KANNAH CREEK LOOP



BACKPACKING TRIP

FYI: The map on the reverse side is for general orientation, not for navigation. **P.S.** Get and post trail updates at www.facebook.com/oriccolorado

Location: Grand Mesa National Forest

Mesa County

Contact Info: Grand Valley Ranger District

970-242-8211 www.fs.fed.us/r2

Length: 21.33 miles roundtrip (estimate using Nat'l Geo Mapping Software)

Time: 3 day backpack with the option of staying longer. The avg. person hikes at a pace of apx. 2 miles an hour. Adjust your time based on terrain, trail and weather conditions and your skill and fitness level.

Elevation Gain/Loss: See trail profile on reverse side

Difficulty: Moderate

Season: Spring and Fall (can be hot in the summer)

Trail Users: Backpackers, hikers and wildlife

Dogs: Under control

Permits: Free use permit

Getting There from Denver: Take I-70 west towards Grand Junction. At apx. 237 miles, get off I-70 at exit 37, (I-70 Business Loop). At US 50 turn left and go about 11 miles to Lands End Road and turn left. After 3 miles take a right at the fork and then go about 6 ½ miles to the trailhead. You may consider getting off I-70 at exit 49 in the Fall to take the more scenic Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway (State Highway 65). This route is longer and has many switchbacks, but is worth the extra effort.

Maps: Nat'l Geo Trails Illustrated #136W, Indian Point and Hells Kitchen USGS 7.5 topographic maps and Grand Mesa National Forest Map. **IMPORTANT:** Stay found with the aid of a topographic map, a compass, a GPS receiver and the skill to use them.

Safety Considerations and Supplemental Info: ■ Watch for rapidly deteriorating weather conditions including thunderstorms and lightning ■ Treat water drawn from sources along the trail ■ Campfires are allowed ■ Camp at least 200 feet from lakes and streams ■ Kannah Creek is black bear country so take the appropriate precautions

Trail Description: Take the Spring Camp Trail #707 (it's a little steep for the first few miles) to the Blue Lake Trail #707.1A junction. Take the Blue Lake Trail to Blue Lake and campout. Backtrack to the Spring Camp Trail junction. Turn right at the junction and take the Spring Camp Trail to the Kannah Creek Trail #706 junction. Take the Kannah Creek trail to Carson Lake and campout. From Carson Lake take the Coal Creek Trail #702 to the Farmers Trail #727 junction. Take the Farmers Trail to the Kannah Creek Trail junction. Take the Kannah Creek Trail back to your car or stop at a meadow along the way and stay another night.

Highlights: ■ Angling opportunities for cutthroat trout at Blue Lake ■ Aspen and Spruce/Fir forest at Carson Lake ■ Numerous creeks ■ Pinion-Juniper forests at lower elevations ■ Good views of the Mesa rim

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TOPO! map printed on 04/04/13 from "Kannah Creek Loop.tpo"

