

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR 2023 HIKING SCHEDULE

Rating: Hikes are rated **A** (easiest) through **E** (most difficult). A '**B-**' hike is easier than a '**B**' hike, whereas '**B+**' is more difficult or is longer than is typical for a hike of that rating. A rating in parentheses [e.g., (**C**)] indicates a hike of uncertain difficulty, and its rating is merely an estimate. Some hikes may have more than one rating, depending on distance traveled and its associated elevation gain (more gain = higher rating).

Approx. Mileage: Hike mileage is approximate and usually one-way for out-and-back hikes (return to same TH via the same route...i.e., double the mileage for a round-trip). Mileage followed by an asterisk (*) indicates the total length of a loop hike (return to same TH via a different route) or a through hike with two different THs, using either a car shuttle or key exchange. On out-and-back hikes you need not go the full distance. You may shorten the hike to whatever distance suits you or however far you can go by the turn-around time.

Elev. Gain in 100s of feet [e.g., **24** = 2400'] generally is the net gain from low point to high point, including hikes that lose elevation on the outbound leg [e.g., **- 8**] but regain it on the return leg. For hikes with multiple long ascents/descents, **Elev. Gain** reflects gross gain [e.g., 1200-600+1800 = **30** (gross) rather than **24** (net)].

For day hikes, our primary (**1°**) **Meeting Place** is where we meet in or near Glenwood Springs: **DH** – Dos Hermanos (Hwy 82, south of Spring Valley turnoff); **NN** – No Name (south frontage road, just west of I-70 Exit 119); **RF** – Roaring Fork Marketplace (across from REI); **MM** – Meadows Mall (south side, east of Chili's). For overnight trips, we meet where most of us are staying, unless alternative **Meeting Place(s)** are announced. Out-of-town **Meeting Places** for 2023 are: **FT**– Fruita, CO; **SV** – Silverton, CO; **SL** – Salida, CO.

Depart Time is when we promptly depart the primary **Meeting Place** listed on the **Hiking Schedule**, not when you arrive at the **Meeting Place**. You should arrive 10-15 min prior to departure to sign in with the recorder, arrange carpools and transfer gear. If you're late and haven't notified the Hike Leader, we'll leave without you.

For certain hikes, **Secondary (2°) Meeting Places** have been designated to rendezvous with up-valley or down-valley hikers. These **Meeting Places** are listed on the schedule as follows: **CD** – Carbondale old City Market (Main St. & 133), 0:15 after **RF** Depart Time; **TRR** – Two Rivers Road (Ruedi turnoff), 0:20 after **RF** Depart Time; **SM** – Old Snowmass Park & Ride, 0:30 after **RF** depart time; **NC**– New Castle (TBA), 0:10 after **MM** Depart Time; **RR** – Rifle Rest Area, 0:25 after **MM** Depart Time; **RC** – Rifle City Market, 0:30 after **MM** Depart Time. Other secondary meeting places may be designated from time to time, as appropriate.

Fuel\$ indicates the suggested per passenger contribution to the driver based on driving mileage and current fuel prices using an initial estimate of \$4.00/gallon. Periodic adjustments (up or down) may be necessary to reflect fluctuating fuel prices, which will be announced in advance or at the **Meeting Place** prior to departure. Due to lower fuel efficiency typical of 4WD vehicles, a 25% surcharge is applied for any hike requiring 4WD. An additional contribution for a car wash is recommended in case of muddy/dusty roads. For overnight trips, an appropriate allocation of expenses for the trip should be arranged between passenger(s) and their driver.

4WD: An 'X' in this column indicates that 4WD and/or high ground-clearance vehicles are necessary to reach the TH. If you own such a vehicle, please be prepared to drive on those days. An 'X' in parentheses [i.e., (X)] indicates that road conditions are uncertain or may vary with the weather (e.g., muddy/slick after rain or snow).

On All Hikes: Bring lunch, adequate water, rain gear, and sun protection. In spring and fall, as well as on high-altitude hikes, be prepared for snowy or muddy trails. Bring hat, gloves, windbreaker, and warm layers.

Hunting Seasons during our 2023 schedule include **archery** (9/2–9/30), **muzzleloader** (9/9–17), and **rifle** (moose 10/1–10/14; elk-only 10/14–18; and combined deer/elk 10/28–11/5). Also see our **Hiking Calendar**. For safety, wear bright orange or red those days, except where hunting is not permitted (e.g, National Parks).

Cancellations or other changes: If a hike is canceled or changed for any reason, you will be notified by email at least one hour prior to **Depart Time**. Contact Gerry Roehm at mungo69@comcast.net to join his email list. If you are uncertain as to the status of a hike, call the **Hike Leader** or Gerry Roehm (303) 807-8535. In the event a Wednesday day hike is canceled, it normally will be rescheduled one week later, weather permitting.