



U. S. Department of Agriculture
Dillon Ranger District
680 Blue River Parkway
Silverthorne, CO 80498
(970) 468-5400



Wheeler National Recreation Trail #39

Difficulty: MODERATE TO DIFFICULT

Trail Use: Moderate

Length: 9 miles

Elevation: The trailhead on the McCullough Gulch Road is at 11,080. The parking area on Highway 91 is at 9,760. The highest point on the trail is at 12,600.

Elevation Gain: South to north - 2,840 feet, north to south - 1,520

Open In Winter To: X-C SKIING, SNOWSHOEING

Open In Summer To: HIKING, HORSE, MTN. BIKING

Access #1: Copper Mountain

- From I-70, take Exit 195 (Copper Mountain and Leadville, CO 91). Follow Highway 91 across the I-70 over pass.
- Continue on Highway 91 through the intersection and turn left into the Far East Parking Lot. At the far end of the lot on the left you will see parking signs for the Colorado Trail (Wheeler NRT).
****Parking is only allowed here during the summer.**

Access #2: McCullough Gulch Road

- From I-70 take Exit 203, Frisco / Breckenridge, and travel south on Hwy 9 toward Breckenridge.
- Continue through Breckenridge and travel approximately 7.4 miles on Hwy 9 through the town of Blue River. Turn right onto Blue Lakes Road (FDR 850).
- Travel 0.1 miles and turn right onto McCullough Gulch Road (FDR 851). Continue past the Quandary Peak trailhead for approximately 0.5 miles. At the fork, turn right onto County Rd 852. Proceed about 0.5 miles to the trailhead at the sharp left turn in the road.

General Information:

- The Wheeler National Recreation Trail leads from McCullough Gulch, south of Breckenridge, over the Tenmile Range to Copper Mountain. It can be accessed from either end, or from the Spruce Creek or Crystal Trails.
- The trail travels through a variety of ecosystems including lodgepole, spruce and fir forest; along with alpine tundra.
- Dog owners - Please be considerate of other trail users. Keep your dog in sight and when you encounter others, call the dog to your side until they pass. Use a stick to remove dog feces from the trail.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS INTENDED TO BE A GENERAL GUIDE ONLY, NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES.

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