

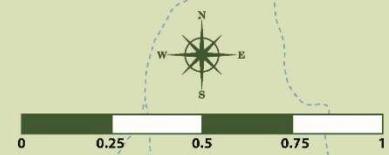


HEYBURN STATE PARK



LEGEND

State Highway	Named Creek
Local Road	Other Creek
Trail	Railroad
Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes	County Line
Amphitheater	Picnic Area
Boat Ramp	Picnic Shelter
Campground	Pier
Information	Playground
Parking	Restrooms
Marina	Swimming
Peak	Trailhead
City Limits	
Park Boundary	
Other land owners public/private	



Heyburn State Park - Southside Trails

Beginning at the South Side Equestrian Trailhead (off Parkside Rd), are the Southside Multiple-use Trails (for Cedar Loop see the Northside Trails brochure). There are four loops that are connected: Scout Out, Gandy Dancer, Rocky Top and Ponderosa. From Scout Out you can access Gandy Dancer, Rocky Top, and the rest of the trail system. These trails were designed with an equestrian focus but are open to all non-motorized users. There are several places on the route to break for lunch with tables and awesome views of Chatcolet and Benewah lakes. All distances are approximate.

Scout Out –2 miles – Moderate

Scout Out Loop begins at the South Side Trailhead parking lot and follows a level bench of Douglas-fir and Ponderosa pine before it switchbacks down into the Pee Dee Creek canyon. From there it follows Pee Dee Creek downstream for about a quarter of a mile before climbing back to the bench and meandering to the trailhead. As you climb out of the canyon you have good views of Chatcolet Lake and the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes trestle bridge.

Gandy Dancer – 5 miles – Difficult

Follow the Scout Out Loop to Pee Dee Creek where you will cross the creek and Pee Dee Creek road, then wind your way over the ridge through open Douglas Fir timber to Bill Morris road. There you can turn down the road for about two hundred yards where you will tie back into the trail on the opposite side climbing back up. From here you will cross a small stream and continue down the heavy timbered draw on a historic timber road towards Highway 5. This moist, north facing slope has stands of Western Red Cedar, Hemlock, Douglas Fir, Grand Fir, and is a great place to find Trillium and mushrooms in the spring. Just above the highway you will travel under a railroad trestle that towers above. From there the trail turns and parallels Highway 5 back to Pee Dee creek. Follow the Pee Dee Creek Rd back up the hill under another stunning trestle bridge to where the trail leaves the road to cross Pee Dee Creek back and continue back up the creek to Scout Out Loop and the trailhead.

Rocky Top – 5 miles – Rating – Moderate

Follow Scout Out and Gandy Dancer to Bill Morris road. Rocky Top begins at Bill Morris road and then circles a large bench between there and Cottonwood Creek. Most of this trail is through open stands of old Ponderosa pines with remarkable views of Chatcolet and Benewah lakes. During the spring and summer, the open areas are a blanket of color. Wildflowers of all colors; Heartleaf Arnica, Arrow-leaf Balsamroot, Coulter's Lupine, and many more, spread their splendor under the springtime sun. This loop can be accessed from Bill Morris Road for hikers and mountain bikers only by following the road to the gated park boundary. Always leave access through the gate for emergency services.

Ponderosa Ridge – 7 miles – Rating – Very Difficult

Starting midway on Rocky Top Loop is where Ponderosa Loop will drop down and cross Cottonwood Creek then climb the opposite side. This loop will take you through everything from cool northern slopes to warm and open ponderosa covered hills. It winds through several drainages before topping out on the ridge above Benewah Lake. Be sure to take your camera as there are many beautiful vistas from this challenging but rewarding loop. There are picnic tables at the main viewpoint. This loop is completed by dropping down a series of switchbacks and crossing Cottonwood creek, then climbing back to the Rocky Top Loop.



Southside Trails



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