

DESERT RATS

TRAIL RUNNING FESTIVAL

BY **UTMB®**

CREW & SPECTATOR GUIDE

APRIL 9 - 12, 2026



UTMB®
WORLD SERIES

OFFICIAL UTMB® WORLD SERIES PARTNERS

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SUUNTO

QUICK LOOK

RACE START

- 10K: Friday, April 10 at 5 PM
- 100K: Saturday, April 11 at 5 AM
- 50K: Saturday, April 11 at 7 AM
- 21K: Sunday, April 12 at 8:30 AM
- Kids' Race: Sunday, April 12 at 9:30 AM

LOCATIONS

START & FINISH LINE

[Hawkeye Trailhead off Mack Exit](#)

PARKING

1065 US-6 & 50, Mack, CO 81525

Once you get off the exit, there will be plenty of signage and in the area to guide you to the parking lot.

EXPO

[Civic Center Park](#)

EXPO HOURS

Thursday, April 9	3 PM to 6 PM
Friday, April 10	9 AM to 5 PM
Saturday, April 11	2 PM to 6 PM

CREW LOCATIONS

Crews are **ONLY** allowed in the designated areas within the following aid stations. Crews will not be permitted at any other location.

100K

- Rustler's 1 Aid Station at Mile 6.2
- Rustler's 2 Aid Station at Mile 9.8
- Rabbit Valley 1 Aid Station at Mile 32.5
- Rabbit Valley 2 Aid Station at Mile 51.2

50K

- Rustler's 1 Aid Station at Mile 6.2
- Rustler's 2 Aid Station at Mile 9.8
- Troybuilt Aid Station at Mile 24.2



PARKING

NEW PARKING LOCATION FOR 2026!

Unlike previous years where all runners and spectators were required to bus from Fruita Monument High School, parking will be allowed at a new parking area near Hawkeye Trailhead in 2026! For clarity, there will NOT be a bus option from the High School and all runners are responsible for getting themselves to/from the event start line.

Runners can begin parking near the start line at the following times:

- 10K: Friday beginning at 3:30pm
- 100k & 50k: Saturday beginning at 3:30am
- 21K: Sunday beginning at 7:00am

IMPORTANT NOTE – NO CAMPING is allowed at the new parking location. If you are found car camping prior to race morning, you can be disqualified.

- If a racer's crew is camping in the lot their racer will be disqualified
- As always, our ability to host this race depends on everyone following parking rules exactly. We appreciate your help — our permit depends on it.
- Distance is between .5-1 mile to the star

There is no runner dropoff at Hawkeye Trailhead.

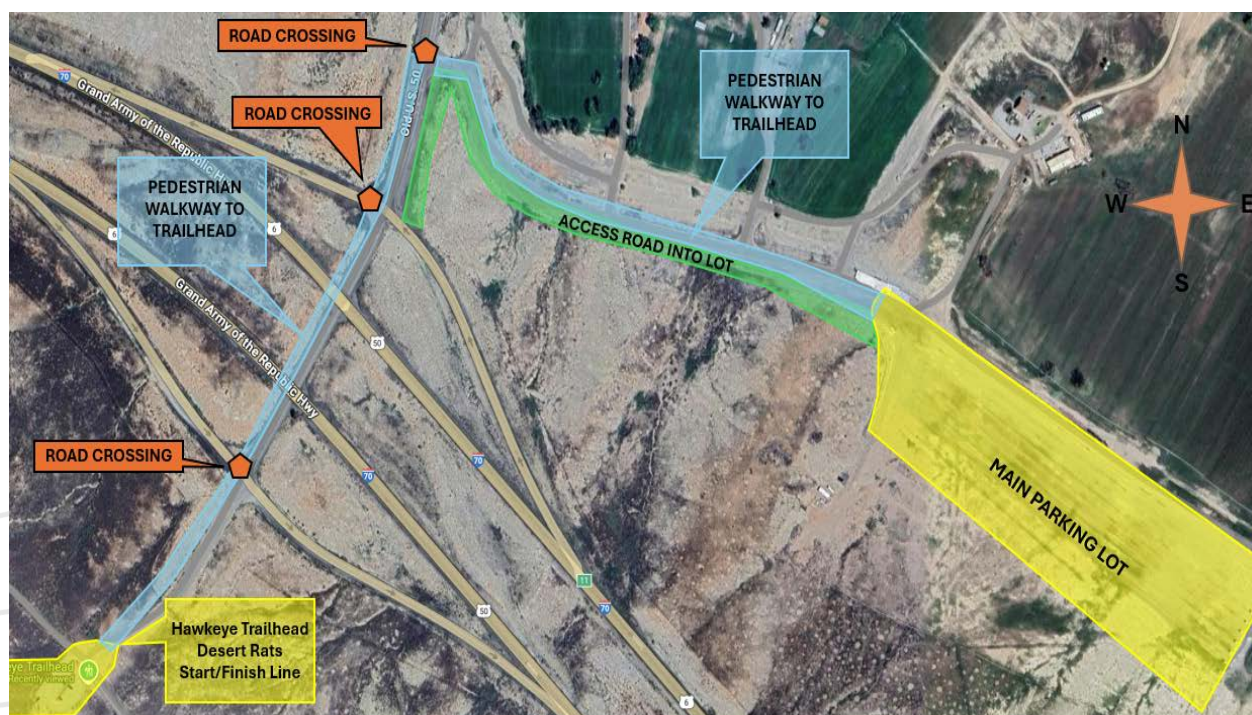
Runners may be dropped off at the entrance to the Parking Lot.

WALKING TO THE START/ FINISH

Runners and spectators will be pushed to the north when exiting off the Mack Exit. Traffic assistance and flaggers will direct all vehicles down into the new parking lot. Earliest arriving vehicles will be parked in the spaces closest to the lot entrance.

Runners and spectators will follow the blue overview in the map below to safely walk from the parking area to the event start / finish line. UTMB will have lighting, traffic assistance and volunteers along the path to ensure safety, especially at the road crossings. Portable toilets will be available at the Parking Lot, but we encourage all runners to use the larger bank of portos provided at Hawkeye Trailhead.

IMPORTANT NOTE – the distance from the parking lot to the Hawkeye Trailhead is 0.5 miles. We recommend all runners and spectators plan for (20) minutes to make this walk. Give yourself enough time prior to your race start!



SHUTTLES

SHUTTLES FROM PARKING AREA

There are no runner shuttles from the parking area to Hawkeye Trailhead! Runners should arrive expecting to make the half mile walk from the parking lot to the race start location.

There will be an assistance van that runs continuously back and forth between the access road to the parking lot and the Hawkeye Trailhead. This limited service is intended only for individuals who are unable to complete the 0.5- 1 mile walk. For example, this includes::

- Spectators with mobility limitations or injuries.
- Older family members who may have difficulty walking longer distances.
- Anyone who needs assistance covering the distance from parking to the venue.

Pending availability and operational capacity, the assistance vehicle may help transport finishers after the race. This service is not guaranteed and depends on finisher flow and safety conditions. Thank you for your understanding in making sure everyone can be apart of the experience comfortably!

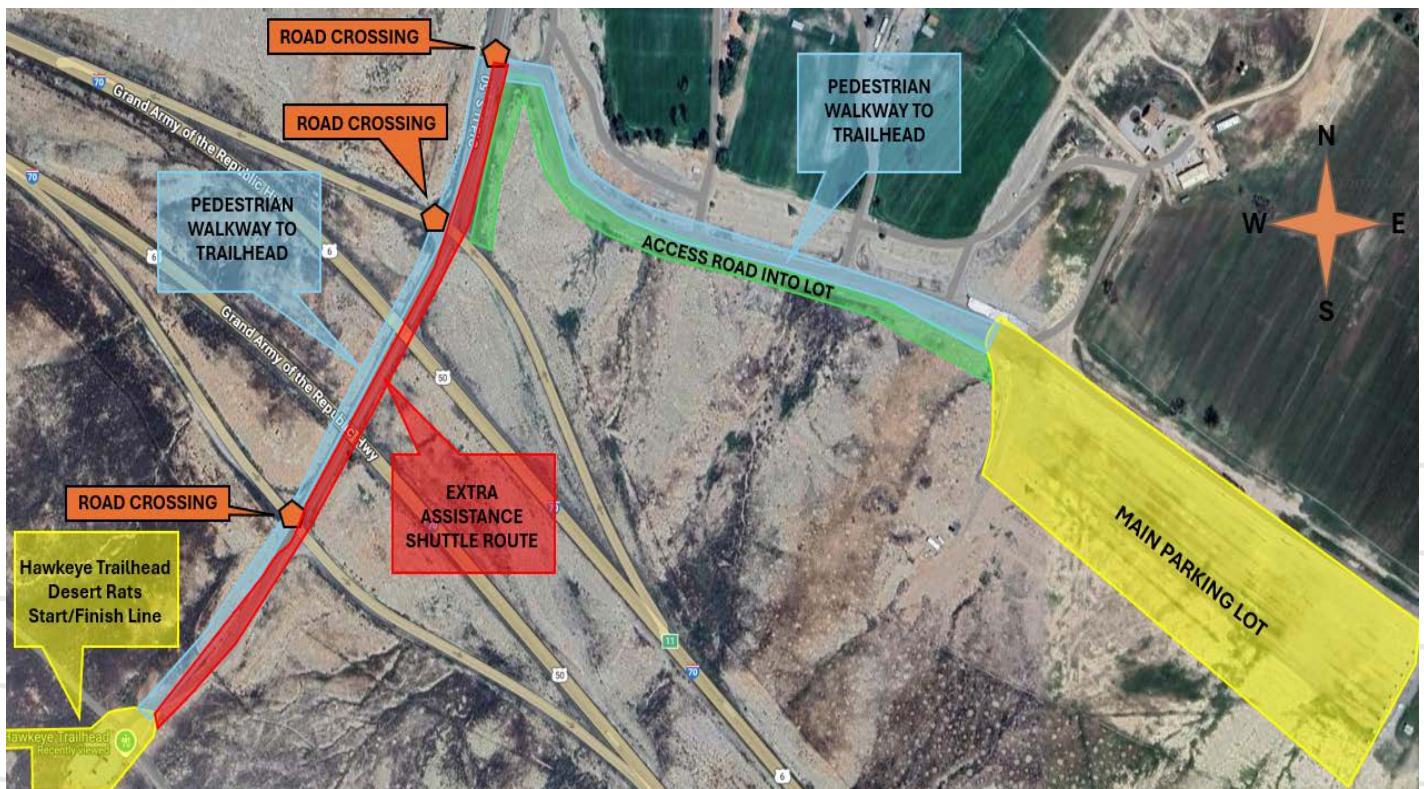
CREW SHUTTLES

100K

Shuttles will be available beginning at the start of the 100K to take crew to Rustler's Aid Station from the race start / finish line. Shuttles will run until 4pm. There is absolutely **NO PARKING** at the Rustler's or Troybuilt Aid Station – do not drive out there!

50K

There will be shuttles to the Rustler's and Troybuilt Aid Stations from the start/finish areas throughout the day. There is absolutely **NO PARKING** at the Rustler's Aid Station – do not drive out there!



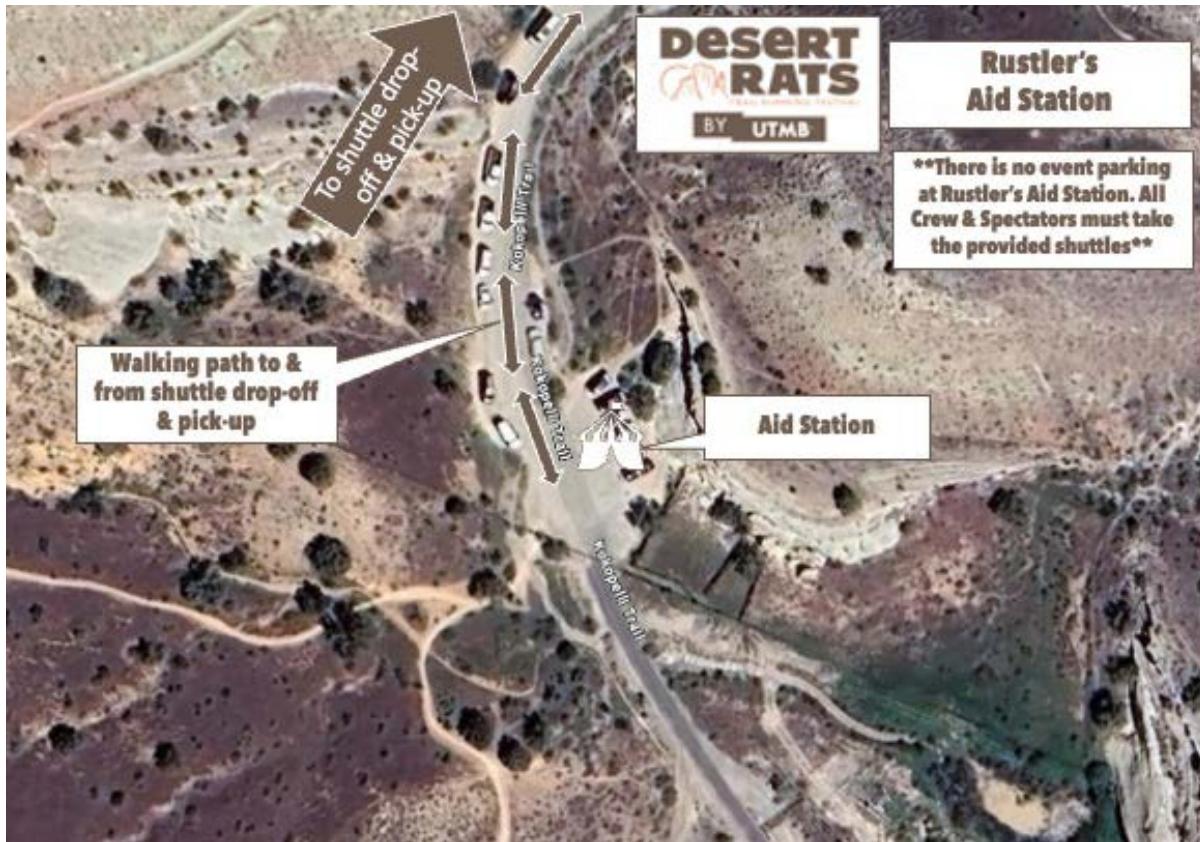
VENUE MAPS



VENUE MAPS



VENUE MAPS



CREW RULES

Crews are only allowed in the 100K and 50K distances at the designated crew locations and aid stations. Follow all parking directions and signs when arriving at these areas and stay within the designated crew area at each location. We ask that you also remain aware of the other runners that are in the crew area or that may be passing by the area for runner safety. Crews are not allowed to leave the area running with their runners.

CREW & SPECTATOR REGULATIONS

1. Runner crews & spectators must adhere to all Crewing & Spectator Rules and Regulations. Failure to comply, may result in disqualification of the runner.
2. Parking is only allowed in designated areas.
3. Crew & spectators must follow all city, county, and state laws while driving and parking.
4. Some aid stations will require a walk-in from the designated parking areas. Please have crew & spectators plan accordingly.
5. Dogs are highly discouraged from being brought to crewing locations and **MUST** remain on a leash.
6. Crews are not allowed to access or interfere with the aid station and its operations.
7. Crewing is **ONLY** allowed in the designated areas within each of the aid station locations listed below. Runner crewing is forbidden at all other aid stations, as well as at any other point of the race route.
 - 100K: Rustler's & Rabbit Valley Aid Stations
 - 50K: Rustler's & Troybuilt Aid Stations



AID STATION GUIDE



100k Aid Station Chart

AS Label	AS Location	AS Mileage	Miles to Next AS	Elev. Gain to Next AS (ft)	Elev. Loss to Next AS (ft)	Cumulative Elev. Gain (ft)	Cumulative Elev. Loss (ft)	Cut-Off Time	Drop Bags	Crew
Start	Hawkeye TH - Start	0.0	6.2	878	-1025	878	-1025			
AS1	Rustler's 1	6.2	3.5	275	-275	1,153	-1,300			X
AS2	Rustler's 2	9.8	4.0	526	-289	1,679	-1,589			X
AS3	Pizza Overlook	13.7	3.9	270	-326	1,949	-1,915			
AS4	Crossroads	17.6	7.3	1,110	-908	3,059	-2,823			
AS5	Salt Creek 1	24.9	7.6	423	-699	3,482	-3,522			
AS6	Rabbit Valley 1	32.5	4.9	562	-322	4,044	-3,844	3:00 PM	X	X
AS7	Western Rim 1	37.4	7.4	607	-853	4,651	-4,697	4:30 PM		
HS1	Water Drop	44.7	1.6	293	-47	4,944	-4,744			
AS9	Western Rim 2	46.4	4.9	324	-563	5,268	-5,307	8:00 PM		
AS10	Rabbit Valley 2	51.2	7.6	696	-420	5,964	-5,727	9:15 PM	X	X
AS11	Salt Creek 2	58.8	4.7	668	-901	6,632	-6,628	12:00 AM		
Finish	Hawkeye TH	63.5						1:00 AM (Sunday)		

****Mileage, elevation gain and loss are based on CalTopo. The above elevation gain/loss data is derived from a segmented GPX file on CalTopo which tends to be more accurate than a single line GPX route. Actual data may vary on course and from watch to watch. Due to permitting, the course is subject to change.**

Always follow course markings for current route**

Revision 3/19/26



50k Aid Station Chart

AS Label	AS Location	AS Mileage	Miles to Next AS	Elev. Gain to Next AS (ft)	Elev. Loss to Next AS (ft)	Cumulative Elev. Gain (ft)	Cumulative Elev. Loss (ft)	Cut-Off Time	Drop Bags	Crew
Start	Hawkeye TH - Start	0.0	6.2	878	-1025	878	-1025			
AS1	Rustler's 1	6.2	3.5	275	-275	1,153	-1,300			X
AS2	Rustler's 2	9.8	4.0	526	-289	1,404	-1,314			X
AS3	Pizza Overlook	13.7	3.9	270	-326	1,674	-1,640			
AS4	Crossroads	17.6	6.5	765	-863	2,439	-2,503	12:00 PM		
AS5	Troybuilt	24.2	6.5	946	-878	3,385	-3,381			X
Finish	Hawkeye TH - Finish	30.7						5:00 PM		

****Mileage, elevation gain and loss are based on CalTopo. The above elevation gain/loss data is derived from a segmented GPX file on CalTopo which tends to be more accurate than a single line GPX route. Actual data may vary on course and from watch to watch. Due to permitting, the course is subject to change.**

Always follow course markings for current route**

Revision 3/19/2026

AID STATION GUIDE



21k Aid Station Chart

AS Label	AS Location	AS Mileage	Miles to Next AS	Elev. Gain to Next AS (ft)	Elev. Loss to Next AS (ft)	Cumulative Elev. Gain (ft)	Cumulative Elev. Loss (ft)	Cut-Off Time	Drop Bags	Crew
Start	Hawkeye TH - Start	0.0	1.7	208	-178	208	-178			
AS1	Crossroads	1.7	1.3	185	-127	393	-305			
AS2	Pizza Overlook	3.0	4.1	312	-495	705	-800			
AS3	Moore Fun	7.1	5.9	973	-878	1,678	-1,678	11:00 AM		
Finish	Hawkeye TH - Finish	13.0						1:30 PM		

****Mileage, elevation gain and loss are based on CalTopo. The above elevation gain/loss data is derived from a segmented GPX file on CalTopo which tends to be more accurate than a single line GPX route. Actual data may vary on course and from watch to watch. Due to permitting, the course is subject to change.**

*Always follow course markings for current route***

Revision 3/19/2026



10k Aid Station Chart

AS Label	AS Location	AS Mileage	Miles to Next AS	Elev. Gain to Next AS (ft)	Elev. Loss to Next AS (ft)	Cumulative Elev. Gain (ft)	Cumulative Elev. Loss (ft)	Cut-Off Time	Drop Bags	Crew
Start	Hawkeye TH - Start	0.0	1.7	208	-178	208	-178			
AS1	Crossroads 1	1.7	2.5	218	-218	426	-396			
AS2	Crossroads 2	4.2	1.7	178	-208	604	-604			
Finish	Hawkeye TH - Finish	5.9								

****Mileage, elevation gain and loss are based on CalTopo. The above elevation gain/loss data is derived from a segmented GPX file on CalTopo which tends to be more accurate than a single line GPX route. Actual data may vary on course and from watch to watch. Due to permitting, the course is subject to change.**

*Always follow course markings for current route***

Revision 3/19/2026

RUNNER TRACKING & RESULTS

WHERE'S MY RUNNER?

LOOKING FOR YOUR RUNNER? SEE BELOW FOR HELPFUL TIPS!



- Not all Aid Stations will have tracking, so don't panic if you don't see a time for your runner.
- Limited cellular and satellite connectivity may cause delays in runner tracking updates, and some aid stations may report times more frequently than others

Q: My runner should have checked in by now. Where are they?

A: No need to worry! There are plenty of reasons they may not show as checked in:

- Tracking is not available at that location.
- Connectivity is limited, and tracking updates may be delayed.
- The course includes a variety of terrain, with some sections being more challenging than others, so it's completely normal for runners to move a bit behind their expected pace at times.

* Anticipate up to a 2-hour delay in your runner tracking for any of these reasons

Q: Who should I contact if I'm having trouble tracking my runner?

A: The Announcing Team at The Finish Line, our Registration Team and our Information Booth volunteers DO NOT have any further information on where a runner may be outside what the LiveTrail app displays.

Our experienced Runner Tracking Team works diligently to ensure all runners are on course, safe, and accounted for. They use the same LiveTrail software as the app, so you'll see the same location updates when your runner checks in.

Your runner's safety is our top priority! Our Runner Tracking Team has proven procedures in place to quickly identify and locate any runner who may go off course, ensuring they are safely accounted for throughout the event.

RUNNER TRACKING

[LIVETRIAL.NET](https://livetrial.net) will be available to track runners throughout the event. Please note these are timing splits at certain checkpoints on the course and are NOT live/GPS tracking. Due to the remote nature of these locations there may be possible delays on LiveTrail updating. [CLICK HERE](#) for Runner Tracking FAQs.

TIMING

The race will be timed by LiveTrail using chips located on the bibs. The chips are automatically recorded at the Start Line, various Aid Stations, timing locations and the Finish Line. Please refer to the "How to Wear Your Bib" section in the Runner's Guide for the proper way to wear your bib so the chip is not damaged and is properly recorded.

PLEASE NOTE: All runners in the race must wear their race bib with the tag intact in order to have their times recorded. No bib = no time! Please make sure the race bib is pinned on your front and is visible throughout the race.



TRACK YOUR RUNNER:

To follow your runner's progress on race day, download the LiveTrail Tracker app to your smartphone.

VOLUNTEER INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Sign up to volunteer and become a part of our race family! Once you volunteer you will be automatically entered into our Volunteer Incentive Program where your hours served can be redeemed for discounted or complimentary entries into one of UTMB's North American events. Get involved, give back, and run with us!

LEADING ROLES

- Automatic complimentary entry towards a 100M, 100K, 50K, 20K, or 10K event.
- Leading Roles are assigned by the Volunteer Director and may vary by event. These positions are essential to race operations, runner safety, or volunteer management. A Leading Role may be noted in the shift description or identified at shift end when selecting incentives.

SUPPORTIVE ROLES

Supportive Roles are all volunteer positions outside the defined Leading Roles designated by the Volunteer Director.

LEVEL 4 - SUMMIT

- Volunteer Swag: T-shirt and food & drink voucher.
- Complimentary entry towards a 100M, 100K, 50K, 20K, or 10K.

LEVEL 3 - PEAK

- Volunteer Swag: T-shirt and food & drink voucher
- 30% off registration fee for any event and distance

LEVEL 2 - RIDGELINE

- Volunteer Swag: T-shirt and food & drink voucher
- 20% off the first-tier pricing for any event and distance

LEVEL 1 - BASECAMP

- Volunteer Swag: T-shirt and food & drink voucher
- 10% off the first-tier pricing for any event and distance

If you or anyone traveling with you is interested in volunteering, please [CLICK HERE!](#)

VOLUNTEER

Our volunteers allow us to do what we do! Please be sure to thank the volunteers that help you along your journey. All volunteers will receive swag and early entry to future Desert RATS Trail Running Festival by UTMB events.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information about volunteering!

TEAM PICKS & LOCAL FAVORITES



KYLA CLAUDELL - RACE DIRECTOR

- [Bestslope Coffee](#).
- [Fruita Ice Cream Shop](#) across the street from the park - so cute and a great option near the Expo for kids!
- [Dinosaur Journey Museum](#) is also a great option for kids.
- [Rimrock Adventures](#) for all kinds of fun rentals and guides for Fruita adventure.

REID DELMAN - RACE DIRECTOR

- [El Tapatio](#) for authentic Mexican food and a family atmosphere.
- [18 Road Mountain Biking](#) for mountain biking. You can also rent from [Colorado Backcountry Biker](#).
- Drive through the [Colorado National Monument](#).



ROSEY VAUGHAN - VOLUNTEER DIRECTOR

- Love taking my kids to the [Dinosaur Journey Museum](#)
- Checking out romance books at [Lithic Bookstore & Gallery](#)
 - Ending the day with yummy [Hot Tomato Pizza](#).
- Swimming at [Fruita Community Center](#) is fun and refreshing!