

BRIDAL VEIL FALLS RECREATIONAL ACCESS LICENSE INFORMATION

The public recreational access license to the Bridal Veil Falls ice flow that San Miguel County currently holds is revocable, and any abuses of this area, or other violations of the license agreement between San Miguel County, the Trust for Public Land and the Idarado Mining Company, could result in a climbing closure to the public. Please respect this area and its access regulations.

WARNING: The approach and descent for the Bridal Veil Falls ice flow will expose climbers to potentially hazardous avalanche terrain. Consult with local climbers and guides as to avalanche and route conditions before entering License Area (see route map).

Bridal Veil Falls ice flow is an extremely difficult and dangerous climb and should be attempted only by experts. Beware of bad ice conditions and ice fall from natural causes or from other climbers. Climbers assume any and all risks associated with climbing of the Bridal Veil Falls ice flow, an inherently dangerous activity that can result in serious injury or death. San Miguel County does not extend any assurances to climbers or other members of the public that the Bridal Veil Falls ice flow is safe for ice climbing or any other purpose, nor does the County assume any responsibility for any injury to persons or property or for the death of any person caused by any act or omission of such person.

EMERGENCIES: *In the event of emergency call 911*

Climbers are expected to be self reliant and perform self-rescue if necessary. Don't expect rescue or medical services to be immediately available or available at all. Climbers are encouraged to purchase a Colorado Hunting/Fishing License, or a COSAR Hiking Certificate in order to help reimburse San Miguel County for potential rescue expenses. These are available at all Telluride outdoor retail stores.

Climbers must avoid the Powerhouse area at the top of Bridal Veil Falls. The only descent routes are via bolted anchors to right of climb (see route map) or down the ice route. Two 60-meter ropes are required for the descent.

RULES & REGULATIONS:

- 1. REGISTRATION:** *Climbers must sign in and sign out at this register, and include date and time of day.* This helps keep track of how many climbers are using the area. It also lets other climbers know when a party is ahead of them, as well as assists in any potential rescue efforts. Climbers who do not register are considered to be trespassing.
- 2. GUIDES:** Professional guides are required to complete a registration/release form available online at www.sanmiguel-county.org on the Open Space and Recreation page under Departments; or available from the San Miguel County offices located at 333 W. Colorado Avenue, 3rd Floor, in Telluride. All guides must possess and present acceptable evidence of liability insurance that names Idarado Mining Company, Trust for Public Land, San Miguel County and Telluride Mountain Club as additional insureds. The minimum policy amount is \$150,000 per person, \$600,000 per occurrence.
- 3. PROTECTION:** Any ice and/or rock protection (other than used for retreat) must be removed. Climbers must be properly equipped with appropriate gear while climbing and descending.
- 4. ACCESS:** Access to the license area is limited to County Road K69. If you leave the county road, you are trespassing on private property.
- 5. ROUTES:** Climbers must restrict climbing and descending to the main Bridal Veil Falls and within 15 feet to either side. Climbers must descend the falls, or next to the falls via the bolted anchors (see route map for descent anchor locations). Climbers are not to enter into areas located outside of the designated climbing and descent routes. Climbing the ice east of the main Bridal Veil Falls (including anywhere under the Powerhouse) is strictly prohibited, as high-voltage electric and septic lines from the hydropower plant are located in the vicinity. Climbing on nearby privately-owned cliffs is also prohibited.
- 6. POWERHOUSE AREA:** Climbers must avoid any interference with or trespassing on the Powerhouse area. Climbers must avoid touching or belaying off of any structure, fence, flume, porch or any other human improvement in the License Area. Such improvements, including old bolts or trestle, may be unsafe and can break.
- 7. TOP-ROPING:** Top-roping on Bridal Veil Falls is prohibited.

Parking: Parking is available only on the left side of the road at the end of the pavement. Do not block the road, gates or snow removal areas. Violators may have their vehicles towed and ticketed. If possible, arrange for a drop off and pick up.

Information: Access changes, avalanche conditions, route and guide information is available at local outdoor retail stores in Telluride, as is the guidebook, *San Juan Ice Climbs*. If another party is on your intended route, please consider another local climb instead. The Colorado Avalanche Information Center can be reached at (970) 387-5712 or <http://avalanche.state.co.us/>

General: Climbing access to Bridal Veil Falls is made possible by a revocable license agreement that the Idarado Mining Company has granted to the Trust for Public Land and San Miguel County.

Compliance with these rules and regulations is necessary in order for climbing privileges to be maintained. Please treat this area and its adjacent private land with respect and help to educate others as to its proper use.



Special thanks to Idarado Mining Company, the Trust for Public Land and San Miguel County for helping to restore climbing access to Bridal Veil Falls, and to the Telluride Mountain Club and The Access Fund for promoting climbing access education and advocacy.

