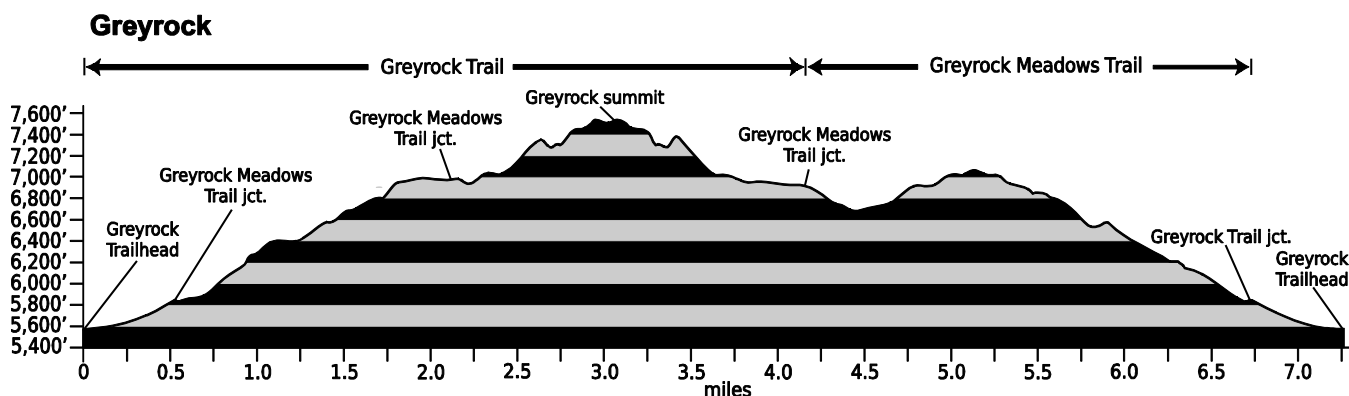


Feb. 8, 2021

Public Trail Information: Greyrock

Trail(s): Greyrock #946; Greyrock Meadows #947 [note that the "summit trail" is a segment of the Greyrock Trail]	
Ratings / restrictions:	Hikers - Difficult Stock - Prohibited Dogs on hand-held leash only See complete REGULATIONS below INFORMATION OF INTEREST
CAUTIONS:	Lightning, rattlesnakes, poison ivy, standing dead trees, Giardia in water
Typically accessible:	Year-round (see SEASONAL below for details)
Wilderness:	None, but Special Regulations apply (see below)
One-Way Length:	3.1 miles to summit via Greyrock Trail #946 4.3 miles to summit via Greyrock Meadows Trail #947
Elevations - Beginning / Peak:	5,574 / 7,613
Gain/Loss/Net Gain:	2,043/4/+2,039 for Greyrock Trail one-way to summit
Map(s) - Trails Illustrated:	#101 Cache La Poudre Big Thompson
Map(s) - USGS 7-½' Quadrangles:	Poudre Park



TRAILHEAD LOCATION:

Lower Poudre Canyon Area: Drive 8.4 miles on CO-14 from Ted’s Place. The parking lot is on the left (south), slightly above the highway. Toilets are at the parking lot. Walk down the steps and across the highway, and cross a foot bridge over the river to the trailhead.

TRAIL: The trail is easy to follow in most places because of the heavy use it receives. However, the upper half of the summit trail and the upper half of the Greyrock Meadows Trail have trail reassurance markers (4x4 wooden posts with the trail number; and metal signs) to help people stay on the trail. A warren of trails near the summit of Greyrock makes travel to and from the north and south summits challenging.

WATER: Spotty - Three sources along the Greyrock Trail (all of which may be contaminated by Giardia): (1) about 0.3 to 0.4 mile from the trailhead, a little below where the combined lower trail from the trailhead splits into the Greyrock Trail and the Greyrock Meadows Trail (GPS N40°41.76’ W105°17.64’); (2) about 0.7 mi from the trailhead on the Greyrock Trail (GPS N40°41.93’ W105°17.72’); and (3) a pond just below the SW summit of Greyrock.

No reliable water sources can be found on the Greyrock Meadows Trail.

CAMPING: Two options, both of which are dry and require water to be carried in: (1) Around the periphery of the meadow/open area surrounding the 3-trail jct. where the upper Greyrock Trail, the upper Greyrock Meadows Trail, and the summit trail segment all meet. (2) Near Greyrock Meadow, about 0.3 mile below the trails’ junction, immediately adjacent to, and on the north side of, the large boulder (that is approximately 400 feet north of the Greyrock Meadows Trail). Take care not to trespass on the private property which begins only about 50 feet north of this recommended site. There are no camping locations near the summit that are more than 200 ft from the trail or water. A sign, “No Camping or Wood Fires Beyond This Point”, shortly above the upper trail junction, indicates the boundary of the summit no camping area.

SEASONAL: Lightning is a concern, especially on the summit and the exposed parts of the Greyrock Meadows Trail during thunderstorm season. The trailhead is accessible in winter. The parking lot, though often clear, is not usually plowed, and may be icy, especially the short steep driveway which can be dangerous in winter. Boot traction devices are

recommended for hiking icy trail sections. Snowshoes may be useful for Greyrock Meadows Trail, which tends to hold deeper snow, but would be difficult for Greyrock Trail, and impractical for the summit trail. Snow may make switchbacks difficult to follow and can obliterate the Greyrock Meadows Trail at times. Do not attempt the summit trail in winter unless you are very familiar with it; the trail is unclear and icy, and there are many high steps and narrow places.

DESCRIPTION: 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. Hikers should: carry a map, stay on the trail, and look for and follow trail reassurance markers. Because of heavy use, the Greyrock trails have a number of special regulations, listed below.

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. Hiking up one trail and down the other makes a nice loop route.

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 south beneath Greyrock, at the junction of Greyrock and Greyrock Meadows trails.

REGULATIONS:

- Camping and Fires - Prohibited within ¼ mile of trailhead. Prohibited within 200 feet from water or trail. Prohibited in the “No Camping or Wood Fires Area”, starting just above the upper trail junction.
- Dogs - Must be on hand-held leash at all times.
- Stock - Prohibited.
- Bicycles and Other Wheeled Conveyances - Prohibited.
- Motorized Transport - Prohibited.
- Group Size - A single group of more than 74 people must have a USFS permit.

The Greyrock Trail is a National Recreation Trail.

These trails are adopted by the Colorado Mountain Club.

From this junction, you can scramble up Greyrock Mountain via the 0.95-mile summit trail. The summit trail is considerably steeper and more difficult to follow than either the Greyrock or Greyrock Meadows trails. Hikers should look for the wooden and metal trail reassurance markers 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. People do rock climb on Greyrock so be sure to look for climbers on the vertical rock faces. As you near the top there is a seasonal lake which you may have to work around on the left. Once you get to the permanent lake near the summit you can climb on to the very top. 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.

If you are hiking on the Greyrock Meadows trail, the westernmost leg offers great views of Hewlett Gulch and of the Snowy Range to the northwest.

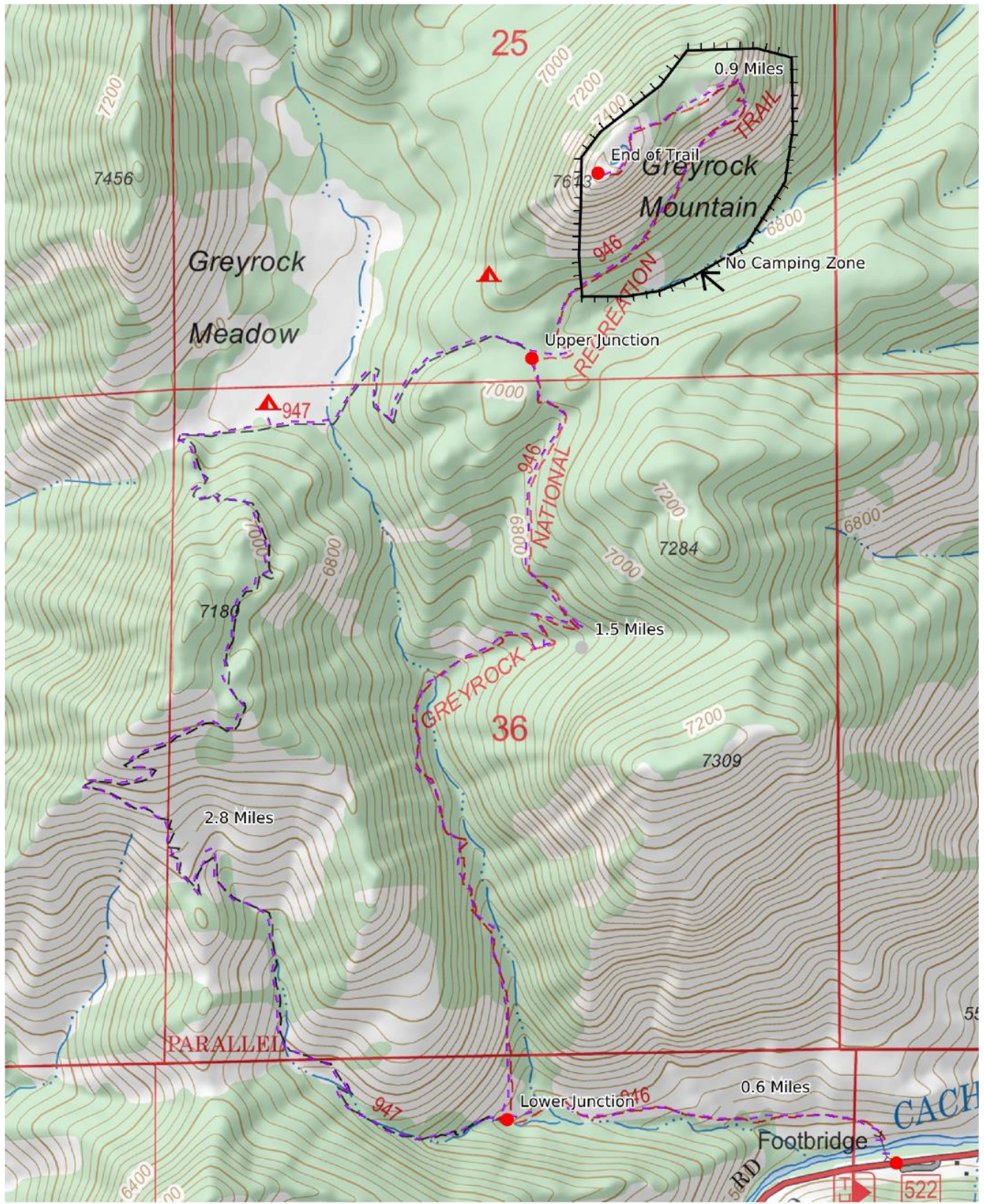
All mileages shown are approximate.

INFORMATION OF INTEREST

The Greyrock Trail 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.

Mileage from Trailhead	GPS Coordinates: datum = WGS84	Lat/Long	UTM	
0	Greyrock Trailhead	N40°41.69' W105°17.05'	475 ⁹⁹¹ mE	4507 ⁰¹³ mN
0.05	sign kiosk and log bench on north side of river)	N40°41.72' W105°17.11'	475 ⁹⁰⁶ mE	4504 ⁹²⁰ mN
0.6	lower jct. of Greyrock & Meadows trails	N40°41.75' W105°17.74'	475 ⁰²⁰ mE	4504 ⁹⁷⁶ mN
2.1	upper jct. of Greyrock & Meadows trails via Greyrock Trail	N40°42.71' W105°17.67'	475 ¹²⁴ mE	4505 ⁰³⁴ mN
2.2	"No Camping or Wood Fires Beyond This Point" sign on summit segment of the Greyrock Trail via Greyrock Trail	N40°42.79' W105°17.62'	475 ¹⁹⁵ mE	4506 ⁹⁵⁸ mN
3.1 (or 4.3)	Greyrock summit via Greyrock Trail (or via Greyrock Meadows)	N40°42.95' W105°17.56'	475 ²⁸⁰ mE	4507 ²⁵³ mN

(See next page for map of trail.)



Mercator Projection
 WGS84
 USNG Zone 13TDF
 CalTopo

