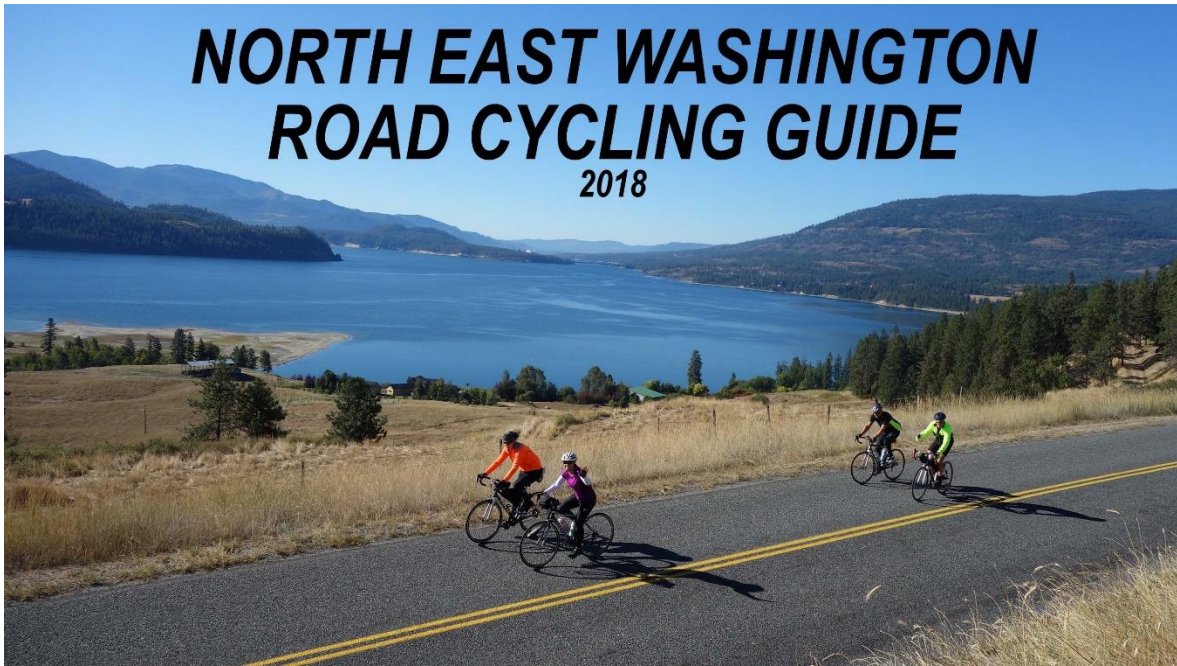


# **NORTH EAST WASHINGTON ROAD CYCLING GUIDE**

2018



North East Washington, with Stevens County and Colville at its epicenter, is being discovered as a world-class road cycling destination. Spectacular mountain panoramas, bucolic valley landscapes, and miles of stunning lake vistas provide the backdrop for an endless variety of road cycling loops and challenging climbs. The area offers countless route choices for every level of road cyclist on lightly traveled “country” roads. North East Washington offers a variety and quality of road cycling second to no other region in North America.



**THE SCENERY** North East Washington is a land of low mountain ranges, river valleys, forests, ranches and unparalleled beauty. The Kettle Range rises to the west and the Selkirk Range of the Rocky Mountains to the east. The Kettle, Columbia, Colville, and Pend Oreille rivers have carved out pastoral valleys running north and south through the region. The challenging Huckleberry Range lies between the Columbia River (Lake Roosevelt) and the Colville River valley. Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area, the most undiscovered jewel of the National Park System (NPS), offers uncrowded campgrounds, boat launches, swimming beaches, and miles and miles of undeveloped lakeshore beauty. From the pastoral tranquility of the valleys, to the stunning vistas of the mountain passes, the scenery throughout North East Washington is breathtaking. **Around each bend and over every grade a new landscape unfolds before you.**



## THE ROADS



Stevens County has more than 800 miles of paved roads that are perfect for road cycling. Within just 40 miles of Colville is a web of more than 650 miles of paved lightly traveled country roads that weave and wind through the valleys, benches, and divides of the region. Over 150 miles of pristine cycling follow the shorelines of Lake Roosevelt. The number and variety of roads makes the region unique to road cyclists, and provides a spectacular road biking experience. North East Washington has countless loop rides for every road cyclist, regardless of ability. You can ride short or long. You can ride easy or hard. Soft peddle long or short loops over relatively level valley routes winding through fields, pastures and woodlands, with mountain ridges always looming on the horizon. For hardcore climbers, there are multiple challenging steep mountain climbs with the reward of magnificent vistas awaiting at the summit, and long descents on the other side. From Colville the ride possibilities are endless. You can embark upon several 15 mile “lunchtime” loop rides or you can spend the day in the saddle on multiple loops of all distances and difficulties. **Whatever your biking desire is on any particular day, you will find your ride.**



## THE HIGHWAYS

Ferry, Stevens and Pend Oreille Counties are linked east-west by State Hwy 20, the “Stevens Pass Scenic Byway”. Hwy 20 is also nationally designated as US Bike Route 10, a cross-country cycling route starting in Anacortes, Washington and ending on the east coast.

Hwy 395 (the “Three Flags Highway”) starts at the Mexican border and travels north through Colville to Canada. Hwy 20 and Hwy 31 in the Pend Oreille river valley are segments of the International Selkirk Loop. Hwy 25 travels the length of Lake Roosevelt. For road cycling Hwy 395 has a smooth, six to eight foot shoulder. Hwy 20 has generally a three foot shoulder, and is traveled by hundreds of long distance cyclists on their way across the country on US Bike Route 10. By urban standards these highways are lightly traveled. Nonetheless, in planning your routes, these highways are busier and can generally be avoided in favor of the hundreds of miles of less traveled county roads that meander through the valleys, benches, prairies and drainages of North East Washington. However, if you need or wish to go on Hwy 395 or Hwy20, they are safe, smooth, generally flat and fast. When traveling on Hwy 395 south of Colville, choose Old Hwy Arden, Old Hwy 12 Mile, and McLain as segments which veer off and run parallel with and then back to the highway. Northwest of Colville, most riders prefer bucolic Greenwood Loop to get to Kettle Falls rather than Hwy 395/20. Hwy20 east of Colville can generally be avoided on side roads for the first 10 miles.

## THE ELEVATIONS

Cycling elevations range from 1280 ft at Lake Roosevelt, to 5574 ft at Sherman Pass, Washington state’s highest year round maintained pass. Other mountain passes provide climbing challenges, including Boulder Pass (4110 ft) and Flowery Trail Pass (4040 ft.) Nothing is flat and nothing is straight (We’re not in Kansas any more Toto!!). The paved county roads over the Huckleberry Range are generally steeper than the highway passes, and therefore more challenging. Even the valley rides have undulation and variety. There are plenty of easy rides, but there will always be a grade that will get your heart pumping. For climbers and strong riders who want a challenge, there are numerous short and long climbs on which you can “knock yourself out”.



## THE SERVICES

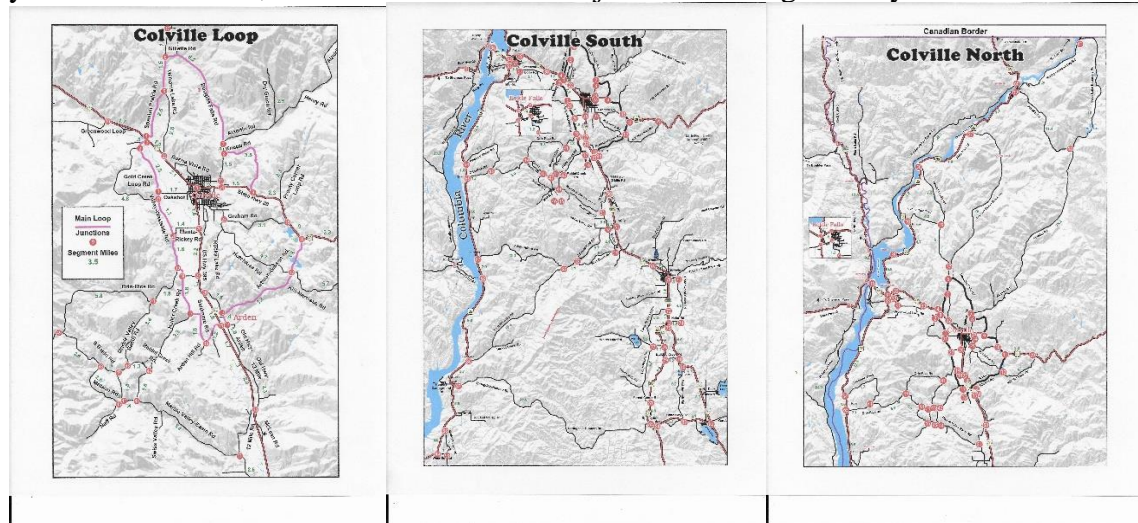
Colville (pop.4668), Kettle Falls (pop.1595), Chewelah (pop.2602), Northport (pop.295), Valley (pop.153), Springdale (pop.279) and Hunters (pop.306) all provide food, drink, sundries, restaurants, and basic road necessities. Colville has dedicated bike shop, and a sporting goods store with bike mechanics. There are “country stores” at Boundary/Waneta, Arden, Addy, Blue Creek, Rice and Daisy that will provide most of what you will need on the road. The area is served by cellular service throughout, however in some canyons or low points service may be spotty. If you climb “to the top” service is generally good. Lodging is available in Colville, Kettle Falls, and Chewelah and there is a bike hostel on Hotchkiss Rd about 5 miles southeast of Colville. The Stevens County Fairgrounds (three blocks from downtown Colville) has camping. Numerous NPS campgrounds along Lake Roosevelt have water, rest rooms and may have vending machines. There are resorts on Waitts Lake and at Lake Gillette on the Little Pend Oreille lakes east of Colville on Hwy 20. You must understand that there is not going to be a convenience store at every intersection. These roads are so pristine and so lightly traveled because this is rural America. There will be stretches where you will be on your own. Plan accordingly.



## THE BikeNEW MAPS

You biking adventures unfold with the BikeNEW Maps that lay out over 800 miles of spectacular cycling routes in Stevens County. Start at Mile Post 0 (MP-0), the clock tower located in downtown Colville. From this point of reference, you can begin your road cycling adventures. A number is assigned to road intersections to aid in bike navigation. To follow a loop or route, just “connect the dots”. The maps denote the distance between intersections. If an intersection has been numbered on the map, it has paved roads going in all directions that are appropriate for skinny tire road bikes.

Maps are available for the “Colville Loop”, “Colville North”, and “Colville South”. Download from the web sites mentioned below. Each map allows you to easily navigate your intended route, and to make informed adjustments along the way.



## THE RESOURCES

Explore road cycling routes, and other hiking and outdoor recreational activities, and download GPS PDF map files for the Avenza App at: **[newashingtontrails.com](http://newashingtontrails.com)**.

Get online access to this Guide, and research other North East Washington cycling options at: **[colvello.org](http://colvello.org)**. Research loop rides in the Colville area under the tag name: “colvelo” at [ridewithgps.com](http://ridewithgps.com) and [mapmyride.com](http://mapmyride.com)

Also check out the **Colville Rotary Club’s Road Cycling Map**, published and distributed each year at bike rides, bike shops, and tourism information centers throughout Washington, northern Idaho, and southern British Columbia. The annual **Blazing Saddles Bike ride** is held on the first Saturday of August in conjunction with the Colville Rendezvous community celebration. Each year there are Century, Metric Century and 40 mile ride options, which rotate on a three year rotation. Check into the Blazing Saddles ride at **[blazing100.org](http://blazing100.org)**.

## THE RIDES



With 650 miles of pristine paved cycling roads through mountains and valleys within 40 miles of Colville, you can choose from a variety of short loops and long loops, close loops

and far loops, long climbs and short climbs, out and back rides, overnights, and everything in between. **The road cycling possibilities are endless.**

## THE COLVILLE LOOP



The Colville Loop is the region's iconic "signature" ride. The Colville Loop is a spectacular 34.3 mile loop on rural roads *around* the city of Colville. The Loop offers a great way to first experience the area. Start 1.7 miles west of MP-0 at WestValley/Oakshott [1] and travel north along the tree line of the valley with views overlooking Colville and the Colville Valley. Carefully cross Hwy 395 [3] and travel west a short distance on Hwy 395, then turn onto Spanish Prairie [4] and enjoy the pastoral views of Colville Mtn as you travel 2.5 miles through farms and ranchland. Go north on Williams Lake [5], a busier road for 1.5 mi. Turn right onto lightly traveled Gillette/Douglas Falls [6] for a gentle 6.2 miles of woods, fields and quiet country solitude. Stop at the Douglas Falls Park just off the road to view the waterfalls and refresh. At [7] you are at Pinkney City, site of the old Fort Colville military post. Merge onto busier Aladdin for a half mile and then head east onto sparsely traveled Knapp [8]. Enjoy three and a half miles of Stevens County bucolic splendor. Turn east onto Hwy 20 [9], the route traveled by thousands of cross-country bikers on their way across the continent. After 3.2 miles leave Hwy 20 onto Artman-Gibson [11] and coast and peddle 5.4 miles past lakes, ranches, and a glorious vista of the Little Pend Oreille River Valley. Once down again onto the valley floor [13], travel short distances south and west [14] and cross Hwy 395[15]. Climb Arden Hill, the only challenging hill on the Colville Loop, to Skidmore [16]. (Don't want to do the Arden Hill? At [13] you can head north back to Colville on Old Hwy Arden and other routes.) Once you have climbed the Arden Hill [16], head north 1.8 miles on Skidmore to Haller Creek [17], the gateway to the Basin loops. Finish the Colville Loop on Valley Westside to [18], [19], [20] and [21]. At [21], you are two tenth of a mile from completing the entire Colville Loop. If you still want more, do "THE BURN". Add 2.3 miles and a 630 foot climb up Gold Creek that wraps around clockwise and comes back to the Loop at [2]. It is less steep counterclockwise. The entire Colville Loop ranges in elevation from 1539 to 2235 ft, with an elevation gain of 1606 ft, with Arden Hill being the only steep climb.



### Colville Loop Spoke Roads:

You access the Colville Loop on several "spoke roads" heading out from Colville. Oakshott west of town to [1] is the shortest and most common access (1.7m.) The loop can be accessed to the NW on Hwy 395 to [4] (3.4m.) or Williams Lake to [5] (5.0m.). Travel



east out of town on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets, then Aladdin to Knapp [8](2.8m.) or east on Hwy 20 to [9] (2.8m.). From the south Colville roundabout, take Hawthorne and Garden Homes to [25], then Graham to [10](5.6m.) or take Hotchkiss to [12](6.9m). The Loop crosses Hwy 395 6 miles south of MP-0 at [15]. Weather turns bad? From any intersection on this 34.3mile loop you are matter of minutes from the center of Colville.

### **Loop Rides within Ten Miles of Colville:**

Not enough time for the entire Colville Loop? Ride just the north part or just the south part, or lots of other combinations in between.



**North Loop:** The Colville Loop north of Oakshott and Graham is along the valley floors or on gentle benches, but with incredible scenery the entire way. This 26 mile loop has only 1088 feet of total elevation gain. [0-1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-25-0]

**Around the Mountain:** This is a classic short ride. Head north on Main St to 8<sup>th</sup> and veer left onto appropriately named Buena Vista Rd which avoids the commercial Hwy 395 strip and which intersects with Hwy 395 just out of town. Go north on Hwy 395 and then Williams Lake, keeping Colville Mountain to your right until you are “Around the Mountain”. [0-22-5-6-7-8-24-0] (16.0 m., 670 elevation gain)



**South Loop:** If your preference is the hills, ride the south half of the Colville loop, which is everything south of Oakshott and Hotchkiss. The steepest grades on this half of the loop are Skidmore and Arden Hill roads. [15-16-17] The first mile climbing east out of the valley on ArtmanGibson [13] is also challenging. There is a beautiful climb over a summit on Hotchkiss Rd. The south half of the Colville Loop is 21.8 miles with 1440 ft of elevation gain. At the end, add in “the Burn” over Gold Creek Loop and you’ve got a challenging 28.2 mile loop with 2092 ft of elevation gain. [0-1-21-20-19-18-17-16-15-14-13-12-25-0]

**Make Your Own Loop:** Put together numerous loop rides by connecting to the Colville Loop on any of the “spoke” roads. Make a figure eight. Do a lollypop. Explore numerous loop rides all within ten miles of Colville. Pick a distance and go ride it! Here are just a sampling of rides with mileage, main road names, and intersection via points.

6.5 Oakshott-ValleyWestside-MantzRickey-395 [0-1-21-20-26-0]

9.2 Aladdin-Knapp-20 [0-23-8-9-0]

10.2 Oakshott-ValleyWestside-OrinRice-395 [0-1-21-20-19-18-27-26-0]

- 10.8 Oakshott-ValleyWestside-GoldCreek-Oakshott [0-1-2-21-1-0]
- 13.0 Oakshott-VllyWestside-SpanishPraire-WilliamsLk-395-BuenaVista [0-1-4-5-22-0]
- 14.2 Aladdin-Knapp-Graham [0-23-8-9-10-25-0]
- 15.0 Graham-ArtmanGibson-Hotchkiss [0-25-10-11-12-25-0]
- 15.7 BuenaVista-395-WilliamsLk-DougFalls-Aladdin [0-22-5-6-7-8-23-0]
- 16.0 Around the Mountain [0-22-5-6-7-8-24-0]
- 18.0 Aladdin-Knapp-ArtmanGibson-Hotchkiss [0-23-8-9-10-11-12-25-0]
- 19.2 Hotchkiss-ArtmanGibson-OldHwy-OrinRice-Oakshott [0-25-12-13-28-27-18-21-0]
- 20.7 Oakshott-SpanishPraire-DouglasFalls-Knapp [0-1-4-5-6-8-9-0]
- 20.9 Aladdin-Knapp-ArtmanGibson-Hwy 395 [0-23-8-9-11-13-28-0]
- 21.8 Hotchkiss-ArtmanGibson-Skidmore-Oakshott [0-25-12-13-14-15-16-17-21-0]
- 22.4 Graham-20-KitNarcisse-Hotchkiss [0-25-10-11-29-12-25-0]
- 25.8 North Loop [0-1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-25-0]
- 27.9 Graham-20-KitNarcisse-ArtGibson-ValyWSide [0-25-10-11-29-12-13-27-19-21-0]
- 28.2 South Loop [0-1-21-20-19-18-17-16-15-14-13-12-25-0]
- 29.7 Oakshott-SpanishPraire-DouglasFalls-Knapp-Hotchkiss [0-1-4-6-8-9-11-12-25-0]
- 30.8 Oakshott-HallerCrk-Madsen-SBasin-OrinRice-ValyWSide [0-1-17-46-49-41-21-0]
- 31.0 Marble Valley Loop [0-1-21-20-19-18-17-42-44-51-50-14-13-28-27-26-0]
- 31.8 Colville Loop w/o Skidmore/Arden Hill [1 thru 13-28-27-18-19-20-21-1]
- 32.7 Oaksht-SpanishPraire-DougFalls-Knapp-ArtmanGibson-395 [0-1-4-6-8-11-13-0]
- 33.8 Haller-MarbleVlyBasin-OldHwy-ValyWSide [0-1-19-17-44-51-14-27-18-19-21-0]
- 37.7 Colville Loop [1 thru 21] from MP-0 via Oakshott
- 39.9 Colville Loop [9 thru 21, then 1 thru 9] from MP-0 via Hwy 20
- 45.5 Colville Loop [25-10 thru 21, then 1 thru 10] from MP-0 via Graham
- 48.1 Colville Loop [25-12 thru 21, then 1 thru 12] from MP-0 via Hotchkiss

## VALLEY CRUISING



If hills are not “your thing”, enjoy beautiful cruisin’ rides along the valley floor. The Colville River Valley runs from Springdale to Kettle Falls. Spanish Prairie and Williams Lake gently extend to the north of Colville. Multiple country roads on the valley floors provide easy riding. For example, from the intersection of Spanish Prairie and Williams Lake [5] on the north to the south end of Old Hwy-12 mile south of Colville [50], there are 17.5 miles of flat terrain with an elevation variance of 150 feet. Ride a loop incorporating flat Hwy Hwy 395 into your route. Create short and leisurely loops by using Oakshott, Mantz Rickey and OrinRice Roads. Valley flat via points are [5][4][3][2][1][2][20][19][18][27][28][13][14][50][52] and [54]



Northwest of Colville cruise to Kettle Falls on Greenwood Loop Rd, which generally parallels Hwy 395. From MP-0 via Greenwood, down town Kettle Falls is only 11.5 miles with less than a 400 total elevation gain. Return on the wide, safe and smooth shoulder of Hwy 395. [0-1-2-3-4-30-31-32-35]

## LOOP RIDES “OUTSIDE THE COLVILLE LOOP”

There are hundreds of miles of primo cycling to be explored *outside* the Colville Loop. Numerous loops start from MP-0 to points beyond and back to Colville. If you want to shorten your ride, start from a point on or near the loop you wish to ride. The starting points of the farthest loops are only a short sag ride from Colville. Start from a store, campground, beach, or the towns of Kettle Falls (8 miles west) or Chewelah (21 miles south). Each ride is unique, some easy, some hard, and some epic. All rides are drop dead gorgeous.

### East of Colville:

**Tiger Kitt Loop:** Head out east on Hwy 20 (a/k/a Tiger Hwy) for 9.2 miles to [29], and then back to town on Kitt-Narcisse and ArtmanGibson. [12-25-0] (22 miles) Soak in the panoramic views overlooking farms, ranches and mountains. The extension from [11] out to [29] and back to [12] adds 9 miles to the Colville Loop. Locals like to avoid the highway and do a scenic “out and back” on lightly traveled Kitt-Narcisse [12] to [29] (5.5 miles one way).

**Hwy 20 E:** Travel Hwy 20 a/k/a US Bike Route 10 to the Little Pend Oreille Lakes on this out and back. Swim at the USFS Lake Gillette campground and eat lunch at the Beaver Lodge Resort. This is the bike leg of the long-standing Tiger Triathlon, a Colville tradition. (26 miles each way, with 1600 ft of gradual elevation gain to the lakes. Consider taking Kitt-Narcisse [29] and Hotchkiss [12] back to town.

### South of Colville:

**Circle the Basin:** [0-26-27-18-17-42-44-45-46-48-49-41-19-20-21-1-0]

Explore tranquil farms, fields and forests in the North, Middle and South Basins, nestled on east slope of the Huckleberry Range. It is about a 600 foot climb up into the Basin from the Colville Valley floor. Haller Creek offers the preferred cool shaded gradual way up into the Basin [17 to 42] or consider climbing into the basin on gentler Marble Valley-Basin Rd. If you want to test your climbing credentials, climb up the steep Orin Rice grade [19 to 41]. Once the climb is over and you have reached [41], [42], or [44], you are in the Basin. Extend or shorten this loop on South Basin, Orin Rice, Basin, Matson, Naff, Riddel and Marble Valley Basin Roads. Follow your nose and get lost on the sparsely traveled Basin back roads. Do gentle loops or figure eights. Circling the perimeter of the Basin is 30.4 miles with 2060 elevation gain from MP-0. Avoiding the most western portion of the basin [49] makes the loop 3.5 miles shorter and eliminates 500 ft of climbing. Blast back to Colville on steep Orin Rice, or relax on a long descent down Haller Creek.





**MarbleValley Loop:** [0-1-21-20-19-18-17-42-44-51-50-14-13-28-27-26-0]

Take Haller Creek up into the South Basin to [44], then MarbleValleyBasin for a spectacular long beautiful descent down into the valley [51]. Take 12 Mile Rd and cross Hwy 395, navigating to Colville using Old Hwy when possible. (31 miles, 1062 elevation gain).

**Blue Creek Loop:** [52-54-55-52]

Start at Addy [53] (13 m. south of MP-0 on Hwy 395) Travel west one mile out of town on AddyGifford. At Zimmer [52] south to Blue Creek [54], then enjoy newly constructed Blue Creek west to AddyGifford [55] and back to Addy. This 13.3 mile loop makes a nice extension to other rides, particularly those dropping down from the Basin. Stock up with goodies at the Old School House Trading Post in Addy, or grab a lunch at the Addy Inn.

**Orin-Rice Challenge:** [0-1-19-41-49-63-65-64-33-32-31-30-3-1-0]

Challenge yourself with a climb over the Huckleberry Mountain Range. From MP-0 chose your route into the Basin. At [49] continue on OrinRice and climb up over the pass and a steep descent to the Columbia River [65]. Explore Pleasant Valley Rd [63] for an alternate route down. Follow Hwy 25 north back to Kettle Falls. Head east on Old Kettle Road [33], then south at Juniper/Greenwood Loop [32], and back to Colville. (47 miles or more, 3350 ft. elevation gain).

**Gifford-Inchelium Ferry Loop:** [34-33-64-65-67-68-E-B-A-36-34]



Cycle both sides of Lake Roosevelt with stunning vistas of the lake. Enjoy a free ferry ride. Take advantage of all the National Park Service facilities along the way. Start anywhere on the loop, but the closest start is Hwy 395/ Hwy 25 [34], 9.6 miles west of MP-0. Travel south on Hwy 25. Don't miss the Daisy Store. Take the free Gifford ferry [68], which runs every half hour, across the river to Inchelium. [E] Travel up the Inchelium Hwy to Hwy20 [B], cross the bridge and back to the start. Stay and start at any of the numerous NPS campgrounds with beaches. Enjoy a swim during or after your ride. Travel clockwise to keep the incredible lake views on your right. (60 miles, 2900 elevation gain)

### **Chewelah Loops:**

Bike or drive to Chewelah. (21 miles south of MP-0) Several ride possibilities wind through the valley, including Zimmer, Old Hwy, Sand Canyon, Cozy Nook, Burnt Valley and Cottonwood Roads. Try the flat **Chewelah Valley Loop**. Ride Hwy 395 south to Farm to Market then cross Waitts Lakes Rd to Long Prairie and Forest Center. Come back on Hwy 231 to Valley and return to Chewelah on Hafer and Cottonwood.. [70-72-77-81-79-76-75-73-74-71-70] (32 miles, 955 elevation gain) Start from the beautiful park and rest area (cleanest public rest room you will ever see) in Valley and ride the **Waitts Lake Lollypop**, a gentle soft peddle around Waitts Lake after a slight climb up to the lake. [76-77-Lake-77-76] Explore the **Jump Off Joe Journey** from Valley onto Long Prairie and Forest Center. Refresh or eat in Springdale and head east on Hwy 231 toward Loon Lake. Take JumpOff Joe north to Hwy 395 and then back to Valley. [76-77-81-85-84-83-80-78-79-76] (24.2 miles and 1089' elevation gain), or extend your ride and explore Loon Lake and back on Hwy 395. Depending what you chose, distances can range from 20 to 50 miles with gentle rolling hills.

### **Double Huckleberry Treat:** [66-67-68-86-66]

Assault the Huckleberry range twice over two different summits. From [66] (22 miles from MP-0) climb AddyGifford into Summit Valley and over the summit. Coast down to Gifford [67] and then south on Hwy 25 to Addy-Cedonia [86]. Climb back up over the Huckleberry's again and down to the start. The triangle is 40 miles with two impressive climbs, a total of 3380 elevation gain.

### **North of Colville:**



### **Evans Loop:** [0-23-8-7-6-37-39-40-34-33-32-31-30-3-2-1-0]

From MP 0 head counterclockwise around Colville Mtn, then north on Williams Lake [6] and west on Evans Cutoff [39]. Coast down to Evans [40] and head south on Hwy 25 with spectacular lake views. Enjoy a break at NPS campgrounds at Evans and Marcus. Continue along the pristine shore of Lake Roosevelt to Hwy 395/Hwy20 [34]. Head into Kettle Falls for a break, or continue south on Hwy25 to the Old Kettle Hwy [33] then east into Kettle Falls. Go south on Juniper/Greenwood Loop [32] which runs into Hwy 395 [30]. Return to Colville on ValleyWestside [3] and Oakshott [1]. (41 miles, 1830' elevation gain)

### **Onion Creek Loop:** [0-23-8-7-6-37-57-56-40-34-33-32-31-30-3-2-1-0]

Proceed in the same manner as the Evans Loop, but instead of heading up Williams Lake, turn onto Clugston-Onion Creek at [37]. Continue past the Onion Creek store and down to Hwy 25 [57]. Return back to Colville either on Williams Lake, or follow the



Columbia on Hwy 25 as described for Evans Loop. Enjoy the water at the North Gorge campground. (66 miles with Kettle Falls return, 3600 elevation gain)

**Northport-Aladdin Loop:** [0-24-7-58-61or59, 57-56-34-0]

From MP 0, head north up Aladdin. At [58] you can go north on Deep Lake-Boundary past Deep Lake all the way to the Canadian border [61] and back to Northport on Northport-Boundary Rd [59]. Alternatively, at [58] you can go straight to Northport and cut off 15 miles. Return to Colville on Hwy 25, Onion Creek, or Williams Lake (mileages range from 73 to 90 miles, with 4200' elevation gain)



**Flat Creek Loop:** [34-36-A-C-60-59-57-56-40-34]

This is the ride that “adventure” cycling outfitters bring their guests from all over the country to experience. Start anywhere on the loop. From [34], 9.6 miles east of MP-0, cross the bridge over the Columbia [A], then north on Hwy 395 along the river to Northport-Flat Creek [C]. Go over the twin bridges onto remarkably quiet and spectacularly beautiful NorthportFlatCreek Rd that meanders along the bluffs and shore of the river. Marvel at the expansive views of Lake Roosevelt and the surrounding mountains as they open up before you. Take a break at Snag Cove campground or visit China Bend Winery if you have time. At Hwy 25 [60] cross the bridge to Northport. [59] Flow back down the river on Hwy 25 to the start [34] (68 miles and 3300' ft elevation gain). Want to experience just a portion of this epic bike route? Start at the NPS Kamloops Island Campground [C] or at Snag Cove Campground and go out and back as far as you want.

**Twin Summits Loop:**

You will be bragging to your grandchildren about this epic ride over two Kettle Crest Mountain Range passes. From Hwy 395/20 [A], (12 miles west of MP-0), climb the steady modern highway grade west on Hwy 20. This is the Sherman Pass Scenic Byway. In 22 miles you will summit Sherman pass at 5574', Washington state's highest year round pass. Coast down to Hwy 21 near Republic, and then head north. At Curlew head east on Boulder Creek Rd over Boulder Pass (elevation 4110'). Coast down to Hwy 395, and back to the start. (94 miles and over 8200' elevation gain) Nothing to it! Want to show off? Start from Colville.



## **THE CLIMBS**

Serious road cyclists and racers love to climb. That's what they do! In 99.9% of the continent, that proves to be a problem...because...most places are flat! Northeast Washington offers seven extended summit climbs that let you challenge yourself on a variety of steep grades. You can start from Colville, or pick a start at the base of a climb. Weave your climbs into loops...or if you choose, pick one and go up and down all day. All of these climbs let you go "over the top" and down to explore the other side, or you can call it a day and scream back down the grade from where you came. If you just want to get a thigh-burning challenge close to town, there are several steep grades, all within 5 miles of MP-0. Try Gold Creek from [21] (630' gain in 2 miles), Rocky Lake Rd (300' in a half mile), or OrinRice [19] (650' in a little more than a mile). Or just look around, find a road, and climb it!

### **Gold Creek Loop:**

On many rides, bikers will find themselves riding into or out of Colville on valley flat Oakshott road [1]. Whether to get your juices going to start a ride, or to punish yourself at the finish, feel "THE BURN". Gold Creek Loop Rd adds 2.3 miles to the Colville Loop and 630 ft of climbing. It is a gentler climb taking the Gold Creek Loop counter clockwise.

### **Conquering the Huckleberry Range:**

Starting from the Columbia River side you can head east over the Huckleberry Range on four separate climbs. Starting in Rice [65] attack the Orin-Rice Summit (1900 ft climb in 5.9 miles). From Gifford [67] head over Addy-Gifford Summit (1983 ft climb in 8 miles), from Cedonia [86] climb the Addy-Cedonia Summit (1520 ft climb in 9 miles), or from Hunters [87] head over the Springdale-Hunters Summit (1800 ft climb in 10.5 miles). Climbing from the Columbia River side is generally steeper than climbing from the Colville River Valley side, but you can attack these summits from either direction.

### **Flowery Trail Pass:**

Start in Chewelah [70] and climb east on Flowery Trail Rd to Flowery Trail Pass and 49 Degrees North Ski Resort (2400 ft climb in 8.8 miles). At the summit, check out the ski resort, hiking trails, mountain bike trails, and cross-country ski facilities.

### **Boulder Creek Pass:**

When you get bored with the little stuff, head west and attack the Kettle Range. From MP-0 head north on Hwy 395 for 28 miles along the scenic Columbia and Kettle Rivers to Boulder Creek [D]. Head west up to Boulder Creek Pass (3134 ft of climbing in 11.7 miles. As you are feeling "the Burn", be awed at the destructiveness of the wild fire that devastated this environment in 2015.

### **Sherman Pass:**

Take on the big one. From the Columbia River [A] head west on the Sherman Pass Scenic Byway (Hwy20 and also US Bike Route 10). Test your endurance by grinding up the steady grade to the top, where you can take a "selfie" with the sign marking the elevation at 5574 ft, the highest year round pass in Washington state. You will have completed a 4328 foot climb in 22.3 miles. Turn around and coast back. Hint: the return trip is easier!

### **Quadruple Huckleberry Bypass:**

Want a climbing work out that you can brag to your buddies about? Conquer all four climbs over the Huckleberry Range on the same ride. Head west from Springdale[84], and climb over the Springdale-Hunters pass to Hunters [87]. Head north to Cedonia [86], and then over the pass on Addy-Cedonia Rd to [66]. Take a left on AddyGifford and climb over the AddyGifford Pass down to Gifford [67]. Head north on Hwy 25 to Rice [65] and make



your fourth climb of the day over the Huckleberry range on OrinRice Road to [49]. Coast down to Colville for a one-way ride (90 miles and 6728 ft of climbing). If you want to make an EPIC loop of it, from Orin Rice [49], head down Marble Valley Basin to [51], Zimmer Rd to Blue Creek [54], and Hwy Hwy 395 to Chewelah, then back down to Springdale where you started for a total of 116 miles and 7570 ft of elevation gain.

## THE SPUR ROADS

If you are traveling a loop and see a paved road that looks interesting, take it and explore. It will likely eventually turn to gravel. These roads are very lightly traveled, and likely will involve a climb of some type as they head up into “the hills”. When a spur road does end, head back and notice that all the vistas have changed. Bored with a ride that is too flat or want to add some miles, pick a spur with a climb. Interesting spur roads are:

**Rocky Lake Rd:** Want to challenge your fellow riders? “Race you to the top!” When traveling on Hotchkiss inside the Colville Loop, turn off onto the Rocky Lake Rd (2.7 miles from MP-0) for a “very” steep 300 ft sprint climb over a half mile distance. Recover as the pavement continues along the ridgeline at the top with stunning vistas west and south over the Colville Valley and the Basin country. Study the vista and try to figure out where you want to ride tomorrow. After 1.5 miles the pavement ends and an unimproved gravel road goes past the lake and all the way to ArtmanGibson for riders with gravel grinders. Otherwise, head back and scream down the hill. Watch out for crossing ducks near the pond at the bottom of the hill.

### Mingo Mountain Rd:

Can’t get enough of Greenwood Loop? At [31] head up Mingo Mtn road for 2.2 gentle miles of vistas and tranquility on a very lightly traveled road with expansive vistas overlooking the Colville and Columbia River valleys.



**Prouty Corners Rd:** Head north off Hwy 20 between [9] and [10] on Prouty Corner Loop Rd past fields and views of Dominion Mtn. You will hit gravel in 2.3 miles after a 400 ft climb.

**QuarryBrown’s Lake Rd:** Head west off Hwy 395 south of Chewelah (25.9 miles from MP-0) Climb out of the valley and explore the tranquil Brown’s Lake area west of Chewelah. (5.8 paved miles with a 450 ft climb)



## THE LONG AND THE SHORT OF IT

Does your group have riders of different skills, stamina or motivation? Some want short and others want long? Some want to climb and others like cruising? Some are tired, and others want to press on? Extend your ride or explore a spur road while the rest of the group plods along. The variety of the routes and terrain allows everyone to participate and go out and come back together.

For example, go out together on the Evans and Onion Creek Loops, splitting at [38]. The EZ-goers choosing the Evans Loop can hang out at campgrounds at Evans or Marcus, or the brewery in Kettle Falls, while the Onion Creek riders can burn through an extra 25 miles looping back to a meeting point. Peddle back together.

On the Northport-Aladdin Loop, at [58] the go-getters can do DeepLake-Boundary to Wanita [61] and back to Northport, while the EZ-goers can cut off 15 miles by going directly to Northport to enjoy a beer at Kuk's Tavern, the oldest licensed tavern in Washington state since 1889. Meet up there and head back together.

Together head up into the Basin on Haller Creek. The aggressive riders can split at [43] and climb an additional 500 ft and 3.5 miles to [49], while the soft peddlers can head directly back to [41] and avoid the climb. Meet up again for snacks at the fire hall at [41] and everybody can scream down the OrinRice grade together back to town.

There are countless short cuts and route extensions that will allow your group to gather at a meeting point to celebrate the ride. Just study your maps and figure it out.

## THE OVERNIGHT LOOPS:

Want to explore the entire region? With a credit card, toothbrush, light footwear, and a change of underwear (or not), explore the area with several adventurous overnight loop rides. Or strap on your panniers and load up the gear for an overnight. Travel creatively. Ship a package of clothes to the motel where you will be staying, or find a thrift store for that special "evening on the town". These are some of the rides featured by national "adventure" road cycling outfitters whose clients pay thousands of dollars for these experiences. You can do them on the cheap. Remember to take your passport for trips into Canada.

**Rossland, BC:** There are several route options to Rossland/Trail, but nothing can top the ride to Rossland on NorthportFlatCreek Rd. Enjoy an evening, or more, in Rossland, "Canada's Mountain Biking Capital". You may have to rent a mountain bike to fully enjoy what Rossland has to offer. Loop back to Colville downhill through Trail BC, crossing the border at Wanita [61], then Deep Lake Boundary/Aladdin [58]. Or from Wanita [61] return to Northport [59] and then back to Colville on ClugstonOnion Creek [57] or Williams Lake [56] or Hwy 25. Day 1 is 60 miles and Day 2 ranges from 50 to 60 miles depending on route.



**Grand Forks, BC:** From MP-0, head north on Hwy 395 meandering along the beautiful Kettle River the entire way. Cross the border and explore Christina Lake before heading on Hwy 3 to Grand Forks. (55 miles). Enjoy the town and eat some borscht, a ethnic Russian specialty. Come back to Colville through Danville on Hwy21 to Curlew and then over Boulder Pass to Hwy 395 (65 miles). Or spend a second night on the road and stay in Republic. (36 miles) Alternatively, head east on the Crows Nest Hwy 3 to Castlegar BC, and spend the second night there or head back to Trail or Rossland.

**Republic:** This is the Two Summit Loop for sane people. Climb over Sherman Pass and bed down in Republic (53 miles). Have a beer at the brewery. Get going the next day north on Hwy 21 to Curlew, and then east over Boulder Pass to Hwy 395 and back to Colville (73 miles). It's your choice as to which direction you want to ride it.

**Salmo BC:** Head east on Hwy20 to Tiger, then north on Hwy 31 along the Little Pend Oreille River, a segment of the renowned International Selkirk Loop, to Metaline Falls (45 miles). Overnight there, or continue north across the border to Salmo BC (79 miles from MP-0). Return the next day by way of the Crows Nest Hwy 3 toward Trail BC, cross the border at Waneta [61], and travel back to Colville on Deep Lake/Boundary then Aladdin. (73 miles from Salmo)

**Cusick Usk-Flowery Trail-Tiger:** Ride south to Chewelah on Hwy 395 or any of the parallel side roads, then east on Flowery Trail over the pass and past the 49 Degrees North ski area. Coast down into the Little Pend Oreille river valley, and then north on Hwy 20. Find a bed and breakfast, or camp for the night. Note: From Usk you can take less traveled LeClerc Road on the east side of the Pend Oreille river all the way to Ione. On Day two travel to Tiger (Hwy20/Hwy31) and continue back to Colville on Hwy20. Entire loop is 118 miles.

**Spokane/Coeur d'Alene:** From MP-0 head south on the smooth wide and generally flat shoulder of Hwy 395 for 44 miles to the Williams Valley Rd just north of Clayton. (Suggested alternate segments that avoid Hwy 395 are ValleyWestside/Skidmore [1]to[16], OldHwyArden, OldHwy12Mile, TwelveMile/MarbleValley/Zimmer [50]to[53], FarmToMarket/LongPrairie/ForestCenter [72-77-81], Cottonwood [70-71-74], and JumpOffJoe [80-83]. Alternate segments add some mileage.) Whatever route you take, you must travel Hwy 395 from Loon Lake to Williams Valley Rd. near Clayton. Williams Valley "Ts" with Gibson Rd after 3 miles. Travel east for one mile and turn south on Swenson Road for 10 miles to Nine Mile Falls on the Spokane River. Take Hwy291 towards Spokane. After 3.7 miles take West Charles Rd over the Spokane River to Riverside State Park, and jump onto the most westerly extension the 60 mile Centennial Trail, the jewel of Spokane biking scene. Enjoy the Centennial Trail for 14 miles to downtown Spokane. Shortest distance from Colville on this route is 78 miles, plus any distance added by the alternate routes. Feeling strong? Want to extend your trip? Continue on the Centennial Trail for 37 more miles to downtown Coeur d'Alene, ID.

## THE ROAD CYCLING NIRVANA:

In pursuit of their passion to cycle roads on skinny tires, road bikers have numerous sophisticated tools to search out and compare routes, loops, and climbs. Strava, MapMyRide, RideWithGPS, Google Earth, GPS programs, and other route finders can instantly scan the continent for riding options and make comparisons.

North East Washington has a web of paved roads that form a “perfect storm” for road cycling. These roads were not designed or constructed for cycling...however they exist and are now being discovered for their extraordinary road cycling potential. The roads are lightly traveled, varied, and all incredibly scenic.



There are few places, if any, in North America where there is better road cycling options than in North East Washington. **Enjoy!!!**

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