



HIKING – FOREST SERVICE – ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



NATIONAL FOREST – San Juan RANGER DISTRICT - Columbine
 Updated: February, 2003

Continental Divide Trail #813 – Elwood Pass to Sawtooth Mountain

Length: 25 mi. (40 km.)

Use: Moderate

Recommended Season

Spring Summer Fall Winter
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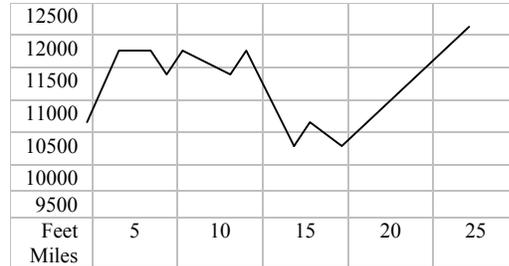
Difficulty: Moderate to Difficult

USGS Map (s): Elwood Pass, Wolf Creek Pass, and Spar City

Starting Elevation: 11,630'
 Elwood Pass

Ending Elevation: 12,400'
 Highline Trail near Sawtooth Mountain

Recommended Season: Summer



Access: #1: Travel 25 miles (37 km) west on Highway 160 from Del Norte Ranger Station (7 mi [11 km] west of South Fork) to Park Creek access road #380. Turn left and follow Park Creek Road for about 17 miles (27 km) to the old Elwood Guard Station (cabin). The trail is about ¼ mile (.4 km) west of the cabin.



Access #2: Wolf Creek Pass on U.S. Highway 160 - 20 miles (32 km) southwest of South Fork.

Attractions & Considerations : This is a small portion of the Continental Divide Trail, which runs from Canada to Mexico. Much of this section of the trail is at or above timberline. Many years find

Scan of the San Juan National Forest Map
 Forest Service Maps and other publications available at the Public Lands Center in the Durango Tech Center, ½ mile west of Durango off of Highway 160 or by calling 970-247-4874. www.sjma.org

snow present until late June or July, and severe weather can occur at any time. The high elevation and rugged terrain make this a moderate to difficult trail. The scenery along it is spectacular.

Narrative: As this trail winds along the Continental Divide, it passes through a wide variety of topography and life zones. This particular portion of the trail crosses some of the highest elevations on the trail. The trail is in good condition and not extremely steep. It is open to both foot and horse travel. In 1989, portions of this trail were relocated and reconstructed for user convenience and safety.



Fishing Considerations: Crater Lake, Lake Arm, and Blue Lake are accessible from the trail and are rated fair for cutthroat.



Weminuche Wilderness Regulations: Group size is limited to 15 people. A combination of people and livestock must not exceed 25. All livestock feed must be certified weed free. Camping is not allowed within 100 feet of any water source unless the campsite is designated or posted. Do not leave campfires unattended. Outfitter and guides who receive any form of compensation must obtain a special-use permit to operate on public land. Dogs must be leashed or under voice control at all times and must not disturb people or wildlife. Shortcutting switchbacks on trails is prohibited. Disposal of human waste and gray water within 100 feet of any water source is prohibited. Trash must be packed out and properly disposed of. Cutting or damaging live trees is prohibited. **Please check trailhead signs or Forest Service Offices for site-specific camping, campfires, and livestock regulations.**