

# Never Summer 100K

## Runner & Crew Handbook

- **Start:** Gould Community Center, Gould, CO.
- **Distance:** 64.2 Miles with 13,000ft of vertical gain and 13,000ft of descent.
- **Max Elevation:** 11,852'
- **Min Elevation:** 8,450'
- **Average Elevation:** 10,220'
- **Terrain:** Trail, dirt road, rough trail, high alpine, rocks.
- **Fauna:** Moose, elk, black bears, bighorn sheep.
- **Mode of Transportation:** Foot
- **Date:** Saturday July 28, 2018, 5:30am
- **Cut Off:** 24 Hours; 23 hours to qualify for the Western States 100 lottery.

## Race Rules

Race rules are designed to provide a safe and fair experience for everyone involved and to help ensure our ability to produce the race again next year.

Major rule infractions by racers will result in immediate disqualification. Please do not argue with or harass our volunteers but feel free to direct any questions to Pete and Nick at [racedirector@gnarrunners.com](mailto:racedirector@gnarrunners.com).

## Course Cut Offs

The race will be limited to 24 hours and will end at 5:30am on Sunday July 24th. We will adjust the cut off times accordingly if the race does not start exactly on time.

Course cut offs will be enforced at the following aid stations:

- Diamond (Mile 17.2) at 11:45am. 6:15 Total time.
- Montgomery (Mile 23.2) at 2:15pm. 8:45 Total time. (Updated 2018)
- Ruby Jewel (Mile 29.4) at 4:20pm. 10:50 Total time.
- Clear Lake (2nd stop Mile 43.9) at 10:45pm. 17:15 Total time.
- Canadian Yurt (Mile 50.1) at 1:00am. 19:30 Total time.
- Bockman (Mile 55.8) at 3:00am. 21:30 Total time.

Note: Course cut offs should not be used for pacing targets to reach the finish within 24 hours. These cut offs have been set to give runners the maximum time on course and to ensure that volunteers can shut down and clean up within a reasonable time frame.

## Bib Numbers and Check In

- All runners are required to check in and pick up their bib number prior to the race start. Runners who do not check in will not be officially entered into the race and will not be recognized in the final results.

- At each aid station volunteers will record runner bib numbers. Runners are responsible for making sure that aid station volunteers record their number. Please make sure that your bib number is visible from the front and call out and confirm your number when passing through an aid station. This is important so that we can keep track of runners and know that you are not lost or injured.

## Dropping Out

- If you need to drop out of the race for any reason, you must check out with the nearest aid station captain and turn in your race bib. **If you do not inform us that you have dropped, we will assume that you are lost on the course and you may be liable for any search and rescue costs.**

## Water/Aid

- There will be no water cups at the aid stations. Bottles and water bladders can be filled at aid stations. Bottles or other supplies may not be stashed along the course. *All runners must have the capacity to carry a \*minimum\* of 20 oz of water, whether in a bottle or a hydration pack. Dixie cups will be available at aid stations for carbonated beverages, but they cannot be carried out of the aid station.*

## No Headphones or iPods

- Per the terms of our insurance coverage, we need to ask runners not to run with headphones. The sounds of nature are part of the experience too.

## Litter

- Purposeful littering is prohibited and will result in an immediate disqualification. Carry garbage to aid stations and dispose of trash in proper garbage containers or hand garbage to a volunteer. We recommend that you carry an extra baggie to stash small wrappers and gel tabs that can easily be dropped by accident.

## Stay on the Course

- No short cutting. Please follow course markings as closely as possible.

## Yield to Pedestrians and Horses

- The trail system will be open to the public during the race. Pedestrians and horses always have the right of way. Please be courteous and respect other people on the trail system. When approaching horses, talk to the rider and always wait until they give you permission to pass. Most riders will move their horses off the trail for you. Always try to assume higher ground when crossing paths with horses.
- Mountain bikers are required to yield to runners but for your own safety, please use common sense and watch for blind corners and be careful when passing bikers.

## Pacing

- For added safety at night, Pacers will be allowed starting at the Canadian aid station (no longer at the Clear Lake aid due to congestion). Pacers may meet their runners at Canadian (50.1), or Bockman Road (55.8). Canadian is accessible on foot from the trailhead at the end of CR41 (roughly one mile).

- For runners over the age of 60, we allow pacers beginning at the Ruby Jewel aid station (29.4). Pacers will need to park on the Ruby Jewel Rd below the Francisco Loop Rd and walk/run up to the Ruby Jewel aid station (1 mile).
- The last 2 miles from the Ranger Lakes road crossing to the finish will be open for any family and friends to join their runner. Parking at Ranger Lakes is limited so please plan on running the 2 miles back from the finish to meet your runner.
- Pacers may not provide any assistance to their runners outside the aid station and are only allowed for safety and moral support. Pacers may crew for their runner and assist them like any other volunteer or crew inside designated aid stations.

## Crewing

- Runners may not receive any additional crew aid outside of designated crew aid stations. Crewing on the course will result in the immediate disqualification of the runner.
- No parking anywhere on Highway 14.
- No crew vehicle access on the Montgomery Pass jeep road.
- No crew vehicle access on the Ruby Jewel Road past the Francisco junction.
- No crew vehicle access into the Bockman campground area past the Bockman aid station.

## Trekking Poles

- Trekking Poles are allowed.

## Dogs

- Dogs are not allowed on the course with runners.
- Well behaved dogs are welcome at the Gould Community Center, aid stations, and park trailheads.
- Dogs must be on a 6ft leash at all times – no flexi leads or long lines and do not leave your dog tied or unattended.
- Please keep your dogs out of the aid station tents and out of the runner traffic lanes.

## Valuables

- Please do not leave any valuables at the start/finish or aid stations. Volunteers are not responsible for returning items left behind at aid stations. We are not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

## Cancellation & Refund Policy

With the exception of waitlist transfers, entries are non-refundable and non-transferable. In the event the race is cancelled due to extreme weather, fire, or for some other unforeseeable event, we cannot offer refunds or credits. [See our registration page for our waitlist transfer policy.](#)

# Race Schedule

## Friday 7/27

**3:00pm to 7:00pm:** Pre-race check in at the Gould Community Center. Pre-race check in is optional, but encouraged to save time in the morning picking up your packet, dropping your drop bags, and asking any pre-race questions.

Bibs will be not be distributed until Saturday morning check-in.

You can pick up your packet and leave drop bags at check-in on race morning.

## Saturday 7/28

- ❖ 4:00am – 5:15am: Pre-race check-in and bib pick up
- ❖ 5:20am: Short pre-race briefing.
- ❖ 5:30am: Race start.
- ❖ 5:45am: Crew briefing and carpooling to Agnes/Diamond access
- ❖ 11:45am: Diamond (Mile 17.2) cut off
- ❖ 2:15pm: Montgomery (Mile 23.2) cut off
- ❖ 4:20pm: Ruby Jewel (Mile 29.4) cut off
- ❖ 10:45pm: Clear Lake (2nd stop Mile 43.9) cut off

## Sunday 7/29

- ❖ 1:00am: Canadian (Mile 50.1) cut off
- ❖ 3:00am: Bockman (Mile 55.8) cut off.
- ❖ 5:30am: Final race cut off and finish.
- ❖ 10:00am – 11:30am: Breakfast and awards at Gould Community Center.

# Aid Stations

Aid Station	Mile Split	Total Distance	Vertical Gain	Vertical Descent	Drop Bags	Crew Access
Michigan Ditch	11.4	11.4	2800	1600	No	No
Diamond	5.8	17.2	1000	1700	Yes	Yes
Montgomery	6.0	23.2	2800	1600	No	No
Ruby Jewel	6.2	29.4	600	1400	Yes	Hike In Only
Clear Lake Out	10.0	39.4	1950	2300	Yes	No
Clear Lake Back	4.5	43.9	1300	1300	Yes	No
Canadian	6.2	50.1	650	1300	Yes	Hike In Only
Bockman Road	5.7	55.8	900	650	Yes	Yes
Ranger Lakes	6.2	62.0	950	1000	No	Yes
Finish	2.2	64.2	50	150	Yes	Yes
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>13,000</b>		

***All aid stations will be fully stocked and staffed with volunteers.***

We will have a first responder and a radio volunteer stationed at Kelly Lake for added safety approximately halfway between Ruby Jewel (29.4) and Clear Lake (39.4). They will have a limited supply of water treated from the lake but will not have any additional aid supplies. This is intended to be used by runners who truly need it. Runners should plan to stock up at Ruby Jewel to carry the water and supplies that they need to complete this segment.

### **All full service aid stations will stock the following items:**

- Vfuel gel and sports drink
- Water and Ice

*The following items may be subject to change depending on the weather forecast, time of day and what we may find in season on race week. But you can count on a general selection of the following items:*

- Salty snacks: Pretzels, potato chips, corn chips
- Fruit: Oranges and Bananas plus additional variety depending on what might be available (watermelon, grapes, etc.)
- Sweets: Cookies, M&M's, Gummy Bears
- Soda: Coke, Mountain Dew, Ginger Ale
- Sandwich Rolls: Flour and Corn tortillas with peanut butter and jelly or turkey and cheese.
- Boiled potatoes
- Later aid stations serving runners through the night will offer hot ramen, broth, and coffee/cocoa.

***\*Aid stations will not provide water cups. All runners are required to carry their own water bottle or hydration pack.***

***Vfuel gel will be provided in bulk containers so please bring your own flask to fill at aid stations.***

We will have a limited supply of small cups for soda and other drinks. But to help us cut down on waste, please carry an extra small bottle or flask if you can.

## **Drop Bags**

If you have any specific personal nutrition or gear needs, you can leave drop bags to be taken to the designated drop bag aid stations. Drop bags can be left at the start on race morning and during Friday check in.

- Drop bags must be dropped off at the Gould Community Center at the pre-race check-in between 3pm and 7pm on Friday.
- Runners may also leave drop bags or finish line bags at the Gould Community Center start/finish area on race morning before the start.
- Please limit your drop bags to the size of a small duffel bag, day pack, or stuff sack (approximately 16in x 12in x 8in or smaller). Volunteers have limited space to transport drop bags so please do not over-pack. You will only be out on the course for a maximum 24 hours.
- Do not pack breakable glass or valuables in your drop bags.
- We will not be responsible for any lost or stolen items so please do not leave any valuables in your drop bags.

## Drop bags will be allowed at:

- Diamond (Mile 17.2)
- Ruby Jewel (Mile 29.4)
- Clear Lake (Mile 39.4/43.9)
- Canadian Yurt (50.1)
- Bockman Road (Mile 55.8)
- Finish

Drop bags from Clear Lake, Canadian, and Bockman Road will not be returned to the finish area until early Sunday morning and will be available at the post-race breakfast/awards. Drop bags from Diamond and Ruby Jewel will be available at the finish at the end of the day Saturday.

## Course Marking

The course will be well marked with pink flagging plus extra pin flags and flour at important intersections. On longer stretches of trail and road, flagging will be placed approximately every quarter mile. Turns will be marked heavily with 2-3 flags before and after the turn. If you see multiple flags, pay attention and watch for the next turn. If you don't see any flags for over 15 minutes you're likely off course and need to turn back.

Some of the trails on the course are quite primitive, and at times are barely recognizable as trail. At trail junctions, the best trail is not always the correct trail. In addition to system trails, the course uses old logging roads and some game trails. So keep your head up and follow the course markings at all times. Cattle and other wildlife in the area may damage or completely remove course markings. As a general rule of thumb though, where the trail is not obvious a marker should be within line of sight at all times.

We recommend bringing both maps (available on our website) and written directions (below) to follow the course.

## Detailed Course Directions

We recommend printing and carrying a copy of these directions along with printed course maps.

Printable maps are available to download online here:

<http://gnarrunners.com/never-summer-100k/course-map-profile/>

The course will be heavily marked on race day and these instructions highlight all of the major turns and tricky parts to watch for.

Start/Finish at the Gould Community Center (GCC) at the SE corner of the building. Head east (right) on the Gould Trail immediately after the GCC gate. Merge right onto dirt road after .2 miles and continue on road over the bridge. Stay right/straight on the Gould trail at 2.3 miles, then right onto the 7 Utes Road (2.6 miles) and left at the next fork (3.1 miles) to stay on the 7 Utes Road (marked with signs).

**At 4.3 Miles take a sharp right to go up the 7 Utes ridge on an old logging road.** Follow blue diamonds to the summit (and pink flags on race day). Towards the top, the route cuts off onto an older overgrown (and not always obvious trail) that goes straight up the ridge and reconnects with the main logging road after a quarter mile (mile 5.25). Continue up the main jeep road to the 7 Utes summit.

**Cross the 7 Utes summit and after roughly 100 meters turn left (east) to descend towards the saddle in the direction of the Silver Creek trail** (visible on the hillside to the east from the summit of 7 Utes). Follow blue diamonds (and pink flagging on race day) and stay on the left side of the saddle to connect with faint single track through the trees. **Continue onto the Silver Creek trail** (unmarked, but established) and follow it to treeline and the Braddock ridge. The singletrack trail will turn into a two-track logging road after the last ridge summit at 7.8 miles and will continue north down the ridge. **At the end of the ridge, take the 180 switchback right onto an older logging road.** The main logging road takes a turn to the left just before the switchback so this is easy to miss.

Follow blue diamonds and cairns (pink flagging on race day) on the old logging roads all the way to Lake Agnes. At the bottom of the descent, the logging road turns to singletrack as it traverses across a meadow/avalanche chute before a short but punchy climb up a drainage to the shores of Lake Agnes.

**Turn left at the lake and follow the trail and shore past the main Lake Agnes access trail to a less developed scree trail on the left side of the main Lake Agnes drainage at the northeast corner of the lake.** Follow the trail downwards and make a right over a small dam to connect with the Michigan ditch access road. Follow the flat service road for approximately 2 miles.

#### **Michigan Ditch Aid Station 11.4 Miles.**

**Turn right off the Michigan Ditch road onto the American Lakes trail** (marked across from Craggs road Jct). This trail is marked with blue park markers. Follow the main trail across the east side of the lakes towards Thunder pass.

**Left turn on faint trail at the brown trail marker just past the lakes.** Follow the old snowmobile trail down the hill for approximately one third of a mile and where the trail widens in the willows, **look for a rough path across the creek to the right.** Cross the creek and stay left in the trees around the willows and connect with the jeep road (orange park markers) that takes you back down to the Michigan Ditch road.

Go straight across the Michigan Ditch road to continue down to the American Lakes trailhead. Follow the park road to the aid station at the Lake Agnes Rd junction.

#### **Diamond Aid Station 17.2 Miles**

Leave the aid station heading west on the park road to Highway 14. Stay on the left shoulder of the road for approximately .2 miles and cross over to make a right onto an old logging road that connects to the Diamond Peaks jeep road. Turn **right on Diamond Peaks jeep road** to continue up.

**Approximately 2.5 miles from the aid station, take a right onto an old logging road.** This is in a large clearing at the top of a rise and the road heads directly towards North Diamond Peak so it is easy to recognize.

Continue up the road towards the peak. When you run out of uphill road at the T junction, continue upwards by following a faint game trail into the woods and chart that course for a quarter mile (steeply uphill) until you break out above treeline. On race day the route will be marked to the summit. Without course flagging, just keep going steeply uphill to the summit.

From the summit, drop left (north) on faint trail along the Medicine Bow ridge. After 1.6 miles from the summit, continue north on the ridge past the Montgomery Pass trail sign for about two-thirds of a mile and take a **left onto the Montgomery Pass jeep road** and continue down to the aid station just past the gate.

#### **Montgomery Aid Station - 23.2 Miles.**

Follow the Montgomery 4x4 jeep road down the hill for approximately 2.7 miles from the aid area and **turn right off the main jeep road onto the Yurt trail just below 9,800' elevation.** This is marked with a brown



trail marker but is easy to miss if you aren't paying attention while running down the road. If you see the Montgomery Yurt parking area, you've gone too far.

Follow the Yurt trail north to Ruby Jewel Rd. The trail is marked with blue park markers, but requires close attention as it is not always obvious. At any clearing, if you can't see a marker, continue straight across. The trail rolls between 9,800' and 9,400' and will be heavily marked with pink flagging on race day.

**After about 3 miles, the trail pops out onto an old logging road. Turn right here and right again when you hit the maintained Ruby Jewel Road.** This is a short section that may have overlapping traffic between front runners and the back of the pack on race day. Outbound runners should continue up the Ruby Jewel Road to the aid station at the yurt.

**Ruby Jewel Aid Station 29.4 Miles @ Ruby Jewel Yurt.**

Continue up the Ruby Jewel Road for a little under a mile and a half to the Ruby Jewel Trailhead. Follow the Ruby Jewel trail for half a mile and **make a sharp left turn onto Hidden Valley trail at the trail sign**. This turn can be easy to miss if not paying attention.

Follow the Hidden Valley trail to Kelly Lake. The trail is faint at the bottom of the valley and will cross to the left (west) side of the stream and then back to the right (east) side before climbing up to the saddle above Kelly Lake. At the NE corner of the lake by the backcountry camping, make a right and follow the Kelly Lake trail alongside Kelly Creek down the hill until it connects with the Clear Lake Road. **Turn right on the Clear Lake Road.**

**Clear Lake Aid Station 39.4 and 43.9 Miles.**

Follow the road to the Clear Lake trail and turn right up the trail. Follow the trail to the lake, turn around and come back to the junction.

Continue Northwest (right) on the Clear Lake Road. **Watch for the signed left fork onto the overgrown road** (~.8 Miles from Clear Lake aid station) and follow that for another  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile before making a **sharp left just before the fence line**. Follow the main trail in a southerly trajectory for just under 4 miles all the way to the road, turn right at the road and follow another  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile to the aid station at the gate to the Canadian Yurt trail.

**Canadian Aid Station 50.1 Miles @ the gate to the Canadian Yurt.**

**Turn left on the trail to the Canadian Yurt and go past the yurt to cross a small stream. Soon after crossing the stream make a right at the blue marker and cross another stream (half a mile after the aid location).** After crossing the stream head up out of the river, bearing left into a meadow. Follow the blue park markers around the edge of the meadow and back into the woods. Continue to follow blue markers through the woods on the Yurt trail. Be careful not to be confused by cow paths, logging cuts, or other game paths. This section will be heavily marked on race day.

At the end of the yurt trail, turn **left on the Canadian two-track logging road** and follow that back to the Ruby Jewel Rd.

**Turn Right down Ruby Jewel Rd.** On race day, front runners may overlap with the back of the back still making their way to the Ruby Jewel aid station. Continue down the Ruby Jewel Road for 1.1 miles to the Lumberjack trail. **Turn left onto Lumberjack** and follow the markers to the Bockman Rd crossing. The first part is marked with orange markers on the trees. The open meadow is marked with brown markers with white reflectors. There is a trail junction on a rise above the Bockman Rd and Bockman Campground just before the aid location. Take the trail right to the road crossing, but do not confuse this with another trail junction .2 miles before in the meadow where you should bear left to the rise.

## **Bockman Aid Station 55.8 Miles.**

**Cross Bockman Rd to the Pennock Trail** (slight dogleg to the left). Just after you go into the trees, watch for a right turn onto single track (marked with blue park markers) and continue to Grass Creek road. **Turn left on Grass Creek Road** and continue up the road for about 2 miles.

**After the road turns sharp right in SW direction, cross the river and turn left onto an old logging road at a small clearing.** Follow the old logging road straight up hill to an old clear cut. Veer left up through the clear cut and **turn right at the top of the clear cut** to exit on an old logging road. Follow this road to traverse around the hill and merge right onto a logging road that will take you down the hill to the highway (there is another left merge halfway down after the first right merge).

**Ranger Lakes Aid Station 62 Miles.** Cross the highway into the entrance to the Ranger Lakes Campground. **Turn right onto Gould trail just after the entrance booth.** Continue on the trail to the finish.

## **Crew Access**

**Crewing will be permitted at the following aid stations:**

- Diamond (17.2)
- Ruby Jewel (29.4, 1.8 mile walk in)
- Canadian Yurt (50.1, 1 mile walk in)
- Bockman Road (55.8)
- Ranger Lakes (62)

**2018 Update: There will be no crew or pacer access allowed at the Clear Lake aid station.**

Pacers may meet their runner to start pacing at Canadian, Bockman, or Ranger Lakes. 1 Pacer is allowed per runner from Canadian to Ranger Lakes. Any friends or family are welcome to accompany their runner on the final 2 miles to the finish from Ranger Lakes.

A printable crew park map is available to download here:

<http://gnarrunners.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Never-Summer-100k-Park-Crew-Map.pdf>

## **Crewing & Pacing Rules**

- **Runners are responsible for the behavior of their crew and pacers.** Any major violations by crew or pacers may result in the disqualification of the runner.
- **A State Park Pass is required** to access any aid station on the course. Day passes may be purchased at the Moose Visitor Center (half a mile west of the start), Lake Agnes entrance, or the main park entrance.
- **Crewing, pacing, or giving any assistance to runners outside of designated crew aid stations is prohibited.** Spectators are welcome to access additional points on the course by bike or by foot but may only spectate and provide moral support.
- **The park is open to the public so please be courteous and respectful of other hikers, bikers, and campers.** Bockman and Ranger Lakes aid stations are near major campgrounds so please limit noise and please do not drive through the campground areas after dark.
- **No Parking on Highway 14**

- **No Crew Vehicles are allowed on the Montgomery Jeep Rd**
- **No Crew Vehicles are allowed on the Ruby Jewel Rd beyond the Francisco loop.**
- Crew Vehicles parked along any park road **must not block traffic or any trail or access road gate.**
- **Crews & Pacers should not interfere with aid station volunteer teams.** Our volunteers work very hard for very long shifts so consider lending a hand while you wait for your runner.
- **Dogs must be on leash at all times.** Dogs should be kept on a 6ft leash at all times. Please no long lines or flexi leads and do not leave your dog tied or unattended at any station. Please keep your dog out of the immediate aid station and high traffic areas.
- **Bring your own food and supplies.** Aid station and finish line food and supplies are available for runners and pacers (while on course). Please pack in your own food, water, and any other supplies that you need for the weekend. Runners may purchase extra finish and breakfast meal tickets with registration. Race weekend meal purchases will be donated to our race beneficiaries.
- **No Muling (Pacers).** Pacers are allowed to accompany their runner from Clear Lake to the Finish for safety, moral support, and company. Pacers may not assist their runner in any way to carry gear or provide aid outside of the designated aid stations. Pacers may crew for their runner and assist them like any other volunteer or crew inside designated aid stations.
- **Carpool, Carpool, Carpool.** Parking space is limited on the course so please make an effort to carpool whenever possible. Before heading out to meet your runner at an aid station, check in at the Gould Community Center to see if other crews might be able to carpool. Pacers and volunteers will be looking for rides out to their stations throughout the day.

## Crew Directions

**\*\*There is very limited cell phone and data service in the area. We recommend printing out hard copies of any maps and directions that you need in advance. You will not be able to rely on your smartphone at most locations in the park.**

### Lake Agnes – Spectators Only (mile 10 – 3/4 mile (400') hike in)

Family and friends can see their runners coming through Lake Agnes at mile 10. Parking at the Lake Agnes trailhead is limited, so we kindly ask that you try to carpool with friends (new or old) from the start line. This access is spectator only - no crewing or aid may be given to runners at Lake Agnes.

To get to Lake Agnes from the start, drive east six miles towards Cameron Pass on Hwy 14, then make a right on CR62 and follow right 1.5 miles up to the Lake Agnes trailhead on rough, but 2WD accessible forest road. From the trailhead it's a 3/4 mile (400 foot gain) hike or run to beautiful Lake Agnes. The lake sits in a bowl below the Nokhu Crags, Mt. Richthofen, and Mt. Mahler, the iconic northernmost peaks of the Never Summer range. The first runners should be through somewhere between 7:00 and 7:30, so 1.5 to 2 hours after the start. The drive from the start to the Lake Agnes trailhead should take no more than 20 minutes, while the hike up might take another 20 minutes. If the Agnes Trailhead is full, you will need to park at the bottom of the hill and hike the full 2.3 miles up to the lake.

### Diamond (mile 17.2 – car accessible)

The Diamond aid location is located at the junction of the Lake Agnes and American Lakes access roads. Follow the directions to Lake Agnes. This aid station is just a couple of miles from the Lake Agnes trailhead and six (fast highway) miles from the start/finish, making for easy crewing and spectating. This is a very easy aid station to carpool to as it is very close to the start and runners will be closer together early in the race. Crews can meet together at the Gould Community Center at the crew briefing after the race starts.

Parking at the aid station is very limited so we ask that people try to carpool if possible. Crews may park in the open area to the right of the aid station by the park dumpsters or anywhere on the right side of the access road

or in the several spaces available right off the highway. Please watch for runners on the road and do not block traffic.

**\*\*\*There will be No Parking anywhere on Highway 14.\*\*\***

If spectators want to check out the action from the top of North Diamond (11,850'), which runners will be summiting as the high point on the course at mile 21, then it's a little over a mile with 1,500ft of climbing, if accessed from Cameron Pass (where there is a good-sized parking lot). The trail from Cameron Pass is good, but not marked. To find it, follow the creek to the northwest of the parking area. The trail follows the creek to treeline after which it is a steep hoof for the summit (right /north peak). Approaching from the west side, on the course route, adds a mile and a half in getting to the summit and limited parking is available in the picnic area turn out (the original aid station location) off Hwy 14. We're expecting the first runners to be through Hwy 14 in three to three and a half hours, and on top of Diamond in roughly four hours. This would be a unique way to take in the race action, and the views from the top of North Diamond are definitely worth the hike.

Spectators may also bike or hike in on the Michigan Ditch road. The road is an easy bike ride from Cameron Pass for families with kids, and you can see runners on their way to the American Lakes aid station (~3 miles from Cameron Pass) or you can bike in 5.2 miles and then hike just about a third of a mile up to Lake Agnes by following the course markings from the American Lakes aid station.

**Ruby Jewel (mile 29.4, 1-2 mile (400') hike in)**

The Ruby Jewel road will only be open to park visitors and volunteers past the Francisco Loop junction. Crew cars will have to park on the side of the Ruby Jewel Road anywhere before the Francisco Loop junction (watch for signs) or further down on the side of the main park road (CR41) and hike, run or bike 1 to 2 miles (400') up the Ruby Jewel Road to the aid location. Ruby Jewel is a narrow, rough road so please drive carefully and watch for runners and other traffic on the road. Please pull over as far as you can to leave the roadway clear.

From Cameron Pass, it's just over 11 miles west to the main park entrance by the North Park campgrounds. Make a right into the park and follow CR41 five miles to the Ruby Jewel Rd intersection. It is two miles from CR41 to the aid location and a mile from the Francisco Loop parking junction.

**Canadian (mile 50.1 – 1 mile gentle hike in)**

Crew cars will park at the trailhead at the northern end of CR41, three to four miles up the road from the Ruby Jewel intersection. It is about a mile on gently downhill dirt road to the Canadian aid location.

Your runners are going to take a long time getting there from Ruby Jewel. It will take the front of the field between four and five hours, so don't be in any hurry to get out there from Ruby Jewel. Go check out Jewel Lake (11,300') another 2.5 miles and 1,600 ft up the trail from the Ruby Jewel aid location. If you're feeling perky, hoof steeply for Clark Peak (12,950'), which towers over the lake and is the high point in the Medicine Bow Mountains. The views are well worth it if you can get it all done in time.

**Bockman Road Crossing (mile 55.8 – car accessible)**

Runners will be crossing the Bockman Campground Road at mile 55.8, where there will be crew access at the aid station. Parking will be along the side of the road before you get to the trail crossing and aid station.

From the Canadian parking lot, it is 5 miles to the left turn onto CR41B or Bockman Campground Road. The aid and crew location is 3/4 of a mile down 41B.

It is also not far from the Bockman Campground, so please do not drive past the aid station location and keep noise levels down during the night.

## **Ranger Lakes Campground (mile 62 – car accessible)**

Friends and family are welcome to run the last two miles of the race into the finish with their runners once they have crossed Hwy 14 at Ranger Lakes. The trail from Hwy 14 descends gently into the finish.

Limited parking is available at Ranger Lakes so if possible, please park at the finish and run or hike the 2 miles back to the aid station to meet your runner.

The first part of the trail goes by Ranger Lakes campsites so please keep noise to a minimum during the night.

## **Parking & Directions**

There will be parking at the Gould Community Center start/finish area for all participants but carpooling is strongly encouraged. The Gould Community Center is located a half mile east of the State Forest State Park Moose Visitor Center on the south side of Highway 14.

## **Carpooling**

**Local Campground Carpools:** We will have several volunteers available at the finish line to help shuttle finishers back to campsites and cabins in the local area (Craggs, Agnes Yurts, Ranger Lakes, Gould Cabins, North Park Campground or Yurts, Michigan Reservoir, Bockman). So we would like to encourage as many runners as possible to carpool to the start.

Please use our Never Summer 100k Event Facebook page to post messages to ask for a ride or offer a ride if you have space.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/995102060629232/>

Or email us at [volunteer@gnarrunners.com](mailto:volunteer@gnarrunners.com). If we have enough interest in carpooling from certain campgrounds, we will help facilitate a schedule, meeting location, and additional volunteer shuttles.

## **Crew Drop Off**

If your crew/family will be dropping you off on race morning and does not need to park for the duration of the race, please have them drop you off at the Community Center Entrance and then park at the Visitor Center .5 miles to the West. There is a short connector trail to walk over to the start from the Visitor Center.

***\*\*No Parking Anywhere on Highway 14\*\****

## **Driving Directions**

**From Boulder/Denver (2:30 – 3:00 hours):** The Never Summer 100km stages out of Gould, CO, just west of Cameron Pass. Traffic coming from the Denver/Boulder area should take I-25 north to exit 269B (Hwy14/Mulberry Rd) and follow 14/287 until 14 splits west into the Poudre Canyon, a few miles north of Fort Collins. Once in the canyon, it is an approximately 65 mile drive west to Cameron Pass on winding road following the beautiful Wild and Scenic Poudre River. The Gould Community Center is five or six miles past the Pass on the left. **Please note that the last 24-hour gas station is at the junction of Highways 287 and 14.**

**There is gas at the two stores in the small town of Rustic about halfway up the canyon, but these are only open until 7pm.**

**From Steamboat (1:15 – 1:30 hours):** Take Hwy 40 & 14 to Walden, then continue on 14 east for another 20 miles to Gould.

**From Fort Collins (1:30 – 1:45 hours):** Head west on Hwy 14 up the Poudre Canyon. Once in the canyon, it is an a 65 mile drive west to Cameron Pass on winding road following the beautiful Wild and Scenic Poudre River. The Gould Community Center is five or six miles past the Pass on the left. See bolded note in Denver directions about gas stations.

**From Laramie/Cheyenne (1:30):** Head south towards Jelm on WY 230 and either follow it to Walden and drive east on 14 to Gould, or veer left to Jelm on WY 10/CO 103 (Laramie River Rd) to Hwy 14. Head west to Cameron Pass on Hwy 14; Gould will be 5 or 6 miles past the pass.

## **Gas and Food**

The closest gas station is located in Walden approximately 25-30 minutes west of Gould. Remember to fill up before leaving Fort Collins. There is gas available in Rustic at two small country stores on the way up the canyon but the pumps close at 7pm.

There is 1 small convenience store in Gould at the Gould Gift Shops. There is also a small grocery store and a couple of restaurants in Walden.

Finish line food and the Sunday awards breakfast is available for registered runners. Additional meals for pacers, crew, family, and friends may be available for a \$10 donation to our race beneficiaries.