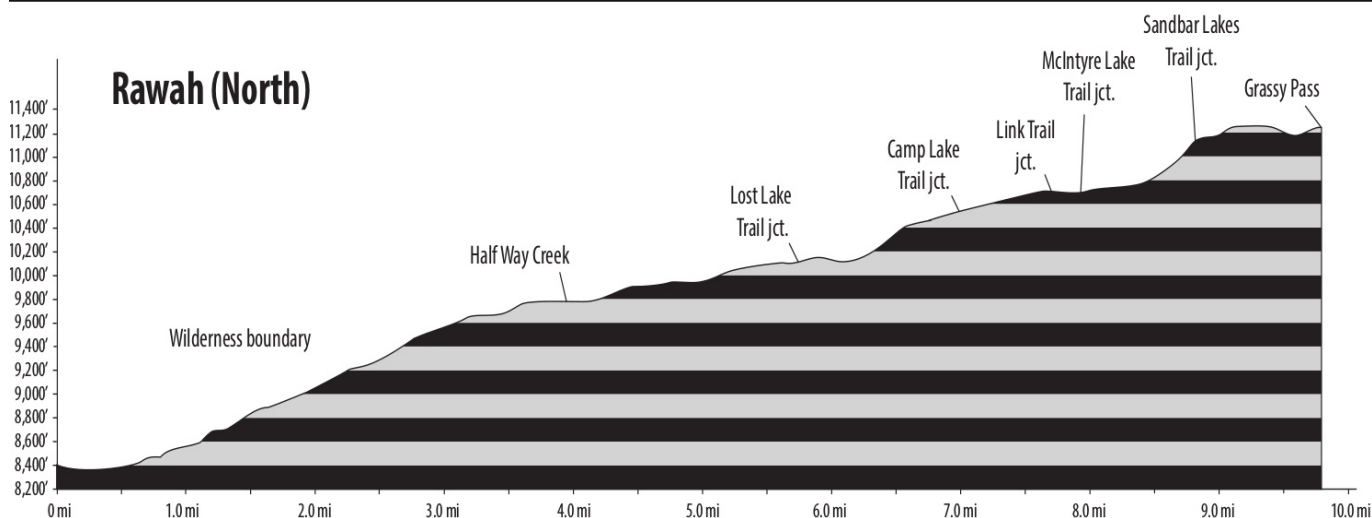


Trail: Rawah 961 (North)

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Priority: | HIGH (patrol methods: backpack; ride stock; day hike) |
| Ratings: | Hikers – Strenuous; Stock riders – Challenging |
| Open for summer patrol: | June 29 th |
| SPOT/USFS Radio: | REQUIRED (Radio: 02 > 01; Priority 1, Good reception) |
| Wilderness: | Rawah |
| One-Way Length: | 9.8 miles (trailhead to Grassy Pass) |
| Beginning Elevation: | 8,378 |
| Peak Elevation: | 11,261 |
| Gain/Loss/Net Gain: | 2,982/120/+2,862 |
| USFS Regulations: | National Forest > Wilderness |
| Trails Illustrated: | #112 Poudre River, Cameron Pass |
| USGS 7-½' Quadrangles: | Rawah Lakes |



Trailhead Location: Drive up the Poudre Canyon on CO-14 for 51.6 miles from Ted's Place, turn right on the Laramie River Road (at mm 71.5), and drive 12.2 miles to the parking lot, which is located on the east (right) side of the road across from the Rawah Guest Ranch. Park here and cross the road to the trailhead. Facilities and stock trailer parking are available. No water at trailhead.

The northern section of the Rawah Trail provides access to Lost Lake, Big Rainbow and Sandbar lakes, the Rawah lakes, and Grassy Pass. This trail connects with the Camp Lake, Link, and McIntyre Lake trails. The southern end of this trail connects with the West Branch Trail.

Trail Description: This patrol typically requires at least an overnight stay. The first part of the trail travels through the flat Laramie River Valley on an easement across private property. In one riparian area, the trail bed was raised, and a culvert installed to allow water to

flow under the trail. After hiking 1.8 miles, you will enter the Rawah Wilderness. After leaving the valley the trail climbs steadily through a lodgepole pine forest before leveling out along the Rawah Creek drainage.

GPS Coordinates:

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| trailhead: | N40°44.632' W105°52.552' |
| Wilderness boundary: | N40°44.51' W105°53.73' |
| jct. Lost Lake Trail: | N40°42.631' W105°55.747' |
| jct. Camp Lake Trail: | N40°42.034' W105°56.453' |
| jct. Link Trail: | N40°41.860' W105°57.137' |
| jct. McIntyre Lake Trail: | N40°41.783' W105°57.251' |
| jct. Big Rainbow & Sandbar Lakes Trail: | N40°41.163' W105°57.032' |
| Grassy Pass: | N40°40.555' W105°56.602' |

About 5.6 miles above 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). If you have the time, drop your packs, scramble up to Lost

Trail: Rawah 961 (North)

Lake, and check this area out. (Remember, this is a separate patrol and should be scheduled and reported as such.)

After returning, continue your Rawah patrol around the Rawah Bog and up another steep area. There is a footbridge crossing a drainage coming in from the northwest, about 6.7 miles above the trailhead. Look for moose in this area. This is a good place to set up camp; look for a site up and to the right of this drainage. Good campsites can also be found further along the Rawah Trail just below Rawah Lake #1. Be sure that people are camping at least 200 ft. from the lakes and the trail.

If you are backpacking, your patrol over the next day and a half should include the lower three Rawah Lakes, Grassy Pass, and 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. Remember that Rawah Wilderness Alpine Closure Area restrictions prohibit campfires above timberline (incl. around Rawah Lakes #3 and 4) although camping and chemical stoves are allowed.

On your way back down this trail, if you have scheduled a patrol of the Sandbar Lakes Trails, you

can turn off just northeast of Rawah Lake #3 and patrol them. These trails will take you past three small lakes; Upper and Lower Sandbar lakes, and Big Rainbow Lake. Remember that you will need to keep separate records of observations and contacts on these trails and report this patrol separately.

Because the Camp Lake and Upper Camp Lake trails are nearby, you may want to patrol at least a portion of these trails on your trip. However, because the 2-log stringer bridge across Rawah Creek at the western end of the Camp Lake Trail is washed out, even if you are prepared to wade the stream, it may not be possible/safe to cross during high stream flow conditions. If you choose to do so, you should schedule and report this as a separate patrol. Be sure to check for campsites and fire rings located too close to the lakes or the trail.

