

Blanco Ranger District
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Meeker, CO 81641
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United States Department of Agriculture



BIG FISH TRAIL # 1819

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Heavy

Length: 6.5 miles

Elevation: Starts at 8,782 feet and ends at 10,946 feet (highest point 10,946 feet)

Elevation Gain: +2,223 feet – 59 feet = +2,164 feet

Open To: HIKING, HORSEBACK RIDING

Access:

- The Big Fish Trail is located 46 miles east of Meeker.
- From Meeker, take State Highway 13 east for 1 mile.
- Where Highway 13 turns north, turn east on Rio Blanco County Road 8 for 39 miles.
- Turn south on the Trappers Lake Road (FDR 205) for 6 miles to Himes Peak Campground.
- The Big Fish Trailhead is on the left before you enter the campground.

Trail Highlights:

From the trailhead, Big Fish Trail leaves the campground and crosses the White river by foot/horse bridge. It then enters the Flat Tops Wilderness and follows along Big Fish Creek. The Boulder Lake Trail branches to the west 1 ¼ miles from the campground over the creek. Proceeding up the Big Fish Trail ¾ of a mile, Bessie's Falls cascades down the slope to the east. One mile further lays Big Fish Lake. The trail continues to follow the meadows of Big Fish Creek for ½ mile beyond the lake and then starts a twisting 2 mile climb onto the Flat Tops. One mile past Big Fish Lake the trail intersects with the Himes Peak Trail. The Big Fish Trail ends a mile further where it junctions with the Oyster Lake Trail.

Important Information:

- **THIS TRAIL IS USED FOR MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES INCLUDING HIKING AND HORSEBACK RIDING. PLEASE RESPECT OTHER USERS.**
- **DOMESTIC CATTLE MAY BE GRAZING IN THE AREA.**

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 AN OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE TRIP.

