please note that the rules within BLRA are different in summer and winter and are different than adjacent Wilderness trails and other areas in the National Forest (including the adjoining Sourdough and Wapiti Trails).

**Visitors that hike trails west of the Long Lake or Mitchell Lake Trailheads are responsible for following IPW regulations and permit requirements.**

	<b><i>Summer Rules (May 1 – Nov 14)</i></b>	<b><i>Winter Rules (Nov 15 – Apr 30)</i></b>
<b>Parking</b>	-BLRA visitors must reserve and pay for timed entry spots in advance through Recreation.gov for June 10 – October 15	-Parking permits and fees are not required outside of the period of June 10 – October 15
<b>Hiking</b>	-Permits not required (except outfitter/guides) - No groups >74	-Permits not required (except outfitter/guides) No groups > 74 -Skiers only on Little Raven trail & CMC ski trail
<b>Camping</b>	-NO camping except at Pawnee Campground when open or north of South St. Vrain Creek -Must be 100' away from streams, lakes, and trails and ¼ mile from trailheads	-Camping allowed -No camping within 100' of streams, lakes or trails, or within ¼ mile of trailheads, picnic areas, and Pawnee Campground -Camping allowed at Red Rock Lake
<b>Pets</b>	-Pets must be on hand-held leash. -Hunting dogs permitted off leash when hunting	-Pets ONLY allowed on Sourdough trail & roads to Brainard Lake & Lefthand Park Reservoir. Leashes Not required, except at trailheads -Hunting dogs permitted everywhere

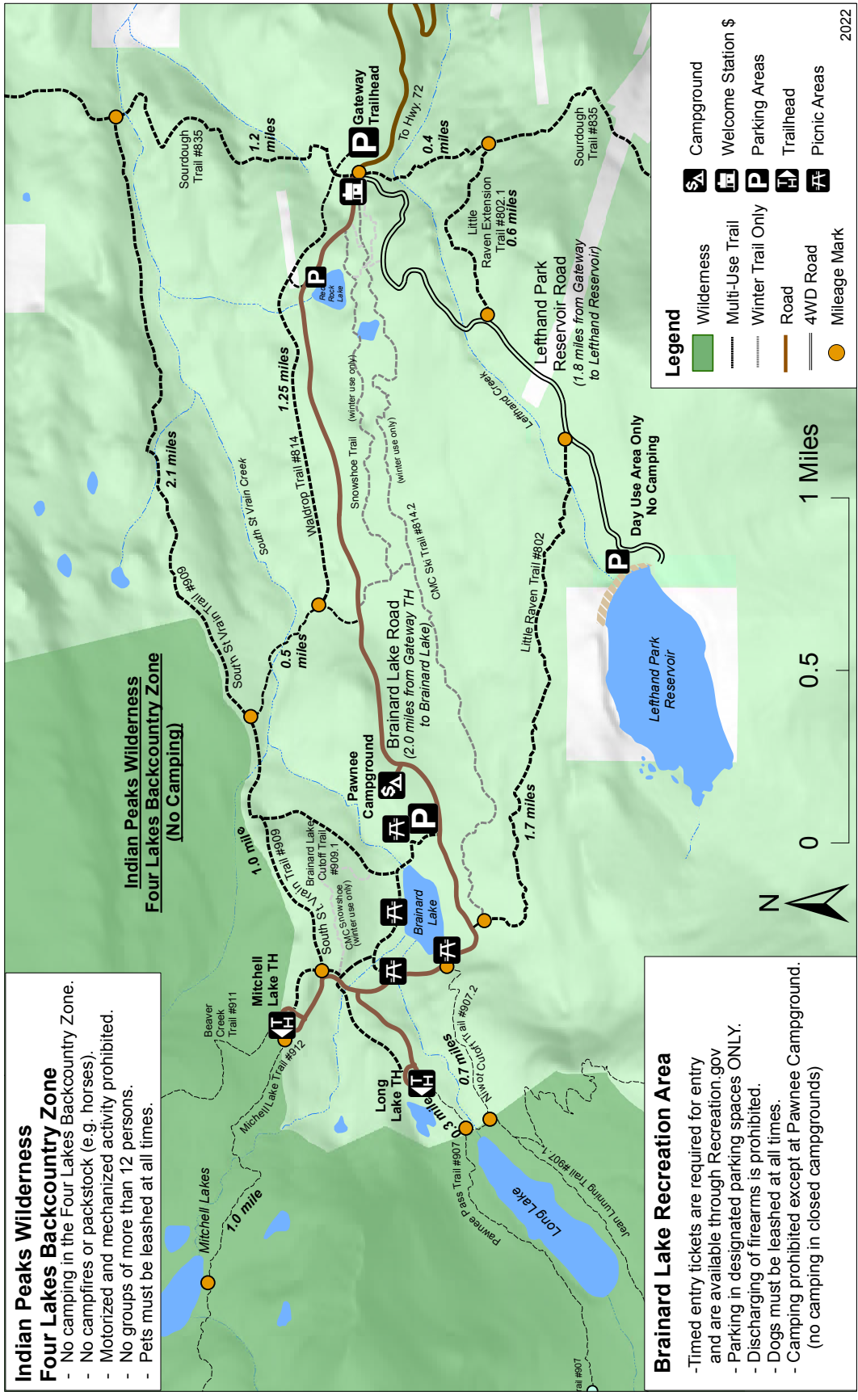
<b>Campfires/ Fireworks</b>	-Fires permitted at Pawnee Campground and in the developed day sites in provided (metal/concrete) campfire rings -No fireworks -Stoves permitted -Firewood collection, tree-cutting are prohibited	-Campfires allowed -No fireworks -Stoves permitted -Firewood collection, tree-cutting are prohibited
<b>Mechanized Devices</b>	-Bikes allowed on all roads & these trails: Little Raven, Waldrop, CMC, South Saint Vrain and Sourdough Trails -e-bikes prohibited on trails -Wheelchairs, strollers, carts allowed	-Recommend fat bikes use only roads and Sourdough Trail. Little Raven and CMC trails are ski-only -Wheelchairs, strollers, carts allowed -No snowmobiles, vehicles or e-bikes
<b>Drones, UAS</b>	-Should not be launched from developed areas (trailheads, parking lots, picnic areas, campgrounds) and are NOT permitted in the Wilderness -Should not fly near wildlife or during firefighting -Should be operated within operator's line-of-sight UAS = Unmanned Aerial Systems	
<b>Boats</b>	-Non-motorized boats/boards allowed	
<b>Weather</b>	-Check trail conditions before visiting -Because of the area's high elevation, snow typically remains until July. See the 'Safety for Yourself and Others' section of this handbook for snow and weather Internet sites.	
<b>Shooting</b>	-Hunting allowed. No moose hunting within ¼ mi. of Brainard Lake from the highwater line until the gate closes -For latest authoritative information on hunting regulations within BLRA, contact the Boulder Ranger District office -No target or recreational shooting	
<b>Pack Animals</b>	-Not allowed	
<b>Fishing Regulations</b>	-Allowed. License required for people 16 and older	
<b>Other Activities:</b>	-Special permits required for outfitters or guides, prospecting, mushroom collecting, research, commercial filming, and any activity where a fee is charged OR where >74 people attend (weddings, reunions, etc.)	



# Brainerd Lake Recreation Area



## Summer Season Map 2022

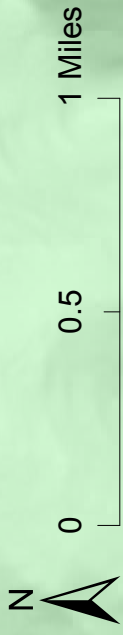


**Indian Peaks Wilderness**  
**Four Lakes Backcountry Zone**  
 - No camping in the Four Lakes Backcountry Zone.  
 - No campfires or packstock (e.g. horses).  
 - Motorized and mechanized activity prohibited.  
 - No groups of more than 12 persons.  
 - Pets must be leashed at all times.

**Brainerd Lake Recreation Area**  
 - Timed entry tickets are required for entry and are available through Recreation.gov  
 - Parking in designated parking spaces ONLY.  
 - Discharging of firearms is prohibited.  
 - Dogs must be leashed at all times.  
 - Camping prohibited except at Pawnee Campground. (no camping in closed campgrounds)

**Legend**

- Wilderness
- Multi-Use Trail
- Winter Trail Only
- Road
- 4WD Road
- Mileage Mark
- Campground
- Welcome Station
- Parking Areas
- Trailhead
- Picnic Areas



2022



## **Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest**

The **Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and the Pawnee National Grassland (ARNFPNG or ARP)** is part of Region 2 (R2) of the Forest Service headquartered in Denver. R2 includes forests and grasslands of Colorado, eastern Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas. The **ARP** is managed as one forest unit, under the Supervisor's Office (SO) in Fort Collins, CO. It is divided into the following 5 Ranger Districts:

- Canyon Lakes (Ft. Collins)
- Clear Creek (Idaho Springs)
- Boulder (Boulder)
- Sulphur (Granby)
- Pawnee National Grassland (Greely)

**Opening and closing dates** vary (approx. mid-June through mid-October.) For road openings & closures, Google "Road Status Table" for Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest or visit the USFS Website.

### **Regulations for Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest**

The following rules apply to the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest OUTSIDE of the Brainard Lake Rec Area (BLRA) and IPW/JPW Wilderness areas such as the Devil's Thumb trail to Lost Lake, Sourdough Trail and other trails west of Camp Dick / Peaceful Valley.

Be aware that the first five miles of the Buchanan Pass Trail west of the Middle St. Vrain trailhead to the Indian Peaks Wilderness boundary is OUTSIDE of the Wilderness and Wilderness regulations such as leash requirements, camping permits, etc. do not apply on this five mile stretch of Buchanan Pass Trail.

<b>Hiking</b>	-Permits not required (except outfitter/guides)
<b>Camping</b>	-Permits not required (except outfitter/guides) and groups >74 -No camping at trailheads, or picnic areas -No camping at Niwot Ridge Biosphere Reserve -Camping at Lost Lake & some roadside areas limited to designated sites as posted -No camping along 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Road -Camping limited to 14 days within a continuous 30-day period
<b>Pets</b>	-Pets NOT allowed on Buchanan Pass Trail from 12/1 - 4/30 -Leashes recommended, but not required except at “Developed Recreation Areas” i.e., campgrounds, trailheads, parking lots, & picnic areas. -Leashes required at the following trails outside of Wilderness: Arapaho Pass, Diamond Lake, and St. Vrain Mtn
<b>Campfires</b>	-Fires permitted except during Fire Bans -Stoves permitted
<b>Shooting</b>	-Hunting and target shooting allowed in accordance with State Law—See Shooting Closure Map USFS website -No shooting within 150 yards of people, structures, roads, campsites, trailheads, picnic areas, into caves, or over lakes -Backstop required. -No open-containers of alcohol
<b>Mechanized Devices</b>	-Bikes allowed on roads & trails -e-Bikes are not allowed on the Buchanan Pass Trail; use the Middle St. Vrain 4x4 road instead. E-bikes are only allowed on roads and trails that are identified in the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) -Off Highway vehicles (OHV) allowed ONLY on roads -Wheelchairs allowed. (even motorized)
<b>Drones, UAS Hang-gliders</b>	-May be launched except during aerial firefighting -Should be operated within operator’s visual line-of-sight -May not be launched from developed areas (trailheads, parking lots, picnic areas, campgrounds) UAS = Unmanned Aerial Systems
<b>Boats</b>	-Motorized/sail boats permitted. See website for restrictions
<b>Pack Animals</b>	-Allowed -No hay, straw or unprocessed feed -Feed must be certified weed-free and include original and current documentation
<b>Fishing Regulations</b>	-Allowed. License required for people 16 and older
<b>Other Activities:</b>	-Special permits required for outfitters or guides, prospecting, mushroom collecting if more than a plastic grocery bag of > 10 lbs., firewood collection (when wood is removed from forest), research, commercial filming, & any activity where a fee is charged, or where >74 people attend (weddings, reunions, etc.)

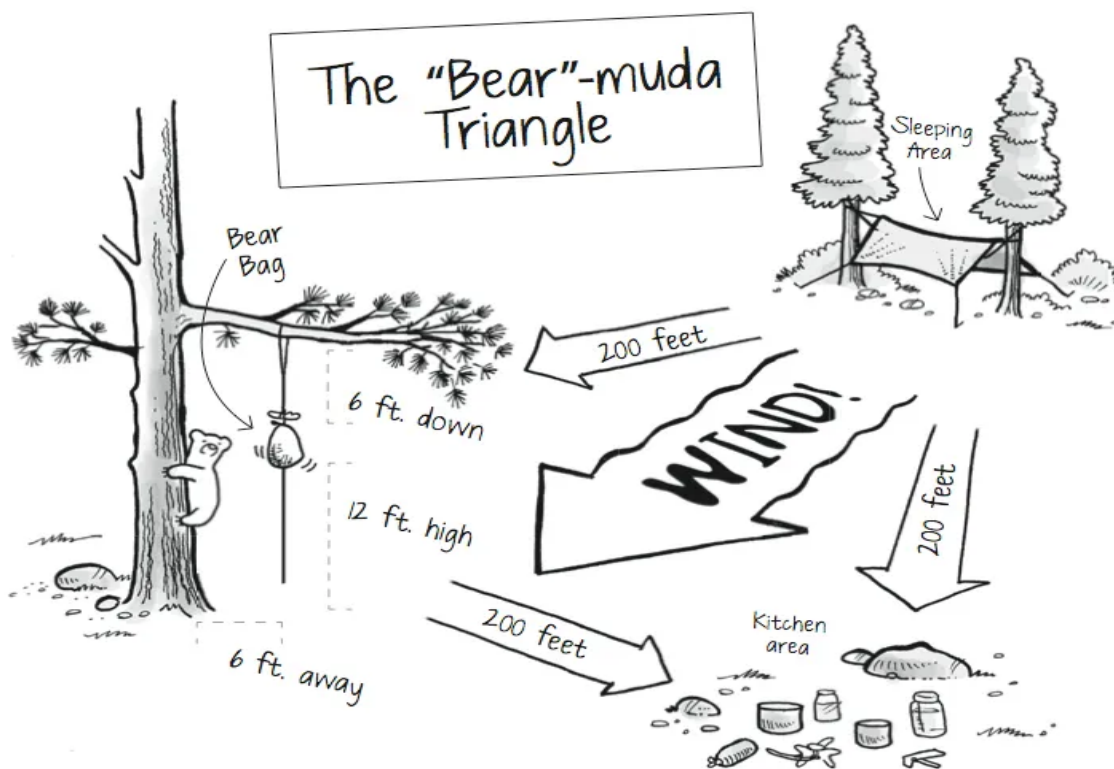
# Wilderness Camping

## Bear-Resistant Food Storage Required – Year-Round

The Food Storage Order requires visitors to safely store food and other scented products like toothpaste and deodorant when they're not actively cooking or eating. Bear resistant containers include bear lockers in campgrounds, bear resistant canisters (sold in stores), and food stored out of sight in closed and locked vehicles.

The order applies when visitors are either in a developed recreation site such as a campground or within 300 feet of either side of the centerline of any open public road such as Coney Flats Road, St. Vrain Road and much of the south-side of the Buchanan Pass trail to the foot bridge at the 5-mile mark. Refer to the Motor Vehicle Use Map for additional areas. The order also applies to: Lost Lake, Diamond Lake Backcountry Travel Zone, and Jasper Lake Backcountry Travel Zone.

In locations within and outside of the Food Storage Order areas, food can also be secured by properly hanging it 12 feet off the ground, 6 feet from the tree's trunk and 6 feet below the supporting limb. This can be challenging in higher elevation areas where trees are stunted and scarce.



## **Camping in James Peak Wilderness**

The James Peak Wilderness has **no permit system**, no backcountry zones and **no designated campsites**. Camping is allowed as long as the campsite is more than 100 feet away from lakes, streams, and trails. Visitors should use existing sites to protect sensitive vegetation and reduce the creation of new campsites.

## **Camping in Indian Peaks Wilderness**

The Indian Peaks Wilderness is an extremely popular place for both day and overnight trips. To minimize resource damage and optimize the visitor experience, the Forest Service has implemented a permit system for overnight backpacking trips. The permit allows the permit holder and their group (max of 12 people) to overnight camp in the selected Backcountry Zones within the Indian Peaks Wilderness for specific dates.

## **IPW Backcountry Zones (BZs)**

The Indian Peaks Wilderness is split into 16 different areas called “backcountry zones” on the east and west sides of the continental divide (See the IPW Backcountry Zones Map). Each backcountry zone has a set quota for the maximum number of groups overnight camping in that zone per night.

### **East Side**

Middle St. Vrain  
Coney Creek  
Four Lakes  
Glacier  
Neva  
Diamond Lake  
Devil’s Thumb  
Jasper Lake  
Woodland  
Middle Boulder

### **West Side**

Roaring Fork  
Hell Canyon  
Buchanan  
Cascade Creek  
Crater Lake  
Arapaho  
Caribou Lake  
Columbine

A permit is required for anyone planning to stay overnight within any of the backcountry zones from June 1 through September 15. The exception is the Four Lakes Backcountry Zone (BZ): West of Brainard Lake (includes Long Lake, Lake Isabelle, Isabelle Glacier, Pawnee Pass, Mitchell Lake, Blue Lake, Mount Audubon and all areas in between), which prohibits camping between May 1 and November 30.

## **Acquiring Indian Peaks Backcountry Camping Permits:**

All overnight visitors must have a permit. Permits are issued for specific dates and backcountry zones. Camping permits do not include a parking reservation which is a separate purchase. In order to protect the wilderness and the wilderness experience, each zone has a limit on how many permits can be issued for a specific night. Indian Peaks Wilderness permits are found exclusively online at <https://www.recreation.gov> and may sell out months in advance. Permits are no longer issued by mail, phone, or in person.

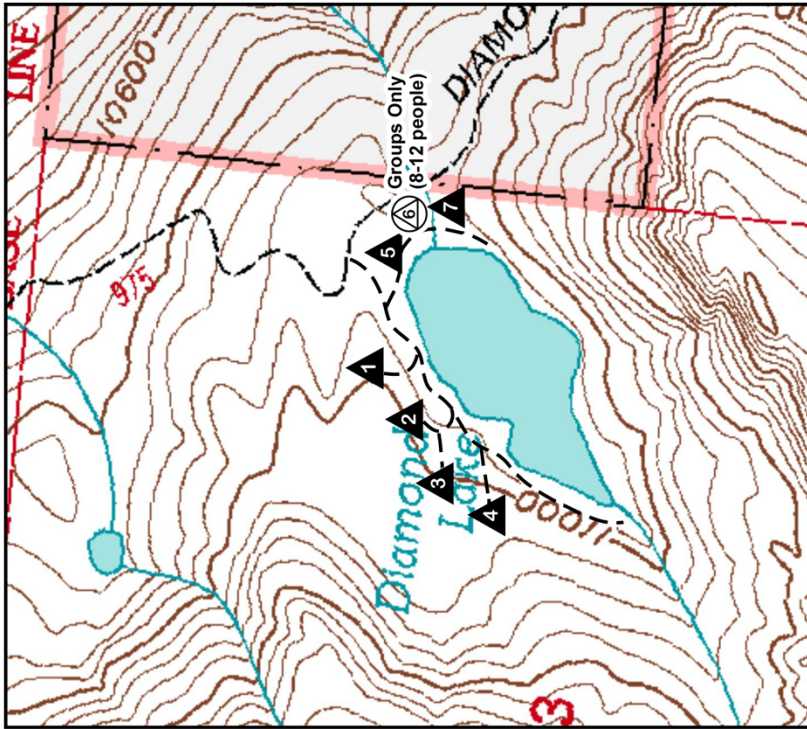
For example: a person with a permit to camp on June 1 at a designated campsite within the Jasper Lake Backcountry Zone and June 2 within the Devils Thumb Backcountry Zone cannot camp at Jasper Lake both nights. This would be a permit violation and there is a good chance that person would be occupying a designated campsite on June 2 sold to another party.

There are ***four backcountry zones that only allow camping at designated campsites***: Diamond Lake and Jasper Lake (east side of divide); and Caribou Lake, Crater Lake (west side of divide). Campers must be within 30 feet of a campsite marker. At each of the four backcountry zones, there is only one large-group campsite that fits 8-12 people. The other designated campsites in these areas accommodate 1-7 people. Campfires are prohibited in all campsites.

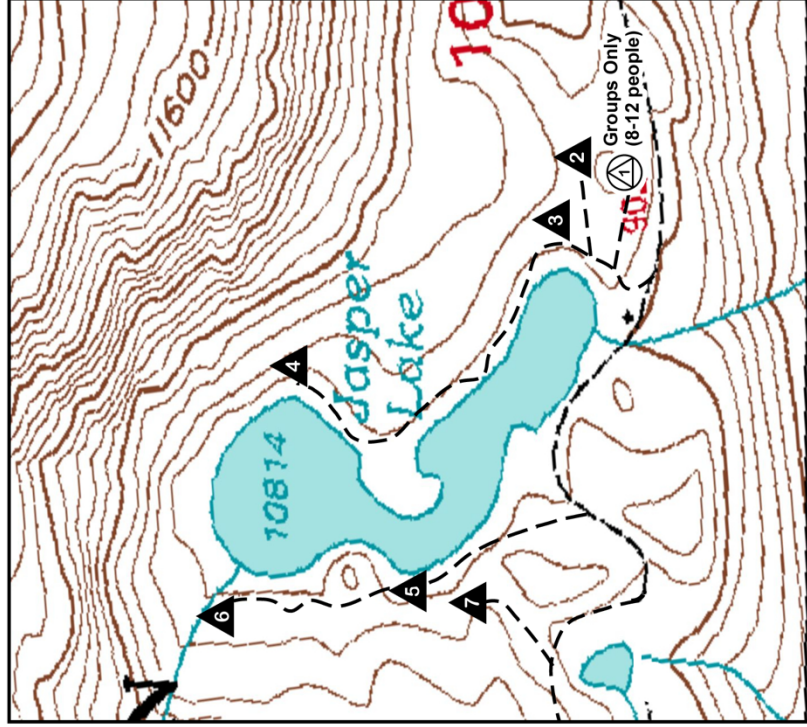
**Large groups** (8-12 people) are required to have an overnight permit June 1 – September 15.

# Indian Peaks Wilderness - Designated Campsite Maps

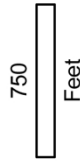
Diamond Lake Travel Zone



Jasper Lake Travel Zone



1:10,000



This map is for display purposes only (not for navigation). If you have questions, please contact:  
 Boulder Ranger District  
 2140 Yarmouth Ave  
 Boulder, CO 80301  
 303-541-2500  
 EW 2015



## Leave No Trace . . . .

- Pick up all trash and pack it out, yours and others'.
- Use a stove for cooking.
- Campfires are prohibited year round.
- Minimize all noise to help maintain solitude.
- Bury human waste in catholes six to eight inches deep, at least 200 feet from water, and carry out toilet paper.
- Do all washing at least 200 feet from water sources.



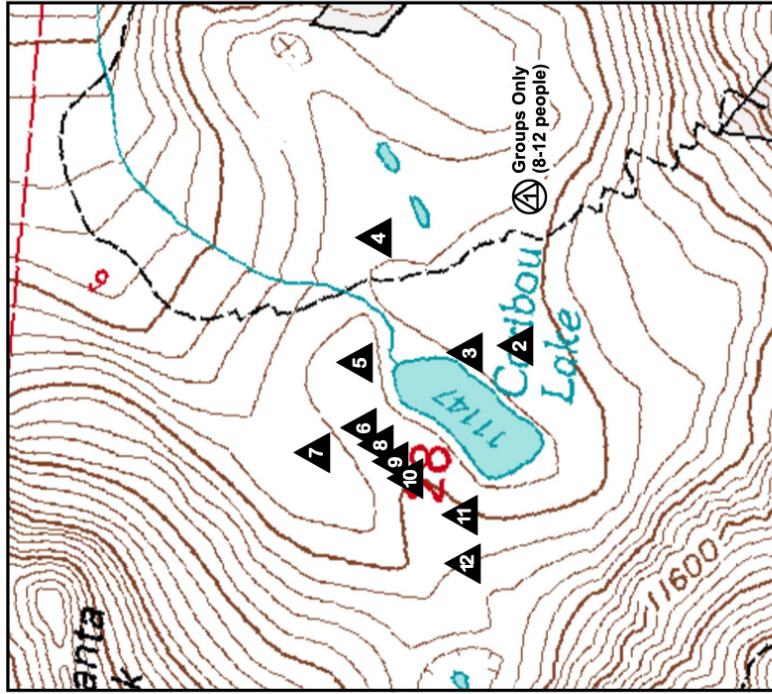
Arapaho & Roosevelt  
 National Forests

- Pets must be on a hand-held leash at all times.
- Camp only in designated sites and pitch tents within 30 feet of a campsite marker.
- Large groups must camp at Site #6 at Diamond Lake and Site #1 at Jasper Lake. Permit required year round. No small groups.
- Campsites 1-5 and 7 at Diamond and 2-7 at Jasper Lake are for small groups. First come, first served. Permit required June 1 - September 15.

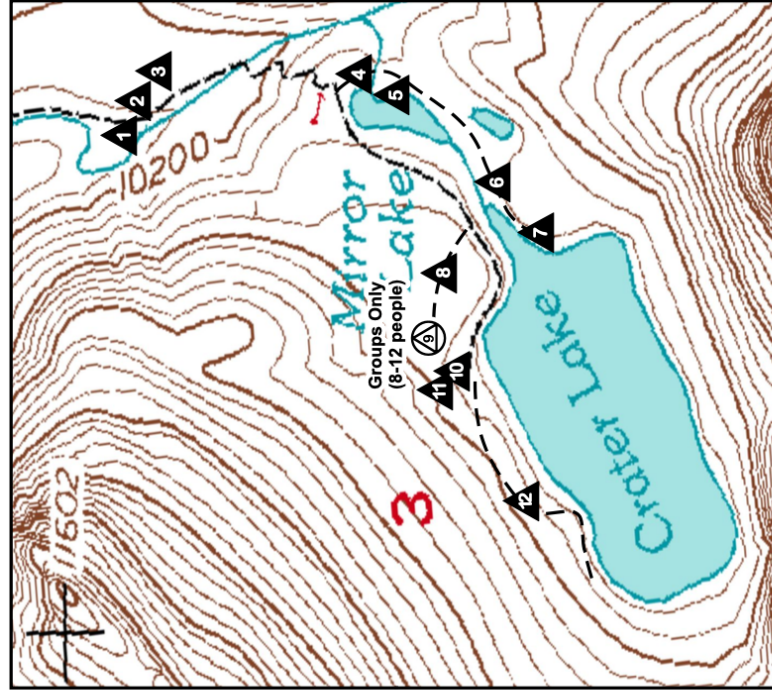


# Indian Peaks Wilderness - Designated Campsite Maps

Caribou Lake Travel Zone



Crater Lake Travel Zone



1:10,000



This map is for display purposes only (not for navigation). If you have questions, please contact:  
 Sulphur Ranger District  
 9 Ten Mile Dr  
 Granby, CO 80466  
 970-887-4100  
 EW 2015



## Leave No Trace . . .

- Pick up all trash and pack it out, yours and others.
- Use a stove for cooking.
- Campfires are prohibited year round.
- Minimize all noise to help maintain solitude.
- Bury human waste in catholes six to eight inches deep, at least 200 feet from water, and carry out toilet paper.
- Do all washing at least 200 feet from water sources.

- Pets must be on a hand-held leash at all times.
- Camp only in designated sites and pitch tents within 30 feet of a campsite marker.
- Large groups must camp at Site #1 at Caribou Lake and Site #9 at Crater Lake. Permit required year round. No small groups.
- Campsites 2-12 at Caribou and 1-8, 10-12 at Crater Lake are for small groups. First come, first served. Permit required June 1 - September 15.



Arapaho & Roosevelt  
 National Forests

## **Camping on National Forest Lands - Dispersed Camping**

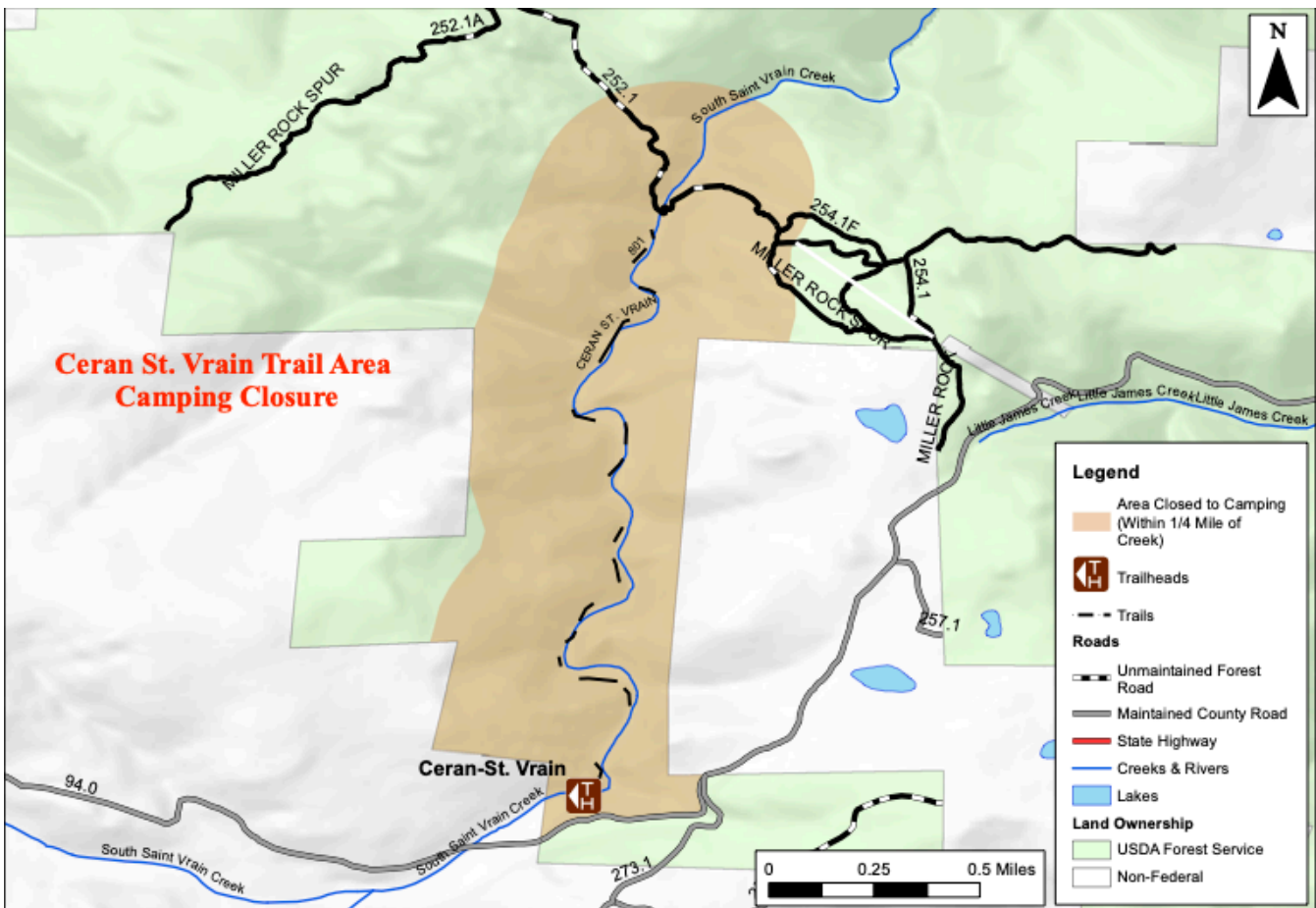
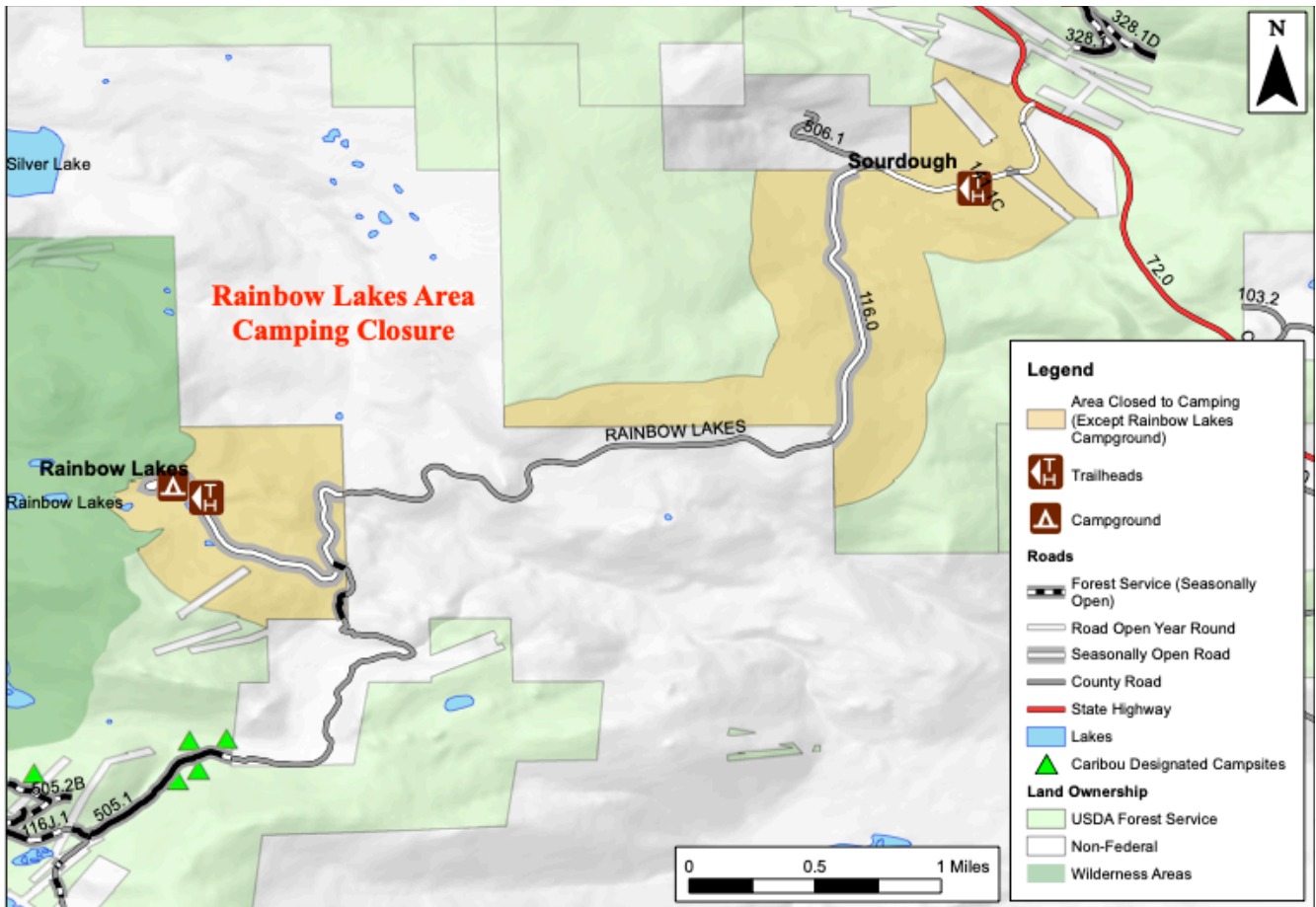
This section does not apply to Wilderness areas but is included to help IPWA volunteers redirect members of the public to allowable camping areas.

Dispersed camping (sleeping outdoors on forest land outside of a campground) is available in areas outside of Wilderness. However, 40% of lands within the Boulder Ranger District are privately owned. It is the camper's responsibility to know which areas are open USFS lands and which are otherwise owned. Landowners are not required to post their property as private. Campers are advised to obtain or download a "Boulder Motor Vehicle Use Map" to see where camping is allowed and to check the Boulder Ranger District website for additional temporary closure orders.

Dispersed camping is not allowed at trailheads, picnic areas, administrative sites, and within ½ mile of a campground or other area with designated site camping. Camping is also prohibited inside the Brainard Lake Recreation Area in summer (May 1-Nov 14) with the exception of Pawnee Campground, inside the Niwot Ridge Biosphere Reserve, and along the Fourth of July Road between Hessie and the Fourth of July Trailhead. Within the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area, the Four Lakes Backcountry Zone is closed to camping from May 1 through November 30. Dispersed camping is allowed in Columbine BZ. Dusk to dawn parking closures exist along the South Saint Vrain Canyon, Boulder Canyon, and Left Hand Canyon.

Camping is currently prohibited by a USDA Forest Service Order within ¼ mile of either side of Rainbow Lakes Road, excluding Rainbow Lakes Campground and within ¼ mile of either side of South St. Vrain Creek beginning at the Ceran-St. Vrain trailhead and ending ¼ mile from the intersection of South St. Vrain Creek and National Forest System Road 252.1. See next page for area closure maps.





## **Camping on National Forest Lands – Designated Sites**

This section does not apply to Wilderness areas but is included to help IPWA volunteers redirect members of the public to allowable camping areas.

In order to prevent resource damage at popular areas, numbered markers were installed in these areas. First-come, first-served camping is allowed within 50 feet of a marker. Camping is not allowed within ½ mile of such an area. These areas are not official campgrounds with amenities and fees. Designated camping areas include:

- **West Magnolia:** located two miles south of the Nederland traffic circle, on the west side of Colorado Highway (CO) 72, this area consists of 22 designated campsites.
- **Gordon Gulch** (National Forest System Road [NFSR] 228): More than a dozen campsites are located five miles north of the Nederland traffic circle in an area east of CO 72.
- **Caribou** (NFSR 505, 128J.3, 116J.1, 116J.0): The old Caribou Town site is located five miles west of Nederland in an area locally known as “five points”. Several designated camping sites can be found along four-wheel drive routes in the area. This area is most easily accessible from Nederland on CR 128 (Caribou Road).
- **Gross Reservoir:** 26 designated are located along NFSR 359.
- **Lost Lake** (NFS Trail 813): A two-mile hike from the Hessie Trailhead leads to Lost Lake. This lake is located outside of Indian Peaks Wilderness. Camping at Lost Lake is restricted to eight designated campsites around the lake and is first come, first serve.

## Developed Camping on National Forest Lands

There are seven (7) developed campgrounds in the Boulder Ranger District. These campgrounds are subject to closure and may not be open during certain times of year. Reservations can be made ahead of time by visiting <https://www.recreation.gov>, or by paying at the campground on day of arrival for first-come, first-served sites.

**Group 1: Campgrounds with running water, vault toilets, grills, picnic tables and dumpsters. Reservations for these sites can be made by visiting <https://www.recreation.gov>.**

- **Kelly Dahl:** 3 miles south of Nederland on CO119 - 46 sites, of which 20 sites are first-come, first-served
- **Pawnee Campground:** 5 miles west of CO72 on CO Rd 102 at Brainard Lake - 47 sites. No first-come, first-served sites.
- **Peaceful Valley:** 15 miles west of Lyons on CO 7, left for 6 miles on CO 72 - 17 sites, of which 9 sites are first-come, first-served.
- **Camp Dick:** 1 mile west of Peaceful Valley Campground - 41 sites of which 21 sites are first-come, first-served
- **Olive Ridge:** 15 miles south of Estes Park on CO 7 - 56 sites, of which 28 sites are first-come, first-served.

**Group 2: Campgrounds with reduced services - vault toilets, grills, fire rings, picnic tables, no running water. All sites are first-come, first-served. None may be reserved.**

- **Meeker Park:** 13 miles S of Estes Park on CO 7 – 29 sites.
- **Rainbow Lakes:** 6.5 miles N of Nederland off CO72 - 18 sites.

## **Fishing Regulations**

- A fishing license is required for people ages 16 and older.
- Licenses are available at most sporting goods stores.
- Specific rules, regulations and licensing information are provided with the purchase of a license, and can also be found on the Colorado Parks & Wildlife website.
- It is the responsibility of anglers to know and follow the Colorado Parks & Wildlife regulations.
- It is the responsibility of anglers to know their bag and possession limits for individual species.
- Human-powered, non-motorized watercraft are permitted on all national forest lakes (including BLRA & Wilderness).
- Colorado Parks & Wildlife establishes regulations and stocking programs.
- A table of lakes in BLRA, IPW and JPW and their fish species (mostly trout) can be found on the next pages.

### Table of Lakes (A-I)

Lake	Elevation	Acres	Depth	Fish Species
Arapaho Lakes East	11,180	9.8	49.2	Cutthroat
Arapaho Lakes Middle	11,180	4.0	15.0	Cutthroat
Arapaho Lakes West	11,580	2.5	16.4	Cutthroat
Barker Reservoir	8,183	380.0	100.0	Brook, Brown, Rainbow
Betty	11,430	8.5	11.0	Cutthroat
Blue	11,320	22.7	100.0	Cutthroat, Rainbow
Bob	11,550	6.1	71.0	Cutthroat
Brainard	10,350	15.6	8.0	Brook, Brown, Rainbow
Caribou	11,147	5.6	8.2	Cutthroat
Columbine	11,060	5.6	8.0	Cutthroat, Rainbow
Coney	10,600	8.0	21.0	Cutthroat
Coney (Upper)	10,940	16.0	31.0	Cutthroat
Crater Lake (IPW)	10,350	24.8	78.0	Brook, Cutthroat
Crater Lake East (JPW)	10,480	5.7	4.0	Brook, Brown, Cutthroat, Rainbow
Crater Lake Middle (JPW)	10,600	14.0	14.0	Brook, Brown, Cutthroat, Rainbow
Crater Lake Southeast (JPW)	10,580	8.6	29.0	Brook, Brown, Cutthroat, Rainbow
Crater Lake West (JPW)	11,000	8.5	58.0	Brook, Brown, Cutthroat, Rainbow
Devil's Thumb	11,150	11.5	37.0	Cutthroat
Diamond	10,970	14.2	17.0	Brook, Brown, Cutthroat, Rainbow
Diamond (Upper)	11,720	6.0	17.0	Cutthroat
Dorothy	12,061	16.0	100.0	Cutthroat
Envy	11,020	2.0	100.0	Cutthroat
Forest Lakes Upper	10,850	4.3	8.2	Cutthroat
Forest Lakes Lower	10,700	2.7	3.2	Cutthroat
Gibraltar	11,200	5.7	44.0	Cutthroat
Gourd	10,830	13.7	50.0	Cutthroat
Gross Reservoir	7,287	412.0	230.0	Brook, Brown, Lake, Rainbow, Salmon
Heart	11,280	17.0	52.0	Cutthroat
Iceberg Lakes North	11,650	10.0	77.0	Cutthroat
Iceberg Lakes South	11,680	6.0	100.0	Cutthroat
Isabelle	10,868	31.3	40.0	Cutthroat
Island	11,400	19.0	39.0	Cutthroat

## Table of Lakes (J-Z)

Lake	Elevation	Acres	Depth	Fish Species
James Peak	11,212	10.0	10.0	Cutthroat
Jasper	10,814	18.7	36.0	Brook, Brown, Cutthroat
Jenny	10,917	4.5	9.0	Brook, Rainbow
King	11,431	11.5	61.0	Cutthroat, Rainbow
Lefthand Park Res.	10,600	100.0	34.0	Brook, Brown, Rainbow
Little Echo	11,185	13.0	96.0	Cutthroat, Lake
Long	10,521	40.5	22.0	Brook, Rainbow
Lost	9,800	8.6	14.0	Brook, Rainbow
Mitchell	10,720	13.8	14.5	Brook, Cutthroat
Neva Upper	11,836	8.6	61.0	Cutthroat
Neva Lower	11,800	10.0	49.0	Cutthroat
Pawnee	10,840	11.3	22.0	Cutthroat
Rainbow (10 Ponds)	10,200	1 – 2.9	4 – 15	Brook, Rainbow
Red Deer	10,372	14.5	58.0	Brook
Red Rock	10,180	6.5	3.0	Rainbow
Rogers Pass	11,120	5.6	6.5	Cutthroat
Skyscraper	11,221	12.9	28.0	Cutthroat
Stone	10,643	5.4	8.0	Rainbow
Storm	11,440	7.0	22.0	Cutthroat
Upper Lake	10,730	6.3	6.0	Brook, Cutthroat
Watanga	10,790	2.8	2.0	Brown, Rainbow
Woodland	10,972	10.0	7.0	Cutthroat
Yankee Doodle	10,711	5.7	24.0	Brook, Rainbow

## Uniform Policy

The USFS requires IPWA volunteers to wear the Forest Service uniform during all patrol activities. Along with the privilege of wearing the uniform comes the responsibility to wear it correctly. The Uniform Policy (summarized below) may be reviewed on the IPWA Volunteer Portal (Volunteer Resources / Volunteer Agreements). Please review and follow these policies.



- IPWA issues a standard uniform consisting of FS approved shirts and an IPWA approved rain jacket. Both of these have USFS and IPWA patches sewn on the sleeves. Do not remove patches or modify IPWA-provided shirts or rain jackets. Shirts must be worn tucked-in.
- Name tag must be worn on the right front shirt pocket flap.
- Pants and shorts supplied by volunteers should be a single, neutral color (tan, light grey, olive green, khaki, brown) and without logos or insignia. No blue jeans are allowed.
- Hats supplied by volunteers should be a single, neutral color (tan, light grey, olive green, khaki) and may have a USFS or IPWA patch. The hat brim should be less than 4 inches in diameter.
- Undershirts and sleeves in a single neutral color (tan, light grey, olive green, khaki) and without logos or insignia may be worn.
- Wear hiking boots or closed-toed shoes with slip resistant soles and sufficient ankle support (no sandals or Tevas). If snow is present, bring adequate traction devices (hiking poles, micro spikes, snowshoes, and/or skis as needed).
- Non-USFS/IPWA weather protection clothing for rain, snow, cold, etc. may be worn when conditions warrant. Wear clothing that ensures safety foremost, while presenting a professional image at all times.
- Uniform items are only to be worn by currently registered volunteers who are either on a scheduled patrol or volunteering for IPWA in a public-facing activity (e.g. Trailhead Host).



# On the Trail: Volunteer Conduct and Talking to the Public

## **DO's:**

1. Represent the IPWA and the USFS in a professional and positive manner.
2. Follow all rules, regulations, policies, and safety guidelines provided by the USFS in the Risk Assessment Worksheet (RAW - formerly Job Hazard Assessment) and IPWA in the Volunteer Handbook. Do not attempt to tackle any situation for which you do not have adequate personal protective equipment (leather gloves, eye protection) tools, skills, training, or personnel. If trained, you will also sign the Trail Maintenance and Construction RAW.
3. Serve in the capacity of contacting the public to provide information and education.
4. Follow the dress code specified in the IPWA Uniform Policy.
5. Leave pets at home – yours and/or a hiking companion's pet.

## **DON'T's:**

1. Use derogatory or confrontational language or participate in discrimination, sexual harassment, or violent or threatening behavior;
2. Don't enforce regulations (such as asking for identification or checking permits) as enforcement is **solely** the responsibility of Forest Protection Officers and Law Enforcement Officers.
3. Disturb a visitor's personal property/belongings (i.e., do not move or disturb their campsite, tent, backpack, etc.)
4. Smoke, or possess/use alcohol, marijuana, or illegal drugs;
5. Carry a firearm.

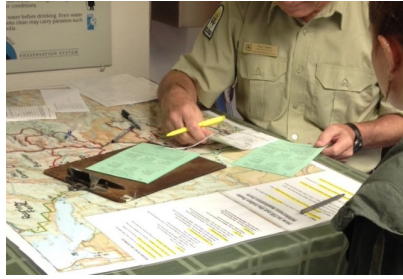


## **Public Contact Tips and Guidance:**

- Strive for the minimum level of contact necessary with visitors to disseminate information or establish a presence. A smile and simple “hello” will suffice for most contacts. Allow the visitor the option of initiating a conversation unless you have important information (i.e.: “There is a moose on the trail ahead”; or “Are you aware of the regulation....”).
- When visitors initiate contact with questions or comments, always be personable and **introduce yourself** as an Indian Peaks Wilderness Alliance volunteer in partnership with the USFS. Limit all public contacts to daylight hours only.
- Remove your sunglasses – eye contact helps develop rapport.
- Be familiar with this handbook. Know how to access information quickly such as regulations, wilderness facts, and contact information.
- Brush up on current issues, nearby activities and pertinent regulations (i.e. Weather forecast, fire regulations, etc.)
- If you don’t know (or aren’t sure) of the answer to a question, refer the visitor to the Boulder Ranger District Visitor Information Line (970) 295-6600. Also you can email [hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org](mailto:hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org) with any questions needing clarification.
- Demonstrate to all visitors the same patience, especially when you are asked the same simple question for the thousandth time. For that person, it is the first time.
- Look out for the visitors’ welfare - keep an eye on the weather and counsel those visitors not prepared or equipped for a safe visit.
- Be receptive to what the visitor wants (or doesn’t want) to discuss. Listen and do not anticipate what is said next. Maintain a calm demeanor. NEVER be aggressive or argumentative.

- **NEVER** initiate a contact in any situation where drugs, alcohol, firearms or suspicious individuals are present or if you do not feel comfortable. If a contact becomes threatening or violent or you feel it has the potential to do so, remove yourself from the situation quickly and politely. Report the incident to USFS or Law Enforcement.

# **Helpful tips for communicating regulations with the public**



Know where your campsite is and the trail that will get you there. Have a topo map.



At Crater, Jasper, Diamond & Caribou Lakes, camping is only allowed in the numbered designated campsites



In other zones camp in already disturbed areas a minimum of 100 feet from water and trail. No camping in Four Lakes Zone



Public lands are our lands: we are responsible for protecting vegetation & wildlife



To protect the landscape and trees, campfires are prohibited in tan & blue areas on the map



Lightning is dangerous. Storms are common in early afternoon. Be below tree line before noon and camp in the trees.



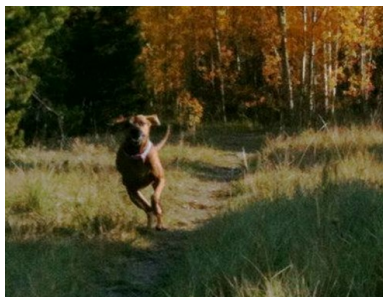
Wear hiking boots to keep you dry on wet, snowy, muddy trails and safe on rocks



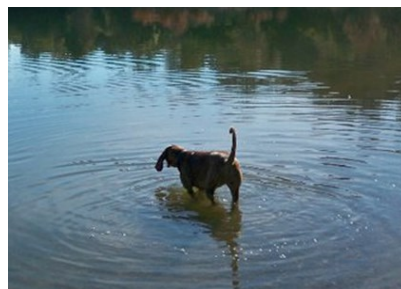
Stepping off trail to avoid snow, mud and water tramples vegetation & causes damage. Stay in the center of the trail.



Carry dog poop with you. Do not leave bags on the trail.



Dogs must stay on leash. Off leash dogs frighten wildlife and can get hurt.



Off leash dogs get tularemia & giardia from water. Domestic feces affects soil & vegetation.



Moose consider dogs wolves and will attack. Do not approach.

# **Safety: For Yourself and Others**

The following sections highlight the most important safety issues IPWA volunteers need to practice or will likely encounter while in the Wilderness.

## **Scheduling and Reporting Patrols:**

Volunteers must schedule their patrol hikes on the portal ahead of time. You must fill out your trip report on the same day that you return from your hike. IPWA volunteers should hike with a hiking partner (volunteer, friend, or family member) when possible. All volunteers, especially those hiking alone, are required to establish a contact, provide them with an itinerary (est. time of departure & return, trail, trailhead, & destination), and instruct them to contact the Boulder Sheriff's Office if the volunteer is overdue. They should also contact [hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org](mailto:hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org) but this is for informational purposes and will not initiate a rescue response.

## **Before you leave home:**

Check the weather forecast. Storms can affect your ability to complete a trip (Eg. Return over a mountain pass may be too dangerous if conditions deteriorate). Google these sites for snow conditions: "snotel" (selecting "University Camp" station for snow depths) and "TundraCam" (for real-time views of the area). Check "weather\_underground" and "weather.gov" for general weather. Be sure to pack the 10 essentials for your patrol. See What to Bring section of this handbook for a list of items.

## **While you are hiking:**

Know and stay within your limits. Take breaks and turn around short of your planned destination if necessary. Be alert to trail obstacles and hazards (including wildlife). Use caution when traveling in steep terrain. Be alert to areas where snow may collapse, especially when hazards may exist under the snowfield (rocks, deep or fast flowing water, etc.). Yield to people coming up hill and livestock. Communicate with riders as handlers

## **Safety for Yourself and Others (continued)**

and allow livestock to pass on the uphill side unless otherwise directed by riders.

### **Tree Cutting - IPWA Policies:**

Downed or leaning trees can store significant "rebound energy" in their trunk and limbs that has the potential to cause serious injury. Volunteers are expected to adhere to these policies for their safety and to properly coordinate with the IPWA Sawyer Team and Boulder Ranger District (BRD) staff. These policies apply to all geographic areas that are patrolled by IPWA.

- Trees impeding the trail must be noted the same day in the appropriate section of your patrol report.
- Any volunteer may use a small limbing saw to remove side-branches which are thumb-diameter or less, that are not under load, and which are impeding the trail corridor. Work gloves and eye protection must be worn during this task.
- It is totally acceptable to leave trees and branches that are fully blocking a trail. The IPWA Sawyer Team and the BRD will evaluate and schedule the tree for removal.
- Most trees are removed fairly quickly, within a week. Some trees may take longer or they may be left alone for a variety of reasons. The vast majority of leaning trees are left to fall naturally because they are dangerous to remove.
- Only volunteers who are certified USFS Sawyers and members of the IPWA Sawyer Team may cut and remove trees or larger branches.
- For questions about tree removal, USFS Sawyer certification or the IPWA Sawyer program, please email [hiker@indianpeakswilderness.com](mailto:hiker@indianpeakswilderness.com).



## **Risk Assessment Worksheet (RAW)**

One way to enhance safety and prevent injury to yourself and others is to periodically review the Risk Assessment Worksheet (RAW - formerly Job Hazard Analysis) on the IPWA Volunteer Portal. The RAW identifies existing or potential hazards (both safety and health) with actions to reduce or eliminate these hazards. Volunteers are expected to follow all rules, regulations, policies, and safety guidelines provided by the Forest Service in the RAW.

## **Colorado Good Samaritan Law**

13-21-108. Persons rendering emergency assistance exempt from liability.

(1) Any person licensed as a physician and surgeon under the laws of the state of Colorado, or another person, who in good faith renders emergency care or emergency assistance to a person not presently his patient without compensation at the place of an emergency or accident, including a health care institution as defined in section 13-64-202 (3), shall not be liable for any civil damages for acts or omissions made in good faith as a result of the rendering of such emergency care or emergency assistance during the emergency, unless the acts or omissions were grossly negligent or willful and wanton. This section shall not apply to any person who renders such emergency care or emergency assistance to a patient he is otherwise obligated to cover.

## **What to Bring: The Ten Essentials and Beyond**

Prep your gear for the trail including your **clean and unwrinkled uniform** (see the Uniform Policy), your **IPWA handbook and map, handouts for the public** (dog leash information cards, etc.) and a **backpack** with your gear, including the 10 essentials and additional recommended items.

The American Hiking Society recommends everyone pack the “ten essentials” every time you head out for a hike:

1. **Carry plenty of water** and drink often before getting thirsty. Also carry a water purification device if you or a member of the public should run out.
2. **Food/snacks** with enough calories to sustain the energy demands of hiking.
3. **Map and compass** and know how to use them.
4. **Appropriate Footwear** - volunteers are required to wear hiking boots or closed-toed shoes with slip resistant soles and sufficient ankle support (no sandals or Texas). If snow is present, bring adequate traction devices (hiking poles, micro spikes, snowshoes, and/or skis as needed).
5. **Adequate raingear and extra layers** of warm clothing.
6. **Safety items** including a lighter or Firestarter, a flashlight or headlamp (keep in mind evacuations often take 12+ hours), and a signaling device (such as a whistle, mirror and/or emergency beacon/spot device).
7. **Carry a First Aid Kit** and know how to use it for personal use and/or for assisting the public under the Colorado Good Samaritan Act.
8. **A small multi-purpose tool or swiss army knife** (note: volunteers are not allowed to carry a weapon while patrolling, such as a firearm or large knife).
9. **Sun Protection** including wearing a hat, sunscreen and sunglasses in every season. Reflected light from snow fields can cause eye and skin damage if unprotected.

## **What to Bring: The Ten Essentials and Beyond (continued)**

10. **Shelter** - Protection from the elements in the event you are injured or stranded is necessary. A lightweight, inexpensive space blanket is a great option.

Volunteers hiking alone are strongly encouraged to carry some type of GPS device with an emergency notification system such as a **SPOT or INReach Device** to summon help in case of an emergency. Be sure to add your emergency contacts when you register your device as IPWA is not able to respond to emergency activations. Do not rely solely on cell phones (as you may not have coverage or battery power when you need it), or the chance of seeing another person.

**Other suggested items** to bring include: toiletry essentials, a WAG bag (to carry out human waste) or a trowel to make a cathole, large trash bags, nylon cord or spare dog leashes, fishing line, extra socks, and extra water bottles.

**Recommended equipment for light trail maintenance** (trash pickup, removing fire rings, removing small branches/trees blocking the trail): leather work gloves, flagging tape, plastic trash bags, and plastic gloves to pick up trash, hand sanitizer, and a small/collapsible shovel.

To complete counts during your patrol (number of cars, people, dogs on & off leash, backpackers, etc.), you can write it down or use a **counter/clicker device**. Alternatively, you may opt to bring your **phone/tablet and use a "tally counter" application** such as Thing Counter (for Android) or Tally Counter (for Apple). **Pen and paper** are always a good backup.



## **Environmental Hazards**

- **Lightning**: When lightning activity is nearby, avoid the tops of ridges, wide-open spaces, ledges, rocky outcrops, bodies of water, lone trees, damp/wet ground, railroad tracks and sheds or shelters in exposed locations. Put down and move away from any tools or metal objects. If traveling with a group, spread out. Seek shelter in a ditch, tunnel, canyon, or head-high clumps of trees in open forest areas. Crouch down with feet together to make yourself a smaller target and minimize the flow of current.
- **Hazard Trees & Mountain Pine Beetle**: Be especially aware and avoid tree species susceptible to Mountain Pine Beetle. Avoid dense patches of dead trees that can fall without warning. Stay out of the forest when there are strong winds that could blow down trees. If you are already in the forest when the winds kick up, 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.
- **Hypothermia**: A reduction of body temperature below normal. Fatigue, injuries and cold-water immersion can quickly predispose an individual to hypothermia. Hypothermia usually occurs in different stages. Main symptoms include uncontrolled shivering, muddled thinking, slurred speech, irrational behavior, pale skin, and a feeling of warmth in severe cases. Basic treatment is to wrap in blankets, dry clothing, or sleeping bags and drink warm sugar water when possible. Seek medical attention.
- **Hyperthermia (heatstroke, heat exhaustion, heat cramps)**: The increase in body temperature by dilating blood vessels to radiate heat away from the body through sweating or other means. There are different stages of hyperthermia, heatstroke being the most serious. Symptoms may include moist skin, elevated pulse, nausea, dizziness, headache, and confused or irritable behavior. Basic treatment is to rapidly cool the body, provide water with electrolytes, and vigorous fanning. Seek medical attention.

- **Hypoxia (Altitude Sickness)**: Hypoxia is the lack of oxygen in the blood. Hypoxia can be mild or escalate into High Altitude Cerebral Edema (HACE) or High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE). Symptoms may include headache, nausea, fatigue, irritability, insomnia, dry cough, and elevated heart rate. Get to a lower elevation. Seek medical attention immediately in severe cases.
- **Avalanche and Rock Fall**: Avoid travel across snowfields, scree fields, talus slopes, or under/on cornices if alternatives exist. Don't travel on snowfield slopes steeper than 28° without official avalanche training.
- **Mines and Mine Shafts**: Never enter abandoned mines or mine shafts. Be aware that the ground in these areas may be unstable and subject to collapse, especially near the entrance. Poisonous gases may be present.
- **Insects and Wildlife**: If you or anyone you are traveling with has a known allergy to stinging insects, make sure that everyone in the group is aware of the problem. Carry emergency medication (epi-pen and antihistamine) at all times. For insects with a stinger, scrape it off, but avoid squeezing the attached venom sack.
  - Mosquitoes and Ticks can transmit a multitude of diseases and viruses. Minimize bites by wearing long sleeves, pants, and an insect repellent (products containing DEET seem to be most effective). Wear light-colored clothing and avoid using scented shampoo or deodorants.
  - Never feed Wildlife. Pick up trash and secure food in camp so that it is out of reach. Use bear canisters where required and whenever possible. If you opt not to use a bear canister know how to properly execute a bear hang.
  - Know how to recognize bear, moose, and mountain lion signs. Make noise when traveling through dense brush and riparian areas. If a recent kill is discovered, leave the area immediately. If an animal is encountered, always give them a way to escape. In a bear or mountain lion encounter, stay calm. Don't run from

the animal or attempt to climb a tree to escape. Slowly back away and make yourself appear larger. Avoid direct eye contact. If the animal attacks, fight back.

- Report potentially life-threatening encounters with black bears to the Colorado Division of Wildlife. All mountain lion sightings should be reported (attacks or encounters should be reported immediately).

### **Other Considerations:**

- **Breaking Apart Fire Rings or Picking Up Litter:** Always wear leather gloves when dispersing fire rings or picking up litter. Watch for fishhooks, broken glass, metal cans, or other sharp objects. Use care when moving rocks to avoid back injuries or crushing fingers/toes. Lift with your legs, not with your back. Trash cleanup will generally involve collecting occasional discarded items alongside the trail or in campsites. Do not handle any trash that may expose you to hazardous chemicals or blood borne pathogens.
- **When Crossing Streams:** Stream levels can fluctuate dramatically in a short period of time. Crossings that are passable when first encountered may not be so on the return. Use caution on narrow or slick bridges. Do not use bridge if crossing appears treacherous or unstable. When crossing creeks, never enter deep or fast moving water or where the stream bottom is not visible. Use a walking stick or other aid to cross. Stream bottoms can be slippery. Unbuckle pack straps and waist belts when crossing so pack can be quickly removed if necessary.
- **If You Are Lost:** If you cannot reorient yourself, stay calm and do not change your location. You have prearranged a contingency plan for an overdue return. Stay put until rescuers locate you. Help rescuers by signaling to them with your whistle, signal mirror, signal tarp, flashlight, headlamp, or fire.

## What to do if You See a Wildfire

- Leave the area immediately
- Go to safety
- Advise others to go to safety

**Once you are safely out of the area, report the fire by calling 911.**

If there's no 911 access, call the Boulder County Sheriff at 303-441-4444.

### **Note info about the fire if safe to do so:**

Location on map (latitude/longitude): \_\_\_\_\_

Fire's size in acres (roughly): \_\_\_\_\_ Time of day you first saw the fire: \_\_\_\_\_

### FIRE INFORMATION CHECKLIST

Fire's Position on Slope		Kinds of Plants and Trees (= fire fuel)	
	Ridge Top		Grass
	Saddle		Grass/brush
	Upper 1/3 of slope		Oak brush
	Middle 1/3 of slope		Pinon / juniper
	Lower 1/3 of slope		Lodgepole, pine
	Canyon bottom		Spruce / fir
	Mesa/plateau		Aspen
	Flat or rolling		Logging slash
	Other: _____		Other: _____

### WHERE TO GO IF YOU'RE CAUGHT IN A FIRE

BEST PLACES	FIRE SAFETY FEATURES
<b>Alpine tundra</b>	Tundra may burn, but fires are generally low to the ground and can be run through or around
<b>Natural barriers such as rock outcroppings and rock slides</b>	Relatively safe — no fire fuel
<b>An already-burned area</b>	Relatively safe avenue of escape — no fire fuel
<b>Rivers and lakes</b>	If a fire comes toward you, get face up in the water, leaving your pack on your back. Put your arms around your head to provide an air pocket.
<b>Downhill from a fire</b>	A fire tends to burn uphill

### WHAT TO AVOID IF YOU'RE CAUGHT IN A FIRE

WHAT TO AVOID	FIRE DANGER FEATURES
<b>Saddles and Ridgelines</b>	Fires tend to be drawn to these areas
<b>Uphill from a fire</b>	A fire tends to burn uphill

# **Most Frequently Asked Questions**

## **What is going on at Lake Isabelle?**

Lake Isabelle has been a reservoir for almost 100 years. It is owned and operated by the Left Hand Ditch Company since 1936, which pre-dates Indian Peaks Wilderness designation in 1978. Maintenance and repair work is ongoing on the inlet works of the reservoir to continue to operate safely and effectively.

Regardless of project work, this lake is drained for agricultural purposes each year in late summer. How can you find out how much water is in Lake Isabelle?

<http://lefthandditchcompany.com/SystemStatus.aspx>

## **What is the deal with parking?**

Plan ahead when parking at popular trailheads particularly in the Brainard Lake Recreation Area, 4th of July, Hessie, and Middle St. Vrain. If hiking on a high-use day (weekends and holidays), arrive very early (before 7am) for parking at these trailheads. Visitors must reserve their timed entry for Brainard Lake Recreation Area ahead of time. For the Hessie Trailhead, consider taking the Boulder County shuttle from the Nederland High School: <https://www.bouldercounty.org/open-space/parks-and-trails/hessie-trailhead/>

## **Which trails in the Brainard Lake area are open to mountain bikes?**

All trails outside of the Wilderness are open to mountain bikes from May 1 – Nov 14. In summer, bikes are allowed on all roads and these trails: Little Raven, Waldrop, CMC, South Saint Vrain and Sourdough Trails. During the winter, fatbike users may ride on the Brainard Lake and Left Hand Park Reservoir Roads. From Nov 15 –April 30, Little Raven and CMC Ski Trails are ski-only.

E-bikes are prohibited anywhere in BLRA during winter and on all BLRA trails during summer and winter.

**May I bring my pet?** No, the USFS has requested that IPWA Wilderness volunteers not patrol with pets.

**What about the Rainbow Lakes Road, campground and the trails in that area?** The Rainbow Lakes Road is closed in winter near the Sourdough Trailhead and CU Mountain Research Station. The road is open when conditions permit: most often in June. This road is a five-mile, native-surfaced road. A high clearance vehicle is recommended. Dispersed camping is prohibited within ¼ mile of either side of Rainbow Lakes Road. Officers reported vehicles traveling at high rates of speed as well as visitors expecting direct lake access. Be especially cautious when driving this roadway.

**What is the status of the Arapaho Lakes trail?** The Arapaho Lakes trail in the James Peak Wilderness is not maintained or signed. Much of this trail is located in steep terrain along the creek and not suited for heavy use. The USFS requests that visitors not be encouraged to use of this trail since it is not signed or maintained.

**Should I report an abandoned campfire?** In the case of an abandoned campfire that a volunteer extinguishes adequately (with no spread outside of the ring), it is not an emergency with potential to become a wildfire; 911 does not need to be called. Include the GPS coordinates of the campfire in your patrol report so that the USFS can log the fire in their database.

**What should I report about an ongoing violation?** The USFS wants detailed information if a volunteer observes an ongoing violation, such as an illegal campfire which the owners refuse to extinguish or illegal summer camping within the Four Lakes Backcountry Zone. The volunteer should include in their patrol report as much information as can be collected *without directly asking or confronting the person(s)*: for example, a description of the individuals involved, a description of their gear such as color of tents or backpacks, the circumstances of the violation, any distinguishing features or unusual clothing on the person, a vehicle or ATV description, and the location of the violation including the campsite, trail name and direction the visitors were headed on the trail. The goal is to get the information to the FS rapidly so that they have a chance to intercept the offender.

**Can I camp overnight?** If a volunteer chooses to do back-to-back day patrols and wishes to overnight in the backcountry, the overnight portion of their trip is considered personal time. No volunteer hours will be credited for the overnight portion of the patrol. All public contacts are limited to daylight hours only. Volunteers camping in the Indian Peaks Wilderness must obtain an overnight permit from the recreation.gov website and must be out of uniform after their day patrol ends. All overnights must be cleared by the Summer Patrol Coordinator. It is recommended to contact the Coordinator at least 72 hours before your patrol date.



## **Instructions for Scheduling & Reporting**

The IPWA public website has a “volunteer portal” area where volunteers can login and view important announcements, volunteer resources, and the scheduling and reporting forms.

Go to the IPWA Website at: <https://www.indianpeakswilderness.org> and select the ‘Volunteer Portal’ link in the upper right. Enter your email address and password to login. Access to the portal is restricted to current active volunteers only.

If you do not have an account, select “sign up” to create one. Your account will need to be approved by an administrator before you can login. Check your email for a confirmation message.

**Scheduling:** As a volunteer, you must schedule your patrol hike ahead of time. Review the list of all scheduled hikes before you schedule your own hike. Please help us maximize trail coverage by picking a unique date/start time/route that does not have someone else already patrolling. For example if another volunteer is starting at 7am on the Mitchell Lake Trail, you could pick a different route or choose a different start time.

**Reporting:** You must complete your trip report on the day you return. You will receive an email with a link to complete your report. Please include as much detail as possible.

If multiple IPWA volunteers are hiking together, the person who scheduled the hike will need to complete the report. All members will be credited with the hike.

Note: Be very careful with trail names in your report: i.e., Diamond Lake Trail does not start at the Fourth of July trailhead, Heart Lake Trail is actually South Boulder Creek Trail, Crater Lakes Trail does not start from East Portal, etc. A good reference is the Sky Terrain Trail Maps Southern Rocky Mountain National Park and Indian Peaks Wilderness Trails.

**Cancelling:** If you need to cancel a scheduled hike, email your request to [hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org](mailto:hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org)

# Mountain Ecology Life Zones

## **Alpine (Tundra)**

Elevation: Tree line (+/- 11,500 ft.) to summit

Climate: Limited precipitation. Annual rainfall 25 inches. Windy (up to 200 mph). Temperatures often above those in the lower valleys. Summer temps: 35 to 60. Winter temps: -35 to 15. Average of only 40 frost-free days per year. Goes through over 30 freeze-thaw cycles during a year.

Mammals: Marmot, pika, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, elk. Some year round; others migrate up in summer only.

Plants: Many wildflowers (perennials except one). Most are relatives of the plants you'll find at lower elevations: wallflower, dwarf clover, alpine phlox, alpine avens, bistort, alpine chiming bells, king's crown, queen's crown, fairy primrose, rock primrose, moss campion, alpine forget-me-not. Willow thickets in boggy areas. Growing period is only 5 to 8 weeks.

Birds: Few

Other: Concentrate use on established trails. When traveling off trail stick to rocks and disperse your use as to avoid damaging fragile alpine plants. Pay attention to weather and aim to be off summits before midday due to lightning.

## **Subalpine**

Elevation: 10,000 feet to tree line (11,500 ft.)

Climate: More precipitation. Blowing snow accumulates in this area. Cooler than alpine zone. Trails in this area are the last to become snow free. Soil is often water soaked.

Mammals: Elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, marmot.

Plants: Many forest wildflowers, often larger versions of the ones seen in other zones: columbine, tall chiming bells, fireweed, fairy slipper orchid (rare), parry primrose, white marsh marigold, globeflower, Jacob's ladder (skunk smell), heart-leaved arnica, western yellow paintbrush.

Trees: Limber pine, bristlecone pine, Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir, aspen.

Birds: Many more: Clark's nutcracker, western blue jay, gray jay (camp robbers), and warblers.

## **Montane**

Elevation: 8,000 to 10,000 feet

Climate: Greater precipitation. Not as cool as subalpine. Most abundant zone for plant and animal life because of climate.

Mammals: Elk, Mule Deer, mountain lion, black bear, beaver, Abert's squirrel, red squirrel, least chipmunk, snowshoe hare, pocket gopher.

Plants: Lots of wildflowers: columbine, penstemon, mouse-eared chickweed, pussy toes, golden banner, loco weed, mariposa lily, kinnikinnik, yarrow, shrubs, current, antelope bitterbrush, sage, shrubby cinquefoil, and berry producing.

Trees: Lodgepole pine, aspen, Colorado blue spruce, Douglas fir (north slopes), ponderosa pine.

Birds: Hummingbird, mountain bluebird, woodpeckers, nuthatches and creepers, flycatchers, vireos, hawks and falcons, western tanager.

## **Foothills**

Elevation: 6,000 to 8,000 feet

Climate: Lower rainfall. Much warmer. Not the abundance of plant and animal life, but greater variety.

Mammals: Mule deer, mountain lion, coyote, black bear, Abert's squirrel.

Plants: Pasque flower, Virginia spring beauty, mountain ball cactus, Lambert's loco, sulphur flower, Indian paintbrush, miner's candle, yucca, wild rose, large number of shrubs.

Trees: Ponderosa pine, juniper, Colorado blue spruce, box elder, aspen.

Birds: Eastern and western overlap (western blue jay and blue jay) western tanager, larger birds of prey.

## **Riparian (any elevation)**

Climate: Much more moisture than the zone in which it is located. Much warmer. Plants and animals could be found here that are not typical for the zone.

Plants: Shooting star, tall chiming bells, elephant head.

Other: Used as a mammal highway. Plenty of food, water, and shelter along the corridor.

Birds: Ouzel or dipper ("flies" under water).

## Interesting Names & History

- **Arapaho National Forest** - established by Teddy Roosevelt in 1908 and named for a Native American tribe in the area. Was almost made part of Rocky Mountain National Park in 1925.
- **Arapaho Pass and 4<sup>th</sup> of July Mine** - Remnants of mining operations are visible on the way up the pass, such as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July mine, named because miners staked claim on Independence day 1872.
- **Mount Albion and Kiowa Peak** - Colorado Geographic Board renamed Kiowa (Native American name for all the snowy peaks north of Arapaho). Renamed Sheep Mountain to Mount Albion. Very confusing for mining claims.
- **Caribou Lake and Pass** – Town and mine near Nederland named by a miner, George Lytle, who was reminded of the Caribou Mountains in Alberta Province. The Caribou trail leads over the divide and past the lake.
- **Isabelle and Fair Glaciers** - Isabelle was the wife of Fred Fair of Boulder. Her glacier is on the east side of Apache Peak; his is on the west side of the divide.
- **Mount Toll** - named after Roger Toll, superintendent of RMNP from 1921 – 1929. He invented the bronze container to hold the list of people who have reached the summit.
- **James Peak** - Named for Edwin James, a botanist who was part of an 1820 expedition to the Rocky Mountains. James became a mountaineer and was the first person to do a recorded ascent of a Colorado Fourteener (Pikes Peak).
- **Indian Peaks** - The Indian Peaks were named in 1914 by Ellsworth Bethel, a botany teacher from Denver, who made a sketch of the range and named each peak after the Native American tribes in the area and around the West. These include Apache Peak, Shoshoni Peak, Paiute Peak, Arikaree Peak, Kiowa Peak, Navajo Peak, Ogalalla Peak, Pawnee Peak, and North and South Arapaho Peaks.

Note: Some of the original names of the peaks were preserved in a book by Oliver Toll titled “Arapaho Names and Trails: A Report of a 1914 Pack Trip”, which chronicled his expedition, sponsored by the newly established Colorado Mountain Club, with two Arapaho elders from the Wind River Reservation to document the stories and original places names. Arapaho Peak was called Pawnee Forts and James Peak and its adjacent mountains were called the Wolf’s Tusks.

## IPWA Contact Form

*Volunteers can carry digital or paper copies of this form to capture information during each patrol*

Date:	
Start Time:	
End Time:	
Trailhead:	
Destination:	
Cars at Start:	
Cars at End:	
Miles Hiked:	
Hours (from trailhead):	
# People:	
# Dogs:	
# Dogs off-leash:	
# Anglers:	
# Equestrians:	
# People with Firearms:	
# Backpackers:	
# Fire Rings Removed:	
# Fire Rings Not Removed:	
Wildlife Observations:	
Trail Conditions:	

## Missing Hiker Report

MISSING HIKER REPORT			
<b>Your name and contact info</b>			
<b>Date, Time, Your Location</b>			
<b>Who is reporting missing hiker? Name, address, cell</b>			
<b>Missing Person Name</b>			
<b>Description (sex, hair color, eyes)</b>			
<b>Description (age, height, weight)</b>	<b>Age:</b>	<b>Ht/Wt:</b>	
<b>Clothing worn: jacket, pants, color?</b>			<b>Last seen:</b>
<b>Known medical issues?</b>			
<b>Equipment: backpack, water?</b>			
<b>Direction of travel, last known location and destination</b>			
<b>Training/experience?</b>			
<b>Vehicle Description</b>			<b>License:</b>
<b>Trailhead where parked</b>			
<b>Other info</b>			
<b>Contact person for hiker</b>			<b>Cell:</b>
<b>What was done by whom</b>			
<b>Witnesses</b>			<b>Cell:</b>



# NOTES

# IPW Distance Charts

## IPW DESTINATIONS - Arapahoe Glacier Through Gibraltar Lake

TRAILHEAD	Arapahoe Glacier	Arapaho Pass	Betty Lake	Blue Lake	Bob Lake	Buchanan Pass	Buchanan Pass Trail	Caribou Lake	Caribou Pass	Cascade Falls	Columbine Lake	Coney Lake	Crater Lake	Devils Thumb Lake	Devils Thumb Pass	Diamond Lake	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Mine	Gibraltar Lake
Camp Dick						9.5				16.5		11.0	19.5					8.2
Coney Flats						3.0	1.5			10.5		3.0	13.5					6.8
4 <sup>th</sup> of July	3.5	3.0	10.3		10.8		13.5	3.8	3.3	14.5	7.0		17.5	6.5	8.0	2.0	2.0	
Glacier Rim	6.0	9.0	18.3		18.8		19.5	9.8	9.3		12.0			13.5	15	10	8.0	
Hessie	9.0	9.0	5.8		6.3			9.8	9.3					5.5	7.0	5.6	8.6	
Long Lake						17.3	11.5			10.5			9.0					
Meadow Creek	6.7	3.7						4.5	3.5	8.0	3.0		11.0	8.5	7.0	7.5	5.5	
Middle St. Vrain 4WD						6.0				13.0		4.0	16					3.8
Mitchell Lake				2.5		9.0	6.0					8.9						
Monarch Lake	12.3	9.3				9.3	3.5	9.0	9.8	4.5			8.0				10.3	
Mt. Audubon																		
Niwot Cutoff																		
Rainbow Lakes																		
Roaring Fork																		
Rock Creek							6.5	3.0					7.5	16.5			7.2	
Rollins Pass	10.5	10	1.0		1.5			11	11.5					4.5	4.0	7.0	9.0	
St. Vrain Mt.																		9.8

IPW DESTINATIONS - Gourd Lake through Woodland Lake

TRAILHEAD	Gourd Lake	Isabelle Glacier	Isabelle Lake	Jasper Reservoir	King Lake	Long Lake	Lost Lake	Mitchell Lake	Mt. Audubon	Mt. Audubon TH	Pawnee Lake	Pawnee Pass	Rainbow Lakes	Red Deer Lake	Skyscraper Reservoir	St. Vrain Glacier	St. Vrain Mt.	Stone Lake	Woodland Lake
Camp Dick	14.5		23.5			25.5					19.5	21.5		6.3		8.5	7.5		
Coney Flats	9.5		17.5			20.5			6.3	6.0	14.5	16.5		3.0		7.1	8.0		
4 <sup>th</sup> of July				5.3	10.0								9.5						
Glacier Rim				12.5	18.0														
Hessie				4.5	5.7		1.5								5.0				4.5
Long Lake	15.5	4.5	2.3			0.3					6.8	4.6		20.5		24.6			
Meadow Creek				9.5	10.5								12.7						
Middle St. Vrain 4WD	9.8		20.0			22.0			7.3	7.0	16.0	18.0		3.0		4.0	3.0		
Mitchell Lake								1.0											
Monarch Lake	8.0	15.0	12.8			14.6					8.5	10.5		12.3				6.0	
Mt. Audubon									3.9		8.0								
Niwot Cutoff						0.8						4.9							
Rainbow Lakes													1.0						
Roaring Fork																		6.0	
Rock Creek	13.2													8.0		9.0	2.5		
Rollins Pass				7.5	0.3		5.5								2.5				3.0
St. Vrain Mt.														9.0		10.0	3.0		