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United States Department of Agriculture



BIKING

MONTEZUMA BASIN #102

Length: 4.7 miles one-way (7.5 km);

Difficulty: Difficult

Trail Use: Moderate

Beginning Elevation: 9,728 feet (2965 m)

Ending Elevation: 12,600 feet (3840 m)

USGS Map(s): Hayden Peak

ATTRACTIONS/CONSIDERATIONS: There is often snow on the road well into July. The lower section of the road receives heavy use, especially on the weekends. This road is very rugged but the scenery makes the effort worthwhile.

ACCESS: Travel west from Aspen 1/2 mile on Highway 82 to the Roundabout. Go around the Roundabout and turn right onto Castle Creek Road. Travel 13 1/2 miles (2 miles past Ashcroft) to the intersection with the 4WD Pearl Pass Road #102. There is a small parking area at the junction.

NARRATIVE: The first half mile is fairly level, then the road begins to climb. There are some steep uphill and at approximately 1 1/2 mile mark the road crosses a foot bridge. The road continues to climb through spruce groves, crossing a vehicle bridge and immediately becoming steeper and more rugged. At the 3 mile mark the road forks, take the right for to Montezuma Basin (left fork leads to Pearl Pass). Keep right, the road soon climbs some steep, continuous switchbacks; it is very narrow and rugged. The road ends at a parking area.

ETHICS/REGULATIONS: Before you go out check into available routes, their condition, ownership of land, posted areas, regulations that apply, and the following rules:

- * Avoid running over young trees, shrubs, and grasses - **Stay on established routes.**
- * Avoid wetlands, meadows, steep hills, and streams where the surface is easily scarred by churning wheels.
- * Ford streams at designated sites only.
- * **Sanitation** - Bury human waste 100 feet from water and 6 inches in the soil.
- * A reminder: Wilderness Areas are closed to all mechanized vehicles, including mountain bikes.

PACK IT IN—PACK IT OUT!! LEAVE NO TRACE!!

This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The White River National Forest suggests purchasing a topographical trail map prior to your biking trip.