

Boulder Ranger District
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United States Department of Agriculture



Mountain Biking

General Information

- The Boulder Ranger District offers many opportunities for mountain biking, ranging from flat and easy to long and technical. Roads and trails are open to several types of uses.
- It is important to remember that not all hiking trails are open to bikes. When in doubt, refer to information signs posted at the trailhead. Bikes are prohibited in Wilderness Areas.
- When biking on trails in the national forest, please do your part to protect natural resources. Do not bypass, damage, or remove water-bars and other man-made structures. These structures protect trails from erosion, prevent excessive mud and wash-out conditions. Going around causes severe resource damage.
- National Forest System Roads (NFSR) are designated with brown markers.

Johnny Park Area NFSR 118 / Pierson Park NFSR 119

Length & Elevation: >14 miles; 7,500 to 8,500 feet.

Location: On the west end, turn off Colorado Highway (CO) 7 at the Forest Access sign in Meeker Park.

Features: This 4WD road connects Big Elk Meadows with Meeker Park. Off CR 82 near Meeker Park, Pierson Park Road (NFSR 119) turns north and climbs steeply to House Rock.

Rock Creek Road NFSR 116

Length & Elevation: 4 miles; 8,400 to 10,800 feet.

Location: From Allenspark, turn onto Ski Road. Continue south several miles.

Features: This 4WD road starts with a gentle grade and then climbs. There are some short side roads. The Indian Peaks Wilderness boundary is beyond the old ski area at the end of the main route. Here, bicycles are prohibited.

Middle Saint Vrain Road NFSR 114

Length & Elevation: 4.5 miles; 8,600 to 9,600 feet.

Location: Accessible from Camp Dick Campground

Features: This rough 4WD road ends near the Indian Peaks Wilderness boundary. A loop is possible with the Coney Creek Road, returning by the Sourdough Trail. Bicycles are prohibited inside the wilderness.

Coney Creek Road NFSR 113

Length & Elevation: 4 miles; 9,200 to 9,800 feet.

Location: From Ward, continue on CO 72 north for three miles. Turn onto County Road (CR) 96 at the Boy Scout Camp sign. Follow this road back beyond the private Beaver Reservoir to the trailhead.

Features: A rough 4WD road that ends near the Indian Peaks Wilderness. As mentioned above, a loop is possible. Bicycles are prohibited inside the wilderness.

Ceran Saint Vrain / Miller Rock #801

Length & Elevation: 6 miles; 7,600 to 8,600 feet.

Location: From Jamestown, continue west. The TH is located on the left, ½ mile after the pavement ends.

Features: The Ceran Saint Vrain Trail is moderate and follows the creek. There are a few rocky spots that may require dismounting. At the south end, forks lead to Miller Rock and Raymond.

Switzerland Trail NFSR 327

Length & Elevation: 18.6 miles; 7,700 to 9,000 feet.

Location: Accessible from CO 72, Fourmile Canyon at the low point from the east, or the Gold Hill Road.

Features: This county road is an old railroad bed, so the grades are moderate. The surface is not technical, but it is rough and rocky. A loop can be made via the Gold Hill Road and Peak-to-Peak Highway.

Sourdough Trail #835

Length & Elevation: 12 miles; 8,600 to 10,200 feet.

Location: Access points are at Peaceful Valley, Beaver Reservoir, Beaver Bog, Brainard Lake Road east of Red Rock Lake and the Rainbow Lakes/Mountain Research Station Road.

Features: The southern half, more often done in the generally downhill direction from Brainard Lake Road to Rainbow Lakes Road is moderate. The northern end is steeper and technical.

Rainbow Lakes Road NFSR 298

Length & Elevation: 4.5 miles; 9,100 to 10,000 feet.

Location: From Nederland, continue north to the CU Mountain Research Station sign. Turn west.

Features: The rough 2WD road gradually gains elevation along the way, ending at Rainbow Lakes Campground at the edge of the Indian Peaks Wilderness where no bicycles are permitted.

Caribou Flats NFSR 505, 128J, 116J

Length & Elevation: >11 miles; 8,600 to 10,200 feet.

Location: The north end is off the Rainbow Lakes Road, one mile before the Campground. In the middle it passes the old mining townsite of Caribou. The south end is at CR 130 near Eldora.

Features: 4WD road. Most of it moderate except for the steep, loose grade at the Eldora end. The crossing of Caribou Creek between the Rainbow Lakes Road and Caribou can be waist deep in the spring.

Fourth of July Road County Road 111

Length & Elevation: 5 miles; 8,800 to 10,100 feet.

Location: Accessible from CO 72 at Nederland, turn onto CR 130 through the town of Eldora.

Features: Rough 2WD road, gradual elevation gain along the way, ends at Buckingham Campground and the Fourth of July Trailhead. No bicycles are allowed inside the Indian Peaks Wilderness beyond.

Moffat Road NFSR 149

Length & Elevation: 13 miles to Needles Eye Tunnel; 9,200 to 11,200 feet.

Location: West of Rollinsville on CR 16, west of CO 119 south of Nederland.

Features: An old railroad grade, now a rough 2WD road.

Mammoth Basin NFSR 176 / Mammoth Gulch Road (County Road 4N)

Length & Elevation: >25 miles; 8,500 to 12,000 feet.

Location: Take CO 119 south from Nederland to Rollinsville, turn west on CR 16 (Moffat or Rollins Pass Road) to Tolland. Head south on County Road 4N (Mammoth Gulch Road) for 1.5 miles to NFSR 176, then west on NFSR 176.

Features: A network of roads, from difficult 4WD roads to rough 2WD roads.

West Magnolia Road and Trail System

Length & Elevation: >10 miles; 8,400 to 8,800 feet.

Location: From Nederland, take CO 119 south and turn right onto CR 132 W (Magnolia Drive). A trail and road network weaves through the area. Stay on designated routes and respect private land.

Features: A maze of roads and trails. A map of the area is recommended.



For More Information:

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