

Free 2021 Edition

Platte Valley Adventures

For the “Good Times Valley” & Beyond

*Saratoga, Encampment, Riverside,
Hanna, Medicine Bow, Elk Mountain,
The Snowy Range & The Sierra Madres*

*Your guide to
summer activities
and attractions*

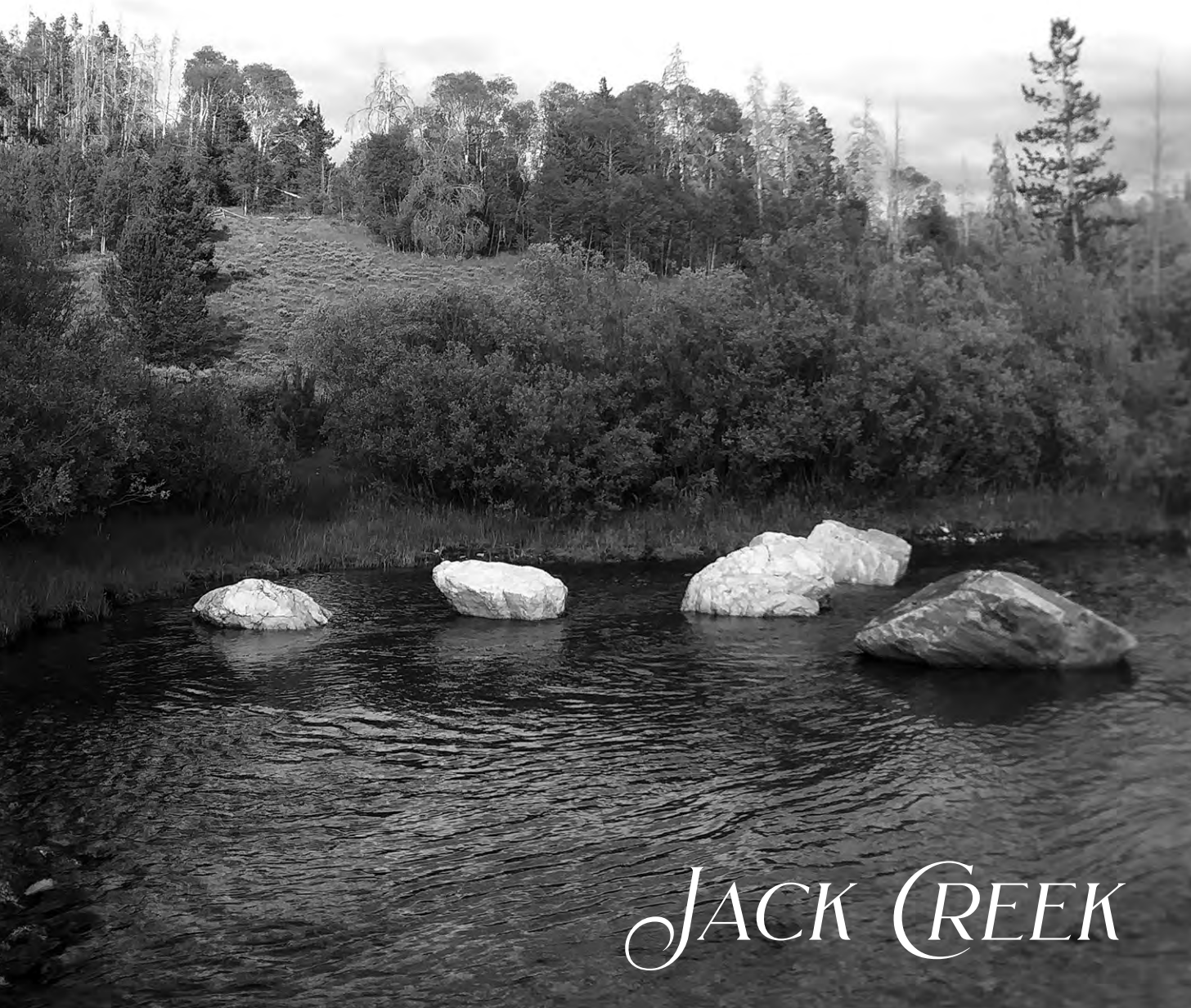
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Welcome To East Carbon County



JACK CREEK

Hello and thank you for picking up Platte Valley Adventures, a new publication from the staff of the Saratoga Sun.

Longtime readers of the Sun will remember that, for over 20 years, the newspaper put out an annual summer guide that evolved from the Platte Valley Adventure Guide to the Adventure Guide. Originally it was printed on newsprint and eventually on glossy, high definition pages.

In a way, we are returning to our roots by going back to newsprint. The hope is you will carry us with you as you go on your adventures, even if it's rolled up and in your back pocket.

Previous publications put out by the Saratoga Sun have featured events throughout the summer that have drawn hundreds of people each year. Last year, many of those events were unable to take place due to the pandemic. This year, however, you will find a schedule of new and returning

events to pass the time in eastern Carbon County.

If you're still concerned about being a little too close to people, you will also find some simple ideas for social distancing adventures in the Platte Valley and the areas around Hanna, Elk Mountain and Medicine Bow. The Valley is surrounded by the Snowy Range and Sierra Madre mountains and sports wonderful hiking trails.

If hiking and biking are a little on the dry side, why not try something a little closer to the water? Better yet, try something on the water. There are two blue ribbon fisheries in the area; the North Platte River, that runs through Saratoga, and the Encampment River, which runs through Riverside. Not only do both rivers provide excellent fishing, they are also ideal for floating.

Indeed, there is plenty in this little corner of the Cowboy State to keep you busy for days! If you're on

Interstate 80, take a detour from the traffic and take some time to enjoy our scenic beauty. You don't even have to get back on the interstate to continue your drives, either.

If you're going east, you've got three alternate routes in the summer; you can take United States Highway 30 through Medicine Bow, head out on Wyoming Highway 130 and take in the splendor of the Snowy Range and Lake Marie or embark on Wyoming Highway 230 through Riverside and down into Colorado.

If a more westerly direction is in your plans, take United States Highway 70—also known as the Battle Pass Scenic Highway—over Battle Mountain and cross the continental divide into the Little Snake River Valley.

There's always something new to discover, so why not take the time to explore?



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Established 1888

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Fishing the North Platte River

One of the best kept secrets among fishermen is trout fishing in the Upper North Platte River, which has been designated by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department as a Blue Ribbon trout stream because of the population of trout that swim its waters. With an estimated 868 fish per mile, the river offers remarkable fishing opportunities for all sorts of fishermen, whether they prefer fly fishing or tackle and bait fishing.

The river is loaded with several trout species including brook trout, brown trout and rainbow trout. Expert guide services located throughout the Valley offer guided fishing expeditions that provide some of the most enjoyable and relaxing fishing trips around ... and may just land anglers a once-in-a-lifetime trophy fish.

Wade fishermen will also find the Upper North Platte River to be a haven for their sport. Numerous public access areas are scattered along the length of the river from the Sierra Madre Mountains closer to Colorado, near the towns of Encampment and Riverside, to the high prairies near Saratoga.

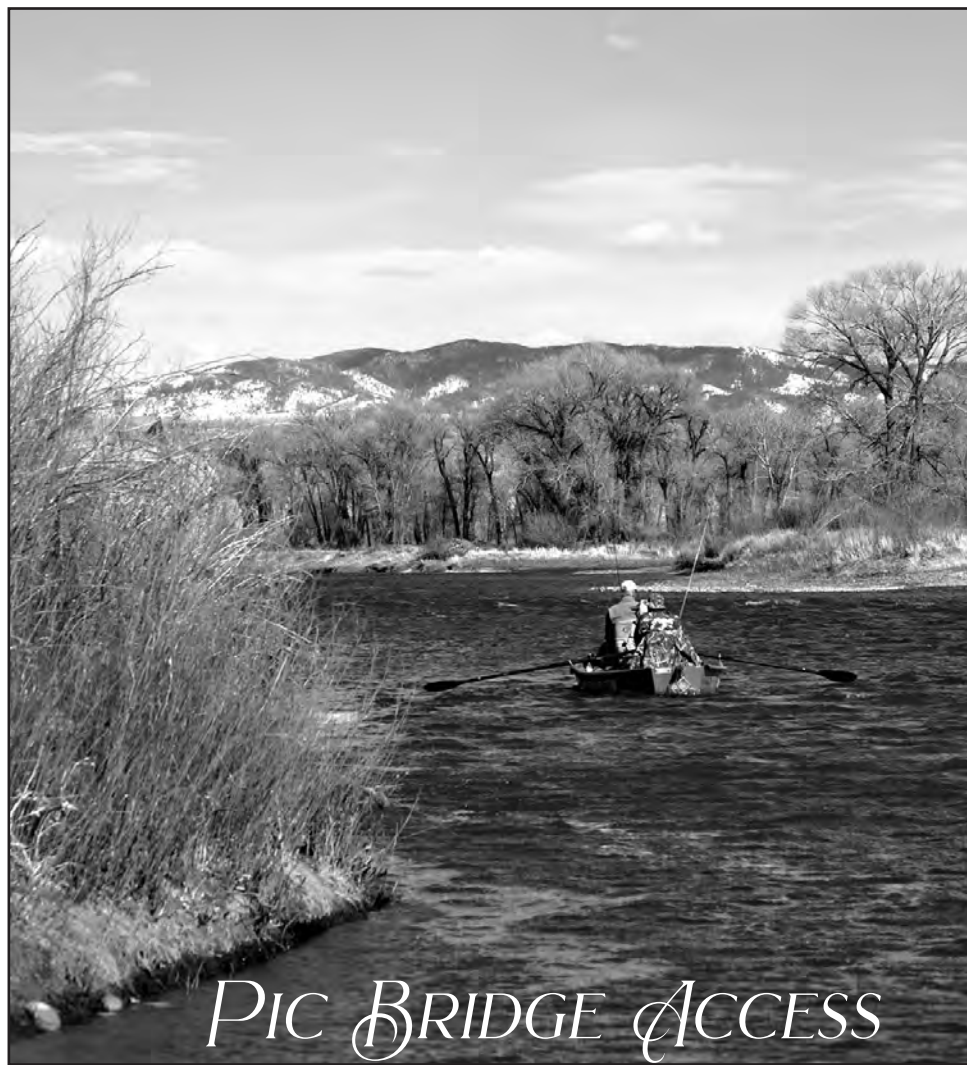
The public access areas are: Six Mile Gap, Pickaroon, Bennett Peak, Treasure Island, Saratoga, Foote, Pick Bridge, Sanger access and Eagle's nest.

Always check water levels before going out on your own. Local landowners kindly request that visitors respect private property signs. Riverbanks and bottoms are private property, even though the water that runs over them is public.

Access areas closer to Colorado like Six Mile, Pickaroon and Bennett Peak are more remote with rugged terrain. Access points further down the river are much more open, less rugged and more accessible by vehicles.

One favorite of the local Upper Platte Valley fisherman is the Encampment River, which ties into the North Platte River just above the Treasure Island Access. For access information, consult the office of Wyoming Game and Fish by calling 307-326-5583, or one of the Valley's fishing guides.

Licenses, conservation stamps, tackle, flies and bait can be purchased at any of the numerous fishing retailers in the Valley.



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Boating and Floating the North Platte River



Whether your idea of fun is a lazy afternoon on tranquil waters or a heart-pounding whitewater adventure, the North Platte River has what you're looking for. With one of the most diverse ecosystems in southern Wyoming, the North Platte has a wide variety of wildlife to see and fish to catch.

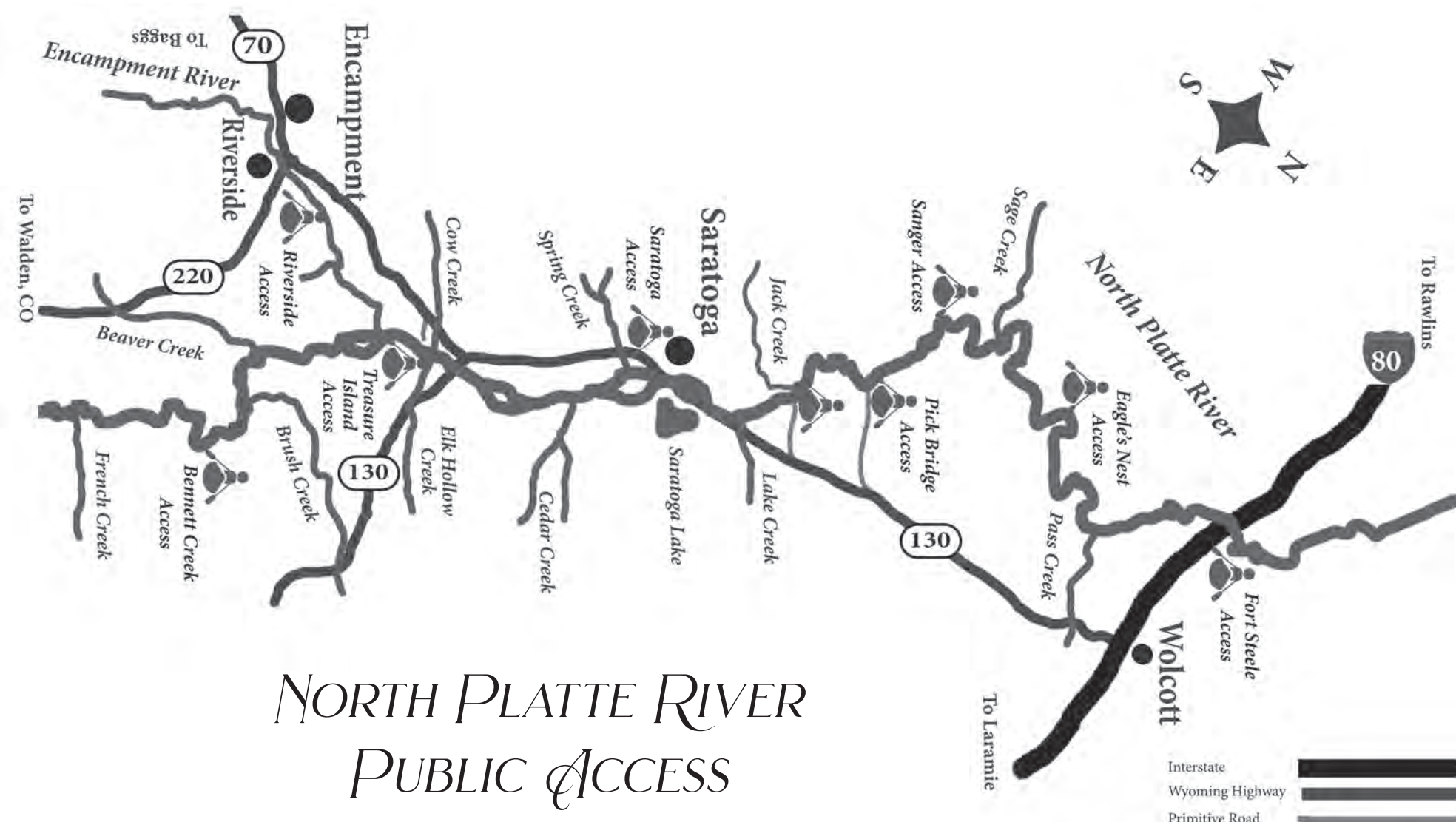
One way to explore this unique waterway is by floating it on a boat or raft. Though the river can be tricky, and even dangerous in places, there are plenty of seasoned local guides who can help enthusiasts who are unfamiliar with the area.

It's important to note that each person in a boat or raft is required to have a life preserver.

Another consequential rule to remember is, that in the state of Wyoming, water flowing over private land is public, but the underlying river beds and adjacent shorelines are still considered private. Signs found along many portions of the North Platte indicate whether land is public or private and can be helpful to those floating the river. Public access to the North Platte is dependent on mutual respect between private property owners and the boaters and fishermen who float the river.

Generally, the river flows best for fishing and rafting during June and July. By these months, the water has usually stabilized from spring and early summer run-off, and fishing is good for both spinning tackle and fly-fishing. In addition to life preservers, boaters should take along sunscreen, plenty of water, a dry bag with warm clothing and perhaps a wetsuit. North Platte water remains cold late into the summer and those floating should be prepared.

Float times vary depending on how high the river is running, so some flexibility should be built into the timetable of any trip.



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Hiking the Snowy Range and Sierra Madres



With the Sierra Madres to the south and the Snowy Range rising up in snow-capped glory to the east, the Platte Valley is right next door to a veritable alpine playground. Easily accessible trails and picnic areas allow beginning hikers to enjoy the region's unique beauty while remote wilderness areas and peaks provide a challenge to even the most experienced mountaineers.

The Snowy Range Scenic Byway linking Saratoga to the town of Centennial is only open between Memorial Day Weekend and late fall, but it is well worth the wait. The drive is one of the most beautiful in the country and provides access to many trails, peaks, pristine lakes and alpine meadows. Along this route, anglers can fish in remote Mirror, Lookout and South Gap Lakes while hikers can make an ambitious attempt at summiting Medicine Bow Peak, which

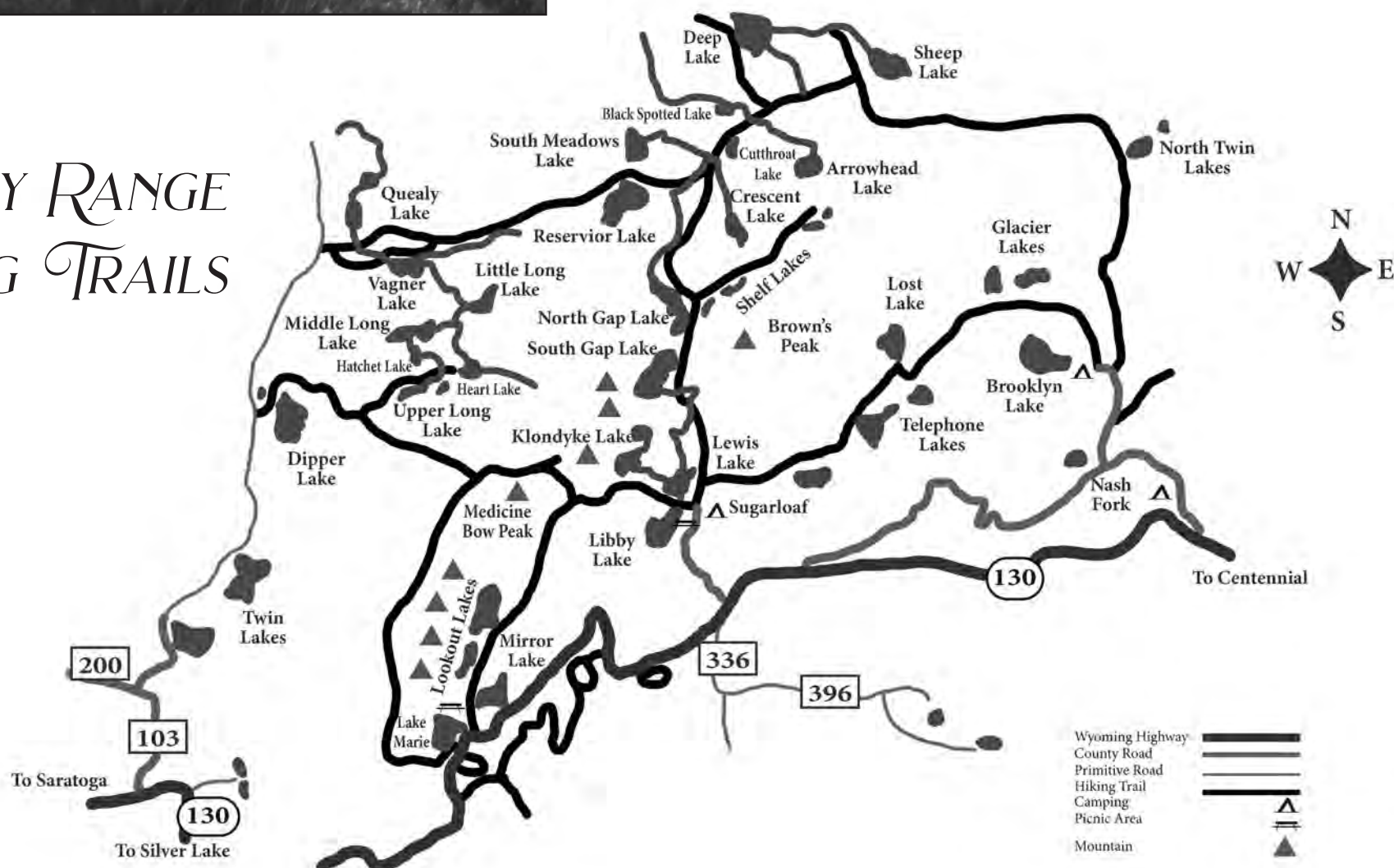
risers to 12,013 feet above sea-level.

Wildflowers, spruce-fir forests and stunning panoramic views provide ample rewards for those willing to attempt the physically demanding trek. Compared to better-known national parks, neither the Snowy Range nor the Sierra Madres are teeming with people, so those wishing to truly immerse themselves in solitude can find it in southern Carbon County.

The Sierra Madre Mountains are even less visited than their Snowy Range counterparts. These mountains, straddling the Continental Divide, form part of North America's tectonic backbone. They, too, offer myriad opportunities for camping, backpacking, mountain biking and hunting.

Particular highlights include Green Mountain Falls, the Encampment River Wilderness and Bridger Peak.

SNOWY RANGE HIKING TRAILS



Calendar of Events

JUNE

SARATOGA

June 5, 2021: 11th Annual Hiwater Hoedown. Whether the river is at highwater or not, enjoy this annual music event near downtown Saratoga. Wyoming musicians Jalan Crossland and J. Shogren Shangai'd will be joined by Texas-based The Lonesome Heroes at The Yard for a night of great music. Doors open at 5 p.m., tickets are \$20 each. Food provided by The Fire Truck from Firewater.

June 23: The Saratoga Historical and Cultural Association will hold the Saratoga Museum Annual Dinner at the Platte Valley Community Center. The association will be "Honoring Our Founders" this year with a program led by founders Elva Evans and Dick Perue. Evans and Perue will sign copies of their book "Saratoga: 150 Years". Music will be provided by local musician and character, Teense Willford. The event will be catered by Firewater Public

House.

ENCAMPMENT

June 5-12, 2021: The Grand Encampment Museum will celebrate Grand Encampment's copper mining history for an entire week as they hold their inaugural Tramway Days. June 5, 2021 - New York Times bestselling author C.J. Box will be signing copies of his newest book "Dark Sky".

June 9, 2021: Grand Encampment Museum will dedicate their newest display, a model tramway built by local community members and historians.

June 11 & 12, 2021: Grand Encampment Museum will hold the True West History Symposium featuring Bob Boze Bell, Johnny Boggs and more.

June 12, 2021: Mother Mountain Anglers will hold their 5th Annual Tale of Two Cities disc golf tournament. Disc golfers compete on courses at Grand View Park in Encampment, Rick Martin Memorial Park in Riverside and

a special third course which will be held at the Old Peryam Stage Stop east of Riverside. Registration is \$50, don't forget the Friday night blind draw double at the 3rd course with a \$5 buy in.

June 19-20, 2021: Attend the 60th Annual Woodchopper's Jamboree and Rodeo and watch log tosses, axe throws or timber climbs on one side of the Encampment Lions Club Fairgrounds or watch steer roping and bull and bronc riding on the other side. Started in 1960, the Woodchopper's Jamboree



and Rodeo is a perennial Father's Day event that draws participants from all over. Watch as loggers compete for the title of Rocky Mountain Champion Lumberjack.

End the day by attending the melodrama at the Grand Encampment Opera House, a perennial favorite that elicits plenty of laughs and encourages audience involvement.

June 25-26, 2021: Learn more about Lora Webb Nichols, the turn-of-the-century photographer who documented day-to-day life in the copper mining days of Grand Encampment. The history of Nichols will be presented by Nicole Hill, professor of art at Humboldt State University. Presentation will be at the Grand Encampment Museum.

HANNA

June 25-26, 2021: Though the days of coal mining in Hanna are long gone, coal is still king. The town's annual King Coal Days kicks off the last weekend in June beginning with 3-on-3 basketball and a community barbeque.

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EVENTS:

JUNE 5TH 3:30-5

CJ BOX BOOK SIGNING

JUNE 9TH 2:00

TRAMWAY DIORAMA DEDICATION

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Calendar of Events

JULY

SARATOGA

July 2-4, 2021: The Great Hall at the Platte Valley Community Center in Saratoga is the place to be during the July 4 weekend for the 2021 Festival of the Arts. Local and regional artists converge on the Platte Valley with mediums ranging from oil pastels to stone. A must see if you're in the Valley.

July 3, 2021: Party in downtown Saratoga during the 3rd Annual Saratoga Days. Wyoming's own Chancey William and the Young Brothers Band will headline the event this year and will be joined by Jackie and the Racket and That Eighties Band. Admission is free and vendors will be on hand with food and drinks during this



family friendly event.

July 5, 2021: Settle in at The Lawn at Firewater Public House for the 3rd Annual Firewater Fifth. This event features local and regional bands with varying musical genres for patrons and passerby to enjoy. The nearby North Platte River adds to the ambiance.

July 9-10, 2021: Drive out to Buck Springs Arena for the Platte River Rodeo Association Rodeo. This Wyoming Rodeo Association and Colorado Professional Rodeo Association sanctioned rodeo features barrel racing, bronc riding, team roping, steer wrestling and bull riding. Kids events typically include mutton bustin' and steer riding. Held at 7 p.m. both nights admission is \$7 with kids 6 and under free.

July 24, 2021 : Join the Saratoga Museum and New York Times Bestselling author C.J. Box for the organization's annual Joe Pickett Trivia Contest. For this year's theme, contestants are encouraged to go "Sleuthing with Joe Pickett". A total of \$900 in prize money will be awarded for

1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Tickets are \$30 and include raffle and dinner catered by The Grumpy Italian Eatery.

July 30-31, 2021: 6th Annual Koyoty Howl. Saratoga's Koyoty Sports show their appreciation for their customers with this annual summer event in downtown Saratoga. Owner Warden Patzer brings regional and national suppliers and outfitters to town with great deals for new and returning customers alike. Live music and lunch provided.

ENCAMPMENT

July 16-18, 2021: The Grand Encampment Cowboy Gathering will be celebrating its 18th and 19th year. Cancelled last year due to the coronavirus pandemic, this annual event will return to Grand View Park and will be free to attendees.

Friday night, join cowboy poets for a campfire jam session following the free open mic poetry/music event. On Saturday night, attend the All Star Cowboy Poetry/Music Show followed by a dance with music provided by The Poudre Valley Playboys with Jason Swedlund at the Grand Encampment Opera House (there will be a \$5 admission fee for the dance).

July 23-25, 2021: The annual Sierra Madre Muzzleloaders Mountain Man Rendezvous returns to the grounds of the Grand Encampment Museum. Local blackpowder enthusiasts recreate the days of the Mountain Men with primitive camping, authentic costuming, traders row, and blackpowder shoots and tomahawk throws.

July 24, 2021: Go back in time at the Grand Encampment Museum. Held the same time as the Sierra Madre Muzzleloaders Mountain Man Rendezvous, the Grand Encampment Museum's Living History Day gives locals and visitors alike a glimpse into what life was like for settlers of the Encampment area. Local historians



and family descendants detail the day-to-day of early Grand Encampment.

AUGUST

SARATOGA

August 21, 2021: The Saratoga/Platte Valley Chamber of Commerce proudly presents the 25th Annual Steinley Cup Brewfest at Veterans Island Park. Enjoy live music as you wander around the island trying different types of chili and brews. Make your selection for People's Choice and see who the judges will determine walks away with the coveted Steinley Cup. Admission is \$30 for attendees 13 and up. Children 12 and under are free. Contact the Saratoga/Platte Valley Chamber of Commerce at 307-326-8855 for more information.

August 21, 2021: An Evening with Gema Pearl singing the blues. Held at the Platte Valley Community Center. Cost of \$50 for Meet and Greet with Gema and her All Star Band before the show! Hors d'oeuvres and open bar. Advanced concert tickets \$25, \$30 at the door. Six or more tickets include CDs with tickets.

August 27, 2021: Girls Nite Out. Come to The Yard to listen to Patti Fiasco featuring 10 Cent Strangers and Susan Gibson. Music begins at 5 p.m.

August 28, 2021: Make your way out to the Buck Springs Arena for the Saratoga Bullfest. This annual bull-riders-only event will be guaranteed to thrill as the region's top cowboys compete to see who comes out on top. Event begins at 7 p.m., children 12 and under are free.

ENCAMPMENT

August 7, 2021: Find long lost treasures and good deals during the day, enjoy live music and barbecue at night. The Town of Encampment Community Yard Sale gives everyone a chance to upcycle those little treasures that have been sitting in storage for way too long. After a day of yard sales, head to Grand View Park for the 15th Annual Town of Encampment Community BBQ & Music in the Park.

RIVERSIDE

August 21, 2021: If you're in search of a slower pace, head down to Riverside for Riverside Party Day and enjoy the bluegrass stylings of High Plains Tradition. Food is provided at this free

event and the children can play on the classic park equipment at Rick Martin Memorial Park while you tap your feet.

SEPTEMBER

ENCAMPMENT

September 11-12, 2021: View antique tractors and watch tractor pulls at the Annual Copper Days Festival and Dance. This family friendly event has run for more than 30 years and excites people of all ages as tractor owners put their machines to the test in friendly competition. Sponsored in part by the Encampment Chug 'n' Tug Tractor Club, this event is held the weekend after Labor Day. For more fun, come to the polka dance Saturday evening at the Grand Encampment Opera House. For more information, call the Saratoga/Platte Valley Chamber of Commerce 307-326-8855.

September 21, 2021: Come view classic cars of all types as the 32nd Annual Colorado Grand Charity Car Tour makes its way to Encampment. For more information visit co1000.com.



OCTOBER

SARATOGA

October 16, 2021: A Toast to History. Enjoy an evening pairing wine with appetizers from restaurants and entrepreneurs around the Valley. Cost is \$25 each or \$45 per couple for advanced tickets, \$30 each at the door.

October 28, 2021: Ghosts, goblins and witches will be seen during Saratoga's Downtown Halloween Walk. Local businesses will hand out treats, and maybe some tricks, in a safe environment to school age children. Call the Saratoga/Platte Valley Chamber of Commerce for more information at 307-326-8855.

Hiking the Huston Park Wilderness



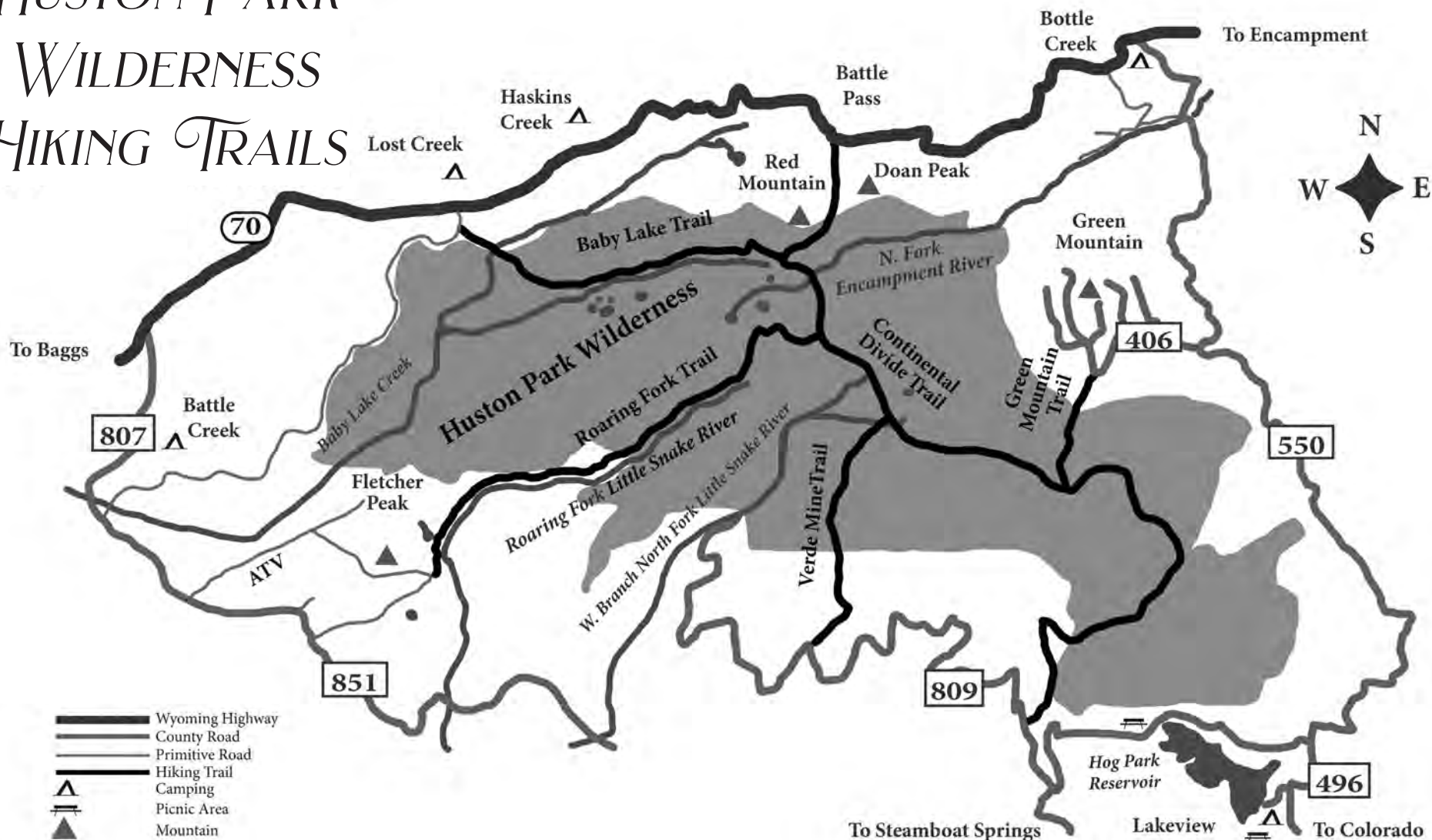
The Huston Park Wilderness is the second largest wilderness area in the Medicine Bow National Forest. The forest is filled with aspen, pine, spruce and fir. Many small streams flow through marshy meadows that are home to moose, elk and deer.

Many of the hiking trails are high enough to give spectacular views that stretch for miles. The most notable trail being the Continental Divide Trail, 13 miles of which run through the Huston Park Wilderness. The CDT does have its navigational challenges as some sections are not developed and are marked only with blazes.

The average elevation of the wilderness area is around 10,000 feet above sea level. Heavy winds and cooler temperatures can be expected. The higher elevations can remain under snow until July.

Altitude sickness can be experienced by those who have not yet acclimated to higher elevations. Be aware of how your body is reacting to the height. Spend a day or two getting use to the elevation before embarking on a long hike. Making adjustments to your typical behaviors is a good idea if you are just beginning to acclimate. Walk at a slower pace and be sure to take deliberate slow, deep breaths. Drinking extra water can also help avoid altitude sickness. Be sure to pack plenty for the hike. It is not advised you drink directly from streams due to risk of Giardia. Following a little common sense will go a long way for a safe and exciting hike through some amazing country.

HUSTON PARK WILDERNESS HIKING TRAILS



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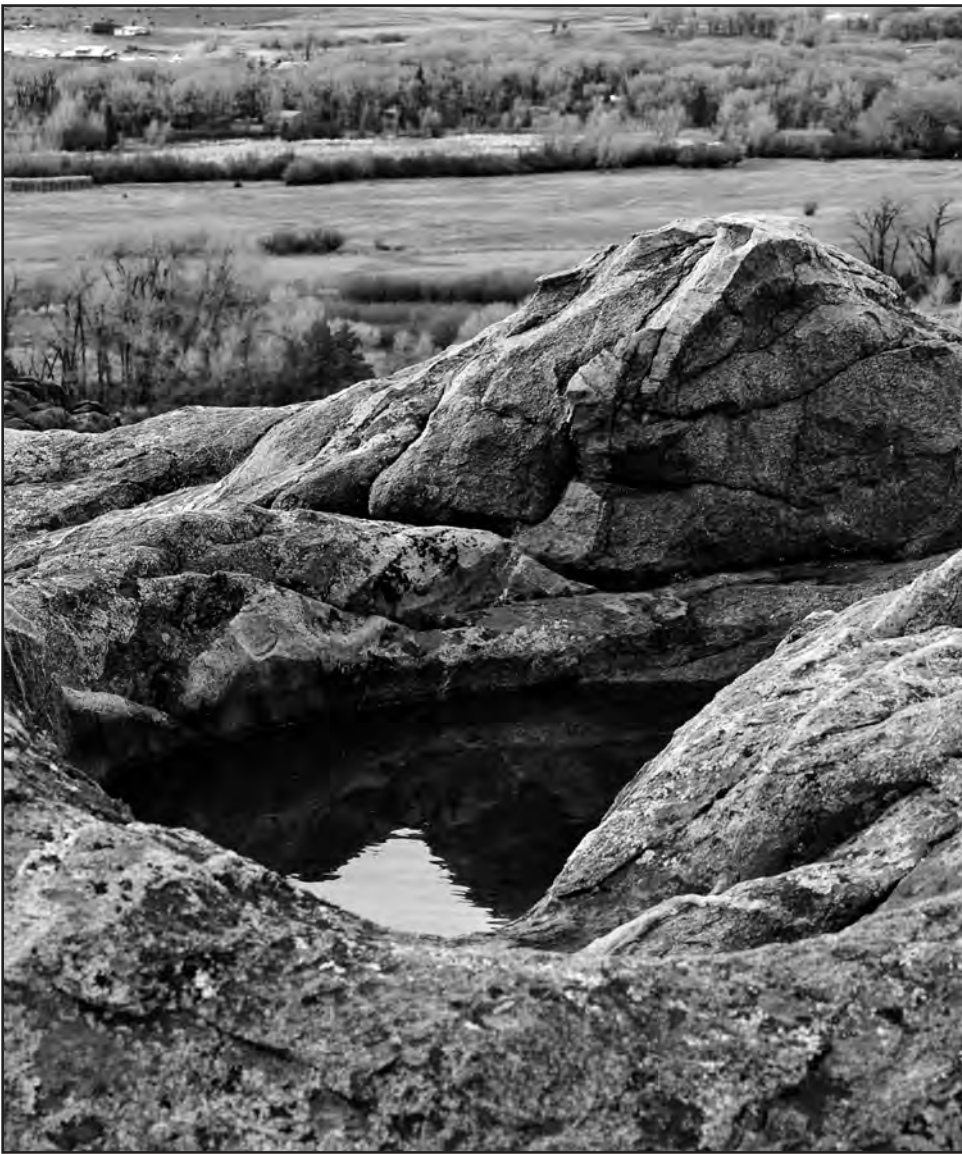
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Indian Bathtubs Trail



Countless hiking trails can be found throughout the county that cater to skill levels from the novice to the advanced. One trail that is a joy for both sits just outside the small town of Riverside.

The Indian Bathtubs Trail is a three-quarter mile trail with a trailhead alongside Carbon County Road 211, commonly referred to as Blackhall Mountain Road.

A bit more than a half-mile east of Riverside along Wyoming Highway 230, keep an eye out for a sign reading "Blackhall Mountain Road." Turn right onto the road to arrive on CCR 211. About a mile from Highway 230, drivers will see a turnout with a sign for the Indian Bathtubs trailhead.

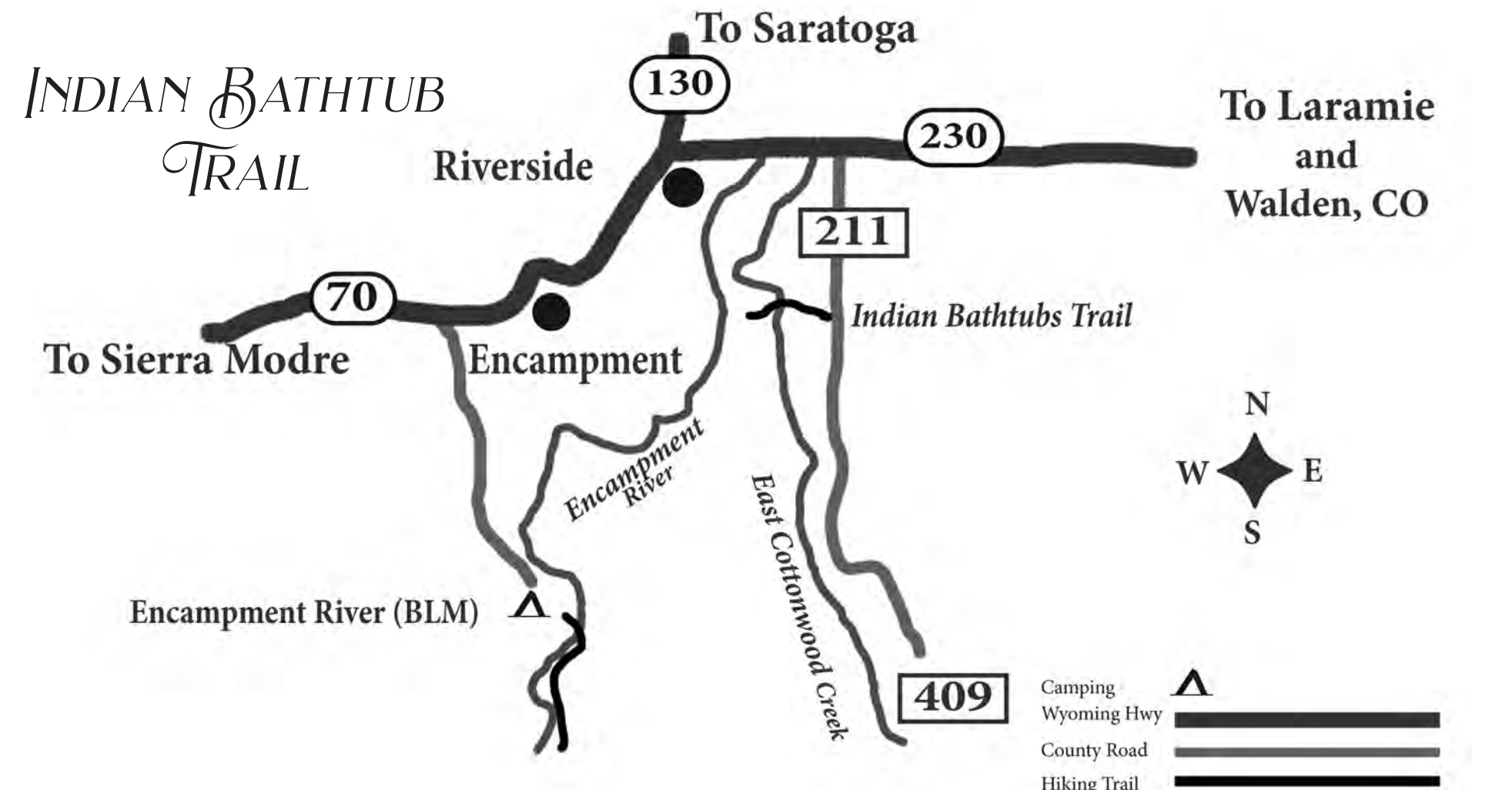
The trail may not look like much at first as it runs alongside a juniper tree

growing out of a small rock formation. At the top of the hill, however, hikers will be greeted by a rock strewn path that slopes down towards East Cottonwood Creek. Remember to be cautious as this part of the trail has a steep drop-off.

After dropping into the cottonwoods that surround the creek, hikers cross bridge and begin the climb towards the Indian Bathtubs. The rock formation will not be hard to find as it sits near the end of the trail.

While there, hikers can climb on and around the formations and marvel at the depressions worn into them. Directly across from the tubs sits "Chair Rock," named for its chair-like formation.

Once hikers finish enjoying these ancient rock formations, they only need to head back the way they came to return to their vehicles.



6TH ANNUAL

2021 Festival of the Arts

Saratoga, Wyoming

July 3, 10am-5pm • July 4, 10am-4pm

Platte Valley Community Center

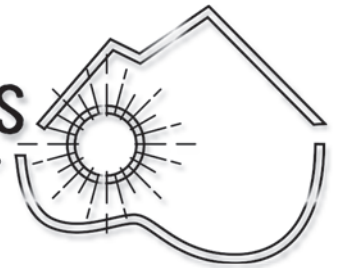
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- \$50 Meet and Greet 5:30 pm

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Saratoga Lake

Saratoga Lake is easily accessible and provides quality picnic and summer fun with prime recreation, fishing and impressive panoramic mountain views, just one-and-a-half miles north of Saratoga on WYO 130/230.

The campground provides water and electrical hookups for a fee and is operated by Saratoga. It is open between May 1 and Oct. 30, and during the annual Ice Fishing Derby in January.

The lake's Sandy Beach is accessible from the south by heading east from town on Pic Pike Road, turning north on County Road 205, and turning left at the first dirt road.

Sandy Beach is a choice location for sun-tanning, swimming, sandcastle building and birding. The Storer-Saratoga Lake Wetland Project is adjacent to the lake and provides safe nesting and brooding habitat for Canada geese, mallards, teals

and widgeons.

According to Mike "Hack" Patterson, owner of Hack's Tackle and Outfitters, there isn't anything secret or special about fishing in Saratoga Lake.

"You can pretty much use whatever you want," he said referring to flies, hardware or bait. "If something isn't working for you, just change what you are doing, or move to another spot."

For fly fishermen, he recommends olive wooly buggers, damsel nymphs and scuds, Carey specials, half-backs and anything "buggy" looking in the spring. There's no need to change things much in the summer, but some like to go to smaller nymphs, Copper Johns, hare's ears and pheasant tails.

"Keep it simple. Those fish know what they want to eat. If one fly isn't producing, switch to something else and give it some

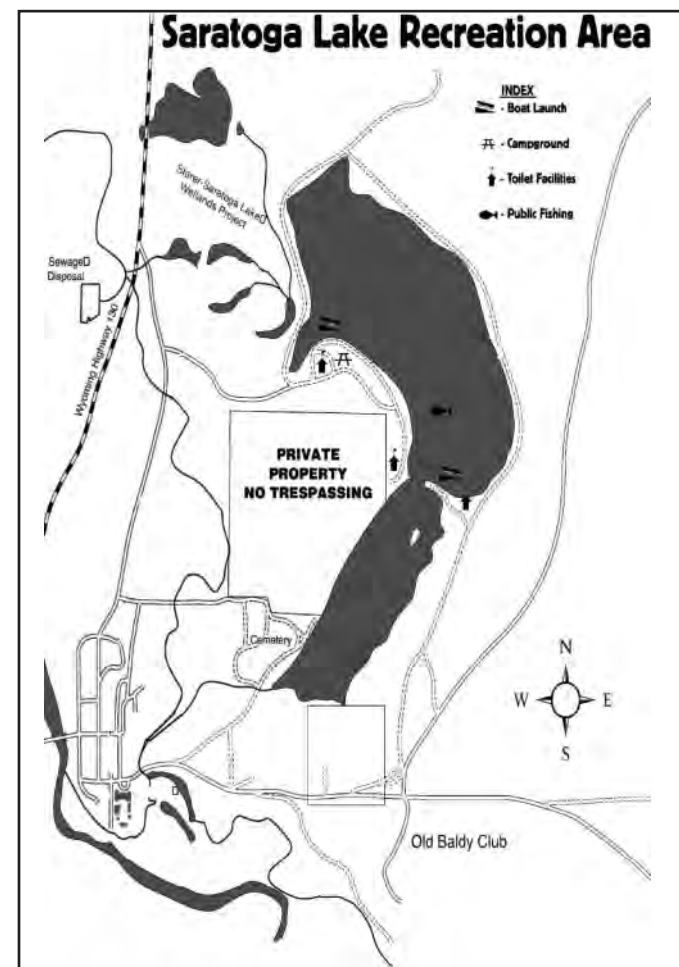
action."

Large caddis, called sedges, hatch throughout the summer.

"Use Hornbergs or any other large dry fly to represent a caddis, and give it a lot of movement, twitch and strip it," Patterson said. "The insects in the lake don't change much during the year so when you get to fall, keep using the same stuff you've been using."

Live minnow bait is not permitted at Saratoga Lake, so use spoon-shaped minnows or the ever-trustworthy Rapala. Silver and gold are good, but don't be afraid to try other colors — it may be just what the trout need to entice a bite.

Year-round, the key for bait fisherman is to keep it off the bottom. When using worms, slide a mini-marshmallow onto the hook and then tip that with a worm, or use a worm blower to inflate the worm, keeping it above the lakebed.



Welcome to Deer Haven RV Park in Saratoga, Wyoming
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25th Annual Steinley Cup Brewfest

August 21, 2021
1pm - 5pm

Veterans Island, Saratoga, WY

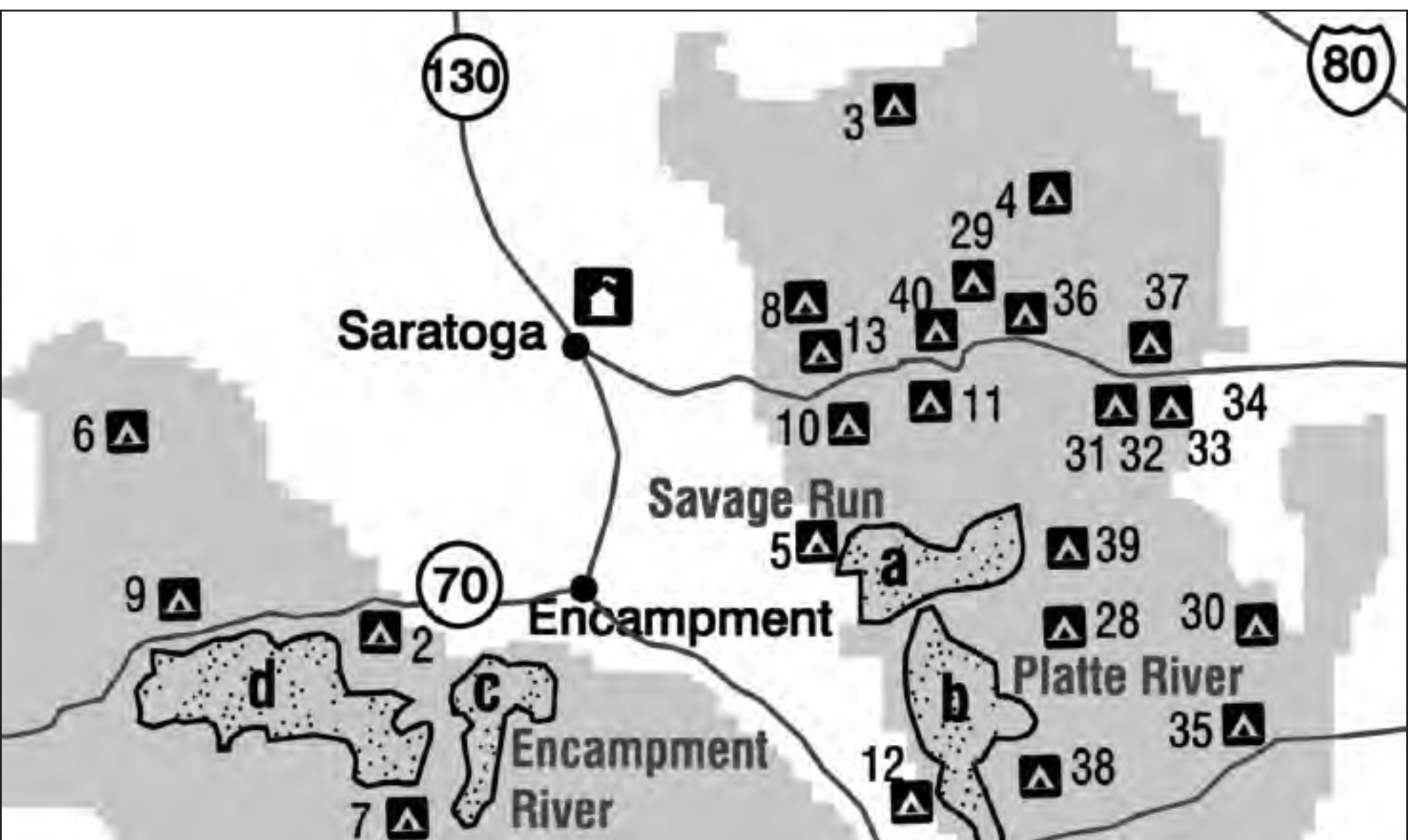


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Brewer Registration: <http://saratogaplatte.chambermaster.com/form/view/23134>

Camping East Carbon County



BRUSH CREEK/HAYDEN RANGER DISTRICT

# on Map	Campground Name	Season (Variable)	Elevation (Feet)	Number of Sites	Max Vehicle/Trailer Size	Notes	Fee (May change)
2	Bottle Creek	6/01-9/15	8,800	12	45	F	\$10
3	Bow River	6/10-9/15	8,600	13	32	F	\$10
4	Deep Creek	7/01-9/15	10,200	12	22	F	\$10
5	French Creek	6/01-9/15	8,000	11	32	F	\$10
6	Jack Creek	6/10-9/15	8,500	16	22	F	\$10
7	Hog Park**	6/15-9/15	8,400	50	30	R, F, B (HP, E, IC)	\$10
8	Lincoln Park	6/01-9/15	7,800	12	32	F	\$10
9	Lost Creek	6/01-9/15	8,800	10	22	F	\$10
10	Ryan Park	6/01-9/15	8,000	48	32	R, NW	\$10
11	Silver Lake	7/15-10/01	10,400	17	32	F, B (HP)	\$10
12	Sixmile Gap	5/15-9/15	8,000	9	32	F	\$10
13	S. Brush Creek	6/01-9/15	7,900	20	32	F	\$10

LARAMIE RANGER DISTRICT

28	Bobbie Thomson	6/01-10/15	8,800	12	32	F	\$10
29	Brooklyn Lake	7/15-10/01	10,500	19	22	R, F, B (HP)	\$10
30	Lake Owen	6/01-10/15	9,000	38	22	F, B (HP, E, IC)	\$10
31	Libby Creek – Aspen	6/01-10/15	8,600	8	22	F	\$10
32	Libby Creek – Pine	6/01-10/15	8,600	6	16	F	\$10
33	Libby Creek – Spruce	6/01-10/15	8,600	8	16	F	\$10
34	Libby Creek – Willow	6/01-10/15	8,600	16	22	R, F	\$10
35	Miller Lake	6/01-10/15	9,100	7	22	F, B (HP)	\$10
36	Nash Fork	7/01-10/15	10,200	27	22	F	\$10
37	North Fork	6/15-11/01	8,600	60	30	R, F	\$10
38	Pelton Creek	6/15-10/15	8,100	15	16	F	\$10
39	Rob Roy	6/15-10/01	9,500	65	35	F, B (HP, E, IC)	\$10
40	Sugar Loaf	7/15-10/01	10,700	16	22	R, F, B (HP)	\$10

- All Campgrounds have toilets and water unless noted. There are no electrical hookups or showers.
- Opening dates of campgrounds depend on weather conditions and snow removal. Please call district offices for confirmation of dates.
- Stay limit in all campgrounds is 14 consecutive days.
- Dogs are allowed in campgrounds; however, they must be on a leash.
- Horses are not allowed in campgrounds.

(R) Reservations may be made at www.recreation.gov or by calling the National Recreation Reservation Service at (877) 444-6777, TDD: (877) 833-8777.

(F) Fishing

(B) Boating (HP=hand-powered, E=Electric motors allowed, IC=Internal Combustion Motors allowed)

(NW) No water available at site during the summer

*** Please note that some campgrounds may be affected by the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic and sites may be impacted by ongoing removal of hazard trees or other maintenance work. Please call ranger district for latest conditions and updates.*

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Museums

Elk Mountain Museum

105 Bridge St. Elk Mountain
Cost: Free/Donation
Hours: Wednesday 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Memorial Day through Labor Day

Starting its sixth year of operation, the Elk Mountain Museum is a great place to find local historic artifacts including a rare 1940s coat made from muskrats trapped at Bloody Lake. The horse-drawn mail wagon and an area highlighting past and present veterans and military personnel are some must see displays for visitors. Summer events often include history presentations for children and adults, a partnership with the local library to show movies documenting historic events and a quilt show. A walking history tour of the town will provide a hands-on experience. For more information, call 307-348-7037.

Grand Encampment Museum

807 Barnett Ave. Encampment
Cost: Free/Donation
Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday - Saturday, Noon to 4 p.m. Sunday
Memorial Day through Labor Day

Named the Wyoming Office of Tourism's "Attraction of the Year" for 2011 and True West Magazine's "Best Living History Farm Museum" for 2021, the Grand Encampment Museum (GEM) truly is the gem of

southern Wyoming. The grounds host 18 historical buildings that illustrate the stories of the diverse groups who make up the colorful history of the area.

The museum features original area structures including homestead cabins, a one room school house, a tie-hack cabin, a mercantile store, a saloon, an old time newspaper office, a doctor's office and a forest service cabin. The historic tramway stands testament to Encampment's copper boom in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Also on display is a recreation of the two story outhouse, built so workers could use the facility when snow drifts covered the first level in winter. The 65-foot fire lookout tower is perfect for viewing Valley panoramas. Arrangements can be made for sunrise or sunset photo shoots from the tower for a fee. Daily tours take from one to two hours and give you admittance to the buildings. For more information, call 307-327-5308 or visit www.GEMuseum.com.

Medicine Bow Museum & Visitor's Center

405 Lincoln Hwy, Medicine Bow
Cost: Free/Donation
Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday & Sunday
Memorial Day through Labor Day

Housed in a Union Pacific Railroad Depot, the Medicine Bow Museum is filled with local and regional artifacts. Included within the museum's collection are artifacts and

information about the Native American tribes who once called the area home, homesteading, ranching, the original U.S. Mail route, the Union Pacific Railroad and, of course, "The Virginian", the first western novel ever published.

Outside, the grounds feature a sheepherder's wagon, an old time coal bin, an outhouse, numerous farming and ranching implements and wooden cabin built by Owen Wister, author of "The Virginian". The museum was recently named an area visitor center and is currently working on adding the world famous Fossil Cabin to the grounds in the near future. For more information, call 307-379-2383 or visit www.medbowmuseum.com.

Hanna Basin Museum

502 Front St. Hanna
Cost: Free/Donation
Summer Hours: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Friday - Sunday

Hanna Basin Museum honors those men and women who made possible American's Industrial Revolution: railroaders, coal miners, timber workers, ranchers and homesteaders of Carbon, Hanna, and northeastern Carbon County. Through photographs, primary accounts and meaningful artifacts, museum visitors will gain insight and understanding into these often unacknowledged Wyoming heroes. The museum is on Front Street, adjacent to the present railroad. Walk through the main building, the Old Community Hall or

an authentic coal camp cottage next door. Recent additions to the museum grounds include the Victor G. Anderson Memorial Building as well as a foot bridge used to connect Hanna in its early mining boom days. For more information, call 307-325-6465 or visit hannabasinmuseum.com.

Saratoga Museum

104 Constitution Ave. Saratoga
Cost: Free/Donation
Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday - Saturday

Located in a depot that once belonged to the Union Pacific Railroad, the Saratoga Museum is filled with geological, paleontological and archeological treasures. For those who are interested in the more recent past, the Homestead Exhibit tells the story of the diverse peoples who settled the Valley. Wyoming's largest jade boulder on display sits outside alongside a restored sheep wagon, a blacksmith shop, a caboose and a memorial garden. The Saratoga Museum Pavilion provides a resting spot and shade during the hot summer days, though it often has an event being held such as Farmer's Markets. In 2020, voters passed a ballot measure to form the Saratoga-Ryan Park Museum District. For more information, contact the Saratoga Museum at 307-326-5511 or visit www.saratoga-museum.com.

Worship in the Platte Valley

SARATOGA

Abundant Life Fellowship

211 1st St. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-8360

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

950 Hugus Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-8232

First Baptist Church of Saratoga

802 W. Main Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-8162

Platte Valley Christian Center

111 N. 7th St. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-5520

Platte Valley Lutheran Church

513 S. 1st St. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-5449

Ride on Faith Ministries

7 miles south of Saratoga
307-329-7183

Saratoga Alliance Church

1302 S. River St. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-8307

Saratoga Presbyterian Church

303 W. Bridge Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-5337

St. Ann's Catholic Church and St. Joseph's Mission

218 W. Spring St. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-5491

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

206 N. 1st St. Saratoga, WY 82331
303-910-6699

ENCAMPMENT/ RIVERSIDE

Church of Christ

2nd & McCaffrey Ave. Encampment, WY 82325
307-327-5682

Christian Community Church

3.5 miles north of Encampment on HWY 230
307-329-5522

Encampment Presbyterian Church

918 Rankin Ave. Encampment, WY 82325
307-327-5331

St. James Episcopal Church

822 McCaffrey Ave. Encampment, WY 82325
307-327-5558

HANNA

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

120 Heather Dr. Hanna, WY 82327
307-325-9748

First Baptist Church

300 Adams St. Hanna, WY 82327
307-325-9541

Hanna Hills Church

205 Main St. Hanna, WY 82327
307-220-1597

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

3 Heather Dr. Hanna, WY 82327
307-325-6434

MEDICINE BOW

Medicine Bow United Methodist

512 Wyoming St. Medicine Bow, WY 82329
307-742-6385

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

220 Pine St. Medicine Bow, WY 82329

Restaurants

SARATOGA

Bella’s Bistro

218 N. 1st St. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-8033

Duke’s Bar & Grill

110 E. Bridge Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-3853

Firewater Public House

110 E. Main Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-3473

The Grumpy Italian Restaurant

113 W. Bridge Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-3210

The Hotel Wolf Restaurant

101 E. Bridge Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-5525

J.W. Hugus & Co

405 N. 1st St. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-5046

Saratoga Sandwich Company

104 W. Bridge Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331

Snowy Mountain Pub

601 Pic Pike Rd. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-5261

Sweet Marie’s Bakeshop

107 W. Bridge Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-3244

ENCAMPMENT/RIVERSIDE

The Bear Trap Cafe & Bar

120 Riverside Ave. Riverside, WY 82325
307-327-3277

The DiVide Restaurant and Lounge

520 McCaffrey Ave. Encampment, WY 82325
307-327-5064

The Mangy Moose

108 Riverside Ave. Riverside, WY 82325
307-327-5117

HANNA

Nugget Bar

2200 1st St. Hanna, WY 82327
307-325-6872

MEDICINE BOW

C Spear Bar and Grill

202 Lincoln Highway Medicine Bow, WY 82329
307-520-3030

The Historic Virginian Hotel

404 Lincoln Highway Medicine Bow, WY 82329
307-379-2377

ELK MOUNTAIN

Elk Mountain Trading Company

205 Bridge St. Elk Mountain, WY 82324
307-348-7478

The Historic Elk Mountain Hotel

102 E. Main St. Elk Mountain, WY 82324
307-348-7774

Area Lodging

SARATOGA

Copperline Lodge

417 W. Rochester Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331
402-885-5611

Deer Haven RV Park

706 N. 1st St. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-8746

Hacienda Motel

1500 S. 1st St. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-5751

Hood House Bed & Breakfast

214 N. 3rd St. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-8901

Hotel Wolf

101 E. Bridge Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-5525

Riviera Lodge

104 E. Saratoga Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-5651

Roan Hill Ranch Guesthouse

N 11th St. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-8502

The Sage & Sand Motel

311 S. 1st St. Saratoga, WY 82331
888-860-8339

Saratoga Hot Springs Resort

601 Pic Pike Rd. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-5261

Saratoga Riverview RV Park

106 Pic Pike Rd. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-224-2250

Silver Moon Motel

412 E. Bridge Ave. Saratoga, WY 82331
307-326-5974

ENCAMPMENT/RIVERSIDE

The Cabin at Riverside, Wyoming

205 Riverside Ave. Riverside, WY 82325
307-760-0017

Cottonwood Cabins

411 1st St. Riverside, WY 82325
307-327-5151

Lazy Acres Campground

110 Fields Ave. Riverside, WY 82325
307-327-5968

Riverside Garage & Cabins

107 Riverside Ave. Riverside, WY 82325
307-327-5361

Spirit West River Lodge

313 Shoshone Ave. Encampment, WY 82325
307-327-5753

Vacher’s Bighorn Lodge

508 McCaffrey Ave. Encampment, WY 82325
307-327-5110

MEDICINE BOW

The Virginian Hotel

404 Lincoln Hwy. Medicine Bow, WY 82329
307-379-2377

ELK MOUNTAIN

The Historic Elk Mountain Hotel

102 E. Main St. Elk Mountain, WY 82324
307-348-7774

Phone Numbers

SARATOGA

Emergency: 911

Saratoga Police Department: 307-326-8316

Wyo. Highway Patrol: 1-800-442-9090

Saratoga Town Hall: 307-326-8335

Platte Valley Clinic: 307-326-3169

MHCC Medical Clinic - Platte Valley: 307-315-0158

Platte Valley Dental: 307-326-5474

Great Divide Dental Associates: 307-326-8895

Valley Pharmacy: 307-326-5129

Saratoga Game Warden: 1-800-842-1934

U.S. Forest Service: 307-326-5258

Saratoga Post Office: 307-326-5611

Saratoga Sun: 307-326-8311

CCSD2 Central Office: 307-326-5271

Saratoga Jet Center: 307-326-8344

Saratoga Branch Library: 307-326-8209

Saratoga/Platte Valley Chamber of

Commerce: 307-326-8855

Platte Valley Community Center: 307-326-7822

ENCAMPMENT/RIVERSIDE

Emergency: 911

Encampment/Riverside Police: 307-326-8316

Encampment Town Hall: 307-327-5501

Riverside Town Hall: 307-327-5266

Encampment/Riverside Post Office: 307-327-5747

Encampment Branch Library: 307-327-5775

HANNA/ELK MOUNTAIN/ MEDICINE BOW

Emergency: 911

Hanna Marshall: 307-325-9444

Hanna Town Hall: 307-325-9424

Elk Mountain Town Hall: 307-348-7333

Medicine Bow Town Hall: 307-378-2386

Hanna Post Office: 307-325-6742

Elk Mountain Post Office: 1-800-275-8777

Medicine Bow Post Office: 307-379-2356

Hanna Branch Library: 307-325-9357

Elk Mountain Branch Library: 307-348-7421

Medicine Bow Branch Library: 307-379-2888

AREA CODES

Wyoming’s area code is 307

ZIP CODES

Saratoga: 82331

Encampment/Riverside: 82325

Hanna: 82327

Elk Mountain: 82324

Medicine Bow: 82329

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