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United States Department of Agriculture



4WD

LINCOLN CREEK ROAD #106

Length: 11 miles one-way (17.7 km)

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Heavy to Grizzly Reservoir; Moderate to Ruby

Beginning Elevation: 9,785 feet (2982 m)

Ending Elevation: 11,400 feet (3475 m)

USGS Map(s): Independence Pass, NY Peak

ATTRACTIONS/CONSIDERATIONS: The first 6 miles to Grizzly Reservoir are fairly accessible and attract people of all interests. There is good fishing, picnicking, hiking, mountain biking, camping, swimming and even sun bathing along this section of the road. It is heavily used on weekends by all user groups. The section of road from Grizzly Reservoir to the ghost town of Ruby is much less traveled and suitable only for hiking, mountain biking and 4WD. Ruby consists of a few old buildings in an advanced state of decay, and is situated in an open basin with tundra like terrain. Although there is no sign of a road beyond Ruby, traces of an old wagon trail over the Continental Divide only a mile to the east of the ruins can be detected. Two small lakes, Anderson and Petroleum, are short hikes from the road to Ruby. It is recommended that you start your trip early; thunderstorms are frequent in the afternoon.

ACCESS: Access to Lincoln Creek Road is located 11 miles southeast of Aspen on the right side of Highway 82.

NARRATIVE: The road crosses a bridge and heads downhill past Lincoln Gulch campground. The road rolls up and down with some steep uphill that level out on top. The road follows Lincoln Creek with an uphill/downhill pattern to Grizzly Reservoir at the 6 mile mark. To continue to the ghost town of Ruby stay on the main road which curves to the southeast of the reservoir and past Portal Campground. The road climbs easily to the ruins of an old mining cabin at the 9 mile mark. The road forks in another 1/2 mile-- take the left fork (the right fork leads to the Petroleum and Anderson Lakes trailhead). The ghost town of Ruby is a short distance before the road ends.

ETHICS/REGULATIONS: Motorized vehicles are not allowed within adjacent Wilderness Areas. Before you go out, check into available routes, their conditions, ownership of land, posted areas, regulations that apply and the following rules:

- * Be sure your machine is as quiet as possible.
- * Avoid wetlands, streams, and steep hills where your tracks may cause damage.
- * **Sanitation** - Bury human waste 100 feet from water and 6 inches in the soil.
- * Avoid running over young trees, shrubs and grasses--**Stay on established routes!**
- * Ford streams at designated sites only.

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 4WD trip.