

# **Hiking**

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest Service  
White River National Forest  
Sopris Ranger District

Date-1997  
(970)963-2266  
(970)963-0657(TDD)

---

## **NORTH FORK TRAIL, #1974** **IN MAROON BELLS/SNOWMASS WILDERNESS**

**Length:** 8 mi/km  
**Elevation Gain:** 2,700 ft.  
**Beginning Elev:** 9,700 ft.  
**USGS Map(s):** Snowmass Mtn.

**Difficulty:** more difficult  
**Use:** heavy  
**End Elev:** 12,400 ft.

**Trailhead starts at LAT/LONG:**  
**UTM:**

**ACCESS:** Travel south on Hwy 133 25 miles past Carbondale to Marble. Pass through Marble and about 1/2 mile past Beaver Lake the road becomes 4WD as it passes over shale rock. About a mile past Marble take the right fork onto road #314. The road immediately heads downhill. It is about 5 1/2 miles to Crystal City. Past Crystal City, approximately 1/2 mile, take the sharp left turn towards the north and Lead King Basin. Park at the Geneva Lake trailhead.

**NARRATIVE:** Love's Cabin is a well known landmark at the junction of Hasley Basin and the North Fork of the Crystal. The trail follows the North Fork of the Crystal until it goes over Frigid Air Pass. One large water fall can be seen about a mile east of Love's Cabin. Fravert Basin along the way is a wide, open, scenic valley. The back of the Maroon Bells can be viewed from the basin. This trail begins at the same spot as the Geneva Lake trail. The grade is gentle until the waterfall, and is again gentle until the ascent over Frigid Air Pass. It can be part of a loop trail connecting West Maroon Pass and Snowmass Lake.

**ETHICS/REGULATIONS:** Wilderness areas are in a delicate state of natural balance, they are not a renewable resource. Any careless act can upset this natural balance and result in destruction. By following these ethics and regulations you can help protect and preserve the natural features of the Wilderness for future visits. **Please respect the land and rights of others!**

- Out of consideration for others and wildlife - **DOGS MUST BE ON A LEASH.**
- Trash - **PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!**
- Limit group sizes to 10 people and 15 stock/pack animals.
- **Sanitation** - Bury human waste 100 feet from water and 6 - 8 inches in the soil.
- Lightweight campstoves are recommended and required above the timberline.
- Camp 100 feet from water and trails, and use existing sites when possible.
- Do not wash or bathe in lakes or streams. Use biodegradable soap far from water source.
- Stay on trail and do not shortcut switchbacks, which cause erosion.