

VAIL PASS Winter Recreation Area

WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST



VAIL PASS RECREATION AREA RESPONSIBILITY CODE

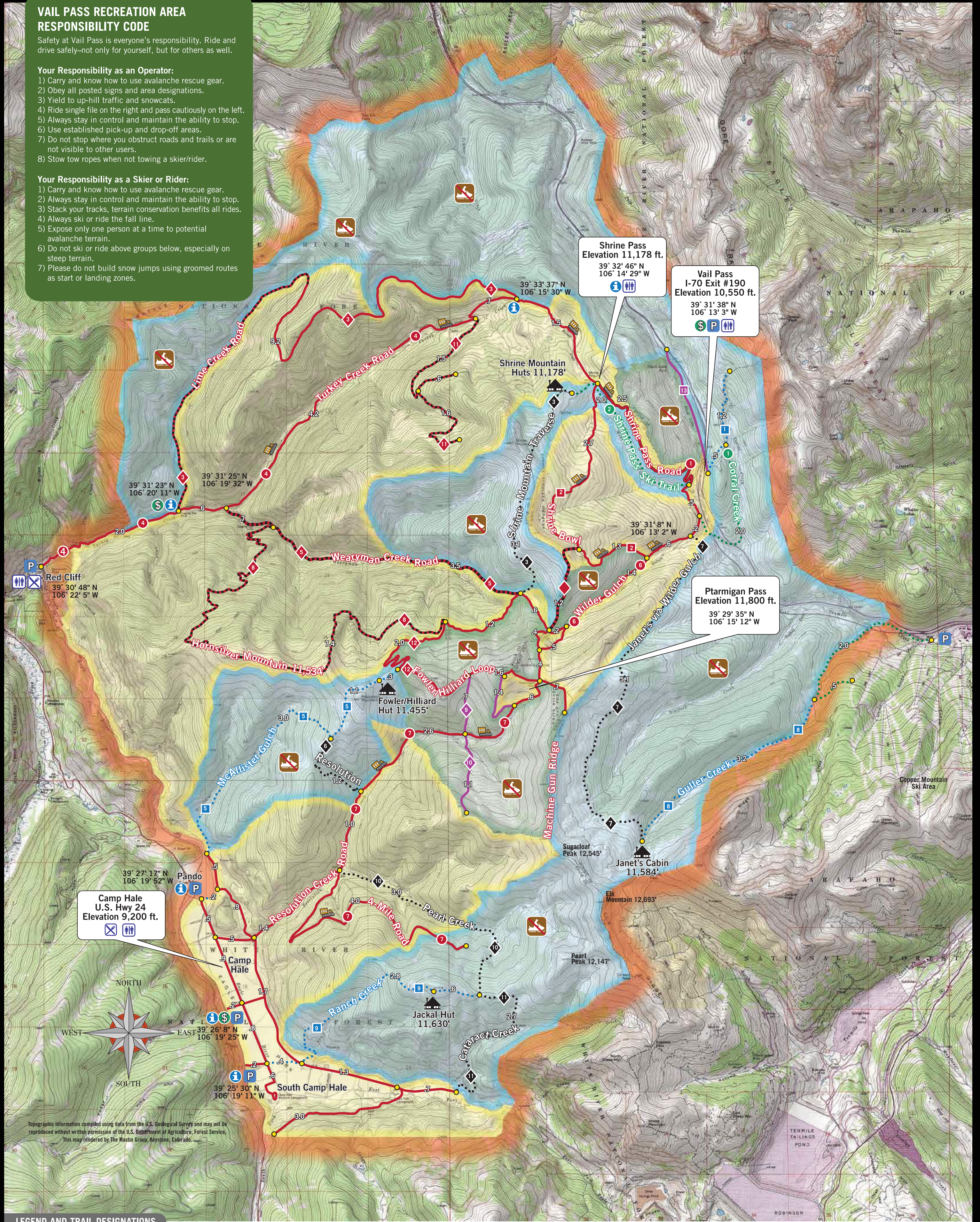
Safety at Vail Pass is everyone's responsibility. Ride and drive safely—not only for yourself, but for others as well.

Your Responsibility as an Operator:

- 1) Carry and know how to use avalanche rescue gear.
- 2) Obey all posted signs and area designations.
- 3) Yield to up-hill traffic and snowcats.
- 4) Ride single file on the right and pass cautiously on the left.
- 5) Always stay in control and maintain the ability to stop.
- 6) Use established pick-up and drop-off areas.
- 7) Do not stop where you obstruct roads and trails or are not visible to other users.
- 8) Stow tow ropes when not towing a skier/rider.

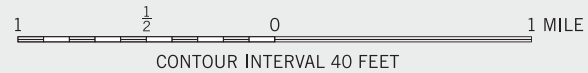
Your Responsibility as a Skier or Rider:

- 1) Carry and know how to use avalanche rescue gear.
- 2) Always stay in control and maintain the ability to stop.
- 3) Stack your tracks, terrain conservation benefits all rides.
- 4) Always ski or ride the fall line.
- 5) Expose only one person at a time to potential avalanche terrain.
- 6) Do not ski or ride above groups below, especially on steep terrain.
- 7) Please do not build snow jumps using groomed routes as start or landing zones.



LEGEND AND TRAIL DESIGNATIONS

<p>NON-MOTORIZED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Easiest ● More Difficult ◆ Most Difficult 	<p>MULTIPLE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Restrooms i Information X Food & Beverage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hut / Cabin Fee Station No Motorized Vehicle Area Parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Multiple use area ■ Non-motorized area ■ Snowmobile/snowcat access on designated routes to ski and snowboard areas Groomed trails 	<p>MULTIPLE USE ROUTE <i>not groomed</i> ***</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Lower Lime Creek Road ◆ Wearyman Creek Road ◆ Wearyman/Hornsilver Connector ◆ Hank's Gulch Roads 	<p>MULTIPLE USE <i>groomed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Shrine Pass Road ◆ Shrine Bowl Trail ◆ Upper Lime Creek Road ◆ Turkey Creek Road ◆ Wilder Gulch ◆ Resolution Creek Road ◆ Fowler/Hilliard Loop 	<p>NON-MOTORIZED ROUTES - INTERMEDIATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Corral Creek ◆ Fowler-Hilliard Hut via McAllister Gulch ◆ Jackal Hut via Ranch Creek ◆ Janet's Cabin via Guller Creek 	<p>NON-MOTORIZED ROUTES - EXPERT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Jackal Hut via Cataract Creek ◆ Jackal Hut via Pearl Creek ◆ Janet's Cabin via Wilder Gulch ◆ Resolution Mtn. to Resolution Creek Rd. ◆ Shrine Mountain to Fowler-Hilliard Hut 	<p>HYBRID - MOTORIZED ASSIST SKI ACCESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Boss Basin - Hybrid Route ◆ Queen Bee/BBQ - Hybrid Route ◆ Black Lakes - Hybrid Route 	<p>NON-MOTORIZED ROUTES - EASIEST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Shrine Pass Ski Trail
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VAIL PASS Winter Recreation Area WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST



WELCOME TO THE VAIL PASS WINTER RECREATION AREA

This recreation area is managed by the USDA Forest Service as part of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) of 2004. The purpose of this program is to collect fees that help maintain and manage recreational areas and enhance visitor services and experiences on some public lands that receive high visitor numbers and use. Ninety-five percent of fees collected remain at the site for these purposes instead of returning to the Federal Treasury. The remaining five percent is distributed among other fee sites and used for administrative purposes.

WHY A FEE?

Recreation fees provide crucial resources that allow federal agencies to respond to increased demand on federal lands. For over 20 years the Forest Service, working with the Vail Pass Task Force (a citizen's group) has surveyed the users, listened to their concerns and observed what has occurred in the backcountry. This has enabled both entities to formulate a plan of management that aspires to meet the visitor's demands as well as the area's needs. Beginning in 1990 with the first signs, each subsequent year has seen improvements that reflect the changing needs and suggestions of winter recreationists in the Vail Pass backcountry.

VAIL PASS FACTS

- Total Area – 55,000 acres.
- Highest elevation – Elk Mountain, 12,693 feet.
- Lowest elevation – Camp Hale, 9,200 feet.
- Total length of motorized trails – 67 miles.
- Total length of groomed trails – 50 miles.
- Total length of non-motorized trails – 52 miles.
- Total area of motorized-assisted ski terrain – 3,300.

FEE SCHEDULE

- Day Use Pass - \$10 per person per day.
- Season Pass - \$65 per person (non-transferable).
- Credit and debit cards accepted at the automated fee machine located at the Vail Pass trailhead.
- Please make checks payable to: US Forest Service.
- Self pay fee stations are located at Vail Pass, Red Cliff, Pando, Camp Hale South, and Camp Hale Main trailheads.
- Fees collected 7 days a week.
- Please pay the day use fee before entering the area. Retain proof of payment with you while recreating within the area.
- Violations punishable pursuant to 16 USC 551, 36 CFR 261.17.

KNOW WHERE YOU ARE!

The Vail Pass Winter Recreation Area is comprised of motorized, non motorized, and hybrid ski designated areas. It is each user's responsibility to know his or her location in relation to the map. Carry a topographic map or GPS and keep track of landmarks such as mountain peaks, valleys, rivers and numbered non-motorized or multiple use routes. Please observe and obey all signage as these restrictions are in place to protect wildlife, wilderness, huts, ski area boundaries, and historic ski routes in the area.

LOOK FOR THESE SIGNS!

- No snowmobiles (S), blue diamond (D), orange diamond (O), stay on trail (T).
- Trails and routes may also be marked with orange or blue snowpoles.
- Pay attention to additional informational signs posted by USFS rangers.

BACKCOUNTRY ETHICS

- Pack out your trash.
- Stack your tracks. Allow everyone to enjoy a trackless powder experience.
- Be respectful to wildlife. Pass quietly or detour if you encounter animals.
- Respect each other's rights to be here and enjoy the backcountry.

SAFETY TIPS

- Here are some basic backcountry tips that could help prevent an accident or increase the survival of a buried partner should an avalanche occur.
- Check the local avalanche and weather forecast before entering the backcountry.
 - Travel with experienced partners.
 - Carry and know how to use avalanche rescue gear.
 - Expose only one person at a time to potential avalanche danger.
 - Plan an escape route.
 - Never cut above anyone below you when crossing steep terrain.
 - Be aware that avalanches can be triggered from the bottom of a slope.
 - Look for recent avalanche activity and cracking and collapsing snow that signal an unstable snowpack.
 - Take an avalanche course from a qualified instructor.
 - Safe backcountry travel requires training and experience. You control your own risk by choosing where, when, and how you travel.

IN AN EMERGENCY!

- Any of the following may help in the event of an emergency:
- Designate a leader and make a plan.
 - Ask highest trained medical responder at the scene to provide care for patients.
 - Use a cell phone to call 911. If cell phone service is unavailable, designate someone to travel to an area where cell phone service is available. Cell phone service is typically available at higher elevations in the area (ex: Ptarmigan Pass and Shrine Pass). There are also phones located in Camp Hale at Nova Guides and in the Town of Red Cliff.
 - Be prepared to provide description of location of the accident and injuries of those involved to 911 dispatcher.
 - The remaining members of the group should remain at the scene and pursue rescue and first aid of those involved in the accident.
 - Exercise caution with victims of high speed accidents. Improperly moving a patient with neck or spinal cord trauma can lead to further injury.
 - Search and Rescue in the Vail Pass Winter Recreation Area is a collaborative effort of the Summit County Rescue Group, Vail Mountain Rescue Group, and the United States Forest Service.



Local Avalanche and Weather Forecast
Colorado Avalanche Information Center
Vail and Summit Zone Forecast



www.colorado.gov/avalanche
For up to date avalanche forecasts, scan the QR code

MULTIPLE USE ROUTES

TRAILS AND ROUTES ARE FOR MULTIPLE USE AND ARE SIGNED USING SNOWMOBILE SYMBOLS, ORANGE DIAMONDS AND ORANGE SNOWPOLES. PLEASE EXPECT AND RESPECT OTHER USERS.

- 1 Shrine Pass Road**
Length: 2.5 miles to Shrine Pass
Use: Heavy
Difficulty: Easiest
Comments: This is a multiple use trail from Vail Pass to Shrine Pass. Please use caution on this route as it sees heavy use from motorized and non motorized users. Non motorized users are encouraged to use the Shrine Pass Ski Trail to access the Shrine Mountain Huts. The drainage to the south of Shrine Pass Road is non motorized.
- 2 Shrine Bowl Trail**
Length: 2 miles
Use: Heavy
Difficulty: More Difficult
Comments: The Shrine Bowl motorized area is defined by the treeline of Shrine Bowl. Part of this route is through the non-motorized area of the Shrine Meadows, stay on the groomed route and follow the orange poles into Shrine Bowl.
- 3 Lime Creek Road**
Length: 3.7 miles
Use: Low
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Comments: These trails are accessible from Turkey Creek Road. After Turkey Creek Road, follow old timber sale roads.
- 4 Turkey Creek Road**
Length: 5.75 miles
Use: Heavy
Difficulty: Easiest
Comments: This route is a very popular multi-use trail. There is limited parking at the Redcliff trailhead. The town of Redcliff has a restaurant and convenience store, but no gas station. There are two miles from the Forest Boundary to the town of Redcliff that are not groomed - variable conditions exist please use caution.
- 5 Wearyman Creek Road**
Length: 4.5 miles
Use: Low
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Comments: This route connects Redcliff to Ptarmigan Pass. Be prepared for downhill riding and several creek crossings. This route is not maintained; variable conditions may exist.
- 6 Wilder Gulch**
Length: 3 miles
Use: Heavy
Difficulty: Easiest
Comments: This route is a very popular multi-use trail from the Vail Pass Rest Area to Ptarmigan Pass. The west side of Wilder Gulch is non motorized - please observe the signage. This route is subject to early and late season closures due to snowpack conditions. Please avoid the south ridge of the gulch where the non-motorized terrain begins.
- 7 Resolution Creek Road / 4-Mile Road**
Length: 6 miles / 4 miles
Use: Heavy
Difficulty: Easiest
Comments: This route is a popular multi-use trail from Camp Hale to Ptarmigan Pass with a four-mile dead-end spur at Pearl Creek junction. Please stay on designated routes in the Ptarmigan Pass hybrid ski areas. Be prepared to encounter snowcats on this route and give them the right of way.
- 8 Wearyman / Hornsilver Connector**
Length: 4.5 miles
Use: Low
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Comments: This route starts at the Wearyman Road / Turkey Creek Road junction and then forks to the right after .7 miles. Follow the logging roads marked with orange diamonds to Hornsilver Mountain, then down towards the top of Wearyman Creek. The last section of this trail is shared use with skiers.
- 9 Queen Bee / BBQ - Hybrid Route**
Length: .7 miles
Use: Moderate
Difficulty: Most Difficult
- 10 Boss Basin - Hybrid Route**
Length: 1.1 miles
Use: Low
Difficulty: Most Difficult
- 11 Hank's Gulch Roads**
Length: 3.7 miles
Use: Low
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Comments: This route is part of a motorized access ski area. Stay on the marked route and be courteous to other users.
- 12 Fowler / Hilliard Loop**
Length: 7.7 miles
Use: Low
Difficulty: Most Difficult

HYBRID - MOTORIZED ASSIST SKI ACCESS

THESE ROUTES ARE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE SKIER ACCESS WITHIN PRESCRIBED AREAS. MOTOR VEHICLES MUST STAY ON DESIGNATED ROUTES.

- 10 Boss Basin - Hybrid Route**
Length: 1.1 miles
Use: Low
Difficulty: Most Difficult
- 9 Queen Bee / BBQ - Hybrid Route**
Length: .7 miles
Use: Moderate
Difficulty: Most Difficult
- 13 Black Lakes - Hybrid Route**
Length: .7 miles
Use: Moderate
Difficulty: More Difficult

Comments (for ALL HYBRID ROUTES): These routes provide motorized access into hybrid ski areas. Motorized users stay on the designated route. Be prepared to encounter snowcats on this route and give them the right of way. Snowcat operators please give the right of way to snowmobiles when it is safe to pull over and stop. Snowmobiles stow ropes when not towing skiers/riders.

NON-MOTORIZED ROUTES

TRAILS AND ROUTES FOR NON-MOTORIZED USE ARE SIGNED USING CROSS-COUNTRY SKIER SYMBOLS, BLUE DIAMONDS AND BLUE SNOWPOLES.

- 2 Shrine Pass Ski Trail**
Length: 2.5 miles
Time: 2 to 4 hours
Use: Heavy
Difficulty: Easiest
Comments: This route starts from the Vail Pass Rest Area and follows the Shrine Pass Road to the first switchback where there is a trailhead information board. The non-motorized route begins to the left of this sign and continues west along the north side of West Ten Mile Creek. The trail leads to the headwaters of the drainage, parallel to the Shrine Pass Road. The Shrine Mountain huts of Jay's, Chuck's, and Walter's are located about .2 miles south of Shrine Pass.
- 5 Fowler-Hilliard Hut via McAllister Gulch**
Length: 5.25 miles
Time: 4 to 7 hours
Use: Low
Difficulty: More Difficult
Comments: From the Pando Trailhead at the north end of Camp Hale, ski east across the Eagle River, then north .5 miles to the McAllister Gulch jeep road. The route follows the road to Resolution Mountain and the Fowler-Hilliard Hut. The route across Camp Hale is shared with motorized users then the jeep road is non-motorized for winter use. Be cautious of steep slopes and avalanche terrain on Resolution Mountain.
- 8 Janet's Cabin via Guller Creek**
Length: 5.5 miles
Time: 3 to 5 hours
Use: Heavy
Difficulty: More Difficult
Comments: The trail begins at the Union Creek base of the Copper Mountain Ski Area. It follows the Vail Pass bike path west to the Colorado Trail at Guller Creek. The route then continues up Guller Creek to its headwaters and Janet's Cabin.
- 10 Jackal Hut via Cataract Creek**
Length: 5.5 miles
Time: 5 to 7 hours
Use: Low
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Comments: From the Camp Hale trailheads, travel east across the Eagle River and follow the East Fork Road to the south and then south-east for 2.25 miles. Then travel north along Cataract Creek on the Colorado Trail. The trail climbs 1.8 miles up the Colorado Trail to the Jackal Hut.
- 10 Jackal Hut via Pearl Creek**
Length: 7.25 miles
Time: 5 to 8 hours
Use: Moderate
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Comments: The lower section of the trail crosses the Camp Hale flats and follows the Resolution Creek Road which is all multiple-use. The ski trail begins at the confluence of Pearl Creek and Resolution Creek where the 4-mile Road begins. From here the trail climbs up the Pearl Creek drainage 4.3 miles to the Jackal Hut.
- 7 Janet's Cabin via Wilder Gulch**
Length: 4.5 miles
Time: 4 to 7 hours
Use: Low
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Comments: The route heads south off of the Wilder Gulch Road, across the gulch and into Smith Gulch. The route then traverses west to a treeline and continues south right at treeline to Janet's Cabin. The route requires route finding ability and is recommended for experienced skiers.
- 6 Resolution Mountain to Resolution Creek Road**
Length: 2 miles
Time: 2 to 4 hours
Use: Low
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Comments: This route will take the user down to the south aspect of the Resolution Mountain, then back to the road through a series of switchbacks and dense forest. Once on the road, be aware of shared motorized use.
- 3 Shrine Mountain to Fowler-Hilliard Hut**
Length: 6.8 miles
Time: 5 to 8 hours
Use: Low
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Comments: This is the recommended route from the Shrine Mountain huts to the Fowler-Hilliard hut. The section of this trail from Wearyman Creek to the Fowler-Hilliard turn-off is multiple-use.



for information on huts visit www.huts.org

Mount Elbert
14,433

Mount Massive
14,421

Homestake Peak
13,201

Mount of the Holy Cross
14,003

The Winter Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) is the legal document that identifies designated routes and open play areas for over the snow motor vehicle use for the Vail Pass Winter Recreation Area pursuant to 36 CFR 212(c) and for the purpose of enforcing the prohibition at 36 CFR 261.13 and 36 CFR 261.14. Over the snow vehicles are defined as: "a motor vehicle that is designed for use over the snow and runs on tracks and/or ski or skis while in use over the snow."

WHAT ARE YOUR FEES USED FOR?

- Vail Pass Winter Recreation Area maps.
- Signage and maintenance of motorized and non-motorized trails.
- Groomed trails.
- Managed parking.
- Visitor information services.
- Trail and backcountry monitoring, separation of use, and enforcement by uniformed Forest Service rangers.
- Snow removal at trailheads

Public comments about the fees and the program are critical to evaluating the success of the program. Contact us for comments and further information at:

Eagle/Holy Cross Ranger District
P.O. Box 190
Minturn, CO 81645
Office: (970) 827-5715

Dillon Ranger District
P.O. Box 620
Silverthorne, CO 80498
Office: (970) 468-5400



NOTICE TO BACKCOUNTRY TRAVELERS

It is your responsibility to know the hazards involved in your activities and to use the proper safety procedures and equipment to minimize the inherent risks and hazards related to your activity.

As a user of National Forest System Lands, you have significant responsibility for your personal safety during any activity you might pursue. The Forest Service installs signs and other information devices at various locations where site conditions warrant. However, the size of the National Forests and the variety of natural and human-made conditions limit placement of signs or other specific warnings and necessitate the use of more general education efforts.

Hazards are not limited to, but include: changing weather conditions; snow; avalanches; landslides; caves; overlooks; falling trees or limbs; high or rushing water; contaminated water; wild animals; becoming lost or over exerted; tunnels; shafts; decaying structures and a variety of equipment; and changing road and trail conditions. You may also be exposed to unreasonable acts of others. The Forest Service does not manage or control all of these occurrences.

In order to help visitors enjoy their experience on the National Forests, the Forest Service and other agencies provide information regarding local conditions by various means. This information is available at Forest Service offices, from local residents, outfitters and guides, and other reference materials.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service
"The USDA is an equal opportunity service provider and employer."

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