7 Dominguez Trail Section 13.8 miles
(Plateau crest to Dominguez Campground)
Rating: Difficult

From Divide Road the trail descends for 3.8 miles and then parallels Dominguez Creek. The trail crosses the creek at mile 84.8. For 2.2 miles the trail winds across rolling meadows covered with sage and wildflowers. The trail goes steadily uphill until the top of the ridge is reached and the LaSal Mountains come into view to the southwest. Bear left at the two intersections at mile 87 and 88. There is a good view of the Bookcliffs above Grand Junction at mile 88.6. At the top of this ridge at mile 91, the Winter Camp Road branches off to the right. Numerous side roads branch off to the right from this point but the rider should bear left in this whole section. The trail is downhill for much of this stretch, leveling off briefly for a view of Dominguez Canyon just prior to a steep descent to the campground along Dominguez Creek at mile 94.5.

8 Cactus Park Section 25.2 miles
(Dominguez Campground to Hwy 141)
Rating: Moderate

At mile 94.5, the trail crosses Dominguez Creek and begins a steep climb up through the red sandstones forming the canyon walls. After reaching the canyon rim, the road climbs slightly and turns right at 96.4 miles. The trail then follows a dirt road through a young pinyon forest. The trail takes a left fork at mile 99 and almost immediately passes over a cattle guard. The road gradually bends east to parallel a ridge and reaches another fork at mile 99.7. Take the right fork towards some low hills. The trail climbs into a saddle in the hills and then takes a left fork at mile 101.5. It climbs up the hillside to overlooks of the Grand Mesa and Grand Valley. The road begins to descend at 103.9 miles into a broad drainage called Cactus Park.

After reaching Cactus Park, another road enters from the left at 105.6 miles. Stay right at this and the next junction. The road reaches the trailhead of the Dominguez Canyon Trail at 106.4 miles; take the left fork and continue through Cactus Park. The road crosses a cattle guard and fence line at 108.7 miles, then turns right and heads up into some low hills, where it gradually becomes a very rough 4WD road. It reaches the rim then begins to descend at 109.6 miles. The road bends left and follows the rim until it reaches the rim of East Creek at 112.2 miles. Turn right as the road joins a well maintained gravel road and go to the microwave tower at 133.5 miles. Follow the gravel road down the ridge, to where it reaches a short section of pavement, then turns left and makes a short descent to intersect Highway 141. Turn left on the highway and follow it to 199.8 miles where a single-track begins on the west side of the highway.

9 Grand Valley Section 22.4 miles
(Hwy 141 to Monument Road)
Rating: Moderately Difficult

The single-track ascends the slope of East Creek and intersects a 4WD road at 120.2 miles. The trail turns left on this road and begins a 9 mile ascent called "No Mas Hill" by the locals. At mile 123.2, the trail passes a fenced area covered with green, corrugated steel, then continues to parallel East Creek reaching a fence and gate at mile 124.5. The trail climbs steadily upon to the Uncompahgre Plateau following the high ground between two small drainages. you reach the crest at mile 128.9 then begin a descent into Bangs Canyon. A notch in the canyon wall on the right allows a nice view of Grand Mesa and Valley. The trail reaches the bottom of the drainage at 129.6 miles and immediately begins a steep climb. This short section of the road is very rough and is impassable for most 4WD vehicles. The trail reaches the top at mile 129.8 and begins a more gradual descent into a small park at the head of another drainage. To the left, the ground rises to Pinyon Mesa. Take the left fork at mile 130.5 and follow the drainage.

The road winds along this small canyon for several miles, with red sandstones rising on the left. At mile 132.7, you pass a spring and galvanized stock tank on the left and begin dropping into Rough Canyon. The road begins a steep descent and reaches the bottom of Rough canyon at mile 134.76. At this point, the trail begins a long climb along a bench formed of Kayenta sandstone. The trail reaches Little Park Road at mile 137. Turn right on the paved Little Park Road, which climbs around a large grey hill on the right and then begins a long descent into the valley below. Follow the pavement to mile 139.9 and take a 4WD road to the left. This road is closed to motorized vehicles. At mile 140.6, the road reaches the top of a descent called "Widow-maker" by locals, and continues to descend until it reaches the pavement at Monument Road at 142.1 miles.

To reach the Grand Junction trailhead, go west on Grand Avenue to Hwy 340 and turn left on Monument Road.

IMBA Rules of the Trail*

RIDE ON OPEN TRAILS ONLY.
Respect trail and road closures (ask if not sure), avoid possible trespass on private land, and obtain permits and authorization as may be required. Federal and State wilderness areas are closed to cycling.

LEAVE NO TRACE.
Be sensitive to the dirt beneath you. Even on open trails, you will leave evidence of your passing, such as on certain soils shortly after rain. Observe the different types of soils and trail construction: Practice low-impact cycling. This also means staying on the trail and not creating any new ones. Be sure to pack out what you pack in.

CONTROL YOUR BICYCLE!
Inattention for even a second can cause disaster. Excessive speed maims and threatens people; there is no excuse for it!

ALWAYS YIELD THE TRAIL.
Make known your approach in advance. A friendly greeting (or a bell) is considerate and works well; startling someone may cause loss of trail access. Show your respect when passing others by slowing to a walk or even stopping. Anticipate that other trail users may be around corners or in blind spots.

NEVER SPOOK ANIMALS.
All animals are startled by an unannounced approach, a sudden movement, or a loud one. This can be dangerous for you, for others, and

About Tabeguache...

For centuries before the arrival of Europeans, the area that is now western Colorado was inhabited by native peoples. These people called themselves "Nunt'z". We call them Utes.

The Utes were nomadic, moving from camp to camp to exploit nearby food sources. They were some of the first Native Americans to acquire the horse, and became superb horsemen. The Tabeguache Utes inhabited the Uncompahgre Plateau.

The modern spelling is from a word coined by the explorer Escalante in 1776. The meaning Tabeguache is "place where the snow melts first". The Tabeguache Utes were removed from the Uncompahgre Plateau by the United States

The Tabeguache Utes were removed from the Uncompahgre Plateau by the United States government in 1881 to a reservation in Northeastern Utah.

Evidence of man's presence on the Uncompahgre Plateau dates back over 10,000 years. Over the last 100 years, the Uncompahgre Plateau has been the scene of cattle grazing, sheepherding, mining and lumber ventures. The landscape is dotted with evidence of these past and present uses. Help preserve historic and prehistoric resources by not disturbing them.

COPMOBA is grateful to the USFS, BLM and dozens of hard-working volunteers who created the Tabeguache Trail across this magnificent landscape.

Alternate Access Routes:

From Montrose, continue on 58.75 Road to Transfer Rd. by way of Jasmine, Hillside and Holly Rds. Drive 2 miles on Transfer Rd. to a 4WD road on the left, just past the large power line tower. Park vehicles here and begin biking. Drop into the canyon, bike 1 mile up canyon, bear right and climb northern slope of Cushman Mesa. Continue on Cushman Mesa to mile 8 of Tabeguache Trail. From Grand Junction, take Monument Road, turn left on Rose Vale Road to Little Park Road. Turn right and drive to Little Park staging area.

Windy Point	Snipe Mountain
Keith Creek	Uncompahgre Butte
Casto Reservoir	Jacks Canyon
Triangle Mesa	Whitewater
Island Mesa	Grand Junction

The trail is marked on the Delta, Nucla BLM and Grand Junction 1/100,000 Maps. Forest Service sections are covered on the Uncompahgre National Forest travel map, but the trail is not marked.

Camping Guidelines

Please help preserve the features that make this area a national treasure: Scenery, peace and quiet, and relatively undisturbed countryside. Follow these minimum-impact guidelines to preserve the area for future visitors.

Protect the Environment

- Camp at a previously used site when possible.
- Stay on designated travel routes.
- Leave dead and live trees standing; use only dead and down wood for fires.
- Pack out all of your trash.
- Dispose of human waste properly; bury it 6" deep at least 100 feet from trails and water sources.
- Follow all regulations of the agency managing the area in which you are biking.

Use Proper Fire Procedures

- Obey all fire regulations in effect during the time you are on the trail.
- Use a fire pan, such as a metal tray or garbage can lid in place of a fire ring.
- Pack out cold ashes in a plastic bag.
- Do not build new campfire rings.
- Burn your firewood to ashes, then douse with water. Do not bury it with soil. The next campers will reuse your fire location if they can see it, and avoid making a new one.
- Do not put cans, bottles, aluminum foil or other non-burnables into your fire.

TABEGUACHE TRAIL™

Map and Trail Log

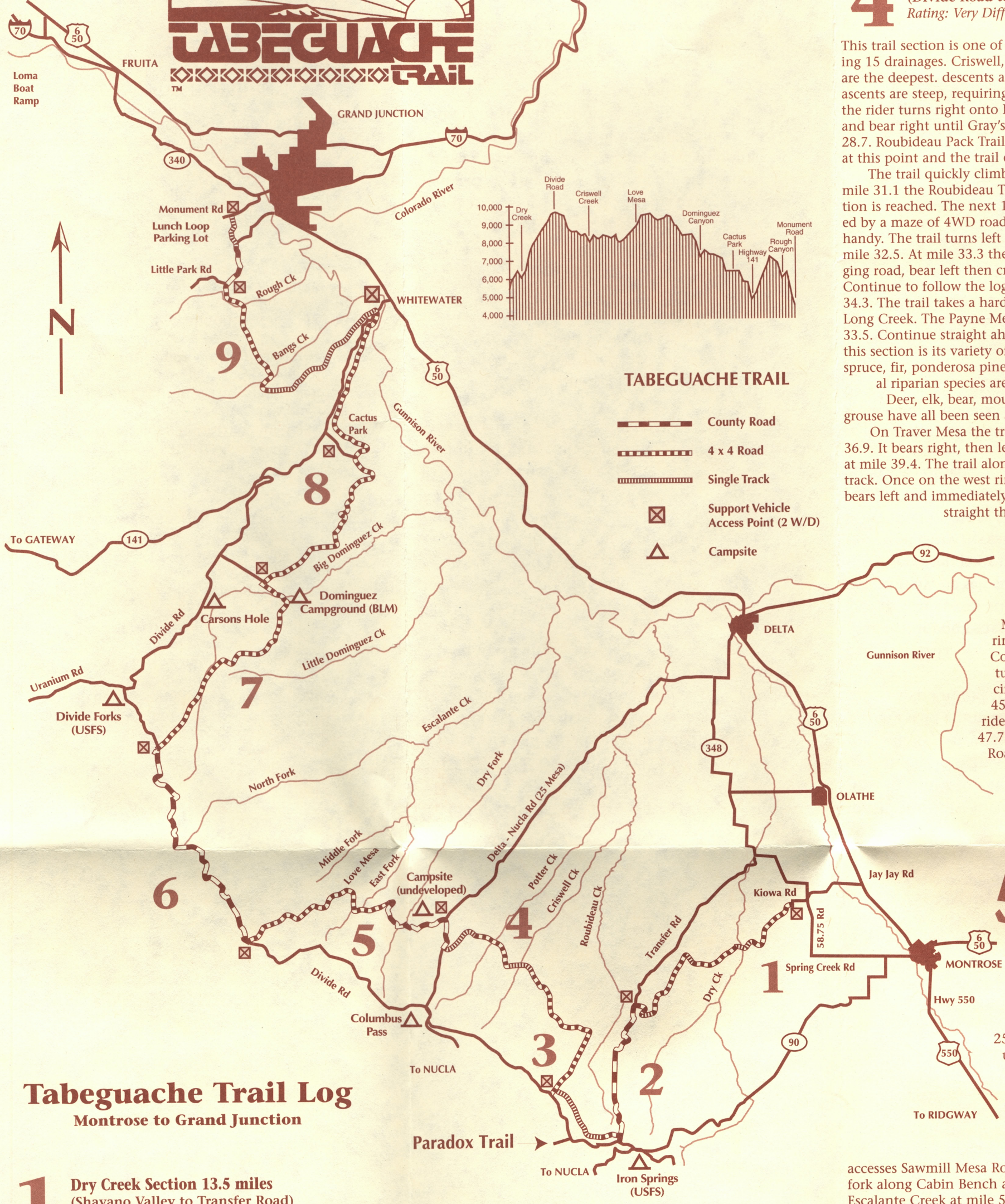
The Tabeguache Trail is part of the Colorado Plateau Mountain Bike Trail System. It promotes low-impact recreation on the Uncompahgre Plateau in harmony with the region's unique environment and lifestyle.

COPMOBA
COLORADO PLATEAU MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL ASSOCIATION, INC

FOREST SERVICE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGMENT

A project of the
Colorado Plateau Mountain Bike Trail Association, Inc.,
the United States Forest Service and
the Bureau of Land Management



Tabeguache Trail Log

Montrose to Grand Junction

1 Dry Creek Section 13.5 miles

(Shavano Valley to Transfer Road)

Rating: Moderately Difficult

To get to the Shavano Valley Trailhead, drive 6.0 miles west of Montrose on Spring Creek Road. Turn right at 58.75 Road and continue for 2+ miles to Kiowa Road. Turn left and cross the valley to Shavano Valley Road. The Tabeguache Trail begins as a jeep road near the north end of the Shavano Valley Road. Initially the trail follows the Dry Creek Rim road as it steadily climbs for 3.0 miles. Turn right, go through a gate, then ride down into Dry Creek Canyon. At mile 4.1 bear left to cross a small arroyo then bear left again to access the Dry Creek bridge. After crossing the bridge turn left on the two track and start to climb. At mile 5.3 take the right fork and follow a two-track into a narrowing canyon. At mile 7.0 the two-track gets steep and rocky. The two-track levels off and at mile 7.2 turn right and soon top out on Cushman Mesa. At mile 7.4 continue straight (right turn accesses Cushman Mesa single track). At mile 8.0 turn left and begin a gentle ascent up Cushman Mesa. At mile 9 bear right. Be sure to close the gate at mile 9.2. The trail passes through a long meadow dotted with pine trees between mile 10 & 11. At mile 11.0 pass through a gate and bear right.

Between miles 8 & 11 notice the gradual change from pinyon pine, Utah juniper and serviceberry to scrub oak and ponderosa pine. The trail winds through a stand of ponderosa pine, and bears right at several inconspicuous forks. At mile 11.7 pass through another gate which marks the USFS/BLM common boundary. The trail continues as a 4WD road until at mile 12.3 it deteriorates into an abandoned logging road. The road intersects a single-track that drops into Cushman Creek, climbs out to the west rim, then merges with a jeep road at mile 12.6. Turn right at the jeep road, then bear left at the next 3 forks. The trail intersects Transfer Road at mile 13.5.

2 Transfer Road Section 7.2 miles

(Cushman Mesa to Powerlines)

Rating: Moderate

This section begins as the trail merges with Transfer Road. At mile 14.5 views of the wild and rugged Roubideau Canyon dominate the trail-side scenery. Scenic vistas of Grand Mesa, West Elk Mountains and the Black Canyon of the Gunnison are evident to the north, and northeast as the rider ascends on the Transfer Road. At mile 20.7 turn right onto a jeep road that parallels the powerlines.

3 Pool Creek Section 7.2 miles

(Transfer Road to E. Bull Road)

Rating: Moderately Difficult

Continue on jeep road until mile 21.5 then turn right onto a single-track. continue on mostly rolling single-track (1 big drainage) through aspen groves, dark timber and meadows. At mile 27.9 intersect E. Bull Road and turn right. This section connects several abandoned logging ways.

4

(Divide Road to 25 Mesa)

Rating: Very Difficult

This trail section is one of the most challenging, negotiating 15 drainages. Criswell, Potter and Monitor Canyons are the deepest. descents are "white knuckle" affairs and ascents are steep, requiring portage. The section begins as the rider turns right onto E. Bull Rd. Follow the dirt road and bear right until Gray's Cow camp is reached at mile 28.7. Roubideau Pack Trail No. 105 merges with the road at this point and the trail continues along a two-track.

The trail quickly climbs then descends steadily until at mile 31.1 the Roubideau Trail and Coalbank Trail intersection is reached. The next 13 miles is rugged and intersected by a maze of 4WD roads, so keep your topo map handy. The trail turns left and crosses East Bull Creek at mile 32.5. At mile 33.3 the two-track merges with a logging road, bear left then cross Beach Creek at mile 33.5. Continue to follow the logging road to Long Creek at mile 34.3. The trail takes a hard, steep right turn just across Long Creek. The Payne Mesa Road intersection is at mile 33.5. Continue straight ahead. One of the highlights of this section is its variety of vegetation and wildlife. Aspen, spruce, fir, ponderosa pine, scrub oak, sagebrush and several riparian species are well represented along the trail.

Deer, elk, bear, mountain lion, wild turkey and blue grouse have all been seen along the trail.

On Traver Mesa the trail intersects Traver Trail at mile 36.9. It bears right, then left to the rim of Criswell Canyon at mile 39.4. The trail along Criswell Creek is a single track. Once on the west rim of Criswell Canyon the trail bears left and immediately turns right, and continues straight through an intersection to 7N Mesa at mile 40.7. The trail continues across 7N Mesa and onto the east rim of Potter Canyon at mile 41.4. Cross Potter Canyon to Monitor Mesa at mile 44.2. Negotiate Monitor Creek and gain the east rim of 25 Mesa at mile 45.2. Continue another .3 miles and turn left onto a single-track that circumvents private land. At mile 45.7 go over a fence crossing and ride to the Delta-Nucla Road at mile 47.7. Turn right at the Delta-Nucla Road and continue to its intersection with Cottonwood Road at mile 49.

5 Cottonwood Road Section 18.8 miles

(25 Mesa to Divide Road)

Rating: Moderate

This section begins at the junction of the Delta-Nucla Road and Cottonwood Road. Between 25 Mesa and Cabin Bench the trail follows a maintained gravel road. Pedal across 25 Mesa and then in and out of upper Cottonwood Creek. The Sawmill Mesa Road intersection is at mile 51.3. At mile 52.5 bear right and ride across Iron Spring Mesa. At mile 54 a three-way intersection is encountered. The right fork accesses Sawmill Mesa Road to Delta, CO. Take the left fork along Cabin Bench and cross the East Fork of Escalante Creek at mile 56.9. In another .5 miles the west rim of East Fork is reached. Stop for a moment to enjoy the spectacular scenery. At mile 57.6 turn left and begin a steady climb up Love Mesa. Numerous side roads split from the main jeep road, but the trail is well marked. At mile 63.5 the trail continues right and climbs through conifer forests and aspen groves. The trail tops out on the crest of the plateau at 66.5. Panoramic views to the south begin at this point. As the road descends, it contours around the shoulder of some red sandstone cliffs, and then intersects with Divide Road at mile 67. The Lone Cone is the main feature of the scenery from the crest.

6 Central Divide Road Section 14.7 miles

(Love Mesa to Dominguez Trail)

Rating: Easy

Divide Road is the main access road along the crest of the Uncompahgre Plateau and is not easily mistaken. The road rises and falls through meadows and groves of aspen. The LaSal Mountains are the dominant feature to the west of road throughout this section. Monument Hill is passes at mile 71. At this point Lone Cone becomes the prominent feature to the southeast. The Campbell Point road turns to the left at mile 74.6. The San Juan Mountains and the Sneffles Range come into view briefly to the southeast. The road goes around the shoulder of Uncompahgre Butte at mile 76.3. Mesa Creek Road turns left at mile 79.3. About 1.5 miles past the Mesa Creek Road turnoff the Dominguez Trail intersects Divide Road.