



Alumni Resources

The following is information that may be fun and useful but is not an exhaustive list of resources and information here may be incorrect. Many thanks to Semester 44 alumnus Max Nelson for compiling much of this information for current and future HMI alumni. Get out and enjoy the backcountry and take responsibility for your own actions!

Route Planning:

- **Information on Colorado 14ers:** 14ers.com is a great place to get info on 14er trails and trail conditions.
- **Colorado Trail Information:** The CT is a classic and beautiful trail through the center of the state and passes through some beautiful mountain terrain!
- **Karta Maps:** Make your own custom maps that are printed and shipped to you by this Leadville company.
- **Caltopo:** A great trip planning resource with lots of different map layers to choose from.
- **Caltopo Tutorial:** In depth tutorial on the workings of caltopo.
- **Avenza:** View maps on your phone and get a pin drop for your exact location.
- **Avalanche Centers:** A great place to check the snow conditions for winter camping and backcountry skiing.
- **Appalachian Trail:** The official website of the AT. Great info on the trail and all the aspects of it.
- **Top Hike in Each State:** A cool site to find a new hike near you.
- **AllTrails:** Search your location for trails and hikes near you.

Gear and Packing:

- **HMI Gear Sheet:** A personal gear sheet that you can customize to your trip.
- **Nols Blog:** 6 odd things to bring into the backcountry
- **Backcountry:** super well put together website for gear purchasing for most sports.

Emergency Planning:

- **Take a Wilderness First Responder Course:** The information from these courses are extremely valuable. Check out [DMM](#) and [NOLS](#).
- **Determine Likely Hazards:** Talk to land management agencies, read other peoples trip reports, check the CDC website, etc.)
- **Have a Back Up Plan:** Tell someone where you are going and when you plan to get back. Let them know who to contact if you don't contact them by a certain time.
- **Garmin Satellite Text Device:** If you aren't going to be in cell service consider getting a satellite text device.



- **Network coverage map:** Pick your network and see if the area you are traveling in has coverage.
- **Sat phone and PLB reviews:** A look at some of the top picks for satellite phones and personal locator beacons

Rations:

- There are lots of great websites that discuss food planning for expeditions. Check out this blog by [Boreal River Rescue](#) or this one by [NOLS](#).
- For most courses HMI uses a calculation of 1.75 pounds, per person, per day of dried food. For a week-long backpacking trip you should be able to buy your ration supplies from most grocery stores.
- *HMI Eats: A Cooking & Trip Planning Resource* will be revised pdf coming out soon!

Readings and Other Fun Links:

- **Trip Plan from CC students:** A look at a full comprehensive travel plan including budgets and route plans by Colorado College students