

Boulder Ranger District
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United States Department of Agriculture



Diamond Lake Trail #975

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Extremely Heavy

Length: Fourth of July Trailhead (TH) to: Diamond Lake - 2.6 miles; Devil's Thumb Trail - 5.0 miles. DISTANCES ARE ONE-WAY.

Elevation: 10,100 feet at the Fourth of July TH; 10,940 feet at Diamond Lake; 11,400 feet at high point; 10,700 feet at Devil's Thumb 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 0.5 miles. 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 another five miles to the Fourth of July TH. This portion of the road is rough and passable in a passenger car only during the summer months.
- This trailhead sees extremely high use, especially on weekends, and parking is limited.

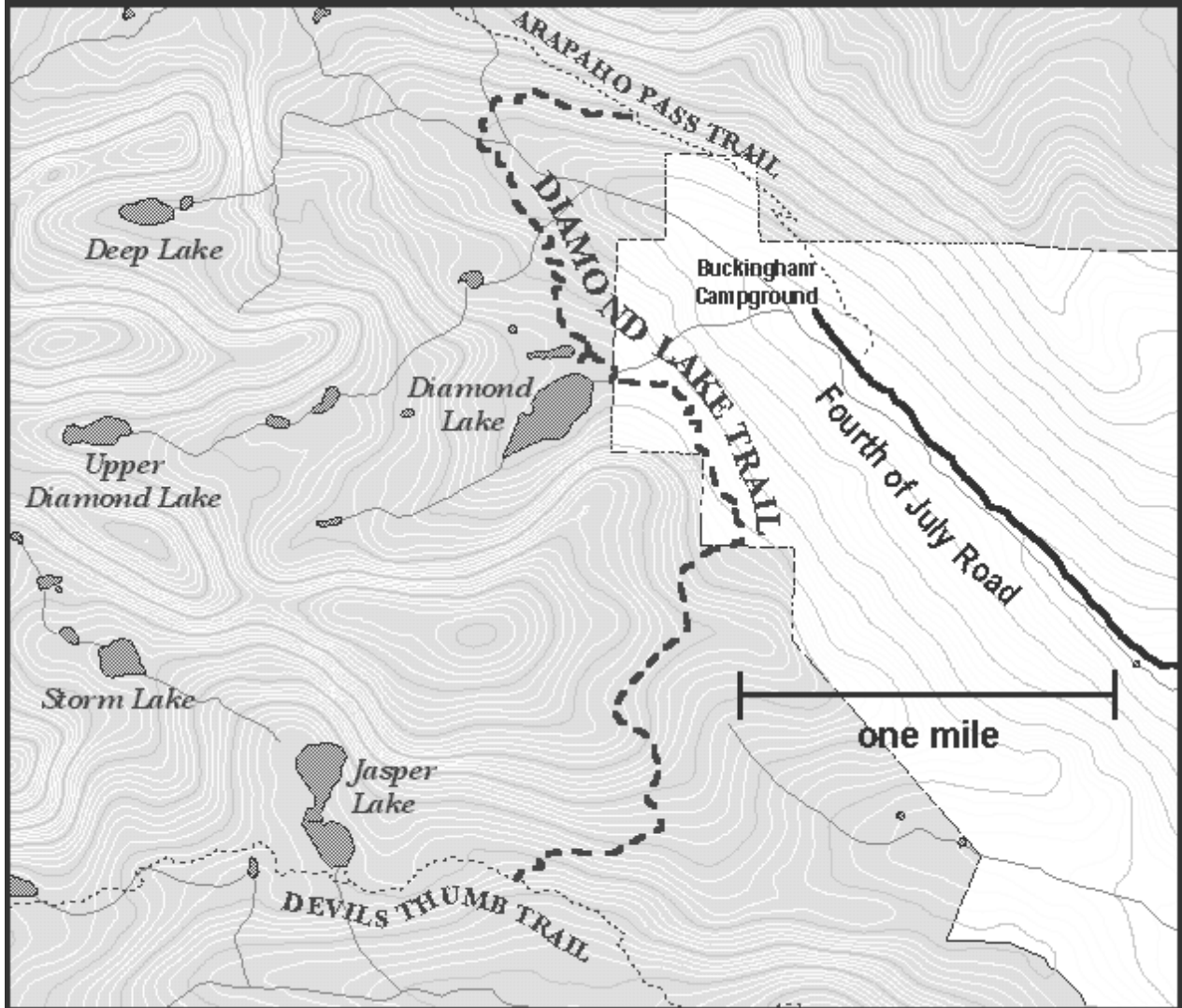
Trail Highlights

- The Arapaho Pass Trail #904 enters the Indian Peaks Wilderness and climbs for 1.2 miles to the Diamond Lake Trail. The Diamond Lake Trail forks left from the Arapaho Pass Trail and drops 0.5 miles before crossing the North Fork of Middle Boulder Creek.
- Diamond Lake is located a mile further uphill from the bridge and scenic waterfall. This stretch of trail is on a northeast-facing slope and holds snow during June and into July. In fact those without orienteering skills that venture on the trail too early discover the lake impossible to find.
- Continuing straight and passing the Diamond Lake side trail, the main trail continues for 2.4 miles, and climbs up to cross the ridge just above tree line. The drop to tree line may be difficult to find. There are piles of rock (cairns) at the edge of the trees. The Diamond Lake Trail joins the Devil's Thumb Trail for access to Jasper and Devil's Thumb Lakes.

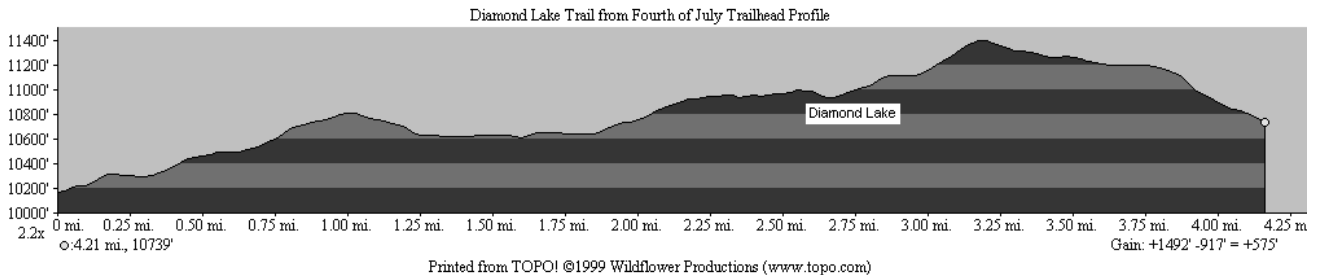
Important Information

- CAMPFIRES ARE NOT ALLOWED. CAMPING AT DIAMOND LAKE IS LIMITED TO DESIGNATED SITES ONLY. 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 are not allowed on the Diamond Lake Trail.
- Camping and campfires are prohibited within 0.25 miles of the centerline along the entire length of the Fourth of July Road. This route is open seasonally. The campground located at this trailhead is managed by the City of Boulder and no campfires are permitted.

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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