

Boulder Ranger District  
2140 Yarmouth Avenue  
Boulder, CO 80301  
(303) 541-2500  
FAX: (303) 541-2515



United States Department of Agriculture



## South Saint Vrain Trail # 909

**Difficulty:** Easy to Moderate

**Trail Use:** Moderate

**Length:** Beaver Reservoir Road (County Road [CR] 96) Trailhead (TH) to the Sourdough Trail - 3.1 miles; to Brainard Lake - 5.9 miles. DISTANCES ARE ONE-WAY.

**Elevation:** 8,700 feet at the TH; 9,600 feet at Sourdough Trail; 10,400 feet at Brainard Lake.

**Open To:** Hiking

### Access

#### *East End TH*

- From Nederland, drive 13 miles north on Colorado Highway (CO) 72 to Ward. Continue north 2.5 miles and turn west onto CR 96 (look for the Boy Scout Camp sign).
- The east end of the South Saint Vrain Trail is just across the bridge, very close to CO 72.

#### *West End TH*

- The west end of the South St Vrain Trail is north of Brainard Lake.
- From Nederland, drive 13 miles north on CO 72 to the town of Ward.
- Look for a sign for the Brainard Lake Recreation Area and turn west onto CR 102.
- Travel to the fee station and past Brainard Lake. A signed side-road leads to the Mitchell Lake TH parking area. The South Saint Vrain begins before this lot at a pull off to the east.

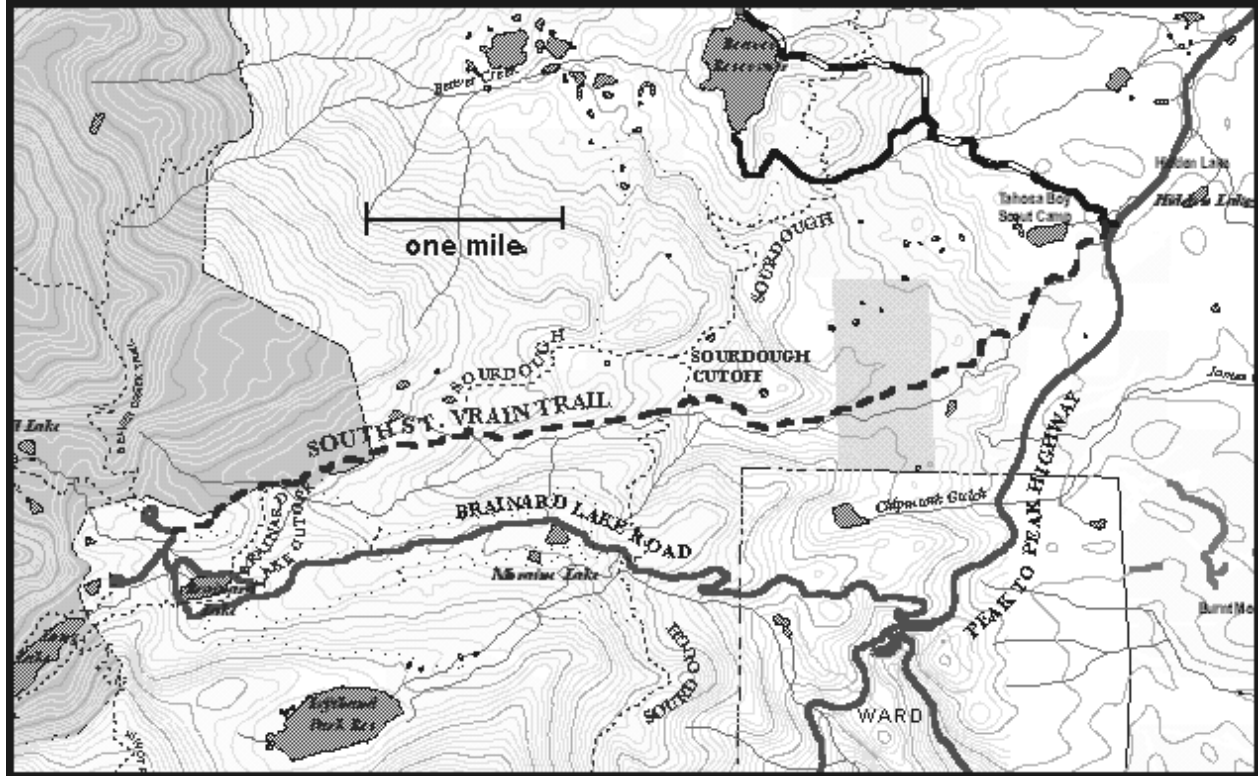
### Trail Highlights

- From CR 96, the South Vrain Trail #909 climbs west along South Saint Vrain Creek.
- About two miles in, the trail follows an old road. At the small trail sign, it turns off sharply to the north and climbs to avoid private property. At the top of this climb, the trail crosses an old road.
- The South Saint Vrain Trail passes a cut-off to the Sourdough Trail on the north. In another quarter mile, the Sourdough Trail comes in from the south. The trail continues gently along a little ridge for another mile to an intersection with the Waldrop North Ski Trail. The trail drops down and crosses a creek before the Brainard Lake Cutoff Trail forks left (south).
- The South Saint Vrain Trail crosses a meadow to reach the road. It hits the Mitchell Lake TH spur road off the Brainard Lake Road on the north edge along Mitchell Creek.
- This last portion of trail is mainly used in the winter, making the trail difficult to follow.

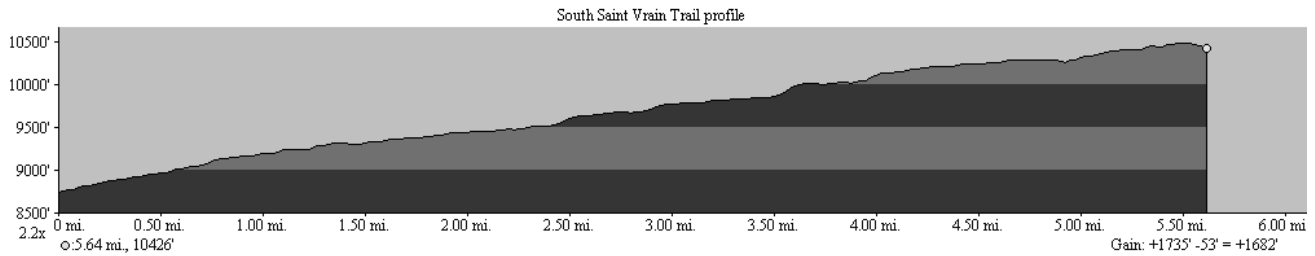
### Important Information

- CAMPING IS NOT PERMISSIBLE ALONG SOME PORTIONS OF THIS TRAIL DURING CERTAIN TIMES OF YEAR. Watch for postings and have maps of the area available.
- 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.



**For More Information:**  
 Boulder Ranger District  
 2140 Yarmouth Avenue  
 Boulder, CO 80301  
 (303) 541-2500

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.