

**SHELF 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](http://www.facebook.com/oriccolorado)

**Location:** Pike National Forest  
S. Clear Creek County

**Contact Info:** South Platte Ranger District  
303-275-5610  
[www.fs.fed.us/r2](http://www.fs.fed.us/r2)

**Length:** 2.76 miles one-way (estimate 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:** Mid June through early October

**Elevation Gain/Loss:** See trail profile on reverse side

**Difficulty:** Moderate to Strenuous

**Trail Users:** Hikers, marmots, pikas and mountain goats

**Permits:** None required

**Dogs:** On hand-held leash

**Getting There From Denver:** Take US Highway 285 to Grant. Turn right (north) on Park County Road 62 (Guanella Pass Road). After about 7 miles turn left (west) on to Geneva Creek Road (Forest Road 119) Take this high clearance dirt road apx. 3 ½ miles to the Shelf Lake Trailhead and then apx. ½ mile past the South Park Trailhead.

**Maps:** National Geographic Trails Illustrated #104W and or the Montezuma USGS 7 ½ topographic map. **IMPORTANT:** Stay found with the aid of a topographic map, a compass, a GPS receiver and the skill to use them.

**Safety Concerns and Supplemental Info:** ■ We suggest leaving your hiking itinerary with someone who will be awaiting your return ■ Prepare for mosquitoes from May through September ■ Check [www.oriconline.org](http://www.oriconline.org) for fire restrictions

**Trail Description:** The Shelf Lake Trail #634 requires a series of five creek crossings beginning about a ½ mile from the trailhead. The trail roughly follows Smelter Gulch. The trail curves to the left (west) to reach Shelf Lake at the point you reach timberline. **TIP:** Contact the South Platte Ranger District for trail conditions and updates.

**Highlights:** ■ Rushing water along trail with an alpine lake at the top ■ Path less travelled ■ Great views — Argentine Peak to the north-northeast and Sqauretop Mountain to the east-northeast ■ Look for mountain goats ■ Seasonal wildflowers ■ Cutthroat trout fishing ■ The Continental Divide towers above lake ■ The lake holds ice into July

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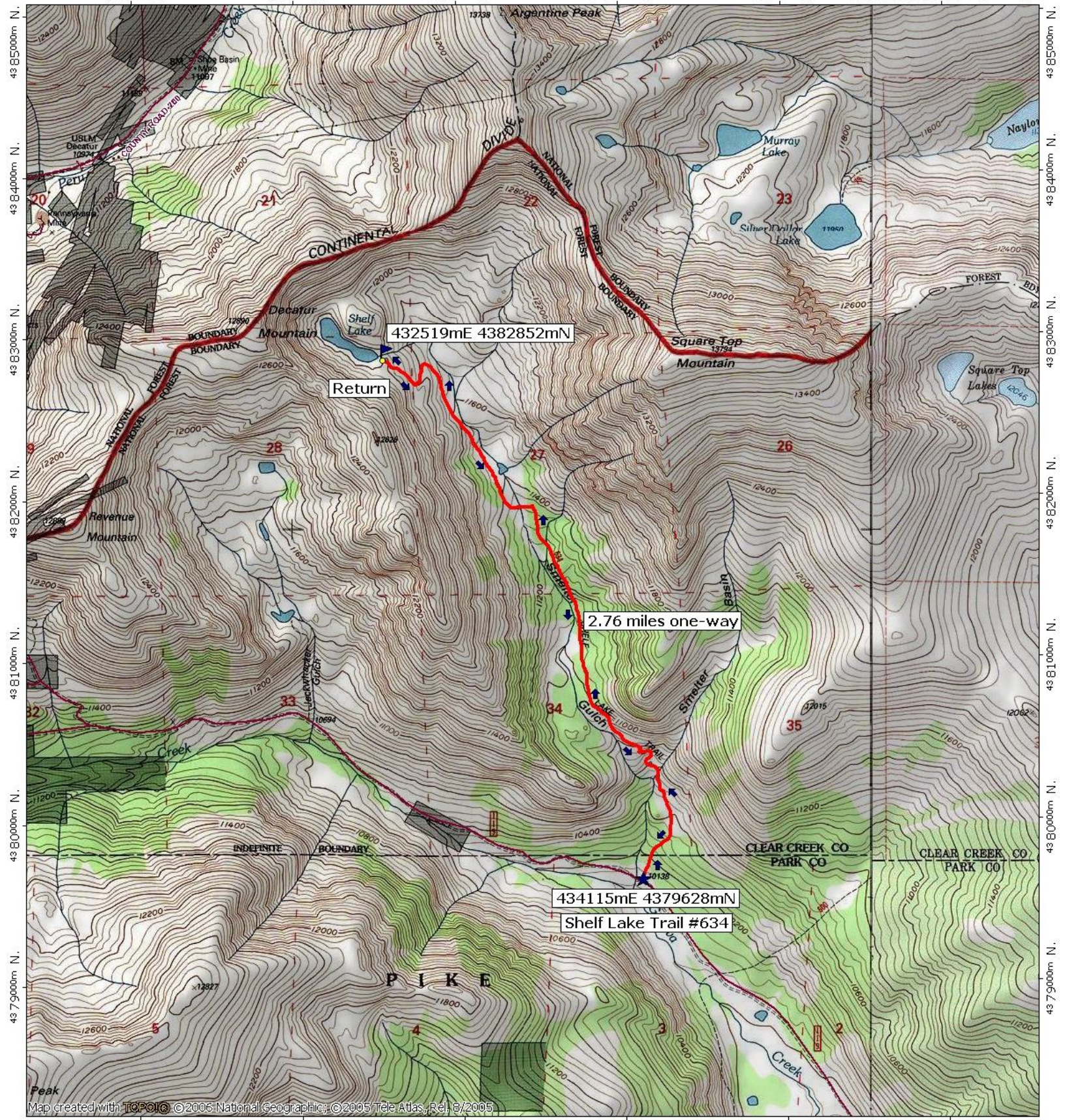
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432519mE 4382852mN

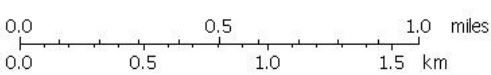
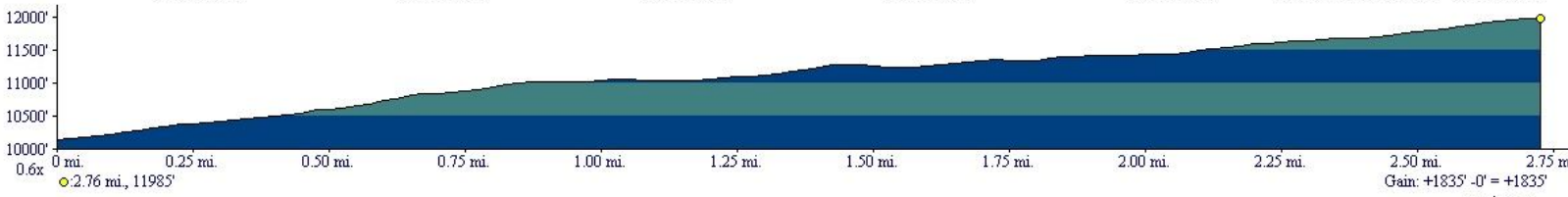
Return

2.76 miles one-way

434115mE 4379628mN

Shelf Lake Trail #634

Map created with TOPOLIC © 2005 National Geographic, © 2005 Tele Atlas, Rel. 8/2005



TN ↑ MN  
10°  
03/27/09