

Operation New Trails is set to cover roughly 75 miles of the Colorado Trail in 5 Days. We are asking participants to arrive early to acclimate to higher elevation. We will also be giving a Leave No Trace course the day before the event begins. This is mandatory for all participants (both hikers and volunteers – anyone who steps foot on the Trail).

Hike Breakdown:

Day one Segment One:

Marathon start early morning; the first team should be prepared to be on the trail no later than 4am. Segment one consists of 16.8 miles and has an elevation gain of 2,830 feet, and an elevation loss of 2,239. This is a total of loss and gain of 5,069 feet on segment one. Segment one will take approximately 10 hours per team.

Day Two Segment Two:

Marathon start will begin at 5:30 am.

Segment two consists of 11.5 miles with an elevation gain of 2,482 feet, and an elevation loss of 753 feet. This is a total loss and gain of 3,235 feet. Expect segment two to take approximately 8 hours.

Day Three Segment Three:

Marathon start early morning; the first team will be departing at 5:30 am.

Segment three consists of 12.2 miles and has an elevation gain of 1,975 feet, and an elevation loss of 1,549. This is a total loss and gain of 3,524 feet. Segment three will take approximately 8 hours per team.

Day Four and Day Five Segment 6:

Marathon start will begin with the first team leaving basecamp at 6:30 am.

Segment six is a two-day hike in the wilderness. This segment will be the hardest and most challenging. Segment six consists of 32.9 miles and has an elevation gain of 5,196 feet, and an elevation loss of 5,968 feet. That is a total loss and gain of 11,164 feet. This segment is going to challenge everyone!

Conclusion:

For these segments the total elevation gains and loss is 22,992 feet, remember that all of this hike is well above a mile above sea level. This hike is not for the faint of heart and if you are not committed to challenge yourself outside of your comfort zones please think twice of partaking in this endeavor. Safety for all participants is our number one concern. With that being stated if you do not show up prepared physically and mentally please know that you will be placing huge strains and increased dangers on the teams that you will be hiking with. I am not trying to scare anyone away, rather trying to have everyone to look at all sides of this exceptional challenge.

Please be honest with yourself and with us to help prepare everyone for this amazing event - the fitness programs that each individual will receive will only be as good as the information about you that we have to start with ... there is a HUGE difference in planning a fitness program for a 300 pound man, who lives at sea level and has a sedentary lifestyle, rather than a 130 pound female who lives in Colorado and is an avid hiker ... I can only help you if you are honest about your current lifestyle / state of preparedness.

