



PTARMIGAN LAKE

DAY HIKE

FYI: The map on the reverse side is for general orientation, not for navigation.

P.S. Get and give trail updates at www.facebook.com/oriccolorado

Location: San Isabel Nat'l Forest
West of Buena Vista
Off Cottonwood Pass Road

Contact Info: Salida Ranger District
303-539-3591
www.fs.fed.us/r2

Length: 3.06 miles one-way (est. using the Nat'l Geo Mapping Software)

Time: The average person hikes approximately 2 miles an hour. Adjust your time +/- based on terrain and weather conditions and your skill and fitness level and whether you are hiking or trail running.

Season: June to September

Elevation Gain/Loss: See trail profile on reverse side

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Users: Hikers

Dogs: On leash

Permits: None required

Getting There From Denver: I-70 west to the CO Highway 91 turn-off. Take CO Highway 91 south to Leadville. Get on US Highway 24 and take it south to Buena Vista. Turn right onto Cottonwood Pass Road (a.k.a. Chaffe County Road 306) and take it to the Ptarmigan trailhead and parking area on your left. (Alternate: U.S. Highway 285 from Denver to Buena Vista)

Maps: National Geographic Trails Illustrated #129W. **IMPORTANT:** Stay found with the aid of a topographic map, compass, GPS receiver and the skill to use them.

Safety Considerations and Supplemental Info: ■ Afternoon thunderstorms and lightning ■ Prepare for mosquitoes from June through September ■ You'll find restrooms at the trailhead ■ Check fire restrictions at www.oriconline.org

Trail Description: The Ptarmigan Lake Trail #1444 starts at 10,750 feet. It traverses to the east before turning south and generally following Ptarmigan Creek to the lake at 12,147 feet. **TIP:** Contact the Salida Ranger District for trail updates.

Highlights: ■ Dense pine forests ■ Willow-clogged meadows ■ High mountain lake ■ Green meadows ■ Peaceful ponds ■ Surrounded by a half-dozen 12,000 and 13,000 foot peaks ■ Rocky Mountain Goats ■ And, of course, ptarmigans

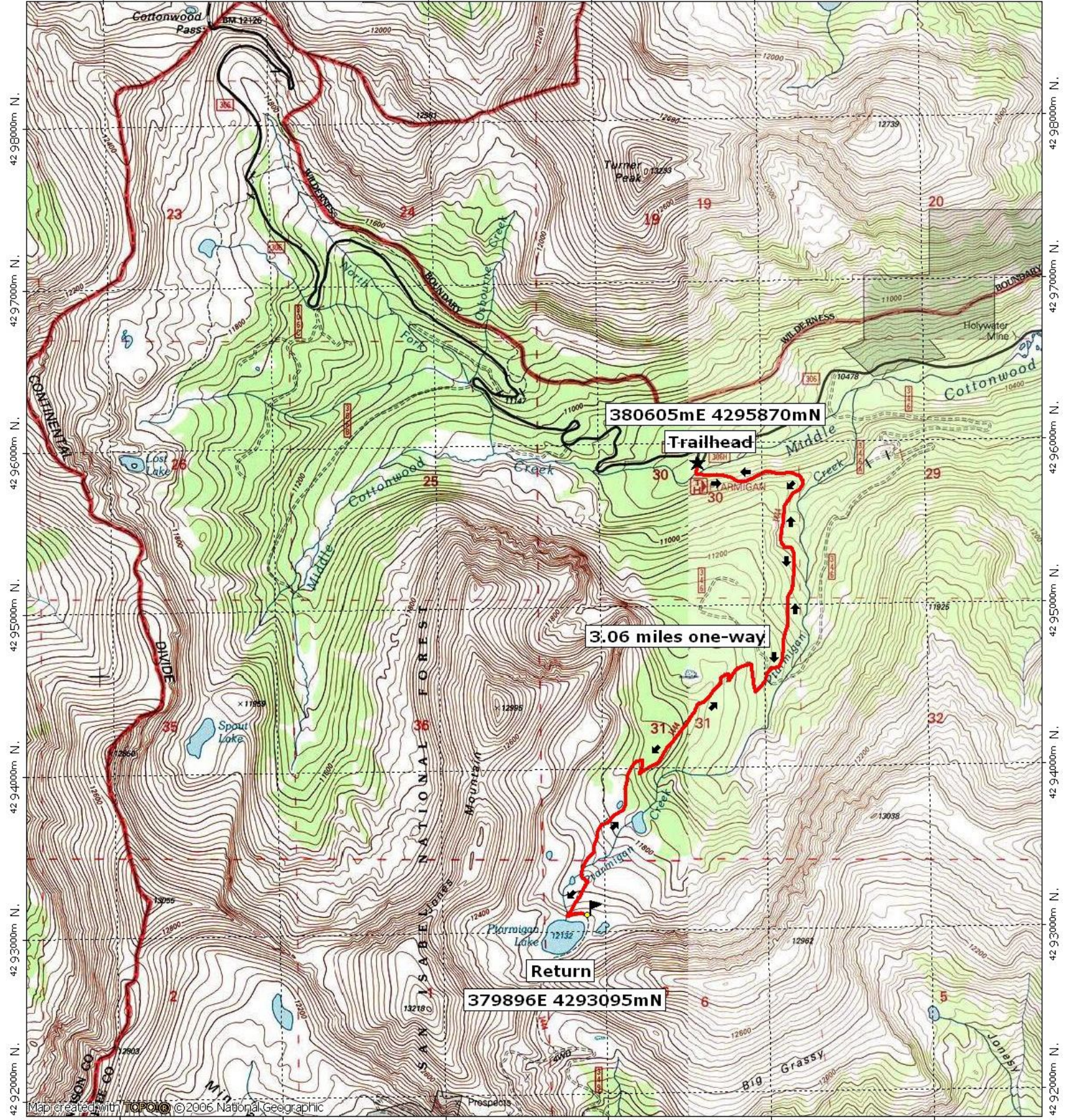
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Ask us. We'll Tell You Where To Go ■ www.oriconline.org ■ Updated: 2-7-2018

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