



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



## WILLOW / SALMON LAKES - FDT 36

**Difficulty:** MODERATE TO MORE DIFFICULT

**Trail Use:** Moderate

**Length:** 7.7 miles one-way

**Elevation:** Start at 9,496 feet and ends at 11,429 feet (highest point 11,463 feet)

**Elevation Gain:** +2,367 feet - 434 feet = +1,933 feet

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

### Access:

- From I-70 take Exit 205, Silverthorne / Dillon, and travel north on HWY 9 for approximately 7.3 miles.
- On your left will be Rock Creek Road (FDR 1350) across from the Blue River campground.
- Turn left and follow the gravel road for 1.5 miles and turn left at the road marked “Rock Creek”.
- Follow this dirt road for approximately 1.7 miles to North Rock Creek Trailhead parking area at the end of the road.
- An alternative access is to start at the Willowbrook TH in Silverthorne. See trail sheet for “Willow Creek Trail System” for directions.

### Trail Highlights:

- Follow the North Rock Creek Trail for approximately 0.3 miles until the intersection of the Gore Range Trail (FDT 60), inside the Eagles Nest Wilderness. Turn left (south) at the intersection with the Gore Range Trail.
- Continue south on the Gore Range Trail for approximately 4.8 miles to the intersection with the Willow Lakes Trail (FDT 36). Turn right.
- The trail climbs for approximately 1.1 miles until you come to the junction for Salmon Lake, which will be on your right. Turn right if you want to go to Salmon Lake or continue straight toward the Upper Willow Lakes Area.
- The mountain peak between Salmon Lake and Willow Lakes is known as the “Thorn”, an area popular for mountaineering due to the sharp, jagged peaks and large, steep snowfields.
- This is a great area to view wildflowers and high alpine lake scenery.

### Eagles Nest Wilderness Regulations:

- **Motor vehicles, mountain bikes and motorized equipment are prohibited.**
- **DOGS MUST BE ON A LEASH AT ALL TIMES IN THE EAGLES NEST WILDERNESS.**
- **Group size is limited to 15 people.**
- **Camping is prohibited within 100 feet of lakes, streams and trails.**
- **Campfires are prohibited at any of the Willow Lakes and Salmon Lake (stoves only).**

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

