

Backcountry Camping

Several backcountry campsites are located in the Wild Basin area. A backcountry permit is required for backpacking in the park. Permits are available at the Wild Basin Ranger Station (hours of operation vary), and at the Backcountry Office, next door to the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center near Estes Park. Water is available at the Wild Basin Entrance Station, seasonally.

Reservations for Summer permits	By phone, mail or in person By mail or in person only	March 1 - May 15 May 16 - Sept 30
Reservations for Winter, Spring & Fall Permits (for current calendar year only)	By phone, mail or in person By mail or in person only	Jan 1 - May 15, Oct 1 - Dec 31 Jan 1 - Dec 31 (year-round)

Backcountry Permits

Administrative Fee of \$20 for permits: May 1 - Oct 31
No Fee for Permits: November 1 - April 30
Self-Registration Permits are free and available at Beaver Meadows Entrance, Fall River Entrance, Wild Basin Entrance, Longs Peak Trailhead and Dunraven Trailhead Jan 1 - April 30 and Nov 1 - Dec 31.

Making a Reservation

In person - at the Backcountry Office next to Beaver Meadows Visitor Center or Kawuneeche Visitor Center.
By telephone - Backcountry Office 970-586-1242
U.S. Mail - write to: Backcountry Office, Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park, CO 80517.

Guidelines and Rules

Follow the "Leave No Trace" ethic and proper techniques for human waste disposal. Be familiar with and follow the "Backcountry Camping Guide" available with the permit.

Food Storage

Effective May 1 - Oct 31 for your safety and the protection of park wildlife, carry in/carry out food storage canisters are required of backcountry campers in Rocky Mountain National Park. Pack-in, pack-out all garbage. Report all bear incidents to a park ranger.

Falling Trees

Trees can fall without warning. Be particularly watchful when it's windy, or following a snowstorm when branches are heavy with snow. Avoid parking or camping in areas where trees could fall.

Park Information

970-586-1206 or online at www.nps.gov/romo

Trail Ridge Road Status and Bear Lake Road Reconstruction

970-586-1222 (recorded & updated messages)

Emergencies

911

See us on the web at www.nps.gov/romo

C - WB Summer - 4/12 - 15K

Rocky Mountain

National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior
Rocky Mountain National Park



Wild Basin



Located in the southeast corner of Rocky Mountain National Park, Wild Basin is drained by the North St. Vrain Creek and its tributaries. Numerous alpine lakes dot the area, with Thunder and Bluebird among the most dramatic in the park. Mountain peaks reaching over 13,000' above sea level form a rock boundary on the north, south, and west sides of this high mountain valley. Bighorn sheep, mountain lions, bears, elk, mule deer, and many smaller mammals and birds live in the area.

Narrow Road, Limited Parking

The Wild Basin Road is gravel and narrows to one lane in many spots. It is not suitable for large vehicles like RVs. Park in designated areas only. Wide spots in the road are for oncoming cars to pass each other, not for parking. Violators may be ticketed or towed.

Essentials to Wear and Carry

Be prepared in the backcountry! Pack the "Essentials" and don't forget the most important thing of all... common sense!

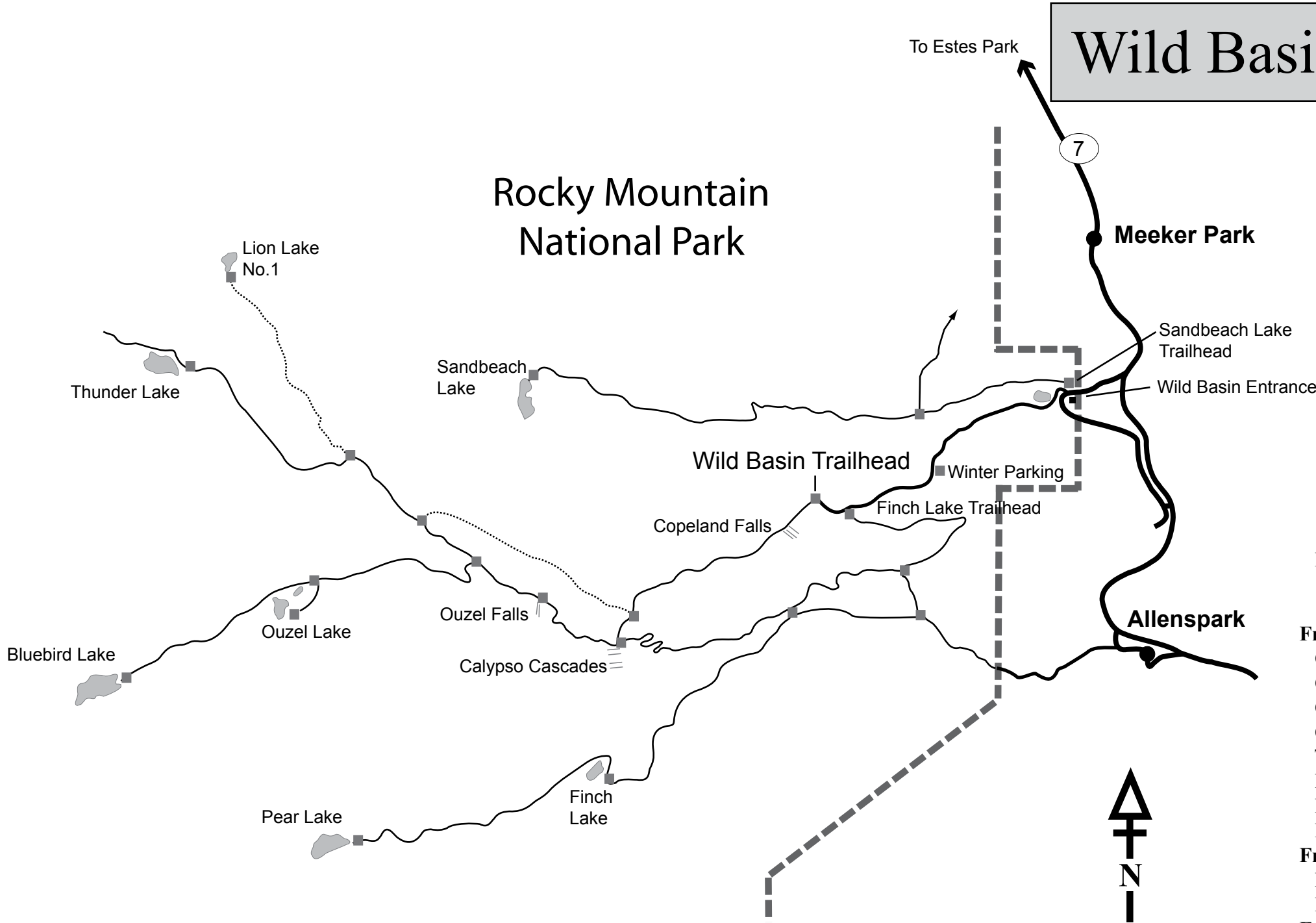
- Lots of water
- High-energy food
- Rain gear
- Hat, sunglasses with UV protection, sunscreen
- First aid kit
- Topographic map and compass/GPS
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Waterproof matches
- Pocket knife
- Sturdy footwear
- Whistle
- Common sense!

Altitude

Take sufficient time to acclimatize to the park's high altitude before doing strenuous hikes. Rest, drink lots of fluids (avoiding alcohol and caffeine), and start with short hikes.

Wild Basin Area Trails

Rocky Mountain National Park



LEGEND

- Roads
- Horse/Hikers Trail
- Hikers Only Trail
- Park Boundary

Destination Miles Gain
(One way from nearest trailhead)

From Wild Basin Trailhead: 8,566'		
Copeland Falls	0.3 mi	15'
Calypso Cascades	1.8 mi	700'
Ouzel Falls	2.7 mi	950'
Ouzel Lake	4.9 mi	1,510'
Thunder Lake	6.8 mi	2,074'
Lion Lake #1	7.0 mi	2,565'
Bluebird Lake	6.0 mi	2,478'
Finch Lake	5.3 mi	1,412'
From Finch Lake Trailhead: 8,525'		
Finch Lake	4.5 mi	1,442'
Pear Lake	6.5 mi	2,112'
From Sandbeach Lake Trailhead: 8,430'		
Sandbeach Lake	4.2 mi	1,971'