

Boulder Ranger District  
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United States Department of Agriculture



## Pawnee Pass Trail #907

**Difficulty:** Moderate to Difficult

**Trail Use:** Extremely Heavy

**Length:** Long Lake Trailhead (TH) to Long Lake - 0.2 miles; to Jean Lunning Trail - 1.2; to Lake Isabelle - 2.1 miles; to Pawnee Pass - 4.6 miles. DISTANCES ARE ONE-WAY.

**Elevation:** 10,500 feet at the Long Lake TH; 12,541 feet at Pawnee Pass.

**Open To:** Hiking. Groups of 12 or fewer. Pets must be on a hand-held leash at all times.

### Access

- From Nederland, drive 13 miles north on Colorado Highway 72 to the town of Ward.
- Look for a sign for the Brainard Lake Recreation Area and turn west onto County Road 102.
- Travel to the fee station and west of Brainard Lake. A signed road leads to the Long Lake TH.

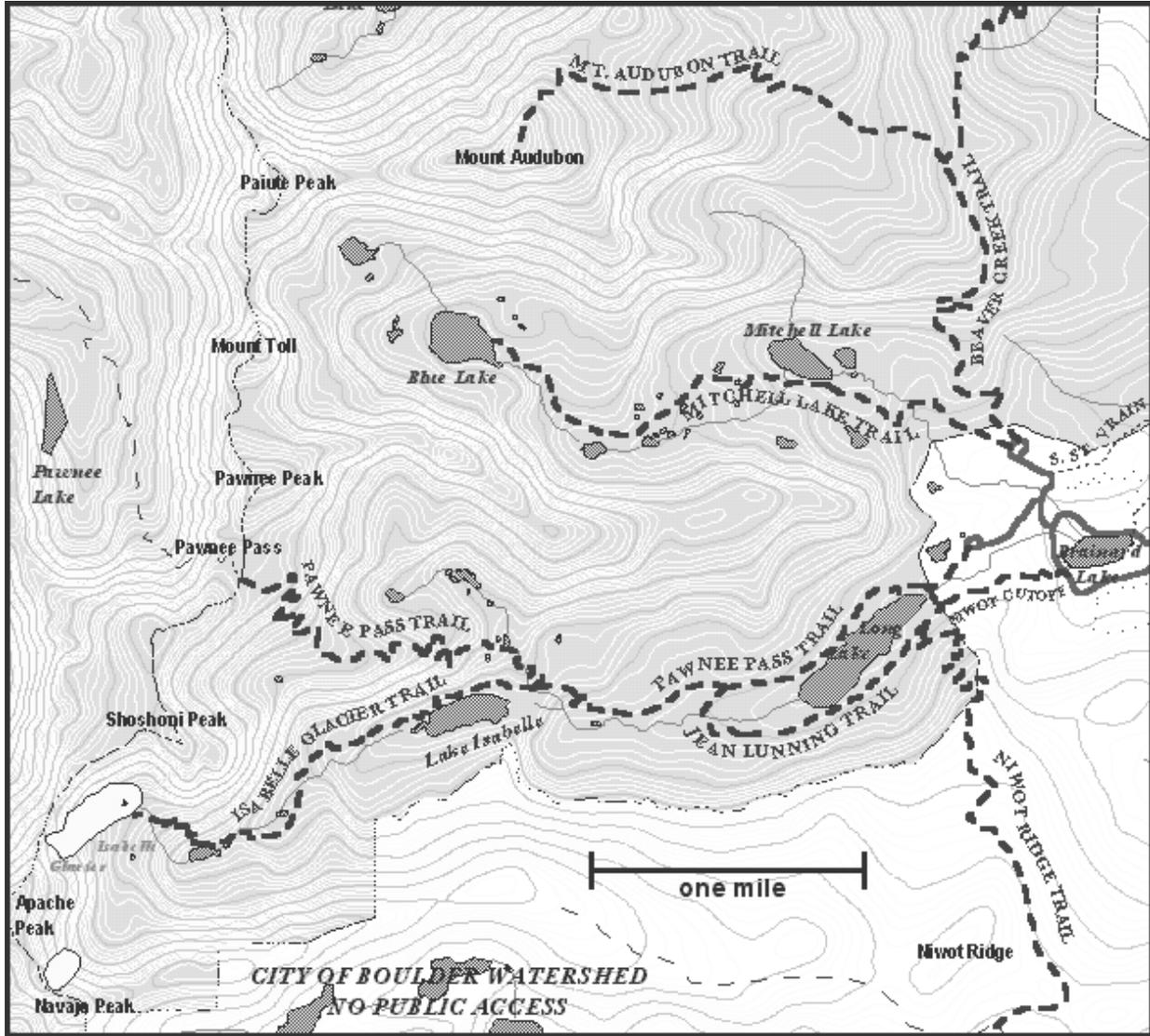
### Trail Highlights

- The first ¼ mile of the Pawnee Pass Trail #907 to Long Lake is a heavily used trail. The Pawnee Pass Trail enters the Indian Peaks Wilderness. The trail continues along Long Lake as a wide and fairly flat trail.
- The Pawnee Pass Trail continues up the valley at a gentle grade through wooded terrain. It makes a short climb to Lake Isabelle, which sits below tree line.
- The Pawnee Pass Trail turns right (north) and climbs on a graded switchback trail. The trail first crosses a couple creeks and circles under a ridge above Lake Isabelle. It gains a wide bench above tree line by a series of short switchbacks. Another steep switchback pitch often holds snow late into the summer and leads to the top of Pawnee Pass (elevation 12,541 feet).
- Continuing 9.75 miles westward on the Pawnee Pass Trail (Trail #1 on the west side of the Divide) would take you to Monarch Lake via the Cascade Trail.

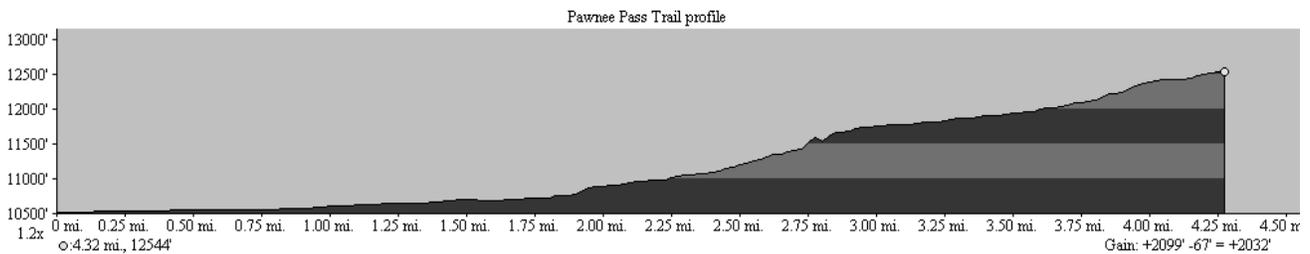
### Important Information

- Snow and ice on Pawnee Pass make the higher sections technical until later in July. An early start is recommended. Thunderstorms are common in the early afternoon.
- CAMPFIRES ARE NOT ALLOWED. CAMPING IS ONLY PERMISSIBLE IN THIS ZONE BETWEEN DECEMBER 1 AND APRIL 30. FROM MAY 1 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, THIS AREA IS DAY-USE ONLY. Additional permit requirements exist for large (8-12 persons) and organized groups. Groups of more than 12 are not permitted. Packstock restrictions apply.
- The Brainard Lake Road is open seasonally. During these months, a vehicle fee applies for trailheads located within the Brainard Lake Recreation Area.

# Trail Map & Profile



This map is intended as a general guide only and not for actual land navigation.



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**For More Information:**  
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