

DETAILED TRAIL MAPS

EAGLE LOOP **hiking only**

DESCRIPTION: Eagle Loop was constructed in large part by current and former members of the local Boy Scouts of America, many of whom have or will achieve Eagle Scout honors.

In addition to being just a fun hiking trail, Eagle Loop is planned as an educational trail where local school kids and others can come and learn from the interpretive signs and guided hikes and workshops.

A hiking only trail, Eagle Loop passes by an exceptionally large "grandfather" juniper tree as well as the original Government Springs, the spring source used to provide water to the Ute Indian agency in the late 19th century.

Eagle Loop trail is contained within the main stem of the Horseshy Creek drainage as it winds through three ponds and accepts several tributaries from upper elevations of the watershed. Horseshy Creek flows year round in this spot.

Canyonlands Eagle Loop



HEEBLE GROUND BACKCOUNTRY

NO motorized vehicles

DESCRIPTION: A century ago, Ranchers called this area the Heeble Ground and used it as a favorite high country summer pasture. Today it is available to Cornerstone owners and guests for quiet non-motorized off-trail exploration. With reservations, primitive camping is available in one of the tips of Ute Summer Camp or in a favorite tent spot in the aspen. Visitors are encouraged to travel off the trail and explore these hundreds of acres of aspen glades, a secluded spruce fir forest and grassy rolling meadows. Easy hiking, biking or exploration on snowshoes or backcountry touring skins are available via the Paxton Route from the Wrangler Stable or users can climb up the upper Bull Elk Trail from the Pond 4 Parking area.



Heeble Ground Backcountry



RULES of the ROAD

- RULES: La Sal Loop - Jeep Route**
- ✓ Hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians enjoy the La Sal Loop as well so everyone's speed **MUST BE KEPT LOW** - at Cornerstone there is no need for speed.
 - ✓ **ALL ATVs, JEEPING VEHICLES AND MOUNTAIN BIKES MUST STAY ON DESIGNATED TRAILS AT ALL TIMES. NO EXCEPTIONS.** Off-trail excursions by these modes of travel will almost certainly result in significant resource damage to your Cornerstone Open Space. So...turn off the motor, get out and do some off-trail exploring on foot or horseback. You could be amazed at what you find.
 - ✓ Please check in with Club Mercantile (977-8383) before you begin your tour on the La Sal Loop. This is a particularly remote part of the Cornerstone Backcountry. Radio signal is weak and cell phone coverage is spotty on the south side of Horseshy Ridge. There are vehicle size restrictions for jeeps. We would like you to let us know when you'll be out there - however you choose to travel.

La Sal Loop - Jeep Route

DESCRIPTION: La Sal Loop - Jeep Route - 1 hour ATV/Jeep loop without stopping... much. Allow more time for side trips, hikes, kayak, just sitting there staring at the view...

La Sal Loop - Jeep Route travels through a favorite wildlife viewing area. Exceptionally large herds of Elk use this country beginning late May until the snows move them to lower elevations in late autumn. Coyote, Black Bear, Mule Deer, Bobcat and Mountain Lion along with a vast array of birds frequent this area. Best times for wildlife viewing are at first morning light through mid-morning and at dusk.

At the marked Beaver Ponds pull out, take a side hike down to explore the working beavers and their ponds and wetland restoration (1 - 2 hour easy hike on primitive unmarked trails).

Jeep up the Ridgeline Cut-off and take a short easy walk over to the top of Cornerstone's only waterfall. The falls are actually part of the 19th century Paxton Ditch that was built to bring water to livestock on a neighboring ranch.

The Mountain Shrub habitat along most of the Loop provides a spectacular wildflower show in the spring and early summer. Watch for a particularly beautiful mixed blue and white variety of Lupine as well as Rocky Mountain Iris around the many willow areas and wet meadows. **REMEMBER: NO MOTORS IN THE MEADOWS! STAY ON MARKED TRAILS.**

Overnight trekkers can camp at Bull Elk Pond campsites with prior reservations. Check with Club Mercantile for availability. Sunsets are spectacular from this spot only to be rivaled by dawn the next morning.



La Sal Loop - Jeep Route



Cornerstone assumes no responsibility for accidents, injury or death occurring while using the Cornerstone trail system and amenities. Hiking in the Rocky Mountains presents inherent risks which require a great deal of caution, expertise or some luck can minimize. Please approach your hiking experience with good humor, good judgment and a calm, respectful attitude even in the face of towering mountains, curious wild animals, slipping rocks, falling thunderbolts, sneaking and walking west. Every hiker must ultimately assume responsibility for his or her own safety and survival out there. For the rest... there is, of course, no one to blame.

