

Aspen Ranger District
806 W. Hallam
Aspen, CO 81611
(970) 925-3445—Voice
(970) 925-5277—Fax



United States Department of Agriculture



HIKING

GENEVA LAKE TRAIL #1973

Length: From Snowmass Lake— 3.5 miles one-way (5.6 km); from Marble - 2 miles one-way (3.2 km) **Difficulty:** Moderate

Trail Use: Heavy

Beginning Elevation: 10,980 feet (3347 m) *

Highest Elevation: 12,400 feet (3780 m) *

USGS Map(s): Snowmass Mtn.

* from Snowmass Lake

PERMIT INFORMATION: In order 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 overnighiting** in the Maroon Bells-Snowmass 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.

DAY/BACKPACKING OVERVIEW: An outing that combines four-wheeling and a beautiful day hike in Lead King Basin to a mountain lake. Backpacking from Snowmass Lake over Trail Rider Pass is very popular. Fishing at the lake is fair. **Although the hike is only 2 miles long plan on an all day trip due to the difficult 4WD access.**

ACCESS: **From Snowmass Lake** (See ROG for Snowmass Lake). **From Marble:** Drive 25 miles south of Carbondale on Highway 133 to Marble. Continue 6 miles through Marble, past Beaver Lake for 1-1/2 miles to a fork in the road. From here both roads are 4WD and both lead to the trailhead. The left fork is the northern route to Lead King Basin. The 6.5 miles from here to the trailhead are more precarious, but the ride is smoother and faster if the road is dry. The right fork is the southern route through Crystal City and past the historic Crystal Mill. The 4 mile drive to Crystal is rough and the road beyond extremely difficult to negotiate. For those who choose to stop at Crystal, park just beyond the town and hike from here the 2 miles to the trailhead. For those who choose to continue 4 wheeling beyond Crystal, continue for 1 mile then make a sharp left. The road goes up a hill where a sign for Lead King Basin leads left. Crested Butte via Schofield Pass is straight ahead. After turning left at the sign, the road will turn left again in about 1-1/4 miles. The road then goes over a bridge and the trailhead is about 10 minutes farther.

NARRATIVE: **From Snowmass Lake:** The trail begins above the lake on the south side of the outlet. The trail climbs steeply for 1 1/2 miles to Trail Rider Pass and then descends for 2 miles to Geneva Lake. **From Marble:** The trail leaves the parking lot, wanders through meadows and trees and emerges onto views of the cascading waterfalls straight ahead. Continuing toward the falls, the trail climbs steeply and you can see the back of the Maroon Bells. The trail then curves to the left of the falls and becomes level about 10 minutes before reaching the lake. The trail continues to skirt the north end of the lake and connects with the trail to Trail Rider Pass toward Snowmass Lake.

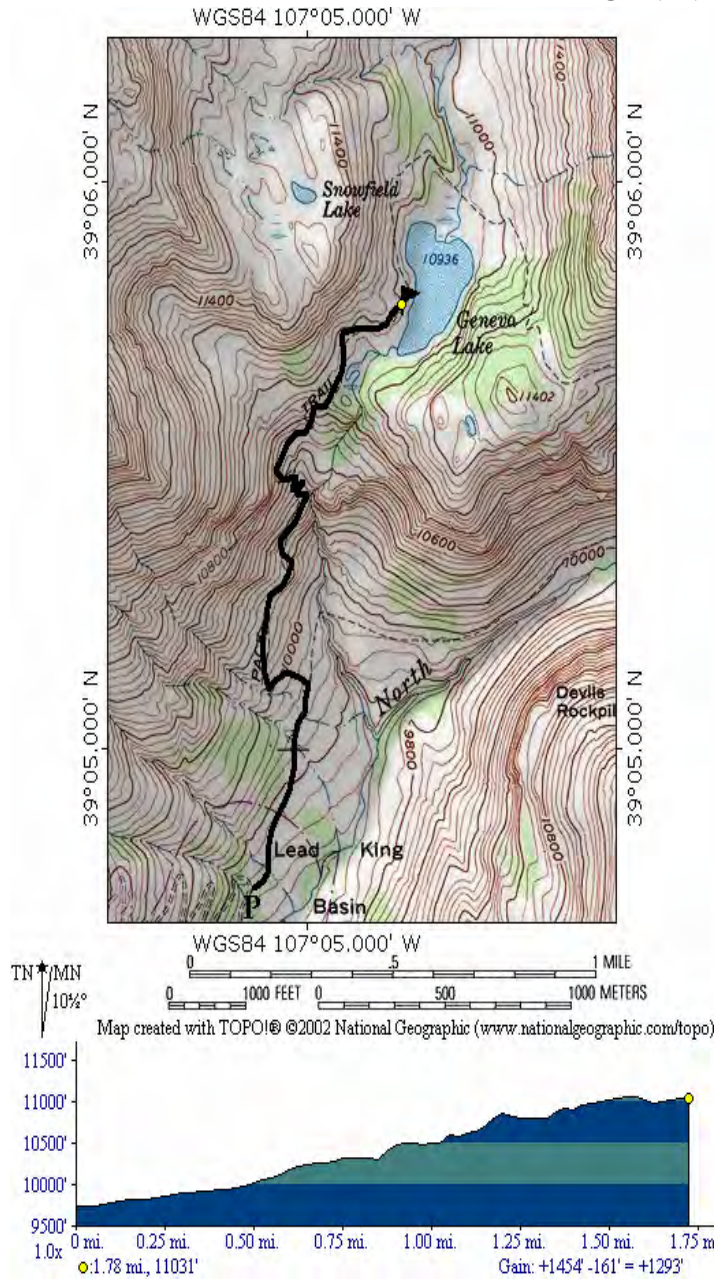
ETHICS/REGULATIONS: Geneva Lake is within the Maroon Bell-Snowmass Wilderness, please educate yourself about Wilderness Ethics and the following rules:

- * **DOGS MUST BE LEASHED** out of consideration for both other people and wildlife.
- * Limit group sizes to 10 people and 15 stock/pack animals.
- * **SANITATION** - bury human waste 100 feet from water and 6 inches in the soil.
- * Lightweight campstoves are recommended and required above the timberline.

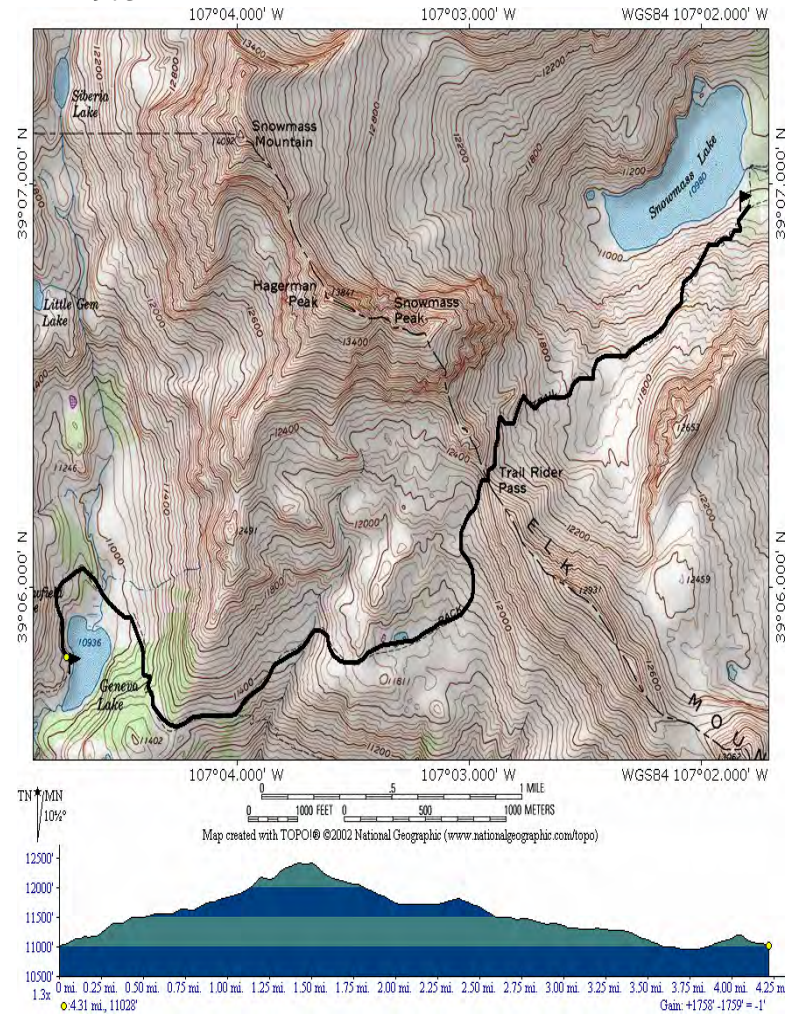
PACK IT IN—PACK IT OUT!! LEAVE NO TRACE!!

This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The White River National Forest suggests purchasing a topographical trail map prior to your hiking trip.

ASPEN-SOPRIS RANGER DISTRICT WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST GENEVA LAKE TRAIL #1973



LEAD KING BASIN ROUTE



SNOWMASS LAKE ROUTE