

Mountain Bike Trail Guide

Kern Plateau

Sequoia National Forest



Welcome to the Sequoia National Forest! Here is a guide to mountain bike trails on the Kern Plateau. Enjoy your stay and please help protect the resources of the area by staying on designated trails.

Be aware that all trails outside the wilderness are multi-use trails. You will encounter motorcycles, hikers and stock users. Please observe the Mountain Bike Code of Ethics listed in this handout. All trails offer optional return routes with the exception of Schaeffer Meadow Trail.

1. SCHAEFFER MEADOW TRAIL (33E24) - This trail starts at Bonita Meadow where it parallels several mountain meadows. It offers some challenging uphill climbs with some steep descents. This trail connects with Trout Creek Trail at Corral Meadow.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 4.5 miles
Highest Elevation: 8,800' Elevation Change: 640'

2. NORTH MEADOW PASS TRAIL (33E27) - Trail begins off the Sherman Pass 4x4 Trail. It is a steep downhill descent following a narrow, rocky, single track trail where it connects with the Schaeffer Trail.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 1.9 miles
Highest Elevation: 9,000' Elevation Change: 900'

3. TROUT CREEK TRAIL (33E28) - This scenic trail begins at Corral Meadow and traverses up and down the Trout Creek drainage. The soil is sandy with some technical rocky sections. The trail passes aspen groves and several meadows. Considered one of the most scenic trails on the Plateau.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 8.0 miles
Highest Elevation: 8,800' Elevation Change: 800'

4. LITTLE HORSE TRAIL (34E02) - This trail starts at Osa Meadow and ends at Beach Trail, just north of Beach Meadow. It requires technical skill due to the sandy soils and a few rocky, downhill descents. Offers scenic vistas.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 5.3 miles
Highest Elevation: 8,000' Elevation Change: 700'

5. BEACH TRAIL (34E01) - This trail begins at Osa Meadow and travels along several small meadows with stream crossings, ending at Beach Meadow. The trail is sandy with some technical rocky sections. Best suited for advanced riders.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 3.8 miles

6. BOONE MEADOW TRAIL (34E10) - Trail starts on the southwest side of Sherman Pass Road 22S05 leading towards Trout Creek Trail and offers some steep, rocky, technical sections.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 1.8 miles
Highest Elevation: 8,300' Elevation Change: 300'

7. CANNELL TRAIL (33E32) - Trail begins at Sherman Pass Vista off Sherman Pass Road 22S05 and is recommended as a 2-dayer. Vehicles need to be shuttled, leaving one at the Forest Service corrals off Mtn. 99 where the trail ends, and driving the other to the Vista. The first ascent begins just north of Mosquito Meadow and is about 3/4 of a mile long, followed by a long descent to Big Meadow. Once crossing Salmon Creek, the route continues on Cherry Hill Road 22S12 for about 2 miles, which is the second ascent. This route will crest out on top of Big Meadow Pass where it picks up the trail on the eastside of the road. The trail continues for about 1/2 mile where the third ascent begins. This ascent is 1 mile long, followed by a long descent to Cannell Meadow. From there the trail continues with 3 miles of riding pleasure before Pine Flat is reached. Here the 9 mile descent called the Cannell Plunge begins. This trail travels through several meadows and offers a variety of scenic vistas.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 23.7 miles
Highest Elevation: 9,200' Elevation Change: 6,400'

8. SHERMAN PASS 4x4 TRAIL (33E48) - This is a narrow, rocky jeep trail that starts just north of Bonita Meadow off Forest Road 22S41 and ends at Sherman Pass Road 22S05 approximately 6 miles west of Sherman Pass Vista. This trail is very technical with some steep, rocky, uphill ascents, and rocky to loose gravel descents. Need to shuttle vehicles.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 6.8 miles
Highest Elevation: 9,100' Elevation Change: 500'

9. FISH AND TROY CONNECTOR (34E03) - This trail connects Troy Meadow Campground overflow area with Fish Creek Campground. Trail parallels Little Troy Meadow for a short distance, eventually connecting with Jackass Creek Trail at Fish Creek overflow area.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 1.8 miles
Highest Elevation: 7,800' Elevation Change: 145'

10. SHERMAN PASS TRAIL (34E09) - This trail is very technical due to a steep downhill descent and rocky, sandy soils. It connects with Trout Creek Trail.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 1.8 miles
Highest Elevation: 9,200' Elevation Change: 800'

11. BLACKROCK MOUNTAIN TRAIL (34E26) - Trail connects with the Granite Broder Trail. It offers a variety of conditions ranging from steep, gradual hill climbs to downhill riding. Soils are sandy in several sections and trail offers several scenic vistas.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 8.2 miles
Highest Elevation: 9,200' Elevation Change: 800'

12. BEACH RIDGE TRAIL (34E27) - This trail begins at Troy Meadow overflow area and follows the ridge north ending at the Albanita Trail. Trail condition is sandy soil with some technical rocky uphill climbs. It offers some vistas looking over Troy Meadow. Best suited for experienced riders.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 6.7' miles
Highest Elevation: 8,200' Elevation Change: 600'

13. MONACHE 4x4 TRAIL (34E38) - Trail begins at Powell Meadow off Forest Road 20S22 and ends at Monache Meadows on the Inyo National Forest where there are several miles of dirt roads to ride. There is a 1.8 mile descent down a wide 4X4 trail to Snake Creek. After creek crossing, trail has moderate up and down grades. A reminder that Forest Service regulations state mountain bikes are prohibited in designated wilderness areas.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 1.8 miles
Highest Elevation: 8,500' Elevation Change: 500'

14. GRANITE BRODER TRAIL (35E02) - Starts off the Albanita Trail west of Granite Knob and ends at the entrance to South Sierra Wilderness. This trail travels through aspen groves, mountain meadows and offers a magnificent view of Granite Knob, Jackass Peak and Olancha Mountain. Sandy soils with some short, rocky sections. Best suited for experienced riders.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 4.8 miles
Highest Elevation: 8,400' Elevation Change: 400'

15. GRANITE CUT-OFF TRAIL (35E02A) - A connector route from Monache 4x4 Trail to Granite Broder Trail. Sandy soil with some rocks on a single track.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 0.7 miles
Highest Elevation: 8,100' Elevation Change: 200'

Thank you for your help in making forest visits enjoyable and safe! Plan ahead by obtaining a National Forest map at one of the following offices:

Kern River Ranger District

**11380 Kernville Rd.
Kernville, CA 93238**

[760-376-3781](tel:760-376-3781)

Forest Supervisor's Office

**1839 S. Newcomb Street
Porterville, CA 93257**

[559-784-1500](tel:559-784-1500)



16. JACKASS PEAK TRAIL (35E03) - Trail starts off the Albanita Trail west of Jackass Peak and connects to the Granite Broder Trail in the Monache Meadow area. This trail traverses a 4.5 mile descent down a narrow, sandy, rocky, single track trail. A must trail to ride for the experienced rider.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 4.5 miles
Highest Elevation: 8,800' Elevation Change: 800'

17. ALBANITA TRAIL (35E06) - This trail offers several access points. Trail conditions vary from hard pack dirt to sandy, rocky soils. Some very technical downhill/uphill climbs. Scenic vistas through meadows and aspen groves.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 7.5 miles
Highest Elevation: 8,800' Elevation Change: 1,200'

18. JACKASS CREEK TRAIL (35E13) - Trail begins at Fish Creek Campground by taking Forest Road 21S01 to the end where the trail begins. Trail conditions are sandy with a long uphill climb where it connects with the Albanita Trail. It parallels the west side of Jackass Meadow ending near Jackass Peak and travels through old growth aspen.

Rating: Most Difficult Trail Length: 5.5 miles
Highest Elevation: 8,800' Elevation Change: 1,000'

PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING MOUNTAIN BIKE CODE OF ETHICS:

Stay on designated trails to avoid tramping native vegetation and fragile desert soil. Minimize potential erosion to trails by not using muddy trails or short-cutting switchbacks.

Show courtesy and respect to all trail users. Keep the trail as natural as possible.

Yield the right of way to other non-motorized recreationists, and allow adequate room for motorized vehicles that may need to pass you.

Slow down and use caution when approaching or overtaking others and make your presence known well in advance.

Maintain control of your bike at all times.

Do not disturb wildlife or livestock.

Do not litter. Pack out what you pack in, and pack out more than your share whenever possible.

Respect public and private property, including trail use signs, no trespassing signs, and leave gates as you found them.

Be self-sufficient. Destination and travel speed will be determined by your ability, equipment, terrain, and the weather conditions.

Do not travel solo when biking in remote areas. Leave word of your destination and when you plan to return.

Observe the practice of minimum impact bicycling by "taking only pictures and memories and leaving only waffleprints".

Use appropriate safety equipment and remember your water.

Please TREAD LIGHTLY and report current trail conditions to Blackrock Visitor Information Station.