

Three Lakes Trail #843



The Three Lakes Trail #843 is very popular as it provides a beautiful hike near timberline, past alpine lakes and with only moderate difficulty. Beginning at Lost Lake Slough at the west end of the campground, the trail crosses a meadow with numerous wildflowers, and then gradually ascends through spruce-fir before skirting Lost Lake. It is well marked and easy to follow with a good tread way and an average 8% slope. It then follows the contour and offers some views of Lost Lake Slough and the Ruby Range. A side trail leads to Dollar Lake. The route switchbacks down a moderate slope through aspen before reaching the main lake and crossing the outlet. The lakes offer fair fishing and outstanding views of the Beckwiths. Water and dispersed camping sites are abundant.



Be prepared for inclement weather at all times.

Familiarize yourself with the area.



Trail Ethics:

The Three Lakes Trail is maintained for foot & horseback travel only. Please don't cut across switchbacks or create new trails.



Motors & Machines:

Motorized vehicles & bicycles are not allowed on the Three Lakes Trail.



Drinking Water:

DO NOT drink water directly from a river or stream. Water needs to be treated first by either filtering, boiling for at least 10 minutes or treating with iodine tablets.



Multiple use:

As you use this area you may notice that the Forest is managed for a broad range of uses. Recreation use alone includes hiking, horseback riding, hunting, snowmobiling and sightseeing. In addition, the vegetation in the Forest requires some form of management. Timber harvest and livestock grazing are both forms of land management you may encounter while using this area. The livestock grazing on this area is managed in a very progressive and specific manner. The fences and gates that you may see are critical to managing the livestock and meeting the resource objectives that are planned for this area. Please close all gates that you open as you travel through the area. Controlling the livestock in the manner that we have planned is important.



ATTENTION: SHEEP GRAZING IN THIS AREA. If you encounter sheep during your visit, approach them with respect & caution. Guard dogs are used to protect the sheep from predators. Try to pass a fair distance from the sheep. If you have a dog, keep it restrained. If approached by a guard dog remain calm, tell the dog "Go back" in a firm authoritative voice. If you do not appear as a threat to the sheep, the dogs will just watch as you pass.

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Trail Length 2.6 Miles



Lost Lake Slough

Photo by A. Williams

Paonia R.D.

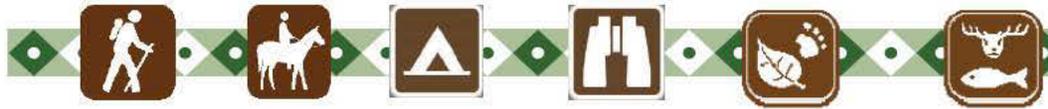
Gunnison National Forest
Paonia Ranger District



For any questions or comments please contact:
Paonia Ranger District
403 N. Rio Grande Ave., P.O. Box 1030
Paonia, CO 81428
Phone: (970) 527-4131
www.fs.usda.gov/gmug



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Trail Beginning: West end of Lost Lake Campground.

Trail Ending: East end of the Lost lake Campground.

Access: Via Kebler Pass Road, County Road 12, to Forest Service Road #706, to Lost Lake Campground, 2 miles south of Kebler Pass Road.

Use: Foot, Horse & Bicycle

Recommended Seasons:



USGS QUAD MAPS:
Anthracite Range

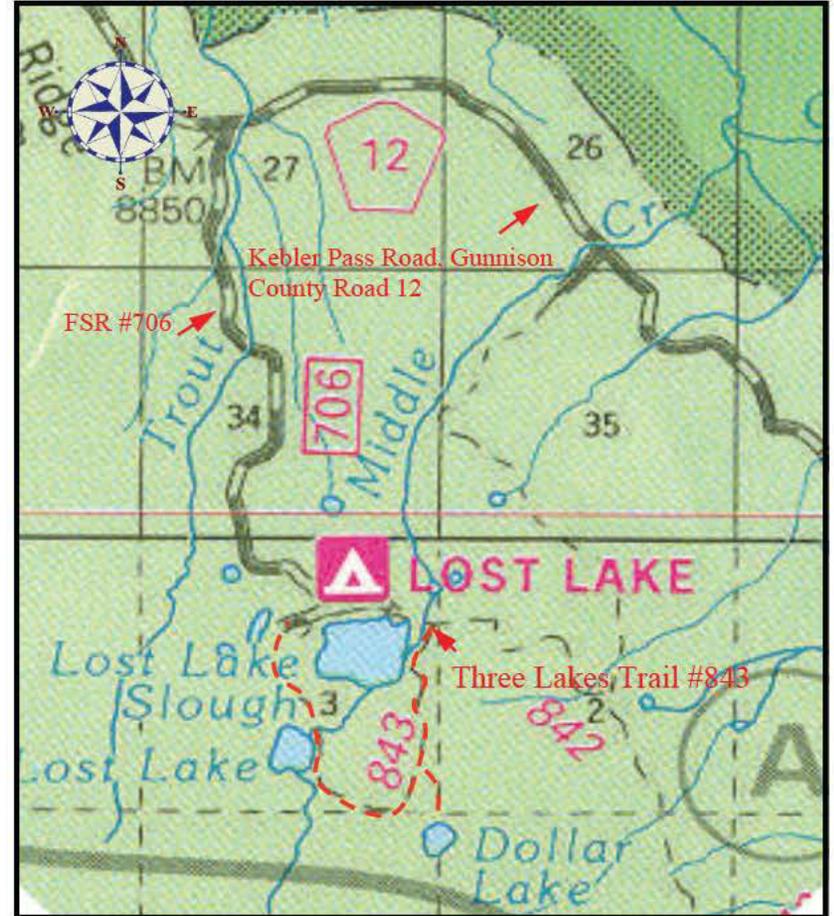
Dispersed Camping

Dispersed camping is permitted in most areas of the Forest. Recreation maps are available at all local Forest Service offices and personnel can answer questions on specific sites. Camping in undeveloped areas requires more from the camper to help keep the site in the condition in which it was found. If you Pack it in-Pack it out!

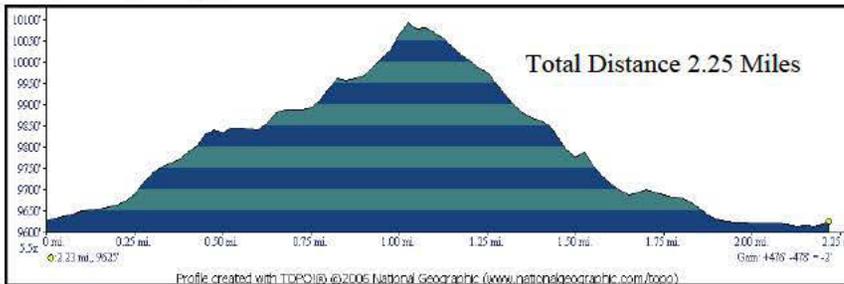


Safety:

Check in with your local Forest Service office to see if fire bans are in effect.



Elevation Profile:



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Principles of Leave No Trace:

1. Plan Ahead & Prepare
2. Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors