

The Bruneau Dunes Equestrian Trails

follow a circular path in semi-wilderness desert terrain. White marker posts labeled A-Z help guide you. Use these in conjunction with the map and natural landmarks to find your way. **The trails begin at the Equestrian Camp.**

DIRECTIONS

Trailhead—>C From the Equestrian Camp, the trail goes west up toward the rim, the turns south to a fairly high point giving great views east and north.

Post C—>F The trail runs along the rim with a great view of the tapered western slope of the Big Dune, passes several drainages into the depression, and approaches the sand dune on the rim.

Post F—>K Skirt the west side of the dune area, then back to the gravel rim and head for the grassy area behind a higher part of the rim. Continue through an old fence line gate and along the fence to another high point (3132') and a great view of farmlands to the west.

Post K—>L The trail descends into Eagle Cove Depression to the base of an arm of the Big Dune. At this point, the trail splits northeast behind the dunes for the 9-mile Trail and northwest for the shorter 7 mile trail. **(See Note)**

Post L—>N The trail runs northeast behind the Big Dune, past the Crater, and behind the Small Dune to an old fence line. Ride away from the dunes along the fence to the corner post and then turn north.

Post N—>P Follow the fence to an old gate and turn west-northwest through the gate toward the campgrounds.

Post P—>Q Head west toward the small lake. The trail passes the north side of the small lake and joins the 5 Mile Hiking Trail near the Observatory Picnic Area.

Post Q—>X Here, the trail crosses other trails going to Eagle Cove and Broken Wheel campgrounds. Ride past the Observatory parking area and out to the entrance road. Cross the park road and ride in the southwest direction. Descend through the Russian Olive trees and up the other side. Continue across the rolling hills in a westerly direction.

Post X—>Z The final leg of the trail splits from the 5 Mile Hiking Trail and tracks west back to the Equestrian Camp.

Note: Shorter 7 Mile Trail Post L—>P

Ride northwest through the Russian Olive trees to an old fence line running east to west. Follow the fence line west to a corner post. Turn north along the fence line and follow the trail back to the Equestrian Camp.

FLORA AND FAUNA

The park has a fascinating wealth of wildlife for you to enjoy. The marsh areas have waterfowl, shorebirds, muskrats, and frogs. Look for teal, mallards, buffleheads, grebes, scaups, and herons on the lakes. You may see coyotes, jackrabbits, cottontails, lizards or gopher snakes. Be alert, wildlife signs surround you. Desert flowers may be in bloom all along the way, especially during May and June. *Collecting of wildlife or wildflowers is prohibited.*

Watch out for rattlesnakes!

Horse traffic is not allowed on the Main Dune complexes, lawns, picnic areas or campgrounds.

Bruneau Dunes State Park



7 and 9 Mile Equestrian Trails

See panoramic vistas from the rim of Eagle Cove Depression as well as the desert floor behind the dunes on the Bruneau Dunes Equestrian Trails

Trip Data

Mileage: 7-9 miles

Terrain: Moderately strenuous

What to pack: 2 quarts of water per person, lunch or a snack, bug spray, sunscreen, compass, small binoculars

Duration: 4-6 hours

Precautions: Summer heat is intense, ride in the early mornings, and carry your own water.

Bruneau Dunes State Park Year-Round Aerial Image Trails

