

# THE TRAILS

These trails were developed by the Ouray County Nordic Council (OCNC), in cooperation with private landowners, the U.S. Forest Service, the Colorado Department of Highways, Ouray County and the City of Ouray. OCNC needs support; we invite you to join our membership.

## Use Of These Trails Requires Your Cooperation

Please stay on the trail. Private property is located throughout the system. Staying on marked trails at all times is essential for your safety. Venturing off may be trespassing and jeopardizes trail use for everyone.

OCNC and owners of the property assume no risk or liability for use of the trails. Users assume all risks.

### Non-Motorized Use Only No Snowmobiles Users Take Responsibility

Please be considerate of others. Use caution; yield to uphill traffic; don't disturb any building, plant, tree, animal, mine tailings or equipment; respect private property; pack out trash. No camping allowed.

### User Safety

- Safety has been a high priority in laying out trails, but conditions do change. You may encounter new obstacles, bumps, branches, holes, wires – *Please be alert!*
- Be prepared for rapid changes in weather or unexpected circumstances.
- Keep your group together; don't let someone lag behind and get lost.
- Ultimately, you are responsible for your own safety. Trails are not patrolled. Use at your own risk.

**LEAVING THE TRAIL CAN BE VERY DANGEROUS – STAY ON THE TRAILS!**

# You Can Help!

## OCNC Membership

OCNC is a non-profit, community based organization whose principal purpose is to provide cross-country ski trails for recreational skiers. Your membership contribution will support this season's operations.

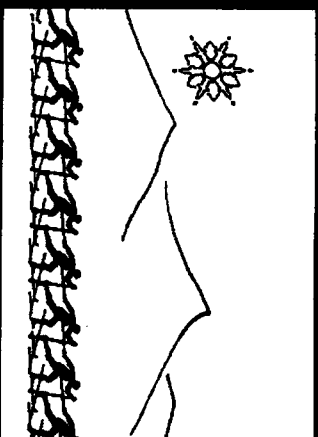
*Thank you and enjoy the skiing!*

### MEMBERSHIPS ARE THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF OPERATING FUNDS FOR THE COUNCIL

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15<br>YOUTH / SENIOR<br>(18 YEARS OR LESS) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100<br>PATRON   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20<br>INDIVIDUAL                           | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100<br>BUSINESS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30<br>FAMILY                               | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500<br>SPONSOR  |

Please return to:

OURAY COUNTY NORDIC COUNCIL  
POST OFFICE BOX 50  
OURAY, CO  
81427



# Red Mountain

# Fronton Park

# X-Country Trails

Ouray County Nordic Council

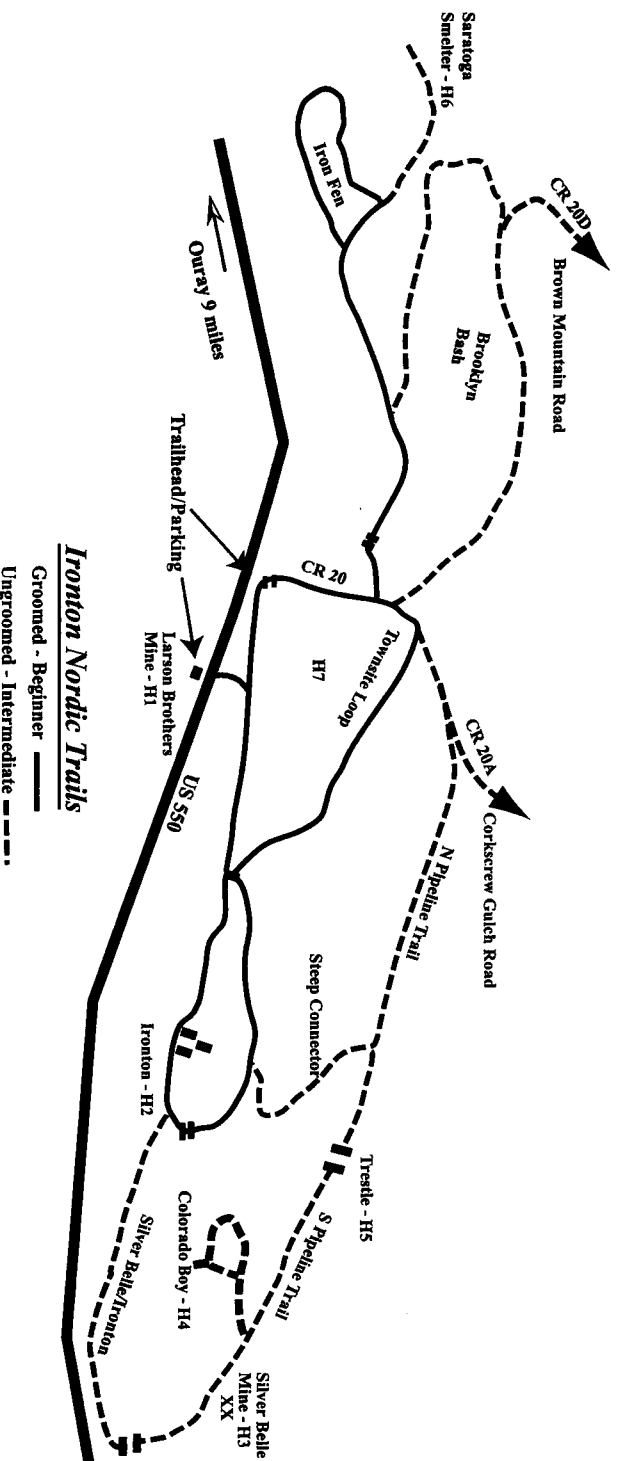
Ouray Trail Group



## Ourray County Nordic Council

OCNC is part of the Ourray Trail Group – a non-profit 501(c)3 organization founded in 1986. OTG is dedicated to the preservation and safe public use of Ourray County's trails. We encourage hiking and related low impact activities in the San Juans, while protecting their beauty and resources. We work with the U.S. Forest Service, publish a hiking guide, create and maintain trail registers, and organize trail days. For further information, go to:

[www.ourraytrails.org](http://www.ourraytrails.org)



# HISTORIC SITES – Ironton Park / Red Mountain Nordic System

*This guide provides a brief description for a few of the Ironton / Red Mountain area's historic places. Additional information is available at some of these sites or at the County Museum in Ourray.*

Larson Brothers Mine is named for Milt and Harry Larson who inherited it from their father in the 1920s and worked it for decades. After Harry died in the 1940s; Milt became the last resident of Ironton until his death nearly 20 years later.

Ironton, founded in 1883, was once a thriving mining community. It had 325 inhabitants in 1890 and was a supply center for the northern end of the Red Mountain Mining District. A few recently stabilized buildings remain at the southern end along the Townsite Loop.

**H3** Silver Belle's mine dumps are the remnants of a profitable mine which operated from 1880-1894. Its ten levels produced over a million dollars in silver.

**H4** The Colorado Boy loop passes the newly stabilized Colorado Boy headframe, whose shaft is several hundred feet deep following an ore vein that was once the core of a volcano.

**H5** The Corkscrew Trestle once supported a large pipeline built to convey tailings from the Idarado Mine to a pond in Ironton Park.

**H6** Saratoga Smelter completed the northern extension of the Silverton Railway Line, which traversed the top of Red Mountain Pass. The railroad, built in the 1880s, was profitable for a couple of decades. The smelter was constructed in the mid-1880s and processed gold

and silver ores from rich Red Mountain mines. Little of the smelter remains today as much of it was used to construct a ski lodge, seven towers and an 1,800' ski run at the north end of Ironton Park. The lodge accidentally burned to the ground in the 1940s and now, all that remains is the large stone building next to the highway.

**H7** Today the north end of the townsite loop trail circles the Idarado Mine tailings pond, which is filled with waste rock from the mill that was further up the valley. Very active during WWII, the mine was one of the largest in the San Juans, formed by consolidating over 100 different mining claims. Large amounts of gold, silver, lead and zinc were produced. Over 80 miles of tunnels make up the mine. The main, or "Treasury" Tunnel, situated south toward Red Mountain Pass, extends through the mountains to Telluride.