



Slumgullion Earthflow

Colorado State Natural Area

What to Expect

Slumgullion Earthflow Natural Area includes two major earthflows that illustrate a striking example of mass wasting (the movement of large masses of earth material). Slumgullion earthflow is over four miles long and 2,000 ft. wide. This huge mass of volcanic rock slumped down the valley about 700 years ago, damming Lake San Cristobal. This flow is gradually being covered by a younger flow which began 300 years ago. The earth is still moving slowly, evidenced by trees on the older earthflow being pushed over by the forward advance of the younger flow.



Leaning trees along the active flow



Aerial view down valley from the source of the earthflow

Know Before You Go

The site can easily be viewed by taking a scenic drive on CO-149 and stopping at the Slumgullion Earthflow Overlook and the Windy Point Observation Site. These sites are equipped with restrooms, picnic tables, and interpretive signage that explains the rich geologic history of the earthflow. Several opportunities for hiking and camping exist in the area. Motorized vehicle use is restricted to designated routes. Please pack out all trash. Contact the [local BLM](#) or [USFS office](#) for additional details.

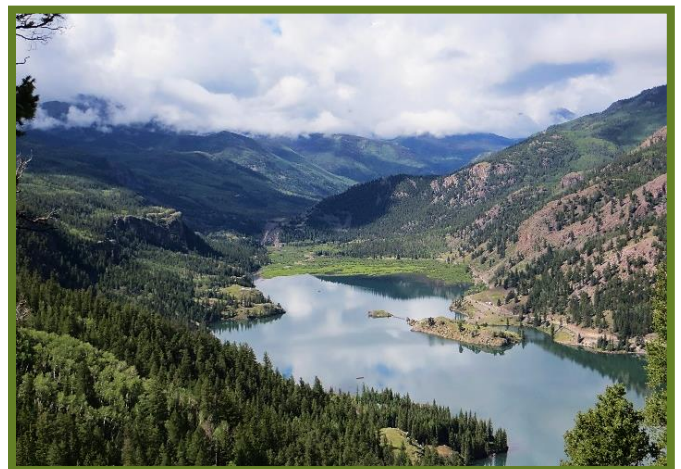
About the Natural Area

Location: Hinsdale County, 6 miles southeast of Lake City

Landowner: Bureau of Land Management and US Forest Service

Size: 1231 acres

Address: Lake City, CO 81235. [Google maps link to Slumgullion Earthflow Overlook.](#)



Lake San Cristobal

For more information about the Colorado Natural Areas Program (CNAP) visit [CNAP's website](#).