

Dillon Ranger District
680 Blue River Parkway
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United States Department of Agriculture



HIKING

CHIHUAHUA LAKE - FDT 78

Difficulty: MORE DIFFICULT

Trail Use: Moderate

Length: 3.39 miles one-way

Elevation: Starts at 10,477 feet and ends at 12,251 feet (highest point 12,251 feet)

Elevation Gain: +1,774 feet - 0 feet = +1,774 feet

Recommended Use: HIKING, MTN. BIKING, OHVs

Access:

- From I-70 take Exit 205, Silverthorne / Dillon, and travel east on HWY 6 toward Keystone.
- Just past Keystone, turn right onto Montezuma Road (County Road 5).
- Follow Montezuma Road for approximately 4.62 miles to the intersection with Peru Creek Road (FDR 260). Follow Peru Creek Road for approximately 2.06 miles to the trailhead at the beginning of the old Chihuahua Gulch OHV road. Park along Peru Creek Road and hike up the old road.

Trail Highlights:

- The Peru Creek drainage is rich in mining history with numerous underground mine shafts, so be careful where you walk.
- Historic relics are most meaningful in their natural settings. Please leave items where they lay so others may enjoy them.
- An abundance of wildflowers can be seen on this hike from mid-late July.
- The old OHV road continually climbs upward until it crosses a stream, where it levels off and then passes several beaver ponds.
- Approximately 1.97 miles from the trailhead you will come to an old buck and rail fence. The road continues into Ruby Gulch. **NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED PAST THIS POINT!**
- To continue toward Chihuahua Lake follow the trail as it takes off to the left from the road.
- The trail continues up a wide valley until it reaches the top of a hill. The lake is accessible on a rough trail that will take you the final 200 feet to a spot just above the lake.
- Chihuahua Lake, elevation 12,175 feet, is nestled against the headwall of the valley just below the Continental Divide.

Important Information:

- **THIS TRAIL IS USED FOR MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES TO INCLUDE HIKING, MTN. BIKING AND OHV USE. PLEASE RESPECT OTHER USERS.**
- Since most of this trail travels above treeline, beware of the lightning danger during afternoon storms.

THIS MAP IS INTENDED FOR USE AS A GENERAL GUIDE ONLY, NOT FOR ACTUAL LAND NAVIGATION. THE WHITE RIVER NF STRONGLY SUGGESTS PURCHASING A TOPOGRAPHIC MAP AND GPS OR COMPASS PRIOR TO YOUR HIKING TRIP.