

# Rocky Mountain



## Wilderness Ethic

*Tread lightly on the scene and be gentle with the meadow, streamside, lakeside, and alpine tundra.*



## BACKCOUNTRY USE

To protect the fragile resources of the park, a camping permit system is in effect. A written permit is required for all overnight stays in the backcountry.

Reservations by mail or in person are accepted any time after March 1st. Phone reservations for summer camping can be made only from March 1st through May 15th. Call 970/586-1242 (starting March 1 the year of the trip) or for a reservation form, write to: Backcountry Office, Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park, CO 80517.

**Water** - should be purified. Soap and other pollutants should be disposed of away from water sources.

**Sanitation** - bury human waste six inches deep and 200 feet from water. When covered, materials will recycle naturally. Carry out all other refuse.

**Fires** - build open fires only if permitted. Stoves are preferable.

**Dogs** - and other pets are not allowed on the trails or in the backcountry of Rocky Mountain National Park.

**Hazards** - the mountain environment can present the backcountry traveler with dangers not usually encountered. **PLAN AHEAD** for extreme weather changes, turbulent streams, and unpredictable wildlife.

### Further Suggested References:

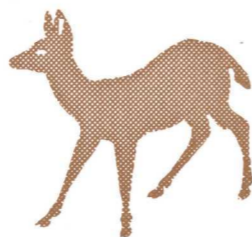
Ouzel Country: a guide to the Wild Basin area, #130-210, \$1.00 ea.

Topographical map - Allenspark quad, #140-101, \$4.00 ea.

Rocky Mountain National Park Hiking Trails, by Kent & Donna Dannen, #150-204, \$12.95.

"High Country Safety", free.

(Available from Rocky Mountain Nature Association, c/o Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park, CO 80517 or call 1-800-816-7662 - Dept. M.)



## Wild Basin Area

In summer, the Wild Basin ranger station (8500'-2951 m) is open daily. Call 303/747-2867 during business hours (MST).

Mid-June through mid-August, days are generally warm and sunny in the mornings. Afternoon thunderstorms occur regularly.

In this terrain, allow one hour for every two miles hiked and another hour for each thousand feet of elevation gained.

The following trails start from the ranger station (1.75 mi.-2.8 km from Copeland Lake) and travel along North St. Vrain Creek.

### Copeland Falls - 8,515' (2595.4 m)

An easy stroll, Copeland Falls is .3 mile (483 m) from the ranger station. Wildflowers abound along the way. Beyond the falls, watch for signs of beaver and lush growth in the montane life zone.

DAY HIKES INCLUDING: COPELAND FALLS, CALYPSO CASCADES, AND OUZEL FALLS

### Calypso Cascades - 9,200' (2,804.2 m)

Almost two miles from the trailhead is Calypso Cascades, a tumbling waterfall. Early morning or mid-afternoon is the best time to view and photograph the falls. At the Cascades, the trail divides. The left branch climbs east toward Finch Lake and the west branch crosses Cony Creek, continuing to Ouzel Falls.

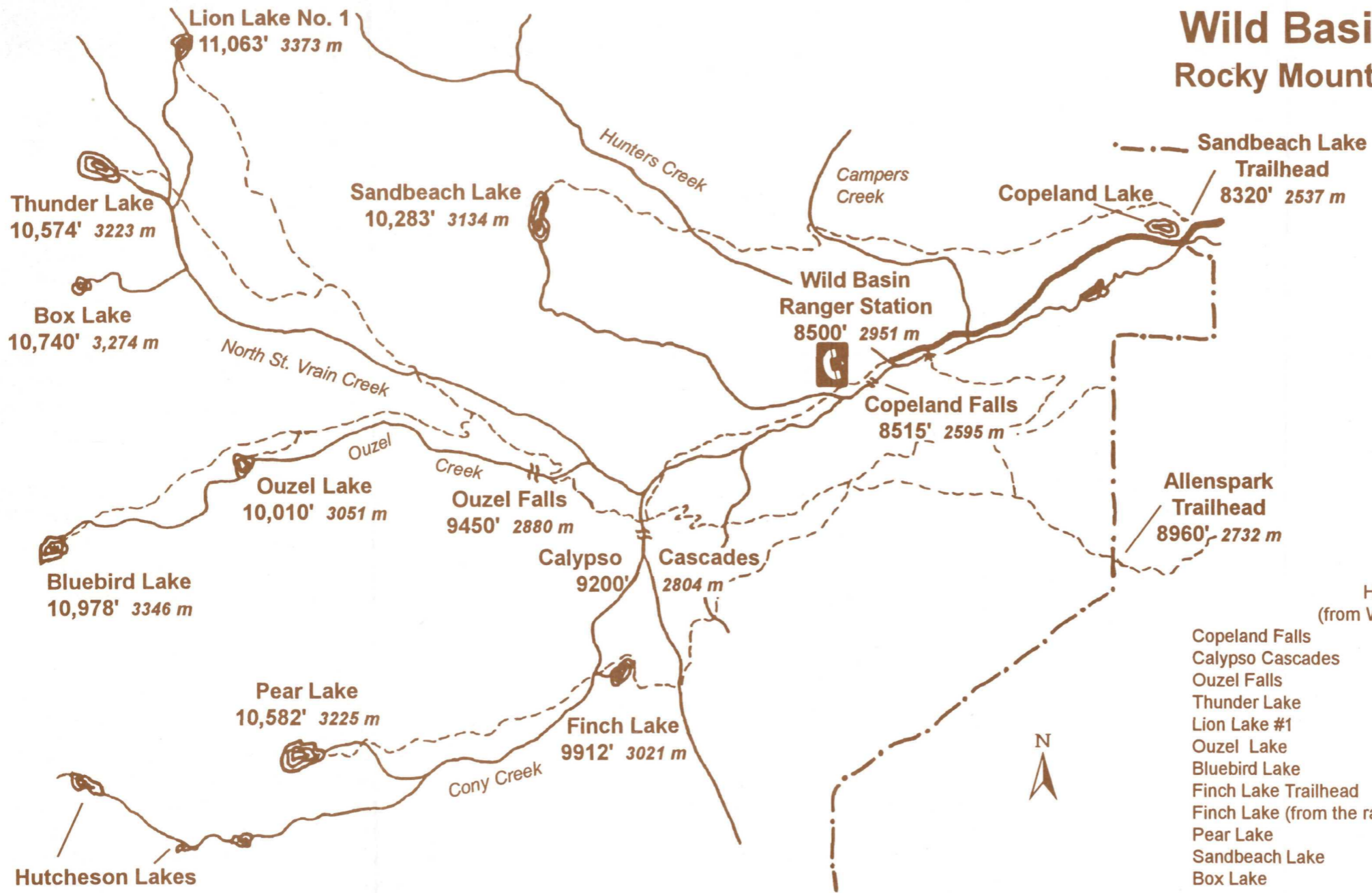
**Ouzel Fire, 1978 - This blaze was started by lightning and burned over 1,000 acres. You may notice the fire's effects on your way to Finch Lake and between Calypso Cascades and Ouzel Lake.**

### Ouzel Falls- 9,450' (2,880.4 m)

Ouzel Falls is 2.7 miles (4.3 km) from the trailhead. For a special reward, continue across the bridge for another 100 yards to a rocky overlook. From here, Longs Peak (14,255'- 4345 m) and Mount Meeker (13,911'- 4240 m) are northwest, Meadow Mountain is southeast, Wild Basin and the North St. Vrain River are below you to the north, and off to the east, lie the plains.

# Wild Basin Area Trails

## Rocky Mountain National Park



	Phone
	Road
	Trail
	Stream
	Boundary
	Lake
	Falls

### HIKING DISTANCES (from Wild Basin Ranger Station)

Copeland Falls	0.3 mi./ 483 m
Calypso Cascades	1.8 mi./ 2.9 km
Ouzel Falls	2.7 mi./ 4.3 km
Thunder Lake	6.8 mi./ 10.9 km
Lion Lake #1	7.0 mi./ 11.2 km
Ouzel Lake	4.9 mi./ 7.9 km
Bluebird Lake	6.3 mi./ 10.1 km
Finch Lake Trailhead	4.5 mi./ 7.2 km
Finch Lake (from the ranger station)	5.2 mi./ 8.3 km
Pear Lake	6.5 mi./ 10.4 km
Sandbeach Lake	4.2 mi./ 6.7 km
Box Lake	6.5 mi./ 10.5 km