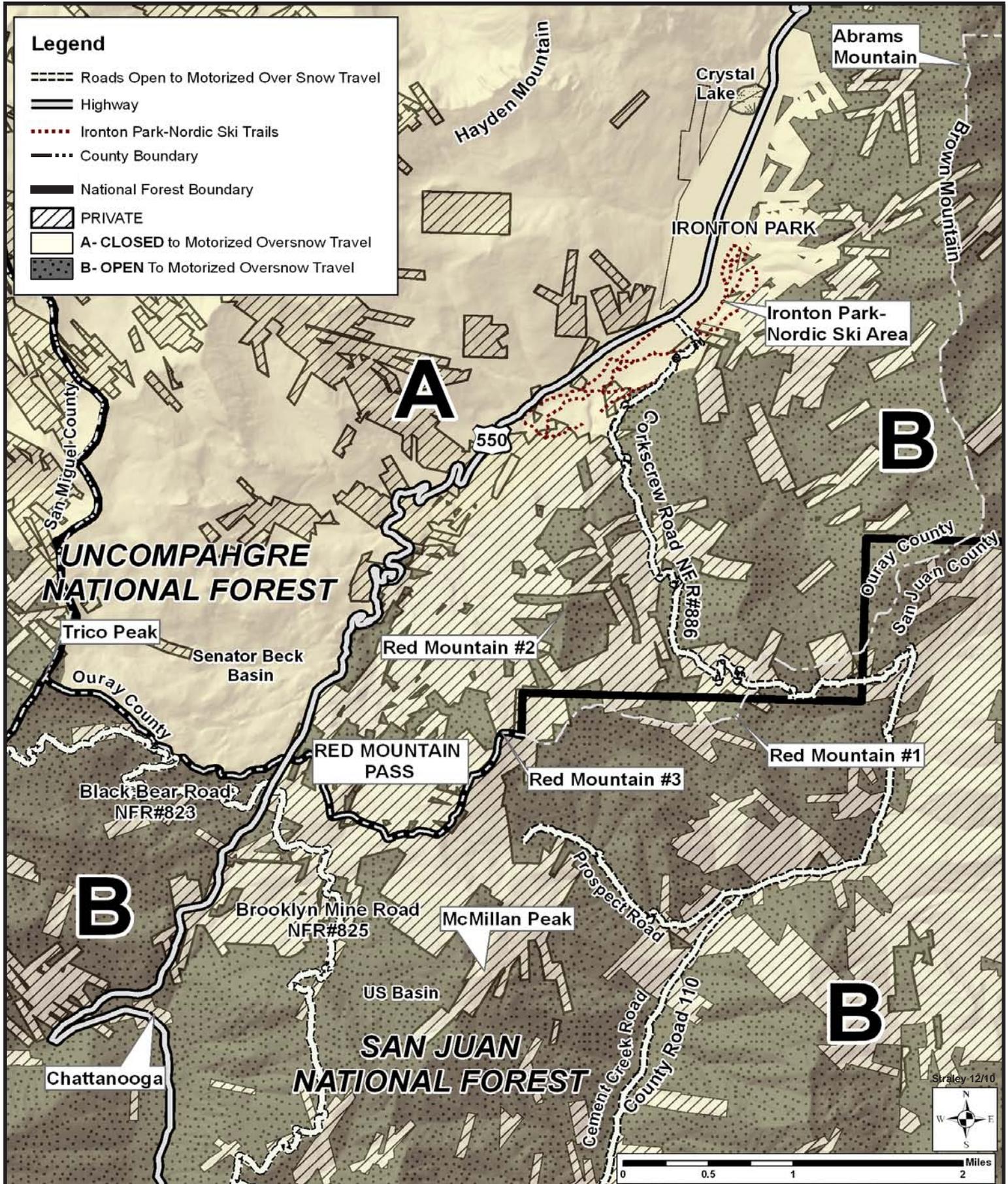




RED MOUNTAIN RECREATION AREA WINTER TRAVEL MAP



Welcome!

The Red Mountain Winter Recreation Area is located in the San Juan Mountains along the spectacular San Juan Scenic Byway (Highway 550) between Ouray and Silverton, Colorado. Elevations range from 8,900 feet at the base of Engineer Mountain Road to well over 13,000 at the summits of several surrounding mountains. This rugged landscape of alpine tundra and forested canyons also boasts a rich mining history with many historic sites.

Highway 550 is plowed from Ouray to Silverton and is passable to most vehicles. However, this road can be very dangerous during and immediately after winter storms. Use extreme caution! Parking is very limited along the highway. Please avoid creating hazards by only parking where you can pull completely off the roadway. **Motorized travel is only permitted where shown on the reverse.**

There is no fee or permit required to use the area on this guide. Please register, where a box is provided, and help ensure safe and enjoyable experiences for all by observing the following:

- 1) Do not enter private property or closed areas.
- 2) Respect other users and obey travel restrictions.
- 3) Pack it in, pack it out!
- 4) Yield to skiers and anyone coming downhill.
- 5) Do not disturb wildlife. They must conserve energy to survive winter.

Both resident and non-resident snowmobiles must be registered to use public lands in Colorado. Registrations may be purchased from:

Colorado State Parks
303-791-1920
parks.state.co.us

Ridgway State Park
970-626-5822
parks.state.co.us/Parks/ridgway

Snowmobile Dealerships in Montrose & Durango
Some Local Businesses in Silverton
Local US Forest Service Offices (Resident Only)

Important Contacts

Ouray County Sheriff
970-325-7272
ouraycountyco.gov/sheriff.html

San Juan County Sheriff
970-387-5531
sheriffsjc.com

Avalanche Info Center
970-247-8187
avalanche.state.co.us/index.php

San Juan National Forest
970-884-2512
www.fs.fed.us/r2/sanjuan

Thank You For Your Cooperation

Understanding the Risks

Winter travel in the backcountry has inherent risks associated with weather, snow conditions, and terrain. The Red Mountain Winter Recreation Area is vast, rugged, and far from town. Dangerous situations can arise very suddenly and help may take a long time to arrive or locate you. **You are responsible for your own safety -- be prepared!**

Avalanche conditions may be encountered at any time throughout the much of this area. Learn to read the snow, get an avalanche forecast, and learn to use and carry proper avalanche equipment, such as a transceiver, probe pole, and shovel.

Hypothermia is the greatest threat to winter travelers in the backcountry. When conditions are right, it can overtake you very quickly and is potentially deadly. Stay warm and dry at all times!

Here are some basic safety tips that may help you avoid trouble in the backcountry:

- 1) Dress in unrestrictive layers made of synthetics or wool. Never wear cotton. Add or subtract layers to remain dry and warm.
- 2) Keep an eye on the weather. Winter weather is extremely variable and potentially dangerous. Leave when storms threaten.
- 3) Carry adequate food and water. Eat and drink to maintain body temperature.
- 4) Do not exceed your abilities, fitness level, or equipment capabilities.
- 5) Travel with friends and inform someone at home of your plans.
- 6) Learn to recognize and avoid historic mining and avalanche prone areas.
- 7) Wear sunglasses and sunscreen. Reflected sunlight can burn badly.
- 8) Pack extra clothing and a survival kit with essentials like a lighter, compass, whistle, chemical warmers, and an emergency shelter.

RED MOUNTAIN

WINTER RECREATION AREA

SNOWMOBILING

RECREATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDE



Ouray Ranger District
2505 S. Townsend Avenue
Montrose, CO 81401
(970) 240-5300
www.fs.fed.us/r2/gmug



US Department of Agriculture
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre,
& Gunnison National Forests