



**HIKING - FOREST SERVICE - ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

NATIONAL FOREST – San Juan RANGER DISTRICT - Columbine

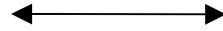
Updated: April, 2003

Endlich Mesa Trail #534 North from Miller Mtn.

Length: 12 mi / 19.3 km

Recommended Season

Spring Summer Fall Winter



Use: Heavy in Fall, Medium in Summer

Difficulty: More Difficult

USGS Map (s):

Lemon Reservoir, Vallecito Reservoir, Columbine Pass

Starting Elevation: 11,600'

Trailhead at top of logging road – FDR #597

Ending Elevation: 12,680'

Columbine Pass

Access # 1:

Travel east from Durango on Florida Road (CR #240) to the junction with FDR #243, which goes to Lemon Reservoir.

Continue north past the reservoir for 5.5 miles until you reach FDR #597, a logging road. Take this road 9 miles to its end at the trailhead. This road is very rough but does not require 4WD.

Attractions & Considerations:

Much of this trail is on high mesas above or just below tree line. Water is sometimes scarce. The Endlich Mesa Trail (#534) climbs and descends often, with spectacular views in good weather. As with all high-altitude areas, storms can move in rapidly, bringing severe wind, lightning, rain, snow, or hail at any time of year. Plan accordingly.

The Endlich Mesa Trail, also known on some maps as the Silver Mesa Trail, passes several old mines en route to Columbine Pass. Trimble Pass, at mile 10.5, is the high point at 12,800'.

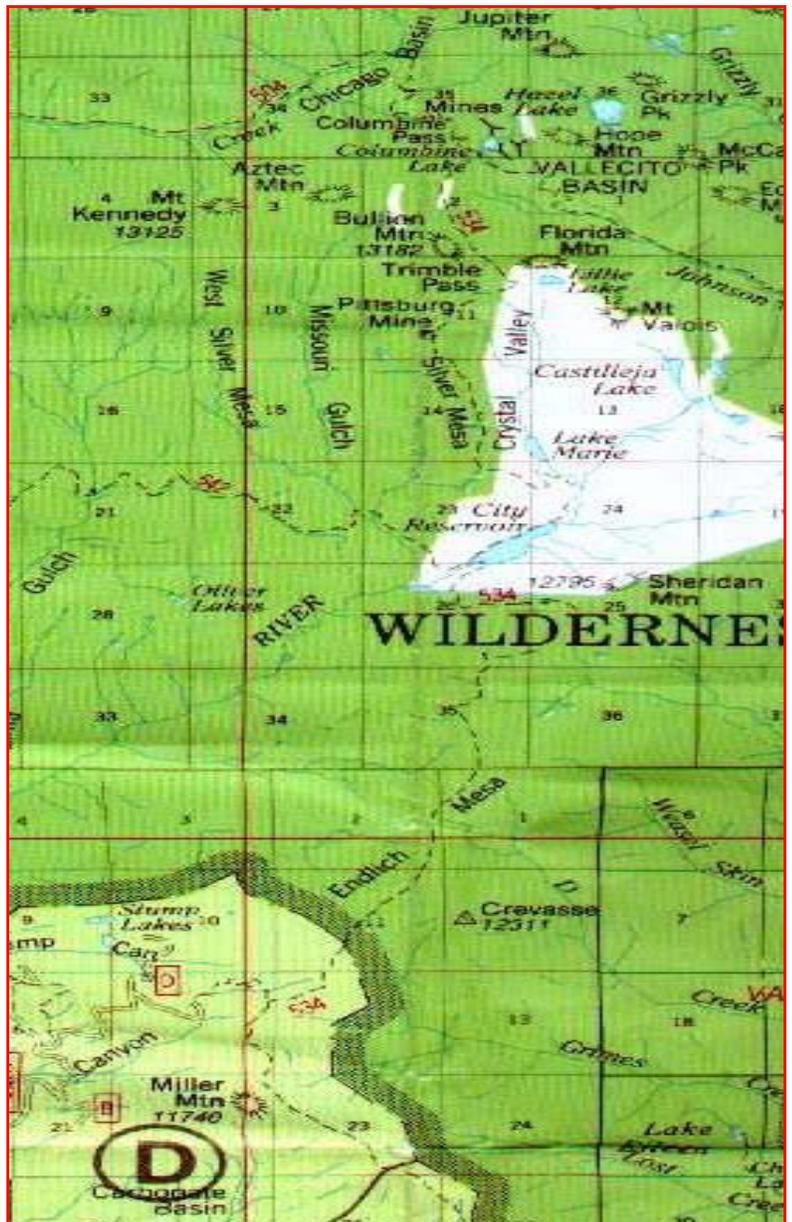
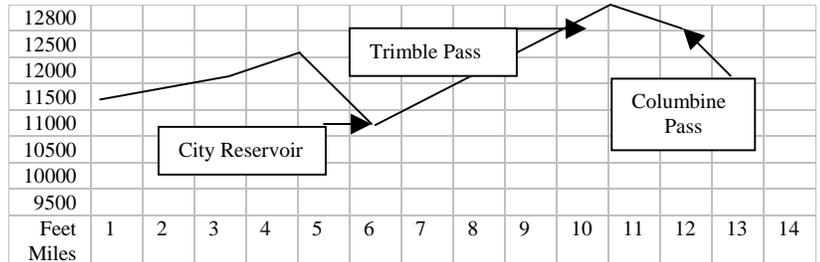
The alpine meadows are full of blooming wildflowers in late July and August. This area provides excellent views and photographic possibilities.

Fishing Considerations:

Between Lemon and City Reservoirs, brown, brook, rainbow, and cutthroat trout are found. Most of these fish are in the 6-to-10-inch range, with larger trout in the more difficult to reach pools. Above City Reservoir the cutthroats replace the brown trout. The fish in the upper area of the Florida are all small. No special regulations are in effect. Little Lake, Castilleja Lakes, Marie Lake, and City Reservoir are rated good for cutthroat. Please check the fishing regulations regarding limits, allowable lures, and restrictions on certain lakes, rivers, etc.

Weminuche Wilderness Regulations:

- Group size is limited to 15 people.
- Combination of people and stock = 25.
- Dogs under control.
- No unattended campfires.
- Camping is not allowed within 100 feet of any water source.
- Outfitter-guides who receive any form of compensation must obtain a special-use permit to operate on public land.
- Possession of motorized equipment and mechanized means of transport are not permitted.
- Please check trailhead signs or Forest Service Offices for site-specific camping, campfire, and livestock regulations.



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