

Yellowstone Ranger District Trails

MAIN BOULDER DRAINAGE HIKING TRAILS

South of Big Timber on Hwy. 298

West Boulder Turnoff – 16 Miles

East Boulder Turnoff – 19 Miles

National Forest Boundary – 25 Miles

Trail Name	Details of Hike
Main Boulder Station & Museum	The Main Boulder Ranger station is a restored early Ranger Station set up as a house museum with interpretive displays depicting early Forest Service life. This visitor center will be open to public Friday, Saturday and Sunday from July 1 until Labor Day weekend.
Natural Bridge	10 Acres. Altitude 5150'. Interpretive site and picnic area with scenic overlooks and paved trails. There are dangerous ledges and cliffs at this site. The Natural Bridge footbridge is legal access to: Tepee Mountain, Contact Mountain, and Green Mountain.
Green Mountain Trail #94	Begins at the natural Bridge and accesses Green Mountain and the East Boulder Campground. Good condition, moderate difficulty
Grouse Creek Trail #14	Begins at the Main Boulder Station and accesses Nurses Lakes, Burris Flat & West Boulder Campground (7 miles) Difficult to follow access Burris Flat. About half the trail is on private land. Don't leave the trail unless you are on Forest Service land. Nice views of Mount Rae. Good condition; moderate difficulty.
Great Falls Creek Trail #18	Starts just below 2-Mile Bridge on the west side of Main Boulder Road. Trail ascends a number of switchbacks to scenic West Boulder Plateau (approx. 9 miles). From the Plateau the trail drops down Falls Creek to the West Boulder (18 miles). Trail has an elevation range of 5000'. Fair condition; narrow and rocky in spots; a late season trail due to lingering snow conditions. Moderate difficulty; medium use Wilderness.
Graham Creek Trail #117	Begins approximately 1/5 miles south of Falls Creek Campground on the east side of the Main Boulder Road and travels to the East Boulder Plateau (7 miles). On the plateau the trail intersects Picket Pin Road where mining activity occurs. Trail has an elevation range of 4300'. Fair conditions: parts are very steep. Strenuous difficulty; medium use.
Speculator Trail #21	Begins near Speculator Creek on the west side of Main Boulder Road and travels to Great Falls Creek Trail #18 in Falls Creek drainage (12 miles). Not recommended for pack and saddle stock due to numerous deep bogs. Difficult to follow in spots. Poor condition; very boggy. Moderate difficulty; low use.

Trail Name	Details of Hike
Placer Basin Trail #20	Starts 1 mile south of Camp-on-the-Boulder (church camp), immediately crosses a foot bridge across the Main Boulder River, traverses to the south and switchbacks and follows Hawley Creek to Breakneck Plateau, continues across East Boulder Plateau, and finally descends to Dry Fork Trail #13. Trail has elevation range of 2200'. Outstanding scenery on top of plateau. Two hitch racks at the Trailhead. Fair condition, steep, moderate difficulty; medium use.
Fourmile Trail #22	Travels from Fourmile Trailhead to Silver Pass (9 miles). Access to Meatrack Creek, Trail and Meadows, Mill Creek, Silver Lake, Fourmile Creek. Scenic view from Silver Pass. Access to Trail Creek Trail #231, silver Lake Trail #149, and USGS Trail #24. Feed bunk at Trailhead. Good condition; moderate difficulty. Heavy use summer and fall.
Trail Creek Trail #231	Connecting trail between Fourmile Trail #22 and Meatrack Trail #23 (2.5 miles). Mostly forested. Good condition; moderate difficulty; medium use.
Silver Lake Trail #149	Begins at junction with Fourmile Trail #22 and travels to Silver Lake (2.3 miles). Fair condition; steep and rocky. Difficult for stock in upper area near Silver Lake due to big rocks. Moderate difficulty; medium use.
Meatrack Trail #23	Accessed from Fourmile Trail #22. Goes to Meatrack Meadows (4 miles). Access to Trail Creek Trail #231 and USGS Trail #24. Normally good condition; rocky in spots; moderate difficulty. Heavy use, especially during hunting season.
USGS Trail #24	Travels from Silver Pass to Bridge Creek Trail #25 (12 miles). High elevation trail with many nice views of Boulder drainage. Fair condition; steep in places. Moderate difficulty; medium use.
Upsidedown Trail #26	Travels from Upsidedown Trailhead south of Hicks Park Campground to the scenic Lake Plateau (7 miles) to Rainbow Lakes (10 miles) and Lake Plateau (11 miles). Trail has elevation range of 3000'. Pack and saddle stock uses are encouraged to use East Fork Trail #27 and Rainbow Creek Trail #28 from Box Canyon to access the Lake Plateau. Good condition; numerous switchbacks. Moderate difficulty; high use in summer.
Bridge Creek Trail #25	Travels from Main Boulder Road near Bridge Creek to Bridge Lake (7.2 miles). Good condition in lower section. Section above USGS Trail #24 is steep in places. Moderate difficulty; medium use. There is a little parking at the trailhead, however parking is available withing walking distance of the trailhead.
Box Canyon	Altitude 6,650'. End of maintained county road. 4WD vehicle required past Box Canyon. 5 miles to independence (old mining town). Access to many trails and the Lake Plateau. Horse facilities at Box Canyon include loading dock and 4 feed bunks.
East Fork Boulder Trail #27	Begins at Box Canyon Trailhead and parallels the East Fork Boulder River to Slough Creek Divide (9 miles). This popular route is used to access the Lake Plateau via Rainbow Creek Trail #28, as well as the Slough Creek drainage on the Gardiner Range District. Good condition, little difficulty. High use summer and fall.
Rainbow Creek Trail #28	Travels from junction of East Fork Trail #27 to the Lake Plateau (8 miles). In conjunction with East Fork Trail #27, this is the most popular trail on the Yellowstone Ranger District. Good condition; moderate difficulty. High use in summer.
Trail Name	Details of Hike

Fist Creek Trail #211	Begins at junction of Rainbow Creek Trail #28 and travels to Fish Creek Divide (2 miles). Good condition; moderate difficulty. High use in summer.
Lake Columbine Trail #128	Travels from junction of Rainbow Creek Trail #28 to Columbine Pass (4 miles). Above the lake the trail ascends high, semi-open benches, affording pleasant vistas. Fair condition; occasionally steep and rocky. Moderate difficulty; medium use.
Copper Creek Trail #15	Begins (3 miles) south of Box Canyon off the Independence Road. Trail is an old sheep driveway that follows Cooper Creek to junction of Sheep Creek Trail #127, just below Hellroaring Divide (4 miles). Good condition; moderate difficulty; medium use.
Sheep Creek Trail #127	Starts ½ mile north of Independence and travels to Hellroaring Divide (4.2 miles). Ascends ridge between Sheep Creek & Copper Creek and transverses its length to the Divide, providing scenic views. Provides access to Hellroaring Creek on the Gardiner Ranger District. Good condition; steep and rocky near the top. Moderate difficulty; medium use.
Lower Sheep Creek Trail #257	Starts at the junction with Sheep Creek Trail #127 and travels to the southwest following Sheep Creek. It rejoins Sheep Creek Trail #127 (2 miles) on top of ridge between Sheep Creek and Copper Creek just below the Hellroaring Divide. Poor condition; some steep sections and some wet/boggy areas. Moderate difficulty; mainly horse use during hunting season.
Independence Trail #121	Travels from the Independence Mine area through high alpine meadows to the head of the East Fork Boulder and the junction with East Fork Boulder Trail #27. Fair condition; moderate difficulty; medium use.
Buffalo Divide #32	Begins south of the old town site of Independence and travels to Boulder Pass (3.5 miles). Provided access to the Buffalo Fork on the Gardiner Ranger District. Good condition; moderate difficulty.

WEST BOULDER DRAINAGE HIKING TRAILS

South of Big Timber on Hwy. 298

Davis Creek Trail #38	Begins at West Boulder Trailhead, crosses trail bridge at West Boulder Ranger Station, switchbacks through Forest Service horse pasture and transverses (¼ mile) of private land. Trail continues, paralleling Davis Creek, through intermittent timber and open meadows to Deep Creek Divide (10 miles). Panoramic views of Paradise Valley from the Divide. Visitors may encounter cattle on the lower section during the July-September grazing season. Good condition; easy-moderate difficulty. High use on lower section in summer and early fall.
Blacktail Creek Trail #337	Begins at junction of Davis Creek Trail #38 and travels to Elephanthead Mountain (3.2 miles) in intermittent timber and open meadows. Provides access to Blacktail Lake Trail #105. The upper half of the trail has switchbacks in steep terrain. Good condition; easy to moderate difficulty; medium use.
Blacktail Lake Trail #105	A short spur trail from the junction of Blacktail Creek Trail #37 to Black tail Lake (0.3 miles). Good condition; moderate difficulty; medium use.
West Boulder Trail #41	Travels south from West Boulder Trailhead through intermittent timer and open meadows to Mill Creek Pass (16.3 miles). Trail is on a relatively gentle grade until the final ascent of the pass, where it is fairly steep. Excellent views from the pass. Visitors may encounter cattle on the lower section during the July – September grazing season. Good condition; little difficulty. High use on lower section in summer and early fall.
West Fork of the West Boulder Trail #143	A 2.3 mile spur trail that starts at its junction with West Boulder Trail #41 about 13 miles south of the West Boulder Trailhead. It travels southwest mainly through timber to open meadows. Can be used to access the high elevation mountain peaks and small lakes. Used during hunting season. Fair condition, moderate difficulty.

EAST BOULDER DRAINAGE HIKING TRAILS

South of Big Timber on Hwy. 298

Lodgepole Trail #124	Trail begins at the end of Elk Creek Road #2606 and travels to Meyer Creek Divide (10 miles). Provided access to most trails in the Deer Creeks: West Fork Upper Deer Creek (Trail #108); Middle Fork Upper Deer Creek (Trail #112); Lower Deer Creek (Trail #5) ; and the Boone Peak Driveway #2 (parts of the driveway not maintained). Fair condition; moderate difficulty; medium use.
Green Mountain Trail #94	Accesses Green Mountain from the East Boulder drainage, beginning near the East Boulder Campground, and also from the Natural Bridge on the Main Boulder River (5.5 miles). Good condition; moderate difficulty; medium use.
Dry Fork Trail #13	Begins near end of East Boulder Road #205 and parallels the Dry Fork to Dry Fork Pass (7 miles). First 4 miles of the trail follow a dirt road and traverse some private land. Nice view from the Pass. Good condition, moderate difficulty; medium use, primarily during hunting season.
CRAZY MOUNTAINS	
North of Big Timber on Hwy. 191	
Big Timber Canyon Picnic Area	11 miles North on US 191; then west on Big Timber Canyon Road (8 miles). Undeveloped.
Big Timber Creek Trail #119	Travels from Halfmoon Campground to a 10,000' ridge below Conical Peak where it connects with Sweet Grass Creek Trail #122 (7 miles). Especially steep and rocky in sections above Twin Lakes. Good condition; rocky; wet and steep in sections. Moderate difficulty; high use in summer especially from trailhead to Twin lakes. Foot and horse travel only.
Blue Lake Trail #118	Begins at junction with Big Timber Creek Trail #119 and travels to Blue Lake (1.5 miles). Fair condition; rocky; moderate difficulty. High use in Summer. Foot and horse travel only.
Sweet Grass Creek Trail #122	Travels from junction of Big Timber Creek Trail #119 near Conical Peak to Sweet Grass Trailhead (11 miles). Provides access to Middle Fork Sweet Grass Creek Trail #123 and Sunlight Lake Trail #273. The headwaters of sweet Grass Creek are particularly scenic. Visitors may encounter cattle in the Sweet Grass Creek drainage during June – September grazing season. Good condition; rocky and wet in sections. Moderate difficulty; medium use. Foot and horse travel only.
Middle Fork Sweet Grass Creek Trail #123	Travels from the junction of Sweet Grass Creek Trail #122 to the Middle Fork Sweet Grass Divide above Campfire Lake (5.1 miles), and success Trespass Creek and the Shields River area on the Livingston portion of the District. Good condition; moderate difficulty, medium use. Foot and horse travel only.
Sunlight Lake Trail #273	Travels from the junction of Sweet Grass Creek Trail #122 to Sunlight Divide (3.9 miles). Trail section above Sunlight Lake to Divide and beyond not recommended for pack and saddle stock. Good condition; moderate difficulty. Medium use. Foot and horse travel only.
WEST BRIDGER CREEK AND DEER CREEK DRAINAGES	
Southeast of Big Timber off interstate Hwy. 90	
Derby Mountain Trail #126	Starts at the West Bridger rental cabin. Travels southwest toward Derby mountain. Goes around the east side of Derby Mountain and accesses Derby Road #6674. The trail terminates at Arch Rock. Fair conditions; moderate difficulty. Low use; primarily during hunting season and cattle grazing season.
Placer Gulch Trail #256	Starts on Iron Mountain Road #482 and travels east on an old 2-track mining road to the junction with the Lower Deer Creek Trail #5 (4 miles). Accesses Lower Deer Creek rental cabin. Vehicles greater than 40-inches wide prohibited from using road/trail. Good condition; moderate difficulty. Moderate use; mining activity next to trail; cattle grazing.
Lower Deer Creek Trail #5	Begins at the junction with Lodgepole Trail #124. Continues north along the Lower Deer Creek past the Lower Deer Creek rental cabin and provides access to West Bridger Trail #129. Placer Gulch Trail #256, and Tomato Can Trail #156 (10 miles).

	Fair condition; moderate difficulty; several creek crossings; may be unsafe during high water runoff periods. Low use, primarily during hunting season.
West Bridger Trail #129	Starts at junction with Lower Deer Creek Trail #5. Travels east over the Deer Creek – Bridger Creed Divide to the West Bridger Creek Road (3 miles). Accesses Lower Deer Creek rental cabin. Fair condition; moderate difficulty. Moderate use, primarily during hunting season and cattle grazing season.
Tomato Can Trail #156	Starts at junction with Lower Deer Creek Trail #5. Travels west up Tomato Can Gulch across Iron Mountain Road #482 to Red Mountain and terminates at Cherry Creek Road #206 (10 miles). Poor to fair condition; difficult to find a certain sections; moderate difficulty. Low use, primarily during hunting season and cattle grazing season.
West Fork Upper Deer Creek Trail #108	Starts at the end of the Cherry Creek Road #206. Travels south along the West Fork of Upper Deer Creek to junction with Boone’s Peak Stock Driveway Trail #2 (10 miles). Fair condition; moderate difficulty; several creek crossings; may be unsafe during high water runoff periods. Low use, primarily during hunting season and cattle grazing season.
Middle Fork Upper Deer Creek Train #112	Starts at junction with West Fork Upper Deer Creek Trail #108 and travels southeast along creek to junction with Boone’s Peak Stock Driveway Trail #2 (3.7 miles). Fair condition; moderate difficulty; hard to find in spots. Very low use; primarily during hunting season and cattle grazing season.