**Divide Ride Dogs**  
*Lewis & Clark Trail*  
*Summer 2006 Itinerary*

**Final As Pedaled**

Mileages are from ACA’s book "Bicycling the Lewis & Clark Trail." There are motel options in many places.

We are now back in BLM territory, so you may want to opt for a BML map or two for MT & ID.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day/Date</th>
<th>To/From</th>
<th>Miles</th>
<th>Camping</th>
<th>Services (see maps for &quot;usual&quot; info.)</th>
<th>Comments - See ACA Map for L&amp;C Field Notes.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-trip</td>
<td>Great Falls, MT (airport code = GTF)</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>Best Western Heritage Inn, 1700 Fox Farm Rd. Great Falls (406) 761-1900</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>Hamilton, MT: Treasure State Art Show (July 7-9). Great Falls: River’s Edge Trail (bike &amp; ped). Acclaimed. Begins at 3rd Ave S and River Dr. Lewis &amp; Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center: Accessible from the River's Edge Trail. Includes a 30 min. Ken Burns orientation film. Giant Springs Heritage State Park: The Interpretive Center is within this park which sits high above the Missouri River. Home of WORLD'S largest cold fresh water springs and also the world's shortest (the Roe) river.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Day 1 July 10 Monday | Great Falls -> Craig -> **Wolf Creek/Holter Lake** | 58 | Wolf Creek: Camping @ "Montana River Outfitters" (406 235-4350) or "The Bungalow B&B" at 406 235-4276 (off route 4 mi. N on US 287) or Camping at Holter | Buy groceries in Cascade (or carry from Great Falls). Can camp at the beginning of Wolf Creek where there is a rest./bar. Can camp if having dinner at Cafe. | Outside of Ulm: Ulm Pishkun State Monument. Detour to see the buffalo jump: Do NOT take fork that goes to Canyon Creek. (12 mi. S. of Great Falls on I-15 & west from the Ulm exit. Adjacent picnic area.) Flat route. Gorgeous ride along Wolf Creek. Wolf Creek: The Bungalow: "Quaint stately structure
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>July 11</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Wolf Creek -> through Gates of the Mountains Wilderness area -> Helena**  
**OR**  
**ALTERNATE ROUTE NORTH OF HELENA - MAP 76**  
# Cyclists have recommended an alternate north of Helena to avoid 24.5 miles of I-15 and a steep climb. It is 4 miles longer and includes 11.1 miles of hard-packed dirt/gravel, and is slightly rolling following a creek.  
# Westbound, begin alternate at mile 14:  
...*14(23)At exit #216, exit I-15S./US 287 and turn right onto unsigned road.  
16(26)Begin 11.1 miles of hard-packed dirt/gravel with rolling hills.  
32 Helena: Helena RV Park (been there during DR)  
32 Helena: "Morning Lights" for pastry;  
32 Toi's Thai for 1st rate Thai ("Montana's best").  
32 Miller's Crossing for burgers & pasta or Bert & Ernies for similar.  
32 Fancier = On Broadway or River Grille.  
32 Gates of the Mountains: Tour boats leave from the south shore of Holter Lake 18 mi. N. of Helena at 11am, 1, & 3pm (times may have changed). $10/9 (Sr.)  
http://www.gatesofthemountains.com/  
Short day to Helena.  
Multiple things to see & do including:  
**Montana Historical Society Museum.**  
**Holter Museum of Art** (12 E. Lawrence).  
**Archie Bray Foundation** - "one of the foremost schools of pottery in the US. (4 m. west of downtown at 2915 Country Club Ave. - take Euclid to Joslyn & turn right.) A magical place where pottery is scattered irreverently across the landscape & artists-in-residence are busy working. Self-guided tour." Gallery open 10-5 exc. Sunday. Can roam grounds at any time. Nationally renowned residential center for potters has displays of pottery for sale or view.  
**State Capitol:** The State Capital building is now partially reopened for tours.  
**Norwest Bank's nugget display:** Largest display of gold nuggets in the northwest. Also see **Federal Reserve Bank's** collection of nuggets.  
**Myrna Loy Center for Performing Arts** may have something while we are there. Check on this. (15 N. Ewing.)  
**Grandstreet Community Theater** (Corner of Park & Lawrence). |
mi. of gravel.
23(37)Duffy Ln.
26.5(42)Silver City.
Cross RR and
continue straight.
*27(43)Turn left
onto paved
unsigned CR 279
which becomes
Lincoln Rd. In 0.2
mi., cross RR.
*35(56)Turn right
onto N. Montana
Ave. Rejoin route.
(Took this route.)

Day 3
July 12
Wednesday
Helena -> Canyon
Ferry Rec. Area ->
Three Forks
Junction 287 & I-90
near Wheat Bakery
(Too much wind,
t-storms, and
heat to make it to Three
Forks.)

Three Forks:
Missouri
Headwaters State
Park. 7 mi. off route.
"Go into Three Forks
and ask," per ACA. But
it does show on their
route map.
(According to Park web
site: 4 miles northeast
of Three Forks, off of
Hwy 286, then onto
Hwy 286. Lat 45.024,
Lng -111.498. Pet
Restriction
Leash required. This
could be an issue for a
pack of Dogs.)
KOA RV park at
junction just south on
Hwy 2 towards Three

Follow road signs to
Wheat Montana
fabulous Cinnamon
Buns. (Junct. 287 &
I-90) (A "sow it, grow
it and dough it"
family operation.
(Yummy!)

Root Beer Stand: I
know for fact (been
there, done that) that
there is a root beer
stand in town with
wonderful root beer
floats on a hot day.
(Gone)

Sacagawea Hotel
Bar:
"The bar itself is a
reclaimed trestle that
is more than 100
years old and was
once a part of a
bridge that spanned

Canyon Ferry Village Visitor Center.
These past two days are miles such that we
can camp at Missouri Headwaters S.P. Seems
that since we are in the L&C, we ought to spend
some time where the Missouri River begins.

Three Forks: The Three Forks of today owes its
existence to the establishment of the Milwaukee
Railroad in 1908. The location was chosen by J.
Q. Adams, Milwaukee Railroad Land Agent. The
railroad era lasted until March 25, 1980, when
the last Milwaukee Train pulled out of Three
Forks.

Headwaters State Park: Go to the Viewpoint
to see the confluence of the three rivers that
form the Missouri River: The Madison, Jefferson,
and Gallatin Rivers.

Headwaters Heritage Museum corner of Main
& Cedar.

Rodeo: (if we are running a couple of days late
in our itinerary: July 14-15)

Sacagawea Hotel:
"Standing proudly at the entrance to Three
Forks, the Sac is situated across from the old Railroad Depot. A good place to sit on the veranda and enjoy the afternoon, with a drink. (The tip-off to recognizing the finer old inns of the west is the porch. In times of slower travel, an inn was a respite from often arduous journeys, a comfy perch for looking out at the vistas of America's rural provinces while stretching your legs. In the southwest Montana town of Three Forks, the front porch of the Sacajawea Hotel has that feeling: It runs the length of the long building, wrapping around the east end. Here one can sit and rock as the world goes by.
- National Geographic Traveler, May/June 1994
http://www.sacajaweahotel.com/history.htm

| Day 4 | July 13 | Thursday | Junction 287/90 -> Three Forks -> Twin Bridges Whitehall (Hot with punishing head winds, 15 gusting to 20mph. Had to pedal downhill. Couldn’t get to Twin Bridges) | Twin Bridges: RV Park in town. Super 8 Motel in Whitehall. Campground looked like pure gravel. No shade. Too hot to deal with that. We were exhausted. | Flat miles. (Mostly.)

**Lewis & Clark Caverns**: 16 miles along route from Three Forks. Enormous limestone cave system. 3 mi. up a 1,400’ hill. Takes about 2 hr. to walk the 2 mile tour of caverns.

**Confluence of the Jefferson River**: Look for the three rivers that come together to form the Jefferson: Ruby, Beaverhead & Big Hole.

| Day 5 | July 14 | Friday | Twin Bridges Whitehall -> Dillon | Dillon: Camping KOA. 735 Park St. (Same place as on DR) | Short day to have 1/2 day rest day.

Just outside of Twin Bridges... Beaver Head Rock: Sacagawea recognized this rock and knew she was near Shoshones. Be sure to stop & contemplate how they saw a beaver head in the rock formation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 6</th>
<th>July 15</th>
<th>BIG HOLE OPTION ON MAP: Dillon -&gt; Badger Pass -&gt; Big Hole Pass -&gt; Jackson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Camping at Jackson HOT SPRINGS &lt;smile&gt; Lodge (Camping is behind the Lodge.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Need lunches.) (Wicked Felina's for breakfast.)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Badger Pass today. Also Big Hole Pass.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 7</th>
<th>July 16</th>
<th>Jackson -&gt; Wisdom -&gt; Big Hole Nat'l. Battlefield -&gt; May Creek C.G.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May Creek camping. (Need to buy camping food in Wisdom.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wisdom: Big Hole Crossing has heavenly pie. (Indeed. Even at 10:30 am.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wisdom: A good place to stop for a few minutes to poke around.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bitterroot = State flower of MT.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Big Hole Valley. Serious ranching country with spreads averaging 2,000-5,000 acres.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Big Hole National Battlefield: Just west of Wisdom - an excellent place to stop. Long gentle climb to Chief Joe Pass. Worth a detour.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 8</th>
<th>July 17</th>
<th>May Creek c.g. -&gt; Chief Jos. &amp; Lost Trail Passes -&gt; Sula -&gt; Darby</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Darby: Camping. (Wilderness RV Park is the only camping park in town which can accommodate tents. Other place doesn't have toilet provisions yet...only hookups for RVs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Darby: Trapper's, 516 Main has huge b/l/d menu. (Food wasn't all that good.)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Darmont Hotel, 123 N. Main, is Darby's</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>At the top of Lost Trail Pass = picnic &amp; info area across the road. Nice downhill of ~6mi. Then rolling into Sula and then Darby.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sula: - Lost Trails Hot Springs Resort. ~$5 for a soak in the hot outdoor pool. (8am-10pm) - Cute store in Sula.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Darby: - Marcus Darby built the first lumber mill in the Bitterroot Valley. - Original Town Square; Library in the old fire house; Pioneer Memorial Museum (housed in an old chicken coop). Darby Historical Ranger</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Day 9
July 18
Tuesday
Darby -> Hamilton
Stevensville -> Missoula

**Missoula:**
Options: Motel or camping.
(The 100+ deg. days begin. We stayed in a motel - The Bel Aire Motel. The motel is very close to the Adventure Cycling office. However, if staying at the Bel Aire, be very sure to get a WRITTEN confirmation of room rate PRIOR to signing on the dotted line when registering at the office. We had rate problems. Other than that, it was fine.)

Arriba! Fresh Mexican Grill:

The Montana Club:
serves up true Montana size portions of the cities best breakfast, lunch and dinner. 2100 Stephens.

The Iron Horse Brew Pub:
restaurant, cafe, tavern, pub. 501 N. Higgins

Station (north end of town) where Main St. turns into US 93.

Just south of Missoula near Hamilton = Traveler's Rest State Park where L&C spent one winter. A good related sight. (May not be on maps yet...it's relatively new.) Can get to via bike path paralleling US 93 going into Hamilton. (Bike path is shown on our ACA map, plate # 89.)

**Hamilton:**
- Marcus Darby Mansion (24 bedrooms, 15 bathrooms) had T. Roosevelt, Will Rogers, Charles Russel as guests. It remains "An exquisite estate" which was built in 1890. Roam grounds 10-5pm [free] Tours are ~$5. 2 mi. N of Hamilton on Eastside Rd. Turn E. on A St. from Hwy 93.
- Shantlily Theater Group & Hamilto Players perform in a restored schoolhouse. Tix. available at Chapter One Bookstore.

**Victor:**
"People venture great distances for English pints & pub atmosphere of The Hamilton, 1/2 block west of US 93 in the small town of Victor. Owner wears kilts & pulls a perfect Guinness & makes excellent fish & chips."

(The Depot Restaurant. Had an outstanding meal. Excellent steak!)
(The Press Box Sports Bar/Rest. opens at 7am for inexpensive breakfast. We were able to watch The Tour d’ France there.)

Stevensville:
Explore the grounds of St. Mary’s Mission founded in 1841

Missoula:
- ACA is here. We'll stop in and say "hi" as they are expecting to see us on our way through.
  **Noon picnic on 7/19 with ACA folks.**
- **Food & music in the park.** Wed. Noon?
- Farmer’s Mkt: Tues 6:30-8pm. ??
- Rockin' Ruby's, 237 Blaine, "Quite possibly the best record store between Minneapolis & Seattle.

The Missoula Art Museum (MAM). Tours, classes, poetry readings, concerts, public discussions and other special events are available year-round. MAM expanding the building, expected to be completed in summer 2006. MAM presents exhibitions and educational programs in The Florence at 111 N. Higgins Ave. during construction. Galleries are open Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free.

Ride the first fully hand-carved Carousel built in America in the last sixty years and enjoy numerous special events throughout the year at Caras Park. 11a.m. to 7p.m. [http://www.carrousel.com/](http://www.carrousel.com/) $0.50 for most of us.

Elk Country Visitor Center, one of the newest and best conservation education facilities in the Northwest. Showcasing the efforts of the Foundation to conserve elk country, the Elk Country Visitor Center features hands-on conservation and hunting heritage exhibits for all ages. The Visitor Center also includes a Lewis and Clark display, an impressive collection of world record elk mounts, a western wildlife diorama and a state of the art conservation theater. 5705 Grant Creek. Free.
### Day 10 & 11
**July 19 Wednesday (& July 20 Thursday)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REST DAYS-Missoula</th>
<th>.</th>
<th>.</th>
<th>.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

(Took two rest days in Missoula to recover from the heat, mileages and saddle "inconveniences.")

Explore Missoula. Meet with Adventure Cycling folks at their place.

### Day 11 & 12
**July 21 Thursday & Friday**

| Missoula -> Lolo Hot Springs (can continue another mile to Lee Creek c.g.) | 41 (or 43) | RV park at Lolo Hot Springs (No Hookup/Tent = $15.00 per tent) (We negotiated a much better deal.) or continue a bit to Lee Creek c.g. (USFS) (2 mi.-off-route.) | 40 |

Wx = HOT HOT HOT.

This is NOT the off-road Lolo Trail route that ACA also shows on the maps.

A bit of a hilly day.

**Lolo Hot Springs**: Pool Hours: Summer 10am until 10pm. 38500 W. Highway 12, Lolo, MT.

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The **Smokejumper Center** features murals, videos, a reconstructed lookout tower and exhibits of men and women fighting wildfire, from the advent of the smokejumper in 1939 to the present day. In addition, Forest Service smokejumpers are trained here. The Center is open Memorial Day through Labor Day and tours are available on the hour, beginning at 10:00a.m. Located adjacent to Johnson Bell Airport on Hwy 93. (406) 329-4900 (7 mi. west of town on Broadway.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Lee Creek c.g. Lolo Hot Springs -&gt; Lolo Pass -&gt; <strong>Cross into Idaho</strong> -&gt; Powell</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Camping? Or? (At Powell Station (USFS c.g.)</td>
<td>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Powell -&gt; Warm Springs Pack Bridge -&gt; Eagle Mt. Pack Bridge -&gt; <strong>Lone Knob Wilderness Gateway c.g.</strong></td>
<td>39</td>
<td>.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Wilderness Gateway c.g. -&gt; Lowell -&gt; Syringa (Lochsa Hist. Ranger Station) -&gt; <strong>Lewis &amp; Clark Resort (RV/camping)</strong> One of the largest private c.g.s in Idaho. Situated across the road from <strong>Heart of the Monster</strong>. (Stayed in Kamiah. Temps continue to be 105+ deg.)</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Lewis &amp; Clark Resort (2 mi s. of Kamiah). (Motel: Kamiah Inn Motel. Clean. Unimpressive.)</td>
<td>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- Lodgepole timber, and 5 sites in pine and spruce near the creek. Restrooms are provided.
- Over Lolo Pass.
- 3 mi. before Powell, stop and enjoy the stand of ancient cedar trees at **DeVoto Memorial Grove**.
- "At Warm Springs Pack Bridge there is a hot springs 1 mi. off route. **Johnson Hot Springs.** Also, a few miles down the road, on the right, near Milepost 1423 is a trail leading to Weir Hot Springs, another undeveloped site [as is Johnson Hot Springs]. In the interest of overcrowding we won't divulge any more information about these two very special places. Just let it be said that they're **well worth the off-route travel** necessary to reach them."
  (Source: ACA's biking the L&C Trail.)
- Between Powell & Lowell: **Lochsa Historical Ranger Station.** (Open 9-5, daily.)
- Pretty flat.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Kamiah (L&amp;C Resort)</th>
<th>Winchester</th>
<th>Lewiston/Clarkson</th>
<th>Lewiston</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>REST DAY-</td>
<td>Kamiah</td>
<td>Lewiston/Clarkson</td>
<td>Lewiston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Kamiah (L&amp;C Resort) -&gt; Winchester</td>
<td>Winchester</td>
<td>Lewiston/Clarkson</td>
<td>Lewiston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 16</td>
<td>July 24</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>REST DAY-</td>
<td>Kamiah</td>
<td>Lewiston/Clarkson</td>
<td>Lewiston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 17</td>
<td>July 25</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Kamiah (L&amp;C Resort) -&gt; Winchester</td>
<td>Winchester</td>
<td>Lewiston/Clarkson</td>
<td>Lewiston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>July 26</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Wincheste</td>
<td>Lewiston/</td>
<td>Lewiston/Clarkson</td>
<td>Lewiston</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Day 16**

**July 24**

**Monday-Tuesday**

REST DAY-

**Kamiah**

**Day 17**

**July 25**

**Tuesday-Wednesday**

Kamiah (L&C Resort) -> Winchester

| 45 | 51 |

Winchester:

Winchester Lake State Park (1/4 mi. prior to Winchester). "Go for an overnight. Can rent a yurt." (per ACA.)

Winchester Lake State Park surrounds a 103-acre lake, nestled in a forested area at the foot of the Craig Mountains, just off US 95 adjoining the town of Winchester.

The Dog Bark Park Inn B&B is located off route, from the junction of Jentges Rd. and US 95, 2.9 mi. S. on US 95, 962-3647.

Stayed at **Winchester Lake Lodge** (in town, not on a lake).

A lumpy climb out of Kamiah (2,000+’ in 11 mi) and lumpy downhill after that.

**Day 18**

**July 26**

**Wednesday-Thursday**

Winchester -> Lewiston/Clarkson

| 27 | 45 |

(Stayed at Hotel Lewiston [former Howard Johnson's Motel]. Would stay elsewhere next time.)

Lewiston

**Motels:**

Budget motels clustered N. of Memorial Bridge.

**Places to eat:**

- MJ Barleyhoppers

Lewiston:

- **Hell's Gate State Park** (on Snake R.) 4 mi. S. Swimming, camping, showers, picnic area. Hiking trails.

- A relatively small town which can be walked around in an afternoon. (My comment - I've been there on a bike trip.)
Microbrewery has best quality & selection in town.
- Zany's for burgers & retro atmosphere.
- BoJack's for "broiler pit" steaks.
- Casa de Oro for good Mexican food.

Clarkston's best is Tomato Bros (wood fired pizza, salads, pasta).

(MaCullen's. Excellent food. Also a DQ in town.)

| Day 19 | July 27 Thursday Friday | (Available day for weather or other delaying situations.) | . | . | . | (Or, a ride day into Lewiston)
Explore Lewiston/Clarkson. Ride along the Snake River. Etc.

| Day 20 | July 28 Saturday | Fly Home from LEWISTON, ID airport (airport code = LWS) | . | . | . | Ditto above.

| Day 21 | July 29 Saturday Sunday | Fly Home from LEWISTON, ID airport (airport code = LWS) | . | . | . | .

Information from "Bicycling the Lewis & Clark Trail" by Mac McCoy/Adventure Cycling Association.
Also "Traveling the Lewis & Clark Trail" by Julie Faneslow. And, various city web pages. Lonely Planet. Marianne Lipanovich

Last updated: August 5, 2006