

MONARCH PASS VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECT

CDNST/CT DETOUR

JULY 1 – JULY 14, 2021

As users utilize the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST) and the Colorado Trail (CT) it is easy to see the many trees that have been affected by the spruce beetle endemic. To address this issue, the Monarch Pass Vegetation Management Project was implemented in 2018. This five year project, approved via a Decision Memo by the Supervisor of the Pike San Isabel National Forest will address 2809 acres of forest along Monarch Pass by thinning and removing these affected areas.

The 2021 project involves the removal of many mature Engelmann Spruce trees along the Continental Divide and within the Special Use Permit (SUP) boundary of the Monarch Mountain Ski Area. Specifically these trees will be felled by a professional team of contracted timber workers. Timber will be removed from the mountain via ground-based operations.

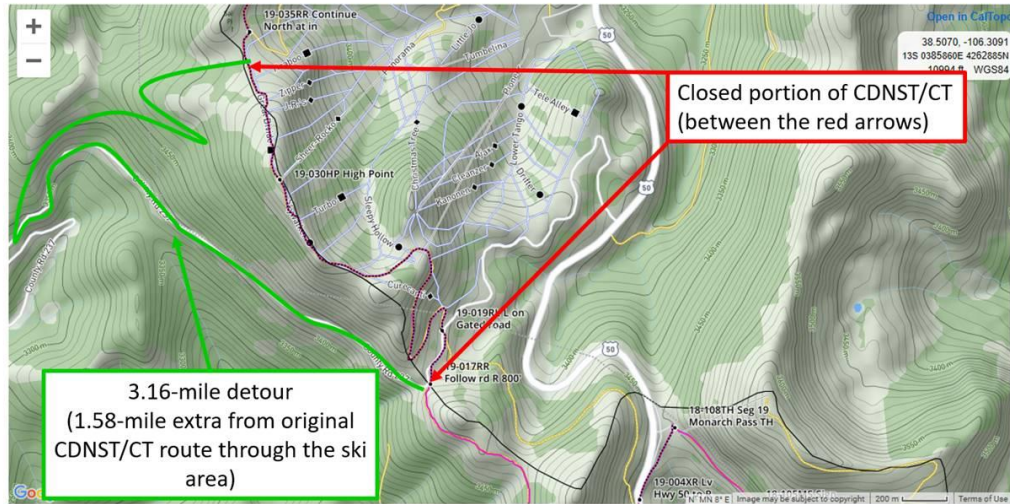
Due to the extent of this project and the **concern for public safety**, the CDNST and CT section through the Monarch Mountain Ski Area (CDNST- Between segments 19-017RR and 19-035RR) will temporarily involve a 3.16 mile (1.58 additional mile) detour to allow these timber removal operations to occur more safely.

The closure and detour will be active from July 1st-July 14th.

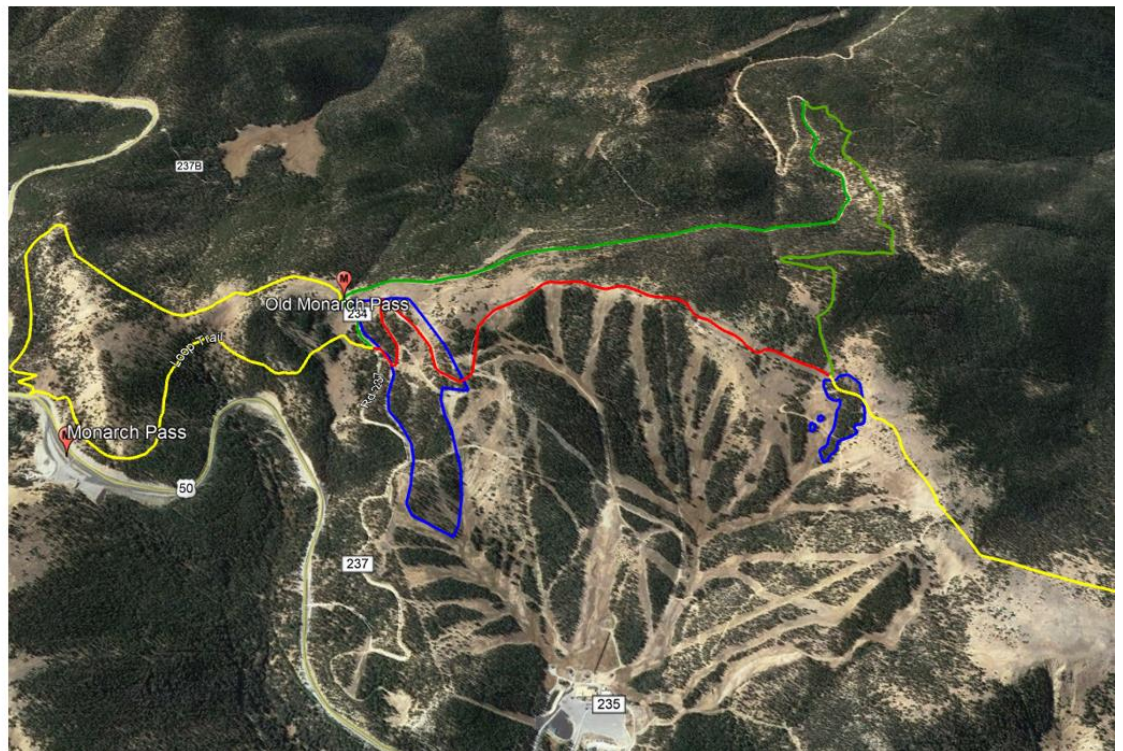
The closure and detour are depicted on the adjacent maps.

Detour is marked by **orange flagging**

Topo Map of CDNST/CT Detour



- CDNST/CT Trail**
- CDNST/CT Trail - Closed Portion through Monarch Mountain**
(Snowburn to Old Monarch)
1.58 miles
+/- 513'
- DETOUR**
Old Old Monarch Road and
Old Monarch Pass Road
3.16 miles
+/- 1170'
- Blue Polygons =**
Timber Removal Areas



The detour route will travel to the west of the ski area using a combination of the Old Monarch Pass Road and the original 1880's wagon route over the Continental Divide, Old-Old Monarch Pass.

DATES OF THE DETOUR:

July 1st-July 14th, 2021

USES ALLOWED ON THIS DETOUR:

Horses, Mountain Bike, Hiking, Motorized Use allowed on the Old Monarch Pass Road.

Only authorized motorized use is allowed within the ski area boundary.

MONARCH CONTACT INFO FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Contact: Scott Pressly, VP Mountain Operations/Monarch Mountain

Phone: 719-530-5000

Email: info@skimonarch.com

ROLLING DETOUR:

One polygon (Polygon 108) designated for thinning of dead and dying Engelmann Spruce trees on the northern portion of the 2019 timber project does not allow a detour utilizing either the Old Monarch Pass Road or the Old, Old Monarch Pass route. This area includes a very short section where the CDNST travels directly through the polygon.

When active cutting and/or removal is active within this polygon, two guards will be placed. Guards may be identified by an orange vest and flag along with a Monarch Mountain name-tag. One guard will be to the north of this polygon along the CDNST/CT and one guard to the south near the intersection of Old, Old Monarch Pass and the Ski Area Boundary.

These guards will coordinate with the logging team and/or machine operators via radio to conduct traffic control with CDNST/CT users. Users should expect 15 minute delays during this time. Exact dates of the rolling closure through this polygon are TBD. The remainder of the detour (Old Monarch and Old, Old Monarch) will be utilized during the rolling closure through this single polygon.

CLOSURE & MARKING TECHNIQUES

At the intersection of Old Monarch Pass and the Ski Area Boundary

near the summit of Old Monarch Pass:

-Wooden Orange Barricade across the trail just within the SUP. Signage and Maps posted to barricade or on adjacent wooden posts. Orange/flagged ski area boundary rope will also be attached from this barricade to adjacent trees to the east and west to harden the closure.

At the intersection of Old, Old Monarch Pass and the Ski Area Boundary near the summit of Old, Old Monarch Pass:

-Wooden Orange Barricade across the trail just within the SUP. Signage and Maps posted to barricade or on adjacent wooden posts. Orange/flagged ski area boundary rope will also be attached from this barricade to adjacent trees to the east and west to harden the closure.

The actual detour will be marked by orange flagging tied to tree limbs, signs, and road posts along the Old, Old Monarch Pass route and the Old Monarch Pass Road. Once clear of the active timber operations, the start of the CDNST/CT trails on both the north and south side of the closure will have a sign posted stating the following:

You are clear of the active timber removal operations within the Monarch Mountain Ski Area Boundary. Please continue on with the route you had planned. Thank you for your assistance with the CDNST/CT detour during these operations. We appreciate it and enjoy the CDNST/CT!

-Monarch Mountain Ski Area & the San Isabel National Forest