

Aspen Ranger District
806 W. Hallam
Aspen, CO 81611
(970) 925-3445—Voice
(970) 925-5277—Fax



United States Department of Agriculture



BIKING

PEARL PASS ROAD #102

Length: 6.5 miles one-way (10.5 km);

Difficulty: Difficult

Trail Use: Moderate

Beginning Elevation: 9,728 feet (2965 m)

Ending Elevation: 12,705 feet (3872 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 and steep in sections. There may be sections where you need to dismount and walk. The views from the top of the pass are spectacular.

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 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 1/2 mile is fairly level, then the road begins to climb. There are some steep uphill and at approximately 1 1/2 miles it crosses a foot bridge. The road continues to climb through spruce groves, crossing a vehicle bridge and immediately becomes steeper and rugged. At approximately 3 miles the road forks (right fork leads to Montezuma Basin), the left fork leads to Pearl Pass. Keep left, the road climbs steeply, and there are rough, rocky sections. From the top of the Pass, continue down the other side to reach Crested Butte.

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.