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View from the summit of Mount Elbert, looking into southwest Colorado. With an elevation of 14,440 feet, Mount Elbert is the highest peak in the Rocky Mountains of North America. Part of the Sawatch Range, a result of uplift during the Laramide Orogeny, gneissic and schistose banded Precambrian basement rock dominate the mountains summit ridge. Alpine glacial erosion has shaped this mountain landscape leaving behind distinctive features such as cirques, tarns, arêtes, and moraines. La Plata Peak, the fifth highest peak in the state of Colorado, can be seen in the left hand portion of the photo looming in the distance. Photo by Trevor Nobile, CPG-11666.

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