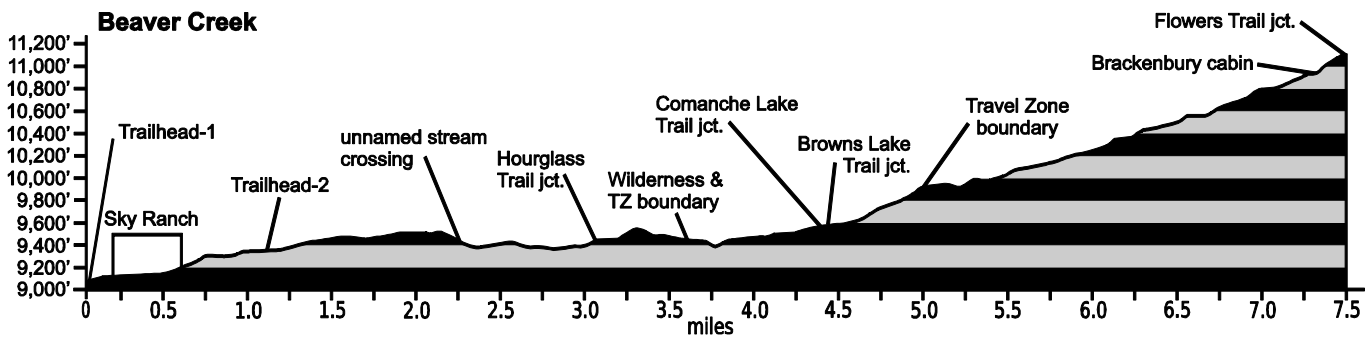


Apr. 6, 2022

Public Trail Information: Beaver Creek

Trail(s): Beaver Creek #942	
Ratings / restrictions:	Hikers – Moderate Stock Riders – Difficult Dogs must be on hand-held leash with hikers See complete REGULATIONS below DESCRIPTION
Cautions:	Burn area; Lightning; moose; giardia
Typically accessible:	Year-round (see SEASONAL below)
Wilderness:	Comanche Peak
One-Way Length:	7.5 miles (trailhead #1 to Flowers Trail #939)
Elevation – Beginning / Peak:	9,082 / 11,132
Gain/Loss/Net Gain:	2,282 / 234 / +2,048
Map(s) - Trails Illustrated:	#112 Poudre River Cameron Pass
Maps - USGS 7-½' Quadrangles:	Comanche Peak, Pingree Park



TRAILHEAD LOCATION

Pingree Park Area: Drive 26.5 miles on CO-14 from Ted’s Place to the Pingree Park Road (CR-63E) at mm 96.1, cross the Cache La Poudre River, and drive 15.9 miles to the Tom Bennett Campground turnoff on the right side. Cross over the South Fork of the Cache La Poudre River and continue on to Sky Ranch. Trailhead-1 begins here, but as of this date, the trail between Trailhead-1 and Trailhead-2 does not exist due to the Cameron Peak Fire. Drive 1 mile through Sky Ranch to a locked gate at trailhead-2. Note that starting at trailhead-2 means you are beginning the trail at mile 1.1, not at mile 0. The road between trailheads-1 and 2 is often in poor condition, requiring a high-clearance vehicle.

Note also that the gravel road beyond a locked gate at Trailhead-2, which runs to the Hourglass and Comanche reservoirs, is not open for public use.

Toilets are available at Tom Bennett Campground seasonally. Limited stock trailer parking is available at both trailheads, with a small pull-through at the upper trailhead. No water available at the trailhead.

CAUTIONS: This trail was in the Cameron Peak Fire of 2020, the largest fire in Colorado history, which burned nearly 209,000 acres. This trail has moderate areas that were burned but much of the trail is still green and the trail is very fine to hike or ride.

Cautions in Burn Areas:

- Falling Trees
 - Tree root systems can be burned – compromised or non-existent. Thus, trees in burned areas fall at a high rate for some time after a fire.
 - There may be a large number of trees on the trail.
- Stump Holes—Tree stumps sometimes burn below ground level and can leave dangerous holes, often filled in loosely by ash or needles.
- Difficult to Follow Trails
 - At times the trail can be difficult or impossible to follow with no vegetation or tread visible.
 - Even in formerly familiar terrain, the landscape can be disorienting.
- Rock Slides are more likely, due to lack of vegetation and root damage.
- Flash Flooding is likely even with small rainstorms and may occur way downstream from rain.

WATER: Available - The trail closely follows Beaver Creek from about mile 2 to mile 6 (from trailhead-1).

CAMPING: There are two good camping spots about 3 miles above trailhead-1 (1.9 miles above trailhead-2), one on each side of the trail, about ¼ mile below

the dam. There is also a good camping spot on the south side of the trail just above Comanche Reservoir and below the lower Travel Zone boundary at GPS N40°35.20' W105°39.61' – about 3.5 miles above trailhead-1 (2.5 miles above trailhead-2), though this may be difficult to access because of down timber. See REGULATIONS below.

SEASONAL: Accessible in winter, but the road (FR 145) to Tom Bennett Campground is gated and closed in winter. To access the trailhead, park near, but not in front of, the gate. Be sure you can get out if the snowplow comes by. Snowshoe or ski 0.9 mile to Beaver Creek Trailhead-1 and another 1.1 miles to Trailhead-2. Snowshoes or skis are usually needed in winter. The trail is not marked for winter use.

There is an unbridged crossing of a small stream at 3.8 miles above the trailhead, which may be challenging during high stream flows.

DESCRIPTION: The lower 7.3 miles of this trail passes through dense forest where the path is wide, well-worn and easy to follow. For the first 3.7 miles above trailhead-1 (2.6 miles above trailhead-2), this moderate trail passes through a dense lodgepole pine forest and is in multi-use National Forest. It skirts the north sides of Hourglass and Comanche reservoirs. At 2.1 miles (1 mile above trailhead-2) one can view both reservoirs. Note that, at about 2.5 miles from trailhead-1 (1.4 miles from trailhead-2) for about 1/2 mile, the Beaver Creek Trail passes just north of

private property surrounding the Hourglass Reservoir. At 3.1 miles (2.0 miles from trailhead-2) the hump of the dam of Comanche Reservoir is crossed (not crossing the dam, itself).

At about 3.5 miles (2.4 miles above trailhead-2), there is a talus slope for about 150 yards which would pose significant difficulty for stock. The trail enters the Comanche Peak Wilderness and the Browns Lake/Comanche Lake Travel Zone just beyond the west end of Comanche Reservoir at 4.0 miles (2.9 miles above trailhead-2) and continues for another 0.7 mile, where the Comanche Lake Trail branches off to the left (south). At this point, the trail becomes more difficult with a fairly steep climb. About 100 yards beyond the junction with the Comanche Lake Trail, the Beaver Creek Trail crosses the stream draining Browns and Timberline lakes and junctions with the Browns Lake Trail on the right (north).

The Beaver Creek Trail exits the Travel Zone and continues steeply uphill to the west for another 3 miles, where it ends at its junction with the Flowers Trail (just beyond its junction with the Brackenbury Trail and the remains of the Brackenbury cabin). The upper 0.2 mile of the trail (above the remains of the Brackenbury cabin) is above timberline where the path is rocky, eroded, and easy to follow with rock cairns

Mileages provided are approximate.

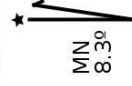
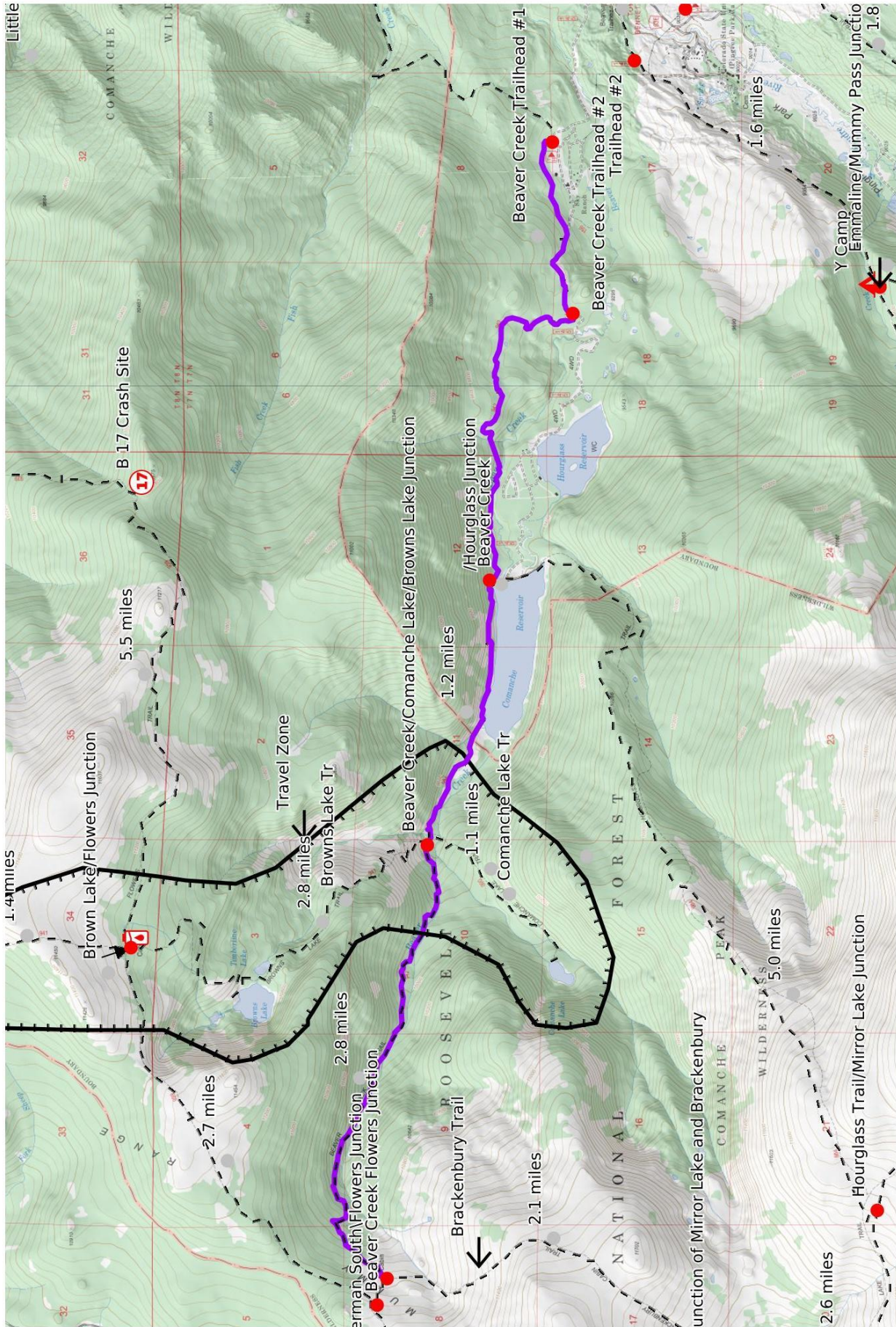
REGULATIONS:

- Camping and Fires - Prohibited within 200 feet of trailhead and parking area. Outside the Wilderness boundary: recommend at least 100 feet from water and trail. In the Wilderness: prohibited within 200 feet of water or trail. In the Travel Zone: no fires; self-contained chemical stoves only.
- Dogs - Must be on hand-held leash with hikers; voice control with stock.
- Stock - To avoid spreading noxious weeds, recommend beginning 72 hours prior to the ride, stock should be fed only pellets or certified weed-free hay. Required: throughout the trip, stock *must* be fed only pellets or certified weed-free hay. Overnight stock prohibited in Travel Zone.
- Bicycles and Other Wheeled Conveyances - Prohibited.
- Motorized Transport - Prohibited.
- Motorized Equipment - Prohibited in Wilderness.
- Group Size - Outside the Wilderness boundary, a single group of more than 74 people must have a USFS permit. In the Wilderness, maximum 12 people and stock, combined.

The Beaver Creek Trail enters the Comanche Peak Wilderness and the Browns Lake Travel Zone. It provides access to the Hourglass, Comanche Lake, Browns Lake, and Brackenbury trails, and ends at the Flowers Trail.

Mileage	GPS Coordinates: datum = WGS84	Lat/Long	UTM	
0.0	trailhead-1 (FDR-147; below Sky Ranch)	N40°34.86' W105°36.02'	449192mE	4492418mN
1.1	trailhead-2 (FDR-147; above Sky Ranch)	N40°34.76' W105°37.11'	447653mE	4492244mN
3.1	junction with Hourglass Trail	N40°35.12' W105°38.68'	445444mE	4492926mN
4.0	Wilderness boundary & lower boundary of travel zone	N40°35.23' W105°39.66'	444063mE	4493140mN
4.6	junction with Comanche Lake Trail	N40°35.41' W105°40.18'	443332mE	4493478mN
4.6	junction with Browns Lake Trail	N40°35.42' W105°40.24'	443247mE	4493497mN
5.1	upper boundary of travel zone	N40°35.40' W105°40.38'	443050mE	4493462mN
7.4	junction with Brackenbury Trail	N40°35.64' W105°42.86'	439556mE	4493933mN
7.5	end of trail at junction with Flowers Trail	N40°35.64' W105°43.10'	439217mE	4493936mN

(See next page for map of trail.)



7 km



Scale 1:44013 1 inch = 3668 feet

Mercator Projection
 WGS84
 UTM Zone 13T
 CALTOPO

Beaver Creek: 4