

Holy Cross Ranger District  
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United States Department of Agriculture



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## **MEADOW MOUNTAIN #2124 to LINE SHACK**

**Length:** 4.5 miles (one way)

**Difficulty:** Moderate

**Beginning Elevation:** 7,750 feet

**Elevation Gain:** +2,071 feet - 65 feet = +2,006 feet

**Trail Use:** Moderate

**Open To:** Hiking, Biking, Horseback

**Ending Elevation:** 9,756 feet

**USGS Map(s):** Minturn

**Access from Vail:** Travel west on I-70 to Exit 171 for Minturn, Leadville, and Hwy 24. Exit here and turn right (south). Just past the interstate, there is a large parking lot on the right. The trail begins from the south end of the parking lot near the white house.

**Trail Highlights:** From the trailhead sign, follow the old road that winds behind the white house at the end of the parking lot. This road climbs gradually through large open meadows, aspen, and spruce-fir forests. At mile 2.4, the road will split. Stay straight here; do not go left. You will know you are getting close when you hit the straightest and most difficult climb on the route. The line shack is a small cabin that lies at the end of the trail. The line shack offers a good place for lunch and a vantage point of some views of the Gore Range and Beaver Creek ski area. Evidence of old ski runs shows that this was once an old ski area.

**Biking Ethics/Regulations:** Mountain biking provides the opportunity to “get away from it all.” Careless operation of your bike can cause damage and may result in closing of areas to mountain bike enthusiasts. Respect the environment and other trail users. By using common sense and common courtesy, what is available today will be here to enjoy tomorrow:

- **Always stay on designated roads and trails;** off-trail riding is not permitted on the White River National Forest.
- Obtain a map of the area you wish to explore and determine which areas are open for use.
- Avoid trails that are obviously wet and muddy to avoid trail damage.
- When descending, apply enough brake to maintain control, but avoid locking your bike’s wheels, which can start a rut, leading to erosion.
- Cross streams at fording points only.
- Wilderness areas are managed to maintain their primitive character and to provide opportunities for solitude. These designated areas are solely for non-mechanized travel—access is restricted to foot and horseback only. Sorry, no OHVs or bicycles.
- For tips on techniques and responsible recreation, visit [www.treadlightly.org](http://www.treadlightly.org).

**Meadow Mountain:** This area was home to Everkrisp Lettuce farming back in the 1920s until they realized that they could grow lettuce year-round in California. Between 1964 and 1971 the property was owned by Jack Oleson and managed as a downhill ski area. It brought attention to the large area from Minturn to McCoy Creek and brought Vail Associates into the picture in 1969. They purchased the Oleson property in 1971, but ended up developing Beaver Creek, four miles to the west, shortly after. And the area finally became public land in 1979, when the United States Forest Service acquired the land from Vail Associates.

**PACK IT IN - PACK IT OUT!! LEAVE NO TRACE!!**

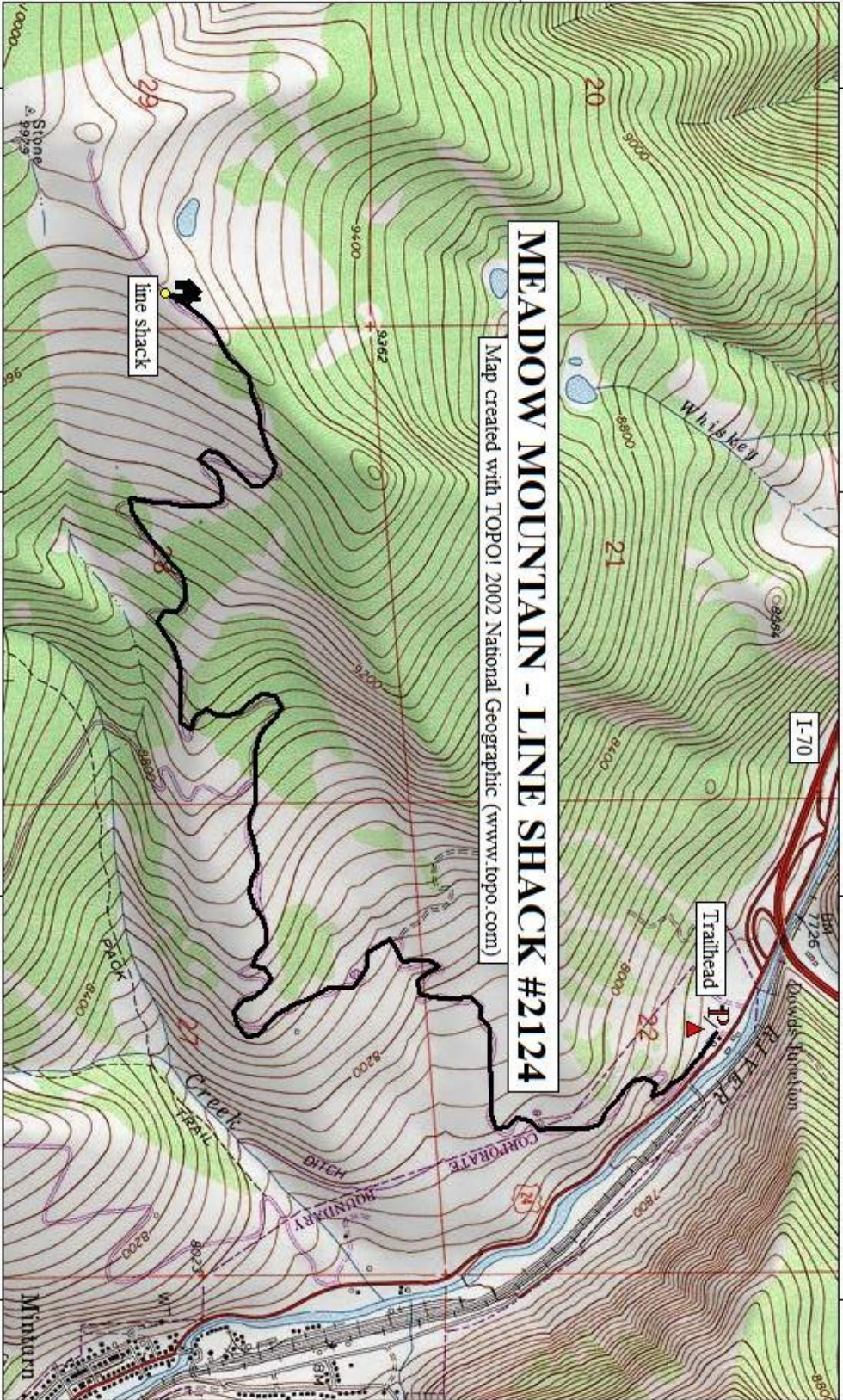
**This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The White River National Forest strongly suggests purchasing a topographic map and compass prior to your hiking trip.**

106°29.000' W  
106°28.000' W  
106°27.000' W  
106°26.000' W

TOPO! map printed on 03/04/20 from "meadow\_mtn.tpo" and "Untitled.tpg"

39°36.000' N

39°36.000' N



106°29.000' W  
106°28.000' W  
106°27.000' W  
106°26.000' W

TN  
9 1/2'

Map created with TOPO!® ©2002 National Geographic ([www.nationalgeographic.com/topo](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/topo))



10000'  
9500'  
9000'  
8500'  
8000'  
7500'

0 mi. 0.25 mi. 0.50 mi. 0.75 mi. 1.00 mi. 1.25 mi. 1.50 mi. 1.75 mi. 2.00 mi. 2.25 mi. 2.50 mi. 2.75 mi. 3.00 mi. 3.25 mi. 3.50 mi. 3.75 mi. 4.00 mi. 4.25 mi. 4.50 mi. 4.75 mi. 5.00 mi.  
Gain: +2071' -65' = +2006'