

For your safety...

Expect severe mountain winter conditions.
 Dress for wind as well as warmth.
 Do not split up your group.

The CMC Brainard Cabin is usually open to the public on winter weekends for shelter and hot drinks; however, do not count on it being open. Travel as if it were closed.
 Always have enough energy to get back to the trailhead.

This map is prepared by the Boulder Group of the Colorado Mountain Club.
 The Colorado Mountain Club assumes no liability for the safety of persons using this map.

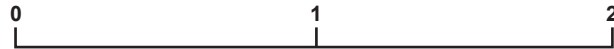
GPS Coordinates of Important Points, WGS84 Datum

Gateway Trailhead and Parking: 40.0803° Lat.; -105.5333° Long.
 Brainard Cabin: 40.0810° Lat.; -105.5783° Long.
 Mitchell Lake Trailhead: 40.0833° Lat.; -105.5817° Long.
 Long Lake Trailhead: 40.0779° Lat.; -105.5846° Long.

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Brainard Lake Area Ski and Snowshoe Trails



Scale of Miles

T Trailhead

■ Cabin



Magnetic Declination
8.0° East of True North

GPS fieldwork:
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Cartography & design:
Jim Groh

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Trail Name	Difficulty	Mileage	Wind	Dogs?
Brainard Lake Road	Easy	3	High	Yes
CMC (South)	Moderate	2.5	Low	No
Coney Flats Trail	Moderate	3.8	Low	No
Jean Lunning Trail	Easy	1.5	Low	No
Left Hand Park Reservoir Road	Moderate	1.5	High	Yes
Little Raven Trail	Moderate	2.7	Moderate	No
Niwot Cutoff Trail	Moderate	0.5	Moderate	No
Pawnee Pass Trail	Moderate	1.2	Low	No
Snowshoe Trail	Easy	3	Low	No
Sourdough Trail	Difficult	11	Low	Yes
South St. Vrain Trail	Moderate	5.8	Low	No
Waldrop (North) Trail	Difficult	2	Low	No
Wapiti Trail	Difficult	2.5	Low	Yes

The Brainard Lake Road

The road is the easiest and most direct way from the Red Rock Trailhead to Brainard Lake and the CMC cabin. The road is wide open with winds to match. The surface is seldom skiable; snow not scoured away is crusty. It's a safe return route at night, though.

CMC (South) Trail

Skis only, please. Park at the Red Rock Trailhead. Start on the left side of the road, before the gate. The trail goes through forests and meadows all the way to a junction with the Little Raven trail near Brainard Lake. From this junction, a short trail also goes through a brushy meadow to the lake.

Coney Flats Trail

Start at the trailhead on the north side of Beaver Reservoir. The trail climbs west to a windswept bench (Coney Flats), at 3.2 miles. It then descends 0.6 miles to the Middle St. Vrain Road. This trail is also called the Coney Flats Route, because it's not signed or blazed; you follow a jeep road much of the way.

Jean Lunning Trail

This trail joins the Pawnee Pass Trail both east and west of Long Lake. Along with the lower stretch of the Pawnee Pass Trail, it makes for a pleasant loop ski around Long Lake, especially when the CMC Cabin is your base of operations.

Left Hand Park Reservoir Road

This road climbs from the Red Rock Trailhead to Left Hand Park Reservoir. Expect high winds near the reservoir. One-half mile of this road is the connecting piece for the lower and upper Little Raven Trails.

Little Raven Trail

Skis only, please. This trail is in two sections, lower and upper. A stretch of the Left Hand Park Reservoir Road connects them. To reach the start of the lower trail, park at the Red Rocks Trailhead. Take the Sourdough Trail south for about 1/2 mile. Turn right onto the Lower Little Raven Trail. After a steep 1/2 mile you strike the Left Hand Park Reservoir Road. Go left and follow the road for another 1/2 mile. The Upper Little Raven Trail starts on the right. The upper trail descends gradually for 1.7 miles to join the CMC (South) Trail near Brainard Lake. At the junction is a short trail to Brainard Lake and a marker honoring Chief Little Raven.

Niwot Cutoff Trail

This short, moderately steep trail connects the Brainard Lake Loop Road to the Jean Lunning Trail near its western end, where high winds are possible.

Pawnee Pass Trail

Start at the Long Lake Trailhead. The trail goes southwest along the north side of Long Lake. The trail stays fairly level for 1-1/2 miles, which makes for a good loop trip when combined with the Jean Lunning Trail. If you go past the Jean Lunning Trail, the Pawnee Pass Trail gets difficult and is not described here.

Snowshoe Trail

Start at the Red Rock Trailhead. Follow the snowshoe signs on the trees to stay on the snowshoe trail in this crisscrossed area. The trail goes past Red Rock Lake and continues south of the road for about a mile. The trail turns north and joins the road. Turn left on the road and look for another trail on the right after a few hundred feet. Take this trail, then look left for the continuation of the snowshoe

trail. Follow this steadily uphill through a forest. The trail joins the road again at the concrete bridge over Mitchell Creek. After the bridge look right for a branch of the trail that eventually leads to the CMC cabin.

Sourdough Trail

A long, sinuous, fairly difficult and remote trail if done in its entirety. If you start at the Red Rock Trailhead, the North Sourdough Trail is 6 miles, easy to difficult, and comes out at the trailhead on the Beaver Reservoir Road. From Red Rock Trailhead, the South Sourdough Trail is 5-1/2 miles, moderate, and comes out at the trailhead on Rainbow Lakes Road.

South St. Vrain Trail

Start at the trailhead on the Beaver Reservoir Road near the Tahosa Boy Scout Camp. The trail climbs all the way to the Mitchell Lake Road near the CMC Cabin. About halfway along, you intersect the North Sourdough Trail, with the Red Rock Trailhead about a mile to the south. Near the western end, you intersect the Waldrop (North) Trail, then have a choice of side trails that take you to Brainard Lake, the CMC Cabin, or the trailhead on Mitchell Lake Road.

Waldrop (North) Trail

Skis only, please. A more difficult trail than the CMC South or Little Raven. Start at the Red Rock Trailhead, just after the winter closure gate. The trail winds its way up through forests and meadows with some tricky gullies. The trail stays north of the road and intersects with the South St. Vrain Trail after two miles.

Wapiti Trail

A side loop from the North Sourdough Trail for those who just can't get enough skiing. Much the same conditions as the Sourdough Trail, with a tour around some lakes at its northern end.



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