

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests

Big Piney Ranger District

Upper Buffalo Mountain Bike Trails



Southern National Forests

Arkansas

June 2014

Attractions:

The Big Piney Ranger District is located within the heart of the Ozarks. Visitors to this area view picturesque rock bluffs and hike wooded hillsides. The trails here are remote and distances can be deceiving. Expect the terrain to be slow and difficult.

The Upper Buffalo Mountain Bike Trail System is a series of interconnecting loops offering 35 miles of trail. Primarily single track, these mountain bike routes sport names that are descriptive of the trail's personality and of points of interest along the way! It is recommended that visitors bring proper safety equipment, such as approved bike helmet, with recommended gloves. Padding on elbows and knees, though not required, can be very helpful.

This free area is maintained and patrolled by volunteers. Please help keep the area clean by packing out what you bring in. The various loops can be accessed from two different trailheads. The main access area is located on Knuckles Creek Road which has a gravel-surfaced parking area that will park approximately 15 vehicles. The second trailhead is located on Cave Mountain Road.

The Upper Buffalo Mountain Bike Trail System was developed through a partnership with the Walton Family Foundation, Ozark Off-Road Cyclist, Phat Tire Bike Shop and the USDA Forest Service.

Facilities:

- 35 miles of mountain bike trails.
- No restrooms
- Alcohol is prohibited
- No overnight camping in trailheads

Location:

From the intersection of Hwy 21 and Hwy 16 at Fallsville, take AR Hwy 16 west for approximately 10 miles, turn right on Cave Mtn Rd (gravel road) go 3.2 miles, turn right on Knuckles Creek road/ FS 1413 for 0.9 miles, then take left Y for 0.2 miles Trail head on left.

From the intersection of Hwy 21 and Hwy 43 at Boxley, take AR Hwy 21 south for approximately 1.0 mile, then right on Cave Mtn. Road just before the Buffalo River on Hwy 21. Go approximately 9.3 miles to Knuckles Creek Rd/FS Rd 1413 turn left go 0.9 miles then take left Y for 0.2 miles. Trail head on left.

For more information, contact:

Big Piney Ranger District
P.O. Box 427, 603E Highway 7 North
Jasper, AR 72641 (870) 446-5122

Big Piney Ranger District
12000 SR 27
Hector, AR 72641 (479) 284-3150

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Ozark-St. Francis National Forests <http://fs.usda.gov/osfnf>

605 W. Main Street, Russellville, AR 72801

(479) 968-2354



Hunting is also a legitimate use of National Forest lands. On the Big Piney Ranger District, the heaviest hunting pressure occurs during the modern gun deer season in mid-November and the spring turkey season in April. Mountain biking is permitted year round, but riders are strongly encouraged to wear a blaze orange vest or jacket during any hunting seasons.

The surrounding area – The bike trails that connect with Kapark Road are adjacent to the Upper Buffalo Wilderness. As a friendly reminder, bicycles are not allowed in the Wilderness Area.

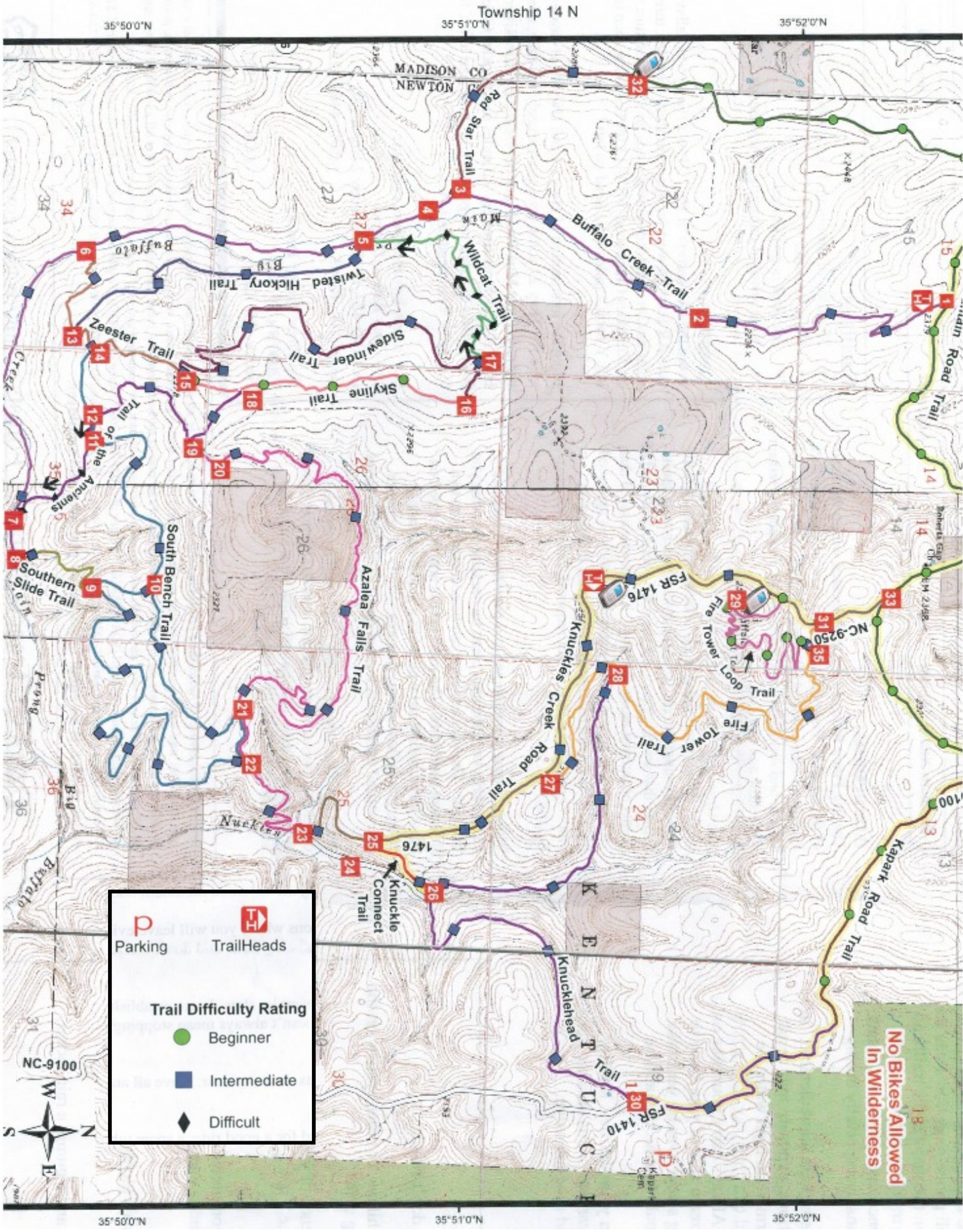
The Buffalo National River is located just minutes away from the trail in Boxley Valley and Ponca, where visitors can enjoy float fishing and canoeing. Commercial campgrounds and cabins can be found in Ponca and Boxley Valley. Additionally, the Buffalo National River manages Steel Creek Campground, also nearby.

Things to Remember

- This is a large remote area
- Cell service is almost nonexistent. A few key cell phone reception areas are indicated on the maps at the trailhead kiosks and trail information portals.
- You may encounter poisonous plants, insects or snakes especially during summer.
- Creek crossings are unpredictable. In cold conditions, exposure may result in hypothermia. In high water, be very careful carrying your bike across the creek. Always carry your bike on the downstream side of your body to avoid being swept over by your bike. When in doubt turn around and be safe.
- Ride within your abilities. Remote rescue operations in this area are very difficult and time intensive.

Rules of the Trail:

1. Ride on open trails only! If a trail is posted with a “No Bikes” sign, don’t ride it.
2. Control your bicycle. This is particularly important when you meet hikers, or other cyclists on the trail. Good balance and proper braking are essential mountain biking skills.
3. Leave no trace. Don’t ride in conditions where you will leave evidence of your passing, especially on certain soils after a rain. Stay on existing trails and don’t create new ones. Leave what you find and pack out your trash.
4. Always yield the trail. The steps are simple; slow down, establish communication with the people you meet and pass safely. Yielding doesn’t always mean stopping and dismounting, though sometimes that’s the best idea.
5. Never spook animals, whether it’s a fox, bear, or deer. Give all animals plenty of room and try not to startle them.
6. Plan ahead. Carry everything you need for a good ride: a spare tube and a pump, a rain jacket, basic tools. Know where you’re riding.
7. Wear proper gear such as approved bike helmet, with recommended gloves. Padding on elbows and knees though not required, can be very helpful.



Parking	TrailHeads
Trail Difficulty Rating	
	Beginner
	Intermediate
	Difficult

**No Bikes Allowed
In Wilderness**