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Comments: I returned to this area last week after decades away from being a camp counselor at Anderson Camps. While there are several more tiny homes along the road, Sweetwater Lake and the hike to Hack Lake have not changed. I met several of the Brink family and they even allowed me the comfort of their campsite on Hack Lake. I met a few others in the area that helped get the land to the forestry department. Based on my conversations and the signage all across the area, a state park is not the desire of the community that surrounds Sweetwater lake. Access to Sweetwater lake is not limited now and never has been. The existing 9 camp sites were not full and the sites at the other end of the lake are never used anymore it sounded like. The cabins and store are closed as the forestry department did not deem them up to their standard, but I definitely would have preferred that over camping on the ground anymore. I enjoyed the boats provided by the Brink family (and the trout we caught). It sounded like additional lands had been contracted to allow for the building of camping trailers in the area above the lake, hence the comments about limiting the number of visitors. I can tell you the view from the mountains above Sweetwater - probably my last climb on foot above the lake 2600 foot elevation climb to Hack Lake, but apparently my heart is good!- was the same as 40 years ago for the most part. A trailer park would change that view significantly. The only limitation to the use of the lake today is the lack of knowledge of how pretty it is without a lot of marketing materials. Go there and enjoy it for the day or camp out along it or the Colorado River. Sounds like Anderson Camps is permanently closed during covid, but the camp, cabins and maybe a wedding venue did look very well maintained. Call the Brinks outfitters <https://brinkoutfitters.com/> and take the horses up to Hack Lake - the only way I am going next time.

The locals did ask for comments against bringing the State in to do development around the lake. I am not sure what would sway the state from attempting to draw more people to another area of Colorado, but I specifically drove the extra two hours away from Rocky Mountain National Park and Breckenridge to spread out across a larger area, without a lottery entrance, less traffic and a reminder of exactly why the preservation of these parks started in the first place - to maintain a connection to nature (and I understand preserve the natural resources), connect with as little impact to the environment as possible and leave it for the next person the same way you enjoyed it.