

# COLORADO

COOL MOUNTAIN AIR 5C

HOT 35C

HILLS

OOPEN LANDS

WESTERLYS

AGRICULTURE: FEED YARDS, BISON HERDS

DESSERT PLANTS

CLOUDS



**DAY 43 City Park CG Tribune KS to Eads City Park Colorado**  
**May 17/08 Saturday D93.98 km M29.7 A15.6 T6h TT9.5h total 3268.1 km**

**Temp** not so cool this morning 10C and warmed up to 30C by afternoon... yippee maybe summer is here!

**Wind** Well I am getting tired of reporting that the wind is out of the North, but part ... a small part of the day we did have a tail wind for maybe 15 minutes

**Food: Breakfast** yogurt, bananas, with granola for a change Ken apple, cheese wrap and 2 pancakes with coffee [Mike was at a café for coffee so we joined him... I will note he had the hugest stickie bun for breakfast with porridge... might note from the pictures he is a nice trim skinny guy of 25]

**Lunch** Sheridan Lake at a "for sale" picnic table!... pb buns, ice crème bar as 30C and pop

**Supper** spaghetti with red sauce was good

**Road Conditions** very nice with shoulder all the way on 96, climbing gradually all day now up to 1280m by days end

**Accommodation** Cut little city park along the railway tracks... we have only seen one train in the last week moving! The washrooms are across the tracks at the rest area. There are some really thorny plants that stick into my soft shoes... hope not to get any in the bike tires. Mike is off to stay with friends.

**Overall:** Was a bit long, but a good day. Mike stayed at the same camp spot last night and we rode some together. He is a little lighter loaded and a little younger than us so stopped to talk to several cyclists, but caught up to us no problem. Met a fellow, Peter, from LA whose father is Sagwagoning for him so he is unloaded going East to NY. Said he has been waiting 32years to do this trip since he was 18 so this is the year [50] Met 2 other fellows going east from Boulder CO going to NY they also were young guys with light loads. Ken met a fellow staying at the motel here in Eads who is from Hawaii.. he spent \$500 to UPS his bike to Colorado to start a trip across the states.... I'm not sure what he was thinking. Anyways he has never toured so would be interesting to hear how he does.

Ken wants to buy the Transamerica route shirt from Adventure cycle... Peter had one on and it was very nice.

Sheridan Lake is a "salt" dry lake so no tourist stuff there. Gas was \$385.9 unleaded





We went over to Mountain standard time yesterday, but our biological clocks didn't auto-change so we were up really early and off to a café for breakfast. Mike likes his coffee! We left him there having his 3<sup>rd</sup> cup! He is headed to Denver to see his sister so we will not see him again this trip.

We got some sun today. The Eads baseball team won the State championship for the second year in a row so there is a lot of horn honking to night!



these are the only 'Windmills' we have seen but apparently they do have "wind farms" somewhere in the state.... With all this wind I'm amazed there are not more! They are really behind Canada in anything environmental that's for sure... no recycle of paper, cardboard...still using huge amounts of Styrofoam...



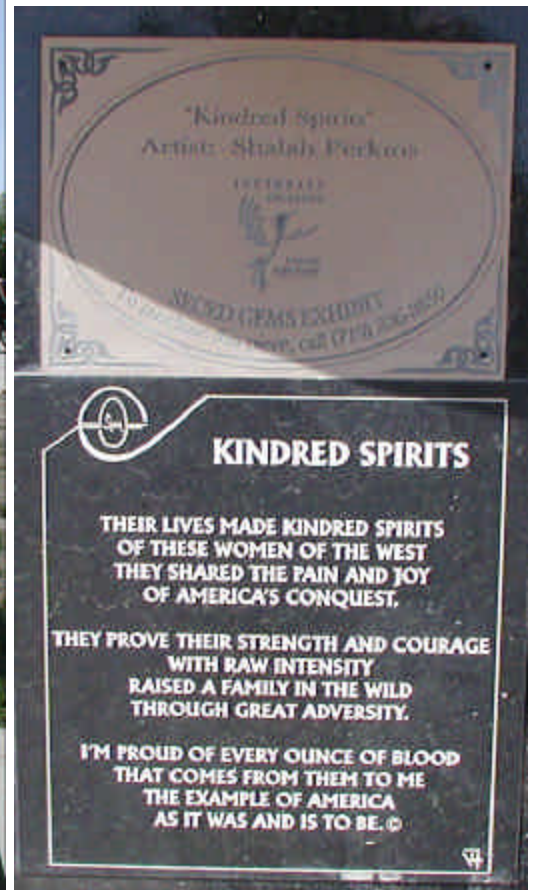
Ken and Mike on the road at Sheridan Lake



The white line leads to the sky where the grainery is maybe 3km away in this prairie town.

Mike took this picture for us.

Mike went to stay with friends in Eads and then was off to Denver to see his sister. It was fun to spend some time with him.



I love this statue in Eads It is hard to see but the women are.. Spanish, English and French and is a tribute to the women who made the west.

DAY 40 City Park CG (Tribune KS) to City Park CG (Eads CO) 93.7

Head south on Ingalls Ave toward Fairgrounds Rd/Zenaide St	0.2 km	0.2 km
Turn right at Fairgrounds Rd/Zenaide St	0.1 km	0.3 km
Slight left at Martin Ave	1.0 km	1.3 km
Turn right at KS-96	25.2 km	26.5 km
Entering Colorado Continue on CO-96 @ <b>48km KM Sheridan Lake SS/R/G (limited)</b>	66.2 km km	92.7 km
Turn right at Main St <b>Eads AS</b>	0.9 km	93.6 km
Turn right just after the tracks	69 m	93.7 km

Econo Lodge 609 E. 15th St. Eads, CO 81036 (719) 438-5451



This is one of the many empty flood fields awaiting the melt of the snow up in the mountains.

**DAY 44 Eads City Park Colorado to Ordway JR CG**  
**May 18/08 Sunday D97.84km M 25.7 A14.5 T6h44 TT 8 h total 3365.9 km**

**Temp** warm right from the get go... 15 up to 30C by days end

**Wind** a westerly, but not too strong but we went all over the place west, south and west again

**Food: Breakfast** yogurt, bananas, with granola Ken apple, cheese wrap

**Lunch** At Arlington's little rest area... usual pb/jam wraps for a change!

**Supper** we went out for pizza and did our washing

**Road Conditions** good. Variable paved surface with or without a shoulder, but little traffic as Sunday

**Accommodation** Well we decided not to stay in Sugar City Park as no showers... came on to Ordway which had ~~showers~~—NOT The camping is behind a truck stop but they took out the showers. Well lots of hot hot water in a very clean bathroom, but it's just not the same! Especially when it got to +30C today The tent is on the driest cooch grass with rust coming out of the water tap, power and \$10. The City Parks are a real deal! Oh and the Ordway Feed Yard is just a wind blow away!

**Overall:** Got up early due to the time change still affecting us and good thing as the sprinklers were on down the way in the park... do I feel like a homeless person now? Anyways we packed up and moved off the grass... never did get to the sprinklers by us, but we were a bit concerned. We spoke to probably 10 people in town and not one mentioned the sprinklers coming on... they all said cyclists were welcome in the park... I will email and see what I am told. Anyways almost got my shower for the day! Left town past farms, pig feedlot, cow feed yards.... Then on to very dry desolate land. Ken spoke to a fellow who said it takes 25 acres to feed one cow!



funny goats!

So by 1030 we were in Haswell 56.5km elevation 4538ft.... has a service station with a couch area for cyclists to relax... oh yeah they are closed on SUNDAYS!! Although there is not a church to be seen in the past 2 towns. It looks like a really neat spot. The camping for the town is a bit sketchy... outhouses that aren't in good repair, but the tables are under shelters. The town was a bit spooky as 1030 and not a soul around anywhere. There are only about 10 houses in various states of repair or disrepair? They advertise the smallest jail in Colorado, but we didn't go down by it as it is SUNDAY and I'm sure it's not open.

We continued on to Arlington which is another interesting spot. We didn't expect any services as on google earth just 2 streets... got there only one street but they have the nicest little rest area with a really clean cute outhouse with a light and all. Picnic table and shade trees! These were really appreciated even though I love the sun and am getting very brown! The outhouse has a LOG book recording the cyclists that travel this way dating back to 2004... neat comments

We headed off another 30km to Sugar City which had than goodness some shops open. We stopped at the BAIT shop for a Mountain Dew and she gave me a Popsicle! Oh that was so so good. We debated staying, but only 5 miles to Ordway and showers... so off we went into the furnace wind. The camp spot I described above, but forgot to mention when I came back from my wash up Ken had asked for the wind to change and the Feed Lot smell was overpowering.... Oh God Give me the strength to go on!

We are inside the truck stop café with tv's , laundry and air-conditioning without the feedlot SMELL! Maybe I will just sleep here!

Oh brother I just discovered I deleted my Kansas log last night! I hope my computer guru can get it back!

DAY 41 City Park CG (Eads CO) to Ordway JR's CG 98 km

Left from city park to main street	0.3 km	0.3 km
Turn left on main street to hwy 96	0.9 km	1.2 km
Turn right at W 15th St/CO-96 Continue to follow CO-96 <b>@36 KM Haswell SS</b>	88.4 km	89.6 km
Turn left at Iowa St <b>Sugar City R/SS/G (limited)</b>	0.1 km	89.7 km
Turn right follow CO 96	7.3km	97 km

City Park CG in Sugar City is nice, no washrooms seen

Better get Groceries in Eads Has minimal groceries at the bait shop

Could go 8Km further to **Ordway AS** Hotel Ordway 132 Colorado Ave Ordway, CO 81063 (719) 267-3541

The Junction RV Park & Restaurant Ordway, CO 719-267-3262 CG needs upkeep but has water/power NO SHOWERS

## ABOUT HALF WAY HOME !!!

### DAY 45 Ordway JR CG to Pueblo Bramble Tree Inn

May 19/08 Monday D80.9km M 34.1 A15.2 T5h15 TT 8 h total 3446.0 km

**Temp** warm already in the morning 15C and got up to 35C by afternoon and that is hot hot in the desert!

**Wind** Westerlys but not too strong as one can see our average wasn't too bad... oh we went south some!

This is the War memorial in Onley Springs with all the flags blowing east and we are going west.



**Food: Breakfast** usual fruits etc Get this all businesses along the way were closed on MONDAY also!

**Lunch** finally a store open in Boone but mega expensive and nothing to buy for cold lunch... no restaurant so we made a smorgus board of cheese, crackers, chips, first jug of water we have bought, banana...cookies etc

**Supper** went out for great veggie sand at a sports pub with happy hour! Didn't even know they knew what a sprout was as none in the groceries!

**Road Conditions** good, quiet on CO 96 onto 50 with big shoulder into town, back onto 96

**Accommodation** lots of motels to choose from but we didn't want to go out to the KOA 16km farther in the heat so stopped at Bramble Tree Inn which has monthly's but all hanging around and welcomed us so it is clean and firm bed so here we are.



**Overall:** Started off early as still not caught up with the time change. The inside area at the restaurant is worth it, but the campsite is in need of major clean up... might be that the wind blows 10 out of 10 days here and everything collects at the back but not an excuse if they want people to stay... it is early. Everyone is getting the grave yards, their yards, fences etc ready for Memorial day which is the official start of summer for them. Headed out and already warm. Lots of farming and green fields close to town but got drier as we pedal on. The big news is gas rising now +\$4/us gallon. The grocery stores, hotels are giving coupons for cents off gas if you shop there. It's a price war! Affecting everything. Sure wish we had gas stocks.



These cactus look like a forest all along the road.



There are canyons all along the road with dry creek beds at the moment, but awaiting the melt in the mountains.

Got to Crowley and the restaurants, grocery, service station were all closed... should have been an omen. Went on thru the town which isn't very big and it dried out to tumble weed, cactus trees and a few cows.

18k Olney Springs we thought would provide us with fresh water or a cold pop. Elevation 1332 meters so gentle rise all day. Still everything closed up. There is a water outlet in front of the city hall, but it's not very taste water. Their flag was at ½ mast and a memorial for a fireman so maybe that is why stuff is closed up tight.



Cactus.... Lots of cactus in the ditches. Watch where you put your bike!

The desert is in Bloom





Cute sign on a business in Boone.



48k... We are very dry by now but headed off for Boone which has a grocery open thank goodness. We bought our first water, which was artesian well water and had zero taste, but it was wet! They have camping in a park with trees! And a fellow, Larry, who is starting up a biker's hostel of sorts. He has a Trailer for indoor accommodation, internet access, wood for the campers and is generally very friendly... maybe a little too much as he really wanted us to stay there, but we want to get to Pueblo today. Had lunch in the park and cooled off under the trees in the shade. He painted the pipe fence white while we ate our lunch and kept offering us other info.... He has internet for us to use.

Just a note from the grocer he says Larry will offer you everything for free and then ask for a donation the next morning. Might be so or might not. He seemed genuine to us.

Off again to Pueblo at 4695ft [1565m] We were told by cyclist we have met that Pueblo is a dirty city, but coming into town the old war time houses are all neat and tidy, painted up and it is welcome to us. It is 35C and we are tired and hot looking for a hotel with a pool. The first one is being painted, the next doesn't have one, but we are done in



Bike shop is right on the route, but we are picky as to White lightening chain wax so will go out tomorrow to another shop. No maintenance to do. We are taking a long awaited day off here.



Lots of train tracks... very few trains. They were refurbishing the track thru here for more usage.

DAY 45 **DO** Ordway CG to City Park CG (Pueblo CO) 94.0

<b>Ordway AS</b>	0.4 km	0.5 km
Turn right at E 1st St/CO-96 Continue to follow CO-96 <b>@10 km Crowley G/R/SS @18 km Olney Springs G/R/SS @48 km Boone G</b>	58.5 km	59 km
Turn right at US-50 W <b>Pass SR 233 G/SS</b>	16.7 km	75.7 km
Take the CO-96 W/CO-47 exit toward 4th St/University Blvd	0.5 km	80.2 km
Turn left at CO-47/CO-96 Continue to follow CO-96	4.5 km	84.7 km
Turn left at N Santa Fe Ave <b>Pueblo AS</b> The 3 listed hotels are 3,4 and 6 blocks north(right in stead of left	0.3 km	87.0 km

Travelers Motel 1012 N Santa Fe Ave Pueblo, CO 81003 (719) 543-5451

Town House Motor Hotel 730 N Santa Fe Ave Pueblo, CO 81003 (719) 542-2114 \$56.00

Bramble Tree Inn 115 E 8th St Pueblo, CO 81003 (719) 542-1061 \$35+tax \$77.78/2n

KOA 719-542-2273 4131 North I25 Safeway on Elizabeth and 29th

**DAY 46 Rest Day in Pueblo CO**  
**May 20/08 Tuesday D 9 km About town**

**Temp** lovely and warm

**Wind** didn't care

**Food: Breakfast** usual

**Lunch** went to Red top burger place.... yucky

**Supper** cannot tell a lie.... We had spinach dip with fresh hot French bread and 2 cinnamon buns!

**Road Conditions** easy town to navigate to the bike shop, nice wide streets little traffic for a big place

**Accommodation** well we could have sprung for a better hotel, but this one worked out okay as location was great

**Overall:** We walked down town to the old part of town and then did a River Walk, which they have developed along the Arkansas river. I really is very beautiful with lots of loft apartments going in... \$145 thou gets you one bigger than our Timber ridge...1400+ sq ft very nice. The town seems to be building new stuff downtown, which is rare these days. They have 3 bike shops and lots of green spaces.



really cute bike rack



They seem to love the Canadian geese.... Alive or in statue.



a great idea... biodegradable doggie do bags!



This is part of the River Walk in Pueblo very nice



this is a weird picture... Ken is looking in the window... a reflection.

**DAY 47 Pueblo Bramble Tree Inn to RV CG in Canon City [said Canyon]**

**May 21/08 Wednesday D87.73km M47.6 A13.6 T6h TT 7h45 total 3533.8 km**

**Temp** started off from the motel at 15C warmed up quickly to 30C

**Wind** westerly and south wind so cross wing until going north and we were blown to Florence, last 10 k sheltered

**Food: Breakfast** usual

**Lunch** Wet Mountain Store 1 ½ m off route; had our pb jelly bagels with popcycle and pop... Ken got a donut!

**Supper** Ken made great spaghetti with red sauce and veggie burger mixed in Was very yummy [Kelly Kettle]

**Road Conditions** very quiet road could have taken US 50, but I think it would have been very noisy... had a 7% grade to Wetmore of about 1km then fabulous 11 miles down hill to Florence with the wind at our backs!

**Accommodation** Well Maverick Trailer park is not set up for anyone with a tent as no toilet block; Four mile RV is beside a RV sale place and isn't called Four mile anymore... just RV storage and CAMP. Nice clean shower block \$13 was very reasonable Right across the hiway from Walmart!



looking back down the road



I just had to take this picture of a snake on the road.... He was 3+ft long and PINK!



Antelope are everywhere



Wet Mountain Store

**Overall:** overall a really good day Got up to 6300 Ft at lunch they down down at 35kph without pedaling! The distance may be off by about 5 km as I didn't get my odometer reset after yesterdays trip to the bike shop, so ca la vie... I had a little trouble with the cross winds being very gusty, but otherwise I loved the day. The Restaurant at Wetmore is only open Thur-Sunday 5-9pm so useless for cyclists. We went to the post office and he directed us to a store 2.5km off route, but well worth the side trip... it was up hill a bit, but nothing compared to the climb into Wetmore. She has a picnic table to have lunch at or you are welcome to sit inside in a nice living room off the store. You can use the microwave to make a meal or just visit. Linda Withers is the owner and very friendly I might add.

DAY 43 Motel Pueblo CO to RV CG (Canon City) 84k +

8 <sup>th</sup> street to left on Grand, to Union		
Right on Evans		4 km
Left on Lincoln hwy 96	4.0 km	8. km
Turn right at CO-96/Thatcher Ave Continue to follow CO-96	41.6 km	49.6 km
Turn right at CO-67 <b>Wetmore R</b>	17.8 km	67.4 km
Turn left at CO-115/E Main St Continue to follow CO-115 <b>Florence AS</b>	8.9 km	80.3 km
Turn right on McKenzie	1.4 km	81.7 km
Turn Left on Hwy 50 <b>Canon City AS</b>	2.3 km	84 km

Skyline Super Foods is 1km Right on Co-115/E Main in Florence

~~Maverick Trailer Park (719) 275-5546 295 S Reynolds Ave, Canon City, CO 81212 seems closed~~

Also:Fourmile Rv Park(RV Station CG) (719) 275-4576 3120 E Main St, Canon City, CO 81212

Super 8 - Canon City 209 North 19th Street Canon City, CO 81212 (719) 275-8687

El Camino Motel 2980 E Main St Canon City, CO 81212 (719) 275-9125

Quality Inn & Suites 3075 E. Us 50 Canon City, CO 81212 (719) 275-8676

There is a Wal-Mart Supercenter on E. Main as well (1km away from Maverick across from Fourmile)

E. Main is 2 blocks North of Maverick Trailer Park parallels US 50



Ken and I have decide to stay and run this Fawn Hollow Tavern.... 2 more payments and it's ours!!

**LOOK AT THE AVERAGE AND IT TELLS IT ALL! Cannon City Elev 5200Ft; Hostel Elev 8710ft**

**DAY 48 Cannon City RV Pk to Currant Creek Backpackers Hostel**  
**May 22/08 Thursday D58.33km M 41.3 A10.3 T5h32 TT 7 h total 3592.1 km**

**Temp** awoke to broken clouds and 15C

**Wind** Wind had died down overnight, and came up as a tail wind at the very end of the day

**Food: Breakfast** we took our regular food to the Burger king so Ken had coffee too

**Lunch** At Tallahassee Rd at the side of the road our regular pb sands

**Supper** veggie burgers and anything else we had left over due to no cooking facilities at this hostel and windy out so we didn't want to use the Kelly Kettle

**Road Conditions** Lets see all the positive things I can say... road surface nice and smooth, shoulder mostly good, grades were basically up hill at anywhere between 5 and 7 % on and on and on! A very long day to go a very short distance. Am I ever glad Ken made these days short as we couldn't have gone on much farther.

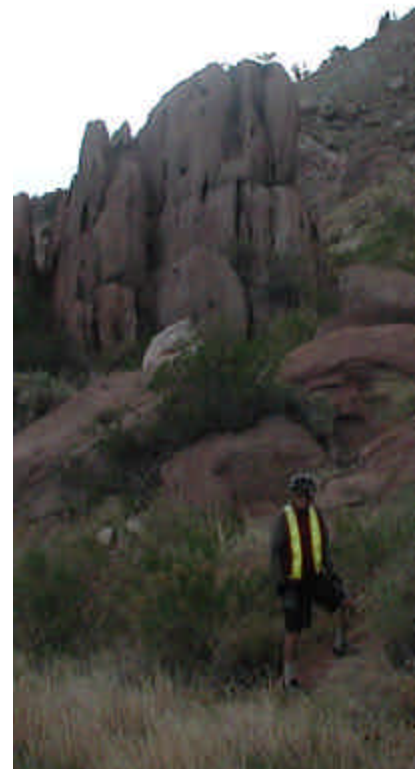
**Accommodation** Currant Creek Backpackers Hostel is an interesting labor of love for Warren and Lynne Schechter. They have been here since 1972 and it is still a work in progress, but if you read the visitors log... everyone said something positive. They are just off the road between mile posts 24 and 25 on route 9. They have lots of room to camp or stay in a cozy cabin with a double bunk bed and lots and lots of paperback books to choose from. They have a cute wood stove to heat the bunk house and heat water for hot chocolate or other uses. They have cold showers... a 5gallon bucket set up, but as it decided to snow-grozzle when we arrived a wash with hot water was more inviting. Pit toilet and picnic tables are available. There is power to the bunk house, which is gotten from solar panels. There doesn't seem to be power supplied to them in this area, so they must have a generator also. Very reasonable at \$10 per person

**Overall:** Well I don't know where to start... we packed up early from the RV park and went to a Burger King to see if anyone knew the weather. A older fellow going ATV riding said the worst part was just out of town on HWY 50 then Hwy 9 is rolling... NOT! After an hour we set off up up up up out of Cannon City to the Gorge entrance... there are camp grounds, rafting businesses, a KOA with pools etc but the up hill was maybe 5% over 18km. There is a really nice camp site called Mountain View with small cabins, tenting, RV full hookups and a café. We couldn't have made it here last night but could have planned a day here although I think the gorge is over rated. Elevation 6400ft at CG. We headed down hill to the Hwy 9 turn off Elevation 6200ft. Started off kind of flattish for 3k, then up 1000ft in 3k, then valley rolling for 3k, got us to our lunch stop at 7200ft. The road just seemed to go up and up at a constant grade steeper than the morning route.

Some neat "HooDoo" type rocks along the way oh and Ken!



Bison being raised for meat



There are numerous homes for sale all along the route. Some very nice log homes very cheap at less than \$300thous for 1600sq ft and 35 acres of rocks. There are no services on hwy 9 so a ditch stop was in order. The average at 10 km



per hour says it all for the difficulty. We made it up to 8450 ft at 48.5km in 4h45m and the temperature has dropped to 10C Burr... Then there are a couple of steep downs and ups. My muscles just cramped up due to being so hot and then the cold downhill. Painful! Anyways past the Guffy turn off and on to the hostel. It is basically flat from Guffy to the hostel. We saw 2 sets of deer [one group of 10] eating along the road. The road was busy which seemed unusual for such a remote area.

Well we are both pretty exhausted and tomorrow is another day of mega rising.

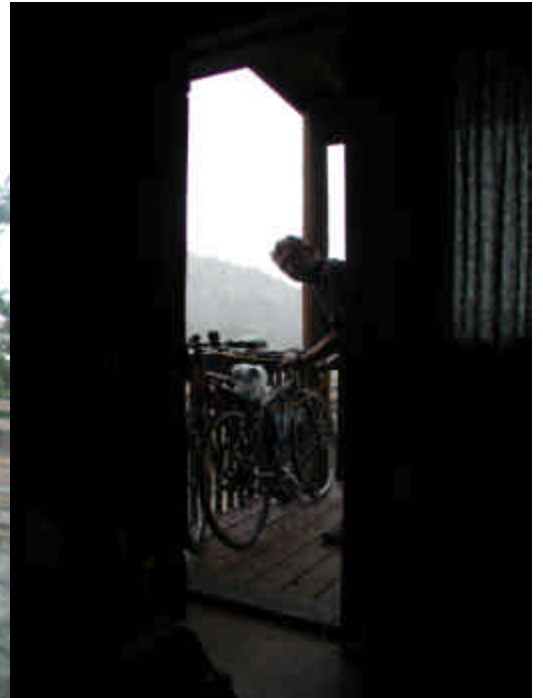
DAY 44 Storage and RV CG (Canon City) Currant Creek Backpacker's Hostel 58

Head out west on US 50 or on the service rd	0	2k
Turn right at W Royal Gorge Blvd/US-50 Continue to follow US-50	17.9 km	19.9 km
Turn right at CO-9	38.2 km	58.1 km
On left of hwy between mile post 24 and 25		

Currant Creek Backpacker's Hostel 719 479-2206 Lynn and Warren Schechter 6121 State Highway 9 Guffey, CO 80820-8703  
 No Services need to bring food to cook at Hostel from Canon City have a microwave



This is the little cabin at the backpackers hostel Note the solar panel



5minutes later hailing!

**DAY 49 Current Creek Hostel to Fairplay South Park Lodge**  
**May 23/08 Friday D65.99km M45.1 A14.0 T4h43 TT 6h total 3658.1km**

**Temp** got up at the hostel to 5C and lots of layers on, raised up to maybe 10C and back down to snowing 0C Water in a bucket at the hostel was frozen overnight! Definitely very cold on the downhill!

**Wind** Thank goodness the cold wind was at our backs

**Food: Breakfast** we enjoyed our usual food on the deck of the hostel in the sun

**Lunch** stopped at Hartsel for the worst burrito I've ever eaten

**Supper** Ken made yummy veggies and chicken nuggets ou microwave

**Road Conditions** good but elevation gains on good grades, shoulder on again off again but the cars wouldn't give an inch... hit the ditch once. A cyclist out for the day warned us about the AGGRESSIVE drivers going north!

**Accommodation** the nice cyclist offered us a home stay, but as it was starting to snow we headed to a motel that was closed for he winter and just reopened... not the best motel but we are not out in a snow storm! I might be giving this guy another \$75 tomorrow for this decrepid motel

**Overall:** my legs started out still tired from yesterday, but the road grades were not too bad we went up from 8700ft to 9500ft in the first 5km, then down 300ft in 6km, then up 300 ft in 3km, then down 500ft in 7km so now at 8990ft... continued down to Hartsel at 8890ft for lunch [37km] The temp has dropped as we rise up to 5C They are raising Bison and in the same field are wild Antelope.

The road has become busier with lots of campers with ATV's on trailers. The trucks moved over if they were able to , but they passed us very fast if someone was coming and didn't give us a break at all. I think the 26km we did this afternoon has been the worst piece of hiway in 13000 km as far as the drivers go. They didn't seem to like cyclists or feel we should be on their road or something!

We continued on to 10,000ft at Fairplay. We did make it and we are both tired, but we have to go a further elevation gain of 1500ft tomorrow so we need to rest! [to 11500 ft]The most disturbing thing is that about 150km northeast of us 9 tornados touched down yesterday [just north of Denver] doing great damage. I could not live in a place that has this variable of weather. It is snowing as I type here, but it isn't sticking to the ground.

DAY 45 Currant Creek Backpacker's Hostel to Gold Miners Inn Motel RV CG (Fairplay CO) 66.9

Head northeast on Deer Circle toward CO-9 8700 ft	37 m	0.0 km
Turn left at CO-9 5k up 9500ft/6kdown 9200ft/3kup9500ft/7kdown	37.0 km	37.0 km
Turn left at US-24 <b>Hartsel G/R/SS</b> 8890ft	1.8 km	38.8 km
Turn right at CO-9 up up gradual to Fairplay	26.0 km	64.8 km
Turn right at CO-9/US-285	1.6 km	66.4 km
Turn left at CO-9/Main St <b>Fairplay AS</b> 10,000ft	0.4 km	66.8 km
Turn left at 8th St	39 m	66.9 km

Gold Miner's Inn 801 Main St Fairplay, CO 80440 (719) 836-0500 south Park Lodge and RV park  
 The Western Inn (719) 836-2026 490 Us-285, Fairplay, CO 80440 \$69.00

Phoned Jessie and Stewart Happy Anniversary ?38 years



now those are some wicked horns



Doesn't look real, but that's the way we are headed!

**DAY 50 Fairplay Motel to Heaton Bay CG in Dillon CO**

**May 24/08 Saturday D58.26km M40.1 A13.4 T4h21 TT 6 h total 3716.4 km**

**Temp** 5C with frost on the roof of the motel on leaving, down to -2C by the time we were at the summit, 15C in CG

**Wind** very little wind

**Food: Breakfast** ate our usual at the motel then stopped for coffee at a neat shop in Alma

**Lunch** Subway in Breckenridge

**Supper** in CG potatoe salad, coleslaw, hummus and chips, carrots, tomatoes, buns good picnic supper

**Road Conditions** very good had a great bike path to start the day right beside CO 9...paved to Alma Then on the side of the road with most everyone moving over... a few red necks. UP up to summit of Hoosier Pass at 11541ft.Road down to Breckenridge would be much more fun if it was warmer! -2C at top Good paved bike path to Frisco also

**Accommodation** Heaton Bay CG is interesting. Has been closed for 3 years so they could log off the pine beetle trees. The host said that the beetles only move to another tree in August so if the tree dies so do the beetles in it. The cutting of the trees has made the campsites more open but the views of the mountains nicer too.



Top of Hoosier Pass

**Overall:** Started off bundled up on a bike path to Alma gaining 500ft. Our feet were so cold and we went into a coffee house for ½ hour to warm up. We smartened up while in there and put on our rain booties, and I put on my rain cap over my helmet to keep out the cold air. [We both already had on mitts and ear muffs!] I snapped a gear shift cable so was stuck in low gear! Oh well that's where I needed to be until the top. From there it is up up up maybe 5% for 7km [1000ft gain] to the summit which I thought was never coming. It got colder and colder as we went up and some of the drivers were fairly ignorant and not giving much room. When we got to the top we were above the snowline, sweaty and cooling down rapidly. A8 D18.58km 2h M26.3 to get to the top for those interested in stats.



A quick change to dry clothes a snack and off we went down the other side, which was a quick winding road to 9603ft [2000ft loss] to Breckenridge ski town. [ski hill is closed for the season] Stopped in a bike shop for a gear cable and We stopped for lunch. It was crawling with people in the shops, which seemed to be having lots of sales. We were really surprised at the amount of housing started right after the summit and the hill didn't look as big as Big White although we are at a higher elevation. M40.1 A12.4 35.61km 5C 52min down



Looking forward to the down hill



Breckenridge Ski Hill

We continued on to Dillan on a bike path that is well designed along the road and into the trees, mostly downhill to 9156ft [another 450ft down] to the campsite. We stopped for groceries at Safeway and got directions for the CG which one fellow thought wasn't open. It hasn't been for 3 years, but Ken had researched well and it opened last night! We met Guy from Chester England who we had seen at the bottom of the hill so we shared a campsite. Not as harsh a day as could have been. The up was like maybe Drought hill out of Peachland but all steep. We made it without a push! We thought about a motel as there is snow below the tent site in the trees, but it is so beautiful out we will cuddle up all night.



DAY 46 Gold Miners Inn Motel RV CG (Fairplay CO) to Heaton Bay CG (Silverthorne CO) 53.8 km

Head northeast on 8th St toward CO-9/Main St	39 m	0.0 km
Turn left at CO-9/Main St Continue to follow CO-9 <b>Look for bike path along CO-9 starts outside Fairplay goes to Alma 8.5 KM Alma R/G (limited)</b>	23.4 km	23.4 km
Turn left to stay on CO-9	12.5 km	35.9 km
At the roundabout, take the 1st exit onto CO-9 N <b>Breckenridge AS Bike Path starts again at Watson ST and goes to Thru Frisco to Campground</b>	15.4 km	51.3 km
Turn right at Dillon Dam Rd <b>Frisco AS</b>	2.2 km	53.5 km
Turn right at Heaton Bay Campground Rd	0.1 km	53.6 km
Turn right to stay on Heaton Bay Campground Rd	0.1 km	53.7 km

Check website in May, should open May 20 but was closed last year because of Pine Beetle  
[White River National Forest](#) If closed stay at 1 of the other 2 White River National Forest CG's  
 Frisco-Dillon-Silverthorne are all right beside each other  
 Super 8 808 Little Beaver Trl Dillon, CO 80435 (970) 468-8888 \$56.00  
 Dillon Inn 708 E Anemone Trl Dillon, CO 80435 (970) 262-0801 \$55.00  
 Days Inn 580 Silverthorne Ln Silverthorne, CO 80498 (970) 468-8661 \$50.00  
 There is a Safeway on 9 in Frisco close to I70



CAMP VIEW

## DAY 51 Heaton Bay CG in Dillon CO to City CG Hot Sulphur Springs CO

May 25/08 Sunday D93.12km M43.6 A 16.4 T5h39 TT 7h total 3809.5 km

**Temp** Well we got up to frost on the inside of the tent fly!... frost on the bike seats too 8C in the tent 2 snug bugs! 0C outside but didn't feel as cold as last fall in Rugby ND

**Wind** none to speak of

**Food: Breakfast** banana, cereal with cottage cheese and nuts... should give me energy to do the 90+ km today

**Lunch** beside the road at a really weird "Ranch" gate a picnic

**Supper** veggie burgers at the supposedly only place in town open on Sunday... "dairy queen" type outdoors

**Road Conditions** very good bike path from the CG to Dillon to Silverthorne then onto Hwy 9 to Kremming with shoulder and without, then onto Hwy 40 with a nice shoulder... most of the terrain is down hill, but not all.

**Accommodation** well Hot Sulphur Springs has a few motels and they were all no vacancy and the City CG turned out to be rather rugged due to the river in flood so it really isn't open, but full of tenters [locals mostly] I have been in very few places that I don't feel all that welcome, but here for sure we feel out of place. There are 4 tents beside us with a large fire and all they do is stare! I approached some people partying in the HOST site ... they are not the host and their English is so poor all I got was put your tent wherever you want! We are on the gravel road beside a small park area so hopefully they won't party and drive over our heads tonight!

**Overall:** The ride was good. Warmed up nicely so we were stopping and taking off layers every little while. We didn't realize that there is no grocery in this town of 600 people! So \$3.09 for a can of fruit cocktail! \$2 for pop and they are on a boil water advisory! We just don't know what a great place we live in!

Dillon 9156ft Kremmling 7364ft Hot Sulphur Springs is 7670ft so we went down 1792ft this morning and up 304ft this afternoon Not really a hard day that way, but the distance of 93km seems to be wearing on us. We are both tired out and maybe in need of another day off!

We are heading back up a big pass tomorrow... Willow Creek Pass at 9621 ft... 1951ft gain then down to Rand 8620ft and Walden 8099ft a loss of 1522ft over all 96km

### DAY 47 Heaton Bay CG (Silverthorne CO) to City CG (Hot Sulphur Springs CO) 91.9

Head northwest on Heaton Bay Campground Rd [bike path]	0.1 km	0.1 km
Turn left to stay on Heaton Bay Campground Rd	0.1 km	0.2 km
Turn right at Dillon Dam Rd	3.7 km	3.9 km
Turn left at US-6 W	1.4 km	5.3 km
Continue on Blue River Pkwy/CO-9 N Continue to follow CO-9 N	58.8 km	64.1 km
Turn right at CR-396 Kremmling AS	0.6 km	64.7 km
Turn right at Eagle Ave	41 m	64.7 km
Turn left at 13th St	0.1 km	64.8 km
Turn right at E Park Ave/US-40 Continue to follow US-40	26.8 km	91.6 km
Turn left at Park St Hot Sulphur Springs AS	0.1 km	91.7 km
Turn left at Spring Rd	0.1 km	91.8 km

Could divide day up by staying in Kremmling Bicyclists' CG (location uncertain)

Bob's Western Motel 110 W Park Avenue (US Highway 40) Kremmling, CO 80459 \$50.00

Red Mountain RV Park Kremmling, Colorado 80459 1-877-375-9593 \$15.00

Canyon Motel 221 Byers Ave Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451 (970) 725-3395 \$60.00

Ute Trail Motel 120 E Byers Ave Hot Sulphur Spgs, CO 80451 (970) 725-0123



BIKE PATH SIGN



WILD CROCUS'S



FROSTY MORNING SEATS!





The Kinney Hotel between 1875 and 1900.

Note the bicycles at the hotel



## DAY 52 City CG Hot Sulphur Springs CO to Walden Hotel

May 26/08 Monday D98.54 km M47.4 A15.8 T6h15 TT 7.5h total 3908 km

**Temp** warmer morning no dew 12C got up to 15C then back to 10C by end of the day

**Wind** got a back wind until the end of the day and then into a moderate wind and electrical storm

**Food: Breakfast** expensive fruit cocktail with cereal

**Lunch** picnic on the shop steps in Rand ... oh the shop was closed as Memorial Day and storming

**Supper** soup, mashed potatoes and junk food... what can I say we need a home cooked meal!

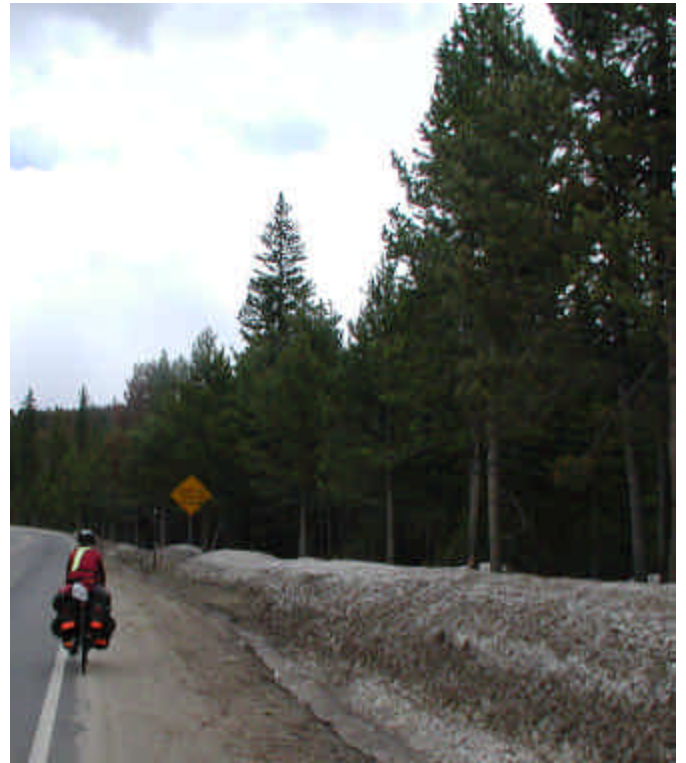
**Road Conditions** no shoulders but good surface... some traffic.... Wilcox Cr Pass 9621Ft a climb

**Accommodation** We pulled into Walden racing from the storms and stopped at a motel for a check on the cost and decided it looked okay so here we are at Chedsey Motel large clean room with fridge

**Overall:** It was a long day in the saddle...left the CG by 0800 and had our breakfast on a picnic table by the coffee shop. Our neighbors at the campground stayed up rather late last night and the Amtrak train went by fairly often, but we slept well. The trees all have spruce bud worm which is rampant here. The deciduous trees have not come out yet so we are back into spring again. We saw a picture of the Hot Sulphur Springs area from years ago and there were no trees and now it is well treed, although the trees are going to be logged off due to the bugs. The old hotel has been referbed to a degree. There was a picture of the hotel with cyclist in front. We headed off into a Easterly. The hills are greener as we go east.



We continued on US 40 for 12.3km , then turned north on Hwy 125. We were doing a slow climb and following a creek most of the morning. The pass was constant up but not too difficult. We arrived in Rand to the store and restaurant closed until end of May. The sky was very cloudy so we had our lunch on the deck while the rain started.



After about an hour we struck off again between storms and raced the final 30km to Walden on rolling road in a wide valley. It was interesting how the clouds hung on the mountains on either side of the valley. There was thunder and lightning behind us so we just kept going. We had 2 days without showers so headed for a motel. The city park has free camping.



Really weird rock formation along the way

Ken went off to the grocery store that is 1 mile out of town... must be something to do with taxes that these shops set up out of town. He picked up groceries while it rained and he came back a little wet. We met a cyclist at the motel, from Minnisoda that is doing the trans American route alone.

Day 48 City CG (Hot Sulphur Springs CO) to Hanson Park CG (Walden CO) 98.5 km

Head southeast on Spring Rd toward Park St	0.1 km	0.1 km
Turn right at Park St	0.1 km	0.2 km
Turn left at Byers Ave/US-40 Continue to follow US-40	12.1 km	12.3 km
Turn left at CO-125 @37km Pass starts @ <b>62KM Rand G/R</b>	86.1 km	98.4 km
Turn right at 4th St <b>Walden AS</b>	75 m	98.5 km

No way to divide this up There are some CG Foresty ones, but they are closed still

Round Up Motel 365 Main Walden, CO 80480 (970) 723-4680 May also have CG

Westside Motel 441 Lafever Walden, CO 80480 (970) 723-8589

Chedsey Motel 537 Main St Walden, CO 80480 (970) 723-8201

North Park Inn & Suites 625 Main Street Walden, Colorado 80480 (970) 723-4271 \$60.00 with kitchen