

Holy Cross Ranger District
24747 US Hwy 24
P.O. Box 190
Minturn, CO 81645
(970) 827- 5715 - Voice
www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver



United States Department of Agriculture



HIKING

CROSS CREEK #2006

Length: 14 miles (one way)
Difficulty: Easiest to More Difficult
Beginning Elevation: 8,514 ft.
Elevation Gain: +4,045 ft.-742 ft. = +3,303 ft.

Trail Use: Moderate to High
Open To: Hiking, Horseback
Ending Elevation: 11,816 ft.
USGS Map(s): Minturn, Mt Jackson,
Mt of the Holy Cross

Permit Information: In order to continue to provide quality recreation experiences and to protect the wilderness lands, the Forest Service must gather data regarding visitor use and travel patterns. Each party staying overnight in the Holy Cross Wilderness is **required to self-register at the trailhead and to carry a copy of the registration with them** during their visit. There is no fee charged and no limit to the number of permits issued.

Access from Vail: Travel west on I-70 to Exit 171 for Minturn and Hwy. 24. Turn right onto Hwy 24 and continue for 5 miles, passing through Minturn, to Tigiwon Road #707 (this road is on the right immediately before crossing a bridge over the Eagle River). Turn right onto this dirt road and continue about 2 miles to the trailhead on the right.

Trail Highlights: The trail begins following a ridge and then drops down to Cross Creek. There is a bridge crossing at mile 1 in a meadow that is usually filled with wildflowers. This makes a nice destination point for a short day hike. Or, continue a little further and there is a pond surrounded by rocks that offers a good lunch spot. Around mile 2, Mount of the Holy Cross is visible from the trail; on the eastern face of the mountain there is a permanent snow field that is in the shape of a cross. At mile 6, Cross Creek Trail intersects Grouse Mountain Trail. Reed's Meadow is about 2 miles further and is a long open meadow in a glaciated valley. On the way to Treasure Vault Lake, short side trips to Harvey Lake (at mile 11) and Blodgett Lake (at mile 13) offer good fishing and timberline lake scenery. The last few miles of the trail pass through open meadows with wildflowers and mining relics. There is evidence of mining cabins, ore mills, and old mines. The trail follows an old wagon road to Treasure Vault Lake and the intersection with the Missouri Lakes Trail #2003 and Fancy Pass Trail #2006.

Important Information: Cross Creek is within the **Holy Cross Wilderness**. Wilderness is for your use and enjoyment, but you have an obligation to leave it unimpaired for future generations. Please understand your responsibilities when visiting these special places and leave no trace of your visit. A few of the Holy Cross Wilderness regulations include:

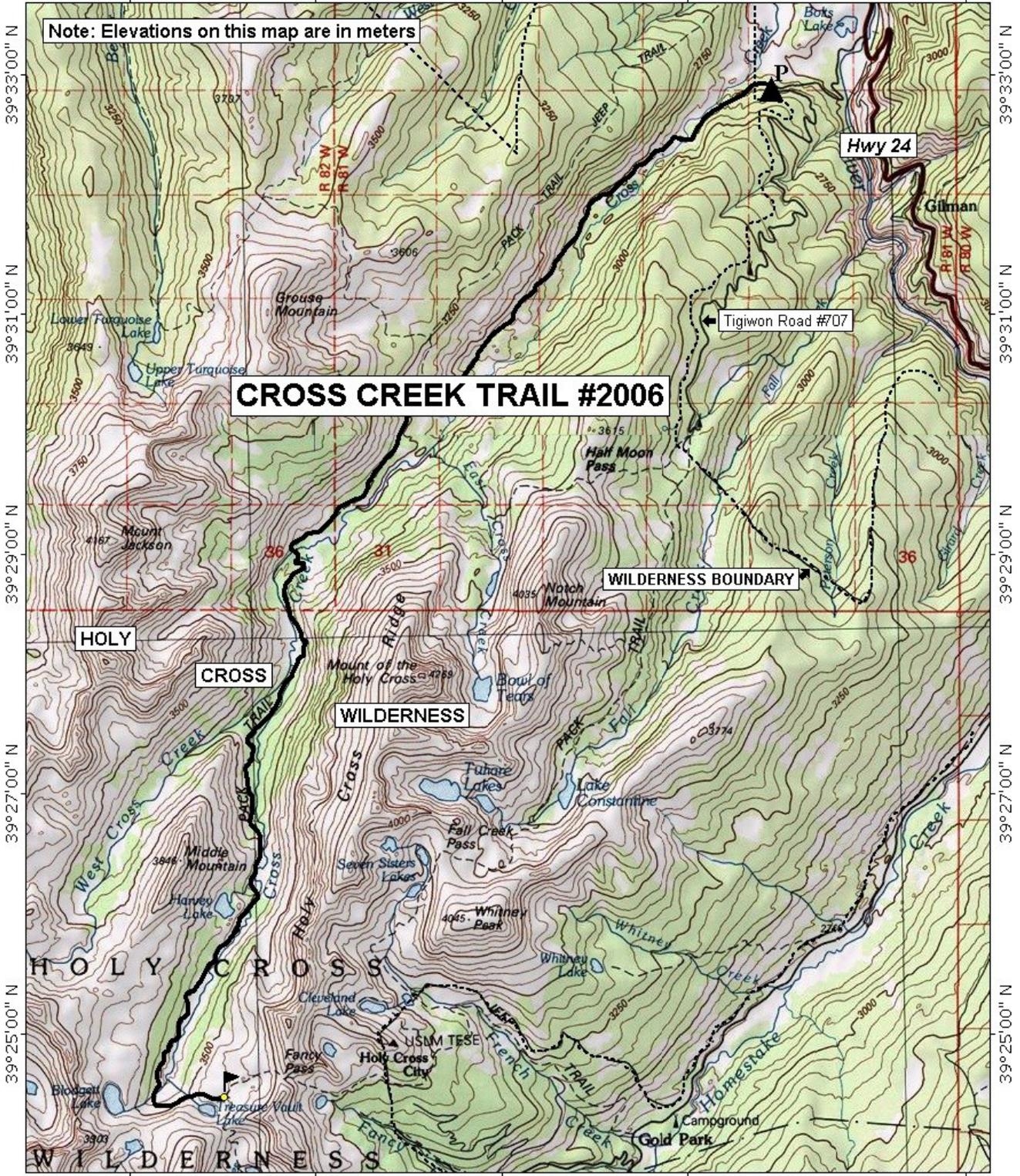
- * Camping - camp at least 100 feet from streams, lakes, and trails.
- * Dogs - must be under control and must not harass wildlife, people, or damage property.
- * Fire - campstoves are recommended and fires are prohibited at and above timberline.
- * Group size - limit group sizes to 15 people.
- * Sanitation - bury human waste at least 100 feet from water and 6 inches in the soil.

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 map and compass prior to your hiking trip.

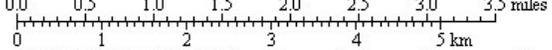
HOLY CROSS RANGER DISTRICT WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST

106°32'00" W 106°30'00" W 106°28'00" W 106°26'00" W WGS84 106°23'00" W



106°32'00" W 106°30'00" W 106°28'00" W 106°26'00" W WGS84 106°23'00" W

TN/MN
11°



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