

Blanco Ranger District  
220 E Market Street  
Meeker, CO 81641  
(970) 878-4039 - Voice  
(970) 878-5173 - Fax



United States Department of Agriculture



---

---

## PAPOOSE TRAIL #2248

**Difficulty:** More Difficult

**Trail Use:** Moderate

**Length:** 4.6 miles

**Elevation:** Starts 7,635 feet and ends 9,885 feet (highest point 9,940 feet)

**Elevation Gain:** +2,322 feet – 72 feet = +2,250 feet

**Open To:** HIKING, HORSEBACK RIDING

### Access:

- Papoose Trail is located 31 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 28 miles.
- Turn south, cross the bridge and turn west (left) on Rio Blanco County Road 12 (Marvine Creek Road) for 1 mile to the Ute Creek Road.
- Follow Ute Creek Road for 1 mile taking the right fork to the Papoose Trail parking area. From there, travel 1/4 mile on the Ute Lodge Road. The trail begins to the left of the entrance to Ute Lodge.

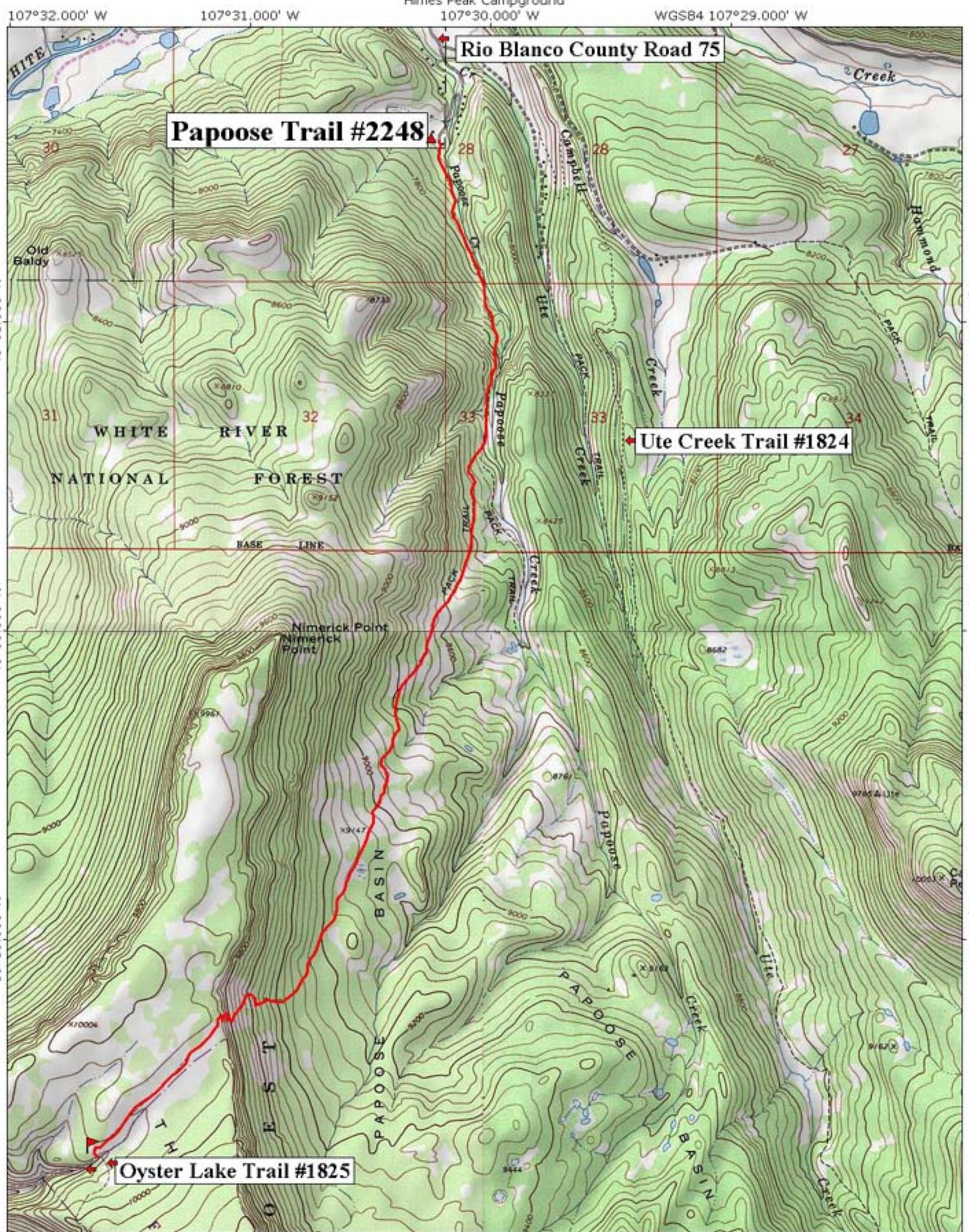
### Trail Highlights:

The trail follows Papoose Creek for 2 miles through a lodgepole and aspen forest. Shortly before you break out into Papoose Basin you climb a rocky point where Papoose Creek cascades down several short waterfalls 100 feet below the trail. Entering Papoose Basin, aspen becomes the dominant tree species with large grassy meadows between stands. The trail turns gradually to the west and climbs a series of switchbacks out of Papoose Basin onto Nimerick Point, the western most promontory of the Flat Tops plateau. As you climb, a view of the upper White River valley is gradually revealed. Once on the plateau the trail follows a long narrow park for 3/4 mile to its junction 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.**
- **PLEASE RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY.**
- **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.*



**Papoose Trail #2248**

**Rio Blanco County Road 75**

**Ute Creek Trail #1824**

**Oyster Lake Trail #1825**