

eMTB ADVENTURE MAPS

BIG BEAR LAKE



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OVERVIEW

Big Bear Lake, California is part of the Mountain Top Ranger District of the San Bernardino National Forest. Located 1.5 hours north of Riverside, California, Big Bear is a scenic destination with a range of landscapes to ride through, from high alpine meadows to desert covered in pine forests and joshua trees.

SEASON

Spring and Fall

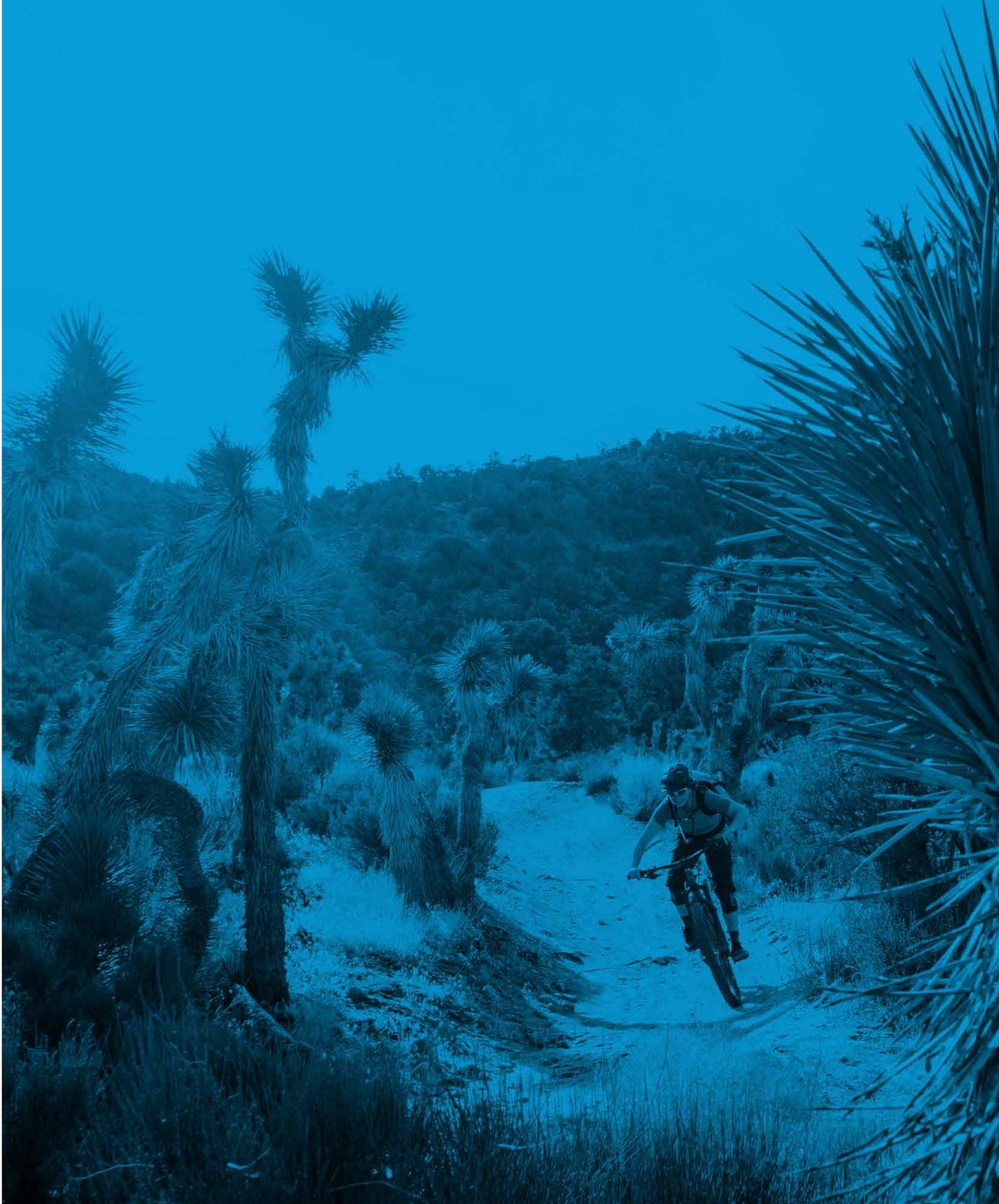
PLEASE FOLLOW THESE GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR RESPONSIBLE EMTB RIDING:

On federal, state, county and local trails, eMTB access varies significantly.

Generally speaking, any natural surface trail designated for both motorized and non-motorized use is open to eMTBs.

eMTBs may not be allowed on trails managed for non-motorized activities. Do not ride your eMTB in areas where the local rules are unclear. When in doubt, ask your local land manager about access, since local land rules change frequently.

PeopleForBikes and the Bicycle Product Suppliers Association are working to promote sensible access to eMTBs. It is critical that eMTB riders ride legally and only on authorized trails to show that all mountain bikers are responsible users.



1 BUTLER PEAK FIRE LOOKOUT | 12 MILES

2 JOHN BULL LOOP | 14.8 MILES

3 CACTUS FLATS | 5.8 MILES

4 SOUTHSHORE TO SANTA ANA AND BACK | 27.7 MILES

5 BEAR MOUNTAIN TO WILDHORSE | 21 MILES



1 BUTLER PEAK FIRE LOOKOUT | 12 MILES

BACKGROUND

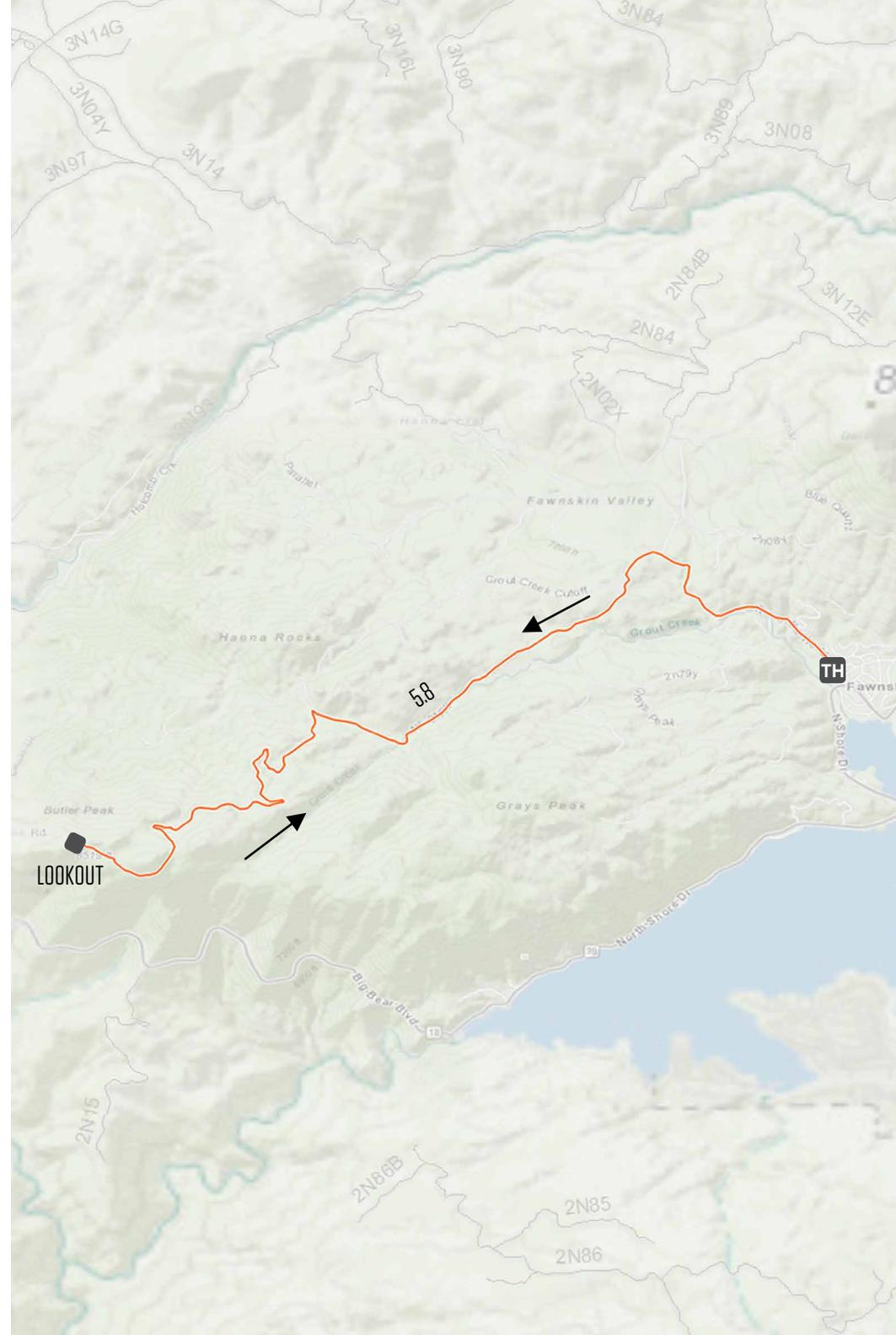
- » 12 miles
- » 1,830' elevation gain
- » Easy dirt road
- » Out and back
- » Tall pine forest
- » <https://www.mtbproject.com/trail/7035075/butler-peak-fire-lookout>

DESCRIPTION

Starting on the north side of Big Bear Lake, the ride to Butler Peak Fire lookout is along a dirt road. The route travels through a mix of forest and burn areas, leading to scenic 360-degree views, including Big Bear Lake and the LA Basin.

ACCESS

From Big Bear Lake Village on Pine Knot Ave., drive north to Big Bear Blvd. (CA-18) and turn left. Drive 4 miles to CA-38 and turn right. Drive 3.4 miles to Fawn Park (39226 N Shore Drive).



2 JOHN BULL LOOP | 14.8 MILES

BACKGROUND

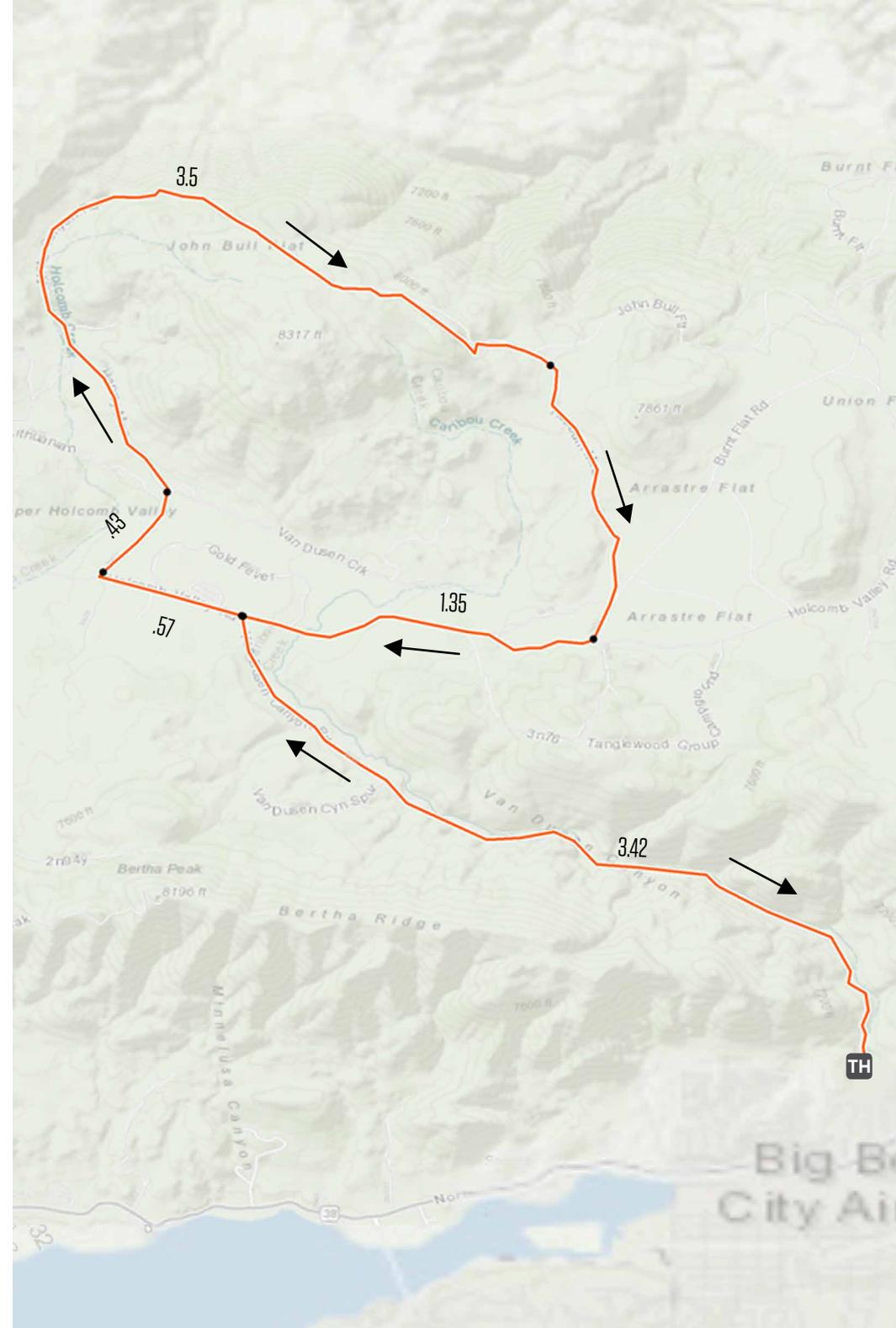
- » 14.8 miles
- » 1,368' elevation gain
- » Rough dirt rocks with areas of rocks and slickrock
- » Loop
- » Open pine forest with granite boulders and views of the desert to the north
- » <https://www.mtbproject.com/trail/7035077/john-bull-loop>

DESCRIPTION

This is one of the most challenging 4x4 roads in the San Bernardino Mountains, and brings with it a great challenge for mountain bikers and a first hand look at rough trails for hikers. The suggested loop starts at the corner of Forest Roads 3N16 and 3N32. Head up 3N32 until you reach the turnoff for the Holcomb Valley Pinnacles, a popular local rock climbing area. Turn left on 3N07A and head south past the Pinnacles climbing area and through tight boulders. You'll end up on the popular and sandy 3N07; follow this northwest onto 3N43 and then finally meet up officially with 3N10, John Bull. The rocky and boulder heavy trail awaits; if you can clear all of this on an eMTB, you are doing quite well. Pass several far reaching views of the desert north of Big Bear and then head down more boulders until you level out and cross over 3N32. Keep going straight and the John Bull Trail continues, with steep uphill and jarring downhill. Hit 3N02 and follow it back down to the main thoroughfare of 3N16. Follow this west and back to your starting point.

ACCESS

From Big Bear Lake Village on Pine Knot Ave., drive north to Big Bear Blvd. (CA-18) and turn right. Drive 3.5 miles to Division Dr and turn left. Turn right on W North Shore Dr (CA-18) and drive 0.7 miles to Van Dusen Canyon Rd. Park anywhere along the road (1103 Van Dusen Canyon Rd.).



3 CACTUS FLATS | 5.8 MILES

BACKGROUND

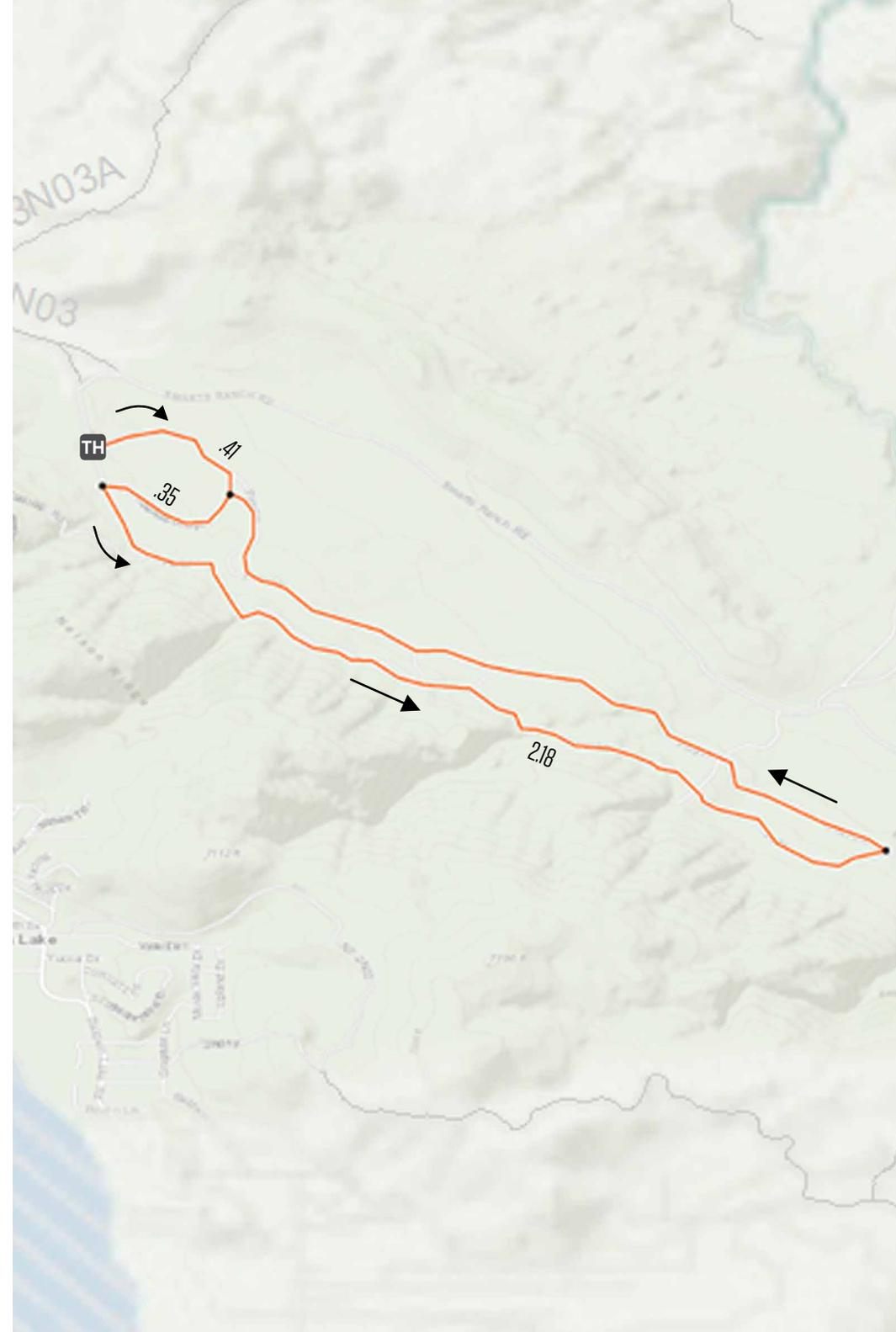
- » 5.8 miles
- » 535' elevation gain
- » Packed dirt with sections of loose sand in a motorized area
- » Loop
- » Mixed forest of Joshua trees and pines with a good view of the desert
- » <https://www.mtbproject.com/trail/7035076/cactus-flats-ohv>

DESCRIPTION

The Cactus Flats Loop starts from an OHV area on Joshua Loop. Enjoy frequent rollers and berms through both open meadows and a mix of pine forest and joshua trees. Continue straight at the intersection with Pinion and ride to Vista. Turn left and follow this undulating trail, gradually downhill. There are a couple of steep and punchy sections, as well as some challenging sections with loose rocks. At the bottom, stay left and ride up Pinion. The route trends uphill and is similar to Vista, but not as steep. At the intersection with Joshua Loop, turn right to whoop it up back to the beginning of the ride.

ACCESS

Cactus Flats is a 25-minute drive from Big Bear Lake. From Big Bear Lake Village on Pine Knot Ave., drive north to Big Bear Blvd. (CA-18) and turn right. Drive 3.5 miles to Division Dr. and turn left. Turn right on W North Shore Dr. (CA-18). Continue on CA-18 and continue for 6.5 miles to Cactus Rd. Turn right and then drive 0.9 milesto a big parking area (37000 CA-18, Lucerne Valley).



4 SOUTHSHORE TO SANTA ANA AND BACK | 27.7 MILES

BACKGROUND

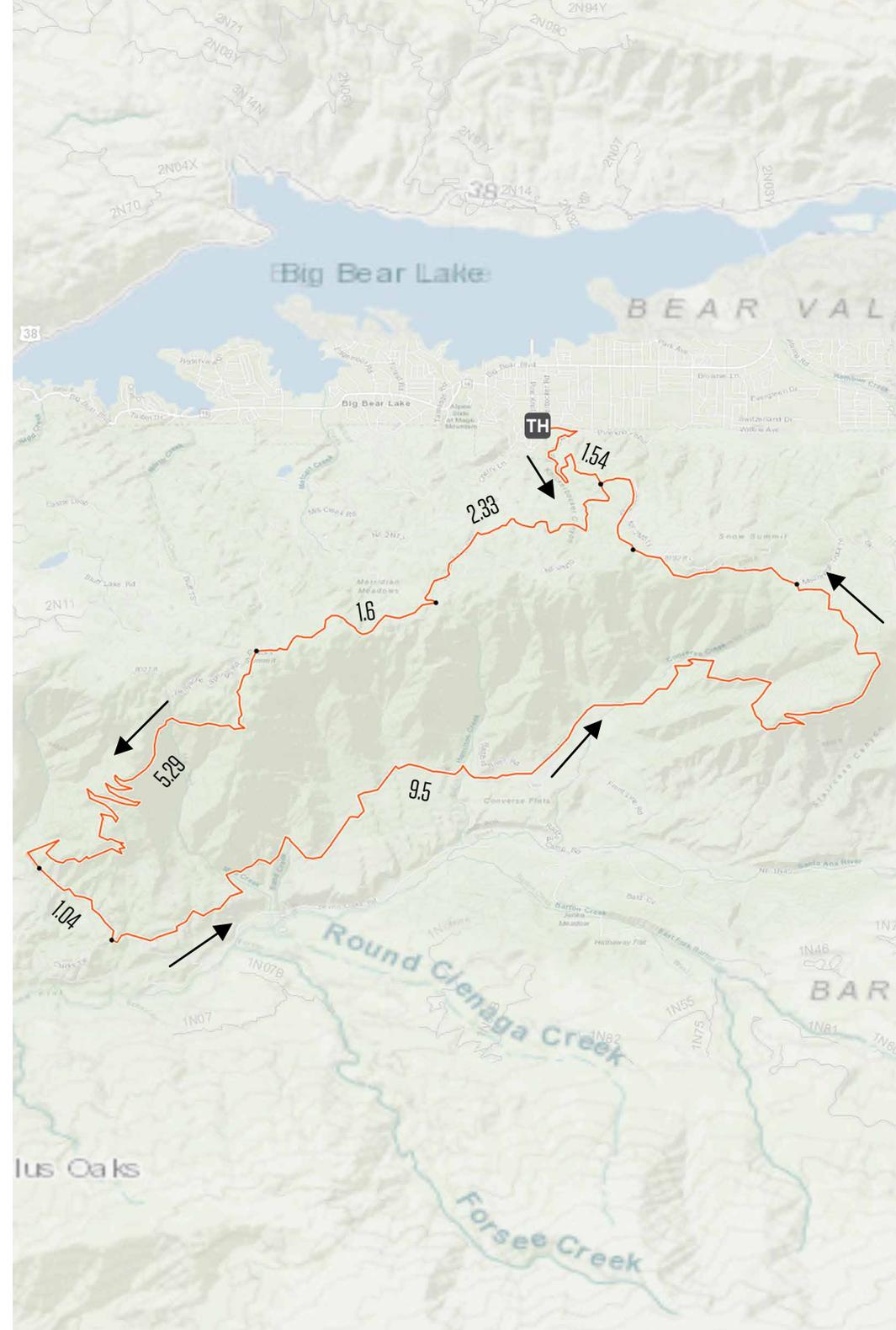
- » 27.7 miles
- » 4,549' elevation gain
- » Hard packed dirt roads
- » Loop
- » Open forest riding with expansive views
- » <https://www.mtbproject.com/trail/7035081/south-shore-to-santa-ana-loop>

DESCRIPTION

This route is a loop, starting near the Village of Big Bear Lake. Start pedaling up FSR 2N08. At the top, you'll enjoy expansive views before starting a "big time" downhill on Clark's Grade (1N54) into the Santa Ana River Valley. At the bottom, turn left on Converse Road (1N04) and settle in for a big climb back up to the South Shore on Radford Truck Trail (2N06). The climb is on a less-traveled fire road with rocky sections on the upper reaches. Near the top, turn left on Skyline Road (2N10). From there, turn right on FSR 2N51Y and then right again on FSR 2N08 to finish the ride.

ACCESS

You can start this ride from town. From Big Bear Village, pedal east on Village Dr. to Knickerbocker Rd. and turn right. Ride 0.3 miles to USFS Road 2N08 to start the ride.



5 BEAR MOUNTAIN TO WILDHORSE MEADOWS | 21 MILES

BACKGROUND

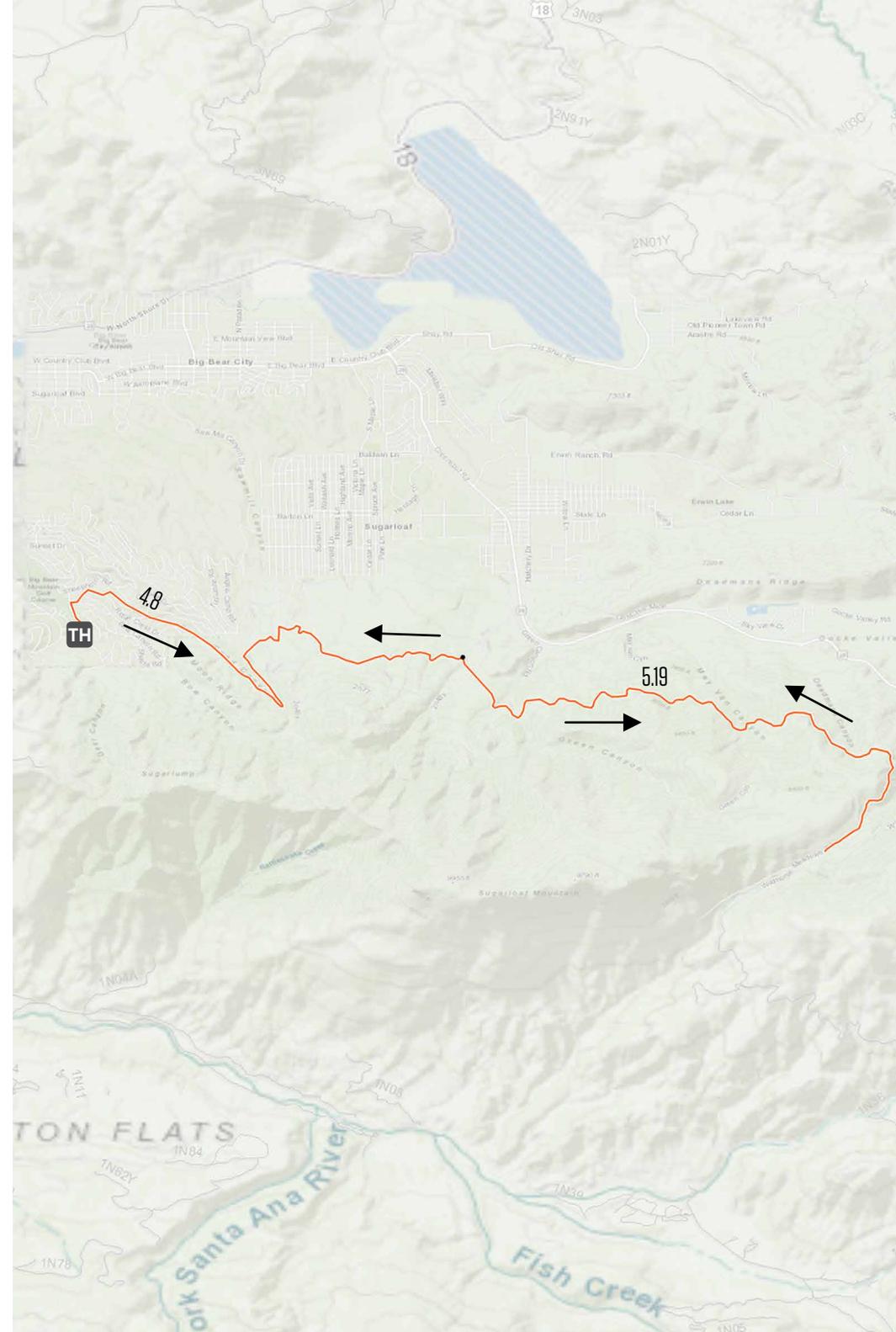
- » 21 miles
- » 2,365' elevation gain
- » Doubletrack
- » Out and back
- » A mix of open forest, large meadows and 360 degree views
- » <https://www.mtbproject.com/trail/7035083/bear-mountain-to-wildhorse-meadows>

DESCRIPTION

From Bear Mountain Ski Area, head out on Moonridge Rd. to Sand Canyon Rd. (2N27). Continue straight when the road turns to dirt. After 3.8 miles, stay right onto Wildhorse Meadows Road (2N93) and enjoy a long gradual climb through mixed forest and open meadows. About 5 miles into Wildhorse Meadows Road, the views into the desert open up. This is a great place to turn around and retrace your steps to the beginning of the route. If you continue on this road, it continues for another 6 miles, following a steady descent to CA-38.

ACCESS

From Big Bear Lake Village on Pine Knot Ave., drive north to Big Bear Blvd. (CA-18) and turn right. Drive 1.5 miles to Moon Ridge Rd. Turn right here following Moon Ridge Rd. onto Club View Dr. for 1.9 miles to Bear Mountain Ski Area.





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