

2021 Tuesday Night Mountain Bike Ride Schedule

WHO: Any moderately able, fit mountain biker. Does riding trails to the top of Ester Dome and back down scare you? These rides aren't for you. Disappointed we won't do that 3 times in one night? These rides might not be for you either. All riders must be Fairbanks Cycle Club members. Sign up for a membership at: <https://www.fairbankscycleclub.org/>.

WHAT: These are rides, NOT races. They are for socializing and trying new trails while having fun mountain biking and getting exercise. We are not highly organized, but we try to keep the group together. Advice, riding hints, and mechanical help are in abundance. (Some of it is even helpful!)

WHEN: Tuesday summer evenings, **START RIDING AT 6PM!!!** If conditions are good, we might do a ride or two earlier in May. Keep an eye on FCC Facebook page and sign up for the FCC listserv (under the News dropdown menu).

HOW MUCH: Free, but you must be a member of the Fairbanks Cycle Club: www.fairbankscycleclub.org/membership/

SKILL RATING: Refers to bike handling ability. Trails not technically difficult receive a low skill rating. Hard-to-ride trails – such as with longish rocky or rooty sections – receive a high skill rating.

DIFFICULTY RATING: Refers to total energy, effort, and skill required. We've tried to schedule easier rides early in the season. A difficulty level of 1 would be equivalent to riding your bike on a gravel road with rolling hills for half an hour. A level of 10 would be like riding challenging trails from Anne's Greenhouse to the top of Ester Dome and back – twice.

CONTACT: Ride leaders Eric Troyer (fbxtrails@gmail.com) and Dave James (nobugsinak@gmail.com)

05/18/21	Bonanza Bluffquest	~16 Miles, 2.5 hours, 1600' elev gain	Skill Low	Difficulty 4-5
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Meet: Take the first left after mile 339 Parks Highway. Parking is right up the hill. We'll ride downhill into the Tanana Valley State Forest for an easy-ish road ride. We'll take in an awesome bluff view and hopefully ride out to the Tanana River. Then we ride UP back to the cars. Probably little mud, but it should still be fun.

05/25/21	Skarland 12-Mile	~12 miles, 2.5 hours, 1600' elev gain	Skill Med	Difficulty 5
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Meet: Ski Hut by the Geophysical Building on the University of Alaska Fairbanks. We'll follow the old Skarland Trail from the UAF trails over to Pearl Creek Elementary School then back to the Musk Ox Farm and UAF trails again. The Skarland has some rollicking descents, but be careful. We don't want it to be a scar-land ride!

06/01/21	Rosie Creek Ramble	~18 miles, 2.5 hours, 2200' elev gain	Skill Low	Difficulty 6
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Meet: first pullout to the left after Mile 343 Parks Highway (just before its intersection with Old Nenana Highway). We'll ride the forestry roads of the Rosie Creek area of the Tanana Valley State Forest. Maybe we'll stay dry. Maybe we'll get into some swamp. Choices, choices! The riding isn't technical, but we'll have a climb back to the cars.

06/08/21	Skyline Ridge Skedaddle	~12 miles, 2.5 hours, 2000' elev gain	Skill Med+	Difficulty 7
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Meet: Pearl Creek Elementary School. We'll use the Skarland Trail to head up Skyline Ridge Park. Then we'll explore the fun trails there. When the time comes, there'll be some entertaining descents back to the cars.

06/15/21	Eva Creek Event	~12 miles, 2 hours, 2200' elev gain	Skill Med+	Difficulty 7
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Meet: Ester Community Park (near Old Nenana and Parks highways). We'll find our way up Ester Dome and probably get to Henderson Road. We'll explore a bit, then take the Eva Creek Trail back into Ester. This trail is a LOT of fun!

06/22/21	Birch Hill Bombing	~12 miles, 2 hours, 1600' elev gain	Skill Med	Difficulty 5
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Meet: Birch Hill Recreation Area. Follow the leader. We find as much singletrack as we can. Some bombing descents and thigh-burning ascents. Some trails are on Fort Wainwright. **Bring your ID whenever riding on Fort Wainwright!**

06/29/21	UAF Hidden Trails Trot	~12 miles, 2.5 hours, 1200' elev gain	Skill Med+	Difficulty 6
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Meet: Ski Hut by the Geophysical Building on campus. We'll explore some lesser known UAF trails, looping around the trail system and making sure to end up on the ton-o-fun Bicycle Bumps, which we'll probably do twice.

07/06/21	Circle-Fairbanks Trail Tramp	~14 miles, 3 hours, 2000' elev gain	Skill Med+	Difficulty 7
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Meet: Fairbanks Circle Trail trailhead. (Drive to Cleary Summit, turn right toward Fort Knox mine, in about a mile turn left on Fairbanks Creek Road, go downhill a couple miles, look for the parking area on your left.) We ride down the road and return to the cars via the Circle-Fbx Trail on the ridge. Map of entire trail here: <https://tinyurl.com/y5asq9fs> (Or we may shuttle a couple of cars to the bottom of Fairbanks Creek Road and do the ride clockwise.)

07/13/21	Ester Dome Singletrack Plus	~14 Miles, 2+ hours, 2000' elev gain	Skill Med.+	Difficulty 7
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Meet: pullout next to Ann's Greenhouse on Sheep Creek Road. We'll head up toward the Ester Dome Singletrack trails. We will ride some or all of the singletrack, but there are enough exploration opportunities that we will probably get diverted along the way, and maybe even explore some questionable trails. What could possibly go wrong?

07/20/21	Eva Creek Evisceration	~15 miles, 3+ hours, 2700' elev gain	Skill Med	Difficulty 7
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Meet: Ester Community Park. We'll head up Ester Dome, maybe head down Happy Ridge Trail and then up Ester Dome Singletrack trails. Might be fun to ride the switchbacky Equinox Marathon section line alternate trail. Then back to Ester on the Eva Creek Trail.

07/27/21	Alder Creek Alibi	~15 Miles, 3 hours, 1900' elev gain	Skill Med	Difficulty 6
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Meet: pullout at Parks and Cripple Creek Road. We'll follow Parks Ridge Road to the end, get on the trail, and end up near the top of Old Nenana, on the Healy Intertie. We follow that back toward town to the substation, where we follow trails back to the cars. There be some swampy parts along the way. *You may want your waterproof socks for this one.*

08/03/21	Pedro Dome Pedal Pusher	~20 Miles, 3+ hours, 3000' elev gain	Skill Med+	Difficulty 8
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Meet: Intersection of Elliott Highway and Old Murphy Dome Road. We'll head up, up Silver Fox Mine Road/Trail toward Pedro Dome. We'll loop around the dome on mining roads and trails, getting some awesome views. If we're feeling peppy, we'll head to the top of Pedro Dome and take a tricky trail down. Then back to the cars on the long hill we climbed.

Endurance Alert: *This is a taxing ride. Be sure to bring food and water - you will burn a lot of calories!*

08/10/21	Moose Mountain Motoring	~12 miles, 2.5 hours, 2000' elev gain	Skill High	Difficulty 9
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Meet: gated entrance to the Moose Mountain Ski Lodge. Park to the side. We'll take trails to the top of Moose Mountain. We'll take a power line trail to Old Murphy Dome Road, then follow that west on a long, fast descent, and look for a trail to the left (the "rabbit trail"). Then we follow technical, challenging trails back to the start. There'll be some wet spots down low. You *might* be able to keep your feet dry, *but you may want your waterproof socks for this one.*

08/17/21	Spanky's Spanking	~18 miles, 3.5 hours, 3000' elev gain	Skill High	Difficulty 9
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Meet: the Eldorado Creek Trailhead parking area at Mile 5.5 Goldstream Road. We'll head up Goldstream to the Waterford Trail to the Pipeline, then take a powerline trail to the start of Spanky's (aka O'Connor Creek East Ridge Trail). This is a bumpy, taxing ride with a smoking descent at the end! From there it's a short bit on Goldstream back to the cars.

Endurance Alert: *This is a taxing ride. Be sure to bring food and water - you will burn a lot of calories!*

08/24/21	Gilmore Gut Buster	~18 Miles, 3 hours, 2000' elev gain	Skill Med+	Difficulty 8
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Meet: end of pavement on Gilmore Trail (road). We'll head up the dirt part of Gilmore Trail to the Gilmore-Cleary Summit Trail (aka Trapper Trail). We'll do a big climb up to the south side of the Fort Knox Mine. Then we'll head back, taking a different trail for part of the descent. Along the way is an awesome viewpoint. **Lighting Alert:** *You may want your headlight on this ride.*

08/31/21	Waterford Trail Plus	~14 Miles, 2.5 hours, 1900' elev gain	Skill Med	Difficulty 6
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Meet: Turn on Waterford Road off Goldstream. Park in the pullout off Molly just past its intersection with Waterford. We'll ride up Waterford Trail, turn left at the Pipeline, and take the Intertie trail to the top end of Spanky's. Then we'll drop past Spanky's to the old cabin site on El Dorado Creek Trail. From there we'll head up El Dorado Creek Trail to the Pipeline and head back down Waterford to the cars. **Lighting Alert:** *You may want your headlight on this ride.*

09/07/21	Tri-Con Tromp	~10.5 Miles, 3 hours, 2100' elev gain	Skill High	Difficulty 8
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Meet: Ester Community Park. We'll climb Eva Creek Trail and the Corner Singletrack to Ester Dome Road to the top of Ester Dome. We'll head down a tricky singletrack to Tri-Con Mine Trail and then follow Ready Bullion Creek trail back to the start. **Lighting Alert:** *You will need your lights on this ride.*

It's not over yet!

Each Tuesday until the snow sticks, we go for a "Post Season Tuesday Ride." We set the meeting place/time each prior Tuesday. So, if you aren't ready to hang it all up just yet, do these rides. Some possibilities: Ester Dome Singletrack, Skyline Ridge, Birch Hill, UAF, Skarland.