

Wilderness Guidelines

1. Maximum party size is 25 heart beats, this is a maximum of 15 people and includes pets and stock. Larger groups tend to do significant damage to trails and campsites.
2. Locate campsites, campfires and recreational stock at least 100 feet from lakes, streams and trails. Vegetation and soil adjacent to lakes and streams are sensitive to disturbance. Camping away from trails adds to a visitor's sense of solitude.
3. All dogs, except for working stock dogs, guide dogs or dogs used for legal hunting, must be restrained on a leash and or under direct verbal control of the dogs' owner or handler at all times. All pets **must** be on a leash in the Oh-Be-Joyful drainage. Pets are not a natural part of the wilderness and their presence can disrupt wildlife.
4. No motorized vehicles, motorized equipment, motorized boats or other forms of mechanical transport, such as mountain bikes, within the Wilderness is allowed.
5. Landing of aircraft or dropping of materials, supplies or persons from aircraft is prohibited.
6. Stay on the trail when possible. Short-cutting switchbacks creates a path which channels water and accelerates erosion.
7. Pack out everything you bring in and any other trash you may find along the way.
8. Use pack stoves, especially in areas of heavy use. If a campfire is necessary, make a small fire without rocks around it. Make sure your fire is dead out and erase all signs of fire when you leave.
9. Bury human waste at least 100 feet from lakes and streams and 6 inches deep in the soil so it will decompose naturally.
10. Wash at least 50 feet from lakes and streams and use biodegradable soap.

The Raggeds Wilderness encompasses almost 65,000 acres on the Gunnison and White River National Forests. Elevations within the Wilderness range from 7,000 to over 13,000 feet. Over 90 miles of constructed trails are available for both foot and horse travel through sometimes rugged terrain. Weather for the area can vary greatly; but generally you can expect cool mountain climate with scattered rain showers throughout the summer months. Normally, the Raggeds Wilderness Area is snow free from July to September, but conditions depend on the elevation and amount of snowfall each winter. Lower elevations from around 7,000 to 8,500 feet may become snow free by early June, but some creek and river water levels tend to be high. The annual precipitation varies from 25" to 40". Some points of interest in the Raggeds are Dark Canyon, Ragged Mountains, Marcellina Mountain, Mount Justice, Treasury Mountain and Oh-Be-Joyful Pass. Wildlife includes elk, mule deer, black bear, bobcat, mountain lion, coyote, snowshoe hares, Golden Eagle and other small species. Streams are inhabited by native cutthroat, rainbow, brook and brown trout.

For further information write or call us at:

Gunnison National Forest

Paonia Ranger District
P.O. Box 1030
403 N. Rio Grande Ave.
Paonia, CO 81428
(970) 527-4131

White River National Forest

Sopris Ranger District
P.O. Box 309
620 Main Street
Carbondale, CO 81623
(970) 963-2266

The Raggeds Wilderness



*Ruby Anthracite Creek
The Raggeds Wilderness Area*

**Gunnison National Forest
White River National Forest**

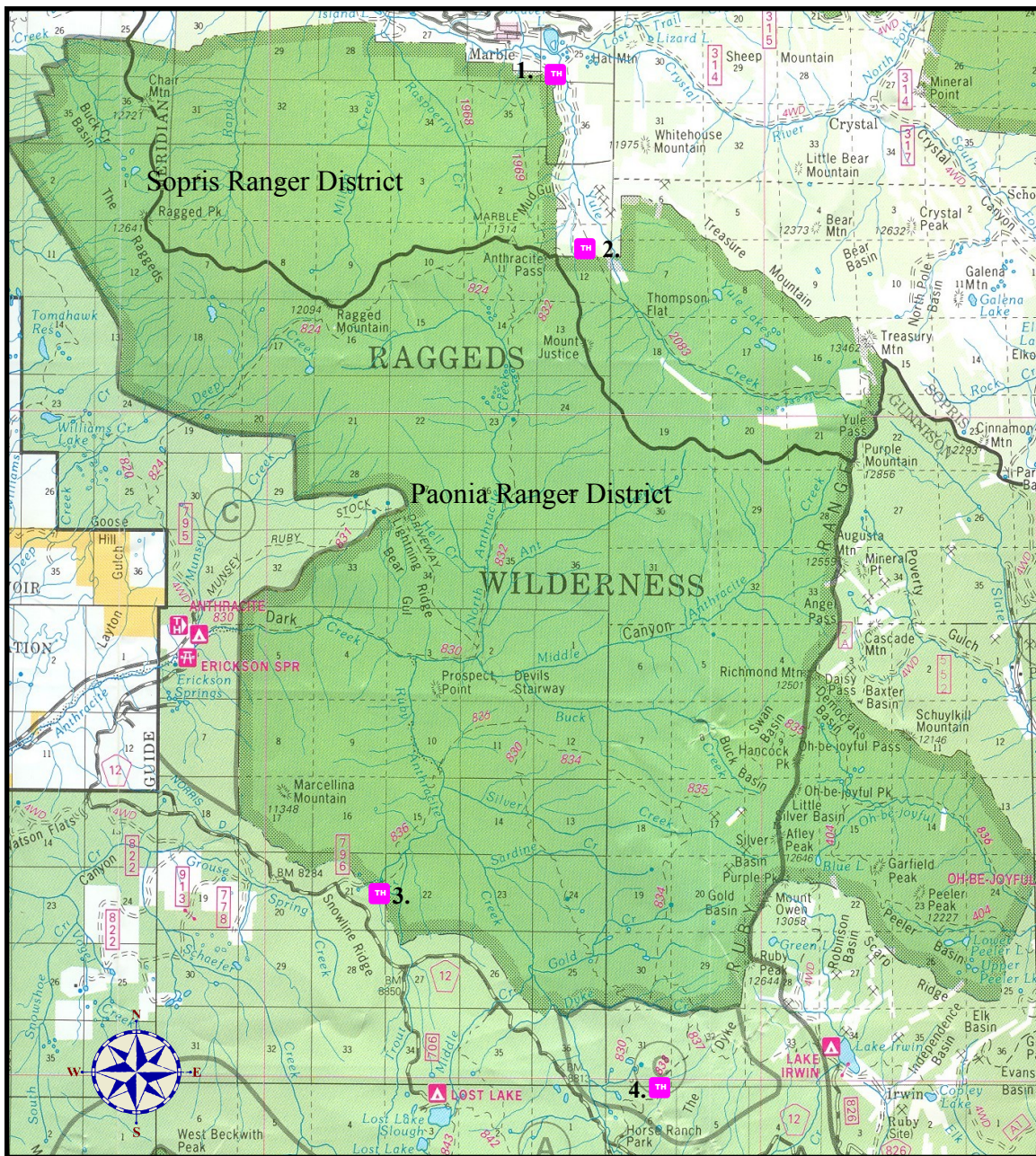


For any questions or comments please contact:

Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre,
& Gunnison National Forest
Supervisor's Office
2250 Highway 50
Delta, CO 81416
(970) 874-6600

White River National
Forest Supervisor's
Office
P.O. Box 948
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602
(970) 945-3229





Personal Safety is a constant consideration in the Wilderness. Wilderness users face inherent risk of adverse weather conditions, isolation, physical hazards, and lack of rapid communication. Listed below are some important safety concerns:

Giardia is a microscopic organism found in water which can cause diarrhea, nausea, weakness and a fever. Chlorine and Iodine are effective, but boiling your water for 5-10 minutes will kill the organism.


Hypothermia is a lowering of the body's core temperature which can lead to death. Symptoms include shivering, tiredness, slurred speech, and disorientation. Prevention—Keep the victim warm and dry and give hot liquids if possible. Do not give the victim any alcoholic beverages, get professional medical assistance immediately.

This map is not intended for use as a trail map. US Geological Survey 7 1/2 minute topographic maps show the level of detail needed for wilderness travel use. You can buy these maps at most sporting goods stores or directly from USGS at:

US Geological Survey
 Denver Federal Center
 P.O. Box 25046
 Denver, CO 80225-0046

The following maps cover the Raggeds Wilderness: Chair Mountain, Marble, Paonia Reservoir, Marcellina Mountain, Oh-Be-Joyful, Snowmass Mountain

Emergency Contacts: Delta County Sheriff's Department: (970)874-2000, Gunnison County Sheriff's Department: (970)641-8000, or 911.



Principles of Leave No Trace

1. Plan Ahead & Prepare
2. Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

The Raggeds Wilderness Trailheads

1. Raspberry
2. Yule Creek
3. Anthracite
4. Horse Ranch Park

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice & TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider & employer.