

Cariboo Chilcotin Adventure Guides Spring/99

South Lakeside Trail Network

Rec Use:
Rating:



At a Glance

The South Lakeside Trail network is an incredible maze of trails extending across the plateau above Williams Lake. There is a trail for every ability and interest from easy double-track to expert single-track. Set aside the summer to explore!

Overall Length: ± 15 km west to east along main trail

Average Grade: 10-20% on climb to Alpine

Total Elevation gain: ±480 meters Lake to plateau

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



Trailhead(s):

There are several access points for the trails at different elevations. The best approach is to leave your vehicle in town and ride to any of the access points.

Russet Bluff Access

Turn west onto Highway 20 at the 'Y' and continue for 1 km to South Lakeside Drive (look for new Cdn Tire Store). Turn left onto South Lakeside and continue for about 8 km to the very end. The trail begins at cul de sac at the end of the road. From this point, you have two options, first to follow the trail as it contours to the west and connects with a logging road (see map) or take a short-cut route on an old skid trail 'straight-up' to connect with the main east-west access trail. While the short-cut is not technically difficult, it is an extended 20% + grade.

Juniper Street

Drive about 2 km along Southlakeside Drive, look for the convenience store and take the second right, Birch Hill Road. Drive up Birch Hill and turn right onto Juniper Street. Continue on this road as it turns to gravel. Road ends at Crown land and connects with ATV trail linking to South Lakeside Trail network.

Schmidt Road

Drive west on Highway 20 for 1.5 km and turn left onto Dog Creek Road. Head up this twisty high traffic road for about 1.5 km and turn left onto Schmidt Road (just before Elementary School). Continue on Schmidt Road for a short distance then take the first left, Allen Road, and continue to the end. Trail begins on Crown land at the end of the road.

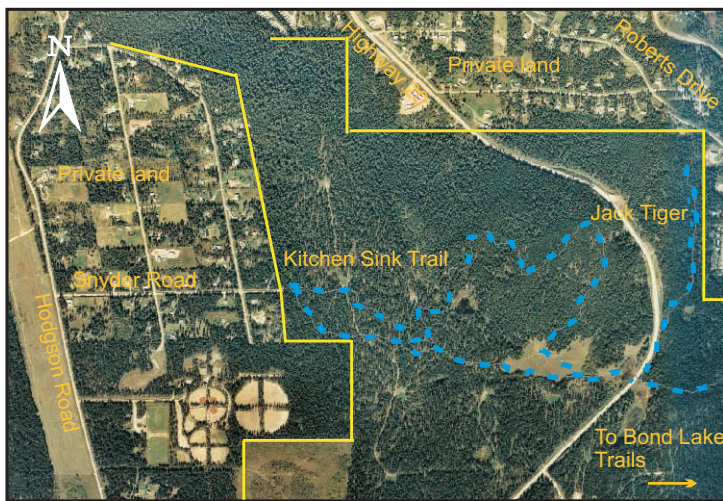
Gun-a-Noot

Head up Dog Creek Road, continue past the Elementary School for about .5 km. Turn left onto Gun-a-Noot Trail and continue to the end. Trail begins on Crown land at the end of the road.

Other Accesses

The main access route to the South Lakeside Trails over the years has been through undeveloped BC Rail property, across from the old Stockyards Site on South Lakeside. However, since BC Rail has not given permission for public use of it's land and they have liability concerns, we cannot endorse this access option.

Kitchen Sink Trail



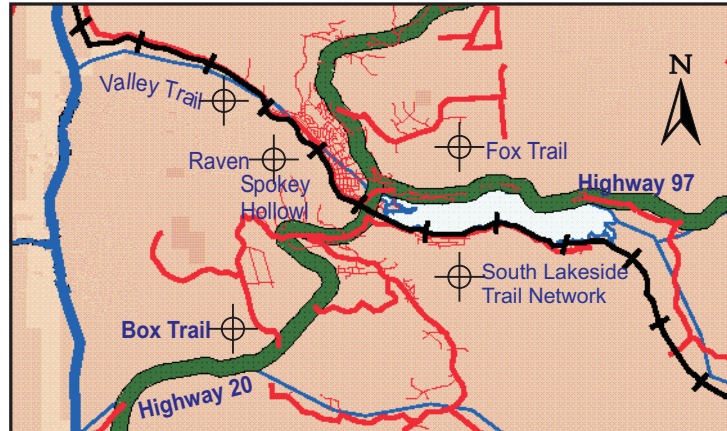
Trail Description

The Kitchen Sink is a short fun intermediate ride which connects with the Bond Lake and South Lake trail systems. Access the trails by riding up Highway 20 about 4 km from town. Just after the highway curves through a major rock cut, look for a meadow on your right. The old road into the meadow links to the trail. The other option is to ride up Hodgson Road past Bell E Acres golf course to Snyder Road. Turn left onto Snyder and continue to the end. The trail begins as an obvious ATV track, looping through an open meadow to the start of the single track - look for hanging kitchen sink! Continuing through the meadow will bring you to Highway 20 and connections to Jack Tiger and the Bond Lake trails..

Be Aware of:

- Other users such as ATVs on wider double track or hikers and equestrians on all trails.
- Potential for bear encounters in late spring, summer, and fall.
- Possible confusion due to large number of trails and options for loops. There are plans to sign the trails in Spring/99 but don't count on signs for navigation.

Local Area Overview Map



Trail Ethics

- The trail map includes private land boundaries and focuses on trails which lie on Crown land. However, with the limitations of scale it is difficult to pinpoint exact boundaries. You will find short-cuts and routes which may cross private land. To avoid issues, please be sensitive to landowners rights and respect private property.
- When mountain bikers or hikers encounter equestrians, stop, step off the trail to the low side, and let the horse party pass. Follow directions from riders (ask if uncertain).
- Control your bicycles, stay on existing trails, and practice low impact cycling.
- Slow down when passing hikers or stop to let them pass.
- Anticipate other trail users around corners or in blind spots.

Trail Description

Gun-a-Noot

The original and still classic 'shuttle downhill' is now wider and can be ridden in both directions.

Southside

Heading west to east along a series of ridges, dips, and hollows for a fun, intermediate ride to the old Asbestos Pits. Highlights include several nice views of Williams Lake, old growth forest, and a neat cabin. Once at the Pits, the Crown Jewel of the trails, you can exit on an existing logging road (see map) and connect with the old skid trail coming up from Russet Bluff subdivision, returning via South Lakeside Drive.

Downhills to Southlakeside Drive

Radbitz and Stupid - expert only and are a little tricky to find.

Chimney Connector

Follow the easy single and double track (green) trails from the Gun-a-Noot access, south east along a ridge system to connect with old logging roads and eventually Anderson Road. The trail to the east leads through a series of meadows and eventually connects with the Brunson Lake area.



Top Left: View of lake from Southside Trail
Top Right: Old Cabin - Cabin Trail
Left: View from the "Pits" looking to Mission area

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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