## **ENCAMPMENT RIVER LOOP**



WILDERNESS

MT. ZIRKE

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## **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: Mt. Zirkel Wilderness Routt National Forest South of Encampment, WY Contact Info: Parks Peak Ranger District 970-723-2700 www.fs.fed.us/r2

Length: 17.54 mile loop (estimate using Nat'l Geo Mapping Software)

**Time:** Two night to multi-day backpack. The average person hikes 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: Easy to moderate

Trail Users: Hikers, pack animals and wildlife

Season: July through September

Dogs: Under owner's control

Permits: None required

**Getting There from Denver:** Take I-70 W towards Grand Junction. Merge onto CO-9 N via Exit 205 toward Silverthorne. Turn left onto US-40 /E Park Ave. Continue to follow US-40 W. Turn right onto 10<sup>th</sup> St. Go southwest on 10<sup>th</sup> St toward Lincoln Ave/US-40. Take the 1<sup>st</sup> right onto Lincoln Ave/US-40 (City Café is on your left). If you reach Yampa St you've gone to far). Turn right onto Elk River Rd (Elk River Rd is just past Kamar Piz. If you're on Lincoln Ave and reach Shield Dr you've gone about 0.2 miles too far). Elk River Road becomes CR-129 (Portions unpaved). Take CR 129 to R 19/ FR 550/Whiskey Park Road. Turn right onto FR 550 and take it to Hog Park Reservoir. Then take FR 496 to the Encampment River Trail.

**Maps:** National Geographic Trails Illustrated #116, Davis Peak and West Fork Lake 7.5 USGS topographic maps and Routt 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: ■ Be prepared for mosquitoes from July through September■ Get a weather forecast and current fire restrictions at www.oriconline.org

**Trail Description:** Start on the West Fork Trail #1153 and follow it to the Main Fork Trail #1152 to finish the loop. There are many opportunities to take spin-off trails to nearby lakes and peaks. Let your imagination and a good map be your guide. **TIP:** Contact the Hahns Peak Ranger District for trail updates.

**Highlights:** ■ Good stream fishing along the way ■ Big meadows ■ Fragrant spruce-fir forest ■ Cascading falls ■ Low use

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