



The Swampy Pass area is an especially scenic one, with well marked and consistent trails averaging only a 7% slope. Water sources and camping sites are no problem. This area offers the backpacker and horseback rider great opportunities for an overnight trip in conjunction with the Lowline Trail #438 and the Cliff Creek Trail #840. The trail is within the West Elk Wilderness.

After diverging from the Lowline Trail #438, the trail rises moderately toward Swampy Pass. The trail winds through open stands of aspen and spruce. As the trail nears Swampy Pass, the views of the Anthracite Range are very good.

**Don't forget your camera!**



**Be prepared for inclement weather at all times. Familiarize yourself with the area.**



**Trail Ethics:**

**The Swampy Pass Trail is maintained for foot & horseback travel. Please don't cut across switchbacks or create new trails.**



**Motors & Machines:**

**Motorized vehicles and bicycles are not allowed on the Swampy Pass Trail or in the Wilderness Area.**



**Drinking Water:**

**DO NOT drink water directly from a river or stream. Water needs to be treated first by either filtering, boiling for at least 10 minutes or treating with iodine tablets.**



**Multiple use:**

As you use this area you may notice that the Forest is managed for a broad range of uses. Recreation use alone includes hiking, horseback riding, hunting, snowmobiling and sightseeing. In addition, the vegetation in the Forest requires some form of management. Timber harvest and livestock grazing are both forms of land management you may encounter while using this area. The livestock grazing on this area is managed in a very progressive and specific manner. The fences and gates that you may see are critical to managing the livestock and meeting the resource objectives that are planned for this area. Please close all gates that you open as you travel through the area. Controlling the livestock in the manner that we have planned is important.



**Please don't litter!**



# Swampy Pass Trail

## #439

Total Length 5.25 Miles  
0.61 Miles on the Paonia R. D.  
4.64 Miles on the Gunnison R.D.



View of Storm Ridge  
Photo taken by Paonia RD Ranger

**Gunnison National Forest x  
Paonia Ranger District**



**For any questions or comments please contact:  
Paonia Ranger District  
403 N. Rio Grande Ave., P.O. Box 1030  
Paonia, CO 81428  
Phone: (970) 527-4131 Fax: (970)527-4151 or  
E-Mail: lbroyles@fs.fed.us or vullrey@fs.fed.us**



# Swampy Pass Trail #439



**Trail Beginning:** Trail starts at the intersection with the Lowline Trail #438.

**Trail Ending:** Trail ends on the Gunnison District at the Swampy Pass Trailhead.

**Access #1:** From Paonia travel east on Hwy 133 for 16 miles. Turn right onto Gunnison C.R. 12, Kebler Pass Road. Travel about 19 miles on C.R. 12 to Horse Ranch Park. Follow Cliff Creek Trail #840 until it intersects with the Lowline Trail #438. This will intersect with the Swampy Pass Trail #439.

**Access #2:** Trail #438 starts 6 miles Northwest of Baldwin on the Gunnison Ranger District. Trail starts five miles south of Swampy Pass at Castle Creek.

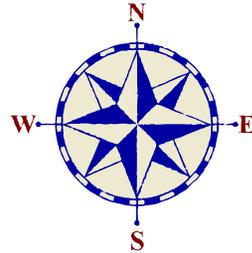
**Access #3:** Trail #439 may be reached by the Beckwith Pass Trail #842 which starts at Lost Lake Campground. It intersects with the Cliff Creek Trail #840 and the Lowline Trail #438.

**Use:** Foot and Horse

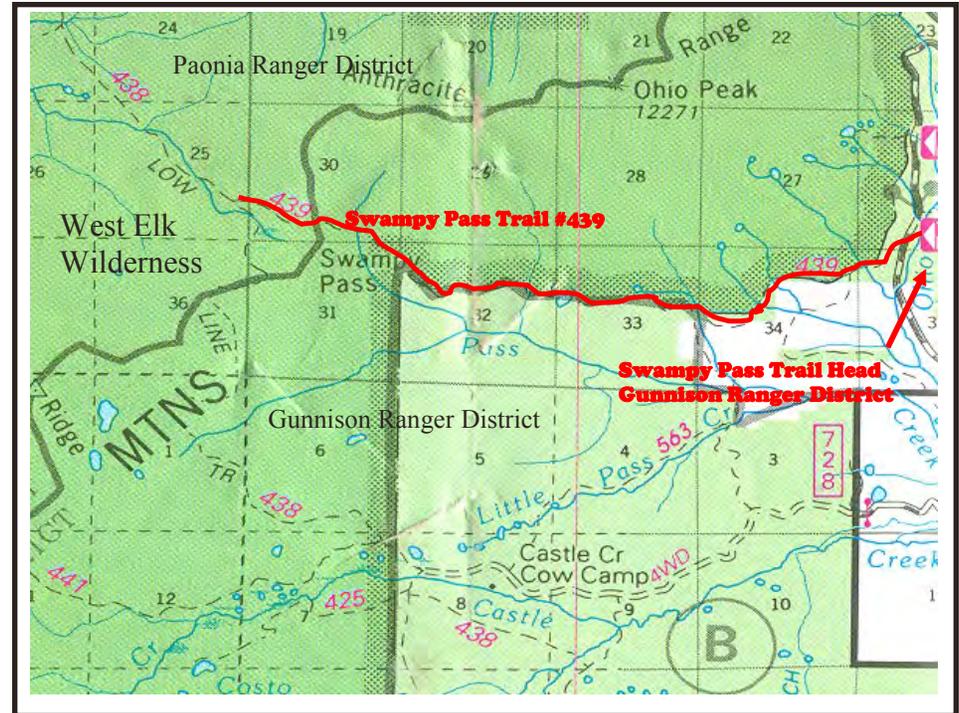
**Recommended Seasons:**

Spring Summer Fall Winter

**USGS quad maps:** Anthracite Range



**Fire Safety:**  
Check in with your local Forest Service office to see if fire bans are in effect

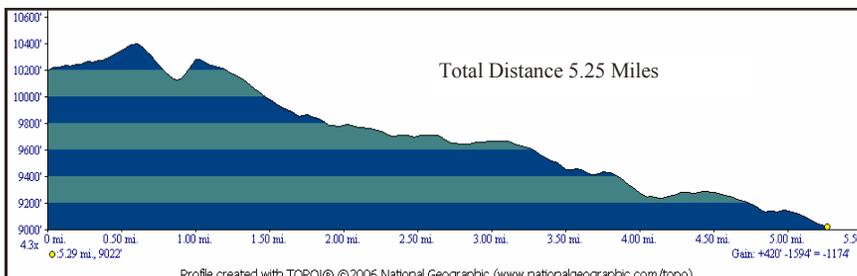


## Dispersed Camping

Finding a site to camp in remote areas or in relative solitude has become a popular form of camping throughout the Forest. Dispersed camping is permitted in most areas of the Forest. Recreation maps are available at all local Forest Service offices and personnel can answer questions on specific sites. Camping in undeveloped areas requires more from the camper to help keep the site in the condition in which it was found. If you Pack it in-Pack it out!



## Elevation Profile:



### Principles of Leave No Trace:

1. Plan Ahead & Prepare
2. Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

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