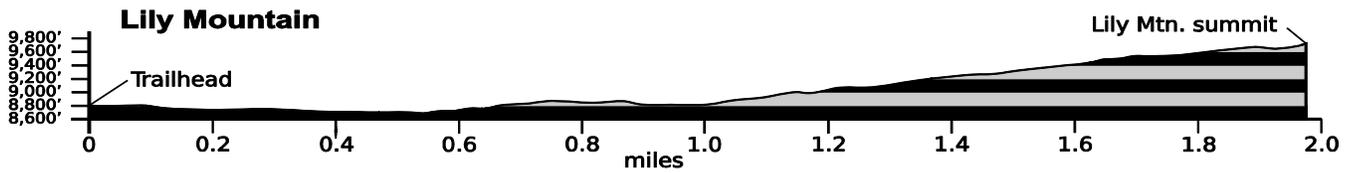


Nov. 9, 2020

Public Trail Information: Lily Mountain

Trail(s): Lily Mountain #933	
Ratings / restrictions:	Hikers - Difficult Stock - Prohibited See complete REGULATIONS below DESCRIPTION
Cautions:	None
Typically accessible:	Year-round (see SEASONAL below)
Wilderness:	None
One-Way Length:	2.0 miles (trailhead to summit)
Beginning / Peak Elevations:	8,785 / 9,786
Gain / Loss / Net Gain:	1,181 / 180 / +1,001
Map(s) - Trails Illustrated:	#200 Rocky Mountain National Park
Map(s) - USGS 7-½' Quadrangles:	Longs Peak



TRAILHEAD LOCATION:

Big Thompson & Estes Park Area: From Loveland, drive west on US-34 toward Estes Park. Drive to the town of Estes Park and turn left (east) at a traffic light onto US-36/CO-7. After about 0.5 mile, turn right (southeast) onto CO-7. The trailhead is located 5.8 miles south of Estes Park on CO-7 just before the 6-mile marker. There are only two small parking areas on either side of the road by the trailhead sign. Another option is to park at Lily Lake and walk about a quarter mile down the highway to the trailhead, although the roadside is quite narrow in places, and Lily Lake parking requires a National Park pass.

Toilets are available at Lily Lake.

TRAIL: Lily Mountain Trail is very popular, partly because dogs are permitted on this trail, unlike trails inside Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP), where dogs are prohibited. The first mile is a pleasant walk on a well-marked trail with little elevation gain, with one short eroded area and a steep side slope at 0.4 mile. The second mile is a more rigorous hike up the forested northern slope of Lily Mountain, still mostly well-marked, with some steep steps, loose footing in spots. Watch for the sharp left turn at about 1.1 mile. (See DESCRIPTION.) The top is accessed by a short, poorly marked rock scramble.

WATER: None

CAMPING: Not recommended.

SEASONAL: Normally accessible in winter. However, the upper half of the trail is very difficult to follow, even with only a few inches of snow on the ground. Be prepared for the uphill after the big left turn at

about one mile on the way up. The upper section is a scramble to the top at any time of the year, but harder to find in the winter and the last part of the trail near the scramble is also confusing. Usually good for snowshoes; at least take boot traction devices.

DESCRIPTION: The trail goes north from the trailhead, above and parallel to CO-7. During the first mile of the patrol, the trail climbs gradually, through a forest of mostly ponderosa pine and Douglas fir. There are several interesting rock outcroppings along the way, and occasional outstanding views of the adjacent valley and mountains to the east. At approximately 0.4 miles you will approach a major gully-wash which resulted from the September 2013 flood. Climb a short distance to your left until you have a clear view into the wash, and then look for the trail across to the other side. From about 0.6 to 0.7 miles the trail begins to climb more earnestly through several switchbacks. As you continue to climb, lodgepole pines become more common. After about 1 mile, the trail approaches a large rock outcropping on the north shoulder of Lily Mountain where you will have great views of RMNP to the west, and the town of Estes Park in the valley below. From here the trail turns sharply to the south and climbs up the north ridge of Lily Mountain for approximately 0.7 mile. Most of the elevation gain occurs in this second half of the trail, which becomes increasingly steeper the further one travels. Lodgepole pine and Douglas fir dominate this section of the trail. The last 0.1 mile scramble to the summit is marked by cairns but there is a network of paths making it difficult to know which way to go. Near the end of the trail, after one begins ascending to the right, there is small Trail sign

on a tree pointing upwards to the summit, with several scrambling options for getting there.

Once on the summit, you are rewarded with great views of RMNP and its prominent mountains to the

north, west, and south, and the Craggs and Twin Sisters to the southeast.

Cell phones will generally work on this trail.

Mileages provided are approximate.

REGULATIONS:

- Camping and Fires - Prohibited within 200 feet of trailhead and parking area; recommend at least 100 feet from water and trail.
- Dogs - Must be under voice control 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.

Mileage	GPS Coordinates: datum = WGS84	Lat/L	UTM	
0	Lily Mtn. trailhead (in CO-7)	N40°18.83' W105°32.12'	454513mE	4462728mN
0.4	gully-wash	N40°19.16' W105°32.14'	454489mE	4463338mN
1.1	trail turns sharply left	N40°19.65' W105°32.09'	454565mE	4464244mN
2.0	end of trail at Lily Mtn. summit	N40°19.15' W105°32.48'	454007mE	4463323mN

(See next page for map of trail.)

