

Hiking

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service
White River National Forest
Sopris Ranger District

Date-10/25/96
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CARBONATE CREEK TRAIL, #1971: IN MAROON BELLS/SNOWMASS WILDERNESS

Length: 7.0/11.2 mi/km

Elevation Gain: 2,000, 4,100 ft. at pass

Beginning Elev: 8,000 ft.

USGS Map(s): Marble and Snowmass Mtn.

Difficulty: Difficult

Use: Moderate

End Elev: 11,000, 12,100 ft. at pass

ACCESS: Travel south on Hwy 133 for 25 miles past Carbondale to the Marble turnoff. Turn left onto County road 3, continue to the community of Marble and park behind the Beaver Lake Lodge at the trailhead.

NARRATIVE: The first 1 1/2 miles travels through private property to the stream crossing, so please stay on the trail. The trail gets steep after the stream crossing for a 1/2 mile, then moderate until just before the pass. At the crossing the trail makes a sharp turn to right and goes uphill before a second, smaller stream. After the pass it is a steep descent to Arkansas Mtn. Trail. It is 7 miles to this junction. From here you can loop back along Arkansas Mtn. trail, which joins back into Carbonate about a mile after the trailhead. This trail also connects with the North Lost trail. This trail has various vegetation at first and then mostly aspen and meadows with lots of wildflowers and spectacular views of the Raggeds Wilderness Area.

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. This trail passes into the Maroon Bell-Snowmass Wilderness and certain regulations must be followed to preserve this beautiful area.

- **DOGS MUST BE LEASHED** out of consideration for others and wildlife
- Trash - **PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!**
- **BEAR CANISTERS REQUIRED** for all overnight visitors. Approved bear canisters must be capable of holding all scented items (food, toiletries, dog food, garbage, etc.) and should be stored on the ground, out of sight and no less than 100 ft. away from any camp.
- 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.
- **No fires above 10,800 ft.** Lightweight camp stoves are recommended.
- 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.