

Attractions: Very good 1-2 day hike. Length of the trail is 4.0 miles with light use. Difficulty is rated at more difficult Recommended season of use is early summer to mid-autumn. Very little motorized or horse use on the trail. Not a good access route to Tenderfoot Creek. Crosses Balsinger Creek numerous times. USGS Map(s): Bubbling Springs and Monument Peak Quads (MT)

Lost Stove Trail #346

Access: 16.1 miles northwest on Forest Road 839 from U.S. Hwy. 89 at Kings Hill junction of Forest Road 839 and Forest Road 3483; 4 miles south-westerly on Forest Road 3484 to Trail #346.

Elevations: Beginning, 6600 ft. (2.8 miles southwest of Central Park). Ending, 5760 ft. (Tenderfoot Creek on Trail #342). This is the quickest and shortest route into the upper part of Tenderfoot Creek. Total length of the trail is 1.0 mile with moderate use. Difficulty rating of the trail is more difficult. Recommended season of use is early summer to late autumn.

Attractions: Sedans and short motorhomes can travel the roads in dry weather. USGSMap: Bubbling Springs Quad (MT)

Tenderfoot Trail #342

Access: 10.6 miles west of Kings Hill on Forest Road 839 to Forest Road 586; 1.2 miles west on Forest Road 586 to east side of Onion Park; 0.5 mile north on the old Divide Road to Trail #342.

Elevations: Beginning, 7280 ft. (north end of Onion Park). Ending, 3960 ft. (Smith River at the mouth of Tenderfoot Creek).

Attractions: The trail provides access to some excellent trout fishing in Tenderfoot Creek. Length of the trail is 21.0 miles with heavy use. Difficulty of the trail is rated at more difficult.

Recommended season of use is early summer to late autumn or early winter. There are 23 creek crossings from the start of the trail to the Zehntner Ranch. Do not use until after low water or runoff. View of steep walls is good in the lower portion of the canyon. Excellent 3-10 day trip possibilities. USGS Map(s): Belt Park Butte, Bubbling Springs, Monument Peak, Bald Hills and Lingshire Quads (MT)

Williams Mountain Trail #347

Access: 10.6 miles west of Kings Hill on Forest Road 839 to junction with Forest Road 585; 6.6 miles west on Forest Road 586 to junction with Forest Road 3465; 2.6 miles north on Forest Road 3465 to junction with Trail #347.

Elevations: Beginning, 6700 ft. (1.5 miles north of Williams Mountain). Ending, 5800 ft. (Tenderfoot Creek on Trail #342)

Attractions: Access to the trail via Forest Road 3465 is restricted to foot and horse use 10/15 to 12/1 by locked gate at the junction of Forest Road 586 and Forest Road 3465. Total length of the trail is 1.0 mile and use is light. Difficulty rating is moderate. Recommended season of use is early summer to mid-autumn. The road is open for wheeled vehicle traffic; starting 6/15. Good trail to access Tenderfoot Creek in the summer. USGS Map: Bubbling Springs Quad (MT)

Reynolds Park Trail #349

Access: 10.6 miles west on Forest Road 839 from Hwy. 89 on Kings Hill to junction with Forest Road 586; 11 miles west on Forest Road 586 to junction of Forest Road 3472 in Eagle Park; north 2.1 miles on Forest Road 3472 to the start of Trail 3349. Road leading to Reynolds Park is not designed for sedans or other low vehicles.

Elevations: Beginning, 600 ft. (2.5 miles north of Eagle Park). Ending, 5360 ft. (Tenderfoot Creek Trail #342)

Attractions: Good access route to Tenderfoot Creek from the south. Trail is 1.0 mile in length and use is light. Difficulty is rated at moderate. Recommended season of use is early summer to mid-autumn. Some of the road used to access the trail and part of the trail is located on private land. Obtain permission to cross Reynolds Park. Do Not use road in wet weather. USGS Map: Monument Peak Quad (MT)

Monument Ridge Trail #339

Access: 7.6 miles north of Logging Creek Campground on Forest Road 839 to junction with Forest Road 268; 1.6 miles west of Forest Road 268 to junction with Trail 3339.

Elevations: Beginning, 6977 ft. (1.7 miles west of Monument Peak on Forest Road 268). Ending, 6220 ft. (Mill Creek Saddle at junction with Trail #303).

Attractions: The first 1.1 mile can be driven in a 4x4 or other high clearance vehicle. The last 1.6 mile is very steep and rough, even for hiking. Total length of the trail is 2.7 miles and use is high. Difficulty rating is more difficult. Recommended season of use is early summer to mid-autumn. Trail is part of the Deep Creek Figure 8 Loop National Recreation Trail. USGS Map: Blankenship Flats Quad (MT)

Little Belt Mountains

Dry Wolf Trail #401

Access: No. 1 - From Hwy. 87 at Stanford; follow Dry Wolf Road #251 to Wolf Campground. Drive through the campground to the picnic site where the trailhead is located.

No. 2 - From Hwy. 87 at Stanford, follow Dry Wolf Road #251 to Dry Wolf Campground. Follow the road approximately 600 feet and then turn right on a primitive road. Travel about 1 mile through a grassy park to Freddie's Meadow dispersed campsite. The old Dry Wolf Trail starts at Freddie's Meadow campsite and can still be followed, though you have to cross the deep creek. You also can follow trail #402 for about 1000 ft. then take a trail to the right which leads over a bridge to trail #401. This way the trail is only 4.2 miles in length.

Elevations: Beginning, 5950 ft. (Dry Wolf Campground; trailhead is at picnic site). Ending, 7500 ft. (Yogo-Big Baldy Jeep Trail, Forest Road #3300 on the Jefferson Divide).

Attractions: The trail climbs continually, first at an easy slope following Dry Wolf Creek through meadows and timber, then at a steeper slope following a ridge through the forest. Length of the trail is 5.2 miles and use is medium. Difficulty is rated from easy to moderate. The trail ends at the meadows on Jefferson Divide, providing a beautiful panorama view. The upper part of the trail can be snowbound until the middle of July. USGS Map: Yogo Peak Quad (MT)

Butcherknife Trail #417

Access: No. 1, From Hwy. 87 at Stanford, follow Dry Wolf Road #251 to Butcherknife Gulch; here take Butcherknife Road #2093, there is a trail sight after about a mile (to the right).

No. 2 - Via Trail #416 from Big Baldy Mountain.

Elevations: Beginning, 5800 ft. (Butcherknife Road #2093). Ending, 7800 ft. (Big Baldy Trail #416 on ridgetop).

Attractions: Length of the trail is 3 miles; low use. Difficulty is rated at moderate. After a hard, steep climb to the ridgetop, you walk through meadows, with a beautiful view. The trail will follow the ridgetop until it terminates at the Big Baldy Trail, which leads to the highest mountain in the Little Belts: Big Baldy Mountain, 9176 ft. USGSMap: Mixes Baldy Quad (MT)

Placer Creek Trail #419

Access: No. 1 - From Hwy. 87 at Stanford; follow Dry Wolf Road #251. After 20 miles, there is a sign "Placer Creek" and a primitive road branching to the right. The first half mile of this road leads through private land. You need to ask permission to cross it. The trailhead is 1.5 miles from Dry Wolf Road at the forks of Placer Creek and Snow Creek.

No. 2 - By trail #416 from Big Baldy Mountain.

Elevations: Beginning, 6000 ft. (Placer Creek Jeep Trail, 1.5 miles from Dry Wolf Road). Ending, 7400 ft. (Big Baldy Trail #416 on ridgetop).

Attractions: The trail is 2 miles (3.5 miles when starting at Dry Wolf Road) and use is medium. Difficulty is rated at easy. The trail follows the Snow Creek drainage through heavy, mixed conifer timber stands up to the meadows on the ridgetop where there is a panorama view in all directions. Here it terminates at trail #416, a trail that follows the ridgetop. USGS Map(s): Mixes Baldy and Yogo Peak Quads (MT)

North Fork Highwood Trail #423

Access: No. 1, Half a mile west of Thain Creek Campground, North Fork Road #8840 goes south, following the creek. The trailhead is 1 mile up.

No. 2 - Kirby Creek Trail #426.

Elevations: Beginning, 4600 ft. (North Fork Road #8840). Ending, 4750 ft. (Cottonwood Creek Jeep Trail, east forest boundary).

Attractions: The trail is 3.5 miles in length and use is medium. Difficulty is rated from easy to difficult. The trail leads through meadows and follows the North Fork to its headwaters. Here is the junction with Kirby Creek Trail #426. The trail then climbs over a saddle (highest point 6000 ft.) and descends in the drainage of Cottonwood Creek. It follows the creek to the forest boundary. USGSMap: Arrow Peak Quad (MT)

Kirby Creek Trail #426

Access: No. 1, From Geraldine, MT via Shonkin Creek to Kirby Creek, then following the trail through private land (ask permission before you cross).

No. 2, Via Briggs Creek Trail #431.

No. 3, Via North Fork Highwood Trail #423.

Elevations: Beginning, 4700 ft. (fence boundary between private land and National Forest in Kirby Creek). Ending, 5400 ft. (North Fork Highwood Trail #423).

Attractions: Length of the trail is 2.0 miles with low use. Difficulty is rated at moderate (hard to find trail). The trail is mainly a small cow-path through scenic meadows, following Kirby Creek up towards the headwaters. Just before that point, the trail climbs over a saddle and comes down to the North Fork Highwood Trail #423. USGS Map: Arrow Peak Quad (MT)

Windy Mountain Trail #454

Access: No. 1, From Thain Creek Campground, follow Road #1074 to the north of Thain Creek Campground.

No. 2, Briggs Creek Trail #431.

Elevations: Beginning, 4500 ft. (Trailhead at the end of road #1074). Ending, 5400 ft. (trail terminates at Briggs Creek #431).

Attractions: This trail forms together with Briggs Creek Trail #431, a 6.5 miles loop from Thain Creek Campground. The trail leads up to a saddle just south of Windy Mountain and then down through meadows to Briggs Creek Trail #431. Use of the trail is medium with difficulty rated at easy. USGS Map: Arrow Peak Quad (MT)

Briggs Creek Trail #431

Access: No. 1, Follow the road to the east from Thain Creek Campground. The road ends after 3000 ft. The trail starts here.