

Aspen Ranger District
806 W. Hallam
Aspen, CO 81611
(970) 925-3445—Voice
(970) 925-5277—Fax



United States Department of Agriculture



HIKING

SMUGGLER MTN.-WARREN LAKES #131

Length: 6.3 miles one-way (10.1 km)

Difficulty: Difficult

Trail Use: Heavy first 1 1/2 miles; low to Warren Lakes

Beginning Elevation: 7,900 feet (2408 m)

Ending Elevation: 10,700 feet (3261 m)

USGS Map(s): Aspen

DAY/BACKPACKING OVERVIEW: Smuggler Road is heavily used by mountain bikers, runners and hikers. It provides a short (1 1/2 mile) work-out with great views of Aspen, which makes it very popular. From Smuggler Road you can also access Hunter Creek, Van Horn Park, and Lenado.

ACCESS: Travel east on Highway 82 into Aspen; turn left (north) onto Mill Street, travel 1/4 mile and turn right after the bridge onto Gibson. Follow Gibson 1/8 mile to a "y" intersection and bear left onto South Avenue. Turn right onto Park Circle and follow it for 1/8 mile to the Smuggler Mountain Road on the left. There is parking on the right.

NARRATIVE: Smuggler Road is a fairly well maintained 4WD road. It immediately begins a steep ascent. The road switchbacks up Smuggler with views of Aspen below. The switchbacks get longer and in about 1 1/2 miles the road curves behind Smuggler Mountain. There is a short steep path on the right leading to a platform which is good for viewing Aspen. To continue to Warren Lakes, keep straight on the road (left goes to Hunter Creek). Go straight again past the next left, the road becomes a more rugged 4WD road and continues to climb steeply. At the 2 1/2 mile mark there are some communication disks on the right. The road becomes even steeper until about the 3 mile mark and then it flattens. Soon the road becomes level with only brief steep sections until reaching the Forest Service bulletin board at the 6 mile mark. The road continues a short distance farther to the gate at Warren Lakes. **Beyond the gate is Wilderness; please respect this and enter only on foot. Motorized vehicles are prohibited in the Wilderness.**

ETHICS/REGULATIONS: The Smuggler Mountain Road is a non-wilderness trail. Please, educate yourself about hiking ethics and the following rules:

- * Out of consideration for others and wildlife - **DOGS MUST BE ON A LEASH.**
- * **SANITATION** - bury human waste 100 feet from water and 6 inches in the soil.
- * No camping, no campfires
- * Please respect the land and rights of others!

PACK IT IN—PACK IT OUT!! LEAVE NO TRACE!!

This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The White River National Forest suggests purchasing a topographical trail map prior to your hiking trip.