

# Into the Woods

by Jennaye Derge

There is a place in Southwest Colorado that leaves hikers feeling like they might have entered the Pacific Northwest – especially when the weather is wet and foggy. Sharkstooth Peak is a relatively short drive from Mancos on a dirt road, leading to an approach through dense trees, thick flora, scree and then rising above treeline at just below 12,000 feet. The shorter peak and milder hike leave the vista accessible to almost anyone willing to fight off mosquitos and brave the ever-reliable afternoon rains.



Miriam Rollason attempting to identify a wild plant on the trail.



A cloudy and misty day makes for conditions far from the arid high desert many Southwest Coloradans have become accustomed to.



Sadie, a 6-year-old golden retriever photobomber, smiles for the camera.