

Eagle Ranger District
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www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver



United States Department of Agriculture



Johnson Pasture-FDT 1852

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Low

Length: 4.15 miles

Elevation: Starts at 10,541 feet, ends at 10,409 feet, lowest point 9429 feet

Elevation Gain: +980 feet - 1112 feet = -132 feet

Open To: Hiking, horseback riding

Access:

- Travel 13 miles west of Eagle on I-70 to the Dotsero exit and follow the signs for Sweetwater/Burns, turning north onto Colorado River Road.
- Stay on this road for 1.75 miles and then turn left onto Coffee Pot Rd., FDR 600 and travel for 29 miles to Deep Lake.
- At Deep Lake, drive around the lake and take a right on an unmarked road and stay on this road for 1.3 miles.
- Take a right onto FDR 618 and the trailhead is to the right 0.8 miles up the road at a yellow road closed marker.

Trail Highlights:

- The trail begins above Deep Lake in an open meadow surrounded by spruce and fir, gradually descending toward the southeast for a little over a mile.
- The trail crosses a rocky area and becomes faint for a bit.
- The trail overlooks the western part of Deep Creek Canyon before following Upper Short Creek down into Deep Creek.
- The trail crosses Short Creek about 1/2 mile below the ridge and heads across Johnson Pasture at the bottom.
- The trail will then cross Deep Creek and head up the west side of the canyon.
- There are incredible views of Deep Creek where the narrow canyon is strewn with downed timber and boulders, while dense stands of Douglas fir line the creek bed. The south-facing slopes support pygmy forests of pinyon pine and juniper.
- The wetter grassland mesas fringed with aspen are common feeding areas for cattle, deer and elk, very often herds of elk can be seen on the canyon rim.
- The middle ground to the east/northeast is the Colorado River Valley. To the east beyond the valley, Castle Peak stands at 11,200 feet with the Gore Range visible behind it.
- The trail ends at FDR 633, a short 4-wheel drive road that leads back to FDR 600.

Important Information:

- ALL DISTANCES ARE ONE WAY.

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

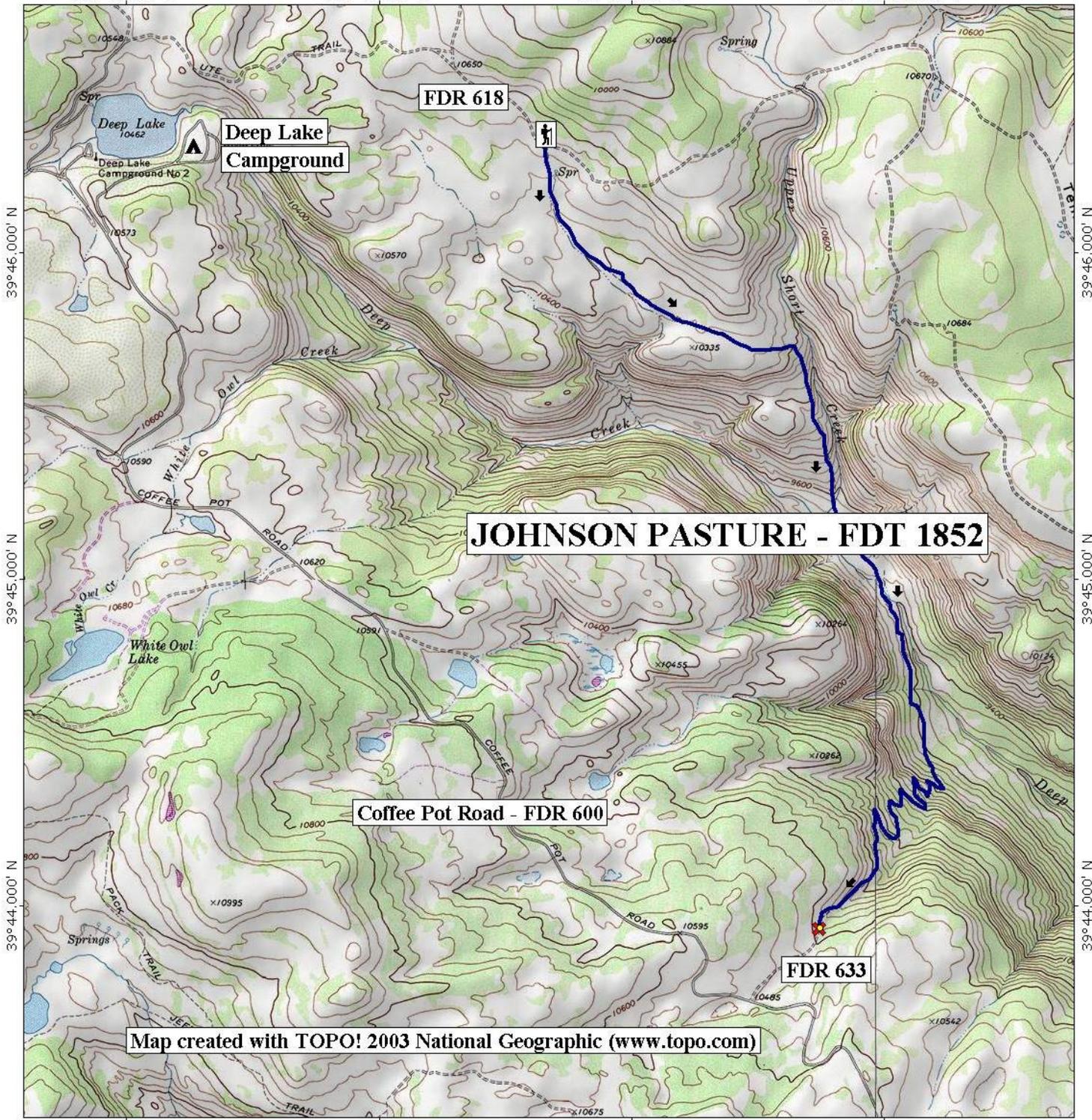
THIS MAP IS INTENDED FOR USE AS A GENERAL GUIDE ONLY, NOT FOR ACTUAL LAND NAVIGATION. THE WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST STRONGLY SUGGESTS PURCHASING A TOPOGRAPHIC TRAIL MAP AND COMPASS PRIOR TO BEGINNING A HIKING TRIP.

107°18.000' W

107°17.000' W

107°16.000' W

WGS84 107°15.000' W



39°46.000' N

39°45.000' N

39°44.000' N

39°46.000' N

39°45.000' N

39°44.000' N

Map created with TOPO! 2003 National Geographic (www.topo.com)

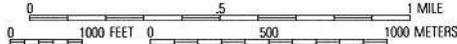
107°18.000' W

107°17.000' W

107°16.000' W

WGS84 107°15.000' W

TN 11°



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Gain: +963' -1103' = -140'