



**Missouri Lakes, Holy Cross Wilderness, White River National Forest
High Use Wilderness Recreation Field Trip
July 22, 2006**

Note: There is a group size restriction of 15 people in this Wilderness. Please be sure to RSVP with Ralph Swain (303)275-5058 to confirm a position in the group and whether you are interested in the Group 1 (Easy) or Group 2 (More Difficult) trip.

Logistics:

1) (Preferred) Plan to meet at the Holy Cross District Office at 9:30 a.m. at the US Hwy 06/24 Junction with I-70 (Exit 171). Turn south towards Leadville and the office is immediately on your right.

2) Meet at the Missouri Lakes Trailhead at 10:30 a.m.

Access from Vail: Travel west on I-70 to Exit #171 for Minturn, Leadville, and Hwy 24. Exit here and turn right onto Hwy 24. Proceed south for 13 miles to Homestake Road #703. Turn right and proceed past the Gold Park Campground to mile 8.5. Turn right onto Missouri Creek Road #704. Turn right and continue 3 miles on this dirt road to a "T" at 10,200 ft. Turn left and trailhead will be on the right. *(Travel time is approximately 1 hour – the roads are 2WD but may have significant washboards).*

3) Overnight Camping – Details

Since this is a heavily utilized area and part of the benefit of these field trips is the dialogue between participants, we would prefer you not to camp at Missouri Lakes on this trip. Other camping options include, dispersed camping off the Homestake Road or developed camping at the Gold Park Campground (No reservations). For more information see link below:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/whiteriver/recreation/campgrounds/holycrosscg/goldparkcg/index.shtml>

4) Itinerary

Depending on the number of participants, we may need to divide into two groups:

- Group 1 (Easy) will travel from the Missouri Lakes TH to the lakes. Approximate trip time 4 hours – 6 miles.
- Group 2 (More Difficult) would travel from the Fancy Lake TH (immediately adjacent to Missouri TH) over Fancy Pass and Missouri Pass and out Missouri Creek (past the lakes) to the TH. Approximate trip time 7 hours – 10 miles.

Trail info can be found at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/whiteriver/rangerdistricts/eagle_holycross/trails/index.shtml

5) What to bring:

Water, bug spray, sun screen, rain gear, sun glasses, and lunch! We'll hand out maps and have first aid kits and radios with us.