Eagle Ranger District
125 West 5th Street
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Eagle, CO 81631-0720
(970) 328-6388– Phone
www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver

WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST

United States Department of Agriculture

HIKING

East Lake Creek– FDT 1880

Difficulty: Moderate
Trail Use: High
Length: 12.5 miles
Elevation: Starts at 8960 feet, ends at 11,198 feet, highest point 11,198 feet
Elevation Gain: + 4017 feet - 779 feet = +3238 feet
Open To: Hiking, horseback riding, llamas

Access:

- Travel 16.5 miles east from Eagle on I-70 to the Edwards exit and head south towards the town and Hwy. 6.
- At Hwy. 6 turn right, heading west, for 0.7 miles to Lake Creek Rd., turning left, south, at the National Forest Access sign.
- Travel on this road for 1.8 miles and turn right onto West Lake Creek Rd., look for the sign at the turn for the East Lake Creek trailhead.
- Follow this road for approximately 4 miles to the trailhead, staying to the right at the "Y" after the bridge, parking only in the designated area because of the surrounding private land.

Trail Highlights:

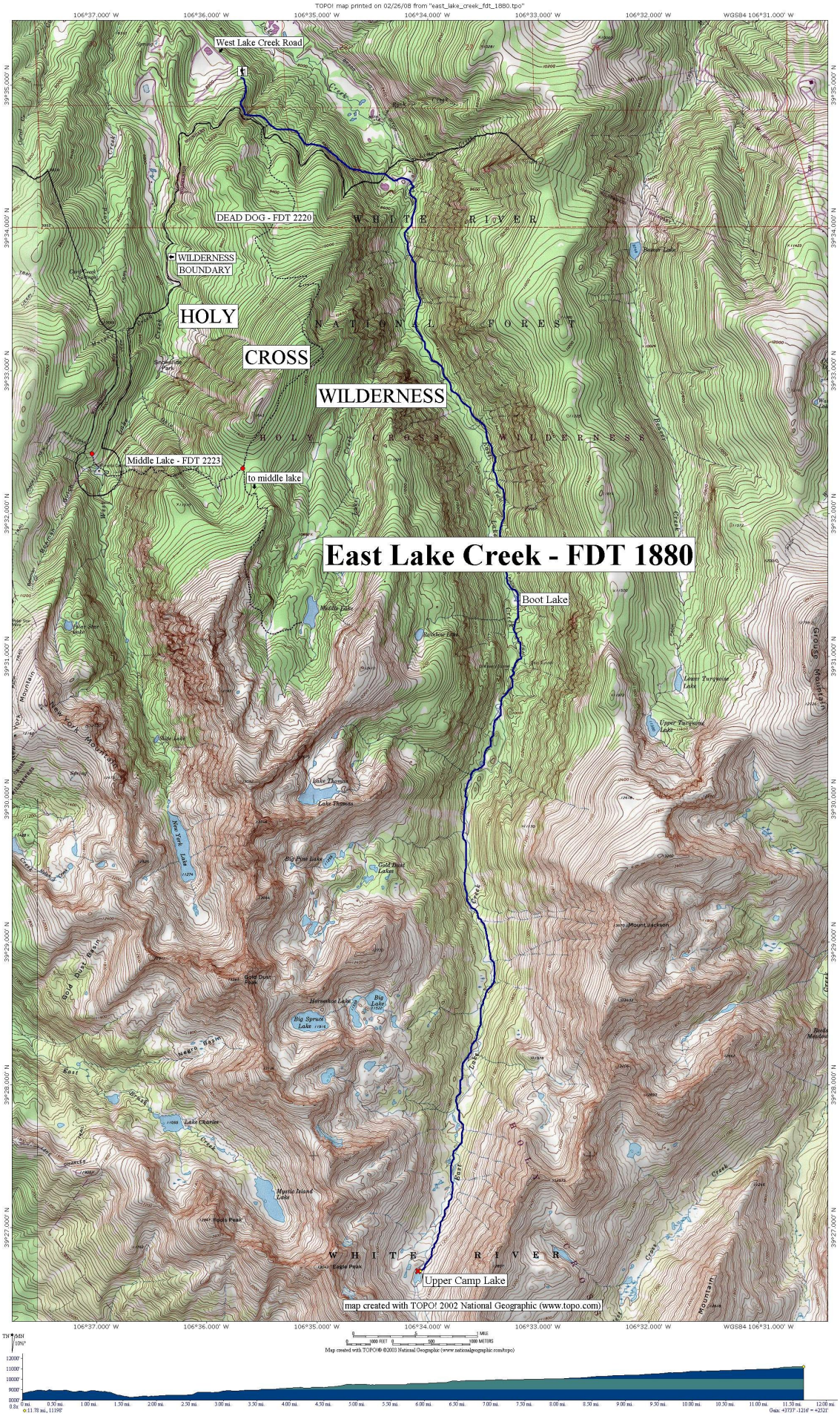
- This popular trial begins as a well-defined, moderately uphill dirt path through lodge pole pine and aspen with the first 2 miles traveling through damp lush aspen forest with abundant wild-flowers down to East Lake Creek.
- After crossing the wooden bridge, the trail is a moderate climb up the east side of East Lake Creek becoming rocky and wet in areas where it crosses drainages into the creek.
- The trail continues through a narrow canyon valley of spruce/fir forest for about 4 miles.
- After passing Boot Lake and a swampy area, it passes through an old mining site with ruins and old machinery before it enters a flat area where the stream meanders and beavers have made a series of ponds. The trail may become faint, so look out for trail markers.
- The trail comes out into an alpine meadow before ending at Upper Camp Lake.
- East Lake Creek offers fishing for Colorado cutthroat, brook and rainbow trout.

Important Information:

- **ALL DISTANCES ARE ONE WAY.**
- **THIS TRAIL ENTERS THE HOLY CROSS WILDERNESS, PLEASE PRACTICE WILDERNESS ETHICS AND LOW IMPACT BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMANSHIP TO PRESERVE THIS NATURAL RESOURCE.**
- **ABOUT 6 1/2 MILES UP THE TRAIL YOU WILL SEE RUINS OF AN OLD MINING OPERATION FROM THE 1930'S, THIS AREA IS PRIVATE LAND, DO NOT LEAVE THE TRAIL BECAUSE OF STILL OPEN MINE SHAFTS.**

PACK IT IN—PACK IT OUT!! LEAVE NO TRACE!!

THIS MAP IS INTENDED FOR USE AS A GENERAL GUIDE ONLY, NOT FOR ACTUAL LAND NAVIGATION. THE WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST STRONGLY SUGGESTS PURCHASING A TOPOGRAPHIC TRAIL MAP AND COMPASS PRIOR TO BEGINNING A HIKING TRIP.


TOPO! map printed on 02/26/08 from "east_lake_creek_fdt_1880.tpo"
West Lake Creek Road
DEAD DOG - FDT 2220
WILDERNESS BOUNDARY
HOLY CROSS WILDERNESS
Middle Lake - FDT 2223
to middle lake
East Lake Creek - FDT 1880
Boot Lake
Upper Camp Lake
WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST
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