

Cariboo Chilcotin Adventure Guides Spring/99

Hangman Springs

Rec Use:
Rating:

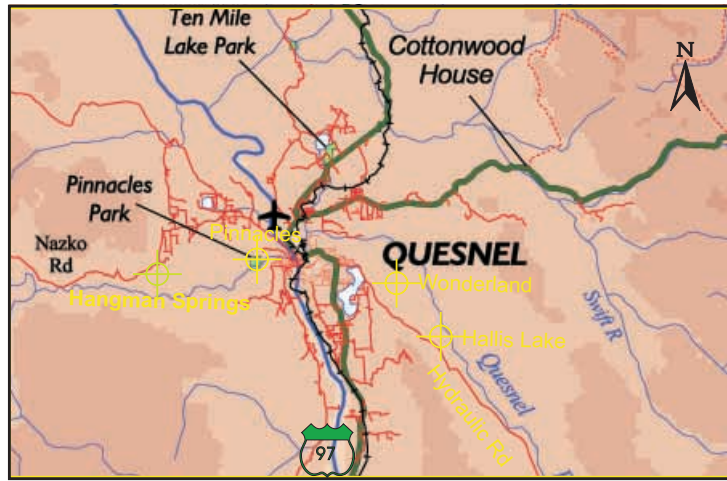


At a Glance

The Hangman Springs Trail network is maintained by the Baker Creek Endurance Riders. These trails are multi-use and you can expect to find equestrians, mountain bikers, and ATVs sharing the trail network. The highlight of the trails are very scenic views along Baker Creek.

Overall Length: number of 20 km loops possible
Average Grade: 5 to 10%
Elevation change: ±100 meters

The outdoor recreation ratings have been developed through a combination of generally recognized standards for activities such as biking, hiking, kayaking, and local knowledge.



Above: Regional Overview

Trailhead (s)

From Quesnel cross the bridge to West Quesnel and take the Nazko Highway turn-off. Continue past the golf course and up and Bouchie Lake School. About 5 km past the school turn left into a Highways gravel pit. The road continues south through the gravel pit (past some outhouses) for about 1 km to a parking/picnic area. Park here and explore the trail

Trail Description

The story of Hangman Springs comes from early 1900s when a road building crew was working in the area. Apparently, the road crew complained regularly about the camp cooking. One day the cook declared to the crew that they “..wouldn’t have to eat his cooking anymore.” When they returned to camp that evening they found the cook had hung himself. No happy ending here!

If you can get past the name, Hangman Springs offers a wide variety of trails, from old roads to double and single track trails, and great views of Baker Creek and beyond. The trails are marked with equestrian signs and users should expect encounters with riders on horseback. Some bells on your pack or bike are a good idea to let others know you are coming. Not far from the parking area is the original artesian springs (see map). A visit to the springs for cool, fresh water is highly recommended.

For more the more adventurous, it is possible to explore the further along Baker Creek in both directions. However, the trail along the creek canyon may be difficult to follow in places due to lack of maintenance and use. Please remember that the entire area is used for cattle grazing. Please respect historic ranching use in this area by closing gates and showing respect for private. You will need to ask landowners for permission to cross their land if heading from Hangman Springs to Pinnacles.

Be Aware of..

- Encounters with other trail users - follow trail etiquette.
- Hunters in fall and ATVs on bush roads.
- Possibility of bear encounters.

Trail Ethics

- Respect private land. Although the Hangman Springs trail network is entirely on Crown land, there are private lands and grazing leases to the east, along Baker Creek..
- Please be careful around the spring - it offers a clean and cool source of drinking water. Don't let horses trample the area around the spring.
- Mountain bikers should control their bicycles, stay on existing trails and practice low impact cycling.
- Mountain bikers and equestrians should slow down when passing hikers or stop to let them pass.
- Mountain bikers and equestrians should anticipate other trail users around corners or in blind spots.



Above:
View of Baker Creek Canyon from south trail loop.

The authors of the Cariboo Chilcotin Adventure Guides have tried hard to provide up to date, accurate information. However, no guide is perfect and no responsibility is accepted for any discrepancies or lack of precision. Also, users of the Cariboo Chilcotin Adventure Guides agree to waive any and all claims against the authors and staff for personal injury or mis-adventure while undertaking any outdoor recreation activity. Make sure you evaluate your ability in relation to the risks and challenges. Be **prepared** for weather changes, bring first aid gear, **go with a friend(s)**, and **leave a copy of your trip plan with someone you trust.**

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