

Highlighted Mountain Bike Trails by District

Walking or bicycling off trails or cutting switchbacks causes damage to the soils and vegetation. Please stay on established trails and walkways.

Cascade RD

Wewukiye Trail - This ongoing trail project is being developed solely for non-motorized use. Another section of the trail is expected to be completed in the summer of 2014. When completed, the 17 mile trail system will connect Warm Lake, Tule Lake, Stolle Meadows, a Chinook salmon viewing platform, a historic cabin, and Vulcan Hot Springs. The trailhead is at Shoreline Campground located in the northeast corner of Warm Lake. For bikers, this will be a beginner to intermediate level trail that traverses rolling hills, parallels Warm Lake and Tule Lake along the east side of Forest Road 474. Due to the 2007 Cascade Complex wildfires, riders should expect downfall across the trail at all times of the year.

Tyndall Creek Trail (107) - This is a single-track, 10-mile out and back trail that hits attractive meadows at each end. To get there, drive 22 miles up Warm Lake Road and turn right at the Stolle Meadows sign. Drive approximately 6 miles on Forest Road 474 and park in the lot. The trail starts across from the lot and park at the trailhead, which includes a vault toilet and dispersed camping sites. The trail starts across the road from the trailhead. Be aware that this trail is also open to motorcycle use.

Bear Creek Trail - This is Forest Trail 105 that begins off of Warm Lake Highway, 2 miles west of Warm Lake; or off Forest Road 470, just southeast of Tule Lake. The short ride is best for intermediate mountain bikers due to the technical nature of the trail. But the difficulty is rewarded with lovely views of the south end of Warm Lake as you head toward Landmark. The single-track trail is also open to motorcycles. This trail can be ridden out and back or as a longer loop-ride by connecting with Forest Road 427 and Warm Lake Highway.

Emmett RD

Silver Creek Summit Trail (044) - For intermediate mountain bikers, this 7 mile round-trip single-track route follows the headwaters of Silver Creek, shaded by spruce and fir trees. The entire ride affords spectacular scenery with big granite slabs from the summit, wildflowers and expansive views. The path climbs about 1,450 feet to Silver Creek Summit, which is 6,250' in elevation. Many bikers prefer to stop at the summit, where an aluminum width limiter is installed, and turn around. After the summit, the trail descends steeply and goes into the Bull Creek drainage. To begin the journey, go to the end of Forest Road 671 where the trailhead is located.

West Mtn. Trail Loop - Advanced mountain bikers will revel in this slightly over 7 mile trail that affords great views of Sage Hen Reservoir at certain spots. The loop starts at the West Mountain Trailhead off Forest Road 626. Begin the climb up the West Mountain Trail(#131) and travel 5.3 miles to the junction of Joe's Creek Trail (#137) where the route descends down the mountain for 1.75 miles to the Joe's Creek Trailhead on the west side of the Emmett Ranger District. From Smiths Ferry on Highway 55, take 626 west to begin the ride. These are single-track motorized use trails. It is recommended to have vehicles parked at both the West Mountain and Joe's Creek Trailheads.

Peace Creek Trail (#026) – This single-track motorized use trail is in the Silver Creek drainage that is shared by the Emmett and Lowman districts. Intermediate mountain bikers will enjoy the nearly 9 mile long, one-way, trail that crosses several tiny creeks that feed into Peace Creek. About 2.5 miles from the trailhead, the trail steeply ascends a dry southern slope. To the north granite boulders provide scenic views in three directions. The trail levels, and then ascends steeply once again through ponderosa pine forests and sagebrush hillsides. The steeper sections of the trail offer views of Peace Rock and the surrounding mountains and valleys. To get there, take Forest Road 671 to about a mile north of Silver Creek Campground to the trailhead.

Long Fork of Silver Creek (#028) - This single-track motorized use trail is in Silver Creek drainage shared by the Emmett and Lowman districts. The approximately 11 mile trail is used by intermediate to advanced mountain bikers. The trail begins in a narrow canyon, passes through meadows, and from the top of the Silver and Bitter Creek drainages offers views of the mountains and valleys to the west and east. Huge granite outcrops border the north and south sides of the trail. The trail levels, and then descends to meet the creek again near a large blade-shaped granite wall. The trail climbs steeply away from the Long Fork of Silver Creek. The trail passes through a large meadow, then several small ones. The trail crosses the Long Fork of Silver Creek for the last time about a quarter mile from its highest point--the top of the Silver Creek drainage. Grassy slopes are replaced by boulder fields as the trail climbs steeply to a saddle dividing the Silver Creek and Bitter Creek drainages. The trail crosses the saddle and descends steeply into the Bitter Creek drainage where it soon levels. Within three miles, the trail traverses a lodgepole flat, then fords Deadwood River. The trail overlaps a short, narrow road and ends at its intersection with the Landmark-Stanley Road (Forest Road 555). To get there, take Forest Road 671 all the way to the end of the road and go right, crossing over a bridge to the trailhead parking. The trailhead kiosk is located right next to where the trail begins.

Idaho City RD

Jennie Lake Trail - This trail is open to non-motorized travel only. The 4.5 mile trail has a 1,950 foot elevation gain as it passes through Douglas fir stands before giving way to lodgepole pine and subalpine fir in the higher elevations. The trail ends at a lovely 4-acre cirque basin lake where the trout are plentiful. The lake sits at 7,850 feet. From Idaho City, take Highway 21 for 18 miles to Crooked River-Little Owl Road 384. Follow for 6 miles to Forest Road 348. Continue until reaching Forest Road 372 and turn left. Go about 200 yards to the main trailhead and registration box.

Bear River Trail - This is Forest Service Trail #171 and is a single-track trail for non-motorized use only. The scenic 10-mile long route starts flat but ascends steeply in the middle and at the end. The scenery becomes increasingly more interesting as one goes up the trail. Bear River runs between 8,800 foot ridgelines with 8,870 foot Wolf Mountain on north side and 8,900 foot Shephard Peak at its headwaters. Intermediate level mountain bikers will find the first 3 miles to be the most rideable. To get there, follow Highway 21 northeast from Boise through Idaho City. Turn off Highway 21 onto Forest Road 384 at Edna Creek (18 miles past Idaho City). Follow Forest Road 384 for 13.5 miles to North Fork Boise River and Forest Road 327. Turn upriver on 327 to Deer Park (6 miles) and turn left onto Forest Road 348. Follow 348 to Bear River (6 miles). Cross bridge and travel 200 yards beyond bridge and turn right onto side road. Approximately 100 feet up this road, turn right again onto jeep road (OK for 2-wheel drive pickups) and follow jeep road about 0.25 miles back to trailhead.

Bear Run - Mostly flat with views of open meadows and ponderosa pines. Variety of roads and trails, some for single-track motorcycle use.

Bogus Basin

Numerous **Idaho State Parks** offer single-track mountain biking. The Idaho City Ranger District also has several single-track trails for motorized, off-highway vehicle (OHV) use.

Lowman RD

Deadwood-Julie Creek Loop - For the extremely fit, experienced mountain biker; the first 12 miles of this loop involve a steep, arduous 3,200-vertical-foot climb up Deadwood Ridge. But the effort is rewarded with an exhilarating descent down Julie Creek and a scenic ride along the Deadwood River back to the start. The trailhead is located at Deadwood Campground and rises straight up a steep ridge and winds through a shaded ponderosa pine and Douglas fir forest.

Deadwood-Julie Creek Loop (conti)

After reaching Julie Creek junction (a great place to stop, rest and enjoy the view), the trail heads downhill for the last 12 miles or so back to the campground. The ride can also be enjoyed in reverse (going up Julie Creek and down Deadwood). The trail is single-track except for a 2WD road for about 7 miles along Deadwood River.

To get there from Banks, cross the bridge over the South Fork Payette River and go right. Continue on the Banks-Lowman Road for about 30 miles to the Deadwood Campground on the left, about 7 miles west of Lowman.

Warm Springs Trail - This is considered by many to be one of the premier trails on the Lowman district. The trail is a notable one-way route from Bull Trout Lake south to Warm Spring airstrip for mountain biking enthusiasts. The 13-mile, single-track path is shared with motorized users and best for advanced mountain bikers, who should be prepared for a strenuous ride when attempting this trail. Although it appears to be mostly downhill, there are plenty of uphill sections that require significant effort. Additionally, most of the riding is on single-track which requires advanced bike handling skills. From the trailhead near Bull Trout Lake Campground, the trail follows undulating terrain through lodgepole pine forests for over 2 miles. It then descends steeply into Deadman Canyon and crosses Deadman Creek multiple times in the next several miles; this section of the trail is the most difficult to negotiate. At the bottom of Deadman Canyon, the trail follows Warm Springs Creek through a fairly wide drainage and crosses the creek on a large bridge about halfway down the canyon. This section of trail has both short climbs and descents. There is a significant climb of just over 2 miles as you leave the canyon bottom which turns into a narrow rocky gorge. As the trail climbs, it provides nice views of the creek in the gorge below. Turn left for the final downhill stretch to the trailhead at the Warm Springs airstrip. To ride from the north trailhead to the south, take Highway 21 to Bench Creek Picnic Area and turn left onto Forest Road 520 to Bull Trout Lake.

Mountain Home RD

Mores Mountain Loop - This 4.3 mile trail works well for advanced beginners. Mores Mountain, located 20 miles north of Boise, is 6,600 feet in elevation. To get there from Boise, drive up Bogus Basin Road for 16 miles to the Bogus Basin Ski Resort. Go past the resort and follow Boise Ridge Road for 3.3 miles to a junction for Shafer Butte Picnic Area/Campground. The Mores Mountain trailhead is near the entrance to the campground. The single-track trail follows the east slope of Mores Mountain for 1.5 miles and provides remarkable views of the Forest and Sawtooth Mountains in the distance. When the trail ends at the Boise Ridge Road, go left and ride uphill 1.6 miles to the picnic area access road, then go another 1.2 miles back to the picnic area. Vehicle access to the Mores Mountain trailhead is generally permitted from June to October, depending on weather and snow conditions.

Mores Mountain Loop (conti)

In winter, the road from Bogus Basin's Nordic Center to the Shafer Butte recreation area is groomed for Nordic skiing and snowshoeing, and is not accessible to vehicles or snowmobiles. Fun facts: The Mores Mountain Interpretive Trail was built by the Beaver Creek Youth Conservation Corps in 1971. Mores Mountain is named for J. Marion More, one of the miners who first discovered gold in the Boise Basin in the early 1860's.

Cottonwood Trail System -The Cottonwood area has multiple options for moderate to advanced mountain biking. From Cottonwood Trailhead on Forest Road 377, an approximately 16 mile loop can be enjoyed taking the 189 Trail that runs along Cottonwood Creek southeast for about 7 miles to its intersection with Forest Road 203 near Thorn Creek Butte. This is the highest section of the loop at about 7,500 feet. The path then descends on 203 to the southeast until it reaches 377 again and heads south on the single-lane dirt road back to the trailhead. From Highway 21 just north of Lucky Peak Nursery, take Forest Road 268 as it meanders alongside Arrowrock Reservoir until it reaches Forest Road 377.

Ridge to Rivers - Ridge to Rivers is a unique partnership between the City of Boise Parks and Recreation Department, Boise National Forest, Bureau of Land Management Four Rivers Field Office, Ada County and Idaho Department of Fish and Game. The goal of the project is to preserve the Boise Foothills and create a system of interconnected trails and open space.

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