

Hiking

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service
White River National Forest
Sopris Ranger District

Date-1997
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EAST FORK/WEST MAROON PASS, #1970: IN MAROON BELLS/SNOWMASS WILDERNESS

Length: 3.5/5.6 mi/km **Difficulty:** moderate
Elevation Gain: 1,960 ft. **Use:** heavy
Beginning Elev: 10,520 ft. **End Elev:** 12,480 ft.
USGS Map(s): Snowmass Mtn. and Maroon Bells

Trailhead starts at LAT/LONG: 39.01.28.8N/107.03.00.2W
UTM: 0322531E, 4321305N

ACCESS: Travel south on Hwy 133 for 25 miles past Carbondale to County Road 3 and take the Marble turn to the left. Drive through Marble and past Beaver Lake. The road begins to head uphill and passes over shale rock - you'll need 4WD from here. About 1 mile outside of Marble there is a fork in the road. Take Road #314 to the right. The road immediately heads downhill. It is about 5 1/2 miles to Crystal City. Pass Crystal and continue uphill, bearing right at the next fork. Travel about 5 more miles and past Schofield Park to the trailhead parking on your left. *This road is an extremely dangerous 4 wheel drive road and should be attempted only by the most experienced drivers!* You can also access the trailhead from the Crested Butte side, which is a much easier drive.

NARRATIVE: This trail is heavily used by hikers going from Aspen to Crested Butte. The first 3 miles of this trail are easy and pass through beautiful meadows filled with wild flowers. The last half mile to the pass is more difficult. This trail connects with Hasley Basin, Frigid Air Pass and West Maroon Pass. There are breath-taking views at the passes.

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.