

Iron Horse State Park, Washington. John Wayne Pioneer Trail

Table of Contents	Page #
General Information.	2-4
Includes: Event #, Trail Ratings, Contact Info,	2
Dates of Use, Trail Info, Words-to-the-Wise, Distance Tracking	2-3
Challenges, and Milepost Marker discussion, Disclaimers, Copyright and other Info	3-4
 Specific Trailhead Information.	 4-14
Includes for each trailhead and section: Trail Rating, Driving Directions, Biking Directions and Distances, Challenges, Sights and Scenes along the trail.	
 Cedar Falls (North Bend) Trailhead.	 4-5
Twin Falls/Ollalie State Park - Homestead Valley Trailhead	5
Hyak Trailhead	6
Easton Trailhead	6-7
South Cle Elum Trailhead	7-8
Thorp Trailhead	8-9
Ellensburg West Trailhead	9
Ellensburg City Street Trail Route	10
Ellensburg East Trailhead	11
Kittitas Trailhead	11-12
Army West Trailhead	12-13
Army East Trailhead	13-14
 Washington State Parks Iron Horse SP Access Maps showing each Trailhead and Summary Table of Distances between each Trailhead	 14-15
John Wayne Pioneer Trail Event Patch	16

General Information

Bike Event #: Y0955 **Sanction #:** 107025

Trail Rating: 1A, 1B, 1C and 2B. See details in each trail section for trail ratings.

Website: www.centralwasunstriders.weebly.com

Dates: April 1 through October 31, 2017. Use during daylight hours only. Read Words-to-the-Wise section below for limitations on use of the trail.

In case of Emergency: Dial 911

Event related Contact Information: Joe Blazek 509-899-6535 joeblazek1@gmail.com

These bike directions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.

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Information: This bike event can be done either as an out and back or one way with pickup. The trail under this seasonal event is the abandoned Chicago-Milwaukee-St. Paul-Pacific RR grade (aka: the Milwaukee Road) that is mostly hard-packed gravel except for some portions on the Army base that are soft sand. The JW trail from Cedar Falls trailhead (North Bend) to the Columbia River (Army - East) trailhead has intermediate trailheads at Ollalie State Park, Hyak (Snoqualmie Pass), Easton, South Cle Elum, Thorp, Ellensburg West, Ellensburg East, Kittitas, and Army - West.

You can bike portions accessible from any of the trailheads or the whole thing. The entire trail from Cedar Falls (near North Bend) to Army - East (Columbia River) is 177 kilometers. Climate and vegetation vary greatly from the west end to the east end. West of the Cascade crest, the trail is in a Maritime type climate with lush green forests of Douglas fir, Western Hemlock, Big Leaf Maple, Western Red Cedar and Red Alder along with much undergrowth. From Hyak to Thorp, the forest transitions to a warmer, drier Ponderosa Pine dominated climate and then to an even drier and hotter shrub/steppe climate east of Thorp with very few trees. A Washington State Discover Pass is required to park at the trailheads though free parking outside the parking lots can be done near many of the trailheads.

Words-to-the-Wise: Portions of the trail from Easton to Ollalie State Park may have snow on them until June 1st of heavy snow seasons. Contact Lake Easton State Park at (509)-656-2230 for current trail conditions. The Hyak tunnel is open May 1 - October 31. East of the Cascades, bring water, sun screen and your own shade during summer months. The trail on the Yakima training center between Army West and Army East trailheads will be closed to entry from 6/1/2017 to 7/2/2017 and from 8/1/2017 to 8/15/2017.

Distance tracking: The amount of distance you complete is up to you. You keep track of your kilometers. Each of the trail section descriptions tells how to drive to the trailhead parking lot from I-90. There is a description of how to get from the parking lot to the JW trail on any access trails and the distance is listed from the access trail to the JW. Lastly, the distance for each section of the JW (between trailheads) is listed to help you track your distance.

There are brown carsonite (vinyl - plastic) milepost markers along most of the trail (see picture below). Some are missing. These mileposts (MP's) indicate the number of miles west of Chicago where the Milwaukee Road originated. One mile between these mileposts equates to 1.6 kilometers. In each trail section, I have indicated distance in kilometers between trailheads for computing your distance. There are white and yellow markers along the trail (see below) that have EE, FF and other markings. These mark culverts and bridges. They are not mileage markers for computing distance.

Challenges: Below are the ESVA and AVA challenges for this event. The challenges for each trail section are listed in each of the section listings. Not every challenge is available in every section.

ESVA: 1) All Clubs - Central Washington Sun Striders
2) 39 Counties - King Co. (west of Hyak tunnel) and Kittitas Co. (east of Hyak tunnel)

AVA: 1) Walking USA A-Z, E-Ellensburg and Easton, K-Kittitas, S-South Cle Elum.
2) Walking the United States (W)
3) Bridges
4) Take a Walk in a City Park - Portion in Ellensburg City goes by Kiwanis Park.
5) National Register of Historic Places - South Cle Elum Train tation
6) Points of Reference - Army **West**, Army **East**, **South** Cle Elum and **Easton** start points
7) Lakes and Reservoirs - Lake Easton and Lake Keechelus
8) Animal Safari - Portion in Ellensburg City goes by Wildcat Way.
9) Cities in Song - Ellensburg is mentioned in Johnny Cash song "I've Been Everywhere"
10) Volcanos - Mt. Rainier is visible from trail on Army base.
11) Water Towers - Visible in Ellensburg, Kittitas and Easton.
12) Trekking with the Trees - "Cedar" Falls Trailhead
13) Treasure Hunt - "Ellensburg" Blues are gems found in the Ellensburg area.
14) You'll Never Walk Alone - Ellensburg is named after Mary Ellen Shoudy who was a local.

Washington State Parks Website information source for the Iron Horse S.P./John Wayne trail:
<http://parks.state.wa.us/521/Iron-Horse>

Milepost marker and other marker information



This is one of the brown carsonite milepost markers along the trail. This MP is 2061 miles west of Chicago (MP 0) along the trail. Milepost numbers increase from east to west. The distance between each of these mileposts is 1 mile or 1.6 Kilometers. Some mileposts are missing.



This is one of the white or yellow culvert and bridge markers. They are not for computing your distance.

Comments: Restrooms or pit toilets are available at most of the trailheads. Helmets are required on all AVA bike events. Pets on leash only.

Specific Trailhead and Trail Section Information

Cedar Falls (North Bend) Trailhead

Trail Rating: John Wayne trail and access trail from the parking lot to the JW is a 1B.

Driving Directions: Take I-90 exit 32. EASTBOUND off I-90, - turn RIGHT on 436th. WESTBOUND off I-90, - turn LEFT on 436th and go over the freeway. Stay on main county road as 436th turns into Cedar

Falls road. Go 3.3 miles SOUTH from I-90 past the Rattlesnake Lake Rec Area entrance and park in the Iron Horse State Park trailhead parking lot. Sign says Cedar Falls Trailhead. Parking lot requires a Washington State Discover Pass. Toilets at trailhead.

Biking Directions and Distances: Follow access trail directional signs 0.3K past the toilets through the forest to the John Wayne trail. Turn **LEFT** on JW trail (don't go to the right). Distance to Ollalie State Park's Twin Falls/ Homestead Valley trailhead access (an unmarked gravel access road that intersects the JW trail) is 7K.

Challenges: Washington: All Clubs - Central Wash Sun Striders 39 Co.s - King
AVA: Walking the USA (W), Bridges, Trekking with the Trees - Cedar Falls trailhead

Sights and Scenes along the trail: Bike over several high RR trestles over stream gorges. Forested South Fork Snoqualmie river valley. Cascade mountains along the river valley.

Twin Falls/Ollalie State Park - Homestead Valley Trailhead

Trail Rating: JW trail in this area is a 1B. Access trail from parking lot to the JW trail is a 2B (hiking trail and gravel road) due to elevation gain.

Driving Directions: Take I-90 exit 38. EASTBOUND off I-90, - turn RIGHT on county road, cross cement bridge and in 500 feet, turn RIGHT on gravel road to trailhead. There is a small sign next to the gravel road. WESTBOUND off I-90, - turn LEFT on county road, go under I-90, drive about 2 miles and turn LEFT on gravel road to trailhead. If you miss the gravel road and get to the concrete bridge and the freeway underpass, you've gone too far. Parking lot requires a Washington State Discover Pass. Toilets at trailhead.

Biking Directions and Distances: From parking lot, follow JW Pioneer Trail sign up steep hiking trail 0.2K to a "T" on a gravel road (no sign) (see NOTE below for alternative access). Turn **RIGHT** on gravel access road and go 0.2K to JW trail (no sign). Turn **RIGHT** (west) on JW to go to Cedar Falls trailhead. Distance to Cedar Falls trailhead is 7K. Turn **LEFT** (east) on JW to go to Hyak trailhead. Distance to Hyak trailhead on the JW trail is 26K through the Hyak tunnel (open May 1 - Oct 31st). NOTE: As an alternative access to the JW trail, ride back down the road that accesses the parking lot a short way to the gated gravel road on your right. Turn RIGHT, go around the gate and ride up the steep gravel access road to the JW Trail bypassing the hiking trail.

Challenges: Washington: All Clubs - Central Wash Sun Striders 39 Co.s - King and Kittitas if ride to Hyak.
AVA: Walking the USA (W), Bridges, Trekking with the Trees - west to Cedar Falls trailhead

Sights and Scenes along the JW trail: Several high RR trestles over stream gorges. South Fork Snoqualmie river valley. Steep, rocky Cascade mountains along the river and the forested valley. Rock climbers along the trail (east bound). Hyak tunnel under Snoqualmie Pass. See Hyak trailhead for info about going through the tunnel.

Hyak trailhead

Trail Rating: JW trail in this area is a 1B.

Driving Directions: Take I-90 exit 54. EASTBOUND off I-90, turn RIGHT to the T. WESTBOUND off I-90, turn LEFT and go under I-90 to the T. Turn LEFT on Route 906 and drive 0.4 miles. Just before the DOT complex entrance, turn RIGHT - go 200 feet and turn RIGHT onto the short access road that goes to the parking lot. Follow the signs. Parking requires a Washington State Discover Pass. Toilets at trailhead.

Biking Directions and Distances: Trail goes by the parking lot. As you face the JW trail, go LEFT (east) on the trail to go to Lake Keechelus and Easton. Distance to Easton trailhead is 29K. Turn RIGHT (west) on JW to go to the Hyak tunnel and Twin Falls trailhead access road (no sign at the junction). Distance to Twin Falls trailhead is 26K. Hyak tunnel is 3.7K long. Tunnel is open May 1 - October 31st. There is no bypass of the tunnel when it is closed. If biking through the tunnel, bring a good flashlight and warm clothes as the tunnel is dark and cold even during high summer temps.

Challenges: ESVA: All Clubs - Central Washington Sun Striders 39 Counties - King Co. (west of Hyak tunnel) and Kittitas Co. (east of Hyak tunnel)
AVA: Walking the United States (W), Bridges, Points of Reference - Easton trailhead, Lakes and Reservoirs - Lake Easton and Lake Keechelus (eastbound only)

Sights and Scenes along the JW trail: Complete darkness in the interior of the Hyak tunnel, The Central Cascade Mountains, Lake Keechelus reservoir (east bound). Several high RR trestles over stream gorges (west bound). South Fork Snoqualmie river valley. Steep, rocky Cascade mountains along the river and the forested valley.

Words to the Wise: The trail from Hyak to Easton east of Lake Keechelus is mostly shaded but can be hot and dry during the summer months. Carry water and wear sun screen. On hot days, you may want to ride in the early morning hours.

Easton trailhead

Trail Rating: JW trail in this area is a 1B.

Driving Directions: Take I-90 exit 71. EASTBOUND off I-90, turn RIGHT at the overpass stop sign. WESTBOUND off I-90, turn LEFT at the overpass stop sign and go over the freeway. In less than 500 feet

is another stop sign - Easton Post Office is on your right. Go STRAIGHT 1/4 mile, curving to the left up a small hill, carefully cross the double RR tracks and turn LEFT at the Iron Horse trailhead sign that is across the road from a large tin building that is the Easton Fire Dept. Drive in front of the fire station (keeping it on your left) 1/4 mile on the gravel road (you are driving on the JW trail) to the trailhead parking lot. Toilets at trailhead.

Biking Directions and Distances: Trail goes by the parking lot. As you are facing the JW trail, turn **RIGHT** (east) on the trail to go to South Cle Elum. Distance to South Cle Elum trailhead is 18K. Turn **LEFT** (west) on the trail to go to Hyak. Distance to Hyak trailhead is 29K. Going to Hyak, you bike back on the gravel road you drove in on to the paved county road by the fire station. **CROSS** the paved county road and ride along the side of the county road to where the JW trail separates from but still parallels the county road for a short distance on your left. Keeping the irrigation flume and canal on your right, follow the trail east as it turns to gravel and separates from the county road.

Challenges: ESVA: All Clubs - Central Washington Sun Striders. 39 Co.s Kittitas Co.

AVA: Walking the United States (W), Bridges, National Register of Historic Places - South Cle Elum Train Station (eastbound only), Points of Reference - **Easton** and **South Cle Elum**, Lakes and Reservoirs - Lake Easton and Lake Keechelus (westbound only), Water Towers - on the hill above Easton (you can see it from fire station parking lot). Walking USA A-Z, (S) - South Cle Elum (eastbound only).

Sights and Scenes along the JW trail: Lake Keechelus reservoir and the Cascade Mountains. Lake Easton, upper Yakima river and valley. Ponderosa Pine tree forests.

Words to the Wise: The portion of the trail from Hyak to South Cle Elum is mostly shaded but can be hot and dry during the summer months. Carry water and wear sun screen and on hot days, you may want to bike in the early morning hours when it is generally cooler.

South Cle Elum trailhead

Trail Rating: JW trail in this area is a 1B

Driving Directions: Take I-90 exit 84. EASTBOUND off I-90, exit ramp crosses over I-90 and becomes 1st Street. Drive to bottom of hill at stop light. Turn RIGHT and go 0.9 miles on South Cle Elum Way. You will drive under I-90, over RR tracks and over Yakima River. After crossing river, continue 5 blocks and turn RIGHT on Madison. Proceed 2 blocks and turn LEFT on 6th St. Go 1 1/2 blocks and turn RIGHT on Milwaukee Ave. Trailhead is on the left. WESTBOUND off I-90 on exit ramp to stop sign at the "T" at the top of the overpass. Turn RIGHT on Oakes Ave, cross the RR tracks and proceed to the stop light which is 1st Street. Turn LEFT on 1st and drive to next stop light. Turn LEFT on South Cle Elum Way and follow directions above to trailhead parking lot. Toilet at trailhead.

Biking Directions and Distances: Trail goes by the parking lot. As you are facing the JW trail from the parking lot, turn **RIGHT** (west) on the JW trail to go to Easton. Distance to Easton trailhead is 18K. Turn **LEFT** (east) on the JW to go to Thorp trailhead. Distance to Thorp is 30K.

Challenges: ESVA: All Clubs - Central Washington Sun Striders. 39 Co.s Kittitas Co.

AVA: Walking the United States (W), Bridges, National Register of Historic Places - South

Cle Elum Train Station, Points of Reference - **Easton** (westbound only) and **South Cle Elum**, Walking USA A-Z (S) - South Cle Elum.

Sights and Scenes along the JW trail: Yakima river and valley. Ponderosa Pine tree forests. Upper Yakima river canyon. The trailhead area in South Cle Elum has numerous historic signs around the old railyard area as well as the old train station, caboose and electric plant that generated motive power for the electric RR.

Words to the Wise: The portion of the trail from Thorp to South Cle Elum is mostly shaded but can be hot and dry during the summer months. Carry water and wear sun screen and on hot days, you may want to bike in the early morning hours.

Thorp trailhead

Trail Rating: JW trail in this area is a 1B.

Driving Directions: Take I-90 exit 101. This is the big, white Thorp fruit stand exit. EASTBOUND off I-90, turn LEFT at the overpass stop sign and drive 1/4 mile on the Thorp highway to Depot Road. WESTBOUND off I-90, turn RIGHT at the overpass stop sign and drive less than 1/4 mile to Depot Road. Turn LEFT on gravel Depot Road, go 0.2 miles and angle RIGHT on the JW gravel trail 1/4 mile to the parking lot trailhead. Toilet at trailhead.

Biking Directions and Distances: JW Trail goes by the parking lot. As you are facing the JW trail, turn **RIGHT** (east) on JW to go to Ellensburg. Distance to Ellensburg West trailhead is 11K. There is a short, well-marked detour at Faust Road. Turn **LEFT** (west) to go to South Cle Elum. Distance to South Cle Elum trailhead is 30K.

Challenges: ESVA: All Clubs - Central Washington Sun Striders. 39 Co.s Kittitas Co.

AVA: Walking the United States (W), Bridges, National Register of Historic Places - South Cle Elum Train Station, Points of Reference - **South Cle Elum** (westbound only), The following are available eastbound only: Walking USA A-Z (E) - Ellensburg, Cities in Song - Ellensburg is mentioned in Johnny Cash song "I've Been Everywhere", Water Towers - Visible at Ellensburg West trailhead, Treasure Hunt - "Ellensburg" Blues are gems found in Ellensburg area, You'll Never Walk Alone - Ellensburg is named after Mary Ellen Shoudy who was a local.

Sights and Scenes along the JW trail: Yakima river and valley. Ponderosa Pine tree forests. Upper Yakima river canyon. Two relatively short tunnels in the river canyon. Kittitas valley.

Words to the Wise: The portion of the trail from Thorp to South Cle Elum is mostly shaded but can be hot and dry during the summer months. The portion from Thorp to Ellensburg opens up after you cross the river to where there is very little shade as you pass through agricultural fields. Carry water and wear sun screen and on hot days, you may want to bike in the early morning hours.

Ellensburg West trailhead

Trail Rating: JW trail west of trailhead is a 1B. City streets are a 1A.

Driving Directions: Take I-90 exit 106. EASTBOUND off I-90, pass Thorp Highway on the right, cross over I-90 to the 4 way stop sign intersection. WESTBOUND off I-90 to stop sign at top of exit ramp. Turn RIGHT and go to the 4 way stop sign at the intersection. Drive STRAIGHT through the 4 way stop intersection 2 miles on University Way to the first traffic light which is Water Street. Turn LEFT on Water St. and go 1/2 mile. Just past 15th Avenue is the Iron Horse State Park sign with the small parking lot and trailhead on the left side of Water St. If you miss the trailhead on Water Street and go by the old brick building on the left that is Jim's Glass, you went too far. THERE ARE NO RESTROOMS AT THIS TRAILHEAD.

Biking Directions and Distances: Go STRAIGHT ahead (west) on JW Trail from parking lot to go to Thorp trailhead. Distance to Thorp trailhead is 11K. There is a short, well-marked detour around a blockage at Faust County road. There is no trail between Ellensburg West and Ellensburg East trailheads. Directions and distances to get from Ellensburg West trailhead to the Ellensburg East trailhead on city streets are listed below.

Challenges: ESVA: All Clubs - Central Washington Sun Striders, 39 Counties Kittitas Co.

AVA: Walking USA A-Z, E-Ellensburg, Walking the United States (W), Bridges, Cities in Song - Ellensburg is mentioned in Johnny Cash song "I've Been Everywhere", Water Towers - Visible at Ellensburg West trailhead, Treasure Hunt - "Ellensburg" Blues are gems found in the Ellensburg area, You'll Never Walk Alone - Ellensburg is named after Mary Ellen Shoudy who was a local.

Sights and Scenes along the JW trail: Yakima river and upper Yakima river canyon. Two relatively short tunnels in the canyon. Kittitas valley agriculture and Ellensburg suburbs.

Words to the Wise: The portion of the trail from Ellensburg to Thorp is partly shaded. It can be hot and dry during the summer months. The portion around Ellensburg is open with little shade as you pass through agricultural fields. Carry water and wear sun screen and on hot days, you may want to bike in

the early morning hours

Directions in Ellensburg from Ellensburg West trailhead to Ellensburg East trailhead

Trail Rating: City streets are a 1A. Watch out for traffic.

Driving Directions to Trailheads: Read driving directions in Ellensburg West or East sections for access to trailheads.

Biking Directions and distance from Ellensburg West trailhead to Ellensburg East trailhead (1.4 miles or 2.2K). Facing away from the trailhead, go out to Water Street (no sign). Turn **RIGHT** on Water Street and go 0.1 miles. Turn **LEFT** on 14th Avenue and go 0.3 miles to stop sign at Wildcat Way intersection. You'll go by Kiwanis Park which has restrooms. **CROSS** Wildcat Way and go **STRAIGHT** on what is now Dean Nicholson Blvd 0.5 miles to next stop sign at Alder Street. Turn **RIGHT** on Alder Street and go 0.4 miles through a stop sign to the stoplight at University Way. **CROSS** University Way and go **STRAIGHT** on an dirt access road 0.1 miles to the Ellensburg East trailhead. Sign reads, "Kittitas Co Fairgrounds JW Pioneer Trail".

Biking Directions and distance from Ellensburg East trailhead to Ellensburg West trailhead. (1.4 miles or 2.2K). Facing away from the trailhead, turn **RIGHT** on the unmarked dirt access road (Alder Street) and go 0.1 miles to the stop light on University Way. Proceed **STRAIGHT** through the stop light on Alder St. and go 0.4 miles to the second stop sign at Dean Nicholson Blvd. Turn **LEFT** on Nicholson Blvd and go 0.5 miles to a stop sign at Wildcat Way. **Cross** Wildcat Way and go **STRAIGHT** on what is now 14th Ave 0.3 miles to a "T" at Water Street. You'll go by Kiwanis Park which has restrooms. Turn **RIGHT** on Water Street and go 0.1 miles. Just past 15th Avenue is the Iron Horse State Park sign with a small parking lot and trailhead on the **left** side of Water St. Turn **LEFT** into the parking lot.

Challenges: ESVA: All Clubs - Central Washington Sun Striders, 39 Counties Kittitas Co.

AVA: Walking USA A-Z, E-Ellensburg, Walking the United States (W), Bridges, Cities in Song - Ellensburg is mentioned in Johnny Cash song "I've Been Everywhere", Water Towers, Treasure Hunt - "Ellensburg" Blues are gems found in the Ellensburg area, You'll Never Walk Alone - Ellensburg is named after Mary Ellen Shoudy who was a local, Take a Walk in a City Park - route goes by Kiwanis Park, Animal Safari - route goes by Wildcat Way.

Sights and Scenes along the JW trail: City traffic. Central Washington University campus.

Words to the Wise: This portion of the trail can be hot and dry during the summer months. Carry water and wear sun screen and on hot days, you may want to bike in the early morning hours. Fast food is available along this route.

Ellensburg East trailhead

Trail Rating: JW trail east of the trailhead is a 1B. City streets are a 1A.

Driving Directions: Take I-90 exit 106. EASTBOUND off I-90, pass Thorp Highway on the right, cross over I-90 to the 4 way stop sign intersection. WESTBOUND off I-90 to stop sign at top of exit ramp. Turn RIGHT and go to the 4 way stop sign at the intersection. Drive STRAIGHT through the 4 way stop intersection 2 miles on University Way to the first traffic light at Water Street. Go STRAIGHT through the traffic light and continue on University Way through several traffic lights 0.9 miles to a traffic light at Alder Street. Turn RIGHT on Alder Street dirt road and go 500 feet (0.1 miles) to the trailhead. Sign on left at trailhead reads, "Kittitas Co Fairgrounds JW Pioneer Trail". THERE ARE NO RESTROOMS AT THIS TRAILHEAD.

Biking Directions and Distances: Go STRAIGHT ahead (east) on JW Trail from parking lot to go to Kittitas trailhead. Distance to Kittitas trailhead is 8K. There is no trail between the Ellensburg East trailhead and the Ellensburg West trailhead. Directions and distances to get from Ellensburg East trailhead to Ellensburg West trailhead are above.

Challenges: ESVA: All Clubs - Central Washington Sun Striders, 39 Counties Kittitas Co.

AVA: Walking USA A-Z, E-Ellensburg, Walking the United States (W), Bridges, Cities in Song - Ellensburg is mentioned in Johnny Cash song "I've Been Everywhere", Water Towers - Visible at Ellensburg East and Kittitas trailheads, Treasure Hunt - "Ellensburg" Blues are gems found in the Ellensburg area, You'll Never Walk Alone - Ellensburg is named after Mary Ellen Shoudy who was a local.

Sights and Scenes along the JW trail: Kittitas valley agriculture and Ellensburg suburbs.

Words to the Wise: The portion of the trail from Ellensburg to Kittitas has very little shade. It can be hot and dry during the summer months. It is open with little shade as you pass through agricultural fields. Carry water and wear sun screen and on hot days, you may want to bike in the early morning hours.

Kittitas Trailhead

Trail Rating: JW trail in this area is a 1B. There is a major detour of the trail east of Kittitas on paved county roads. County road portions are 1A.

Driving Directions: Take I-90 exit 115. EASTBOUND off I-90 to stop sign at top of exit ramp. Turn LEFT, go over the freeway and go 0.9 miles. WESTBOUND off I-90 to stop sign at top of exit ramp. Turn RIGHT and go 0.75 miles. This is Main Street (unmarked). You'll go around a sweeping left hand curve and then a sweeping right hand curve. Turn LEFT on the gravel road just before the trees on the left

and park by the old Kittitas train depot. If you get to Railroad Avenue and downtown Kittitas, you have gone too far. NO RESTROOMS AT THIS TRAILHEAD.

Biking Directions and Distances: Go west on JW to Ellensburg East trailhead. Distance to Ellensburg East trailhead is 8K. Go east on JW to Army West trailhead. Distance to Army West trailhead with the county road detour is 10K. There is a major detour east of Prater road as the JW trail is closed east of Prater road. There is a very well signed detour along paved county roads to the Army West trailhead. Go 4.2 miles east on the JW trail from the Kittitas trailhead. Where the trail crosses Prater road, turn **RIGHT** on Prater, cross over the freeway and go 0.5K to Boylston County road. Turn **LEFT** on Boylston road and go 5.3K to Stevens County road. Turn **RIGHT** on Stevens and go 0.2K to a gravel parking lot on your left.

Challenges: ESVA: All Clubs - Central Washington Sun Striders, 39 Counties Kittitas Co.

AVA: Walking USA A-Z, K-Kittitas, Walking the United States (W), Bridges, Water Towers - Visible at Ellensburg East and Kittitas trailheads, The following are available westbound only: Treasure Hunt - "Ellensburg" Blues are gems found in the Ellensburg area, You'll Never Walk Alone - Ellensburg is named after Mary Ellen Shoudy who was a local. Cities in Song - Ellensburg is mentioned in Johnny Cash song "I've Been Everywhere".

Sights and Scenes along the JW trail: Kittitas valley agriculture. Desert shrub/steppe.

Words to the Wise: The portion of the trail has very little shade. It can be hot and dry during the summer months. It is open with little shade as you pass through agricultural fields. Carry water and wear sun screen and on hot days, you may want to bike in the early morning hours.

Army West Trailhead

Trail Ratings: JW trail west toward Kittitas is 1A and 1B. East across the Army base toward Army East is 1B and 1C in places due to soft sand that makes bike riding difficult especially on uphill grades.

Temporary Closure Info: The trail on the Yakima training center between Army West and Army East trailheads will be closed to entry from 6/1/2017 to 7/2/2017 and from 8/1/2017 to 8/15/2017.

Driving Directions: Take I-90 exit 115. EASTBOUND off I-90 to stop sign at top of exit ramp. Turn LEFT, go over the freeway and go 1 mile into downtown Kittitas. WESTBOUND off I-90 to stop sign at top of exit ramp. Turn RIGHT and go 0.9 miles into downtown Kittitas. This is Main Street (unmarked). You'll go past the Kittitas JW trailhead. Turn RIGHT on 1st St and go 0.2 K. Angle to the RIGHT on what is Parke Creek road. Drive 2.5 miles on Parke Creek road and turn RIGHT on Prater road. Go 0.3 miles and turn LEFT on Boylston road. Go 3.3 miles to a stop sign at a "T" which is Stevens road. Turn RIGHT and go 0.1 miles to a gravel parking lot on the left. Toilet at parking lot.

Biking Directions and Distances: Distance west to Kittitas trailhead with the detour is 10K. A large

portion of the JW trail toward Kittitas is closed and there is a well-signed detour on county roads. The detour route is on the county roads you drove on to the trailhead. Leave Army West parking lot, turn **RIGHT** and go 0.1K on Stevens road. Turn **LEFT** on Boylston road and go 5.3K to a "T" at Prater road. Turn **RIGHT** on Prater and go 0.5K to the JW trail on your **left** which is just before the "T" at Park Creek Road. Turn **LEFT** on the JW trail.

Distance to Army East trailhead is 35K. Bike 0.1K to the red gate at the end of the paved Stevens road. Beyond the gate, the road is gravel. Go around the gate and in 75 feet, take the trail that angles uphill to the **RIGHT** off the gravel road 0.3K to the JW trail. At the JW trail, turn **LEFT** to the sign-in kiosk. Everyone who rides the JW trail on the Army base must register at the kiosk and carry the registration tag while they are on the base. There is a well-marked 2.7K detour around Boylston tunnel on well-signed gravel roads and trails. The tunnel is considered to be unsafe for travel.

Challenges: ESVA: All Clubs - Central Washington Sun Striders, 39 Counties - Kittitas Co.

AVA: Walking USA A-Z, K-Kittitas, Walking the United States (W), Bridges (westbound)

Points of Reference - Army **West** and Army **East**, Volcanos - the top of Mt. Rainier is visible from the trail on the Army base.

Sights and Scenes along the JW trail: Views of the Kittitas valley, Columbia River, Wanapum Dam, Grant County agriculture and the top of Mt. Rainier. Desert shrub/steppe.

Words to the Wise: The portion of the trail has no shade. It can be hot and dry during the summer months. Carry water and wear sun screen and on hot days, you may want to bike in the early morning hours. Portions of the trail consist of loose sand and are difficult to ride uphill.

Army East Trailhead (near Vantage)

Trail Rating: The trail westbound toward Army West trailhead is 1B and 1C in places due to soft sand that makes bike riding difficult especially on uphill grades. The RR bridge across the Columbia River is closed to travel.

Temporary Closure Info: The trail on the Yakima training center between Army West and Army East trailheads will be closed to entry from 6/1/2017 to 7/2/2017 and from 8/1/2017 to 8/15/2017.

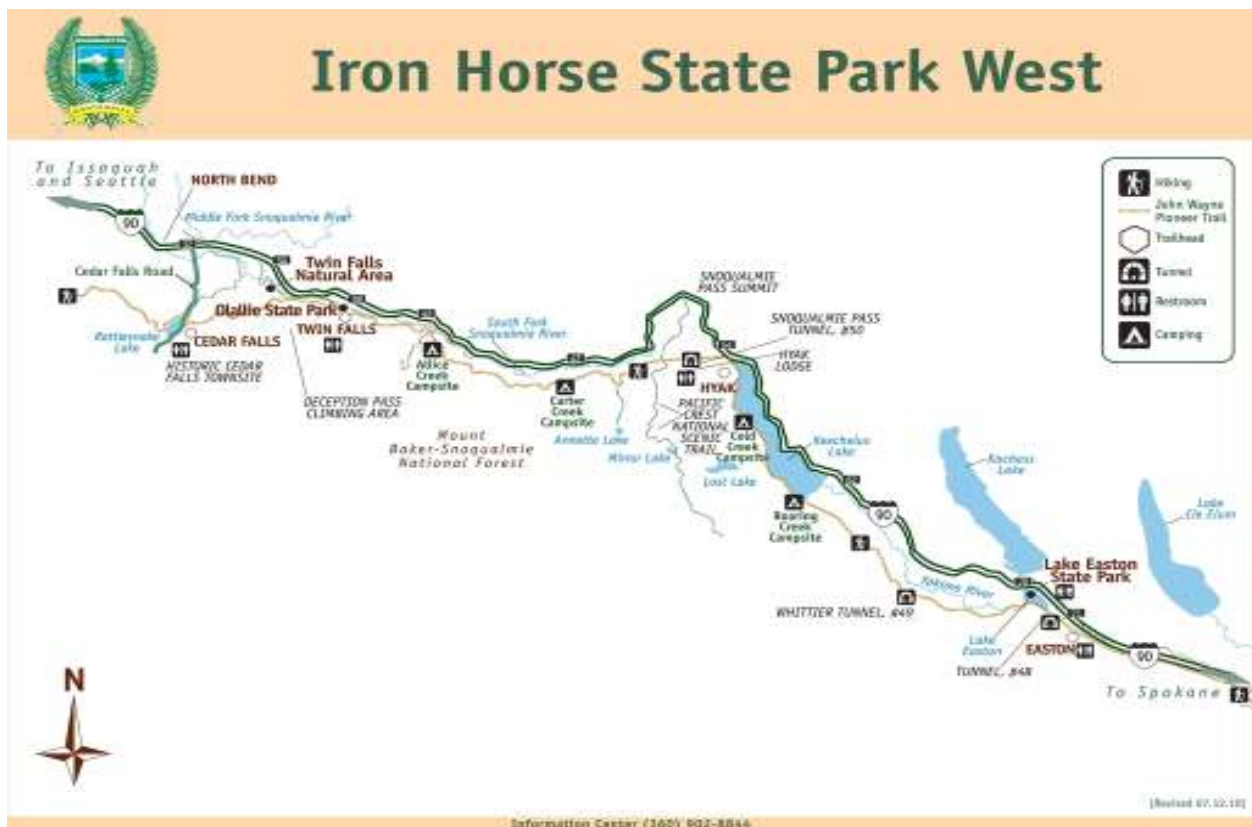
Driving Directions: Take I-90 exit 136. EASTBOUND and WESTBOUND to stop signs at top of exit ramps. Turn **RIGHT** and go 7 miles south on Huntzinger County Road. You will pass Wanapum Dam. As you go up a little rise and around a corner, you will cross the old RR grade and an open gravel parking lot is on your **LEFT**. THERE ARE NO RESTROOMS AT THIS TRAILHEAD.

Walking/Biking Directions and Distances: Distance to Army West trailhead is 35K. The JW trail starts at the Huntzinger RR crossing parking lot (no sign) and goes west away from the river. Carefully **cross** Huntzinger Road at the old RR crossing site and **proceed** up the RR grade. There is a small sign next to the trail at the road crossing that reads "3 miles to JW Trailhead". A gravel road that used to access the

Army East trailhead has been gated off so you have to start at the Huntzinger road crossing parking lot and bike an additional 4.8K on the JW trail to the old Army East trailhead to register. Everyone who rides the JW trail on the Army base must register at the kiosk and carry the registration tag when they are on the base. Along the trail, there is a well-marked 2.7K detour on well signed roads and trails that goes around Boylston tunnel which is considered to be unsafe for travel.

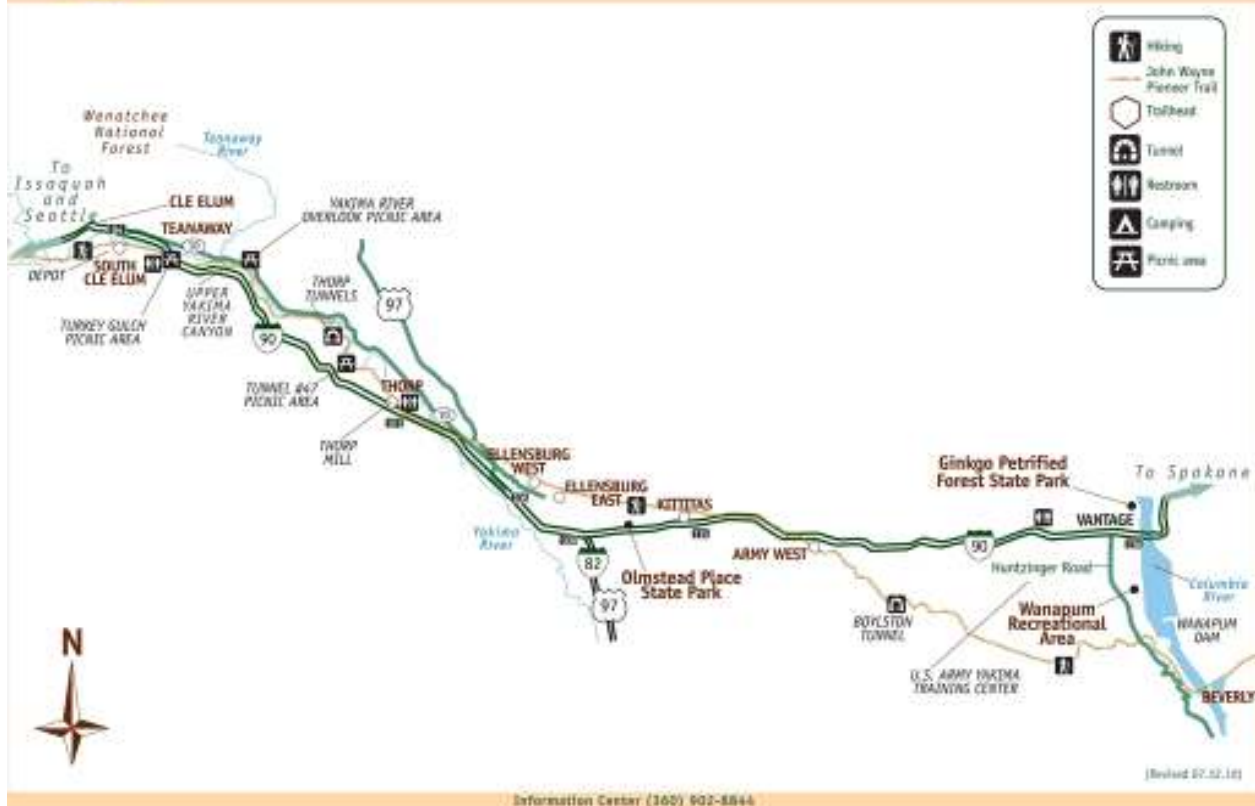
Sights and Scenes along the JW trail: Views of the Kittitas valley, Columbia River, Wanapum Dam, Grant County agriculture and Mt. Rainier. Desert shrub/steppe.

Words to the Wise: The portion of the trail has no shade. It can be hot and dry during the summer months. Carry water and wear sun screen and on hot days, you may want to bike in the early morning hours. Portions of the trail are sandy and difficult to ride. Don't leave any valuables in your car at the parking lot.





Iron Horse State Park East



Summary Table of Distances between each Trailhead

Cedar Falls Trailhead to Twin Falls/Olallie Trailhead	7K
Twin Falls/Olallie Trailhead to Hyak Trailhead	26K
Hyak Trailhead to Easton Trailhead	29K
Easton Trailhead to South Cle Elum Trailhead	18K
South Cle Elum Trailhead to Thorp Trailhead	30K
Thorp Trailhead to West Ellensburg Trailhead	11K

West Ellensburg Trailhead to East Ellensburg Trailhead 2K
East Ellensburg Trailhead to Kittitas Trailhead 8K
Kittitas Trailhead to Army West Trailhead 10K
Army West Trailhead to Army East Trailhead35K

Patches We have colorful fabric patches for this bike event (see below). They are 7 inches wide by 7 inches high and show the railroad heritage of the Iron Horse State Park as well as the pioneering spirit inherit in the John Wayne Pioneer Trail. If you bike any part of the trail, you qualify for the patch. They cost \$10 each. If you are interested in buying one, contact the POC.

