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United States Department of Agriculture



Ironedge— FDT 1873

Difficulty: Moderate
Trail Use: Moderate
Length: 6.0 miles
Elevation: Starts at 9410 feet, ends at 11,008 feet, highest point 11,969 feet
Elevation Gain: +3035 feet - 1437 feet = +1598 feet
Open To: Hiking, horseback riding, llamas

Access:

- From I-70 exit 147 for Eagle, turn south on Eby Creek Rd to the Route 6 roundabout.
- At roundabout, turn right (west) on Route 6/Grand Ave and travel 0.8 miles to next roundabout.
- At this roundabout, take the third right onto Sylvan Lake Road.
- Continue 1.6 miles to Brush Creek Road, and take a right on Brush Creek Road.
- Follow Brush Creek Rd for roughly 9 miles to the fork of East and West Brush Creek.
- Turn left onto East Brush Creek Rd., FDR 415 and drive 6 miles until you reach the parking lot and trailhead information board.
- To access the trail you need to take Lake Charles-FDT 1899, which is to the right of the information board. After passing through the gate, take the trail to the right at the “Y”.

Trail Highlights:

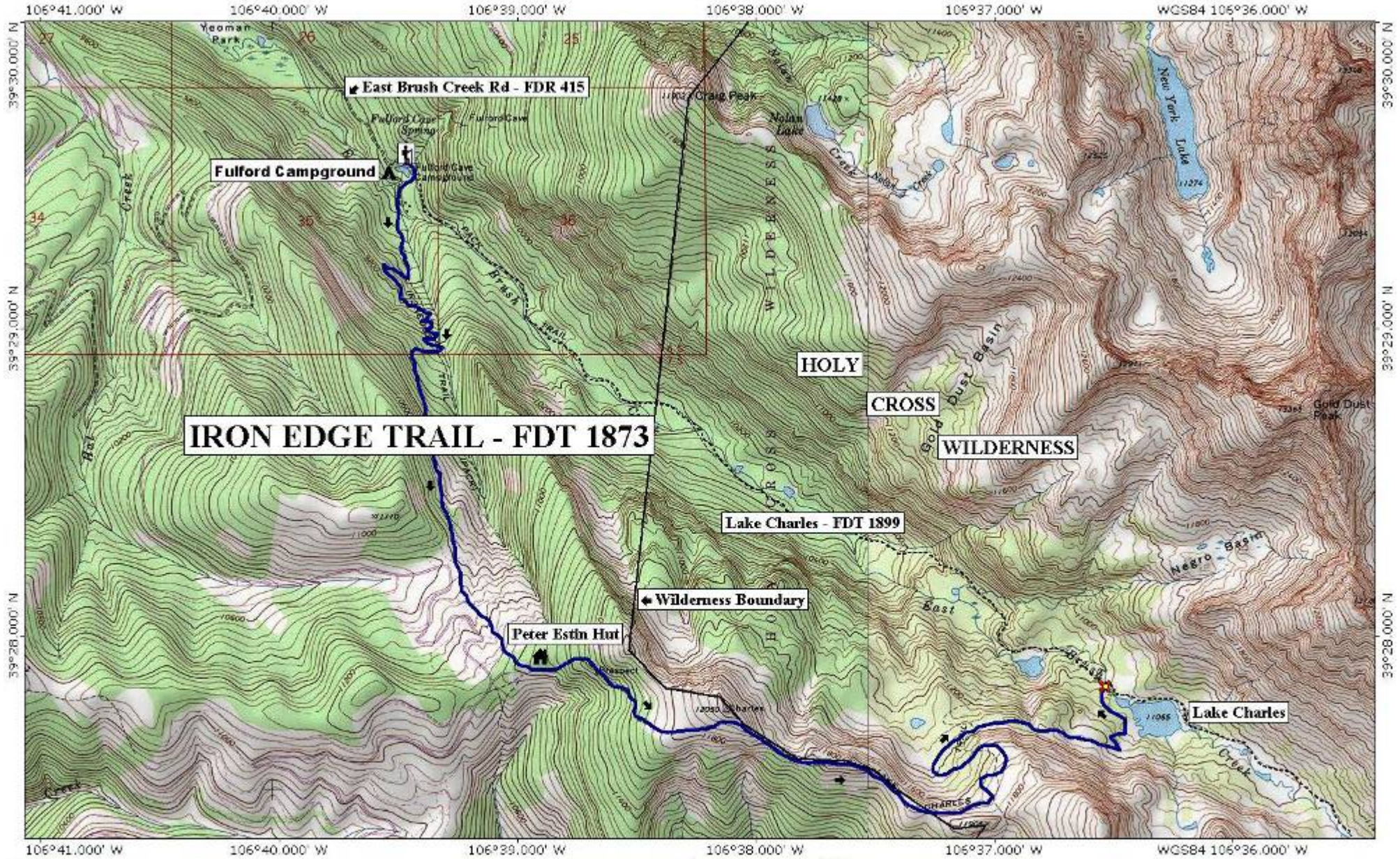
- Within the first 1/4 mile you will pass some cabins to the left, cross two bridges and go through a small meadow.
- The trail becomes steep in places with switchbacks and follows an old logging road for a short distance. Be sure to look for rock cairns marking the trail.
- The trail passes through beautiful meadows filled with wildflowers and spectacular views of the Elk Range and Frying Pan Wilderness.
- Look out for old mining sites including mine shafts and an old cabin, before the trail opens up at tree line.
- Follow the cairns as the trail skirts around a hill and then begins to descend 2 1/2 miles to Lake Charles, through meadow, forest and rocky areas.
- Spectacular views of Castle Peak, the Flat Tops, and the Elk Range are seen along the way.
- Lake Charles, a 16.2 acre lake at 11,055 feet is surrounded by the mountains of the Sawatch Range, home to Colorado cutthroat and brook trout.

Important Information:

- ALL DISTANCES ARE ONE WAY.
- THIS TRAIL ENTERS THE HOLY CROSS WILDERNESS, NO MOTORIZED OR MECHANIZED TRAVEL.

PACK IT IN—PACK IT OUT!! LEAVE NO TRACE!!

THIS MAP IS INTENDED FOR USE AS A GENERAL GUIDE ONLY, NOT FOR ACTUAL LAND NAVIGATION. THE WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST STRONGLY SUGGESTS PURCHASING A TOPOGRAPHIC TRAIL MAP AND COMPASS PRIOR TO BEGINNING A HIKING TRIP.



IRON EDGE TRAIL - FDT 1873

HOLY
CROSS
WILDERNESS

