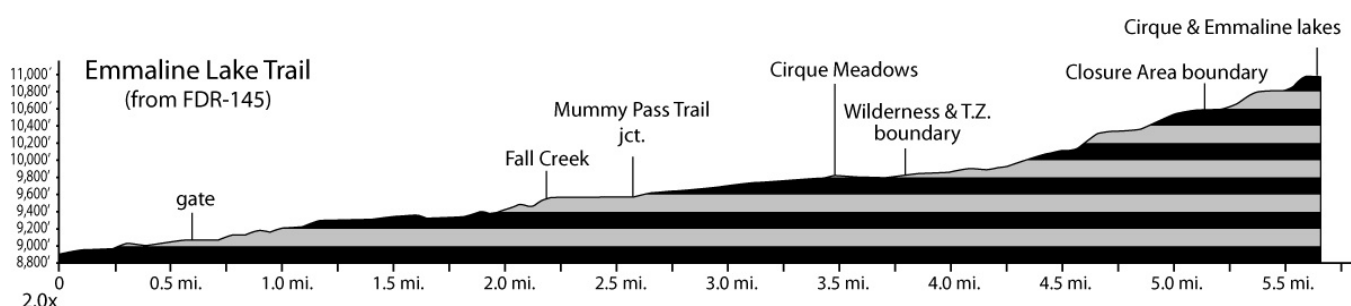


## Trail: Emmaline Lake 945 (854)

Priority:	<b>HIGH</b> (patrol methods: day hike; backpack)
Ratings:	Hikers – Strenuous; Stock riders – Easy (stock prohibited above Cirque Meadows)
Open for summer patrol:	June 29 <sup>th</sup>
SPOT/USFS Radio:	<b>not required</b> (Radio: 01 > 03; Priority 1, Moderate reception)
Wilderness:	Comanche Peak
One-Way Length:	5.8 miles (trailhead to Emmaline Lake)
Beginning Elevation:	8,931
Peak Elevation:	10,982
Gain/Loss/Net Gain:	2,053/2/+2,051
USFS Regulations:	National Forest > Wilderness & Travel Zone
Trails Illustrated:	#112 Poudre River, Cameron Pass
USGS 7-1/2' Quadrangles:	Pingree Park, Comanche Peak



**Trailhead Location:** Poudre Canyon; drive 26.5 miles from Ted's Place to the Pingree Park Road (at mm 96.1). Cross the Cache La Poudre River and

### GPS Coordinates:

trailhead just

past campground: N40°34.567' W105°35.175'

trailhead at locked gate: N40°34.442' W105°35.600'

Seven established campsites below the Travel Zone:

#1 "Y" Camp: N40°33.385' W105°36.898'

#2 Spruce Camp: N40°33.076' W105°37.594'

#3 Pine Camp: N40°33.058' W105°37.617'

#4 Fir Camp: N40°33.048' W105°37.665'

#5 Aspen Camp: N40°33.020' W105°37.669'

#6 Juniper Camp: N40°33.127' W105°37.636'

#7 Willow Camp: N40°33.108' W105°37.684'

Four designated campsites within the Travel Zone:

#1: N40°32.964' W105°38.064'

#2: N40°32.983' W105°38.077'

#3: N40°32.760' W105°38.655'

#4: N40°32.782' W105°38.837'

Cirque Lake: N40°32.455' W105°39.674'

Emmaline Lake: N40°32.555' W105°39.684'

drive 15.9 miles up the Pingree Park Road. Take the turnoff to the Tom Bennett Campground (located just below the CSU Pingree Park Campus). The trailhead is just past the Campground. You can

either park just off the road or follow a rough but passable road for 0.5 mile to a locked gate. Facilities and water for stock are available at Tom Bennett Campground.

**Trail Description:** From the trailhead, the trail skirts the west side of the CSU Pingree Park Campus on a former jeep trail for 3.5 miles to Cirque Meadows – a popular destination for visitors. Although this portion of the trail is on CSU private land and outside of Wilderness, Wilderness regulations (except dogs do not currently have to be on hand-held leash) apply and the USFS has trail maintenance responsibilities. A forest fire started by lightning in 1994 destroyed a considerable area of pine forest and much of the Campus. The impacts of this fire remain quite visible along the first mile or so of this trail. Notice the dense re- growth of small lodgepole pine and quaking aspen trees and the abundance of wildflowers that are now flourishing in the burn area. An earlier fire in 1890 engulfed the area around the park and destroyed its predominantly ponderosa pine forest. Subsequently, most of this area became dominated by lodgepole pine and quaking aspen.

There are seven established campsites with metal fire rings before and in the Cirque Meadows area; before you reach the Comanche Peak Wilderness. The first campsite ("Y" camp) is located at the junction of the Mummy Pass Trail. In the Cirque Meadows area proper, there are four campsites east of the meadow, and two campsites across Fall Creek to the north. Because of the heavy use in this area, encourage visitors to use these established sites. Stay alert, since there is a large population of moose in this area.

Group size violations are commonly observed on this trail and should be accurately reported.

**Special regulations:** After you cross Fall Creek at Cirque Meadows and pass the last of the even established campsites, you come to the Comanche Peak Wilderness boundary. Stock are prohibited beyond this point. From the Wilderness boundary to Emmaline Lake has been designated a travel zone. As in all travel zones, camping is restricted to designated campsites; wood fires are prohibited and only self-contained chemical stoves may be used.

Shortly after entering the Comanche Peak Wilderness, there are two designated campsites, one to the left of the trail and one to the right. Two additional

designated sites are located further along the trail; one on the north side of the trail about 0.7 mile above the first two designated campsites and the last one on the south side of the trail less than 0.2 mile farther up.

Continue your patrol on up to Cirque Lake, Emmaline Lake, and Upper Cirque Lake to make sure there is no illegal camping in this area.

This patrol can be done in one or two days. If you do a two-day patrol, camp at one of the established sites in Cirque Meadows. Before leaving the next day, you could hike up the Mummy Pass Trail to the RMNP boundary, and check that area. If you chose to patrol the Mummy Pass Trail, remember to schedule and report it separately. However, if you continue into RMNP as a private citizen, don't include observations, contacts, or trail maintenance needs from inside RMNP in your official patrol report (except possibly in the *COMMENTS* section).

