

Blanco Ranger District
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United States Department of Agriculture



PAGODA LAKE TRAIL # 1804

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Light

Length: 7.3 miles

Elevation: Starts at 10,276 feet and ends at 10,389 feet (highest point 10,632 feet)

Elevation Gain: +1,038 feet – 925 feet = +113 feet

Open To: HIKING, HORSEBACK RIDING (From 6/21—8/31 only, open to ATVs and motorcycles)

Access:

- The Pagoda Lake Trail is located 45 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 44 miles.
- The Pagoda Lake Trailhead parking lot is on the west side of the road, 4/10 of a mile from the summit of Ripple Creek Pass. The trail begins at the west end of the parking area.

Trail Highlights:

The trail heads northwest out of the parking area staying mainly in open parks with a few short stretches of mixed dead spruce, spruce and fir forests in between. 3 1/2 miles from the trailhead the Pagoda Lake Trail divides off, the lake lies 1/4 mile to the south of the main trail surrounded by thick timber. To the north Pagoda Peak rises to 11,120 feet, getting its name from its unusual shape. The elevation continues to drop gradually from the trailhead until reaching the Snell Creek Trail junction, one mile beyond Pagoda Lake. The Pagoda Trail continues west around the shoulder of Sand Peak to its terminus at Forest Road 230. Pagoda Lake Trail provides fishing access to Snell Creek and Pagoda Lake.

Important Information:

- **THIS TRAIL IS USED FOR MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES INCLUDING HIKING AND HORSEBACK RIDING. FROM 6/21-8/31, THE ROAD IS OPEN TO MOTORIZED VEHICLES WITH A 50" OR LESS WHEEL BASE. PLEASE RESPECT OTHER USERS.**
- **DOMESTIC CATTLE MAY BE GRAZING IN THE AREA.**

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.



