

Mountain Biking Opportunities

Weaverville Ranger Station - Shasta-Trinity National Forest



The following mountain bike routes are for riders in fairly good shape and with moderate biking experience. Multispeed bicycles are strongly recommended for these routes. Mileages are indicated in **bold**.

“Almost at the Downhill”

This a moderately strenuous route requiring the rider and bike to be in fairly good shape. There are beautiful vistas of the Trinity Alps, Trinity Divide and Trinity Lake.

Begin this ride at the intersection of Guy Covington Drive and Forest Road 35N24. The forest road is on the left about 2.0 miles as you drive from Highway 3.....**0.0**

Proceed uphill on 35N24 to the **T** intersection with 36N35, also called Bowerman Ridge Road.

From this intersection, you continue on the “Almost at the Downhill” by bearing left. (Making a right turn at this intersection will take you onto the “Earn Your Lunch,” side trip.).....**2.8**

After a left turn you will continue north, straight on Bowerman Ridge Road (36N35), until you reach the top of the ridge line. Expect to see great views of Bowerman Gulch, the eastern half of the Trinity Alps, and Billy's Peak to the north.....**3.4**

The ride is almost all downhill from this lookout point on. Watch for a confusing four way junction almost a mile down the hill. Just proceed straight**4.2**

Continue downhill. Only a couple of brief spots are not a downhill slope. Eventually you will intersect with Highway 3**8.6**

Make a left turn onto Highway 3 heading south. Be sure to ride with the traffic. Again, there is very little uphill from here. Continue south to Guy Covington Drive**11.2**

Make a left turn onto Guy Covington Drive, and return to the junction with 35N24**13.0**

The “Earn Your Lunch” side trip on the “Almost at the Downhill”

This side trip is downhill and FUN. At the bottom is a good viewpoint, and Mariner’s Roost Campground where you can enjoy a lunch at one of the picnic tables near the water. It is a moderate uphill ride back to the starting point.

This scenic side trip begins at the intersection of Forest Road 35N24 and the Bowerman Ridge Road (Forest Road

36N35). Instead of turning north to finish “Almost at the Downhill,” you turn south.**0.0**

A short distance after turning south on Forest Road 36N35 you will come to an intersection with Forest Road 35N31Y on your right. Continue past this intersection and continue straight on the main road downhill to an old lookout site where you have an excellent view of the southwest portion of the Trinity Alps, and of Trinity Lake below. If you want to find Mariners Roost Campground, look for a faint trail that bears right just before the lookout point.**6.0**

Return back to the intersection of Bowerman Ridge Road (36N35) and 36N24. From here you can continue north on Forest Road 36N35 to complete the “Almost at the Downhill.”**12.0**

“Buckeye Ridge Basalt Road”

Although it is possible to ride back uphill to the starting point of this ride on Trinity Dam Boulevard, this ride is designed to use a shuttle, where a vehicle is left at the end of the route.

This ride follows Buckeye Ridge Road in the hills south of Trinity Lake. The end is at the eastern intersection of Buckeye Ridge Road and Trinity Dam Boulevard, about 7/10ths of a mile south of the Trinity Dam vista point. Look for signs pointing out the Shasta-Trinity National Forest Helitack Base up the paved road 34N94 (Buckeye Ridge Road). There is a dirt shoulder you can park a vehicle at across from this intersection.

The ride derives its name from the basalt gravel that makes up some of Buckeye Ridge Road. There are several confusing junctions with side roads in this route. Although it is not consistent for the whole route, you can generally follow the road by looking for this grey gravel.

Begin this ride at the western intersection of Trinity Dam Boulevard and Buckeye Ridge Road. Look for Buckeye Ridge Road (34N76) on the right about 2.4 miles from the Highway 3.**0.0**

Be wary of this **T** intersection ½ mile into the ride. Do not turn, but continue straight uphill.**0.5**

1/10 mile later, bear left onto 34N76.....**0.6**

You are going in the right direction if you see a logged over clear-cut on your right.**2.1**

This is a four way intersection just south of Red Flat. Continue straight on 34N76.....**3.2**

Continue straight past the intersection with 34N06Y. Continue downhill. Look for a sign pointing left in the direction of 34N76.....**3.7**

Road 34N76C is on the right. Do not turn, but instead continue straight through the gate ahead.**5.4**

The Trinity River Conservation Camp and Forest Service Helitac helicopter pad are on the left. This area of very bald hills, and stunted trees is the old Pettijohn Mountain Borrow Pit where the earth fill for Trinity Dam was excavated.**5.7**

Intersection with the paved road 34N94.....**5.9**

After a short climb on 34N94, it is a very fast downhill ride on the pavement to the intersection with Trinity Dam Boulevard. **BEWARE OF BLIND CORNERS!** You may not see vehicles! Watch your speed on the downhill!....**8.9**

If you did not leave a shuttle vehicle at the east end of the ride, you can ride back on Trinity Dam Boulevard. It is an 8.9 mile, mostly uphill ride to return to your starting point.**17.8**

“Lake Trail Singletrack”

This is a great mountain bike ride for people of all experience levels, and for those who may not have the most sophisticated mountain biking gear. It winds along the Minersville trail that parallels the shoreline of Trinity Lake. There are several small ups and downs, but generally it is an easy, short ride through some scenic groves of Douglas fir. **THIS IS A MULTI-USER TRAIL...** Bicycle riders should always yield to hikers. Watch your speed!

This trail connects the Clark Springs and Fawn campgrounds. Although you can begin at either end, this ride description begins at the eastern Clark Springs end.

Begin this ride at the parking lot for Clark Springs Boat Ramp and Picnic Area. Look for the old trail sign near the picnic area on the south end of the lot.**0.0**

There is really only one way you can travel on this trail, there are no confusing intersections. Continue on until you reach the Minersville campground.**0.7**

The trail continues past the campground. Watch for steep, but short ruts. You might have to dismount to make these crossings. Arrive at the Cedar Stock Resort.**2.0**

It might be difficult to pick the trail back up when you arrive at Cedar Stock. Look for it on the lower road. It appears to head down to the lake. The trail continues to parallel the lakeshore. It will eventually take you to the Fawn group campground where the trail ends.....**2.6**

To return to Clark Springs, you may double-back on the singletrack trail, or you can return on the paved Highway

3. If you ride the highway, expect moderately steep uphill and downhill. Always ride with the flow of traffic. It is a 3 mile return trip via the highway.**5.6**

Other Routes

Mountain bikers are welcome to use any National Forest System Road which is not gated and locked. There are hundreds of such routes available; all of them leading to surprising adventures and some tremendous scenery. There is a system of general use trails being developed in the Weaverville Basin. A brochure describing the Weaverville Basin Trail System is available and can be obtained at the Weaverville Ranger Station or at the Weaverville Chamber of Commerce.

There is a system of roads and trails being developed in the Indian Valley-Butter Creek area near Hayfork. A Recreation Opportunity Guide similar describing this area is available at most Ranger Stations.

The Shasta Unit Trails Recreation Opportunity Guide describes several other trails that are open to Mountain Biking on the Shasta Unit of the Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area. Ask for it at the Shasta Lake Visitor Information Center in Mountain Gate. These trails include Klikapudi which has been rated as one of the top 100 mountain bike rides in Northern California, as well as the Waters Gulch and Bailey Cove Trails. Klikapudi and Waters Gulch are moderately rugged single-track trails. Bailey Cove is an easy 3 mile loop trail. All of them are very scenic. All of these trails are shared by trail runners and horseback riders so be vigilant on your ride.

“Lookout” riding is very popular with Mountain Bikers and there are several opportunities for this stiff uphill experience on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. One of the best is the ride to Bonanza King Lookout. Bonanza King Lookout, north of Coffee Creek can be reached via dirt a road that leaves Highway 3 near Trinity River Campground and climbs steadily to the east. This is an all day ride, most of which is consumed on the trip to the top. The downhill, back to your vehicle is nothing less than exhilarating. Scenery along the route is outstanding. There are several other lookouts scattered around the Shasta-Trinity... ask about them at the various Ranger Stations.

Please remember that Mountain Bikes are NOT allowed on trails in established Wilderness Areas, nor are they allowed on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

Respect the rights of the private property owner, and where your prospective route crosses private land, seek permission to gain access to their property. Be a good neighbor and do not abuse the privilege to ride in this beautiful mountain area. Practice Leave No Trace Riding by not cutting corners and gouging long downhill runs between roads. Take your trash out with you. Show courtesy and respect to other users you may encounter. Above all, **HAVE A GOOD TIME!**

Mountain Bike Safety in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest

Before the ride:

Prepare yourself. Mountain biking can be a rigorous activity!

- Bring sufficient amounts of water. During the summer, temperatures can often reach or exceed 100 degrees. If you have access to a freezer (such as in a trailer or R.V.), try freezing bicycle bottles or hydration units if the weather is very hot. Remember to allow for the expansion of ice in the bottle or hydration unit.
- Make sure your bicycle is in working order. Derailleurs should shift smoothly. Brakes need to stop effectively; this is steep country. The chain and moving parts should be properly lubricated.
- If you plan an extended ride, bring some food or snacks with you. Your body burns a lot of energy while bicycle riding.
- Know where you are going. Tell others where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Bring basic bicycle tools and know how to use them. You reduce the chance of a long walk back to camp if you can repair a broken down bicycle. These tools are the minimum you should consider bringing out on the trail with you:
 - Hex wrenches in proper sizes that fit your bike.
 - A spare inner tube.
 - Tire patch kit.
 - Tire levers.
 - A small adjustable wrench.
- Spare tubes and a patch kit are especially important... flats are a constant problem in steep, rocky ground.
- **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU NOT RIDE ALONE.** In case of injury, medical services can be several minutes away. Companions can go for help if you are hurt.

During the ride:

- Only you know your pace. Over exertion can be unhealthy in hot weather. Rest when necessary in the shade. Drink sufficient amounts of water.
- Feel free to explore any Forest Service road but pay attention to your route. It is always a good idea to carry a current Forest Service map with you when you ride.
- Watch your speed! Loose dirt and rocks can be dangerous if you approach a curve going too fast. Other bicycle riders or vehicles can be around a blind corner.
- Yield to hikers, horseback riders, and others. Everyone has equal access to Forest Service roads and trails.
- Please **DO NOT** ride in the Trinity Alps Wilderness Area or on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. The wilderness is a pristine and fragile place. It is illegal to ride bicycles on wilderness trails.
- Have fun! There are many miles of roads in Shasta-Trinity National Forest.

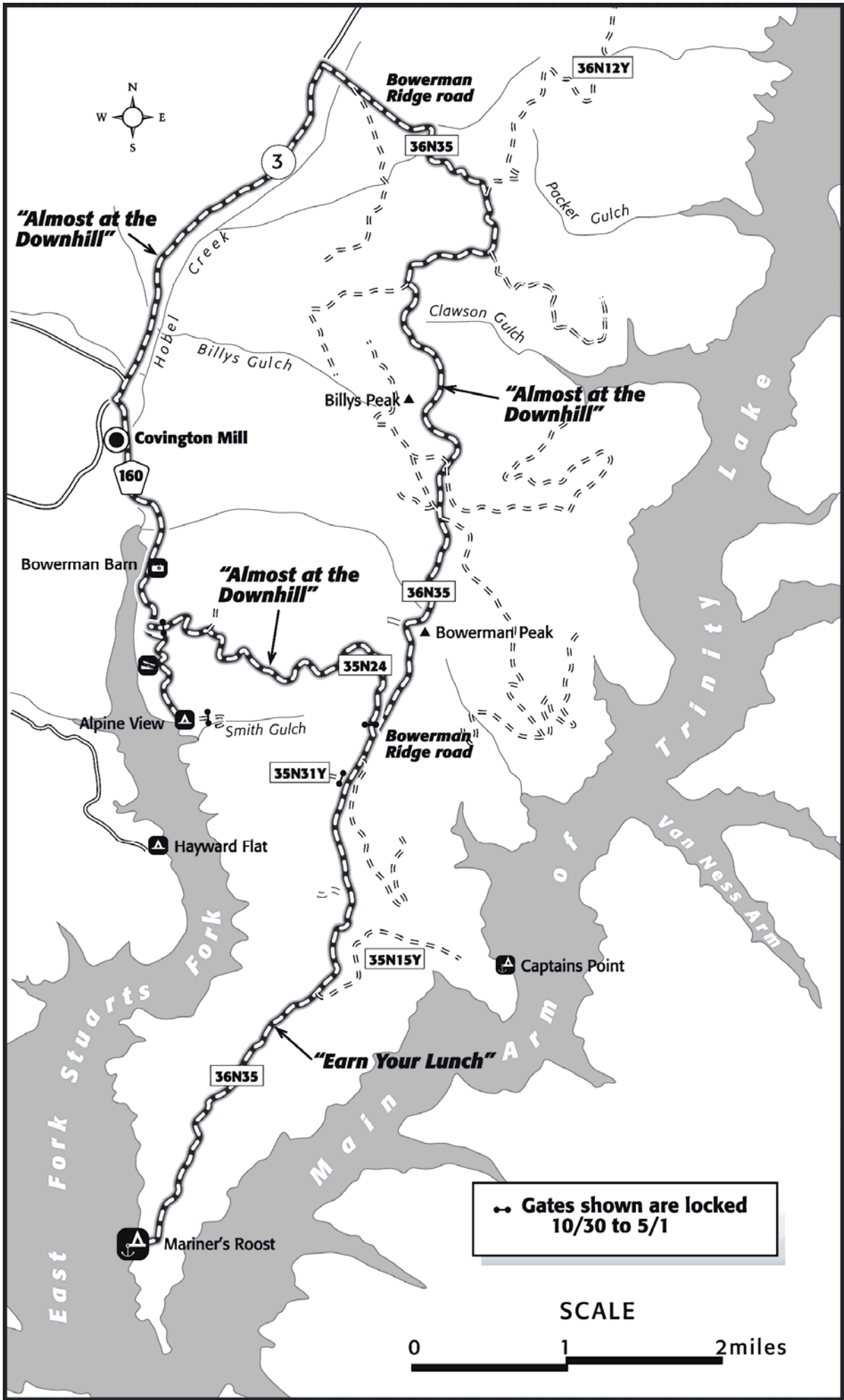
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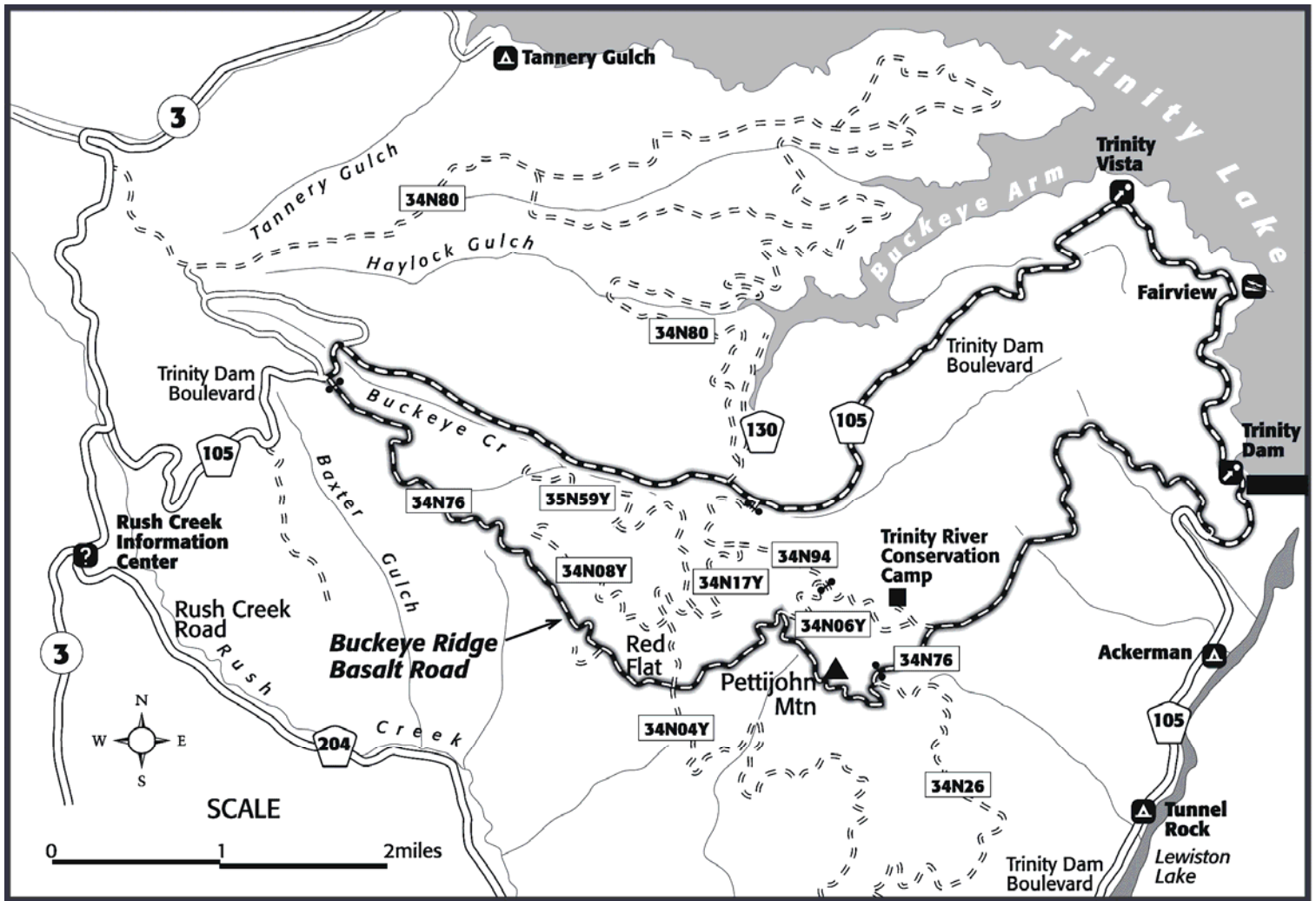
Contact the Weaverville Ranger Station: **USDA Forest Service, Weaverville Ranger Station, P.O. Box 1190, Weaverville, CA 96093.** Call: (530) 623-2121.

Bike shops in Redding are another excellent source of information about the local area.

All Are Welcome

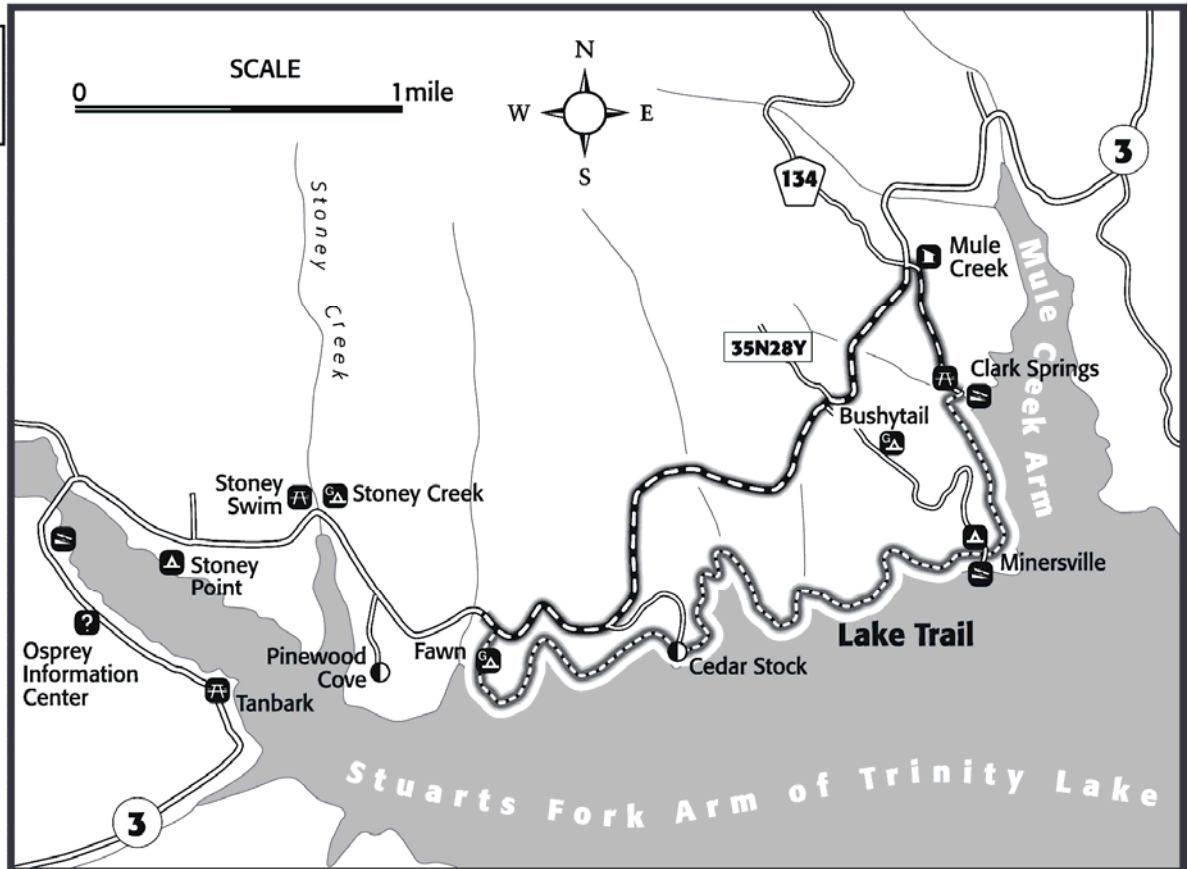
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Buckeye Ridge Basalt Road

-- Gates shown are locked 10/30 to 5/1



Lake Trail Singletrack