

## Run Report - Ouray

Here is a quick rundown of our trip as we just completed our last day on the trail:

Several of us actually did a couple days in Moab and 1 extra day in Ouray before the rest of the members showed up, but since we only had 2 members for these days, these were not 'official' runs.

We were in Moab the night of the flash flood, and luckily missed it by about 30 mins downtown. We were on Fins-n-Things when the storm started, and quickly exited the mountain.

Consistently, we had risk of rain and thunderstorms, so we adjusted the trail schedule as needed. Weather, overall, cooperated. We also had lots of trail traffic due to a motorcycle event all week on the trails, so lots of trail traffic.

Everywhere we crested 11500+ foot peaks (highest was 13k) and lots of waterfalls, scenery, old historic/abandoned mining buildings everywhere. Too much to list.

### 8/22 – Ophir Pass and Last Dollar Road

9 total rigs, 5 members. We started the day at the Ophir Pass trailhead at 9am, and proceeded up the trail without issue before arriving at the peak about 2 hours later. After some photos, we headed down into Telluride for lunch. Afterwards we returned to Ophir via Last Dollar road, a scenic but easy dirt road.

### 8/23 – Alpine Loop (Engineer Pass/Cinnamon Pass/California Gulch/Corkscrew Pass)

10 total rigs, 6 members.

This was our longest day on the trail, covering 60 miles of dirt. We started at 7:00 am and proceeded up the Mineral Creek trailhead towards Engineer pass. The trail was wet and lots of mud puddles, with several stream crossings. Took us about 3 hours to arrive at the Engineer peak, where we stopped for some photos. We then proceeded to Cinnamon Pass and we had lunch along the creek on the trail. Proceeding down towards Animas Forks where we stopped to walk the historic district. We then proceeded up California Gulch and then Corkscrew Pass which consisted of multiple sharp switchbacks before exiting the trail about 6:00 pm.

### 8/24 – Black Bear Pass, Imogene Pass

9 total Rigs, 5 members. Steve Cave – leader. The group met at 9am and headed to the Blackbear trailhead. The group made the long incline up and over the pass, taking time for photos at the summit before heading down to the 'steps' obstacle with the group passed with little effort and some spotting. We then proceeded down the switchbacks, which was overall uneventful although very scenic. Lots of careful spotting around the tight switchbacks got everyone through safely. We completed the trail and had lunch in Telluride before heading on to Imogene. Fairly early in the trip we observed a motorcycle rider who had ridden off the trail accidentally and needed assistance, so the group used a winch and lots of muscle to get him back on the trail. We headed up Imogene and took photos at the summit before heading down the trail. Trail was wet with lots of mud, and we ended the day about 5:30pm.

---

8/25 – Poughkeepsie Gulch

8 total rigs, 5 members. Nick Kovacevich – Leader. We met and departed at 8:00 and drove to the trailhead (Mineral Creek). Trail was wet and lots of water puddles/holes, and a handful of river crossings 6-18" deep. We arrived at 'the Wall'. Robert G took the first crack at the obstacle, which is about 12' tall rockface. I was able to get up on the first attempt with lockers. 4 other rigs also were able to make it up the obstacle, all but 1 had lockers. 2 member rigs had to be winched (Mike Morey – JT – no lockers/long wheelbase) and Mike Monroe (Chevy Colorado on 31s, no ground clearance / limited articulation). We returned back via Mineral Creek and ended the day at 12:30pm.

Only minor mechanical issues were experienced (battery connection to starter, low idle issue) which were both resolved.

2 cowbells awarded 1) Mike Morey and 2) Michael Monroe

Robert

---