



White River National Forest | Dillon Ranger District



Crystal Lakes Road/Trail – FDR 803/FDT 44

Highway Legal Only

Difficulty: Moderate to More Difficult

Trail Use: Moderate

Length: 3.0 miles (one-way to Lower Crystal Lake), 4.5 miles (one-way to Upper Crystal Lake)

Elevation: Starts at 10,174 feet and ends at 12,982 feet

Elevation Gain/Loss: +2,808 ft

Open in Summer to: HIKING, HORSE, MTN. BIKING, e-BIKES, 4x4, MOTORCYCLE (Highway Legal Vehicles Only)

Open in Winter to: X-C SKIING, SNOWSHOEING

****MOTORIZED ACCESS (including e-BIKES) IS NOT ALLOWED BEYOND LOWER CRYSTAL LAKE YEAR-ROUND.****

GETTING THERE

From I-70 take Exit 203, Frisco / Breckenridge, and travel south on HWY 9 through Frisco and travel to Breckenridge. Continue south on HWY 9 past Breckenridge for 2.3 miles and turn right onto Spruce Creek Rd (County Rd 800). Follow this road through the subdivision, merging left at the junction with Crown Rd. Take left turns at the forks for approximately 1.8 miles until you come to Spruce Creek Trailhead parking area. Park here if you want to hike the road to Lower Crystal Lake or continue the 4WD road, Spruce Creek Rd (FDR 800).

Seasonal Closure: Spruce Creek Rd and Crystal Lake Rd are closed to motor vehicles Nov. 23 thru May 20 or until road is dry.

ATTRACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- The trail begins as a road and turns into a trail at Lower Crystal Lake. The road will take you through numerous alpine meadows which are fed by the tributaries of Crystal Creek.
- Approximately 0.2 miles from the trailhead you will come to a junction with Crystal Lake Rd. (FDR 803), turn right. After another 0.10 miles the Burro Trail (FDT 44) crosses the road.
- Approximately 1.4 miles from the trailhead you will come to an intersection with the Wheeler National Recreation Trail (FDT 39), go straight on the road to continue toward Lower Crystal Lake.
- The road rises onto a shelf with Lower Crystal Lake nestled against the mountain walls. A cabin at the lake offers some shelter from the wind. Directly west of the cabin is Peak 10 at the Breckenridge Ski Area.
- The road ends at Lower Crystal Lake and a hiking trail continues for approximately 1.93 miles up to Upper Crystal Lake.



Center for Outdoor Ethics | LNT.org

ETHICS AND REGULATIONS

- Dispersed camping is allowed in designated areas only.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!

Before you go check on current road conditions, ownership of land, posted areas and certain regulations that apply. Visit the White River National Website for current weather and alerts in the area. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/whiteriver/alerts-notices>.



Download the COTrex app for additional trail maps and information.



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