

large open areas. Trails are sparsely marked.

Creek Reservoir to the east. Be alert for whiteout conditions in west and south to Waterdog Res. and Jumbo Lk. Parking (see and north, passes around Bull Creek Res. #4, and eventually turns

**TRAIL DESCRIPTION:** Backcountry trail goes generally east Cedaredge; small pulloff parking area.

**ACCESS:** 15.5 miles north of Mesa, 23.2 miles south of

**AVAILANCHE DANGER:** Very low

**DISTANCE:** 11K

**ELEVATION:** 10,160-9,760 ft.

**ABILITY RATING:** All levels

TH#3 GRIFFITH LAKE/LAKE OF THE WOODS

follow so use caution.

whiteout conditions may occur. Trail markings can be hard to across dam of Waterdog Res., and across large open areas where and back to avoid car shuttle. Passes through stands of timber, Griffith Lk. Trailhead usually skied from one end in portions out begins across highway from Jumbo Lk. parking connecting to

**TRAIL DESCRIPTION:** 11K point to point backcountry trail

**ACCESS:** Same as above.

**AVAILANCHE DANGER:** Very low

**DISTANCE:** 11K

**ELEVATION:** 9,760-10,160 ft.

**ABILITY RATING:** Intermediate and up

TH#2 WATERDOG RESERVOIR TRAIL

skiing to access top of Powderhorn Ski Area.

roads. Use caution crossing bridges. West Bench is intermediate

Lakes area often groomed mostly on Campground and cabin

**TRAIL DESCRIPTION:** Several short easy loops in Mesa sized Jumbo Lake parking lot.

Cedaredge. Access from Mesa Lakes Resort or from moderate

**ACCESS:** 13 miles south of Mesa, 25.7 miles north of

**AVAILANCHE DANGER:** Very low

Bench Trail is 10.5K to top of Powderhorn Lift #2.

**DISTANCE:** Loops 2-4K in Mesa Lakes vicinity; West

**ELEVATION:** 9,760-9,860 ft.

**ABILITY RATING:** All levels

TH#1 MESA LAKES LOOPS/WEST BENCH TRAIL

Hwy 92 to Colorado Hwy 65.

Interstate 70. Cedaredge is 14.6 miles from Delta via Colorado town of Mesa is 30 miles from Grand Junction via Exit 49 on

**NOTE:** All trails are reached by Colorado Highway 65. The

TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

Grand Mesa Cross Country Ski Trails



Grand Mesa Nordic Council  
http://gmnc.info



2004

Delta County Tourism  
www.westerncolorado.org

ally unmarked.

access to basins around and near Wolverine Lk. Trail is gener-erately from highway in vicinity of Crag Crest Hiking Trail with

**TRAIL DESCRIPTION:** Backcountry trail that climbs mod-parking area.

Cedaredge; access from Grand Mesa Lodge or from small pulloff

**ACCESS:** 21.8 miles north of Mesa, 16.8 miles south of

cas can be easily avoided.

cliff and rockslide areas poses some danger but these ar-

**AVAILANCHE DANGER:** Proximity to steep slopes of

**DISTANCE:** 2-3K

**ELEVATION:** 10,420-10,600 ft.

**ABILITY RATING:** All levels

TH#6 CRAG CREST

provide access to the Skyway Trail System.

ratins is located approx. 3K east of the parking area. Linking trails

tacluar southern overlook of the San Juan and West Elk Moun-designated dog trail plus a marked backcountry loop. A spec-

**TRAIL DESCRIPTION:** Various groomed loops including a Cedaredge; moderate sized parking lot.

**ACCESS:** 19.6 miles south of Mesa, 19 miles north of

**AVAILANCHE DANGER:** Very low

Combined Total 14.1K

**DISTANCE:** Various loops from 1.1K to 7.4K

**ELEVATION:** 10,839-10,786 ft.

**ABILITY RATING:** Beginner-intermediate

TH#5 COUNTRY LINE

any other trail system to keep Skyway dog-free.

cess to the County Line Trail System. Dog owners please use the Bookcliffs and the Battlements. Linking trails provide ac-overlook from Sunset Trail offers breathtaking views towards

loop through groves of timber with some open areas. A northern

**TRAIL DESCRIPTION:** A variety of regularly groomed trails Cedaredge; large parking lot.

**ACCESS:** 17.2 miles south of Mesa, 21.4 miles north of

**AVAILANCHE DANGER:** Very low

Combined Total 19.6K

**DISTANCE:** Various loops from 2.3 to 9.3K

**ELEVATION:** 10,600-10,750 ft.

**ABILITY RATING:** All levels

TH#4 SKYWAY

LODGING AND SERVICES

(All numbers are Area Code 970)

LODGING:

Grand Mesa Lodge 856-3250 or 800-551-6372 (Toll Free)  
Mesa Lakes Resort 268-5467 or 888-420-MESA (Toll Free)  
Powderhorn Resort 268-5700  
Howard Johnson Express Inn - Cedaredge 856-7824 or 888-855-2700 (Toll Free)

FOOD:

Mesa Lakes Resort 268-5467 or 888-420-MESA (Toll Free)  
Powderhorn Resort 268-5700

SKI RENTALS:

Mesa Lakes Resort 268-5467  
Summit Canyon Mountaineering (G.J.) 243-2847  
Board and Buckle 242-9285  
Leisure Time Sports (Cedaredge) 856-3000  
Jeans Westerner (Delta) 874-4385  
Jeans Westerner (Montrose) 249-3600

SKIER INFORMATION:

Delta Chamber of Commerce 874-8616  
Grand Junction Visitor and Convention Bureau 244-1480  
Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce 242-3214  
U.S. Forest Service 242-8211, 856-4153  
Road Report 1-877-315-7623  
Grand Mesa Nordic Council 434-9753  
Powderhorn Resort 268-5700  
Cedaredge Area Chamber of Commerce 856-6961

ALL SKI TRAILS ARE LOCATED WITHIN  
GRAND MESA NATIONAL FOREST

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Bldg., 14<sup>th</sup> and Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Support the Grand Mesa Nordic Council with your membership.  
Send dues to:

Grand Mesa Nordic Council  
P.O. Box 266, Cory, CO 81414  
970-434-9753 • http://gmnc.info

THIS MAP IS FOR GENERAL  
REGULAR GROOMING SCHEDULE IS  
SUBJECT TO WEATHER AND BUDGET

Mesa Nordic Council provides no services other than the setting of tracks along its designated trails.

an integral part of the sport of cross country skiing. The Grand made objects or hazards may be encountered at any time. Be these dangers and conditions and the additional hazards that are the Council maintained trails, a skier must recognize and accept please read any trail signs. When skiing on the Grand Mesa Nor-

Be aware of changing weather and snow conditions. Be alert and

**AND WITHIN THEIR ABILITIES.**

**SKIERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SKIING IN CONTROL**

time.

alert for grooming equipment that may be encountered at any

bodies, bridges, fences, posts, and many other natural and man-est growth, low branches, rocks, fallen trees, streambeds, water and terrain along the trails. In addition, bumps, ruts, stumps, for-even under the best conditions there may be variations in snow effort is made to provide consistent tracks and groomed trails, hazards exist and are not marked. In spite of the fact that great ent in the sport of skiing and it can be hazardous. Objects and

Cross country skiing is a fun adventure BUT dangers are inher-

**AND WITH CAUTION**

**SKIING IS FUN WHEN YOU SKI IN CONTROL**

is strenuous and takes at least twice as much time as skiing down.

top to bottom. If parked at the top, be aware that skiing back up

ratins from open areas. Please note that trail descends 530 ft. from

There are excellent views of the San Juan and West Elk Moun-ows. Trails are moderately groomed with weekends a priority.

and through groves of pine and aspen and across mountain mead-

**TRAIL DESCRIPTION:** A variety of trails skirt around lakes Crk. Res.

Spruce or Alexander Lk. Lodges, and moderate sized lot at Ward

Cobbet Lk., small lot at Ward Lk. Campground, access from

of Cedaredge; moderate sized parking lot at Visitors Center on

from Ward Creek Res. 24.4 miles south of Mesa, 14.2 miles north

miles south of Mesa, 16 miles north of Cedaredge. Lower access

**ACCESS:** Upper access from Grand Mesa Visitors Center 22.6

**AVAILANCHE DANGER:** Low

Combined Total 20.2K

**DISTANCE:** Various trails from 2.4-16K

**ELEVATION:** 9,760-10,290 ft.

**ABILITY RATING:** Intermediate and up.

TH#7 & TH#8 WARD LAKE

THINGS TO REMEMBER

Protect yourself—buy a Colorado Outdoor Recreation card to help the Colo. Search and Rescue Fund which would then reimburse the search team for cost in the unforeseen event that you would need a search and rescue. Available for \$3/year from GMNC (call 434-9753), the Department of Local Affairs (call 248-7310), or various local retailers.

Be aware of hazards, avalanches, storms, hypothermia and whiteout conditions in open areas.

Dress warmly, carry energy foods and water.

Use established sanitation facilities where possible; other-wise relieve oneself well away from the trail.

Avoid disturbing wildlife

Pack out your trash.

Snowshoers please travel on sides of tracks; do not trample set or skied in trails or tracks or in skate lane.

Leave your dog at home when using groomed trails; they are an unpredictable hazard to fast moving skiers and they can leave unwelcome holes and deposits in the tracks. Ski the designated dog trails at County Line instead with your pal.

GRAND MESA NORDIC COUNCIL

Grand Mesa Nordic Council is a community based nonprofit organization composed of cross country skiers from around the Grand Mesa region. The Council is governed by an appointed board of directors from the local communities and funded by membership fees, business sponsors, fund raising events, and grants. Grand Mesa Nordic Council is dedicated to promoting fun, safe, diversified cross country skiing experiences on the Grand Mesa for skiers of all ages, abilities, and interests.

