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United States Department of Agriculture



EXPRESS CREEK ROAD to Taylor Pass

Length: 5.5 miles one-way (8.8 km)

Trail Use: Heavy

Beginning Elevation: 9,422 feet (2872 m)

USGS Map(s): Hayden Peak

Difficulty: Moderate to Difficult

Ending Elevation: 11,928 feet (3636 m)

ACCESS: Go west on Highway 82 from Aspen 1/2 mile to the Roundabout. Go around the Roundabout and turn right onto Castle Creek Road. Drive about 11 miles. Just past Elk Mountain Lodge and before the ghost town of Ashcroft, Express Creek Road will be on your left.

NARRATIVE: The first 1/8 mile is fairly flat, the road soon crosses a bridge and begins to climb steeply. There are several private drives along the first mile; stay on the main road. The road becomes a little steeper and in another 1 3/4 miles there is a long steep uphill. The road crosses a bridge and the last mile is very steep.

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

- * **Respect private property.** Ask permission before entering.
- * **Be considerate** of other winter back-country travelers. Remember we're all out to enjoy the outdoors.
- * **Avoid disturbing wild animals** by staying out of elk and deer wintering areas. Detour if you spot wildlife.
- * **Take care not to damage fences and/or gates.** When using gates, please close them behind you.
- * **Wilderness areas and Primitive areas are CLOSED to motorized recreational vehicles.** Inquire at a local Forest Service office if in doubt. Obey all signs.
- * **BEWARE OF AVALANCHES!** Avalanches may occur at any time during the winter. Avoid mountainous terrain after heavy snowfalls or prolonged periods of high wind. Stay on the windblown side of ridges. Avoid crossing steep hill sides and entering narrow, steep canyons.

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 snowmobile trip.