

Philmont Programs and Treks

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NCAC High Adventure Committee
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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 (2 in '21, more in '22?)
 - The High Peaks - Baldy, Phillips, Tooth of Time
 - "Other factors" (later)



Trek Ratings

Super Strenuous	30-35	86+	3+	Less	17+	More	More
Strenuous	21-29	↑	↑	↓	↑	↑	↑
Rugged	12-20						
Challenging	1-11	50+	1-2	More	13/14	Less	Less
	Trek # (2021)	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 8th** (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 12, closes February 16**



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 2021 Guidebook to Adventure (details about Philmont programs and trekking, which don't vary much from year to year)
- Download the 2021 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/experiences/>

Watch for the 2022 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 Rayado/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 stoss) are located at *Ponil, Pueblano, Miranda, Eikhorn, 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

Abrev 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		
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	R	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	S	
Hiking Difficulty																																						
Distance (approximate)	51	54	53	54	54	61	55	53	56	54	59	59	57	61	55	61	69	60	60	65	66	72	68	67	65	69	66	65	66	73	62	63	62	66				
Trail Cams	X	4	5	5	6	5	5	5	6	4	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	5	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	3	4	5	4	5			
Dry Camps	1	2	3	2	2	1	1	1	3	1	2	3	2	3	2	3	1	2	1	3	3	1	2	1	3	3	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1			
Archery	X																																					
Archery - 3 Dimensional							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Astronomy																																						
Abseil (Climbing)																																						
ATV/Bike Course	X																																					
Baldy Mountain Hike		X	X												X	X	X								X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Backcountry	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	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																																						
Burn Pacing	X																																					
Campfire Evenings	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	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	
Challenge Events	X	X	X	X																																		
Challenge 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																																						
Cowboy Action Shooting	X	X	X																																			
Demonstration Forest	X	X	X																																			
Death Over Desert	X																																					
Fishing	X																																					
Fly Tying	X																																					
Fall Weather Forecasting																																						
Geocaching																																						
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	
Historic Chase Ranch																																						
Homesteading	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	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 Riding																																						
Jacinta Apache Life																																						
KIT Carson/Rajado Rancho																																						
Land Navigation, GPS Technology	X																																					
Lead Shot Shooting Range																																						
Lodge/Cabin 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	X	
Low Impact Canyoning																																						
Mexican Dinner																																						
Mini Trip	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	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 Men 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	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	
New Mexican Homestead	X																																					
Pope John War Steep																																						
Rainforest	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Rock Climbing & Rafting	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Rocky Mountain Fur Co.	X																																					
Search & Rescue/Wild Medicine																																						
Shooting/Rifle/Reloading - 30-06																																						
Shotgun Shooting/Reloading - 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	X	
Spear FISHING	X																																					
The Making & Crosscut Beams	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Tomahawk 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	X	
Tooth 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	X	
Western Lore/Training	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Wetlands Conservation																																						

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

Itinerary 12-6

Challenging

61 miles

Camping & Hiking Highlights

- Baldy Mountain - 12,441 ft.
- New Depot at Metcalf Station
- Black Horse Creek
- Baldy Mining District

Program Highlights

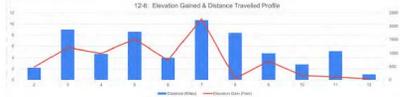
- Cowboy Action Shooting
- Spar Pole Climbing
- Railroading
- Challenge Course Events

Conservation

- Day 9 - Baldy Skyline
- 2:00pm
- Forest Restoration



12-6: Elevation Gained & Distance Travelled Profile



Day	Distance (miles)	Elevation Gained (feet)
1	10	1000
2	10	1500
3	10	1000
4	10	1200
5	10	1800
6	10	1000
7	10	1500
8	10	1000
9	10	1200
10	10	1000
11	10	1000
12	10	1000
13	10	1000
14	10	1000
15	10	1000
16	10	1000
17	10	1000
18	10	1000
19	10	1000
20	10	1000
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45	10	1000
46	10	1000
47	10	1000
48	10	1000
49	10	1000
50	10	1000
51	10	1000
52	10	1000
53	10	1000
54	10	1000
55	10	1000
56	10	1000
57	10	1000
58	10	1000
59	10	1000
60	10	1000
61	10	1000

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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	McBride Canyon *	2.2	482'	88'	Ranger Training; Water @ South Ponil; Trail Camp	Camping HQ
3	METCALF STATION	9.0	1,210'	1,082'	Climb Hart Peak, Petroglyph Tour @ Indian Writings; Rairading, Blacksmithing, Campfire	
4	DAN BEARD	4.7	992'	308'	Challenge Course Events	
5	Dean Skyline *	8.6	1,513'	977'	Trail Camp	Ponil
6	SANTA CLAUS	4.0	739'	717'	12 Gauge Shotgun Shooting and Reloading	
7	Black Horse Creek	10.7	2,280'	1,050'	Mining History & Assaying @ Baldy Town; Trail Camp	Baldy Town
8	Maxwell	8.4	49'	1,237'	Climb Baldy Mountain; Mountain Men Rendezvous @ Miranda; Trail Camp	
9	Baldy Skyline	4.8	705'	169'	Pick up Burros @ Miranda; Conservation Project	
10	FUEBLANO	2.8	168'	1,166'	Tie Making, Spar Pole Climbing, Campfire	
11	PONIL *	5.2	109'	1,025'	Drop off Burros; Western Lore/Branding, Cantina, Cowboy Action Shooting, Chuckwagon Dinner, Carline Show	Ponil
12	Camping HQ	1.0	43'	118'	Horse Rides; Hike to Ponil Trailhead, Awards Campfire	

(*) = Dry Camp (S) = Showers may be available

Departs from Camping Headquarters on Day 2 for Six Mile Gate Trailhead to go to McBride Canyon Camp
Returns to Camping Headquarters on Day 12 from Ponil Trailhead

This is a Burro Packing Itinerary. If your crew chooses it, they MUST TAKE THE BURRO.
Horse rides require that all participants weigh 200 lbs. or less. Spots limited, sign up in Logistics before departing base.

Campsite Elevations: 7,037' Minimum, 9,598' Maximum Camps: 5 Staffed, 5 Trail, 2 Dry Camps
Conservation: Baldy Skyline Sectional Maps: North

Crews passing through staff camps may have an opportunity to participate in some, but not all, program opportunities in the camp, based on availability.

NO CHANGES ARE POSSIBLE FOR CAMPS, FOOD PICKUPS, OR BUS TRANSPORTATION AFTER ITINERARY SELECTION

Philmont Scout Ranch, BSA 38 2021 Itinerary Guidebook

- 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 **2021** itinerary and trail segment (2022 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

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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 @ Portal 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

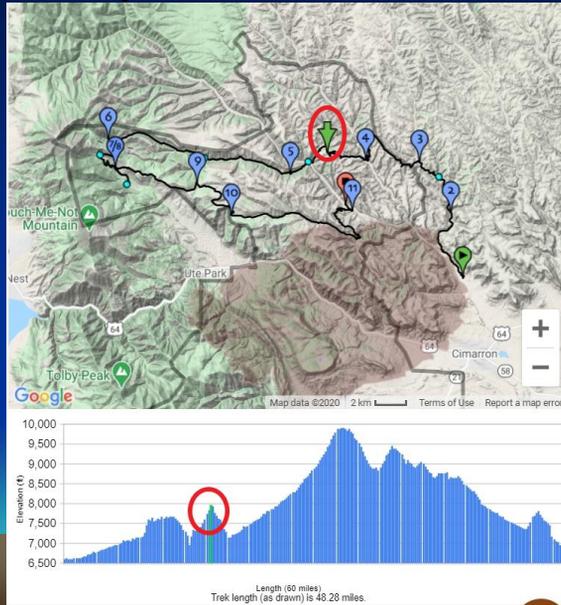
Departs from Camping Headquarters on Day 2 for Chase Turnaround to go to Hells Fire Canyon Camp.
 Return to Camping Headquarters on Day 12 from 9-Mile Gate Turnaround.

Campsite Elevations: 6,640' Minimum, 9,600' Maximum
 Camps: 4 Staffed, 6 Trail (0 dry) Camps; 1 Layover
 Sectional Maps: Valle Vidal, North

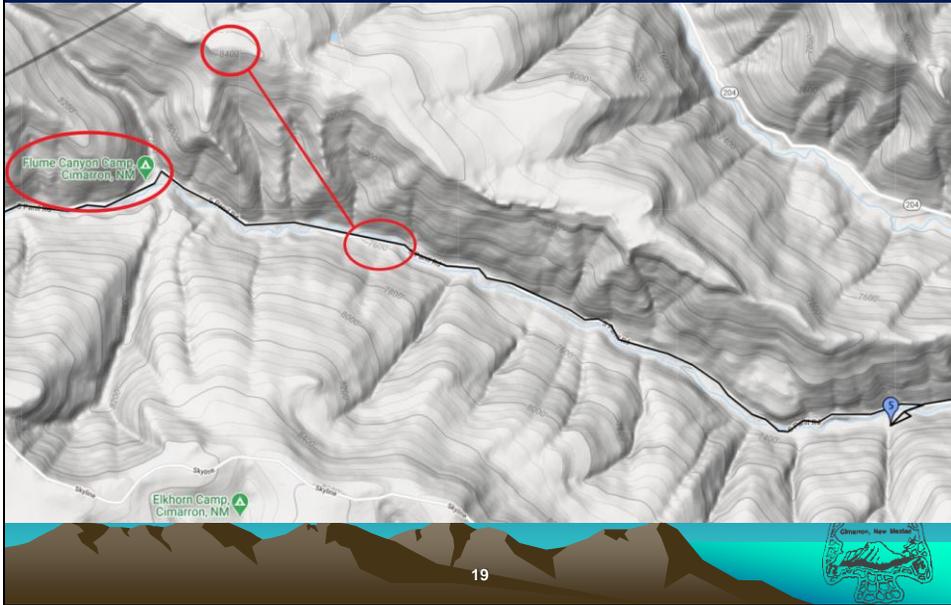
On the Philtrek site, this itinerary overview is essentially identical to the page in the Treks book – but this is only the top half of the web page.

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.

TRAIL SEGMENTS

- Cathedral Rock to Ute Springs
- Chandler Canyon Turnaround to Fourmile
- Chase Canyon to Cottonwood
- Chase Canyon to Indian Writings
- Chase Cow to Chase Canyon
- Chase Cow to Hells Fire Canyon
- Chase Turnaround to Hells Fire Canyon
- Cimarron River to Santa Claus
- Cimarron River to Ute Park Turnaround
- Cimarroncito to Cimarroncito
- Cimarroncito to Hunting Lodge
- Cimarroncito to Webster Parks
- Cito Turnaround to Cathedral Rock
- Clarks Fork to Aspen Springs**
- Clarks Fork to Ponderosa
- Clarks Fork to Upper Clarks Fork
- Clarks Fork to Webster Turnaround
- Clear Creek to Crooked Creek
- Clear Creek to Mt Phillips
- Clear Creek to Tolby Turnaround
- Comanche Creek to Clear Creek
- Comanche Creek to Crooked Creek
- Comanche Peak to Red Hills
- Comanche Peak to Thunder Ridge
- Cook Canyon to Dan Beard

Clarks Fork — Aspen Springs (elevation data from Google® Maps)

Trail Segment Data:
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.

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	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S						
Distance (approximately)	51	54	53	54	54	55	55	53	56	57	58	60	60	61	61	60	59	60	60	65	66	65	66	63	66	69	67	72	71	71	75	80	82	86								
Trail Camps	4	4	3	6	6	5	5	5	6	4	4	6	5	5	4	6	5	4	5	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	1	3	1	3	1	2						2	3		1	1	2	1										
Archaeology															X	X	X								X	X										X	X					
Archery - 3 Dimensional							X	X	X	X	X	X				X		X								X	X	X										X	X			
Astronomy																																						X	X			
Abseil (Cairn-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		
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	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	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	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	
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	X	
COPE													X																													
Cooley Adlon Shooting		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	
Dutch Oven Dessert		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	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	X	X
Folk Weather Forecasting																									X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	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	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	R	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	54	55	55	53	56	57	58	60	60	61	61	61	60	59	60	60	65	65	66	66	63	66	65	67	72	71	71	75	80	82	86			
Trail Camps	4	4	3	6	6	5	5	5	6	4	4	6	5	5	5	4	6	5	4	5	5	6	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	3	6	6	6	6				
Dry Camps	1		3	2	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	2	1	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	X											
Astronomy																								X		X								X	X	X		
Atlatl (Jart-Throwing)															X		X																			X	X	
ATV Rider Course	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	
Bowdrilling	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	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														
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
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	
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
COPE															X																							
Cowboy Action Shooting	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	
Dutch Oven Dessert	X																																					
Fishing	X																																					
Fly Tying	X																																					
Folk Weather Forecasting																																						
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	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 2021, 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
- It doesn't appear to be available until the new Treks book is released
- However, it doesn't 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

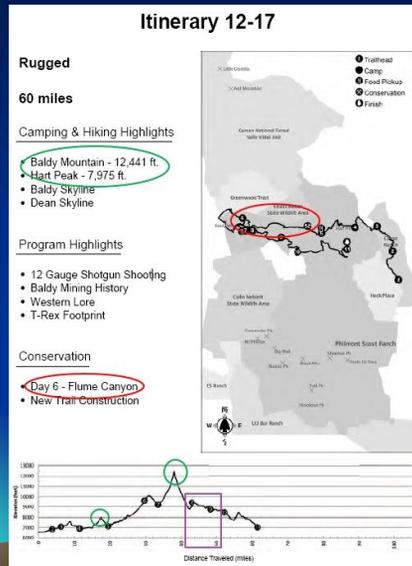
Factors to consider

- 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 ^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

- 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 the Crew 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.

