

## January 10, 2021 RFVHC Survey Monkey Comments and Solutions

### We asked, and You answered!

In 2021, RFV Horse Council sponsored a Trail Survey for Hikers and Horseback Riders, with Questions about Trails & Equestrian Access to Parking in the Roaring Fork Valley.

#### **Q16 Into The Area of Redstone, Colorado**

**Directions:** Coal Basin & Coal Creek Road (FSR #307) (multi-users) Coal Basin is accessed from Highway 133, turn right at the Redstone Coke Ovens. To get to the trailhead from Redstone, travel 4 miles up Coal Creek Road (FSR #307) to a White River National Forest Service parking area and road closure. **Did you know** the old mine road is an up and back ride from the top of Coal Basin Road? The trail takes you through the old Mid Continent coal mining area. It's a steady climb on many reclaimed mining roads, so the platform is very wide and good for beginners, though grown-in and then mostly single track. From the single tracks there are meadows that you can explore. At around six miles, the trail ends and you return the way you came up. Avalanche Outfitters offer trail rides from May through October. Contact them for information or to book a ride at 970.963.1144



Coal Basin lunch ride with friends

Great views and two track trails allow riding side by side in many places

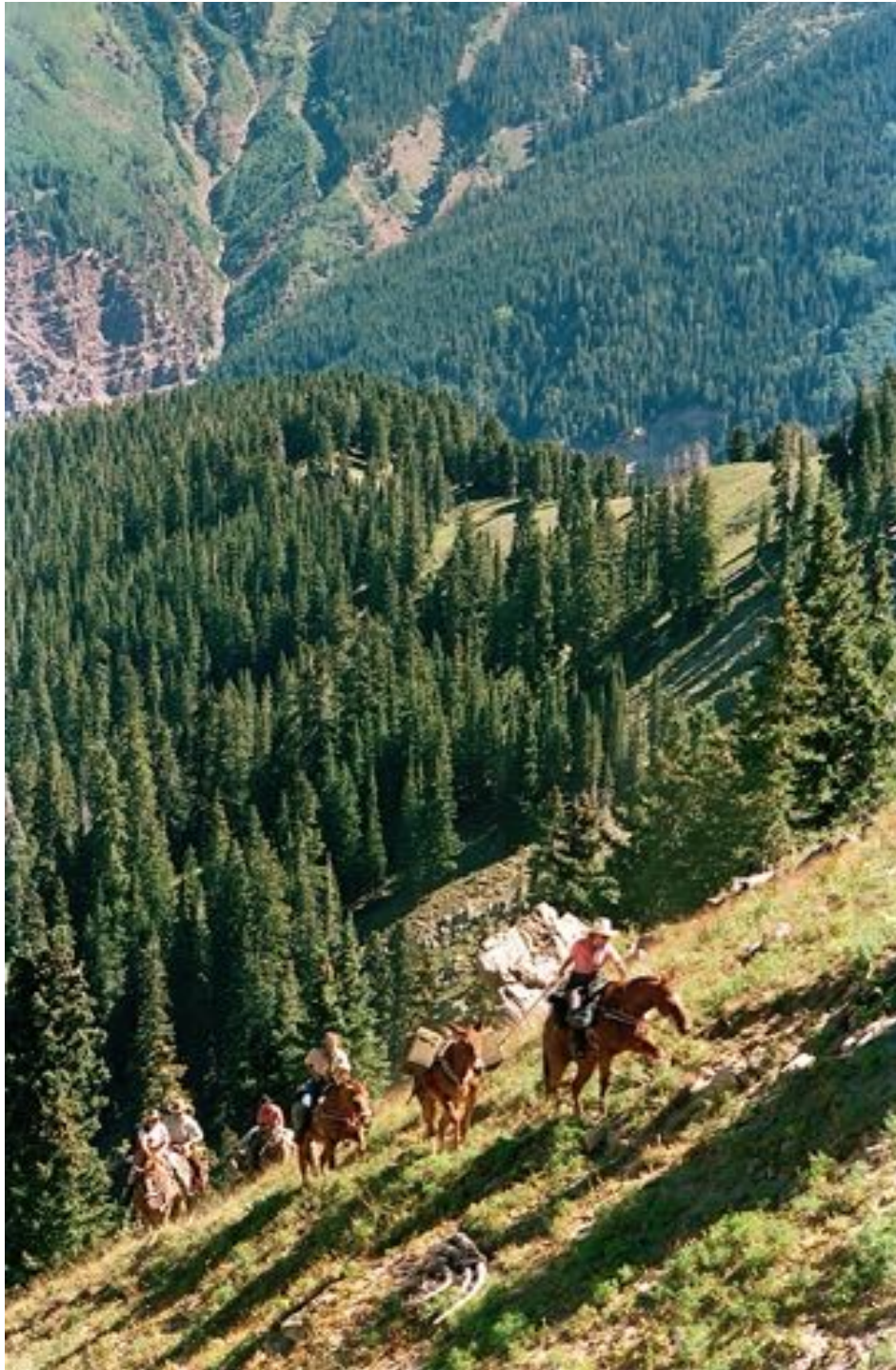


**LEGEND:** Survey Monkey responses are written in black  
*RFVHC Comments and Solutions are written in red*

#### **What other trails in this area around Redstone and Marble do you love?**

Great loop ride and we didn't stay on the old mine roads at all. The trailer haul to Avalanche trail head is brutal! Kind of a deal breaker for me. There is a trail directly behind the town of Redstone (to the east) that goes up one of those draws - don't know the name of it - it goes into the Snowmass Wilderness Area - can be a several day ride or hike . . . Mules on Huntsman. Adequate trailer parking.

**RVHC COMMENT** – The trail mentioned above is called “The East Creek Trail”, which leads to the “Lily Lake Cut Off” trail and eventually to the 12,800 ft. East Creek Pass, which joins Avalanche Creek and East Creek. This is a rugged and technically difficult advanced trail.



East Creek Trail - riding up from Avalanche Creek

I wonder if the Placita Trail could be built to be more horse friendly, of course, with truck & trailer parking. Thank you. Oftentimes deadfall on Placita. When I rode here (in Coal Basin) last summer, there was lots of deadfall that needed to be cleared.

**RVHC COMMENT** – Placita Trail is one more area which needs improved truck and trailer parking.

## SIGNAGE

**Walton bike park must be contained.**

**RFVHC COMMENT** - Redstone offers a historical ride on trails in some of the most beautiful area in our valley. It was still a hidden gem, a locals' secret, until last year, when the Walton bike park

was constructed. It will be important that signage is placed to keep bikers where they are supposed to be and horses safe on the trails. Signage will be something that needs to be promoted as project, so that all users stay on safe user specific trails. RFVHC is willing to assist in signage and safety notices.

Up in the Coal Basin near the large culvert by the old miner's "Lamp House" there is a USFS gate that will keep bike from entering this pristine area beyond that point. This closure and signage will curtail bikes from straying into prohibited territory.

## PARKING

There is some Parking behind the Redstone Inn and some pull off spots along Redstone Avenue at the North end of town, where the East Creek trail takes off.

Riding horseback from the Town of Redstone,  
Past the Redstone Castle to Pitkin County  
Open Space Land.



**RFVHC COMMENT** - In the area of Redstone there are two parking areas. One is halfway up the Coal Basin Road at the bottom of Braderich Trail and the other is at the top of the Coal Basin Road at the cul-de-sac. I would include that the Coal Basin Trail, which is the old mine road is an up and back trail is approximately a 6 mile ride from the top of Coal Basin Road. The Braderich/South Thompson Trail, also an up and back single track with an initially steep uphill ride, which levels out. Those are the two trails that the USFS has listed.

Here is the winter and spring 2021-22 RFVHC Survey about RFV Trails for Equestrians and Hikers:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JL23DN3>

### Instructions for filling out this survey

Answers to the following questions are optional, while we hope that you will provide answers to all questions. You are not obligated to do so. Simply scroll past any question that you prefer not to answer. Scroll up and down through the questions at any time. We are asking for more survey responses.

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