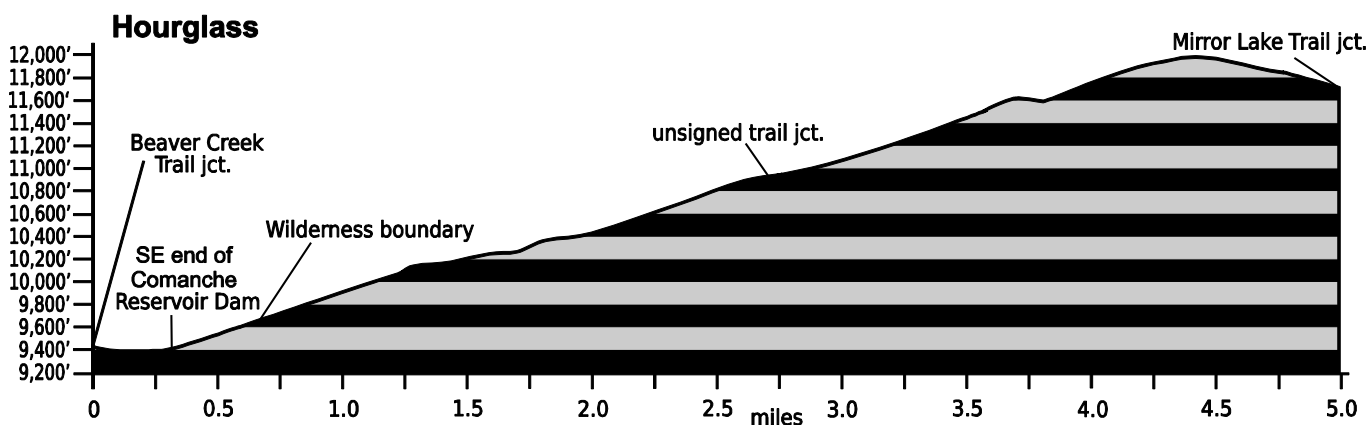


May 19, 2022

Public Trail Information: Hourglass

Trail(s): Hourglass #984	
Ratings / restrictions:	Hikers – Difficult Stock riders – Difficult See complete REGULATIONS below DESCRIPTION
Cautions:	Burn area; Lightning in exposed alpine areas
Typically accessible:	Late June (see SEASONAL below)
Wilderness:	Comanche Peak
One-Way Length:	5.0 miles (from junction with Beaver Creek Trail at NE end of Comanche Reservoir to junction with Mirror Lake Trail)
Beginning / Peak Elevations:	9,424 / 11,981
Gain/Loss/Net Gain:	2,596/311/+2,285
Map(s) - Trails Illustrated:	#112 Poudre River Cameron Pass
Map(s) - USGS 7-½' Quadrangles:	Comanche Peak



TRAIL LOCATION:

Pingree Park Area: The Hourglass Trail is accessed from the Beaver Creek Trail. See the Beaver Creek trail description for details.

CAUTIONS: This trail was in the Cameron Peak Fire of 2020, the largest fire in Colorado history, which burned nearly 209,000 acres. The condition of this trail is unknown.

Cautions in Burn Areas:

- Falling Trees
 - Tree root systems can be burned – compromised or non-existent. Thus, trees in burned areas fall at a high rate for some time after a fire.
 - There may be a large number of trees on the trail.
- Stump Holes -- Tree stumps sometimes burn below ground level and can leave dangerous holes, often filled in loosely by ash or needles.
- Difficult to Follow Trails
 - At times the trail can be difficult or impossible to follow with no vegetation or tread visible.
 - Even in formerly familiar terrain, the landscape can be disorienting.

- Rock slides are more likely, due to lack of vegetation and root damage.
- Flash Flooding is likely even with small rainstorms and may occur way downstream from rain.

WATER: **Spotty** - Water is readily available from the unnamed creek at the lower end of the trail and from upper Willow Creek about 0.5 mile down the Mirror Lake Trail beyond the end of the Hourglass Trail.

CAMPING: Suitable campsite locations can be found off the trail in the vicinity of the boulder field as you approach timberline, but they will be dry (no nearby water). See REGULATIONS below.

SEASONAL: Not recommended for winter use; accessible only by snowshoeing or skiing several miles from the gate near Tom Bennet Campground.

DESCRIPTION: The Hourglass Trail officially begins at the junction of the Beaver Creek and Hourglass trails at the northeast end of Comanche Reservoir (about 3 miles above the lower Beaver Creek trailhead). Cross the face of the dam to the south. You will notice the trail sign beyond the overflow spillway at timber’s edge. The trail follows an unnamed creek for a short distance, climbing a fairly steep pitch. Look

for the mileage sign to the Mirror Lake Trail. Follow the trail as it climbs through a mature forest.

Just before reaching the alpine tundra, you will pass by a large boulder field. The route is periodically marked with small (6-18") rock cairns and the tread is often bare of vegetation. Along the ridge the views are spectacular and, if you look carefully, you can see Comanche Lake nestled in the valley below. There is no clear trail that leads up to Comanche Peak,

although a faint trail to the south of the peak is shown on some maps.

There is a unsigned "T"-fork trail junction with a distinct but narrower trail leading slightly downhill to the northwest (right) and a wider, rocky trail leading uphill to the southeast (left) past some small rock cairns – the left branch is the Hourglass Trail.

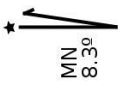
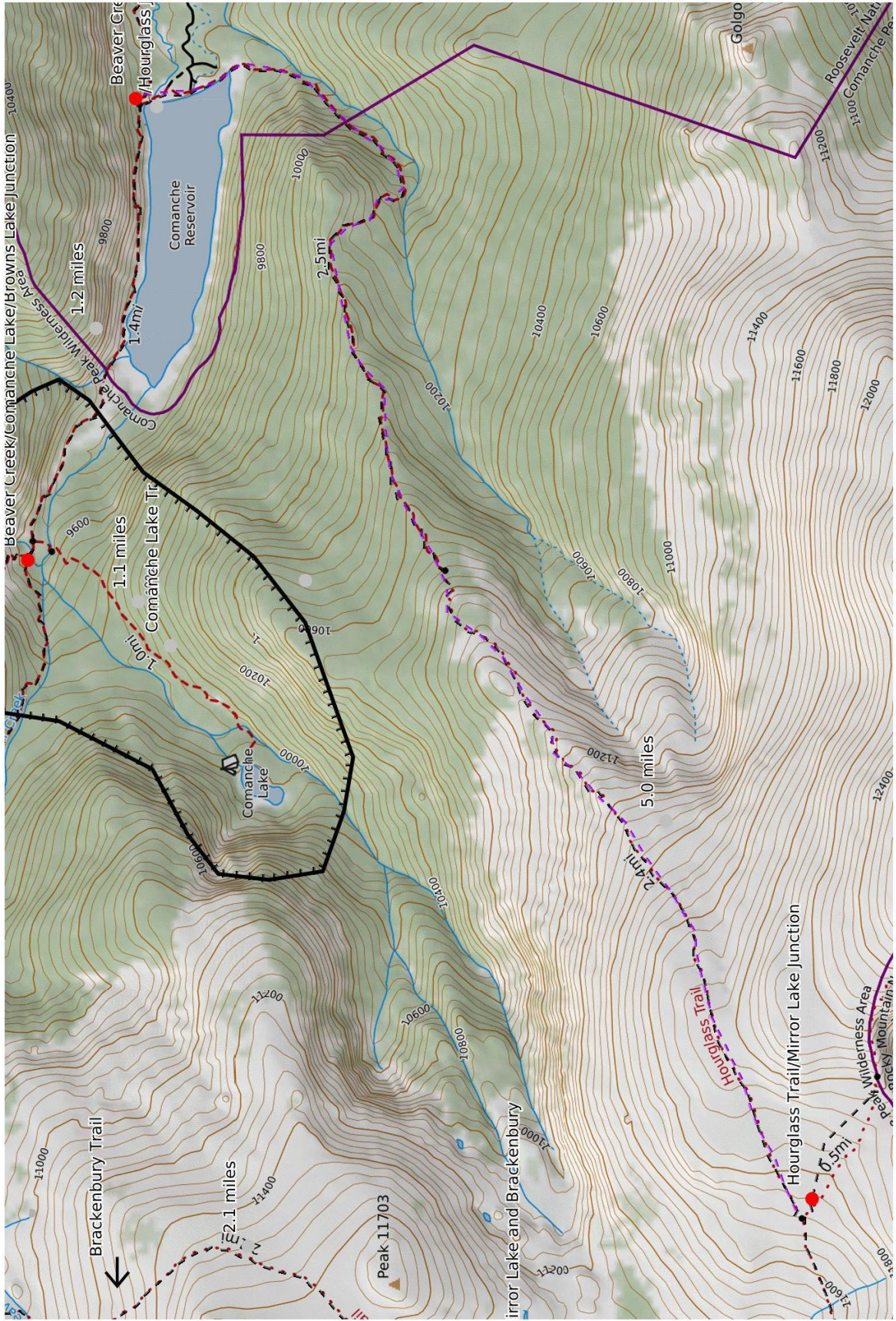
The way to the Mirror Lake Trail (where the Hourglass Trail ends) is marked with medium sized and widely spaced rock cairns.

REGULATIONS:

- Camping and Fires - Outside the Wilderness boundary: recommend at least 100 feet from water and trail. In the Wilderness: prohibited within 200 feet of water or trail.
- 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 should be fed only pellets or certified weed-free hay. Required: throughout the trip, stock *must* be fed only pellets or certified weed-free hay.
- Bicycles and Other Wheeled Conveyances - Prohibited.
- Motorized Transport - Prohibited.
- Motorized Equipment - Prohibited in Wilderness.
- Group Size - Outside the Wilderness boundary: a single group of more than 74 people must have a USFS permit. In the Wilderness: maximum 12 people and stock, combined.

Mileage	GPS Coordinates: datum = WGS84	Lat/Long	UTM	
0.0	"trailhead" at NE end of Comanche Reservoir dam	N40°35.12' W105°38.68'	445444mE	4492926mN
0.3	SE end of Comanche Reservoir dam	N40°34.87' W105°38.55'	445623mE	4492462mN
2.6	boulder field	N40°34.34' W105°40.34'	443091mE	4491500mN
2.8	unsigned trail junction	N40°34.27' W105°40.50'	442864mE	4491373mN
5.0	end of trail at junction with Mirror Lake Trail	N40°33.40' W105°42.51'	440016mE	4489785mN

(See next page for map of trail.)



Scale 1:25104 1 inch = 2092 feet

Mercator Projection
 WGS84
 UTM Zone 13T
 CALTPO

Hourglass: 3