

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



HIKING/HORSE

MESA CORTINA / SOUTH WILLOW FALLS - FDT 32 / 60

Difficulty: EASY TO MODERATE

Trail Use: Moderate (heavy on weekends)

Length: 2.73 miles one-way to the Gore Range Trail (FDT 60)
4.71 miles one-way to the South Willow Falls

Elevation: Start at 9,217 feet and ends at 10,368 feet (highest point 10,368 feet)

Elevation Gain: +1,404 feet - 253 feet = +1,151 feet

Recommended Use: HIKING, HORSE TRAVEL

Access:

- From I-70 take Exit 205, Silverthorne / Dillon, and travel north on HWY 9 to the first traffic light at the intersection of Rainbow Drive / Wilderndest Road. Turn left onto Wilderndest Road (this road turns into Ryan Gulch Road).
- After crossing the Blue River, turn right onto Adams Ave. and then immediately turn left onto Royal Buffalo Drive (you will be driving between two auto dealerships).
- After .8 miles, turn right onto Lakeview Drive and proceed to Aspen Drive.
- Turn left onto Aspen Drive and continue for .2 miles. There will be a pull thru parking lot on the right-hand side of the road. The trailhead is located just north of the parking lot.

Trail Highlights:

- The trail winds through aspen groves into a meadow which offers a good view of the Ptarmigan Peak Wilderness across the valley. Just past the meadow is the Eagles Nest Wilderness boundary.
- The trail then travels through lodgepole pine forests and crosses South Willow Creek just before intersecting at a fork in the trail with the Gore Range Trail (FDT 60). Following the fork right takes you north while taking the left fork takes you south toward South Willow Falls.
- Travel south on the Gore Range Trail approximately 1.98 miles takes you to the South Willow Falls. You may then continue on to Red Buffalo Pass (elevation 11,748 feet) or go south toward Eccles Pass (elevation 11,900 feet) and on to Copper Mountain.
- Traveling north on the Gore Range Trail will take you to the Willow Lakes Trail (FDT 36) and on to Salmon Lake and the Willow Lakes.

Important Information:

- **BECAUSE THIS TRAIL TRAVELS INTO THE EAGLES NEST WILDERNESS NO BICYCLES ARE ALLOWED PAST THE WILDERNESS BOUNDARY AND DOGS *MUST* BE ON A LEASH NOT LONGER THAN SIX (6) FEET IN LENGTH!**
- **NO CAMPFIRE ARE ALLOWED ABOVE TREELINE NOR WITHIN .25 MILES (440 YARDS) OF ANY LAKE WITHIN THE EAGLES NEST WILDERNESS.**
- **THIS TRAIL IS USED FOR MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES TO INCLUDE HIKING AND HORSE TRAVEL. PLEASE RESPECT OTHER USERS.**

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 OR HORSE TRIP.