



## TRAIL DESCRIPTION

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



### **Silver Butte Creek Trail #296** **3.3 Miles, or 4.3 miles** **(with the 1 mile on the closed 594 Road)**

**Recommended Season**  
Summer Fall

**ACCESS:** From Libby, travel 28 miles south of Libby on US Highway 2. Turn right on the Silver Butte Road #148 and precede for 11 miles to the Powerline Road #594. Park just past this road junction, and travel one mile on the closed 594 road to the trailhead on the left.

**FACILITIES:** None

**SETTING:** The trail starts in a young stand and crosses Silver Butte Creek about ¼ mile in. From there the majority of this trail traverses through some of the most pristine old growth forest on the Kootenai. Views open up in the upper 1/3. The trail accesses a shallow lake 3 miles up, and offers stunning views of the southern Cabinets once the trail reaches the Cabinet Divide.

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

**ATTRACTIONS & CONSIDERATIONS:** The majority of the trail is within a Roadless Area and passes through un-raveling old growth forests, subalpine habitat and an unnamed lake about 3 miles in from the trailhead. You are rewarded with access to the Cabinet Divide and Trail 360E, and excellent alpine hunting opportunities.

Once you get to the Cabinet Divide there are vistas of the Silver Butte, Vermilion River and Noxon Reservoir areas. From the junction of the Silver Butte Trail and the Cabinet Divide it is about a half mile hike to Canyon Peak and the old lookout site. The lookout was constructed in the 1930's and abandoned.

**TRAIL INFORMATION:** Trail is suitable for hiking and stock, but is brushy with mostly narrow corridor due to the amount of large down trees. There are some wet areas with devils club, and several steeper sections. This is great grizzly bear habitat, so bring your bear spray.

**ELEVATION:** Beginning at the Silver Butte Road #148 at 3800' and ending at 6330' at the junction with Cabinet Divide Trail 360E.

**USE:** Moderate

**DIFFCULTY:** 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. Stock not allowed within 200' of Lakes



*Unnamed Lake*

*Photo by Dave Thorstenson*



*Silver Butte Trail & Cabinet Divide*

*Photo by Dave Thorstenson*

*Prepared by Cabinet Back Country Horsemen*



# Cabinet Divide Trail East #360E & Silver Butte Cr. Trail #296

