

# Project 6

**Name:** Upper Motherlode

**Description:** new trail from the top of Hawks Peak, commencing at the end of the existing Hawks Peak trail and connecting with the existing Lower Motherlode Trail by way of a short section of the lower existing dirt roadway. Connects with Project 7 mid-project (see project mapping), providing an alternative trail route continuing to the northeast.

**Location:** county; trail commences on a northeasterly aspect at the top of Hawks Peak, traversing back to the northwest and ultimately connecting with the Euer Valley via the existing Lower Motherlode Trail.

**Project Type(s):** new

**Trail Type:** trail

**Topography & Grade:** topography maintains slopes >20% (and some >30% pockets), but trail alignment largely utilizes slopes <20% by locating trail at the toe of and/or utilizing pockets of less steep slopes.

**Length:** 9,287 feet (1.76 miles)

**Constraints & Resources:** small pockets of slopes >30% can and should be avoided in favor of locating trail and switchbacks on less steep slopes and primarily within slopes <20%.

**Opportunities & Areas of Import:** utilizes existing and future planned masticated areas to minimize new disturbance, particularly in the lower reaches where most of the hillside has been masticated. Switchback location and construction techniques for upper reaches of proposed trail should utilize less steep slopes and incorporate the appropriate slope-related switchback feature(s) to manage runoff and minimize erosion.

**Project Specifics:** 24 switchbacks, 4 rolling dips

**Construction:** hand construction only

**Typical Details & Specifications:** T.D. 1-3 (BMP's), T.D. 8 (Rolling Dip), T.D. 9 (Rock Dissipater), T.D. 14-16 (Sustainable Switchbacks), T.D. 17-18 (Sustainable Trail Design), T.D. 20 (Type II Trails)



Photo 6a – Typical Topography & Vegetation  
Looking Northwest from Hawks Peak



Photo 6b – View of North Aspect of Hawks Peak  
and Area of Traversing Trail Route