

# How To Use This Guide

Your Western Slope Trails Guide is designed to let you know where trails are and what types of activities are suitable or allowed. For more information about a specific trail, call the local trails administrator listed.

**EASY TRAILS:** Flat, smooth, and most are suitable for use by persons with disabilities.

**MODERATE TRAILS:** Changes in elevation, natural soil surface, suitable for the average person with some trail experience.

**DIFFICULT TRAILS:** May involve strenuous climbs and high elevations.

## THE STATE TRAILS PROGRAM

Since its establishment in 1971, the State Trails Program of Colorado State Parks has been active in encouraging trail development. The State Trails Master Plan is an inventory of Colorado's trail system and now guides the Colorado Greenway Project which funds local trail construction using Colorado Lottery proceeds and other funding. Since 1983, the program has provided more than \$11.5 million for more than 303 trail projects. The Trails Program also aids local communities and citizens' groups with technical assistance, trail planning, and coordination with other agencies.

## STATE PARKS INFORMATION

Colorado State Parks  
1313 Sherman St., Room 618  
Denver, CO 80203 (303) 866-3437  
www.coloradoparks.org

## TRAILS ON FEDERAL PUBLIC LANDS

In addition to building trails in Colorado's communities, the Colorado Lottery provides funding for a wide variety of trails work on our federal public lands. These "backcountry" trails include foot, horse, and bicycling routes. Lottery funding most often goes to support the efforts of volunteers to sustain this network of trails. Other improvement projects include bridges, trailheads, and interpretive facilities. Visitor maps for each of the national forests can be purchased at Forest Service offices, bookstores, sporting goods stores, and by mail from Visitor Map Sales (303) 275-5350. To visit some of the National Forests and Bureau of Land Management areas where the Lottery is helping improve trail opportunities, contact the following offices for trail information:

### Grand Mesa/Uncompahgre/Gunnison National Forests

2250 Hwy 50, Delta, CO  
81416 (970) 874-6600

### San Juan National Forest,

701 Camino Del Rio, Rm. 301  
Durango, CO 81301  
(970) 247-4874

### White River National Forest

Forest Supervisor's Office  
9th & Grand, P.O.  
Box 948, Glenwood Springs, CO 81602  
(970) 945-2521

### Pike/San Isabel National Forests

1920 Valley Drive, Pueblo, CO 81008  
(719) 545-8737

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

### Grand Junction Field Office

2815 H Rd.  
Grand Junction, CO 81506  
(970) 244-3000

### Glenwood Springs Field Office

50629 Hwys. 6 & 24  
P.O. Box 1009  
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602  
(970) 947-2800  
Fax (970) 947-2829

### Gunnison Field Office

216 N. Colorado  
Gunnison, CO 81230  
(970) 641-0471,  
Fax (970) 641-1928

### San Juan Field Office

15 Burnett Court  
Durango, CO 81230  
(970) 247-4874,  
Fax (970) 247 1375

### Uncompahgre Field Office

2505 S. Townsend Avenue  
Montrose, CO 81401  
(970) 240-5300  
Fax (970) 240-6357

### Little Snake Field Office

455 Emerson Street,  
Craig, CO 81625,  
(970) 826-5000,  
Fax (970) 826-5002

## Grand Junction/ Mesa County Trails

### **1 Redlands Parkway**

Easy–Hike, Bike

Trail access at intersection of River Rd. and Redlands Pkwy. (at Jr. Service League Park). Parkland along Colorado River, wildlife, Riggs Hill paleontological site at south end of Pkwy.

### **2 Colorado River Trail/Blue Heron Section**

Easy–Hike, Bike, Horse

Parallels the Colorado River. Trailheads at Redlands Pkwy. at River Rd. and at Hwy 340 at River Rd. Handicapped-accessible fishing pier. Access to Blue Heron Lake.

### **3 Colorado River Trail/Riverside Trail section**

Easy–Hike, Bike

Ramp under Hwy 340 to Riverside Park. Link to W. Main St. and downtown shopping mall via underpass crossing railroad. Part of the Colorado River Trail.

### **4 Broadway Trail**

Easy–Walk, Bike

Trail begins downtown and crosses Colorado River, continuing along Hwy 340. Views of river, shopping, access to bike route to Colorado National Monument.

### **5 Ridges Pathway System**

Easy–Walk, Bike

Trail begins at Hwy 340 at Ridges Blvd., passes through parkland along stream to Gardner Lake. Side trails through subdivision. Geologic interest.

### **6 Colorado River Trail/Audubon & Connected Lakes Sections**

Easy–Hike, Bike, Horse

Part of the Colorado River Trail. Paved trail through cottonwood groves, nature preserve, parallels Redlands Canal. Trailhead access at Broadway/Hwy 340 west of shopping center; E. Rd.; west end of Dike Rd.; and Greenbelt Dr. at Redlands Pkwy. Birdwatching, riparian wildlife habitat.

### **7 Colorado River Trail/River Road Section**

Easy–Walk, Hike, Bike

From Redlands Pkwy. along River Rd. to the City of Fruita and Welcome Center.

### **8 Colorado River Trail/Watson Island Section**

Easy–Walk, Hike, Bike

1-mile loop around the 28-acre Watson Island. Trailhead at 7th St. and Struthers. Trail continues North under 5th St. and railroad. Also south through undeveloped parkland, then across river to Eagle Rim Park.

#### **for more information:**

City of Grand Junction Parks and Recreation Dept.,  
1340 Gunnison Ave., Grand  
Junction, CO 81501

(970) 244-1542

Grand Junction/Mesa County Riverfront Commission,  
P.O. Box 2477, Grand  
Junction, CO 81502 (970) 245-0045

Colorado River State Park,

361 32 Rd., Clifton, CO 81520 (970) 434-3388

[www.coloradoparks.org](http://www.coloradoparks.org)

## Backcountry Mtn. Bike Trails

### 9 Kokopelli's Trail

Difficult–Mtn. Bike

Grand Junction to Moab, Utah. The trail is on BLM land that is remote with no facilities or water.

### 10 Paradox Trail

Difficult–Mtn. Bike

Connects Kokopelli's Trail to the Tabeguache Trail by way of the Dolores River and the Uncompahgre Plateau.

### 11 Tabeguache Trail

Difficult–Mtn. Bike

Grand Junction to Montrose. Weaves through the canyons, mesas, and highlands of the Uncompahgre Plateau from Grand Junction to Montrose.

### for more information:

Colorado Plateau Mountain-Bike Trail Association (COPMOBA)

P.O. Box 4602,

Grand Junction, CO 81502 or

BLM Grand Junction Resource Area office. For free maps enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

## Colorado National Monument Trails

All long and short trails accessible via Monument's 23-mile Rim Rock Dr. with some additional trailheads along boundary, as noted below.

Backpacking, campground, Visitor Center, picnic areas, scenic overlooks, interpretive features, and natural and human history interest. No bikes allowed on trails.

### 12 Monument Canyon Trail

Easy/Difficult–Hike, Horse

Lower trailhead off Hwy 340, 3 miles east of West Entrance. Coke Ovens Trail forms short spur off upper Monument Canyon Trail.

### 13 Liberty Cap Trail

Moderate/Difficult–Hike, Horse, Ski

Lower trailhead off Wildwood Dr., near Riggs Hill paleontological site. Skiing allowed on upper part of trail only.

### 14 Black Ridge Trail

Moderate–Hike, Horse, Ski

One short, very steep grade at northern end.

### 15 Ute Canyon Trail Hike

Moderate/Difficult–Hike

Follows streambed in central drainage for most of route. Very steep grades at or near each end. Lower trailhead off Wildwood Dr. near Riggs Hill paleontological site.

### 16 No Thoroughfare Canyon Trail

Moderate–Hike

Two detours around waterfalls over difficult terrain. Constructed access at each end; otherwise follows central drainage. Upper trailhead off Little Park Rd. (Mesa County CS Rd.).

### 17 Old Gordon Trail Hike

Moderate–Hike, Horse

Steep grade near northern end.

### 18 Serpents Trail

Moderate–Hike

A most popular and accessible route. Only four miles from center of Grand Junction.

### 19 Otto's Trail

Easy/Moderate–Hike

### 20 Window Rock & Canyon Rim Trails

Easy–Hike

Connects campground and Visitor Center areas.

### 21 Alcove Natural Trail

Easy–Hike

Self-guiding nature trail. Guide booklets at trailhead or nearby Visitor Center.

### for more information:

Park brochure and trail map available at Visitor Center or from Colorado National Monument, Fruita, CO 81521 (970) 858-3617

## Montrose Trails

### 22 Montrose Trail System

Easy–Walk, Bike

Trail links along parks and drainage corridors through town.

### 23 Uncompahgre River Trail

Easy–Walk, Bike, Horse, Ski

Scenic trail along river on former narrow-gauge railroad grade. Park facilities at Riverbottom Park and at Ute Museum. The Uncompahgre Riverway trails are planned to extend 65 miles from Delta to Ouray.

#### for more information:

City of Montrose Parks Dept., 433 S. 1st St., Montrose, CO 81401 (970)240-1481

## Telluride Trails

### 24 Bear Creek Road

Moderate–Hike, Bike, Horse

Old country road that climbs gradually uphill for approximately 2 miles. A beautiful waterfall is at the end of the road.

### 25 River Corridor Trail

Easy–Hike, Ski

Trail adjacent to the San Miguel River which runs the length of town. Park facilities, access to ski area.

### 26 Judd Wibe Trail

Difficult–Hike, Bike

A Forest Service trail 2-3 feet wide leaving town and returning after a 2.5-mile loop. Very steep grade, but magnificent views.

#### for more information:

Town of Telluride Parks and Recreation,  
P.O. Box 397, Telluride, CO 81435  
(970) 728-3071

## Durango Trails

### 27 Animas Mountain Trail

Moderate/Difficult–Hike, Bike

Unpaved trail. Trail takes you to the Animas Valley Overlook.

### 28 College Rim Trail

Easy–Hike, Bike

Unpaved trail linking Centennial Trail to Lion's Den Trail. Beautiful views of surrounding meadows and the city of Durango.

### 29 Animas River Trail

Easy–Walk, Bike

Paved trail. Trail follows the beautiful Animas River and the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge line from 32nd St. south to the Durango Mall. Some short links of trail are not yet complete.

### 30 Lion's Den Trail

Moderate/Difficult–Hike, Bike

Unpaved trail. Trail takes you to the top of Fort Lewis Mesa, home of Fort Lewis College. Beautiful views of surrounding mountains and the City of Durango.

### 31 Centennial Trail

Easy/Moderate–Hike

Unpaved trail. Self-guided trail calls out significant vegetation, geology, and Durango features. Trail leads to the summit of Fort Lewis Mesa.

### 32 Durango Mountain Park

Easy/Difficult–Hike, Bike

Unpaved trail. Newly acquired 181 acres adjoins BLM and Division of Wildlife property. Abundance of birds and wildlife.

#### for more information:

City of Durango Parks and Recreation Dept.,  
949 E. 2nd Ave., Durango, CO 81301  
(970) 385-2950

## Glenwood Springs Trails

### 33 Red Mountain Trail

Moderate/Difficult–Hike,

Mtn. Bike, Horse, Ski Trailhead at end of W. 9th Dr. off Red Mountain Dr. Trail climbs 2000 feet. Spectacular views of the city and Roaring Fork Valley.

### 34 Scout Trail

Difficult–Hike, Mtn. Bike

Trailhead just north of east end of 8th St. at the information sign. Trail climbs 2500 feet to top of Lookout Mountain. Scenic views and picnic area at summit ties into network of trails shown on White River National Forest map. Part of the Historical Ute Trail.

### 35 Doc Holliday Trail

Easy/Moderate–Hike

Trailhead on Bennett St. and E. 12th St. at the information sign and bench. Trail climbs moderately to old cemetery with grave of Doc Holliday and overlooks Glenwood Springs.

### 36 Horseshoe Bend Trail

Easy–Hike, Bike

Trail begins at Vapor Caves east of Hot Springs Pool on 6th St. Trail is on former frontage road. Scenic section of Glenwood Canyon and Grizzly Creek. Fishing.

### 37 Glenwood Springs Rivertrail System

Easy–Walk, Bike, Horse

Trail begins in Two Rivers Park, then continues South along the Roaring Fork River to 23rd St..

#### for more information:

Glenwood Springs Parks Dept., 806 Cooper Ave., Glenwood Springs, CO 81601  
(970) 945-0448

## Delta Trails

### 38 Confluence Trail

Easy–Hike, Bike

Smooth crushed rock trail along the Gunnison and Uncompahgre Rivers. 5-mile trail system passing through a waterfowl site and around a 70-acre lake. Trail access at Confluence Park.

#### for more information:

City of Delta Parks and Recreation Dept.,  
530 Gunnison River Drive, Delta, CO 81416  
(970) 874-0923

## Highline Lake State Park

### 39 The Lake Trail

Easy–Hike, Mtn. Bike

3.5 mile loop around Highline Lake and Mac Mesa Lake. Excellent area for shore birds and waterfowl. Good access for fishing.

## The Colorado Trail

**40** This trail runs 480 miles from Denver to Durango, traversing seven National Forests and crossing the Continental Divide nearly a dozen times. Sponsored by the Colorado Trail Foundation and the U.S. Forest Service, most work has been done by volunteers. The route of the Colorado Trail follows older trails and jeep roads in the places with new construction to link it together into a continuous trail.

#### for more information:

For current trail construction projects and volunteer efforts, books, and maps:

Colorado Trail Foundation,  
710 10th St., Ste. 210, Golden CO 80401  
(303) 384-3729 Ext. 113.  
[www.coloradotrail.org](http://www.coloradotrail.org)