

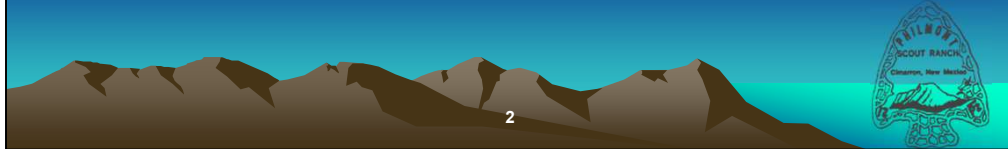
Philmont Programs and Treks

Pete Stark
NCAC High Adventure Committee
November 15, 2020



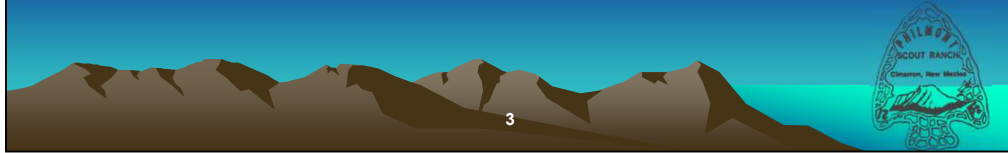
The Philmont Trek

- 11-day/10-night backpacking trips (also 9- and 7-day) (Sat/Sun only)
 - 35 pre-selected itineraries ("treks")
 - 50 - 90+ miles total length
 - Elevations range from 6,500 feet (base camp) to 12,441 feet (Baldy)
- All cooking is done on backpacking stoves
- Two days of training by a Philmont Ranger



The Philmont Trek

- All personal gear, crew gear and food is carried on your back (30-50+ lbs.)
- Each night is spent at a different backcountry camp (100+ total camps)
- Program opportunities at ~37 backcountry staff camps



Common Terms/Concepts

- "In Over The Tooth" vs. Turnaround/Trailhead
- The Baldy Loop/Layover Day
- "Doing program" (staff camps)
- Food pickup
- Conservation project
- Trail camps
- Dry camps
- Long days (miles, elevation, program, conservation project)
- Sister crews



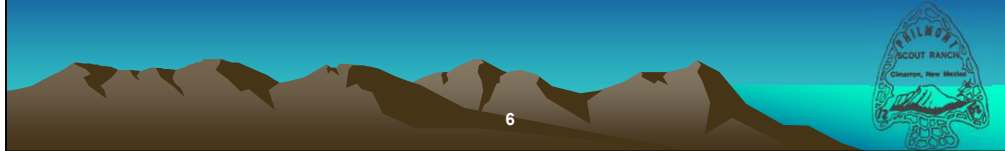
Choosing A Trek

- Things to Consider:
 - Program Opportunities
 - Decide AS A CREW which programs you want to do
 - Many popular programs are offered at multiple camps (rock climbing, horseback riding, spar pole climbing)
 - May be able to do program at a pass-thru camp (depends on demand from crews that have it on their itinerary)
 - Total Mileage
 - Difficulty (Trek rating)
 - North or South or both (possibly in '21)
 - The High Peaks - Baldy, Phillips, Tooth of Time
 - "Other factors" (later)



Trek Ratings

Super Strenuous	31-35	86+	3+	Less	17+	More	More
Strenuous	22-30	↑	↑	↓	↑	↑	↑
Rugged	12-21	↑	↑	↓	↑	↑	↑
Challenging	1-11	50+	1-2	More	13/14	Less	Less
	Trek # (2020)	Miles	Peaks	Program Time	Age	Experience	Fitness



Avoid...

- "Under-Trekking"
 - Choosing a Trek That Is Too Easy
 - Too Much Down Time
- "Over-Trekking"
 - Doing More Miles Than Crew Can Physically/Emotionally Handle
 - Missing Program Opportunities
 - Constantly Hiking



The Trek Selection Process

- Treks Book and Guidebook to Adventure will be online on December 15 (e-mail notice to lead advisors, as registered in Gateway)
- Includes day-by-day trek breakdown, with programs, map elevation profiles, food pickups, conservation projects, etc.
- Trek selection (lottery) registration opens January 14, closes February 15



Selecting Your Trek

- **Crew** collects and reviews resources
- **Crew** meets to review programs, collect interests, and discuss trek difficulty
- **Crew** meets to select top six choices (eight if sister crews)



Resources

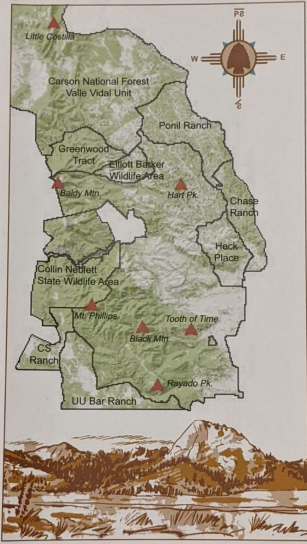
- Get a Philmont map (Tooth of Time Traders)
www.toothoftimetraders.com
 - Overall vs. North or South Country (more detailed)
- Download the 2020 Guidebook to Adventure (details about Philmont programs and trekking, which don't vary much from year to year)
- Download the 2020 Treks Book (details on programs vs. camps)
 - Caution - This is just to give you a general idea. Many treks are modified to some degree every year<https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/philmonttreks/expeditions/>

Watch for the 2021 versions



Philmont Scout Ranch

Cimarron, New Mexico



Overall Map
Philmont GIS



Program Descriptions

Guidebook to Adventure

Blacksmithing

The ring of hammer striking iron echoes through the mountains around *Black Mountain, Cyphers Mine, French Henry, Metcalf Station, and Rayada/Kit Carson*. Here staff blacksmiths will acquaint you with a working forge, blower, leg vice, hardie, and an array of tongs used to grip red-hot iron. They will discuss and demonstrate techniques for firing the forge, working metal, and tempering the finished product.

Burro Packing

No animal is more closely associated with the colorful history of the Southwest than the burro. Burro packing methods are explained at demonstrated at *Ponil and Miranda*. Your tents and food may be packed on burrows using a diamond hitch.

Burros are available for use on the trail in the northern portion of the ranch, starting or ending at *Ponil and Miranda*. Burro traps (holding pens for overnight stops) are located at *Ponil, Pueblano, Miranda, Elkhorn, Flume Canyon, Head of Dean, and Baldy Skyline*. Hay for feeding is provided at these camps. If your itinerary provides for packing burros, take advantage of this unique opportunity to pack them just as the miners once did. All crews on a Burro Itinerary must take a burro.

Cantina

Abreu and *Ponil* offer the opportunity for a thirst-quenching root beer in a Mexican or Western-style cantina. You can buy root beer for your whole crew or a cup for yourself.

Challenge Events

A series of activities that will test the teamwork, skill, and resourcefulness of your crew awaits you at *Dan Beard, Head of Dean, and Urraca*. While the challenges can be met by every crew, the real contest is with yourself. Did you do your best? How would you do better next time?



Programs Included in 12-Day Itineraries

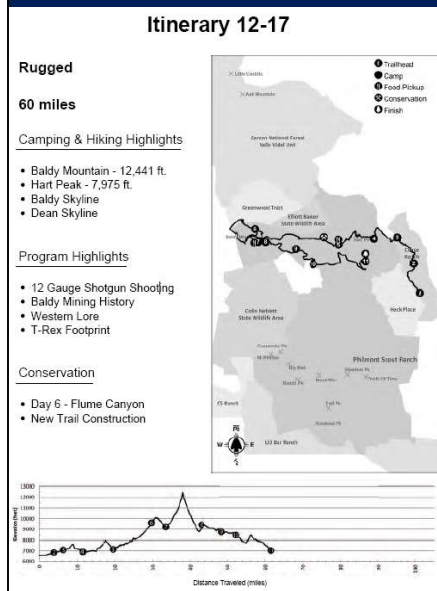
ITINERARY NUMBERS:	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	
Hiking Difficulty	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Distance (approximately)	51	54	53	54	54	55	55	53	50	57	58	60	60	61	61	60	60	60	60	60	65	66	66	66	66	66	66	69	67	72	71	71	70	62	65		
Trial Camps	4	4	3	6	6	5	5	3	6	4	4	6	5	5	4	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	5	3	6	6	6		
On Camps	1		3	2	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	3	3	1	3	1	2	1		1		2	3		1	1	2	1		1				
Archaeology																																					
Archery - 3 Dimensional	X																																				
Astronomy																																					
Atlatl (Javelin Throwing)																																					
ATV Rider Course	X																																				
Baldy Mountain Hike	X	X																																			
Blacksmithing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Bouldering																																					
Burns Packing	X																																				
Camping (evening)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Carriage	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Challenge Events	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Chuckwagon Dinner	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
COFFEE																																					
Country Artisan Shooting	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Demonstration Forest	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Dutch Oven Dessert	X																																				
Fishing	X																																				
Fly Tying	X																																				
Fore Weather Forecasting	X																																				
Geocaching	X																																				
Gold Mining & Panning	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Historic Chase Ranch	X																																				
Horseback Riding	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Horse Rides	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Juarita Apache Life																																					
J.J. Carson/Rajado Rancho																																					
Land Navigation, GPS Technology	X																																				
Lodgepole Pine Tours	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Low Impact Camping																																					
Mexican Dinner																																					
Mike Tour	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Mountain Biking																																					
Mountain Man Rendezvous	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Muzzle Loading Rifle	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Near Mexican Homestead	X																																				
Post Civil War Settlers	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Rainmaking																																					
Rock Climbing & Rappelling	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Rusty Mountain Fur Co.	X																																				
Search & Rescue/Vol. Medicine																																					
Shooting/Releasing - 30-06	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Shotgun Shooting/Releasing - 12 Ga.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Spear Pole Climbing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
The Making & Crosscut Saws	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Tonahawk Throwing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Town of Time	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Western Lore/Branding	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Wildlife Conservation	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

Treks
Book
Programs
vs Treks



This might be the single most important page for picking a trek, because it shows which programs are available on which treks. Later there will be an example of how to use it.

The Treks Book



- Two pages per trek
- First contains maps for each trek showing the general route for each itinerary
- Bottom chart shows mileage and elevation changes

14



This and all the later sample pages use the same trek – 2020 Trek 17- to illustrate the analysis.

The Treks Book

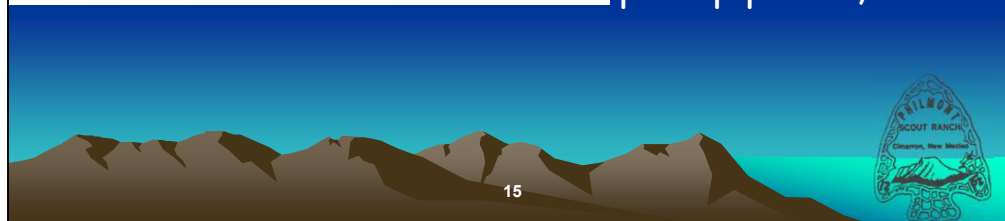
Day	Camp	Miles	Gain	Loss	Program Features	Food Pickup
1	Camping HQ				Opening Campfire	
2	Hells Fire Canyon	3.9	485'	246'	Ranger Training; Main House Tour @ Chase Ranch; Trail Camp	Camping HQ
3	Chase Canyon	3.7	453'	148'	Rock Climbing & Rappelling, Bouldering @ Chase Cow	
4	INDIAN WRITINGS ^s	5.1	777'	956'	Archaeology, Atlatl Darts, Petroglyph Tour	
5	Dean Cutoff	5.8	1,339'	987'	Western Lore/Branding, Cantina @ Ponil; Trail Camp	Ponil
6	FRENCH HENRY	9.1	2,913'	687'	Tie Making @ Pueblano; Gold Mining & Panning, Mine Tour, Blacksmithing	
7	Ute Meadows	3.8	222'	691'	Mining History & Assaying @ Baldy Town; Trail Camp	Baldy Town
8	Ute Meadows	9.6	3,331'	3,365'	Climb Baldy Mountain; Mountain Man Rendezvous, Tomahawks @ Miranda; Trail Camp	
9	HEAD OF DEAN	5.3	600'	1,019'	Challenge Course Events	
10	SANTA CLAUS	3.9	305'	603'	12 ga. Shotgun Shooting & Reloading	
11	Trail Canyon ^d	9.2	699'	2,102'	Water @ Middle Ponil; Trail Camp	
12	Camping HQ	0.5	13'	130'	Hike to Nine Mile Trailhead; Awards Campfire	

(d) = Dry Camp (s) = Showers may be available

Departs from Camping Headquarters on Day 2 for Chase Trailhead to go to Hells Fire Canyon Camp
Returns to Camping Headquarters on Day 12 from Nine Mile Trailhead

Campsite Elevations: 6,838' Minimum, 9,552' Maximum Camps: 4 Staffed, 5 Trail, 1 Layover, 1 Dry Camp
Conservation: Flume Canyon Sectional Maps: North

The second page for each itinerary contains a daily breakdown of camps you will stay at, program opportunities, food pickup points, etc.



This page is the key to much of the later analysis of a trek – it's crammed with a lot of information in a small space.

Online Resources

- Philtrek.com
 - Programs, itineraries and detailed maps of every **2020** itinerary and trail segment (2021 sometime after Treks book is released)
- www.philsearch.org
- www.sccovington.com/philmont
 - Click on Philmont and General Information
 - Click on Itinerary Selection





12-day Treks

9-day Treks

7-day Treks

Trails

About

ITINERARY SELECTION PROCESS

Top 3 Choices — Find the ideal itinerary!
Itineraries at a Glance
Compare / Overlay Itineraries

CAMPS FILTER

PROGRAMS

2020 ITINERARIES

RENDEZVOUS

SPECIAL REPORTS

Changes from previous year
Turnaround usage
Camp usage (Crew load)
Camps not used
Archives — view itineraries from a previous year

Nine Mile Trailhead and returning back to base Camp.

Day	Note	Camp	Program
1		Base	Opening Campfire
2		Hells Fire Canyon	Ranger Training; Trail Camp; Low Impact Camping
3		Chase Canyon	Rock Climbing @ Chase Cow Trail Camp; Low Impact Camping
4	(s)	Indian Writings	Archaeology
5		Dean Cutoff	Burro Packing, Campfire (evening), Cantina, Chuck Wagon Breakfast, Chuck Wagon Dinner, Horse Rides, Trading Post and Commissary, Western Lore @ Point Trail Camp
6		French Henry	Campfire (evening), Continental Tie and Lumber Company @ Pueblano Baldy Mountain hike, Blacksmithing, Gold Mining and Panning
7		Ute Meadows	Baldy Mountain hike, Trading Post and Commissary @ Baldy Town Trail Camp
8		Ute Meadows	Black Powder Rifle, Burro Packing, Mountain Man Rendezvous @ Miranda Trail Camp; Layover day
9		Head of Dean	Challenge Events
10		Santa Claus	Shotgun Shooting / Reloading 12 gauge
11		Trail Canyon	Trail Camp
12		Base	Awards Campfire

Departs from Camping Headquarters on Day 2 for Chase Turnaround to go to Hells Fire Canyon Camp.
Return to Camping Headquarters on Day 12 from 9-Mile Gate Turnaround.

Campsite Elevations: 6,840' Minimum, 9,600' Maximum

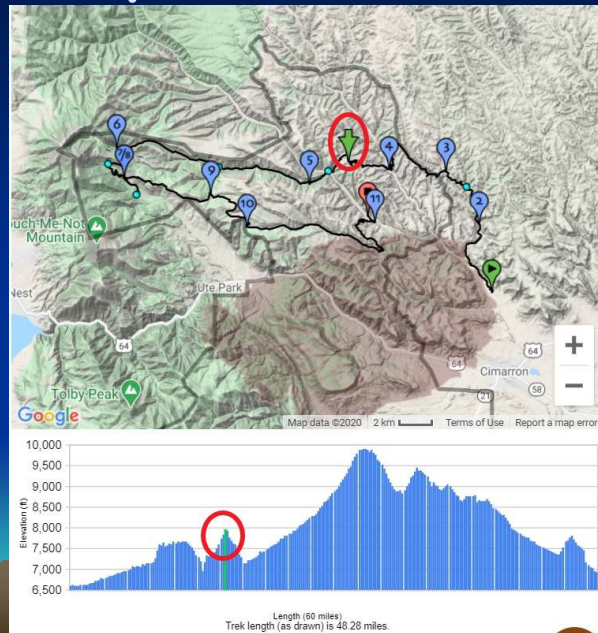
Camps: 4 Staffed, 6 Trail (0 dry) Camps; 1 Layover

Sectional Maps: Valle Vidal, North

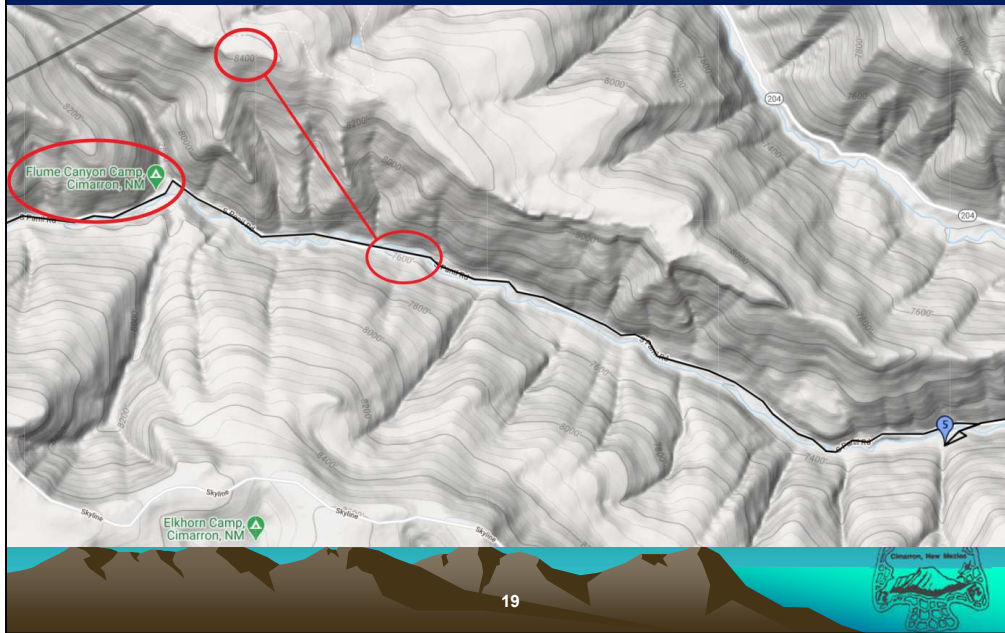
On the PhilTrek site, this itinerary overview is essentially identical to the page in the Treks book – but this is only the top half of the web page.

philtrek.com

Bottom
of prior
itinerary
page



The bottom of the page contains a zoom-able image of the entire trek, and if you mouse over the elevation profile at the bottom, the green arrow moves along the map at the top.



You can zoom all the way in to see the elevation markings on the contour lines – here showing the first part of the trip from Day 5 to Day 6, where the conservation project is at Flume Canyon.

The screenshot displays the 'philtrek.com' website interface. On the left, a 'TRAIL SEGMENTS' list is visible, with 'Clarks Fork to Aspen Springs' highlighted. The main content area is titled 'Clarks Fork — Aspen Springs' and includes the following information:

- Trail Segment Data:** (elevation data from Google® Maps)
This trail segment goes between **Clarks Fork** at an elevation of 7518 ft. and **Aspen Springs** at an elevation of 7932 ft., covering 4.3 miles. This segment has a maximum elevation of 8290 ft. and a minimum elevation of 7518 ft., a range of 772 ft.
- Not included in any 2019 12-day itinerary.

The interface features a map with a red line indicating the trail route, a 'Map'/'Satellite' toggle, and an elevation profile graph at the bottom. The graph shows the trail's elevation starting at 7518 ft., peaking at 8290 ft., and ending at 7932 ft. The y-axis is labeled 'Elevation (ft)' with markers at 7,800, 8,000, 8,200, and 8,400.

Trail Segment Maps

The trail segments portion of the site will show you the detail of any single trail segment, with elevation profile.

Review Programs

- Everyone reviews the program descriptions in *Guidebook to Adventure*
- Discuss programs as a group to ensure everyone knows what each is about
- Identify programs your crew is most interested in

Remember - you can't do everything!



Prioritize Programs

- Record preferences (weighted or not)
- Identify preferred programs/peaks

Programs Included in 12-Day Itineraries

ITINERARY NUMBERS:	12-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35				
Hiking Difficulty		C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S			
Distance (approximately)	51	54	53	54	55	55	53	56	57	58	60	60	61	61	60	59	60	60	65	66	69	68	63	68	69	67	72	71	71	76	80	82	86							
Trial Camps	4	4	3	6	6	6	6	4	4	6	5	5	4	6	5	4	6	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	3	6	6	6							
Dry Camps	1		3	2	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	2	1	3	1	3	1	2		1						2	3	1	1	2	1	1								
Archaeology		X													X	X							X	X												X	X			
Archery - 3 Dimensional							X	X	X	X	X	X					X					X				X	X	X												
Astronomy																			X																		X	X	X	
Atlatl (Dart-Throwing)															X																						X	X	X	
ATV Rider Course		X																																					X	X
Baldy Mountain Hike		X	X			X									X	X	X					X				X	X									X	X	X	X	
Blacksmithing		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bouldering															X	X							X																X	
Burno Packing			X				X									X										X														
Campfire (evening)		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cantina		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Challenge Events		X	X	X	X	X							X	X	X	X						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Chuckwagon Dinner		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
COPE															X																									
Coveboy Adlon Shooting		X	X		X											X										X														
Demonstration Forest		X		X	X		X										X	X									X	X	X	X										
Dutch Oven Dessert		X																																					X	
Fishing		X					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Fly Tying		X					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Folk Weather Forecasting																							X	X	X	X												X	X	
Geocaching		X								X	X																												X	
Gold Mining & Panning		X	X	X	X		X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



This is a sample (randomly selected) of how you might highlight the programs that the crew indicates are their preferred ones. (This is only the top half of the page.)

Find Programs on Treks

- Which treks hit the most popular programs?

↓ Programs Included in 12-Day Itineraries

ITINERARY NUMBERS:	12-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35			
Hiking Difficulty	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			
Distance (approximately)	61	64	63	64	64	65	65	63	66	67	68	60	60	61	61	63	69	60	60	65	66	69	68	63	68	69	67	72	71	71	75	80	82	88					
Trail Camps	4	3	6	6	5	5	5	4	4	6	5	5	5	4	6	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	3	5	6	6	6					
Dry Camps	1		3	2	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	3	1	3	1	2	1	1				2	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1					
Archaeology		X													X	X	X							X	X										X	X			
Archery - 3 Dimensional							X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		X						X	X	X	X										X	X	
Astronomy																									X	X	X								X	X	X		
Atlatl (Javelin Throwing)														X		X																				X	X		
ATV Rider Course		X																																			X	X	
Baldy Mountain Hike		X	X		X										X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Backsmelting		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bouldering															X	X																					X		
Burno Packing			X			X										X									X														
Campfire (evening)		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Cantina		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Challenge Events		X	X	X	X	X							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Chuckwagon Dinner		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
COPE												X						X	X																				
Cowboy Action Shooting		X	X		X											X									X														
Demonstration Forest		X	X	X		X											X	X								X	X	X	X										
Dutch Oven Dessert		X																																			X		
Fishing		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Fly Tying		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Folk Weather Forecasting																									X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Geocaching		X						X	X												X															X	X		
Gold Mining & Panning		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	



Here we illustrate where you count how many treks (green) hit the most of the preferred programs (yellow). In this case, all the green treks hit four of the yellow programs – oddly enough, Trek 2 actually hit five of the randomly selected ones.

New Tool for 2021

- In the Nov. 19 webinar, Philmont announced a new tool for evaluating treks, called Itinerary Explorer
- This will allow for an automated approach to the sort of analysis described in the prior slides for assessing crew interests and identifying treks that match them
- However, it doesn't appear as if it will provide for the type of analysis described on slides 27-29



Crew Capabilities

- Evaluate the capabilities of your crew carefully when choosing how strenuous your trek might be
- Crew members should discuss any limitations or concerns they may have
- Advisors need to know the experience level and capabilities of ALL members
- It may be helpful to decide first how strenuous a trek your crew should choose, keeping in mind that less time may be available for programs on tougher treks



The Trek Shortlist

- Meet to identify the crew's trek choices
- Make sure your crew understands that it may not be possible to capture every single program activity they desire

This should produce a list of ~8-10 treks

There are no bad treks
(just poorly chosen ones)



Evaluating Treks

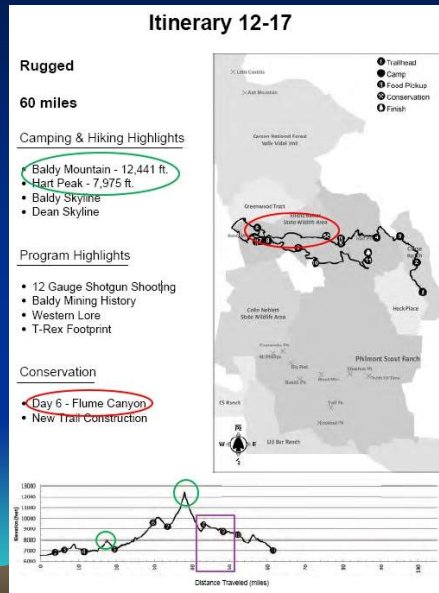
Factors to consider

- Program, program, program!!!
- High peaks
- Multi-program camps
- Daily mileage and elevation change
- Food pickups - number and spacing
- Conservation project - and what else?
- Layover days
- Dry camps (meal options)
- Hot breakfast (yes, you can tell which days)



Factors to Consider*

*See
slide
notes



- The first page for any trek will highlight things like peaks (green circle), matching the obvious peaks on the elevation profile (also green)
- It will also point out the day and location of the conservation project (red circle), which can be spotted on both the map and the elevation profile (red circle and rectangle). In this case, the point of concern is that conservation is always a 3-hour project (9 AM-noon or 1-4 PM), and here it's on a long hiking day.

Factors to Consider*

(*see notes)

Day	Camp	Miles	Gain	Loss	Program Features	Food Pickup
1	Camping HQ				Opening Campfire	
2	Hells Fire Canyon	3.9	485'	246'	Ranger Training; Main House Tour @ Chase Ranch; Trail Camp	Camping HQ
3	Chase Canyon	3.7	453'	148'	Rock Climbing & Rappelling, Bouldering @ Chase Cow	
4	INDIAN WRITINGS ^s	5.1	777'	956'	Archaeology, Atlatl Darts, Petroglyph Tour	
5	Dean Cutoff	5.8	1,339'	987'	Western Lore/Branding, Cantina @ Ponil; Trail Camp	Ponil
6	FRENCH HENRY	9.1	2,913'	687'	Tie Making @ Pueblano; Gold Mining & Panning, Mine Tour, Blacksmithing	
7	Ute Meadows	3.8	222'	691'	Mining History & Assaying @ Baldy Town; Trail Camp	Baldy Town
8	Ute Meadows	9.6	3,331'	3,365'	Climb Baldy Mountain; Mountain Man Rendezvous, Tomahawks @ Miranda; Trail Camp	
9	HEAD OF DEAN	5.3	600'	1,019'	Challenge Course Events	
10	SANTA CLAUS	3.9	305'	603'	12 ga Shotgun Shooting & Reloading	
11	Trail Canyon ^c	9.2	699'	2,102'	Water @ Middle Ponil; Trail Camp	
12	Camping HQ	0.5	13'	130'	Hike to Nine Mile Trailhead; Awards Campfire	

(d) = Dry Camp (s) = Showers may be available

Departs from Camping Headquarters on Day 2 for Chase Trailhead to go to Hells Fire Canyon Camp
Returns to Camping Headquarters on Day 12 from Nine Mile Trailhead

Campsite Elevations: 6,638' Minimum, 9,552' Maximum Camps: 4 Staffed, 5 Trail, 1 Layover, 1 Dry Camp
Conservation: Flume Canyon Sectional Maps: North

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- Blue circles – highlighting showers and dry camps; with the dry camp, it usually identifies the nearest water, where you can either haul it from or (if on the way) consider cooking dinner at lunch time where you have water. Also pay attention to how soon the next day you get to water again.
- Red circle – conservation is noted at bottom as being at Flume Canyon, but is NOT identified in the list of activities (as it usually is, but not always); as noted on previous slide, it's on a day where (purple circle) you are otherwise hiking 9.1 miles, to say nothing of gaining almost 3,000 feet in elevation. On top of that, there are at least TWO programs at French Henry (blacksmithing and gold mining/panning), and normally a third (mine tour, which might be cancelled as a covid countermeasure). So the caution is to watch for having to do a 3-hour conservation project on a long hiking day with one or more programs at the far end. (Somewhere there was another trek in which not only was the project on a long day, with program somewhere, but it ended up at a dry camp.)
- Black circle – food pickups are normally 3-4 days apart, meaning you pick up that many days food. In this case, picking up at Baldy Town means picking up 5 days of food, which is a LOT. The offsetting factor on this trek is that the next day is the Baldy layover day, so you won't actually be carrying 5 days of food the first day, and if you're lucky, you can get back in time for lunch on day 12 since it's only half a mile to the bus that morning, so you might not have a lunch to carry for 4 days. The caution is to look at the number of days between food pickups, especially when there are only two as on this trek.

Prioritizing Treks

- Go over the pros and cons of each trek before trying to rank them
- Have them rank them from 1 to 6 (or 8)

The trek selection lottery will take place in mid-February, and you will have the results almost immediately



Final Thoughts

- Choosing treks is the crew's responsibility
- There are many similar treks. If the crew picks some that are similar, they are all but certain to get something they will enjoy.

