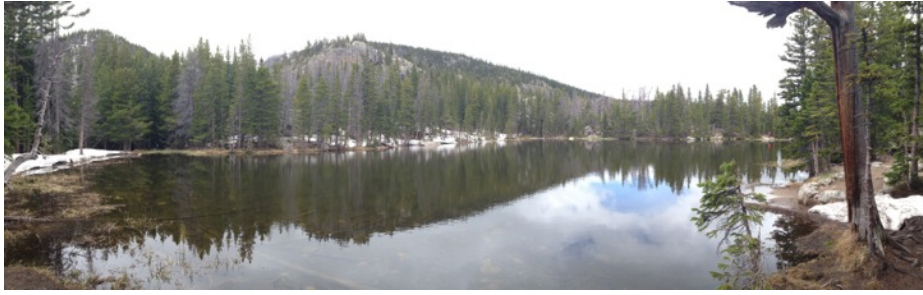


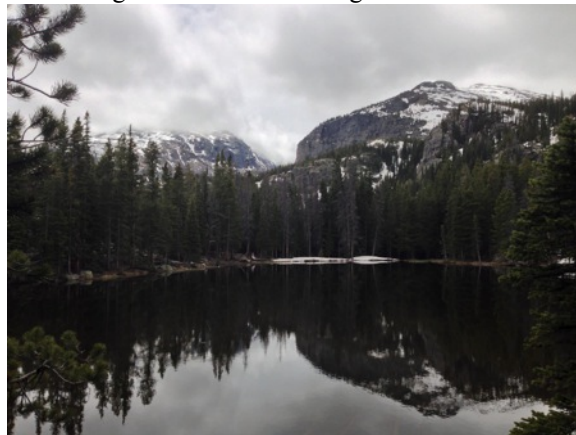
Panorama of Nymph Lake:



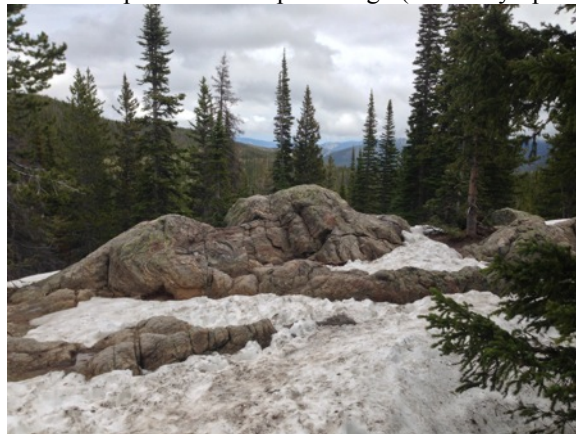
Looking across Nymph Lake from its north side; the trail to Dream Lake crosses below the top of the short mound seen in the center of this photo:



Another view across Nymph Lake, this one looking towards Glacier Gorge and Loch Vale:



Looking across and out towards the road from the spot noted two photos ago (above Nymph Lake):



The trail cuts across the hillside and will cut into the valley to the right (which is where the river draining from Dream Lake goes):



Looking over at Glacier Gorge; it seems to be getting clearer there, but it had rained hard when we were hiking out:



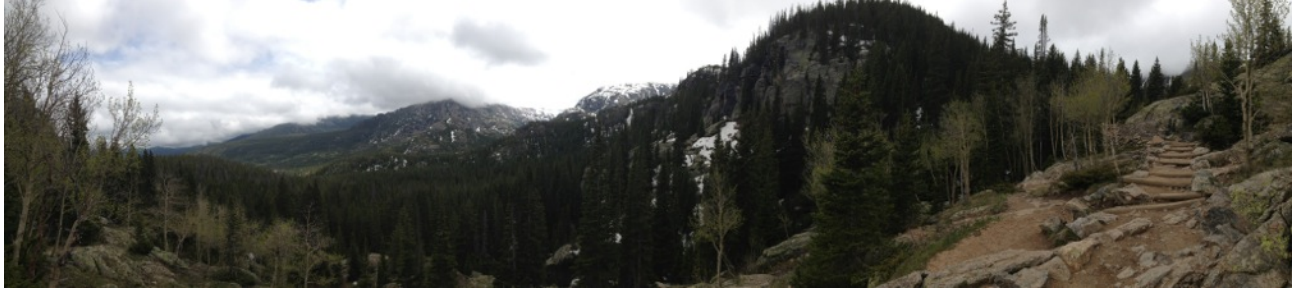
This part of the trail was pleasantly devoid of snow, though we had crossed a large and steep snowpack earlier (which was a "one-way route" so we had to wait for the uphill traffic on our way back down):



The trail through here is very nice, and we wished that we had been able to see more of this area (though it probably would have been way more crowded if there was less snow):



Panorama from this nice viewpoint, with the trail heading off to the right and Glacier Gorge just left of center:



Reaching the lower part of Dream Lake, we could see that we were up near some tall peaks now:



The snowbank was across the lake and water was flowing out from underneath it (not a good place to cross, right where the water is coming out):



This is where the trail to Lake Haiyaha turns off when there is less snow:



Looking across Dream Lake, towards where Emerald Lake must be:



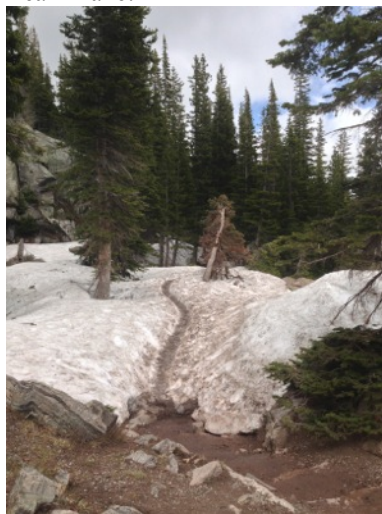
We were mostly walking on snow now, and the snow extended into the lake:



Looking back across the lake from near the other (western) end of it:



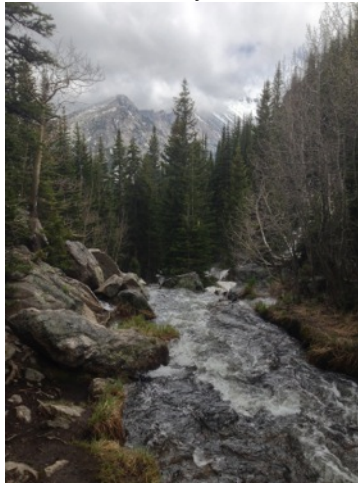
We decided not to continue past the end of Dream Lake because the amount of snow was increasing; there appeared to be a use trail across the snow, but it was less defined than the previous trails had been and we were getting tired of snow at this point. So, we headed back across the snow to the other end of Dream Lake:



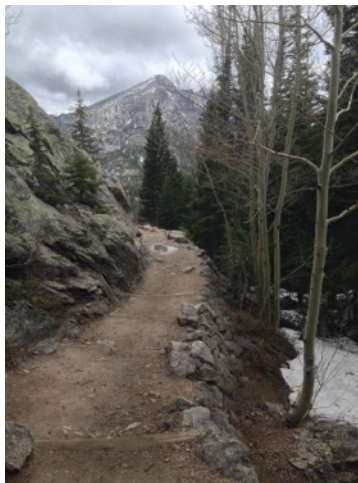
This is the short spur trail to what seems to be the best spot from which to view Dream Lake:



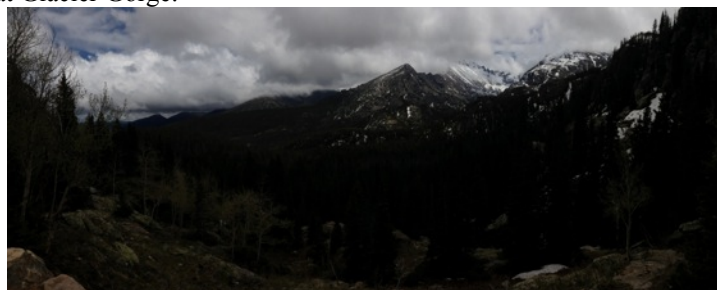
Looking down at all the water coming out of Dream Lake on our way back down the trail:



It was nice to return to a part of the trail that didn't have snow, after having walked across more of it than we had planned to earlier this morning:



Another panorama looking over at Glacier Gorge:



This blue jay hopped across the trail and into the tree; it looked to be posing for a photo:



We stopped at an overlook of Nymph Lake on our way back down:



From the Bear Lake area, we drove first to check out the lower end of the Old Fall River Road. We had thought about driving this road, but as it was closed when we were in the park we wanted to at least see what the area looked like. The road appears to have some spectacular views and would be great to check out on another visit to the park; we were only able to drive up to the Endovalley Picnic Area. On our way back along the road, we got a photo of the Alluvial Fan walk, which goes up to the waterfall seen here (the parking lot was full so we didn't get to hike up here):



Our next stop was at the Lumpy Ridge Trailhead; when researching hikes for this trip, I hadn't known why this area was named such, but I now see that it's because of the rock formations along the ridge:



This map is of the Lumpy Ridge area and doesn't contain any of the spur trails for rock climbers:



Looking out at some nice hoodoos from the trailhead; I was quite surprised to see these here:



The mechanism to ensure that this gate stayed closed was imaginative:



We decided to take the clockwise direction of the loop hike by the Twin Owls:



Looking along Lumpy Ridge towards the main part of Rocky Mountain National Park:



The Twin Owls can be seen to the left of center in this photo:



The clouds and the afternoon lighting made for great HDR photography here:





Another view of the Twin Owls; I probably wouldn't have seen the owl shape without the name, but upon hearing it I see why the name was chosen:



Trail signs at the first junction of the trail; I think one of the trailheads located on private property near here may be no longer accessible:



The trail here appears to be heading directly for the Twin Owls, but we actually don't get very close to them:



The Twin Owls climbing area is closed due to raptors right now:



Looking up at the Twin Owls from the closest point that the main trail is to them:



The names of many of the climbing sites here are related to book and movie characters; this trail leads to Gollum's Arch:



Continuing along this trail; this loop hike makes for an easy afternoon walk on a potentially rainy day:



There were lots of interesting rock formations we saw from this trail, many of which surprisingly reminded me of formations in places in Utah:



Reaching the connector trail to Gem Lake; we didn't have time in our schedule that day to get to the lake, even though it was only 1.2 miles away:

