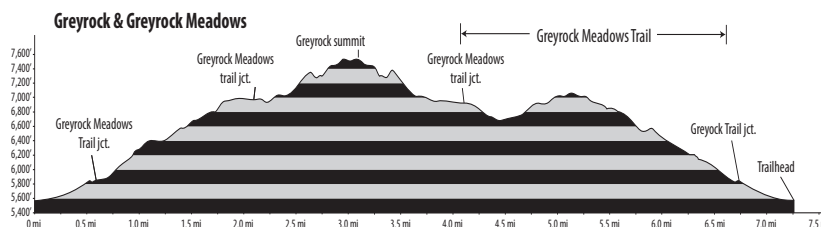


# Greyrock 946 & Greyrock Meadows 947

PRIORITY	<b>HIGH</b> (patrol method: day hike)
Ratings:	Hikers – Moderate; Stock – Prohibited
Open For Summer Patrol:	May 1st
SPOT/USFS Radio:	<b>not required</b> (Radio: 01 > 03; Priority 4, Moderate reception)
Wilderness:	None
Round-Trip Length:	7.3 miles (trailhead to summit via Greyrock Trail #946 or #947 and return via the other Greyrock trail; 3.1 mi one-way to summit via trail #946)
Beginning Elevation:	5,574
Peak Elevation:	7,613
Gain/Loss/Net Gain:	2,043/4/+2,039
USFS Regulations:	National Forest & Special Regulations
Trails Illustrated:	#101 Cache La Poudre, Big Thompson
USGS 7-½' Quadrangle:	Poudre Park



## TRAILHEAD LOCATION

Poudre Canyon; drive 8.4 miles from Ted's Place. The parking lot is on the left, slightly above the highway. Walk down the steps and across the highway, and cross a foot bridge over the river to the trailhead. Facilities and trailhead are at the parking lot.

GPS Coordinates:  
kiosk across bridge:

N40°41.716' W105°17.109'  
jct. Greyrock & Meadows trails (lower end):  
N40°41.753' W105°17.741'  
jct. Greyrock & Greyrock Meadows trails (upper end)  
N40°42.709' W105°17.673'  
summit: N40°42.949' W105°17.561'

## PATROL DESCRIPTION

Based on encounter rates observed during PWV patrols, this is one of the three highest-use trails in the Canyon Lakes Ranger District. However, sections of the upper Greyrock Meadows trail and the summit trail are difficult to follow and a number of hikers have become lost on this trail in recent years. Urge hikers to: carry a map, stay on the trail, and look for and follow trail markers and unofficial rock cairns.

The Greyrock trails have a number of special regulations, reflecting their very heavy use. All camping and wood burning are prohibited within 200 feet of any water, or of the trail. You may want to caution visitors that Greyrock water sources are contaminated with Giardia. All mechanized and motorized vehicles, including bikes, are prohibited. All dogs must be on hand-held leash. All stock, including horses, are prohibited.

**Caution:** *Rattlesnakes are commonly encountered along this trail. Poison ivy is common along this trail.* See the sign at the trailhead for identification and treatment. The poison ivy makes this a good trail on which to avoid petting dogs and remind owners that dogs can carry the irritating oil from this plant back home on their coats.

The Greyrock Trail (#946) is a National Recreation Trail. It was built in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). President Roosevelt created the CCC during the Great Depression. Its mission was to recruit unemployed young men into a peacetime army to work on enhancing forest and recreational resources.

★ *The Greyrock trails have been adopted by the Colorado Mountain Club*

## Greyrock & Greyrock Meadows (continued)

Hike west from the trailhead approximately 0.6 mile. The trail branches shortly after crossing a small stream. From here you can hike up either the Greyrock Trail or the Greyrock Meadows Trail to the summit trail. Both trails are rocky, with frequent steep ascents and descents. We recommend that you patrol Greyrock as a loop, going up the Greyrock Trail and returning via the Greyrock Meadows trails or vice versa.

If you are going up the Greyrock Trail – stay to your right and head up a steep incline to the north for approximately 1.5 miles to a flat meadow area where Trail #946 junctions with Trail #947. The meadow lies to the south beneath Greyrock. This is a social gathering area, and a camping destination for some hikers. Check for illegal campsites and fire rings. From this location you can scramble up Greyrock Mountain via the summit trail, which covers the final 0.95 mile. Inform hikers that the summit trail is considerably steeper than either the Greyrock or Greyrock Meadows trails and following the trail path is more challenging. Urge hikers to look for and follow the wooden trail markers and informal rock cairns marking the trail's path. In rock climbing terms, the summit trail scramble is a class 4 because you need both your hands and feet in a few places, but never a technical class 5 climb, which requires ropes. The view from the top of Greyrock is worth the hike. The plains stretch to the northeast as far as you can see, and the mountains are visible in most directions.

Because of the topography of Greyrock Mountain, the route of the trail(s) to the summit(s), and the two ponds in the summit area (one year-round and one season-

al), there are no appropriate camping locations on the mountain [it's not possible to camp more than 200 ft from the trail or water near the summit]. PWVs should communicate this information to all campers and would-be campers. Furthermore, PWVs should remove any fire rings or campsites found above 7,000 ft on Greyrock (the shaded area on map below) and obscure/rehabilitate such sites.

We recommend that you patrol the Greyrock Meadows Trail (#947) on your return trip. This route will cover another 3.3 miles before you return to the parking lot at the trailhead. The Greyrock Meadows Trail offers great views of Hewlett Gulch and of the Snowy Range to the northwest. Because the Greyrock trails are among the most heavily used trails in our patrol area, you should be prepared to make many contacts, especially dogs off leash. Also be sure to carry a trash bag on this patrol. If you prefer, you can patrol up the Greyrock Meadows Trail then down the Greyrock Trail. In any case, if you

choose to patrol only one of these two trails, please note which one in the COMMENTS section of your trail patrol report. If you do not include the summit trail in your patrol, please note this in the COMMENTS.

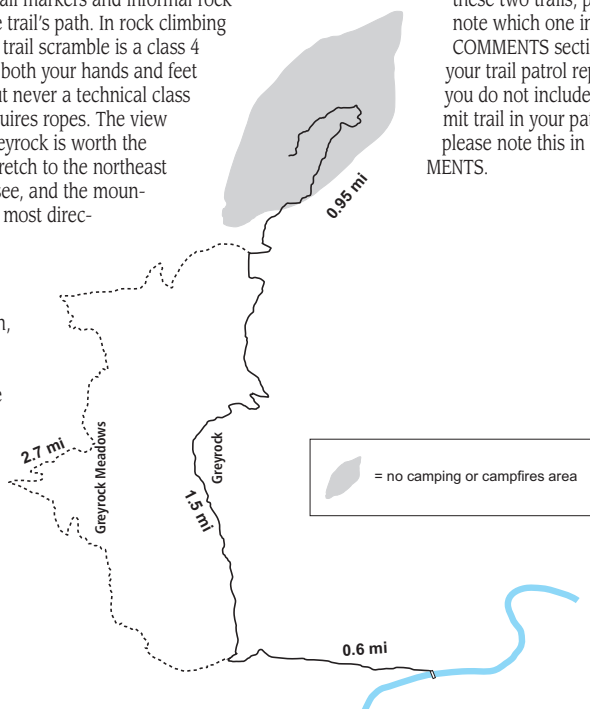


Figure 12.6

★ *The Greyrock trails have been adopted by the Colorado Mountain Club*