WHITNEY LAKE TRAIL - FDT 2002

Length: 2.6 miles (one way)  
Difficulty: More Difficult  
Beginning Elevation: 9,131 ft.  
Elevation Gain: +1,862 ft.-0 ft. = +1,862 ft.  
Trail Use: High  
Open To: Hiking, Horseback  
Ending Elevation: 10,993 ft.  
USGS Map(s): Mt. of the Holy Cross

Overnight Registration Information: In order to continue to provide quality recreation experiences and to protect wilderness lands, the Forest Service must gather data regarding visitor use and travel patterns. Each party camping overnight in the Holy Cross Wilderness is required to self-register at the trailhead and to carry a copy of the registration with them during their visit. There is no fee charged and no limit to the number of registration forms issued.

Access from Vail: Travel west on I-70 to Exit #171 for Minturn, Leadville, and Hwy 24. Exit here and turn right onto Hwy 24. Proceed south for 12.6 miles to Homestake Road #703. Turn right here and proceed about 4.5 miles on this improved dirt road to the small parking area on the left across the road from the trailhead.

Trail Highlights: The trail ascends steeply through aspen and conifer groves. At various points along the trail views of the Sawatch range can be viewed. Whitney Peak rises up from the north lake shore to an elevation of 13,271 ft. Whitney Peak can be climbed by following the west ridge up to the summit.

Important Information: Whitney Lake is within the Holy Cross Wilderness. Wilderness is for your use and enjoyment, but you have an obligation to leave it unimpaired for future generations. Please understand your responsibilities when visiting these special places. Leave them as you wish to find them:

* Camping - camp at least 100 feet from streams, lakes, and trails.  
* Dogs - must be under control and must not harass wildlife, people, or damage property.  
* Fire - campstoves are recommended and fires are prohibited within 100 feet of lakes, steams, trails, and above 11,000 feet in elevation.  
* Group size - limit group sizes to 15 people.  
* Sanitation - bury human waste at least 100 feet from water and 6 inches in the soil.

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.