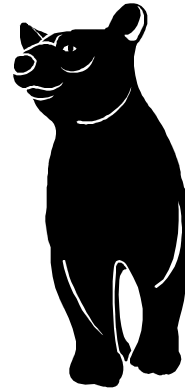
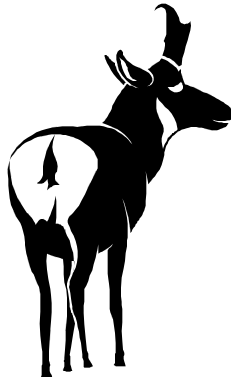


CAMP McMANIGAL

Trips & Trails



**2002 ANNUAL OBSIDIAN SUMMER CAMP
WIND RIVER MOUNTAINS, WYOMING
Saturday July 27 - Saturday August 3, 2002**



2000 - Written by Kent C. Tresidder for the Chemeketan annual outing
2002 - Revised edition adapted for the Obsidians by Royal Murdock

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This trail guide was originally compiled and written by Kent C Tresidder for the Chemeketan's 69th annual outing at the Wind River Mountains. Kent graciously gave permission to use and revise his guide to be relevant for the Obsidian's 2002 summer camp. Many thanks to Kent and the Chemeketans.

INTRODUCTION

Camp McManigal

This year the Summer Camp honors John and Lenore McManigal. Usually the camp is named for the current Obsidian president; Rick Ahrens however graciously suggested we honor the McManigals recognizing their long and faithful service to the Obsidians and to Summer Camps. Members since 1960, they have served and chaired committees, led climbs and trips, served as board members, chaired Summer Camp, and Lenore is the current Librarian/Historian for the club. Their family provides incredible support to the club and makes up about 10% of the Summer Camp's population.

Getting There: It is about 900 miles to get there. From here to Ontario, Oregon is approximately 390 miles and everyone knows how they are going to get there. From there, the shortest route to Twin Falls, Idaho is via I-84, I-86, and I-15. At Twin Falls go east on US 26 and follow the Snake River 90 miles to Hoback Junction, Wy. Then right, south-east on US 189/191 for 52 miles where US 191 leaves US 189. Left for 5 miles toward Pinedale where you turn left (north) at the sign Green Lakes Entrance, Bridger Wilderness, on state highway 352. North for 14.6 miles on 352 to the signed junction to New Forks Lake on the right. Turn right on the gravel road for 3.5 miles to just pass the Boy Scout camp on the right and on to the Group Camp on the left. It will be marked with the Obsidian sign.

A short cut on a gravel road could save you 20 miles. You would turn left (east) on Forty Rod Road at 46 miles after Hoback Junction on US 189. Forty Rod Road intersects state highway 352 where you turn left for about 8 miles to the turn off to camp. Forty Rod may not be signed.

Here is a recommendation to reduce the boredom of driving I-84, I-86, and I-15 across the hot and dry Snake River Plains from Boise to Idaho Falls. At Mountain Home, ID, turn north on US 20 and head east past Craters of the Moon National Monument, Arco, ID, and Idaho National (nuclear) Engineering Lab to Idaho Falls. The highway skirts the base of mountains and is a much more quaint and scenic route than the interstate. This route is actually 21 miles shorter but takes almost an hour longer to drive.

There is also a campground at Craters of the Moon about 20 miles west of Arco. Other campgrounds about half way there are:

- Billy Creek Reservoir, 10 miles west of Vale, OR
- Bruneau State Park, 20 minutes of I-84, about 1 hour east of Boise
- Three Island Crossing, just off I-84 at Glenn's Ferry Exit
- Massacre Rocks State Park, I-86, Exit 28

Campsite: Camp McManigal is located 1/2 mile west of New Fork Lakes and 1/2 mile south of its outlet, the New Fork River, in a small meadow at an elevation of 7800 feet, surrounded by pine trees. There are many shaded tent sites both close in and farther away as well as spaces for numerous RV's or trailers. Permanent facilities include fire grills, large picnic tables, vault toilets, and group campfire facility. Drinking water is located about 2 miles north at the Narrows Campground. We will be 24 miles (3 on gravel) of Pinedale, Wyoming.

The Area: The convoluted Wind River Range is founded on an igneous and metamorphic core. Tremendous compression in the earth's surface forced a huge block of granite upward. The glaciation and erosion which followed shaped the range, leaving cirques, kettles, U-shaped valleys, hanging troughs, and more than 2,900 lakes and ponds. Glaciation also left erratics, boulders scattered throughout the lowlands. The sedimentary rocks that once overlaid the granitic core of the range have largely been ground away from atop the granite by erosion. Remnants of the sedimentary overlay may be seen near Green River Lakes.

The Wind River Range cradles seven of the ten largest glaciers remaining in the contiguous United States. The range contains 48 summits higher than 12,500 feet, including 13,804-foot Gannett Peak, the highest point in Wyoming.

Approximately 994,000 acre-feet of water from the Green River and its tributaries originates in the Bridger Wilderness. The Green River joins the Colorado after 1500 miles, and empties into the Gulf of California. The Green River drains most of the west side of the Wind River Range. The Sweetwater River drains the southern end of the range and flows into the Platte River and ultimately the Gulf of Mexico. Just west of Three Waters Mountain (located north of Green River Lake), streams flow westerly into the Gros Ventre River, thence into the Snake and Columbia Rivers to the Pacific Ocean. The point from whence water flows in three continental directions is Three Waters Mountain. It, then, is the crown of the continent.

The 428,169 acre Bridger Wilderness extends approximately 80 miles along the Continental Divide on the west slope of the Wind River Mountain Range. The Fitzpatrick Wilderness, Wind River Indian Reservation, and Popo Agie Wilderness lie directly east of the Bridger. The Bridger was designated as a Primitive Area in 1931, making it one of the first Primitive Areas in the country. This area was expanded in 1937 to cover the southern portion of the Wind River Range. In 1964, with the passage of the Wilderness Act, 392,169 acres were designated as the Bridger Wilderness, making it one of the first Wildernesses in the National Wilderness Preservation System. In 1984, the Wyoming Wilderness Act increased the size of the Bridger Wilderness by 36,000 acres.

History: The upper Green River is an historically rich area. It is considered the heart of the Rocky Mountain fur trapping era during the 1830's. The Lander Cut-off of Oregon Trail passed through the area from famous South Pass. Further south, near Rock Springs, the transcontinental railroad passed. This was also an area of strife between Mormon settlers, emigrants and the U.S. Army.

Precautions: This is **high elevation area**, and your physical performance may be affected if you are not acclimated. Be sure to take it easy and drink extra fluids. If you do start to notice shortness of breath, fatigue, headaches or dizziness, get to a lower elevation as quickly as possible. Please be aware that natural water sources may contain Giardia lamblia or other bacteria. A fine filter (0.2 microns or less) is recommended for all water you use. Water from campground hydrants is regularly tested by the Wyoming State Health Department.

Roads: The Wind River area is remote from population centers. Except for Elkhart Parks, near Pinedale, trailhead access roads are unpaved and most are very rough but still passable for cars. Some trailheads are as much as 40 to 50 miles from the nearest town and services. Be prepared for a variety of road conditions, have a full tank of gas, good tires, spare, and food, clothing, and water. Help in a break down may be hours away. There are no telephones at trail heads, guard stations may or may not be staffed, and most trailheads are out of range for cellular phones.

Bears: Wyoming is home to both grizzly and black bears. A responsible attitude is essential for the safety of both the campers and the bears. Nuisance bears are destroyed. In camp, all food and other items that may attract bears (toothpaste, gum, perfume, etc.) must be kept in vehicles or hosted to a safe distance on tree lines and not in tents or around sleeping areas.

Weather: It can actually snow any day of the year in Pinedale! Visitors at any time of the year should come prepared for cold weather. Afternoon thunderstorms and rain showers are common in the summer and can build quickly. While summer days may be warm, nights are generally cool. Bring warm clothing. Also, bring and use sunscreen. At this high elevation sunlight is more intense than you are used to in Oregon and serious sunburns can happen quite quickly.

Things to Bring: Camping and hiking gear, lawn chair, clothes for warm, cold, and wet weather, cup, utensils, water container (2 to 5 gallons), solar shower bag, and biodegradable soap. Shower enclosure with four separate stalls will be provided as well as hand washing stands, dining table, and toilets.

Meals: Unless you are part of the advance, set-up committee, arrive no sooner than 12:00 noon on Saturday, July 27th. The first meal will be Saturday evening and the last will be a cold breakfast on Saturday, August 3rd, with lunch preparations also available. Fortunately Donald Burton will again prepare our food for his fourth year. We have been lucky to borrow Donald from the Colier House, U of O. The food will look, taste, and be superb as in the past three years. Paper plates and bowls will be provided. Most campers bring a cloth sack to hold utensils that can be hung after washing near the cook tent. Assisting Donald will be _____ and _____ will help with pots and pans.

Lunches: Lunch ingredients (meats, tuna, tofu pate, peanut butter, jams, breads, candies, dried and fresh fruit, plus paper and plastic sandwich bags) will be available before breakfast to prepare your lunch for the day. Hot water for the provided premium coffee may also be enjoyed before breakfast. Coffee filters and holders will also be provided but true coffee lovers bring their own for faster service.

Duties: Upon arriving in camp, check the bulletin board for your duties that will be randomly assigned by computer. A “responsible person” will provide written directions and supervision for the following duties: dish washing, lunch preparation and clean up, servers, table set up, and camp clean up.

For More Information: For general information write or call:

Pinedale Ranger Station 307/367-4326
USDA, Forest Service
Pinedale, WY 82941

Following are some key web sites with an abundance of information:

www.pinedaleonline.com <http://www.fs.fed.us/btnf/>
<http://www.publiclands.org/html/home.html>

Maps: There will be a complete display of maps on the bulletin board at camp for your reference. Other reference material will also be available.

References: Following are some publications featuring hikes, historical, and general information in western Wyoming:

A. Adkinson, Ron. Hiking Wyoming's Wind River Range. 1996. Falcon Publishing Inc. Helena, MT.

B. Woods, Rebecca. Walking the Winds. 1998. White Willow Publishing. Jackson, WY.

C. Mitchell, Finis. Wind River Trails. 1993. Wasatch Publishers. Salt Lake City, UT.

D. Hunger, Bill. The Hikers Guide to Wyoming. 1992. Call No. 796.5109787.

E. Bonney, Orrin H. Guide to Wyoming Mountains and Wilderness Areas. 1960. Call No. 917.87B643.

F. Burt, Nathaniel. Wyoming. 1995. Compass American Guides. Oakland, CA. (Call No. 917.87)

G. Pitcher, Don. Wyoming Handbook. 1993. Moon Publications, Inc., Chico, CA. Call No. (917.87)

H. Schmidt, Thomas & Blevins, Winfred. History from the Highways; Wyoming. 1993. Pruett Publishing Co., Boulder, CO. Call No. (917.87)

I. Moulton, Candy. Roadside History of Wyoming. 1995. Mountain Press Publishing Co., Missoula, MT.

J. Alden, Peter & Grassy, John. National Audubon Society Field Guide to the Rocky Mountain States. 1998. Alfred A. Knopf, New York

K. Colewell, Robert. Introduction to Water Trails in America. 1973. Stackpole Books.

L. Carter, Tom. Day Hiking the Wind River Range. 1997, ISBN 0-962953628.

Summary of Things to See and Do: There are many things to see and do in the area. Advanced planning will help you prioritize your options. If you have access to the internet, be sure to dial up the web sites listed above. A sampling of activities are listed and summarized below. These include scenic tours, bicycling, water activities, backpacks, hikes, and other points of interest. The objective of this guide is to provide you with the best tips and directions to get started.

SCENIC TOURS

We have proposed several auto tour possibilities which may be of interest to some.

1. Skyline Drive: (34 miles round trip from Pinedale): Starting in Pinedale, head up the hill on the road marked Skyline Drive. You'll pass the Museum of the Mountain Man (a place you'll definitely want to visit while you are here!) and begin climbing the rolling glacial moraine at the base of the Wind River Mountains. The large boulders (erratics) and mounds were left by glaciers several thousand years ago. After cresting a hill, you'll see Fremont Lake. Several more miles along Skyline Drive you'll come to an overlook of Half Moon Lake. The remaining 15 miles of windy and narrow road up to Elkhart Park, and the entrance to the Bridger Wilderness, are filled with scenic vistas of the Wind River Mountain Range. Several turnouts and overlooks offer beautiful views of Fremont Lake along the way. If you take a moment to pull over and walk around, you'll find wildflowers galore! Look for Indian Paintbrush (Wyoming's state flower), Columbine, Rocky Mountain Iris, Shooting Stars, Elephant Heads, and Lupine, among others. Picnic and restroom facilities are available at Elkhart Park. If you're looking for a fantastic day drive where you can see the skyline of the Wind River Mountains, don't miss this one! Be sure to bring your camera!

2. Lander Cutoff: Here you can follow the Lander Cutoff of the Oregon Trail and walk where wagons once rolled. The ruts are now filled with grass. Begin at the LaBarge Meadows Guard Station and follow the double-track Lander Cutoff Trail. The Commissary Ridge Trail forks south at about 1 mile. Stay on the double track. At about 2 1/2 miles there is a gravestone marked "ESTELLA BROWN LAYED TO REST JULY 29, 1891". You can continue on to Buckskin Knoll at about 7 miles or turn back at any point.

3. Atlantic City, South Pass City, and South Pass : These are historic areas, very interesting, and well worth a days excursion. South Pass is the major historic crossing of the Continental Divide where the first wheeled vehicle and the Oregon Trail crossed. These are two quaint and photogenic mining communities which still have a modicum of residents. You will be intrigued by the old historic buildings, mining structures, and churches. The scenic route is 89 miles southeast of Pinedale. Turn east on WY Hwy 353 at Boulder. The route becomes rough and dusty toward the end. You may return the easy, but longer, way on WY Hwy 28 over South Pass to Farson, then north on US 191 through Pinedale.

BICYCLING

There are several biking opportunities in the area. One is an all-day road trip near Pinedale and the others are trail rides.

Skyline Drive: This 34-mile round trip follows the road from Pinedale as it climbs to the Elkhart Park trailhead. Though paved, this road may be rough in places. Starting in town, head up the hill and pass the Museum of the Mountain Man. Begin climbing and peddle through a rolling, glacial moraine landscape. Soon Fremont Lake comes into view and, after several miles, there is an overlook of Half Moon Lake to the east. The last several miles of this trip are filled with views of the Wind River Range, scenic turnouts and viewpoints of 12-mile long Fremont lake. Picnic tables and restrooms are available at Elkhart Park at road's end.

Sweeney Creek/Grouse Mountain: These two mountain bike trails are short and can be combined. The trailhead is just beyond the Half Moon Lake overlook on Skyline Drive, northeast of Pinedale. The trail forks at the 3/4 mile mark. To the left is the forested Sweeney Creek Trail and to the right is the view-filled Grouse Mountain Trail.

Soda Lake/Spring Creek Park: This area north of Pinedale offers a series of interconnected mountain bike trails that wind through sage country, stands of pine and aspen groves. Consult a Bridger-Teton National Forest map for route ideas.

Boulder Basin: This area north of camp offers what is described as a great family mountain biking area with dirt roads and trails and moderate climbing.

New Fork Lake: The network of Forest Service roads around camp could provide plenty of mountain biking opportunities. Don't forget your national forest map.

Note: Additional biking information can be obtained from Dale Hill, owner of Pinedale Coast to Coast store. He's an avid mountain biker. It's always good to talk to the locals.

WATER ACTIVITIES

Following are descriptions of a few water activities in the area.

Showers: Following are the shower/bathing options:

1. The Pinedale High School (four blocks north on Tyler Ave., off Pine St.) has showers for \$1.00 per person. Public access is Mon. through Thurs. 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM.
2. Showers are available at Campground of Wyoming (private campground), 204 S. Jackson St. in Pinedale.
3. Showers are also available at Ox Yoke (private campground) in Boulder.
4. We will have our four unit shower stall set up at camp (your solar water warmer).
5. If you don't mind raising goose bumps, try New Fork Lake.

Hot Springs: Granite Hot Springs is a very pleasant developed hot springs located on Granite Creek about 70 miles from camp or an hour and a half drive one way. The Chemeketans sampled the springs on a rainy day during the 1991 Teton Outing at Crystal Creek and found it very delightful. To find it, drive back toward Hoback Junction about 60 miles, looking for a sign to Granite Creek on the right (north). Turn north and follow Forest Road 30500 about 9.5 miles to the end, where you'll find the facility.

Boating: There are more boating opportunities at this year's outing than at any outing in recent memory. Be aware that sudden winds and afternoon thunderstorms occur frequently on mountain lakes. Fishing for Lake Trout (Mackinaw), Rainbow Trout and Cutthroat Trout is excellent in all these lakes.

New Fork Lake: We will be camped near the southwest end of this hourglass-shaped lake. A leisurely trip along the shoreline and through the Narrows would reward paddlers with views of aspen groves, mountain scenery and the chance to see a moose munching on willows in the marshy area at the northeast end of the lake.

Lower Green River Lake: This liquid gem lies at the headwaters of the Green River. The 453-

acre lake was formed by glacial scouring and a moraine dam. There is a boat launch area near the campground. Paddlers can spend a day admiring the fabulous views of Square Top Mountain from anywhere on the lake.

Fremont Lake: The south end of this lake is only four miles from Pinedale. Photos of Fremont Lake show a landscape that is reminiscent of Washington's Lake Chelan. The lake is twelve miles long, one mile wide and has an average depth of 269 feet. Wind could be a definite hazard here for paddlers. Lakeside Lodge offers day and hourly rental of fishing boats, kayaks and canoes.

Half Moon Lake: Located about nine miles northeast of Pinedale, Half Moon Lake is another good canoeing option. The southeast arm looks like a good place to explore. Canoe and fishing boat rentals are available at Half Moon Lake Resort on the lake's north shore.

Green River: For skilled paddlers, the premier trip in this area is the 36-mile overnighter on the Green River. Put in at Whiskey Grove Campground, north of New Fork Lake. There will be some rock dodging and scraping at first and then the river settles down to a meandering course through high desert and sage country. Views include the Wind River Range to the east and rising hills to the west. In spots the clear water flows over a sand bottom. Fishing is excellent everywhere. Beavers, muskrats and moose are frequently seen along the banks.

After 15 river miles reach a bridge. A second bridge is reached after 21 miles. Camp is possible below here on public lands on the left bank. The river continues to wind its way through open country. A state fishing access is passed on the right about five miles below the last bridge. Camping possibilities here. The river picks up speed for the last 14 miles. Lots of public fishing access points on the right bank. The takeout point is at Warren Bridge Campground along US Hwy. 187/189. Be aware of willow sweepers all along the route.

Green River day trip: Those wanting to sample the Green River's charms for one day could scout out the public access points to get ideas and inquire locally.

OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

Why not try the **Museum of the Mountain Man** (1-877-686-6266) in Pinedale. It is open 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM Mon. - Fri. and chock full of interesting historical stuff! Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors, and \$2 for children 6-12.

Or how about the **Green River Valley Museum** at 206 N. Front St., Big Piney, WY? It's open June 15-October 15, Tuesday through Saturday 12:00-4:00. There is no admission charge but donations are greatly appreciated.

Killpecker Sand Dunes are one of the largest active sand dunes in North America. Dunes, up to 150 feet high, constantly change as east winds shift the sand. Their title comes from Killpecker Creek, reportedly named by the U.S. Cavalry in the 1860s because of its mineral water's effect on the troops. Check the camp resource book and maps for driving directions.

Seedskadee National Wildlife Refuge is an important local habitat for hundreds of species of birds, other animals and plants. It is located about 25 miles southwest of Farson along the Green River where State Hwy 28 crosses.

BACKPACKING

There are many excellent backpacking opportunities in the Wind River Range. We will highlight some of the most promising trips for you. Creative backpackers are encouraged to tailor their own trips. **Permits:** Overnight permits are required for organized groups camping in the wilderness. All organized groups (clubs, schools, church groups, scouts, etc.) are required to obtain a permit from the Pinedale Ranger District, PO Box 220, Pinedale, WY 82941, 307-367-4326. There is no charge for these permits as long as the groups are not commercial. You will need to provide the following information:

- Dates of trip
- Location of entrance, exit, and planned campsites
- Number of people in group (15 is maximum)

References (as listed in the “Introduction” section) are identified as an aid in planning your trip. Driving directions to trailheads are described in the “Day Hikes” section, below.

A. BEAVER PARK

Duration: 2 -3 days

Hiking Distance: 18 miles

Trailhead: (Green River Lakes)

Elev. Diff: 350'

Maps: USGS Green River Lakes, Squaretop Mountain. Earthwalk: Northern Wind River Range

References: A-39, B-161

Park-like meadows, superb views of towering Squaretop Mountain and tumbling streams characterize this easy trip. Despite its lofty name, the first nine miles of the Highline Trail gain very little elevation. The trailheads south along the eastern shores of lower and upper Green River Lakes. It continues south, paralleling the lovely Green River. Just before reaching Beaver Park, the trail crosses Elbow Creek and Pixley Creek. Both creeks are crossed via pole footbridges. There are several camping areas near the meandering river in Beaver Park. Backpackers might want to consider establishing a base camp at Beaver Park. There are walk-up routes on nearby Squaretop Mountain and Granite Peak. Peaceful Granite Lake would make a fine day hike destination from Beaver Park.

B. NATIVE LAKE

Duration: 2 - 3 days

Hiking Distance: 20.4 miles

Trailhead: (Green River Lakes)

Elev. Diff: 1,950'

Maps: USGS Green River Lakes, Downs Mountain. Earthwalk: Northern Wind River Range

References: B-70

This quiet corner of the Winds between Three Waters Mountain and Osborn Mountain makes a great base camp destination. The route follows the Highline Trail north from Green River Lakes and, at the 4.1 mile mark, heads east on the Roaring Fork Trail. Paralleling the river, the trail passes through Alexander Park and then arrives at Native Lake, 10.2 miles from the start. Camp spots can be found near the east shore. Day-hike explorations could be made from here to 10,739 foot Crescent Lake or to the 11,000 foot saddle east of Osborn Mountain for views of Bear Basin and surrounding peaks.

C. PORCUPINE/NEW FORK TRAILS

Duration: 2 - 3 days

Hiking Distance: 21.3 miles

Trailhead: (Green River Lakes)

Elev. Diff: 2,740'

Maps: USGS Green River Lakes, Squaretop Mountain, Kendall Mountain, New Fork Lakes.

Earthwalk: Northern Wind River Range.

References: A-54

This one-way trip includes the hanging valley which holds Porcupine Creek, the alpine beauty of Porcupine Pass and views of the craggy walls lining New Fork Canyon. A drop-off at Green River Lakes and a pick-up at New Fork Lakes trailhead will have to be coordinated. Be prepared for some rock-hopping or wading as this route crosses and recrosses streams. From Green River Lakes head south on the Lakeside Trail. At a junction at 2.7 miles, bear right to follow the Porcupine Trail.

After 5 miles the trail enters a long, scenic meadow full of wildflowers. Good camping here.

Ascending to Porcupine Pass, the trail enters subalpine environs before topping out at the 10,700 foot pass. Descend into a glacial bowl where the trail is sketchy and marked by cairns. At 12 miles, reach the junction with the New Fork Trail and bear right. The final leg of this trip descends New Fork Canyon. New Fork Park offers the best camping along this stretch.

D. NEW FORK /SUMMIT LAKE LOOP

Duration: 3 - 4 days

Hiking Distance: 35.2 miles

Trailhead: (New Fork Lakes)

Elev. Diff: 3,000'

Maps: USGS New Fork Lakes, Kendall Mountain, Squaretop Mountain, Gannett Peak. **Earthwalk:** Northern Wind River Range

References: A-61, A-46, A-83, B-80

This superb trip is an extended tour in the heart of the Wind River back country. The loop route features the meadows of New Fork Park, Lozier Lakes in their timberline basin, beautiful Summit Lake and a panorama of Continental Divide views. Much of the trip is above timberline. Follow the New Fork Trail to its junction with the Porcupine Trail at 9.3 miles. Bear right and ascend through Whitebark Pines to the flower-rich heights near Lozier Lakes. Continue east and enjoy what some consider to be the best mountain vistas in the entire region. Eventually join the Highline Trail at Trail Creek Park. Turn south and arrive at Summit Lake in 3 miles. Camping is good at this alpine gem. From Summit Lake follow the Double Top Mountain Trail west through more stunning alpine country. Turn right (north) at the junction with the Palmer Lake Trail. This trail segment will lead you back to the New Fork Trail in 3.3 miles. Retrace your steps from here down to the New Fork trailhead. Numerous camping sites exist all along the entire route. **Driving Directions:** (New Fork Lakes trailhead.)

E. TITCOMB BASIN

Duration: 3 - 4 days

Hiking Distance: 32.4 miles

Trailhead: (Elkhart Park)

Elev. Diff: 2,600'

Maps: USGS Fremont Lake North, Fayette Lake, Bridger Lakes, Gannett Peak, Fremont Peak South. Earthwalk: Northern Wind River Range.

References: A-92, A-107, B-97

The Titcomb Basin is the fabled Shangri-la of the Wind River Range. Glacially polished rocks, flowered meadows and jaw-dropping peaks will compete for your attention. Plan to camp away from lakes and trails to avoid the crowds. Start at Elkhart Park and follow the Pole Creek Trail to Eklund Lake. Turn left on the Seneca Lake Trail and pass Barbara Lake and Hobbs Lake before arriving at Seneca Lake, 9 miles from the start. This long, slender lake is a scenic delight. Views include Fremont Peak and Jackson Peak to the north. Turn left at a junction on the east shore of Little Seneca Lake. In less than a mile bear right on the Indian Pass Trail. Now enter a spectacular landscape that boasts more than a dozen alpine lakes and incredible views of the surrounding mountains. Island Lake, Pothole Lake and the chain of Titcomb Lakes all have good camping areas. It will take at least two days in this basin to sample its many charms and absorb all its beauty.

DAY HIKES

Preface: The day hikes have been organized by trailhead, in order from north to south. For your convenience, we will have a map posted in camp with the trailheads clearly marked. Each hike is identified by name and number (for example: No. A1 = Trailhead A, Hike # 1) and will list the following data:

- 1 Trailhead
- 2 The rating (easy, moderate, difficult, or extreme)
- 3 Hiking distance, round trip, except as noted.
- 4 Total elevation difference.
- 5 Highest elevation.
- 6 USGS Quad Map Names.
- 7 Trail number.
- 8 Reference and page number (A32 = Ref. A, page 32.)
- 9 A narrative of the trip features and driving directions.

The following criteria generally defines the hike rating:

An **easy** hike is no more than 5 round trip miles in length and involves no more than 1,000' elevation gain.

A **moderate** hike is more difficult than **easy** but no more than 10 round trip miles in length and involves no more than 2,000' elevation gain.

A **difficult** hike is more difficult than **medium** but generally not more than 15 round trip miles in distance or 3,000' elevation gain.

An **extreme** hike is off the scale. It is for those who have to see it at any cost.

Several of the numbered trips have more than one hiking option and are so noted. The adventuresome will undoubtedly want to chart their own trail or cross-country trip. If you'd like to do this, just remember to describe it adequately on the camp check-out sheet so that we can find you in the event you don't show up for dinner. There will be time around the evening campfire to share our various trail experiences for the benefit of all.

Registration: Registration boxes are provided at all major trailheads, and visitors are asked to please register at these stations, and to add your comments and suggestions. Registers are used as a management tool by the Forest Service to provide essential information on visitor use and preference.

Tips and Reminders: Bridger-Teton National Forest Service regulations limit hiking parties to no more than 15 people, though they prefer less.

In addition to wearing appropriate clothing and foot gear, and carrying lunch, water, rain gear, and extra warm clothing, the following "essentials" are highly recommended: Extra food and water insect repellent sun glasses sun screen flashlight & batteries fire kit first aid kit whistle toilet paper small shovel knife compass and map It is always wise to carry plenty of water. Of course, all native water should be treated or filtered.

A. Green River Lakes Trailhead

O/W Driving Distance: 34.5 miles **O/W Driving Time:** 45 minutes **Elevation:** 8,050'

Driving Directions: From Camp, drive 3.5 miles to Hwy. 352 and turn right (north). Continue north on Hwy. 352 past The Place at 6 miles and Moose Gypsum Road at 10.8 miles. The pavement ends shortly thereafter. Follow the graveled road and signs 20 more miles in a broad curve southeast to the parking area near Green River Lakes Campground.

A-1 Osborne Mountain

Trailhead: Green River Lakes

Rating: Extreme

Hiking Distance: 8.8 miles

Elev. Diff: 3,920'

High Elev: 11,880'

Quad: Green River Lakes

Trail No: Cross Country

Reference: B-73

This exhilarating hike provides a grand overview of the northern Winds. Mountain sheep and elk may be sighted along the way. There is no formal trail but the route up Mill Creek should not be too challenging for experienced overlanders. From Green River Lakes parking lot, head left (northeasterly) about 0.4 miles down to the bridge over the outlet. Take the left fork at a trail junction and go north on the Highline Trail (No. 094) about 1,800'. Watch for an unsigned path leading to the right, up the open hillside toward a large boulder (erratic). From the erratic, the path soon parallels the north side of Mill Creek, following it for about two miles to a crossing. Head south through timber for about 0.4 mile to a small saddle which lies east of Point 11,030 on the quad map. (Note: Leaders should take a copy of the quad map with them.) At this point the path vanishes in the rock. Head easterly up the high and broad plateau, watching for sheep, to commanding views at the 11,810 summit. Locals actually use this route as a shortcut to Faler lake on the east side of this huge mountain.

A-2 Green River Lake Loop
Trailhead: Green River Lakes
Rating: Easy
Hiking Distance: 5.7 miles
Elev. Diff: Negligible
High Elev: 8,160'
Quad: Green River Lakes
Trail No: 144, 094
Reference: A-39

This warm up hike provides great vistas of Green River Canyon and a grand view of 11,695' Squaretop Mountain. There is a small sandy beach at the upper end of the lake for little hikers (and possibly taller ones) to dabble in. The hike can be done either clockwise or counter-clockwise, of course, but we will describe it as a clockwise loop. The east side of the lake is mostly open sage while the west side is mostly timbered. From Green River Lakes parking lot, head left (northeasterly) about 0.4 miles down to the bridge over the outlet. At the trail junction just beyond, take the left fork (Highline Trail, No. 094) and head south along the east side of the lake. As you near the upper end of the lake you should be able to see White Rock Ridge up the canyon, a limestone remnant that preceded the uplifting of the Wind River Range 65 million years ago. At 1.9 miles you will come to the Clear Creek Trail junction. Stay right and descend a bit through willows to a footbridge across Willow Creek. At 2.7 miles you will come to a bridge over Green River and another trail junction just beyond. Take the right fork about 0.3 mile to the Porcupine Trail junction. Continue right on the Lakeside Trail (No. 144) along the west shore of Green River Lake to the parking lot. Look for the small sandy beach at the upper end of the lake for a place to refresh little hikers while you cool your feet.

A-3 Clear Creek Natural Bridge
Trailhead: Green River Lakes
Rating: Moderate
Hiking Distance: 8.2 miles
Elev. Diff: 500'
High Elev: 8,300'
Quad: Green River Lakes
Trail No: 184
Reference: A-48, B-74

This is one of two natural bridges in the Wind River Mountains. The other is located in the Wind River Indian Reservation where access is restricted. In addition to a natural bridge, this hike provides a variety of features representative of the Wind River Range; streams, meadows, lakes, wild flowers, and rugged peaks. The first two miles of this trail are described in Hike A2 (Green River Lake Loop), above. At the Clear Creek Canyon junction, continue left on the Clear Creek Trail (No. 184). After a mile of meadow and views, including Slide Creek Falls and Squaretop Mountain, you will come to a trail junction leading south to Slide Lake. Continue east (left) through a 1988 clear cut (actually a lightning fire) with young lodgepole pines. The trail follows Clear Creek to a limestone wall emanating from the north of Flat Top Mountain. The trail becomes less distinct as you approach the wall. Here Clear Creek passes through a small arch in this wall. Follow the path around the toe of the limestone wall to the east side where the best observation of the arch may be made. The easterly opening of the arch is much larger than the westerly exit and provides echoes of the roaring creek.

A-4 Slide Lake

Trailhead: Green River Lakes

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 11 miles

Elev. Diff: 1,700'

High Elev: 9,490'

Quad: Green River Lakes,

Trail No:094, 184, 1 47

Reference: A-51, B-74

Slide lake is located a beautiful setting, surrounded by Flat Top Mountain, Lost Eagle Peak and other high peaks. It is clear and full of brook trout. Along the way you will observe Fish Bowl Spring, the Tetons, and beautiful Slide Creek Falls. The first 2.9 miles of this trail are described in Hike A3 (Clear Creek Natural Bridge), above. Turn right (south) at the junction of Slide Lake Trail and cross a precarious footbridge over Clear Creek to a meadow with a view of 11,640' Forlorn Pinnacle to the northeast. Continue 0.3 mile to a ford of swift Slide Creek where the climbing begins. Slide Creek Falls appears halfway up the canyon, followed by views of the Tetons to the northwest, some 60 miles away. At about 4.4 miles from the trailhead, the grade moderates as you enter a meadow with views of Flat Top Mountain and Lost Eagle Peak. After entering timber again, the trail begins ascending gradually to Fish Bowl Spring, full of small trout. The route leads steeply from here, becoming rocky shortly before arriving at sapphire Slide Lake. Limestone cliffs south of the lake lie in contrast to the gneiss surrounding the rest of the cirque.

A5 Flat Top Mountain

Trailhead: Green River Lakes

Rating: Extreme

Hiking Distance: 15 miles

Elev. Diff: 3,880'

High Elev: 11,823'

Quad: Green River Lakes, Downs Mountain

Trail No:Cross Country

Reference: C-30, B-77

As a day hike, this is a long climb, not for the faint hearted. But, of course, the views are like gold, luring the congenitally adventuresome. This peak, reportedly first ascended by Finis Mitchell (Reference C) in 1962, is home to mountain sheep year round. Note: Leaders should take a copy of the quad map with them. First, hike to the end of the trail at Slide Lake (refer to Hike No. A4, above). Then begin the overland leg by proceeding around the east side of the lake where the hiking is reasonably easy. Continue beyond the lake, following the inlet, to the first stream entering from the left (north). Cross this stream and, staying left, follow it northerly up to a basin with three small lakes. Climb north out of the basin, circling to the west, where you should find yourself on a high, broad mesa. Your climbing is pretty much over at this point. But there is still a lot of distance between you and the summit. Head westerly to Ram Pass, a narrow walkway between cliffs dropping off to the north and south. Follow the sheep trails to the true summit of Flat Top and along the rim if you have time. If you are into photography, bring at least one extra roll of film. Unless you have hardware and time, there are no short cuts back. This mountain is surrounded by precipitous drop-offs on all sides but the one you came up.

A-6 Twin, Shirley & Valaite Lakes
Trailhead: Green River Lakes
Rating: Difficult
Hiking Distance: 12.6-13.8 miles
Elev. Diff: 2,080'-2,280'
High Elev: 10,080'
Quad: Green River Lakes
Trail No:144, 137
Reference: A-78, B-54

These scenic, but less traveled, lakes lie at the foot of 11,618' Big Sheep Mountain. Lush meadows along the way are filled with assorted wild flowers. Vistas include Desolation and Flagstone Peaks and Mt. Solitude along the Continental Divide and Squaretop Mountain above Green River. (A geographical side note: There are at least two Squaretop Mountains in the Winds. The Squaretop we will see is 11,695' and situated above Green River. Square Top [two words] is 11,570' and situated northeast of the Continental Divide above Jakeys Fork.) From the parking lot, head right along the western side of the lake where Flat Top Mountain dominates the skyline to the east. At 2.4 miles you will find a tail junction with an unmarked trail leading left. Ignore the temptation and continue right to a crossing of Porcupine Creek at 2.8 miles. After a second crossing, the trail begins an 800' ascent through spruce and pine forests to a junction with Twin Lakes Trail in an opening at 4.2 miles. This is a tricky junction to spot. As the trail turns toward Porcupine Creek, look for a small signpost across the creek and up a small draw in a pretty wild flower meadow. Cross the creek, pause, pull out the gorp and maps, and prepare to ascend. From here, the trail switchbacks through limber pine, emerging to views of the Continental Divide. At 6.3 miles you will have accomplished the first prize, the Twin Lakes. The trail continues 0.4 mile to Shirley Lake. Heck, you're this far. Why not continue on a the path around the north side of Shirley Lake to Valaite Lake, another 0.2 mile? This lake lies in an exposed cirque with Sheep Mountain towering to the west and the best views of the trip. The unsatisfied few wishing more adventure may want overland a mile to Gadsby's Lake, enclosed by the cliffs of Battleship and Big Sheep Mountains.

B. New Fork Lakes Trailhead

O/W Driving Distance: 2 miles **O/W Driving Time:** 3.5 minutes **Elevation:** 7,895'
Driving Directions: From camp, drive two miles east to the end of the loop at Narrows Campground.

B-7 New Fork Beach
Trailhead: New Fork Lakes
Rating: Easy
Hiking Distance: 3 miles
Elev. Diff: 265'
High Elev: 8,000'
Quad: New Fork Lakes
Trail No:137
Reference: A-61

Newport Beach? No, this is New Fork Beach, a great place for little hikers. This sandy beach at the head of New Fork Lakes makes a great destination for leisurely hikers. It's a very short trip from camp. In fact, you can even hike to it from camp if you'd like to add 4 more round trip miles. From the trailhead, go easterly on the New Fork Lake trail, above the north side of the lake through groves of aspen and open sage. The trail soon drops to the upper end of the lake where the beach may be accessed. Keep in mind that wind may be a determining factor in your afternoon plans.

B-8 New Fork Lookout Point

Trailhead: North Fork Lakes

Rating: Moderate

Hiking Distance: 9.4 miles

Elev. Diff: 2,000'

High Elev: 9,638'

Quad: New Fork Lakes, Kendall Mountain

Trail No: None

Reference: None

Great views of the Boulder Basin to the north, the Green River valley to the west, New Fork Lakes to the southwest, and high peaks to the east, including a closeup of Kendall Mountain, should be available from this point. The Tetons may also be visible from here as well. This trail is not discussed in any of the literature but we're proposing it for the adventuresome. The first 1.5 miles of this trail are described in Hike B7 (New Fork Beach), above. A half mile beyond the beach and past a willow swamp you will come to an intersection where the Lowline Trail (No. 131A) forks right (southerly), the New Fork Trail (No. 137) continues straight ahead, and the Boulder Basin Trail (no number) forks to the left. Turn left (northerly) at this intersection on the Boulder Basin Trail. This trail is probably seldom-used, unmarked, and not easily seen. It meanders up about 1.7 miles through timbered slopes. In the last mile, the path enters an area of scattered trees with intermittent views. The route may be more difficult to follow here. Views should intensify at the top of this 9,638' natural observatory. The trail continues down the back side of New Fork Lookout Point to Boulder Basin, Pot Creek Park, and Kim Rush Park. All of these glades should be visible from the top.

B-9 New Fork Park

Trailhead: North Fork Lakes

Rating: Moderate to Difficult

Hiking Distance: 10-14 miles

Elev. Diff: 400'-1,000'

High Elev: 8,800'

Quad: New Fork Lakes, Kendall Mountain, Squaretop Mountain

Trail No: 137

Reference: A-61, B-80

This very dramatic day hike courses a broad canyon with some of the most striking mountain walls in the range. New Fork Park lies at the east base of 11,234' Dome Peak, which towers precipitously over the landscape. Double Top Mountain lies to the southeast. Much of the trail is open, providing great views and sun exposure. The first 1.5 miles of this trail are described in Hike B7 (New Fork Beach), above. A half mile beyond the beach and past a willow swamp you will come to an intersection with the Lowline Trail. Continue straight (northeasterly) up the canyon through intermittent aspen and pine. At 2.6 miles the trail crosses a tributary and at 3.4 miles it enters the Bridger Wilderness. The canyon begins narrowing at this point. After crossing several more tributaries, the trail fords to the south side of New Fork River at 5.4 miles and back to the north side again at 6.1 miles. These crossings may be a bit tricky. Some folks bushwhack on the north side but numerous boulders make this a difficult task. Shortly after the last crossing the canyon opens up again as you enter the beautiful long meadow of New Fork Park and broad vistas of the surrounding peaks. This hike may seem a bit long to some but consider that there is little elevation difference. And, hey, how far did you drive to get to the tailhead? You'll have time for a nap.

B-10 Rainbow Lake

Trailhead: North Fork Lakes

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 13 miles

Elev. Diff: 2,400'

High Elev: 10,200'

Quad: New Fork Lakes, Fremont Lake North

Trail No: 131

Reference: B-185, A-66

Martin Park and Rainbow Lake are located in a high alpine setting at the head of Willow Creek. Double Top mountain is about two miles beyond the lake and only 700' higher for the more ambitious. The literature on this trail is skimpy, but judging from the quads, it appears to be an attractive area of scattered pine and rock. In any event, it is probably a lonesome trail.. The first 2 miles of this trail are described in Hike B9 (New Fork Park), above. At the intersection with the Lowline Trail, two miles from the trailhead, turn south (right) on the Lowline (No. 131A). Soon you will have to ford the meandering New Fork River and fight your way through willow thickets to high ground on the south side. Here some serious climbing begins, switchbacking through timber for more than a mile. At about four miles you will come to the junction of Double Top Mountain Trail (No. 131) forking sharply to the north (left). Take this left fork, which begins climbing again. Eventually the trail joins Willow Creek and follows it to Martin Park, a small open meadow of wild flowers. Rainbow Lake is less than a half mile beyond. The whole area around the lake is a series of terraced meadows, providing exploratory opportunities..

C. Spring Creek Park Trailhead

O/W Driving Distance: 36.7 miles **O/W Driving Time:** 57 minutes **Elevation:** 8,230'

Driving Directions: From Camp, drive 3.5 miles to Hwy. 352 and turn left (south). Drive to the west edge of Pinedale, looking for a WY Fish and Game sign pointing north (left) to Soda Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area. Turn left and drive a quarter mile through a residential area to the end of the street where Sublette County Road 23-119, a good quality graveled road, begins. Follow this occasionally washboard road, avoiding a right turnoff to the Wildlife Habitat Management Area at 5.1 miles and another right turnoff to Soda Lake at 6.7 miles. At 9.4 miles from Pinedale you will pass a Bridger National Forest sign. Just beyond, turn right on Forest Road 10053 to Spring Creek Park and crawl the remaining 2.5 miles to a spacious parking area. The last 0.6 mile of road is typical Rocky Mountain rugged road. If you have an iron horse (or the real thing) you may drive further beyond the parking area.

C-11 Snake Lake

Trailhead: Spring Creek Park

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 10 miles

Elev. Diff: -1,100'

High Elev: 8,440'

Quad: Fremont Lake North

Trail No: 127, 128

Reference: C-46, A-74

The trailhead is described in the literature but not the trail itself. Snake Lake is located in an open basin up the glaciated canyon above Willow Lake. You are not likely to see anyone else on the way to your destination which appears, from the quad map, to be an attractive area with wild flowers,

meadows, and ponds. The negative elevation difference means that you will be climbing at the end of the day. From the Spring Creek Park trailhead, follow an abandoned road about 0.9 mile uphill 210' to a signed junction, southwest of two ponds in Spring Creek Park. Take the left fork toward Trapper Lake. After 1,500 feet you may see a trail forking to the right through the cow clad meadows. Continue straight ahead, looking for the Willow Lake Trail (No.127) junction to your left at about 2,000 feet from the first signed junction. If you find a fenced-in cabin, you've gone about 1,000' too far. Turn left (north) at this junction and proceed past another pond and meadow. The trail soon begins to switchback 740' down the steep glaciated south slope of Willow Lake to a meadow at the head of the lake. The trail leads northerly through the meadow almost a mile before crossing Lake Creek. Just beyond this crossing you should find the Snake Lake Trail (No. 128) junction to the right. Go right, following Lake Creek gently uphill a little over a mile to Snake Lake.

C-12 Trapper Lake

Trailhead: Spring Creek Park

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 15 miles

Elev. Diff: 2,200'

High Elev: 9,685'

Quad: Fremont Lake North

Trail No:None

Reference: A-81

This is a little-used trail, probably because it doesn't have the dramatic peak views of other trails. It is a peaceful trail, however, through forest and flower-strung meadows. The first mile of this trail is described in Hike C11 (Snake Lake), above. About 0.3 mile beyond the Glimpse Lake junction you will see a fenced-in cabin where the meadow narrows. At 2.3 mile from the trailhead look for a "No Motor Vehicles" sign and a trail forking right. Take this right fork which gradually climbs through a lodgepole pine forest to a broad ridge top, then drops more steeply to Trapper Creek at 4.5 miles. The trail crosses the creek here, then recrosses it after 0.7 mile and skirts a series of long meadows, bounded by the granite slopes of 10,361' Pine Mountain to the west. Eventually you will climb steeply out of the canyon, on a rough trail segment, to a junction. The trail is badly here. The left fork leads east one mile to Section Corner Lake. The right leads 0.2 mile west to Trapper Lake. At the lake you will find yet another junction. The left fork leads to Trail and Heart Lakes. The right leads to Glimpse Lake and may be combined with Hike C13 (Glimpse Lake) for a long loop hike.

C-13 Glimpse Lake

Trailhead: Spring Creek Park

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 12 miles

Elev. Diff: 1,520'

High Elev: 9,500'

Quad: Fremont Lake North

Trail No:166

Reference: A-73

A scenic hike, a pretty subalpine lake, and an outstanding viewpoint make this a high priority hike. The first mile of this trail is described in Hike C11 (Snake Lake), above. At the signed junction in Spring Creek Park, take the right fork. Go around the pond to another junction on a small ridge 0.3 mile beyond. Stay right and continue gradually up the high ridge above the northwest side of Fremont Lake. The way is alternately graced with aspen, lodgepole, and sage with great vistas of Soda and Fremont Lakes, Pine Creek and Fremont gorges, and the high peaks of the Continental

Divide to east. Eventually, you will see Glimpse Lake, surrounded by whitebark pine, aspen, and boulders. The trail drops 150' to the lake's outlet and swings to the east side to join the Pine Creek Canyon Trail (No. 165) on a low ridge. To gain fantastic views of Fremont Creek canyon, Long Lakes, and the road to Elkhart Park winding below, turn right at the junction and follow the trail south 300 yards along the ridge to the Crows Nest Lookout. This hike is the northern portion of Hike D14 (Pine Creek Canyon X-Key), below.

D. Elkhart Park Trailhead

O/W Driving Distance: 39.8 miles **O/W Driving Time:** 55 minutes **Elevation:** 9,350'

Driving Directions: From Camp, drive 3.5 miles to Hwy. 352 and turn left (south). Drive to the east edge of Pinedale, looking for a prominent sign to Half Moon and Fremont Lakes. Turn northeast onto Fremont Lake Road and, ignoring turn-offs to Fremont Lake, Half Moon Lake, and a ski area, follow the paved road 14.9 miles to Elkhart Park. Shortly before arriving at Elkhart park, you will pass a dramatic viewpoint. The road forks about 200 yards beyond an A-framed visitor information center. The left fork leads to Trails End Campground and the north parking lot for the Pine Creek Canyon Trailhead (Hikes D14 and D15). The right fork leads a short distance to the south parking lot for the Pole Creek Trailhead (Hikes D15 to D18). This is the highest and most popular trailhead on the west side of the Winds.

D-14 Pine Creek Canyon X-Key

Trailhead: Spring Creek Park & Elkhart Park

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 12 miles

Elev. Diff: 1,950'-2,100'

High Elev: 9,500'

Quad: Fremont Lake North

Trail No: 165, 166

Reference: A-73, A-111

This infrequently-used trip connects the high trailhead north of Fremont Lake with the high trailhead south of the lake, providing the opportunity to see several attractive lakes, the scenic Pine and Fremont Creek canyons, and lingering vistas along a section of ridge trail. Two great hikes may be experienced for the effort of one. (For the uninitiated, a cross key hike is one in which the first party begins at one end and a second party begins at the other end. When they meet on the trail, they exchange vehicle keys and continue on, driving the other parties' vehicle back to camp.) This route, however, is so rough and steep that it is not recommended for stock. The northern half of the hike is described in Hike C13 (Glimpse Lake), above. The southern portion of the hike to Long Lake is described in Hike D15 (Long Lake), below. From Long Lake, the trail continues at a more moderate descent, following Fremont Creek about a half mile to its confluence with Bridger Creek. About 0.6 mile beyond Long Lake, you will come to a trail junction. The left fork leads 1.5 miles down to a campsite on Fremont Lake. Continue on the right fork, crossing Pine Creek just below its confluence with Fremont Creek, at 7,550', and begin your long ascent to the north rim. The route switch-backs two miles up a southern slope which is sparse on forest cover but long on views. The trail joins Miller Creek, the outlet of Glimpse Lake, and climbs up to the canyon rim at Crows Nest Lookout. Pause here to drink of the bounteous vistas available. The junction with Glimpse Lake Trail (No. 166) is only 300 yards beyond.

D-15 Long Lake

Trailhead: Elkhart Park

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 4.6 miles

Elev. Diff: -1,405'

High Elev: 9,350'

Quad: Fremont Lake North

Trail No: 165

Reference: B-94, A-111

This mile-long lake lies in a narrow, steep-walled canyon. Along the way are great views of Fremont Lake, cascading Faler Creek, and a diversity of wild flowers in intervening meadows. This is a steep but popular hike. Note, as indicated by the negative elevation difference, the climbing on this hike occurs after lunch. From the north end of the parking lot the Pine Creek Canyon Trail descends quickly into a grassy draw, crosses Faler Creek, and soon enters the Bridger Wilderness. The path veers north, away from the creek, on a gradual but rocky descent before starting a sharp drop, switch-backing through mixed conifer and aspen stands to join the creek's steep ravine again. The trail is steep in this section and can be dangerous if wet. The route strays from Faler Creek again, crosses a small saddle and descends steeply down a timbered draw. The grade moderates somewhat as you approach the lower end of 7,875' Long Lake. It's possible to reach the north side of the lake by hiking 0.4 mile north of the west end of the lake, crossing the outlet, and overlanding to the right (east). Or, if you're looking for more, continue about 0.6 mile beyond Long Lake more gradually downward to a crossing of Pine Creek just below its confluence with Fremont Creek, at 7,550'. Just before crossing the bridge is a trail junction with the left fork leading 1.5 miles down to a campsite on Fremont Lake.

D-16 Photographers Point

Trailhead: Elkhart Park

Rating: Moderate

Hiking Distance: 9 miles

Elev. Diff: 1,000'

High Elev: 10,350'

Quad: Fremont Lake North, Bridger Lakes, Fayette Lake

Trail No: 119

Reference: A-92, B-97

Terrific views from 12,068' Glover Peak to the northwest to 13,517' Jackson Peak to the northeast and the steeply glaciated Fremont Creek canyon are the rewards of this moderate hike. There are flower-laced meadows, rock domes, and numerous ponds in the vicinity of the viewpoint. Elkhart Park is the highest trailhead on the west side of the Winds and one of the most popular, as well. The Pole Creek Trail begins at the northeast corner of the parking lot. The first 3.3-mile section of the trail is in a deep forest and easy walking. As you approach the draw of Faler Creek, small meadows, Engelmann spruce, and increasing rockiness appear. At 2.8 miles you will cross into Bridger Wilderness. About 2,000 feet beyond, the trail gently ascends the upper end of Miller Park where you will get your first glimpses of the high continental peaks, including 13,745' Fremont Peak. You will also pass the signed junction, leading right to Miller Lake, on the southeast side of the meadow. After another 0.5 mile you will enter a drier meadow with increasing views southeast along the huge Wind River Range. The trail continues climbing gradually through increasingly sparse terrain, interspersed with small meadows and tarns, to a prominent bend in the trail where the panorama suddenly appears. The northeastern horizon is dominated by the rugged and glacier-draped peaks of the continental divide. Fremont Creek and Pine Creek canyons lie far below. Photographers Point can be seen about 1,400' to the north. The adventuresome may want to cross-country down for more dramatic views up and down Fremont Creek canyon.

D-17 Barbara & Eklund Lakes

Trailhead: Elkhart Park

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 11.6 miles

Elev. Diff: 1,150'

High Elev: 10,350'

Quad: Fremont Lake North, Bridger Lakes, Fayette Lake

Trail No: 119, 123

Reference: A-92, B-97

Here are a pretty set of small lakes lying in subalpine country. This hike lies just outside the parameters of a moderate hike. It really should not be a difficult trip for acclimated hikers. Most of this trip is described in Hike D16 (Photographers Point). From the overlook of Photographers Point, continue gradually upward on the Pole Creek Trail about 0.9 mile through scattered spruce and whitebark pine to the signed junction leading right to Sweeny Lakes. Go left (east), up and over a sharp rise 0.2 mile to the junction of Seneca Lake Trail, which forks left (north). The right fork (Pole Creek Trail) leads down through the timber a short distance to Eklund Lake. Grand views of the continental divide are reflected from the lake on the southwest side. To see Barbara Lake, continue just 1,300' north on the Seneca Lake Trail. If you have energy remaining, you can go back to the Sweeny Lakes Trail (Hike D18, below) and take that loop back.

D-18 Miller & Sweeny Lakes

Trailhead: Elkhart Park

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 10.9 miles

Elev. Diff: 1,250'

High Elev: 10,350'

Quad: Fremont Lake North, Bridger Lakes, Fayette Lake

Trail No: 119, 173, 121

Reference: A-116, B-97

This hike has all of the spectacular scenery of Hikes D16 (Photographers Point) supplemented with three more lakes and several additional tarns. These lakes may be visited by themselves as a loop hike or in conjunction with Hike D17 (Barbara & Eklund Lakes), above. This hike lies just outside the parameters of a moderate hike. It really should not be a difficult trip for acclimated hikers. The first 3.3 miles of this trip is described in Hike D16 (Photographers Point). At the junction with the Miller Lake Trail (No. 173), bleeding to the right (southwesterly), you have a choice as to whether to make the loop clockwise or counter-clockwise. We will describe it as a clockwise loop, continuing easterly on the Pole Creek Trail about 1.2 miles to the Photographers Point overlook. Be sure to pause here long enough to quench your thirst for panoramic vistas. When satisfied, continue about 0.6 mile to another trail junction near a tarn with the right (southerly) fork leading to Sweeny Lakes (Trail No. 121). This trail descends about 250' through openings to Upper Sweeny Lake, perhaps the prettiest of the trio, then follows its outlet to Middle Sweeny Lake. At another trail junction just short (north) of the middle lake, keep right on Trail No. 173 to Miller Lake as it turns westward, passing several tarns, then follows along the south shore of Miller Lake to its outlet. After crossing the outlet and curving right (north) around the western side, the path begins a northwesterly climb of about 280', switchbacking out of the basin to join the Pole Creek Trail again. Pause at the open saddle to look back at the spectacular southern length of the Winds. For those wishing more adventure, the left (southwesterly) fork at the trail junction north of Middle Sweeny Lake is the Sweeny Creek Trail which passes several other Sweeny Lakes in a little over a mile.

D-19 Marys Lake

Trailhead: Elkhart Park

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 12.6 miles

Elev. Diff: 1,250'

High Elev: 10,400'

Quad: Fremont Lake North, Bridger Lakes, Fayette Lake

Trail No: 119, 123

Reference: A-119, B-97

Here is yet another attractive, subalpine lake accessible via the Pole Creek Trail. You will experience the grand panorama of Photographers Point and pass Ecklund Lake with a dramatic view of the high peaks reflected in its waters. The route to Ecklund Lake is described in Hike D17 (Barbara & Ecklund Lakes), above. From the junction of Seneca Lake Trail, which forks left (north), continue right on the Pole Creek Trail which leads down through the timber a short distance to Ecklund Lake and around the rocky yet meadow-adorned southwest shore. The path begins switchbacking through timber to openings which afford views north and northwest of rugged peaks surrounding the revered Titcomb Basin and Fremont Creek. Soon you will pass several tarns, flower filled meadows, and granite projections with 11,857 Mount Baldy dominating the landscape to the southeast. Marys Lake lies in the midst of this mountain euphoria.

E. Boulder Lake Trailhead

O/W Driving Distance: 49 miles **O/W Driving Time:** 70 min. **Elevation:** 7,300'

Driving Directions: From Camp, drive 3.5 miles to Hwy. 352 and turn left (south). Drive 21 miles to Pinedale and continue southeast on Hwy 191 another 12 miles to Boulder. Turn northeast onto WY 353 for 2.4 miles and drive to the signed junction of Boulder Lake Road on the left (north).

Turn north onto this gravel road and drive 6.8 miles to the Bridger National Forest sign. Beyond, the road is rocky and rough the next 3.1 miles to Boulder Lake Ranch. At this point, take a left fork and climb 0.1 mile to the top of a moraine and another fork in the road. Take right fork and go 0.2 mile to the trailhead at the Backpack Assembly Area in an aspen grove north of the road.

E-20 Blueberry Lake

Trailhead: Boulder Lake

Rating: Moderate

Hiking Distance: 5 miles

Elev. Diff: 1,165'

High Elev: 8,480'

Quad: Scab Creek, Horseshoe Lake

Trail No: 191, 172

Reference: B-87, C-67

This lake, formerly referred to as Ruff Lake, is not well described, but from the quad map, it appears to lie in a pretty wooded setting with large meadows at its upper end and several low peaks beyond. It should make a pleasant warm-up hike. From the Boulder Lake parking lot, follow the signs to North Fork Trail (No.191) and crossing a bridge over Boulder Creek to a campground on the other side. The trailhead is at the north end of the campground loop road. The trail begins meandering through the woods for 0.2 mile and crosses a stream before beginning an earnest climb. At 0.7 mile you will find the junction of Blueberry Lake Trail (No. 172). Take the right fork (heading northeasterly) and continue to climb through scattered openings where you should get nice views of Boulder Lake over your shoulder. The trail skirts a low knob on the right and levels out the remaining half mile to the lake. There are undoubtedly fisherman trails which will lead you around the lake but the main trail leaves the lake, never to return.

E-21 Coyote Lake Loop

Trailhead: Boulder Lake

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 11 miles

Elev. Diff: 2,300'

High Elev: 9,620'

Quad: Scab Creek, Horseshoe Lake

Trail No: 191, 172

Reference: B-87, C-68

This loop traverses through elk and moose country. It passes numerous openings, including boggy wild flower meadows. In addition to Coyote Lake, hikers should get good views of Boulder Lake, Cross Lake, Lovatt Lake, Blueberry Lake, and lesser ponds. The first 0.7 mile of this loop is described in Hike E20 (Blueberry Lake), above. We will describe this hike as a clockwise loop. From the junction with Blueberry Lake, continue straight ahead (north) on the North Fork Trail (No. 191), climbing steeply to a nice overlook of Boulder Lake. The trail moderates somewhat and intersects the Lowline Trail at 1.7 miles. Continue right on the North Fork Trail following posts erected as trail markers through a large sage opening. After entering a forested draw, you will come to the Bridger Wilderness boundary at 2.8 miles. Shortly after crossing a creek and topping a rise, you find a social trail leading right down to Blueberry Lake. Don't bother. You'll be passing this lake on the downhill leg of the loop. Continue up the ridge above the lake, contour a ways, then drop to cross its feeder creek twice by 3.8 miles. After a short climb through pine, you'll enter a mile-long section of boggy areas, home of moose (and mosquitoes). You will come to a junction of Horseshoe Lake Trail (No. 192) at the west edge of Coyote Lake. Continue right on Blueberry Lake Trail (No. 172) around the west shore of Coyote Lake and cross its outlet. The trail curves easterly around a knoll then turns sharply south to pass between two lakes, the eastern one being Cross Lake. Continuing south, the trail passes another small lake and crosses a forested rise to break into a small opening where you should have a good overlook of Lovatt Lake. Social trails may go down to the lake's shore but the main trail does not. From this overlook the trail generally follows a forested ridge almost 3 miles down to Blueberry Lake. Refer to Hike E20 (Blueberry Lake) for a description of the last segment of this loop.

E-22 Horseshoe Lake

Trailhead: Boulder Lake

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 14.4 miles

Elev. Diff: 2,360'

High Elev: 9,620'

Quad: Scab Creek, Horseshoe Lake

Trail No: 191, 172

Reference: B-87, C-68

Here is a long hike that can be done as an up-and-back, a simple loop, or a figure eight loop via 9,679' Lake George. If the latter is done, add about 200' elevation gain and 0.7 mile to your trip. This hike has all of the amenities of Hike E21 (Coyote Lake Loop), above, but with the addition of Horseshoe Lake and some smaller lakes and meadows in between. Refer to Hike E21 for a description of the route to Coyote Lake. It is almost two more miles to Horseshoe Lake at the Blueberry Lake Trail (No. 172) junction. Continue left (north) through a pass then past two small lakes and several tarns to the open south end of Horseshoe Lake. You will see several trail junctions along the way but just stay on the northerly course. If you wish to pass Lake George on your return, follow the trail leading southeasterly from the Horseshoe Lake. It returns to the Horseshoe Lake Trail just north of Coyote Lake. The loop past Cross, Lovatt, and Blueberry Lakes is the recommended route back. Hike E21 described this section.

E-23 Boulder Canyon to Ethel & Dougway Lakes

Trailhead: Boulder Lake

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 12.6 miles

Elev. Diff: 1,360'

High Elev: 8,680'

Quad: Scab Creek, Horseshoe Lake

Trail No: 113, 164

Reference: A-136, C-70, B-86

This popular trail has some interesting features, including a beautiful blue-green pool, North Fork Falls, a narrow horse bridge high above North Fork Boulder Creek, two lakes, and a close-up study of a naturally recovering wildfire area.. The trail follows a long timbered canyon with little elevation gain in the first 4.5 miles, then pitches up the steep North Fork Creek to the lake basins. From the parking lot hike east on the road, past the Boulder Creek Ranch and a signed cut-off trail to the left leading to the North Fork Trail, to a trail register at 0.7 mile. The trail crosses a bridge over Boulder Creek one mile from the parking lot and follows the north side of the creek through aspen and conifer stands. It crosses several side streams, skirts south of a marshy area, and passes two large beaver ponds where the canyon narrows perceptibly. At 3.1 miles you will come to Mac's Creek and a beautiful blue-green pool where an old horse trail forks left up Mac's Creek to Christina Lake. Increasing openings in the forest permit views of the canyon's rock walls. The trail begins a series of switchbacks up the canyon's steepening north wall. At about 4.5 miles you will enter the 1988 Fayette Burn, a large, natural "stand replacement" event. At 4.8 miles you will come to the North Fork Falls, a long cascade. The trail continues sidwinding up the west side of North Fork Boulder Creek to the junction of Ethel Trail (No. 164) at the outlet of Lake Ethel, 5.9 miles from the parking lot. Note that the trail junction seen on the quad map is not what is described here. The left fork continues north through charred snags along the west side of Lake Ethel. The right fork (North Fork Trail) meanders 0.4 miles through interesting little domes and charred lodgepole to Dugway Lake.

F. Scab Creek Trailhead

O/W Driving Distance: 53 miles **O/W Driving Time:** 66 min. **Elevation:** 8,200'

Driving Directions: From Camp, drive 3.5 miles to Hwy. 352 and turn left (south). Drive 21 miles to Pinedale and continue southeast on Hwy 191 another 12 miles to Boulder. Turn northeast onto WY 353 and drive for 6.3 miles to the signed junction of Sublette County Road 23-122, which is 200 yards beyond (east) of a group of U.S. Air Force tan buildings. Turn left (north) on this good gravel road and drive up Spring Creek valley 1.4 miles to the junction of Scab Creek Road on the left. Continue on Scab Creek Road, past Mountain Springs Ranch, about 8.5 miles to a small trailhead parking area marked by a BLM sign indicating Scab Creek Recreation Site.

F-24 Toboggan & Little Divide Lakes

Trailhead: Scab Creek

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 8-12.4 miles

Elev. Diff: 1,320'-1,450'

High Elev: 9,630'

Quad: Scab Creek, Raid Lake

Trail No: 110

Reference: A-150, B-88

This trail traverses a mid-elevation plateau of lakes, meadows, scattered sage openings, and lodgepole and aspen groves. Granite slabs, domes, broken knobs, and tarns characterize the area. It is not noted for scenic views of the high Continental Divide peaks but there are views of the Green River basin and the Wyoming Range to the west and south. The trail begins on the north side of the parking lot and climbs steeply the first two miles then moderates considerably. You will merge with a stock trail coming in from the left after a quarter mile of hiking. The trail continues switchbacking up a sage slope then sweeps north through open stands of Douglas fir and aspen. Here you should be able to find great views of the Green River basin and Wyoming Range to the south through scattered openings. The trail switchbacks into a draw then levels out in a lodgepole stand. You will pass an old cabin site at 0.8 mile and a Scab Creek Primitive Area sign. The trail begins climbing again through scattered timber to the head of a steep draw and the large beaver-dammed Boundary Lake at 2.1 miles on the western edge of the mid-elevation plateau. The next 3.3 miles to Little Divide Lake meander through the Toboggan Lakes basin with meadows, clumps of trees, and granite fixtures. You will be able to see seven of the Toboggan Lakes. These are mostly shallow and pothole-like tarns. After the last lake you will climb briefly through Engelmann spruce before dropping to the headwaters of Scab Creek. Continue east to a low saddle which overlooks Little Divide Lake. Believe it or not, you should find an early ditch which diverts water from Divide Lake to Scab Creek. Little Divide Lake lies in a pretty setting of whitebark and lodgepole pine, granite, and meadows.

G. Big Sandy Trailhead

O/W Driving Distance: 80 miles **O/W Driving Time:** 1 hr., 55 min. **Elevation:** 8,200'

Driving Directions: From Camp, drive 3.5 miles to Hwy. 352 and turn left (south). Drive 21 miles to Pinedale and continue southeast on Hwy 191 another 12 miles to Boulder. Turn northeast onto WY 353 and drive southeasterly about 18 miles to the pavement's end where the road becomes sandy, wide, and washboardy. About 0.7 mile further you will come to Big Sandy junction where the right fork returns to US 191. Continue on the left fork to a crossing of Big Sandy River at about 8 miles and a junction to Big Sandy about a mile beyond the bridge. Turn left (east), off County Road 118, and follow the historic (and rough) Lander Cutoff emigrant trail 4.6 miles to yet a third major road junction. Turn left onto Big Sandy Road (Forest Road 850) which is steep, rough, and rocky. Follow it 10.7 miles to the Big Sandy Campground and a large parking area at the trailhead. These hikes are a long drive from camp but we think you'll be glad you experienced them.

G-25 Dad's Lake

Trailhead: Big Sandy

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 10.2 miles

Elev. Diff: 1,150'

High Elev: 9,933'

Quad: Big Sandy Opening, Mount Bonneville

Trail No:096

Reference: A-175

This lake lies in a pretty subalpine setting surrounded by exposed granite. The route to this destination passes Meeks Lake, Fish Creek Park, Mirror Lake, and meadows decorated with many wild flowers. Start the hike at the north end of Big Sandy Campground, heading north through a stand of lodgepole. You will soon near the Big Sandy River then enter an opening in 0.3 mile where the trail registration sign is located. Shortly you will come to a trail junction. The Big Sandy Trail (No. 099) forks right to Big Sandy Lake. Stay left on the Meeks Lake Trail and ascend an open slope below one of Mother Nature's clear cuts, an old burn. Follow the outlet to Meeks Lake through lodgepole to the lake where the trail leads around the east side. At a meadow on the north side of the lake you will find another trail junction. The Diamond Lake Trail (No. 100) forks right (northeasterly). Stay left and circle west through the meadow. Take time to enjoy 11,305-foot Laturio Mountain to the northeast. After a short climb you will come to yet another junction. The left fork leads back south to Mud Lake. Stay right on the Fremont Trail (No. 096) as it climbs gradually through aspen and crosses into the Bridger Wilderness. The trail climbs gradually through a mixed forest and past a flower-laden meadow to the 9,933-foot pass between Fish Creek and Big Sandy Creek.. The views of Mounts Geikie, Bonneville, Tower, and Hooker, are grand. Divide lake is only a quarter mile east of the trail at this point and would make an easy diversion. The trail dips gradually from this pass to Fish Creek Park then climbs gently through meadows to Mirror Lake, surrounded by sloping meadows to the west and forest to the east. About 0.3 mile beyond Mirror Lake a trail forks right to Donald Lake. After topping another gentle pass, the trail descends an open draw to Dad's Lake. Dad's Lake has several islands, an irregular shoreline, and glaciated granite slopes to the west.

G-26 Diamond Lake Loop

Trailhead: Big Sandy

Rating: Moderate

Hiking Distance: 7 miles

Elev. Diff: 420'

High Elev: 9,500'

Quad: Big Sandy Opening, Temple Peak

Trail No:100, 099

Reference: B-114, C-175

This is a pretty hike which passes several lakes, meadows, and flower-laced marshes. We will describe it as a clock-wise loop. The first 1.5 miles to the junction of the Diamond Lake Trail is described in Hike G25 (Dad's Lake), above. Take the right fork, gradually climbing a rise and then descending to V Lake at 1.9 miles. The trail goes around the north end of the lake, through a boggy area filled with flowers. Look for views of 11,342' Laturio Mountain to the north. Posts mark the way through the wetlands to a more obvious path in a coniferous forest at 3.1 miles. Soon you will come to Diamond Lake where the trail crosses several streams on its way around the north end of the lake through more lush meadows. Look for views of 11,624' Shiestler Peak to the east. You will intersect the Big Sandy Lake Trail (No. 099) at 3.7 miles. Turn a sharp right (southwesterly) on this main trail to complete the loop. The Big Sandy Lake Trail follows the Big Sandy River, through meadows and tree clumps, back to the trailhead.

G-27 Big Sandy Lake

Trailhead: Big Sandy

Rating: Difficult

Hiking Distance: 10.4-11 miles

Elev. Diff: 900'

High Elev: 9,740'

Quad: Big Sandy Opening, Temple Peak

Trail No: 100, 099

Reference: B-114, C-175

This is one of the most heavily traveled trails in the Winds. Of all the day hikes we've described, this one comes closest to the Continental Divide. It affords some grand views of this high, rugged, and forbidding range. The first 3.7 miles are described in Hike G26 (Diamond Lake Loop), above. You may choose to take the shorter route to the junctions of Diamond Lake and Big Sandy Lake trails by going straight up the Big Sandy River. This will cut off a half mile, one way. From this junction, the trail climbs gradually through pine and spruce forests, interrupted by occasional meadows, to a rise that provides views of the river valley below and 12,416' Big Sandy Mountain high above. At 1.4 miles from the trail junction, you will arrive at the southwest tip of the Big Sandy Lake. For some great views of the cirques to the east and south, we recommend that you continue 0.8 mile along the west side of the lake to a trail junction on the north end. You may want to climb up a ways on the Jackass Pass Trail for a better view of Big Sandy Lake. If you have time and energy, take the other leg of the Diamond Lake Loop on your return.

INDEX OF DAY HIKES

Easy Hikes

<u>Trip</u>	<u>Name</u>
A2	Green River Lake Loop
B7	North Fork Beach

Moderate Hikes

<u>Trip</u>	<u>Name</u>
A3	Clear Creek natural Bridge
B8	North Fork Lookout Point
D16	Photographer's Point
E20	Blueberry Lake
G26	Diamond Lake Loop

Moderate/Difficult

<u>Trip</u>	<u>Name</u>
B9	North Fork Park

Difficult Hikes

<u>Trip</u>	<u>Name</u>
A4	Slide Lake
A6	Twin, Shirley & Valaite Lakes
B10	Rainbow Lake
C11	Snake Lake
C12	Trapper Lake
C13	Glimpse Lake
D14	Pine Creek Canyon X-Key
D15	Long Lake
D17	Barbara & Ecklund Lakes
D18	Miller & Sweeny Lakes
D19	Marys Lake
E21	Coyote Lake Loop
E22	Horseshoe Lake
E23	Boulder Canyon to Ethel & Dougway Lakes
G25	Dad's Lake
G27	Big Sandy Lake

Extreme Hikes

<u>Trip</u>	<u>Name</u>
A1	Osborne Mountain
A5	Flat Top Mountain

Summary

Easy	2
Moderate	5
Moderate/Difficult	1
Difficult	16
Extreme	2