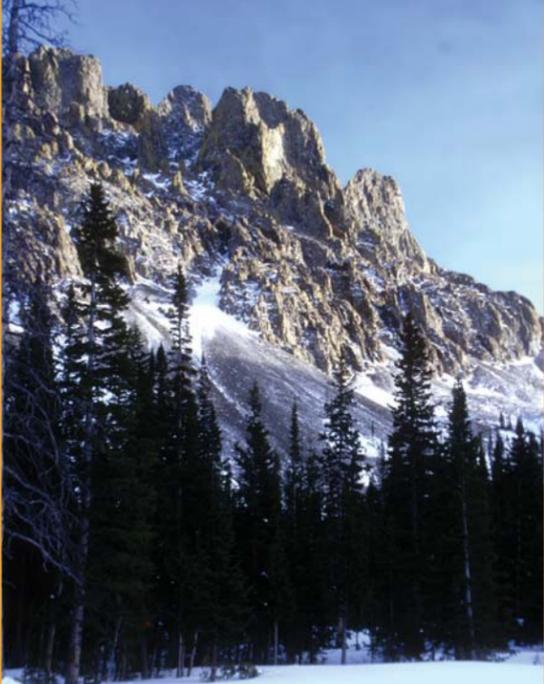




Colorado State Parks

STATE FOREST




WINTER RECREATION GUIDE

www.parks.state.co.us

Easy Trails for Beginning Skiers and Snowshoers

Gould Loop:

- Elevation Gain: 240 feet
- Distance: 6 miles (round trip)
- Parking: The Moose Visitor Center off of Highway 14

The Gould Loop is a groomed trail for non-motorized winter recreation. The trail leaves from the back door of the Visitor Center. The trail runs along side of the Michigan River through wooded sections and overlooks moose habitat. At Ranger Lakes, logging road toward meadows and the remains of an old logging camp. At Katie's Bridge you will re-cross the Michigan River and head back to the Moose Visitor Center.

Michigan Ditch Trail:

- Elevation Gain: 260 feet
- Distance: 6.5 miles (one way)
- Parking: Cameron Pass parking area

Cross Highway 14 to access the trail. The Michigan Ditch is the classic beginning trail on Cameron Pass, but this underestimates its beautiful scenery and ease of achieving remoteness. At the three-mile mark you will be faced with the decision to turn left up toward American Lakes (more strenuous and popular snowmobile route) or to continue along the ditch to Lake Agnes. At the five-mile mark, the ditch crosses some serious avalanche paths. Be aware of current conditions before crossing.

Grass Creek Trail:

- Elevation Gain: 400 feet
- Distance: 3.5 miles (one way)
- Parking: County Road 41 at the east end of Michigan Reservoir

In the Grass Creek Yurt parking area.

Intermediate Trails for Skiers and Snowshoers

Lake Agnes Trail:

- Elevation Gain: 1000 feet
- Distance: 2.5 miles (one way)
- Parking: Crags pullout off Highway 14 west of Cameron Pass.

This route is popular because of easy access, beautiful scenery and snowmobile closure. Ski/snowshoe a good road to the big meadow below the highway. Turn right, across a bridge and head up a steep road for 1.5 miles. You will pass the Nokhu and Agnes Creek Huts, which are available for rental through Never Summer Nordic (970) 482-9411. After reaching the Lake Agnes summer parking lot the lake area is for day use only, no winter camping is permitted.

Strenuous Trails for Skiers and Snowshoers

American Lakes Trail:

- Elevation Gain: 1520 feet
- Distance: 8.5 miles (one way)
- Parking: Cameron Pass parking area

After parking at the top of Cameron Pass, cross Highway 14 to the Michigan Ditch Trailhead. Continue to the three-mile mark and turn left. Above the Michigan Ditch, the trail rises through meadow and forest, eventually reaching timberline at 10,800 feet. Scenery is spectacular with views of the Nokhu Crags, Thunder Pass and Static Peak. Nearby slopes offer great skiing (watch out for avalanche danger). American Lakes is a popular snowmobile destination so expect to share the trail.

Bockman Loop Trail:

- Elevation Gain: 1230 feet
- Distance: 8.25 miles (round trip)
- Parking: County Road 41 at the entrance to the Bockman Campground road.

The first few miles of this ski/snowshoe are an easy glide with gradual elevation gain. The trail does not get steep until after .5 miles where it climbs 1,000 feet before descending towards Highway 14. Before reaching Highway 14, turn left on the Diamond Peaks Trail to loop back to Bockman. This trail is a popular groomed snowmobile route.

Montgomery Pass Trail:

- Elevation Gain: 2430 feet
- Distance: 6.5 miles (one way)
- Parking: County Road 41 at the entrance of the Bockman Campground road.

Ski or snowshoe about 1.75 miles along the Bockman Road, passing the campground, until you come to the turn off for Montgomery Pass. Go left and start to climb the 4.75 miles to the top of the pass where you can achieve excellent views of the surrounding area. Either continue on to the Blue Lake Trailhead on Highway 14 or return the way you came.

Emergency and Medical Facilities

First Aid is available at the Moose Visitor Center located along Highway 14 in Gould. A medical clinic is located in Walden, 20 miles west of the park. The nearest hospital is in Fort Collins or Laramie, WY.

For all emergencies, call 911 for assistance or contact a park ranger. The Jackson County Sheriff's Dept. can be reached at (970) 723-4242.

Be Prepared

Conditions in the mountains can change quickly. By being prepared, you will have a safer and more enjoyable experience.

- What to Bring:**
- First aid kit, including heat pack
 - Layers of clothing – outer shell and fleece, etc.
 - Extra clothes – dry socks, gloves, cap
 - High energy food / water
 - Knife / Multi-tool
 - Sun protection – glasses, lotion, hat
 - Map, compass / GPS
 - Flashlight and extra batteries
 - Common sense
 - Survival kit
 - A friend

This is not meant to be a complete list. These are the most basic things you will need to bring with you. Think about the activities you will be involved in and what you might need if your equipment fails.




Colorado State Parks

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56750 Highway 14
Walden, CO 80480
(970) 723-8366
E-mail: state.forest@state.co.us
www.parks.state.co.us

Snowmobile Trail Suggestions

Bull Mountain:

- Elevation Gain: 680 feet
- Distance: 4 miles
- Parking: Take your first left after the North Michigan/Bockman park entrance. Please do not park on the county road.

This trail is packed and groomed. The Bull Mountain Trail will take you through lodgepole forest to the Bockman Road parking lot.

- Custer Draw: groomed 4.5 mile connector to North Canadian Trail
- North Canadian: groomed 4.5 mile connector from Custer Draw to Bockman
- South Canadian: ungroomed 2.5 mile connector to Francisco Loop
- Francisco Loop: ungroomed 2.5 mile loop can be accessed by either the North or South Canadian trails.

Bockman Road:

- Elevation Gain: 1230 feet
- Distance: 8.25 miles
- Parking: In designated area off of County Road 41 at the turn off to Bockman Campground.

No snowmobiles are allowed on the county road so stay on the trails. You will have ample opportunity to ride open meadows here. Following the road will take you over Highway 14. This is a narrower section of trail with some sizable grade changes and great views from the top.

- Diamond Peaks: ungroomed 4.5 mile loop accessed from Bockman Trail. Expert riders only.

American Lakes:

- Elevation Gain: 1520 feet
- Distance: 7.5 miles
- Parking: Crags parking lot off Highway 14

The trail up to the basin is packed and groomed up to the Michigan Ditch. Be aware of two restricted areas adjacent to this trail. No snowmobiles are allowed in the Lake Agnes basin or on the Michigan Ditch Trail. This trail becomes increasingly strenuous as it climbs into the basin. Give yourself plenty of time to enjoy this beautiful area and be prepared for extreme and changeable weather. Use common sense. To reduce avalanche risk in the American Lakes area, avoid traveling near cornices or across steep, open slopes.

Montgomery Pass:

- Elevation Gain: 2430 feet
- Distance: 6.5 miles
- Parking: Designated parking lot exists along County Road 41

From the Bockman Road parking area you will pass the campground and cross the North Fork of the Michigan River. After approximately two miles, you will see the sign and an arrow directing you east. (If you're coming from the highway you will travel about four miles to reach this intersection.) From this point, the trail is narrow and climbs steeply to a gate at the top of Montgomery Pass along a well marked path. Use caution when riding across clear-cuts where debris is hidden and hard to navigate through.

Ruby Jewel Area:

- Difficulty: moderate to strenuous
- Distance: 8 miles (one way)

WD road. Nice bowl skiing below the lake. Good tree skiing below timberline. 4.5 miles to Margt's Knoll off the Ruby Jewel Trail. Excellent skiing off west and east aspects. Be aware and prepared for possible avalanche danger.

North Fork Canadian Area:

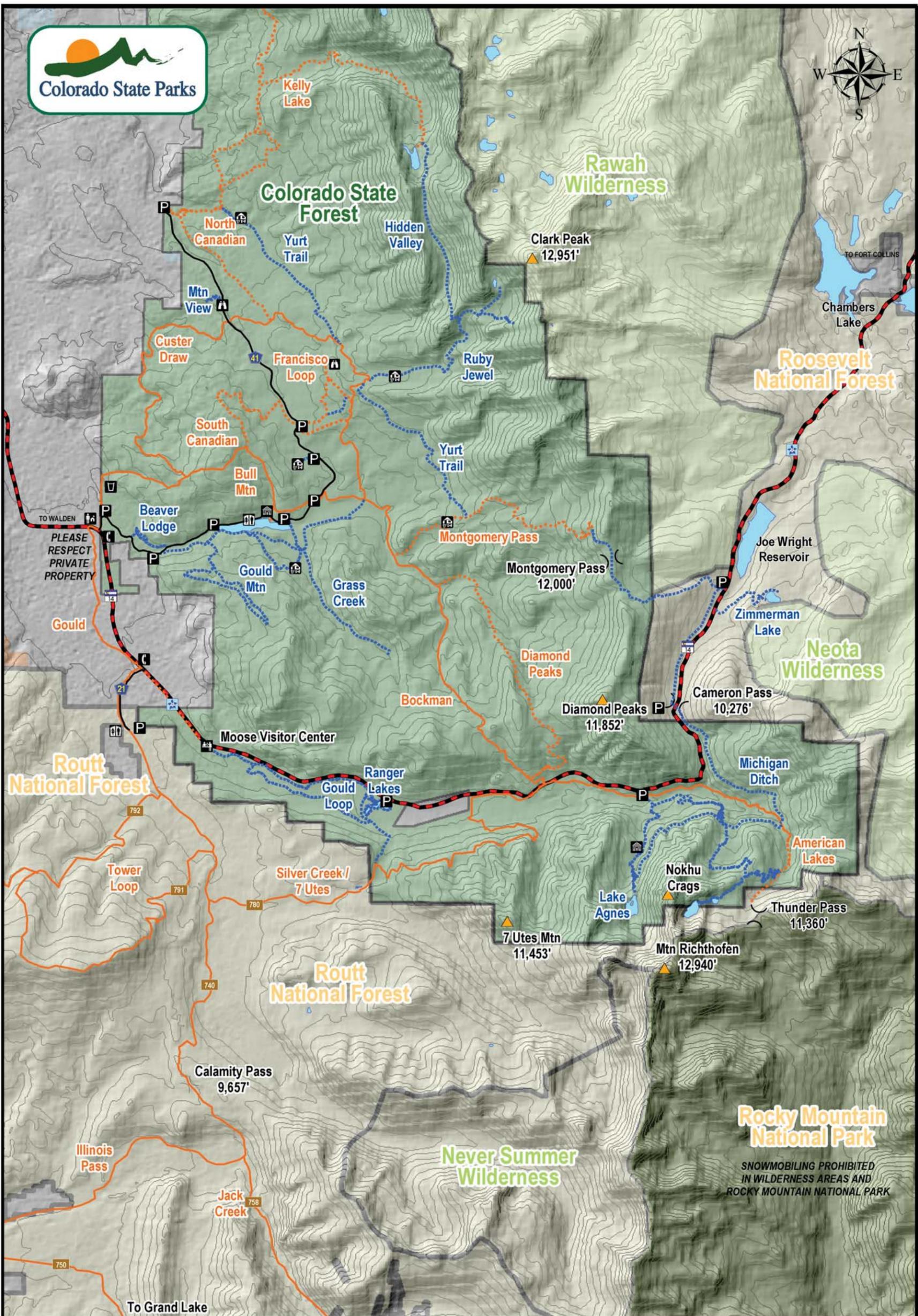
- Difficulty: easy to moderate
- Distance: 4.5 miles (one way)

Park at the end of County Road 41 and ski 4.5 miles to Jim's Hill and Rosie's Ridge. It may require some willow bashing to access these chutes, but well worth the effort.

American Lakes Area:

- Difficulty: moderate to strenuous
- Distance: 7.5 miles (one way)

Park along Highway 14 at Lake Agnes Road pullout or on top of Cameron Pass. The long ski/snowshoe accesses you into the American Lakes basin where great bowl skiing is available. Be aware that avalanche danger is present and that American Lakes is also a popular snowmobile destination as well.



State Forest State Park Winter Recreation



Contour Interval 50m

Map Scale: 1:80,000 1 inch equals 6,667 feet

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|------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Restroom | Water | Scenic Byway | Non-Motorized Trails |
| Entrance Station | Visitor Center | County Roads | Ungroomed |
| Outlook | Cabin/Hut | | Motorized Trails |
| Parking | Yurt | | Groomed |
| Pay Phone | | | Ungroomed |