UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION



MEDICINE BOW-ROUTT NATIONAL FORESTS THUNDER BASIN NATIONAL GRASSLAND HAHNS PEAK-BEARS EARS RANGER DISTRICT









TRAIL NAME: NFSR 291 Grizzly Creek (To Rabbit Ears Peak)

TRAIL BEGINNING: 9604' elevation (2927 m) at NFSR 291.

LENGTH: 2.5 miles (4 km)

TRAIL ENDING: 10,654' elevation (3247 m) at Rabbit Ears Peak.

RECOMMENDED SEASON:

Summer | Fall

ACCESS #1: Drive about 19 miles southeast of Steamboat up Rabbit Ears Pass on Hwy 40. Turn left (North) at the Dumont Lake Campground sign, and follow NFSR 315 past the Dumont Lake Picnic Area and Campground Area turnoffs until you reach the old stone monument and historic marker. Turn left here onto NFSR 311 and you may park here. Just past the gate and through a group of trees turn right onto NFSR 291. You may also park here to begin your hike.

<u>USE:</u> Moderate to Heavy

DIFFICULTY: Easy

USGS MAP(S): Rabbit Ears Peak Quad

ATTRACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS: The rock formation, which resembles rabbit ears, is accessible from an old jeep road. Therefore, you may encounter cars driving some of the way down the NFSR 291. Most of the hike is open fields, so be sure to bring adequate sunscreen. Also, do not be alarmed when you see herds of grazing sheep with shepherders on horseback along the way because the area is permitted, it is advised that you keep your pets leashed around livestock and avoid the herd as much as possible. Extraordinary wildflowers are visible during late spring and early summer. Be sure and bring your camera and bug repellant. NOTE: Always be watchful for storms (hail and lightning) in these high and open areas. Be prepared for inclement weather at all times.

NARRATIVE: Parking just past the stone monument on NFSR 311, continue walking up NFSR 311 through a patch of forest to the clearing. On your right, you will notice another jeep trail, NFSR 291, with a small hiking symbol on a post; this is the old jeep road that will take you up to Rabbit Ears Peaks. The old dirt road winds through breathtaking meadows of wildflowers. Upon entering the forested part of the trail, you encounter the first real incline of the hike. The last uphill grade is very steep and will bring you to the base of the Ears. Be careful not to slide coming down these steep grades on your return hike.

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