



## TRAIL DESCRIPTION

For more trail information contact:  
Kootenai National Forest  
Libby Ranger District 406-293-7773



## Great Northern Mountain Trail # 117 3.2 Miles

Recommended Season  
Summer Fall

**ACCESS:** From Libby, travel 12 miles south on Highway 2 and turn right onto the Libby Creek Road # 231. Follow this road for 14 miles and as it drops into the West Fisher drainage, there will be a Howard Lake Campground sign to the right. Follow this road for about a mile to the campground and trailhead. This trail can also be access via the Miller Creek and West Fisher Roads about 25 miles south of Libby on Highway 2.

**FACILITIES:** Campground sites, water, parking and vault toilet at the trailhead.

**SETTING:** The trail starts at the Howard Lake Campground and traverses through a heavily forested landscape to the junction with the Standard Creek Trail # 116.

**OPPORTUNITIES:** Hiking, viewing scenery, horseback riding, mountain biking and hunting.

**ATTRACTIONS & CONSIDERATIONS:** Attractions include the Howard Lake Campground, adjacent fishing, swimming and boating on Howard Lake.

An additional attraction is the historic mining in this area. The trail from Howard Lake to the Standard Creek Road and the Great Northern Mining Claims was likely constructed in the early 1900's to access mining claims. From the junction with the Old Standard Creek Road, it is another 2+ miles to Great Northern Summit.

**TRAIL INFORMATION:** The trail has a fairly easy grade and is easy to follow through the forested corridor. Expect windfall if the trail has not been recently cleared.

**ELEVATION:** Beginning at the Howard Lake Campground at 4150' and ending at the Standard Creek Road at about 4500 feet.

**USE:** Moderate

**DIFFCULTY:** Easy/Moderate

**MAINTENANCE:** Periodically **Current Status**  
- [www.fs.usda.gov/activity/kootenai/recreation/hiking](http://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/kootenai/recreation/hiking)

**MAPS:** Forest Map, District Travel Map

**CLOSURES:** All motorized use



*Howard Lake in the Fall*

*Prepared by Cabinet Back Country Horsemen*

# Howard Lake #823, Libby Cr. 119, Standard Cr. #116, Gloria Mine #301, Wayup Mine #815

