Pathfinder Scope Sheet

**What you’ll be sending us:**

1) This document with answers to the 3 questions below.

2) Photos

3) Bonus details - these are bonus because they require some research and they are not necessary for you to send over.

**What we are looking for:** A lot of sites give a play-by-play of the hiking trail. We try to avoid that approach because it requires readers to sort through too much in order to find the information they need. Instead, we try to answer a few key questions.

Here is a great example of a hike by one Pathfinder Leslie W.: [St. Mary’s Glacier Hike](http://www.dayhikesneardenver.com/st-marys-glacier-hike/)

**Name of the Hike:**

**1) Why would I want to go on this hike?**

Examples: views at a particular outlook along the trail, a waterfall, that it follows a stream, etc.

**2) What should I expect or be aware of?**

Examples: No dogs allowed, high water levels on river in the spring (thinking of families with small kids), limited parking (maxwell falls is like this), no restrooms, no shade, and important trail intersection that is easy to miss.

**3) What other tips would you give me?**

**Photos:**

You can send your photos to us via email, or we can give you access to a folder on our Google Drive. It’s really up to you. Here are the photo guidelines.

1) Send only a Maximum of your 12 best photos

2) Things to look for: a shot of the trailhead, captivating views, wildlife, a photo of any difficult trail intersections where it may be important to know which way to go.

3) Shoot 80% of your shots in landscape orientation (as opposed to portrait orientation)

4) Here is a link to a great article of 11 tips for landscape photography

<http://digital-photography-school.com/11-surefire-tips-for-improving-your-landscape-photography/>

**Bonus Details (research)**

This section is full of details. Good resources are county park or state park sites for the most official information. Other reliable sites are:

<http://www.localhikes.com/GetHikes.asp?ActiveHike=SetPref&SetPrefStateID=1>

<http://www.protrails.com>

**Hike Distance:** Note if distance is OW (one way) or RT (Round trip)

**Difficulty:** Easy Moderate or Difficult

**Trail Type:** Loop, Out and Back, Lollipop

**Elevation Gain:**

**Dogs allowed?** Allowed on Leash, Allowed Off Leash, Not Allowed

**Seasons:** All year, Spring through Fall

**Hike Trail Map Link:** Look for official county or state maps on those sites. No google maps for this

**Town Nearest Hike:** Example: Boulder, Colorado

**Beauty:**

3-5 unique beautiful elements about the hike. See examples on other posts at www.dayhikesneardenver.com and list of features below for ideas

**Activities:** Allowed activities. Mention 3-4. Hiking, Picnics, Mountain Biking, Horseback riding, rock climbing, camping

**Note trail closures and provide link:** If, in your research you find that the trail has closures (do to flooding usually), note that here and give a link to the info. If not, just leave blank or put "none."

**Highlight all features that apply for this hike**

* Bluff Top Views (non-mountain peak)
* Mountain Top Views (views from top of mountain)
* Canyon
* Cave
* Cliffs
* Creek or Brooks
* River
* Lake
* Grassland
* Mountain Range Views (views of mountain ranges in the distance)
* Red Rocks
* Rock Formations
* Ruins (of old buildings)
* Waterfalls
* Wetlands
* Wildflowers (only for hikes with spectacular wildflowers mentioned)

**Links to websites you used the most or found most helpful while researching this hike:**

**By submitting this scope sheet, you consent to the following:**

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