



## Chriss Lake TR. NO. 016

Escalante Ranger District, Dixie National Forest

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**General Description:** A day hike through meadows and aspen forests to a high mountain lake. For a longer day hike or multi day hike see Deer Creek Lake Tr. No. 015 and the Deer Creek Section of the Great Western Tr. No. 001.9

**Mileage:** 1.8 miles to Chriss Lake. 2.3 miles to the junction with the Deer Creek Section of the Great Western Trail. (One way)

**Difficulty:** Hike: moderate/strenuous  
Bike: not recommended  
Horse: easy/moderate  
OHV: not permitted, including E-bikes

**Trailhead access:** Accessible by 2-wheel drive just off of Highway 12. Turn around and unloading area for horse trailers.

**Elevation loss / gain:** 800 feet

**Water availability:** Water is available at Chriss Lake and other nearby lakes and streams. Filter or treat all water.

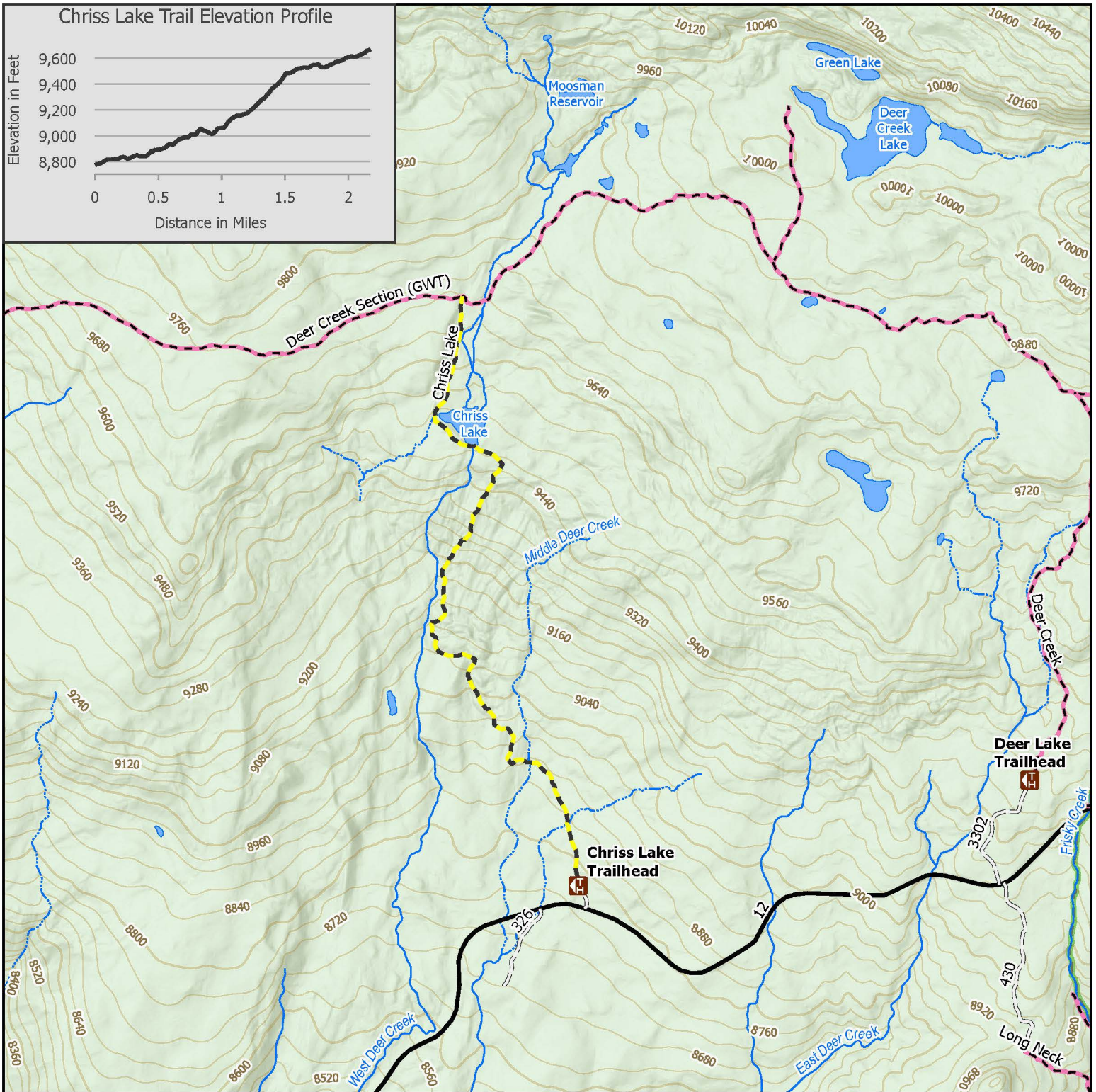
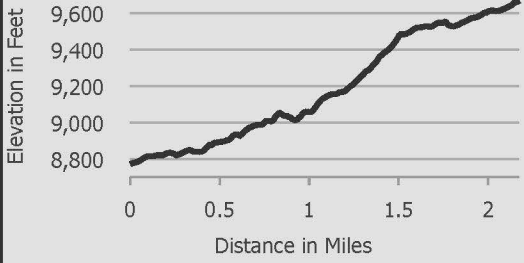
**Hazards / obstacles:** Sections of the trail can be difficult to follow. Look for cairns and blazes marking the trail. Mosquitoes are prevalent in spring and early summer. Wear a long sleeve shirt and pants and use insect repellent. Weather can change quickly. Be prepared for cold weather year-round. Ridges, saddles, viewpoints and open meadows are dangerous during thunderstorms.

**Topo maps:** USGS 7.5 minute quads: Deer Creek Lake

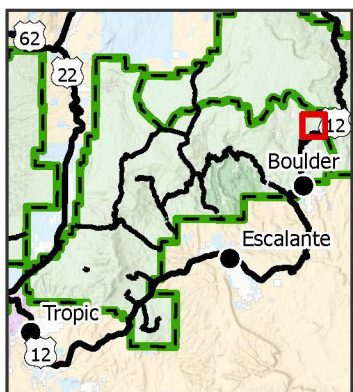
**The Trailhead:** From Boulder drive east on Hwy 12 to the Chriss Lake trailhead sign between mileposts 96 and 97 and turn left. Park at the trailhead parking area.

**The Trail:** From the trailhead take the trail at the north end of the parking lot. The trail begins its moderate climb and quickly enters the aspen forest. After about 0.9 miles a small meadow opens to the left of the trail, but you quickly return back into the aspen forest. The trail continues climbing to Chriss Lake (1.8 miles). To continue on the trail north to the junction with the Great Western Trail, follow the trail across the dam and around the west side of Chriss Lake. Some good campsites can be found on the west side of the lake. At the northwest end of the lake the old Chriss Lake trail comes in on the left (west). Continue northeast on the trail around the lake. At about 2.1 miles a trail will come in on the right (this trail takes you to the east side of Chriss Lake). Stay straight (north). At 2.3 miles the trail will join with the Deer Creek Section of the Great Western Trail.

Chriss Lake Trail Elevation Profile



Vicinity Map



### Chriss Lake

Escalante Ranger District, Dixie National Forest

- Trailhead
- Chriss Lake Trail
- Unimproved Road (4WD)
- Highway
- Trail Non-Motorized
- Perennial Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- National Forest
- Forest Boundary



Scale: 1:24,000



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Date 2/3/2025