

Colorado / Lyons

## Antelope and Bitterbrush Trail

DISTANCE: 4.5 miles

ELEVATION GAIN: 900 feet

ROUTE TYPE: Out & Back

I love this trail, as it's pretty easy and it always has great views. Also, you'll always get up close and personal with the wildlife (today I saw a ton of deer and what appeared to be turkeys?)... I always add the Nelson Loop for extra mileage. I went counterclockwise today: it was 2.4 miles to the Nelson loop and then another 1.3 miles uphill to the "middle" of the loop. Another mile back down to complete the loop for a total round trip of 7.11 miles. I'd recommend going clockwise on the Nelson loop as it is easier.

Hiked this trail on a Wednesday after work and it was crowded with mountain bikers!! Hikers, beware. There was a ton of wildlife - in particular prairie dogs were everywhere, which was cool to see but there were also lots of bugs. Come equipped with spray if you're taking this one on.

Absolutely gorgeous every time!! Just wanted to let people know that when I went up here on 2/7, where the Bitterbrush Trail meets with Antelope Trail, there's that gorgeous meadow and prairie dog community to look out on. My friend and I definitely saw a mountain lion walking around far from us among the prairie dogs, so please be aware that one has been seen very recently!

