

Summit County White River National Forest – Dillon Ranger District

For outdoor enthusiasts, Summit County offers endless recreational opportunities year-round from easy strolls on paved recreation paths to challenging double diamond ski runs.

Approximately 75% of Summit County is part of the White River National Forest (WRNF), administered by the Dillon Ranger District (DRD). The WRNF is the most visited recreation forest in the nation with over 9.6 million user days – more visitors than Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, and Rocky Mountain National Parks combined. Approximately half of these WRNF recreation days take place in Summit County.

The DRD boundary follows the exact boundary of Summit County, with elevations ranging from a high of 14,265 feet on Quandary Peak in the south to a low of 8,000 feet at Green Mountain Reservoir in the north. Recreational opportunities include:

- * world class ski areas, four Alpine and three Nordic
- * over 200 miles of hiking trails
- * snowshoeing and backcountry skiing
- * lake and stream fishing
- * 14 campgrounds
- * boating, rafting, kayaking
- * over 150 miles of mountain bike trails
- * 100 miles of Off-Highway Vehicle routes
- * snowmobiling
- * peak bagging, rock climbing, ice climbing
- * photography, bird watching, wildlife watching
- * hunting

These various recreational opportunities provided by our local National Forest lands are the main reason residents live here and guests visit here.

The Eagles Nest and Ptarmigan Peak Wildernesses comprise approximately 30% of the Dillon Ranger District. To preserve their pristine, natural character and provide opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, regulations are in effect concerning dogs, group size, and travel methods. For more information on wilderness and wilderness regulations, visit <http://www.dillonrangerdistrict.com/wilderness.htm>.

DRD works closely with two local non-profit organizations, Friends of the Dillon Ranger District (FDRD) and Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness (FENW) to improve the quality of our local natural resources and the quality of the recreationists' experience, provide visitor information, foster public land stewardship, and help address issues threatening our local National Forest lands. To learn more about these two organizations and how to get involved in their efforts, visit www.fdrd.org and www.fenw.org.

To learn more about how to experience Summit County outdoors in the White River National Forest, visit <http://www.dillonrangerdistrict.com/overview.htm>.

To learn more about the WRNF, visit www.fs.fed.us/r2/whiteriver.