

Holy Cross Ranger District  
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United States Department of Agriculture



**BIKING**

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## **MILL CREEK ROAD - FSR 710**

**Length:** 10.1 miles (one way)

**Difficulty:** More Difficult

**Beginning Elevation:** 8,214 ft.

**Elevation Gain:** +3579 ft.- 56 ft. = +3523 ft.

**Trail Use:** Moderate to Heavy

**Open To:** Mtn Biking, Hiking

**Ending Elevation:** 11,737 ft.

**USGS Map(s):** Vail East, Red Cliff

**Access from Vail:** Take exit 176 off of I-70. Travel south through the roundabout on south side of freeway onto Vail Road. Within 1/2 mile, the road curves to the left and enters a parking area behind the Lodge Tower. Continue east under chair lift to intersection by Vista Bahn Express Lift. Turn right uphill on Mill Creek Road - FSR 710.

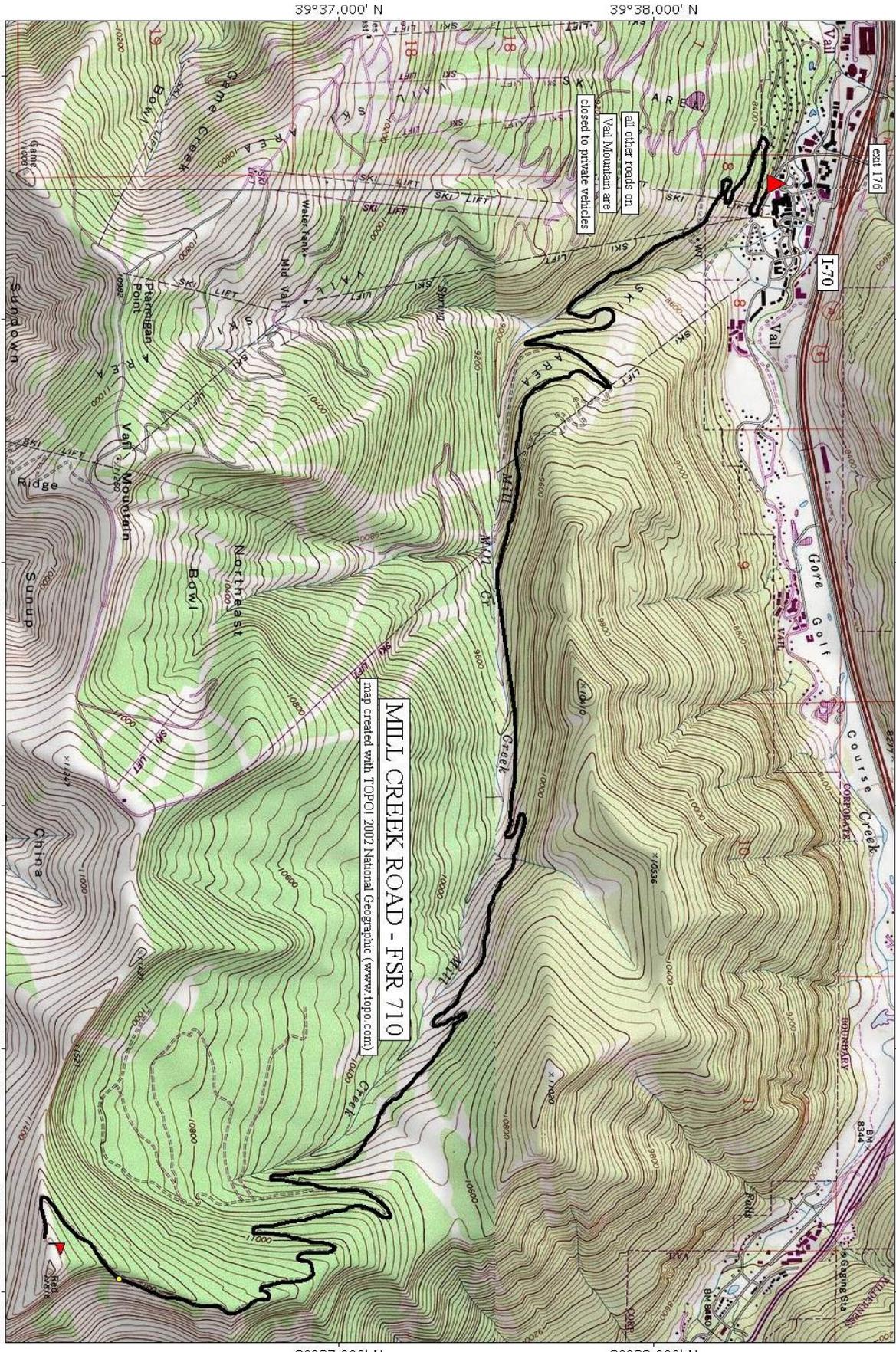
**Trail Highlights:** Reset odometer at Mill Creek Road. Turn left at 0.2 miles. The road travels through the Vail ski area; beware of construction vehicles, hikers, and 4WD vehicles. The road is easy and passable by any vehicle for about the first 7 miles. After that, the road becomes narrow, rutted, and often muddy. The road eventually climbs to the top of Red Peak (more commonly known as Benchmark) at 10.1 miles and offers an unobstructed view in every direction. Mount of the Holy Cross, Battle Mountain, the Gore Range, and the back bowls of Vail Mountain looking into Two Elk Creek drainage can be seen.

**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).

**PACK IT IN - PACK IT OUT!! TREAD LIGHTLY!!**

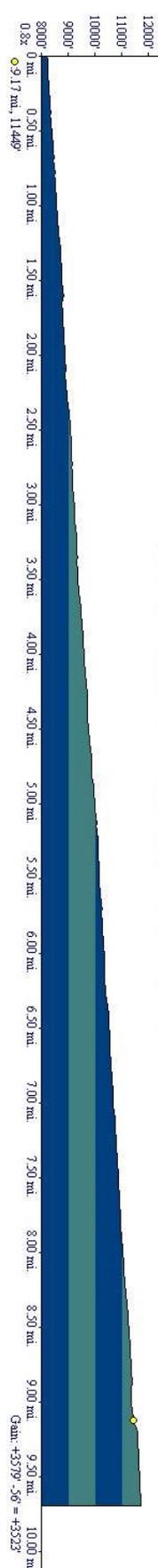
This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The White River National Forest strongly suggests purchasing a topographic map and compass prior to your trip.



39°37.000' N 39°38.000' N

106°23.000' W 106°22.000' W 106°21.000' W 106°20.000' W 106°19.000' W WGS84 106°18.000' W

Map created with TOPOI® ©2002 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topoi)



39°37.000' N 39°38.000' N