

Boulder Ranger District
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United States Department of Agriculture



King Lake Trail #901, Betty & Bob Lakes Trail #810

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Moderate to Heavy

Length: From Hessie Trailhead (TH) to King Lake - 5.2 miles; to Betty Lake - 5.5 miles; to Bob Lake - 6 miles; to High Lonesome Trail - 5.7 miles. DISTANCES ARE ONE WAY.

Elevation: 9,000 feet at Hessie TH; 11,431 feet at King Lake; 11,450 feet at Betty Lake; 11,600 feet at Bob Lake; 11,650 feet at the High Lonesome Trail.

Open To: Hiking. Groups of 12 or fewer. Pets must be on a hand-held leash at all times.

Access

- From Nederland, head south on Colorado Highway 119 for ½ mile. Turn west onto County Road 130 (Eldora Ski Resort sign). Stay on the main road through the town of Eldora.
- Once the pavement ends, continue for another mile. Look for a sign and vehicles parked above a side road heading sharply down and to the left. This side road leads to Hessie TH and is a cobblestone creek bed that carries water year round. Vehicles without high clearance should park at this junction. From here, it is a ¼-mile walk to the trailhead.
- This trailhead sees high use, especially on weekends, and parking is limited.

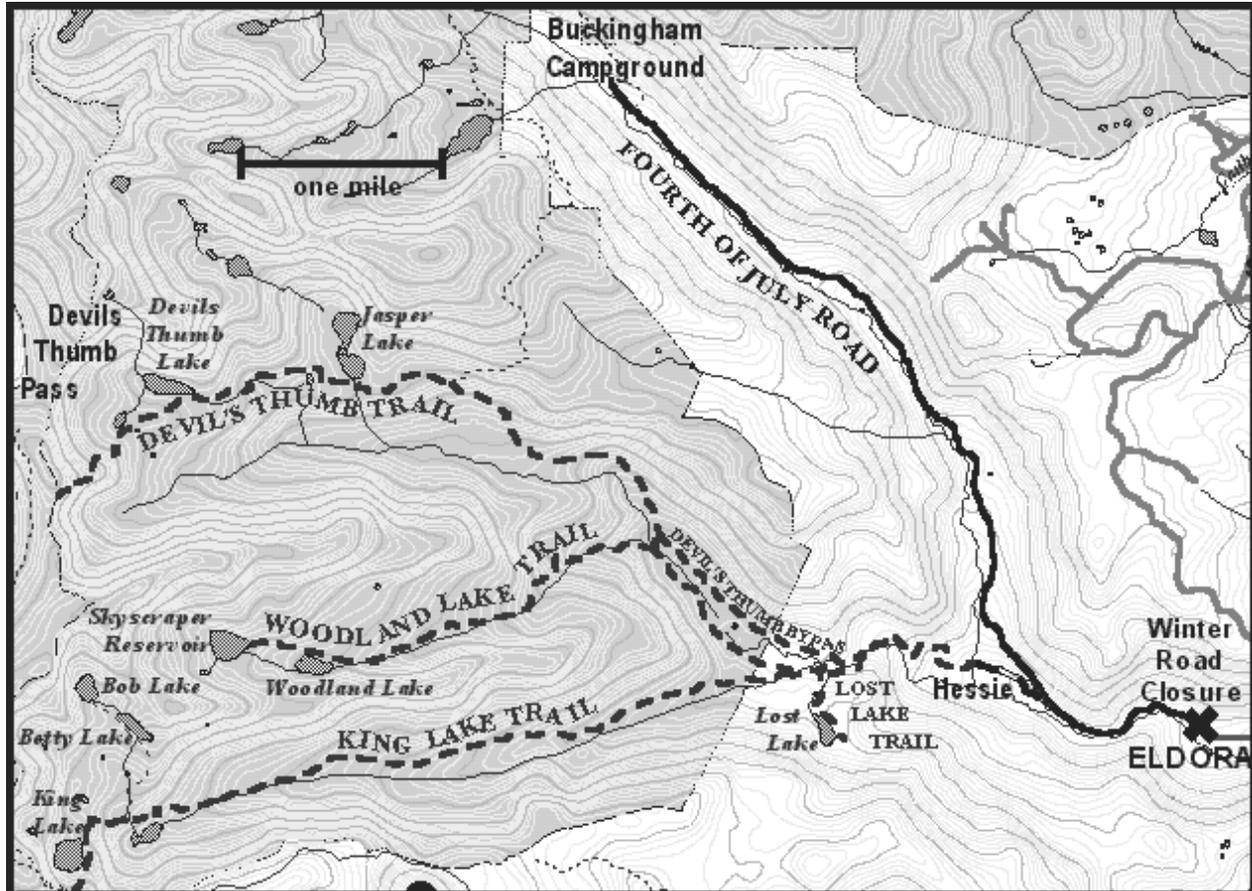
Trail Highlights

- From the trailhead, the Devil's Thumb Trail #902 climbs steeply for about ½ mile on an old road. At this point, do not take the Devil's Thumb Bypass. Cross the bridge and stay on the main Devil's Thumb Trail. The King Lake Trail soon enters the Indian Peaks Wilderness and steadily gains 1200 feet in elevation over the next four miles. Towards the upper end, the trestles of the Moffat Road are visible on the side of the ridge to the left.
- About a mile before reaching King Lake, the trail makes several switchbacks. Trail #810 to Betty and Bob Lakes forks north from the main trail at the river crossing about a ¼-mile east of King Lake. The King Lake Trail passes King Lake and briefly climbs a ridge to the Continental Divide. There it meets the High Lonesome Trail #7.
- A loop, from Hessie to Devil's Thumb Lake to High Lonesome Trail to King Lake and back to Hessie, makes an excellent fifteen-mile backpacking (permits required) or extended day trip.

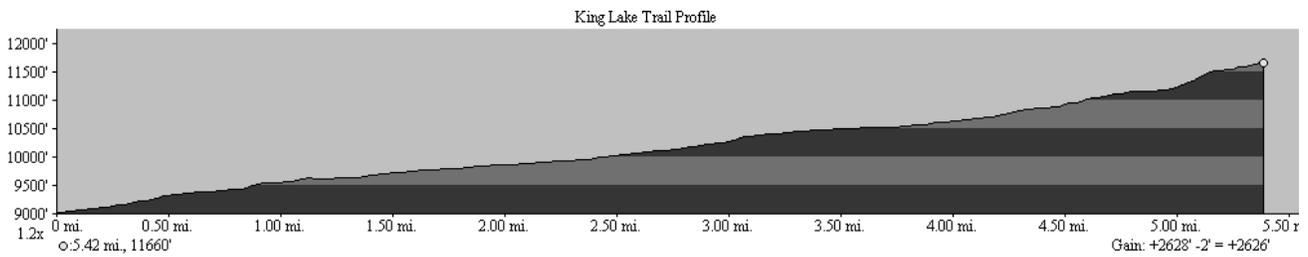
Important Information

- CAMPFIRES ARE NOT ALLOWED. PERMITS REQUIRED FOR OVERNIGHT STAYS INSIDE THE INDIAN PEAKS WILDERNESS FROM JUNE 1 - SEPTEMBER 15.
- Additional permit requirements exist for large (8-12 persons) and organized groups. Groups of more than 12 are not permitted. Packstock restrictions apply.
- The Hessie Trailhead may not be accessible by vehicle during the winter months.

Trail Map & Profile



This map is intended as a general guide only and not for actual land navigation.



For More Information:
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