**Public Trail Information: Rawah (North)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail(s): northern portion of Rawah #961</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ratings / restrictions:</strong> Hikers – Moderate  Stock riders – Difficult  Dogs must be on hand-held leash with hikers  See COMPLETE regulations below DESCRIPTION</td>
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<td><strong>Cautions:</strong> Moose; lightning in exposed alpine areas near Grassy Pass</td>
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<td><strong>Typically accessible:</strong> Late June, after Laramie River Road is open for the season</td>
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<td><strong>Wilderness:</strong> Rawah</td>
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<td><strong>One-Way Length:</strong> 9.8 miles (Laramie River Road is open for the season)</td>
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<td><strong>Beginning / Peak Elevations:</strong> 8,378 / 11,261</td>
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<td><strong>Gain/Loss/Net Gain:</strong> 2,982/120/+2,862</td>
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<td><strong>Map(s) - Trails Illustrated:</strong> #112 Poudre River, Cameron Pass; Mountain Jay, Rawah Wilderness</td>
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<td><strong>Map(s) - USGS 7-1/2’ Quadrangles:</strong> Rawah Lakes</td>
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**TRAILHEAD LOCATION:**

Rawah Wilderness Area: Drive up the Poudre Canyon on CO-14 for 51.6 miles from Ted’s Place, turn right onto Laramie River Road (CR-103) at mm 71.5, and drive 12.2 miles to the Rawah Trailhead and parking lot, which are located on the east (right) side of the road across from the Rawah Guest Ranch. Park here and cross the road to the trail.

Toilets are available at the Rawah Trailhead. The medium-sized parking lot with two entrances, plus the ability to park along the road, make this trailhead very accessible for stock trailers. No water at the trailhead, but water is available at the Laramie River crossing about 0.2 mile from trailhead.

**TRAIL:** Nearly the entire length of this trail passes through forest where the corridor is very visible. The trail tread is well established, rocky and eroded and easy to follow.

**WATER:** Abundant sources of water are numerous and well distributed along this trail. From the trailhead to Grassy Pass these include: Laramie River, lower Rawah Creek, North Fork Rawah Creek, Half-Way Creek, upper Rawah Creek, Rawah Lake #1, the stream draining Little Rainbow Lake, Rawah Lake #2, Rawah Creek between Rawah Lakes #2 and #3, and the pond along the trail between Rawah Lake #3 and Rawah Lake #4.

**CAMPING:** There are many nice camping locations along this trail. One location is at Lost Lake (about 0.9 mile NW of the Rawah Trail [N] at 5.7 miles above the trailhead). A second good location is along the south side of Rawah Bog, at about 6.1 miles (take the trail to where it goes west of the bog and then cut east). A third good location is at “7-mile meadow”, about 6.7 miles above the trailhead. The unmarked spur trail to this camping area junctions with the Rawah Trail (N) at GPS N40°42.18' W105°56.22', 0.2 mile below the Rawah Trail and Camp Lake Trail junction, at the point where the Rawah Trail crosses a small stream coming down from the west-northwest (this is the hiker crossing, not the stock crossing). The faint spur trail meanders more-or-less northward for a couple hundred yards through an open meadow-like area. A good camp is at GPS N40°42.30' W105°56.29'. Water for people and stock can be obtained where the Rawah Trail crosses the small stream.

Camping sites may also be found along the south side of “7-mile meadow”.

Good campsites can also be found further along the Rawah Trail below Rawah Lake #1. There are also
potential campsites off the trail, near Rawah Lake #3 (somewhat exposed – in or near krumhholz islands). Wood fires are prohibited in the Rawah Alpine Closure Area above 10,800 ft, including around Rawah lakes #3 and 4; however, chemical stoves are allowed. Be sure you camp at least 200 ft from water and trails.

**SEASONAL:** Not accessible in winter, as Laramie River Road is not plowed. Also, the unbridged crossing of the creek draining Little Rainbow Lake (near Rawah Lake #1) and the unbridged crossing of Rawah Creek (between Rawah lakes #2 and #3) both can be challenging during high stream flows, even if you are prepared to wade.

**DESCRIPTION:** The first part of the trail travels through the flat Laramie River Valley on an easement across private property. After 1.8 miles, the trail enters the Rawah Wilderness. After leaving the valley the trail climbs steadily through a lodgepole pine forest before leveling out along the Rawah Creek drainage.

About 5.6 miles from the trailhead, in the vicinity of the Rawah Bog, you will encounter the Lost Lake Trail heading uphill to the northwest (see the Lost Lake Trail patrol description). After this intersection, continue around the Rawah Bog and up another steep, rocky area.

Camp Lake Trail junction is encountered at 6.9 miles. There is a 3-log stringer bridge across Rawah Creek at the western end of the Camp Lake Trail.

This hike includes the lower three Rawah Lakes, Grassy Pass, and - off-trail a bit - Rawah Lake #4, which sits in a majestic bowl to the southwest of Grassy Pass. Bighorn sheep can sometimes be spotted in the Grassy Pass area. This patrol ends at Grassy Pass.

Reminders: Camp at least 200 ft. from streams and lakes and from the trail. Wood fires are prohibited above 10,800 ft elevation.

Mileages provided are approximate.

**REGULATIONS:**

- **Camping and Fires** – Prohibited within 200 feet of trailhead, toilets, 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. Wood fires prohibited above 10,800 feet elevation (Rawah Alpine Closure Area).
- **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 feed should only be pellets or certified weed free hay. Required: throughout the trip, any feed must be pellets or certified weed-free hay.
- **Bicycles and Other Wheeled Conveyances** – Prohibited.
- **Motorized Transport** – Prohibited.
- **Group Size** – Outside the Wilderness boundary, more than 74 people in a single group must have a USFS permit. In the Wilderness, maximum 12 people and stock, combined.

The northern part of the Rawah Trail provides access to: Lost Lake, Camp Lake & Upper Camp Lake, the Sandbar lakes, the four Rawah lakes, the southern ends of the Link and McIntyre Lake trails, and Grassy Pass.
(See next page for map of trail).
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