



U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Dillon Ranger District  
680 Blue River Parkway  
Silverthorne, CO 80498  
(970) 468-5400



## **SURPRISE LAKE - FDT 62**

**Difficulty:** MODERATE TO MORE DIFFICULT

**Trail Use:** Heavy

**Length:** 2.6 miles one-way

**Elevation:** Start at 8,596 feet and ends at 10,085 feet (highest point 10,085 feet)

**Elevation Gain:** +1,489 feet - 0 feet = +1,489 feet

**Open To:** **HIKING, HORSE, X-C SKIING, SNOWSHOEING**

### **Access:**

- From I-70 take Exit 205, Silverthorne / Dillon, and travel north on HWY 9.
- Travel 16 miles north on HWY 9. Just after mile marker 118 turn left onto Heeney Rd (County Road 30).
- Follow Heeney Road 5.3 miles and turn left onto Cataract Creek Road (FDR 1725).
- Continue for 2.5 miles to the Surprise Lake Trailhead parking area on the left.

### **Trail Highlights:**

- An abundance of wildflowers can be seen from mid-late June.
- The lower quarter of the trail is a pleasant walk through open aspen groves. However, the trail becomes increasingly more difficult as you climb in elevation.
- Approximately 2.4 miles from the trailhead you will intersect with the Gore Range Trail (FDT 60).
- Turn right (west) on the Gore Range Trail and approximately 0.3 miles further on you will arrive at Surprise Lake, which will be on your left. Many views of the Cataract Creek drainage are available along this trail.
- A loop can be made back to the same general parking area, please check the topo map on the back. Continue on the Gore Range Trail for approximately 3.3 miles to the Eaglesmere Lakes Trail (FDT 61). Turn right (east) at the intersection and continue for approximately 2.8 miles to the Eaglesmere Lakes Trailhead. From here it is a short walk back to the Surprise Lake Trailhead parking area.

### **Important Information:**

- **THIS IS A REC FEE DEMO AREA DURING THE SUMMER.**
- **DOGS MUST BE ON A LEASH AT ALL TIMES IN THE EAGLES NEST WILDERNESS.**
- **CHECK WITH THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND TRAILHEAD SIGNS FOR RESTRICTIONS THAT APPLY FOR BACKCOUNTRY TRAVEL AND CAMPING THROUGHOUT THE EAGLES NEST WILDERNESS.**

*THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS INTENDED TO BE A GENERAL GUIDE ONLY, NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES..*