

LINCOLN RANGER DISTRICT

The Lincoln Ranger District lies within the northern region of the Helena National Forest. Visitors have the opportunity to partake in a variety of recreational activities and experience the marvels of our National Forests. The Lincoln Ranger District also manages 82,000 acres of the Scapegoat Wilderness Area, and provides critical habitat to grizzly bears, lynx, and wolves.



All Trails listed are located within the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE) Grizzly Bear recovery area.

Caution should always be used while hiking in bear country. Please comply with the Food Storage Special Order LC00-18, and store your food and attractants in a bear resistant manner. A copy of the Order is available at the Lincoln Ranger District or on the HNF Website.

Lincoln Ranger District

1569 Highway 200

Lincoln, MT 59639

For more information,

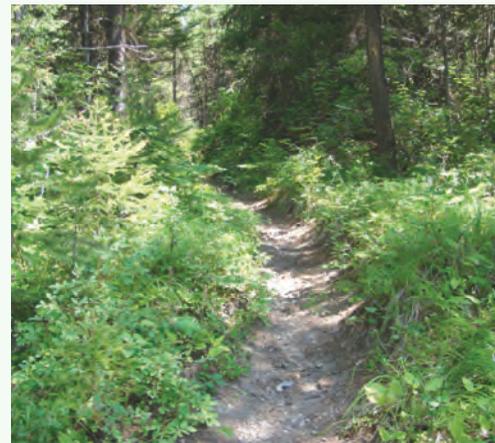
call 406-362-7000



DAY HIKES

NEAR

LINCOLN



IN THE

HELENA

NATIONAL

FOREST

LEWIS AND CLARK PASS

493



Distance: 3.2 miles round trip

Rating: Moderate

Lewis and a party of nine men followed an Indian trail that the Shoshone called Cokahlarishkit, or the “River Road to the Buffalo” on their return journey to St. Louis in 1806. The trail led them over what is now called Lewis and Clark Pass (even though Clark never crossed it). In the early 1900s, this was the main road over the Continental Divide, therefore it is well marked, wide, and a gradual climb to the pass—perfect for a family hike. The top of the pass offers a spectacular view of the east side of the Rocky Mountain front, but be prepared for windy conditions. On top of the pass, the trail bisects the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (440). Water is limited after spring run-off, so be sure to carry your own.

Access: From Lincoln, travel East 10 miles along Hwy 200. Turn North on Alice Creek road (293) and continue for 11 miles until you reach the trailhead. This road is unpaved and crosses through private land for the first 7 miles; please respect landowners and stay on the road. At the trailhead are restrooms, picnic tables, and hitching posts.

STONEWALL LOOKOUT

417 AND 418

Distance:

11.0 miles

(round trip from Snowbank Lake)

13.3 miles

(round trip from Sucker Creek Rd)

Rating: Difficult



At 8,270 feet in elevation, this mountain hike will give you many opportunities to see the beautiful Blackfoot Valley. Once reaching the top of Stonewall Mountain, visit the lookout and catch a breathtaking view of the Garnet and Flint mountain ranges, and the Scapegoat Wilderness. This hike is ideal for an overnight backpack trip with several locations to camp near the peak of Stonewall Mountain. The ridgetop is dry, so be sure to carry water. Caution is advised for weather changes; high winds and fog are common on top. Trail 417 is open to motorized travel.

Access: 1) Snowbank Lake (behind restroom) From Lincoln, travel East 6 miles along Hwy 200. Turn North at Copper Creek Road for approximately 8 miles to the Snowbank Lake parking area. Follow trail 418 for 3.5 miles to the junction with trail 417. Proceed West on trail 417 for 2 miles until you reach the lookout. Be advised the first leg of the trail goes through a burned area, and the trail may be difficult to find at times. **2) Sucker Creek Rd** From Lincoln, travel to the East end of town and turn North onto Sucker Creek Road. Proceed for 2.5 miles; an information board on the left marks the trailhead and a small parking area is on the right. Follow trail 418 north for 4.6 miles where you will reach the junction with trail 417. Proceed West on trail 417 for 2 miles until you reach the lookout.

ARRASTRA CREEK TRAIL

482



Distance: 8 miles roundtrip
(from Trailhead to Wilderness Boundary
and back)
Rating: Easy

Arrastra Creek Trail begins off Beaver Creek Road 4106 where there is ample parking, and during huckleberry season, ample berry picking! Paralleling the creek its entire length, this trail has **very few inclines**, and is in **excellent condition**. Twice during the hike the trail crosses Arrastra Creek. There is a foot bridge over the first crossing, but be advised that you will get your feet wet and use caution during high water season. This is a **very scenic hike** with open meadows and views of the surrounding mountain sides—**superb camping** and **picnicking areas**. Right before the second creek crossing, Porcupine Basin Trail (488) intersects Arrastra Creek Trail and leads to Huckleberry Pass, an option the hiker can choose to take.

Access: From Lincoln, travel 1 mile West along Hwy 200. Turn North on Beaver Creek Rd 4106. Follow 4106 for 10 miles to the Arrastra Creek Trailhead, which is on the North side of the road. There is plenty of parking space at the trailhead and a horse ramp and hitching posts are available. Nearby Reservoir Lake is a good place to cool off but not to fish; it is unstocked.

HEART LAKE TRAIL

481 TO 424



photo provided by m. marcinek

Distance: 10 miles roundtrip
(from Trailhead to Lake and back)
Rating: Moderate

Heart Lake is approximately 5 miles from the Indian Meadows Trailhead and located in the Scapegoat Wilderness. The trail is **Views of Red Mountain are spectacular**, and the lake is a **refreshing conclusion** to the hike. Heart Lake is **stocked** with Westslope cutthroat and grayling (please check fishing regulations). Group sizes are limited to 15 people in the Wilderness and campsites at the lake are limited. This trail experiences heavy use during weekends and holidays in the summer; be prepared to encounter stock and other users. Extreme weather conditions can occur at Heart Lake; please be prepared.

Access: From Lincoln, travel East 6 miles along Highway 200. Turn North at Copper Creek Road for approximately 7 miles, then turn right onto road #1882 for 1 mile to the Indian Meadows Trailhead. From the Trailhead follow the Mainline Trail (481) for 3.5 miles to the junction of the Heart Lake Trail (424). Proceed on Trail 424 for 1.5 miles to the Lake.

CONTINENTAL DIVIDE TRAIL

440

Distance: 32.9
(Total Miles)

8.4
(between Lewis
and Clark Pass
and Rogers Pass)

13.5 miles
(between Rogers
and Flesher Pass)

11 miles (between Flesher and Stemple Pass)

Rating: Moderate to Difficult



The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail offers **spectacular views** and **diverse terrain**. Mountain bikers, stock users, backpackers, and day hikers commonly use the trail. The trail is open to motorized vehicles between Flesher and Stemple Pass; please share the road. Look for **many beautiful varieties of wildflowers** all summer long. There is no water available, and be prepared for wind speeds of 60+ mph or more. The trail transitions through thick timber environments to above tree line and offers **impressive views** both east and west of the Continental Divide. All types of wildlife including **grizzly bears** may be seen.

Access: From Lincoln travel East 11 miles along Hwy 200 until you reach Hwy 279. Turn right onto Hwy 279 and continue for 8 miles until you reach the Trailhead at the top of Flesher Pass. There is a restroom, picnic tables, and parking to access the trails that go to either Rogers or Stemple Pass.

To begin from the Rogers Pass Trailhead, drive 18 miles East from Lincoln to the top of the Pass. Park here and hike up the stairs to go to Lewis and Clark Pass, or find the first road South and East of Rogers Pass where there is a parking area for the hike to Flesher.

SAUERKRAUT TRAIL

401



Distance: 4 miles roundtrip
Rating: Easy

Sauerkraut Trail #401 is one of the original accesses to the Lincoln View Mine, which is located near the end of the trail. As with many trails built on Forest Service land, this is one that was constructed for purposes other than recreation. It is an **excellent hiking trail**, especially for a family day trip, because of its short length, and also for the cultural aspect. The trail follows the creek the entire way through a closed canopied forest of Douglas-fir and lodgepole pine. During berry season there are **huckleberries galore**. Please use caution around the mine, as unseen hazards may exist. Once past the mine the trail turns into an old road. This road continues up to the intersection with Trail #404, where you will find other hiking options. Please be aware that trail #401 is open to single-track motorized use.

Access: From Lincoln, travel west for 3 miles. Turn south on Dalton Mountain Road #329 and follow it approximately 5.6 miles to the junction of the Sauerkraut Road #1892. Turn right (west) and proceed for approximately 4.8 miles to where the road is gated. The trail is located on the south side of the gated road, opposite a small parking area. There is a sign for Trail #401 at the trailhead.