

Suggested ND hikes locator map



- ### SUGGESTED HIKES
- A** Lake Sakakawea State Park
Distance: 1.7 mi. one-way (or 3.4 mi. loop using the Shoreline & Overlook Trails)
 - B** Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery loop (interpretive) trail
Distance: 3 mile loop
 - C** Audubon National Wildlife Refuge West
Distance: 3.8 miles one-way
 - D** Audubon National Wildlife Refuge - East
Distance: 5 miles one-way
 - E** Lonetree Wildlife Management Area - West
Distance: 5.5 miles one-way
 - F** Lonetree Wildlife Management Area - East
Distance: 2.5 miles one-way
 - G** Lake Ashtabula - Sibley to backcountry campsite
Distance: 4.8 miles out and back
 - H** Lake Ashtabula - West Ashtabula Crossing to Wesley Acres Trailhead
Distance: 5 miles one-way
 - I** Lake Ashtabula - WMA trailhead to backcountry campsite
Distance: 3 miles out and back
 - J** Valley City
Distance: 4.5 miles one-way
 - K** Ladies Line - Clausen Springs Recreation Area to Kathryn
Distance: 4.5 miles one-way
 - L** Fort Ransom State Park Loop
Distance: 4.3 mile loop
 - M** Sheyenne State Forest Waterfall
Distance: 4.4 miles out and back

- N** The Trail Town of Lisbon and the Sheyenne River Valley
Distance: 5 miles out and back
- O** Historic Cheyenne Village Site: Hike the NCT at the Bischoff National Historic Landmark.
Distance: 0.6 miles one-way
- P** Oak Leaf Trail loop
Distance: 4 mile loop
- Q** Dakota Prairie Special - Between the Sheyenne NG and Ekro
Distance: 6.5 miles one-way
- R** Sheyenne River Overlook Hike
Distance: 3.4 miles one-way
- S** The Big Ditch Hike
Distance: 1.6 miles one-way
- T** The Railroad Hike: Colfax to Walcott
Distance: 7 miles one-way
- U** Gateway to the Dakotas: Hike the NCT around Abercrombie
Distance: 3.2 miles out and back

Important notes:

- 1) All maps used on these fact sheets are from the NCTA's interactive map or the free map downloads - see <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.
- 2) These maps were accessed in the Fall of 2021 and the mileage markers on those maps may be different now. Please plan accordingly and pay attention to the date on the bottom of the map downloads when sharing mile markers with others as you need to be using the same versions. For more information on using the maps, check out <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.
- 3) Be sure to check the **NCTA's Trail Alerts** page <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-alerts/> for any important notices - e.g. sections of trail being closed, impacts from natural disasters, etc.
- 4) Here are definitions for the hike types:
 - Loop - park at one spot and hike in a loop back to the starting point
 - Out and back - park at one spot, hike out a certain distance and then turn around and hike the same route back to your vehicle
 - One-way - park at the starting point with another vehicle at the end point and hike to your second vehicle
- 5) Contact the three NCTA Chapters or the local land manager if you have any specific questions about the hikes.

Hike A - Western Terminus loop hike: Hike the North Country Trail from The Lake Sakakawea SP visitors center to Hwy 200 and back



Distance: 3.4-mile loop

Access and Parking: Park at the Lake Sakakawea State Park (LSSP) Visitors Center (limited term parking available, Park entrance fee required, water *and* restrooms, gift shop, GPS: 47.519774, -101.453914)

Trail description: Hike from the western terminus of the NCT across the State Park with expansive views of Lake Sakakawea and Garrison Dam. You'll get views of 2-mile long Garrison Dam and across the Lake of the "company town" of Riverdale. Riverdale was built by the Federal Government to house construction workers building Garrison Dam in between 1947-1953 and it became North Dakota's newest city in 1986 when it was turned over to local residents. Upon reaching Hwy 200, return to the Visitors Center via the NCT, Shoreline Trail, and Overlook Trail.

Maps: find the LSSP map at www.parkrec.nd.gov/lake-sakakawea-state-park (click on the Trail tab), check out NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3cfKc7f>, or download the **West Central North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Camping, restrooms, food & lodging are available within LSSP, Pick City, and Riverdale. Learn more at www.pickcitynd.com/ or www.riverdalenorthdakota.com/.

Cautions: be careful walking along Highway 200 as it is extremely busy road – particularly with trucks.

More information: Contact the FLY Chapter at fly@northcountrytrail.org, contact LSSP at (701) 487.3315 / lssp@nd.gov, or contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Riverdale at (701) 654-7757.



Hike B - Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery loop trail hike



Distance: 3-mile loop

Access and Parking: Park at the Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery parking area, GPS: 47.491524, -101.411809

Trail description: Hike a loop within the Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery using the Hatchery Loop, the Salmon Run, and River Loop trails. Along the way, you'll pass by the fish rearing ponds, maybe see spawning salmon in the Salmon Run, and learn more about the Missouri River and local natural history. Part of the route is also the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail route. The trail surface is gravel.

Maps: find a trail map at the trailhead kiosk, check out the NCTA's interactive map at



<https://nct.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Viewer/index.html?appid=23a2c0d674cb443ea9835af2e8c5f13a&extent=-101.4469,47.4819,-101.3920,47.4987>, or find more information at <https://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/fisheries/garrisondam.php>.

Services available: Camping, restrooms, food and lodging are available within LSSP, Pick City, and Riverdale. Learn more at www.pickcitynd.com/ or www.riverdalenorthdakota.com/.

Cautions: none.

More information: Contact the FLY Chapter at fly@northcountrytrail.org or contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at (701) 654-7451 / garrisondam@fws.gov.

Hike C - Wide Open Prairie and Big Lake Views: Hike the NCT within Audubon National Wildlife Refuge - West



Distance: 3.8 miles one-way

Access and Parking: Audubon National Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center which features fabulous exhibits on the prairie pothole region, has limited term parking available, offers water and restrooms, handicapped accessible trail. GPS: 47.578057, -101.246875 is where the trail starts around the back of the Visitors Center

Access and Parking: 11th St. NW Parking area, GPS: 47.574760, -101.195624

Trail description: Hike from the Audubon National Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center east across the wide open spaces of the Refuge. Along the way you will follow a part of the handicapped accessible nature trail, pass by some prairie pothole wetlands, hike through some shelterbelts, and pass through restored prairie – some areas featuring grass over 4' tall.

Maps: find the Audubon Refuge map at <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Audubon/map.html>, check out NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/37ZhYfI>, or download the **Western North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Coleharbor has a bar/restaurant. Camping, restrooms, food and lodging are available within LSSP, Pick City, Riverdale, Garrison (on the north side of Lake Sakakawea), and Turtle Lake. Learn more at www.pickcitynd.com/, www.riverdalenorthdakota.com/, <http://www.garrisonnd.com/>, and <https://www.turtlelakend.org/>.



Cautions: be careful during hunting seasons in the fall (Deer and upland bird). Learn more at https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Audubon/visit/visitor_activities.html.

More information: Contact the FLY Chapter at fly@northcountrytrail.org, contact Audubon NWR at 701/442-5474 or audubon@fws.gov.

Hike D - Prairie ridges, Cottonwoods, and Waterfowl: Hike the NCT within Audubon National Wildlife Refuge - East



Distance: 5 miles one-way

Access and Parking: Audubon National Wildlife Refuge parking area on 9th St. NW, GPS: 47.545760, -101.166551.

Access and Parking: McClusky Canal parking area off of County 23/26th Ave. NW, GPS: 47.568170, -101.094130.

Trail description: Hike from the Audubon National Wildlife Refuge middle trailhead east across the wide open spaces of the Refuge to the start of the McClusky Canal. Along the way you will hike past some prairie potholes, through some Cottonwoods, and along the shore of Lake Audubon.

Maps: find the Audubon Refuge map at <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Audubon/map.html>, check out NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3vc3PVw>, or download the **Western North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.



Services available: Coleharbor has a bar/restaurant. Camping, restrooms, food and lodging are available within LSSP, Pick City, Riverdale, Garrison (on the north side of Lake Sakakawea), and Turtle Lake. Learn more at www.pickcitynd.com/, www.riverdalenorthdakota.com/, <http://www.garrisonnd.com/>, and <https://www.turtlelakend.org/>.

Cautions: be careful during hunting seasons in the fall (Deer and upland bird). Learn more at https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Audubon/visit/visitor_activities.html.

More information: Contact the FLY Chapter at fly@northcountrytrail.org, contact Audubon NWR at 701/442-5474 or audubon@fws.gov.

Hike E - Teepee Ring Hill & Between the Lakes: Hike the NCT in Lonetree Wildlife Management Area - West



Distance: 5.5 miles one-way

Access and Parking: Jensen Campground, which features a water pump, pit toilet, picnic tables, and tentsites; GPS: 47.695647, -100.239390.

Access and Parking: Coal Mine Lake Campground, which features a water pump, pit toilet, picnic tables, fishing pier, and tentsites; GPS: 47.678408, -100.138396.

Trail description: Hike through virgin prairie full of wildflowers, take in a great view from atop Teepee Ring Hill and look for the cultural site, and enjoy views of abundant waterfowl in Sheyenne and Coal Mine Lakes. Free, rustic camping is available at both ends of this hike.

Maps: find the Lonetree Wildlife Management Area map at <https://gf.nd.gov/node/2944>, check out NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3q8d2vx>, or download the **Central North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Free camping, restrooms, and water are available at both ends of this hike. Camping, restrooms, food and lodging are also available within Harvey, ND. Find more at <https://harveynd.com/>.



Cautions: be careful crossing Hwy 14 because of truck traffic traveling at high speeds and be careful walking on the gravel road in between the lakes. It may be flooded in the spring. Just east of the Coal Mine Lake Campground is a ford of the Sheyenne River at the outlet dam. Be careful at this crossing as the dam's concrete can be slippery. You can walk the gravel road leading into the Campground around this obstacle, if necessary.

More information: Contact the FLY Chapter at fly@northcountrytrail.org or contact Lonetree office of ND Game and Fish at (701) 324-2211.

Hike F - Sheyenne River Valley Views: Hike the NCT in Lonetree Wildlife Management Area - East



Distance: 2.5 miles one-way

Access and Parking: roadside parking along 16th St. NE (don't block the two-track road; GPS: 47.646241, -99.998382)

Access and Parking: roadside parking along 18th St. NE; GPS: 47.673630, -99.991183

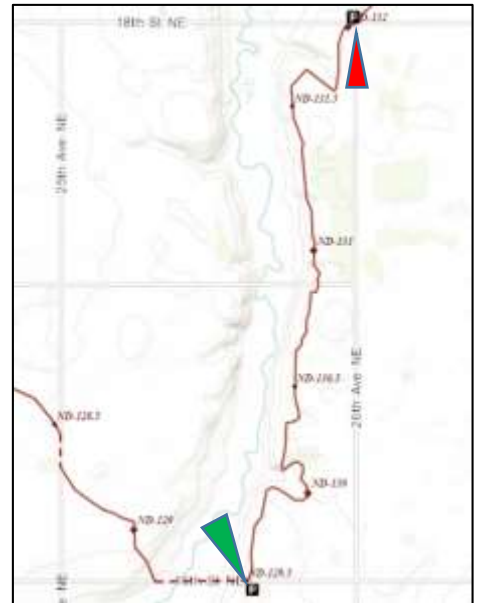
Trail description: Hike through virgin prairie full of glacial erratic boulders and wildflowers while taking in great views up and down the Sheyenne River Valley.

Maps: find the Lonetree Wildlife Management Area map at <https://gf.nd.gov/node/2944>, check out NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3b9Fadf>, or download the **Central North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Free camping, restrooms, and water are available within Lonetree. Camping, restrooms, food and lodging are also available within Harvey, ND. Find more at <https://harveynd.com/>.

Cautions: none

More information: Contact the FLY Chapter at fly@northcountrytrail.org or contact Lonetree office of ND Game and Fish at (701) 324-2211.



Hike G - Hike from Sibley to the Backcountry Campsite: Hike the NCT along Lake Ashtabula - North



Distance: 4.8 miles out and back

Access and Parking: Sibley boat launch parking area; GPS: 47.213611, -97.964783

Trail description: Hike through the summer village of Sibley north to the backcountry campsite. Along the way you'll see a summer recreational cabin / RV area and hike through a large Wildlife Management Area that affords different habitat types and great views of the Lake. The Campsite is a good spot to have a trail picnic as it features a picnic table and latrine. Water is not easily accessible from the campsite.

Maps: find the Lake Ashtabula map at www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Lake-Ashtabula-Baldhill-Dam/, check out NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3uQmsiy>, or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.



Services available: Camping and restrooms are available in the four Campgrounds run by the Army Corps along the lake. Camping, restrooms, food and lodging are available within Valley City, ND. Find more at www.hellovalley.com/. Limited services may be available seasonally in Sibley - call ahead before relying upon them.

Cautions: be careful walking through Sibley on the road - particularly during summer when residential traffic is very high.

More information: Contact the SRV Chapter at srv@northcountrytrail.org or contact the Lake Ashtabula project office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at 701-845-2970 or Lake.Ashtabula@usace.army.mil.

Hike H - Baldhills, Cactus, and Sagebrush: Hike the NCT along Lake Ashtabula from West Ashtabula Crossing to Wesley Acres Trailhead - Middle



Distance: 5 miles one-way

Access and Parking: West Ashtabula Crossing trailhead; GPS: 47.160818, -98.009364

Access and Parking: CR-19 trailhead (don't block the gate); GPS: 47.149377, -98.067448

Trail description: Hike this section to see some distinctive scenery more common to the Badlands of far western North Dakota – prickly pear cactus and sagebrush. This scenic segment also follows Baldhill Creek as it flows into the lake from the West.

Maps: find the Lake Ashtabula map at www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Lake-Ashtabula-Baldhill-Dam/, check out NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3kENDs5>, or download the

Southeastern North Dakota map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Camping and restrooms are available in the four Campgrounds run by the Army Corps along the lake. Camping, restrooms, food and lodging are available within Sibley and Valley City, ND. Find more at www.hellovalley.com/.

Cautions: none

More information: Contact the SRV Chapter at srv@northcountrytrail.org or contact the Lake Ashtabula project office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at 701-845-2970 or Lake.Ashtabula@usace.army.mil.



Hike I - Lake Ashtabula - WMA trailhead to the Clyde Anderson Memorial campsite: Hike the NCT along Lake Ashtabula - South



Distance: 3 miles out and back

Access and Parking: WMA trailhead off of 19th St. SE (rough field road), GPS: 47.138951, -98.058224

Trail description: Hike through a beautiful Wildlife Management Area, along Baldhill Creek, and then through a shelterbelt to the Clyde Anderson Memorial campsite where the SRV Chapter honors several of its departed stalwart volunteers / members.

Maps: find the Lake Ashtabula map at www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Lake-Ashtabula-Baldhill-Dam/, check out NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3xbXYB0>, or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.



Services available: Gas and camping are available in Hannaford, ND. Camping and restrooms are available in the four Campgrounds run by the Army Corps along the lake. Camping, restrooms, food and lodging are available within Sibley and Valley City, ND. Find more at www.hellovalley.com/.

Cautions: none

More information: Contact the SRV Chapter at srv@northcountrytrail.org or contact the Lake Asthabula project office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at 701-845-2970 or Lake.Ashtabula@usace.army.mil.

Hike K - Clausen Springs & Ladies Line: Hike the NCT from Clausen Springs to Kathryn



Distance: 4.5 miles one way

Access and Parking: Clausen Springs Recreation Area trailhead; GPS: 46.682191, -98.045003

Access and Parking: Kathryn NCT trailhead; GPS: 46.680094, -97.969014

Trail description: Hike this section to take in views of scenic Clausen Springs Lake, walk a part of the old Ladies Line railroad grade that parallels Spring Creek, and experience the small town of Kathryn.

Maps: find the Clausen Springs map/brochure at

<http://www.co.barnes.nd.us/related/Parks/ClausenSpringsBrochure5122020.pdf>, check out NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/30qGbHG>, or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Camping is available at Clausen Springs Recreation Area. The full range of services are available in Valley City, ND. Find more at www.hellovalley.com/.

Cautions: none



More information: Contact the SRV Chapter at srv@northcountrytrail.org or the Barnes County Park Board at <http://www.co.barnes.nd.us/related/clausen.asp>.

Hike L - Hike the NCT & Redetzke Ridge loop within Fort Ransom State Park



Distance: 5.2 mile loop

Access and Parking: NCT trailhead at the Fort Ransom State Park Visitors Center (featuring restrooms, water, interpretive info, gift shop, etc); GPS: 46.547693, -97.931586

Trail description: Hike this loop using the North Country Trail and the Redetzke Ridge Trail to start and end at the Park Visitors Center. Along the way, enjoy great views of the Sheyenne River from its bank, you can venture a short ways off trail to check out the Sunne Farm, and excellent views of its valley from atop the ridge.

Maps: find the Fort Ransom State Park map at

https://www.parkrec.nd.gov/sites/www/files/documents/Destinations/Fort%20Ransom/FRSP_main_map.pdf, check out NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3bpKzNB>,

or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Camping is available at Fort Ransom State Park. Limited services are available in Fort Ransom including food and lodging. The full range of services are available in Valley City, ND. Find more at www.hellovalley.com/.

Cautions: the NCT beyond the Trailhead is likely to be very wet and may even be impassable in the spring depending upon water levels in the Sheyenne River.

More information: Contact the SRV Chapter at

srv@northcountrytrail.org or the ND Parks and Recreation at (701) 973-4331 or frsp@nd.gov.



Hike M - The Waterfall Hike: Hike the NCT within the Sheyenne State Forest



Distance: 4.4 miles out and back

Access and Parking: Sheyenne River State Forest trailhead; GPS: 46.502715, -97.878181

Trail description: Hike this trail out to North Dakota's only waterfall and back to the trailhead. Along the way, you'll pass through a beautiful hardwood forest, across ridgetops covered in prairie, and enjoy great views up and down the Sheyenne River valley. There are two backcountry campsites located along the NCT in the State Forest. No permits are needed to stay overnight in the campsites, which offer picnic tables and fire rings but no privies.

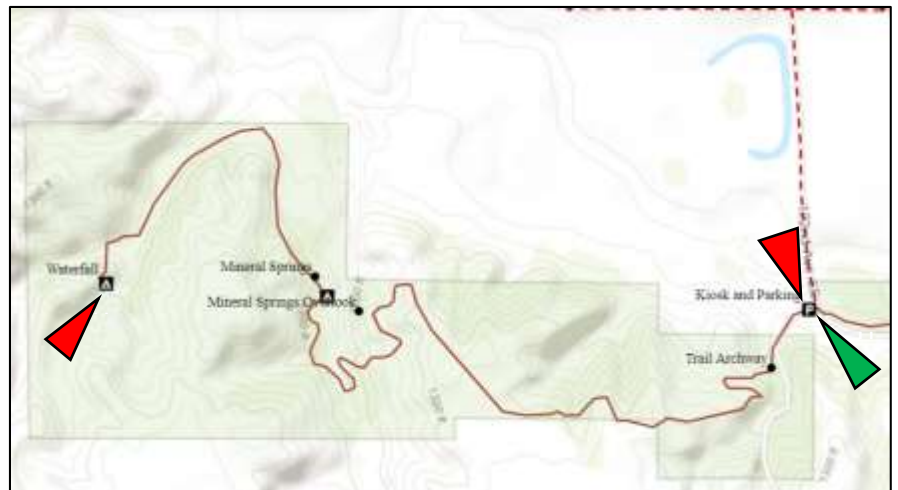
Maps: find the Sheyenne State Forest map at <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/ndfs/documents/sheyenne-updated-trail-2020.pdf>, check out NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3t0Y24u>, or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at

<https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Camping is available at Fort Ransom State Park. Limited services are available in Fort Ransom including food and lodging. The full range of services are available in Valley City, ND and Lisbon, ND. Find more at www.hellovalley.com/ and www.lisbonnd.com/.

Cautions: part of the NCT within the State Forest is open to horses.

More information: Contact the SRV Chapter at srv@northcountrytrail.org.



Hike N - The Trail Town of Lisbon and the Sheyenne River Valley: Hike the NCT in Lisbon and along the bluffs overlooking the Sheyenne River Valley



Distance: 5.0 miles out-and-back

Access and Parking: At the ND Veterans Home Trailhead. GPS: 46°25'44.03"N, 97°40'44.37"W

Trail description: This hike starts and ends at the North Dakota Veterans Home on the southeast side of the Trail Town of Lisbon. The route crosses the well-kept Veterans Home lawn and heads uphill to a stile into a pasture. From there, the trail crosses hilly pasture land, follows fence lines of farm fields, and wanders south along grassy bluffs with great views of Lisbon and the Sheyenne River Valley. After several miles, the NCT leaves the bluffs and turns onto 69 ½ St. SE, a gravel road. Day hikers will probably return to the Veterans Home in Lisbon.

Maps: find the NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3xfZmmz>, or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/blue-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: The Trail Town of Lisbon is a full-service location including food and lodging. Learn more at www.lisbonnd.com/.

Cautions: none.

More information: Contact the DPC Chapter at dpc@northcountrytrail.org.



Hike O - Historic Cheyenne Village Site: Hike the NCT at the Biesterfeldt National Historic Landmark



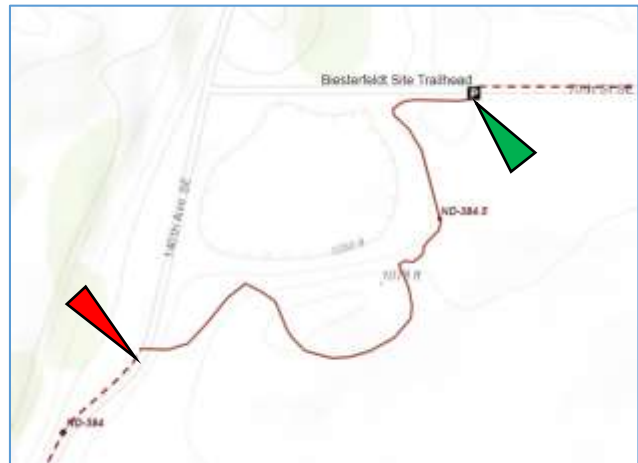
Distance: 0.6 miles one-way

Access and Parking: At the northeast corner of the Biesterfeldt Site on 70th St. SE about 0.5 miles west of the Sheyenne N.G. West Trailhead. GPS: 46.398874, -97.479886

Trail description: A 0.6-mile segment of the NCT crosses the Biesterfeldt Site, which is owned by The Archaeological Conservancy. Wikipedia has a good description of the Site. The trail route follows and outlines the fortification ditch that surrounded an 18th century Cheyenne Indian village. The Site is now covered with prairie grass and flowers, and provides a lovely walk and a quiet opportunity to reflect on the lives of the Native Americans who lived in this place. In the 19th century, an historic military road between post-Civil War frontier forts crossed by this site.

Maps: find the NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3dAyqps>, or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Hikers can obtain water from a friendly neighbor who lives on 140th Ave. SE about 0.5 miles southwest of the Biesterfeldt Site. Dispersed camping is available anywhere on the Sheyenne N.G.



Cautions: please do not do anything to impact the cultural site

More information: Contact the DPC Chapter at dpc@northcountrytrail.org.

Hike P - Hike the NCT / Oak Leaf Trail loop in the Sheyenne National Grassland



Distance: 4-mile loop

Access and Parking: East Trailhead on Richland CR-23, GPS: 46.523231, -97.203247

Trail description: The SNG contains a 31-mile section of the NCNST that winds through open grazing land, climbs sandy ridges, and traverses oak savannas. The NCT in the SNG is marked with large wooden posts containing NCT emblems. The 4-mile Oak Leaf Trail, east of the East Trailhead, also provides great scenery and varied terrain - a great mix of all that you'll see on the entire 31 miles.

Maps: find the NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3qGnUm0>, or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.



Services available: In addition to the Jorgen's Hollow Campground (with pit toilets) by the East Trailhead, dispersed camping is permitted anywhere on the SNG.

Cautions: In the SNG, the Trail is open to foot traffic, bicycles, and equestrians. Be especially careful of cattle and sheep herds, some of which are guarded by large dogs.

More information: Contact the DPC Chapter at dpc@northcountrytrail.org.

Hike Q - Dakota Prairie Special - Between the Sheyenne NG and Ekre Grassland Preserve



Distance: 6.5 miles one-way

Access and Parking: Sheyenne National Grassland East Trailhead; GPS: 46.523118, -97.203148

Access and Parking: Ekre Grassland Preserve trailhead; GPS: 46.553553, -97.137117

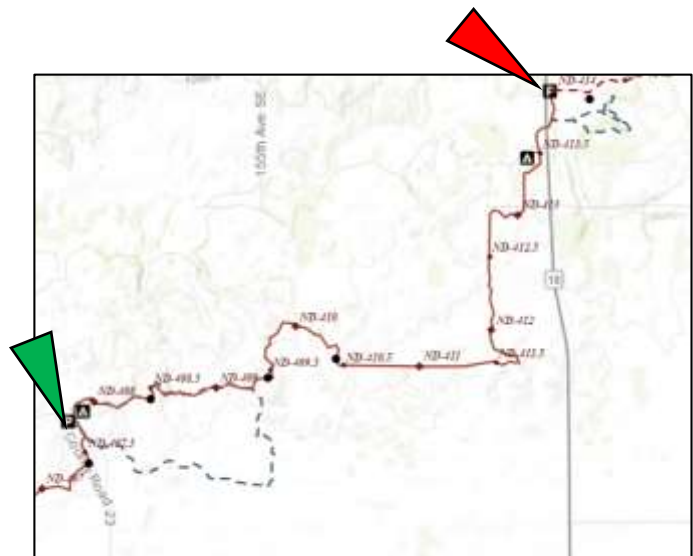
Trail description: On this section, the NCT crosses the Sheyenne National Grassland, section line right-of-way, and private land. The terrain includes pasture land, oak and aspen woods, sand hills, oak savannas, and cattail swamps. There are several puncheon across wet areas that make the hiking easier. A backcountry campsite on the Ekre Grassland Preserve is available for overnight campers and features tentsites, a privy, and a table/bench.

Maps: find the Sheyenne National Grassland map at https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5445162.pdf, check out NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3qtDFv6>, or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Camping is available at the U.S. Forest Service's Jorgen's Hollow Campground and at the nearby private Sheyenne Oaks Campground. Food and gas are available in Kindred.

Cautions: the part of the NCT within the National Grassland is open to horses and mountain bikes but the rest is open to just hiking. Be very careful around sheep grazing in the National Grassland as the large guard dogs can be intimidating. Follow the guidelines posted on the trailhead signs.

More information: Contact the DPC Chapter at dpc@northcountrytrail.org or contact the Sheyenne National Grassland at (701) 683-4342.



Hike R - The Sheyenne Overlook: Hike the NCT on the Sheyenne River Overlook segment



Distance: 3.4 miles one-way

Access and Parking: 59th St. parking area; GPS: 46.558343, -97.093331

Access and Parking: Berg East/160th Ave. SE Trailhead; GPS: 46.565287, -97.074492

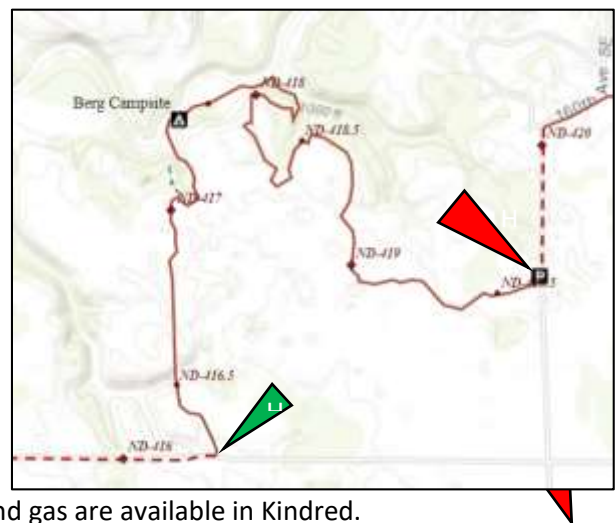
Trail description: this beautiful NCT segment on private land has great views of the Sheyenne River valley and crosses oak savannas, steep ravines, sand hills, and prairie pastures. A campsite is located near the River and offers tentsites, water from the River, a privy, and a table/bench. It is possible to hike this as a loop with a 1.4 mi. walk on 59th St. SE and 160th Ave. SE.

Maps: find the NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/2N1936J>, or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Camping is available at the U.S. Forest Service's Jorgen's Hollow Campground and at the nearby private Sheyenne Oaks Campground. Food and gas are available in Kindred.

Cautions: part of this land is actively grazed. Be careful around livestock – particularly cows with calves.

More information: Contact the DPC Chapter at dpc@northcountrytrail.org.



Hike S - The Big Ditch: Hike the NCT along the 58th St. Section Line and across the “Big Ditch”



Distance: 1.6 miles one-way

Access and Parking: Berg East Trailhead on 160th Ave. SE; GPS: 46.565287, -97.074492. Parking is also available along the 58th St. Section Line at 161st St.

Trail description: This short, interesting route has two straight segments of grassy two-track along a Section Line and a piece of private land in the middle that includes woods, ravines, creeks, short hills, and a large ravine nicknamed the “Big Ditch.” A steep stairway, a unique bridge, and a hillside path (slippery when wet) will get you across the ditch. The usual way to do this hike is to park at the Berg East Trailhead parking area and hike east to 161st. Ave. and back.

Maps: find the NCTA’s interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3GOZoa5>, or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Camping is available at the U.S. Forest Service’s Jorgen’s Hollow Campground and at the nearby private Sheyenne Oaks Campground. Food and gas are available in Kindred.



Cautions: part of this land is actively grazed. Be careful around livestock – particularly cows with calves.

More information: Contact the DPC Chapter at dpc@northcountrytrail.org.

Hike T - The Railroad Hike: Hike the NCT from Colfax to Walcott



Distance: 6.5 miles one-way

Access and Parking: By City Park along Main Ave. in Walcott; GPS: 46.548657, -96.937341

Access and Parking: Parking at the Richland Co. School lot; GPS: 46.470963, -96.875187

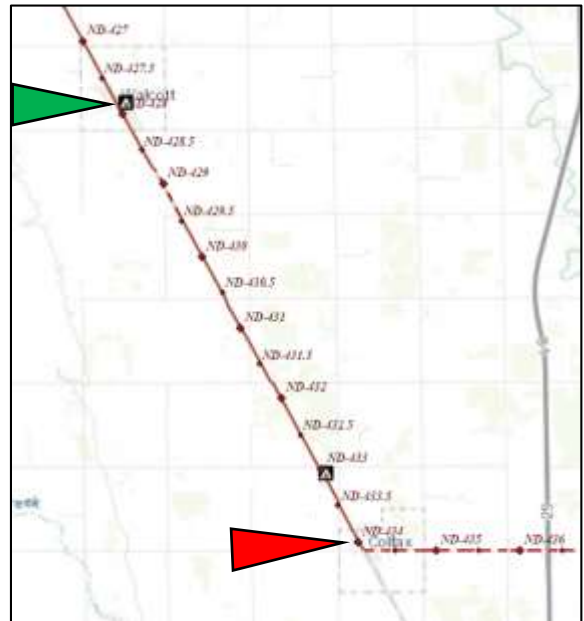
Trail description: This scenic segment within the flat Red River Valley parallels an active railroad line and features native prairie, numerous puncheon through wetlands, and abundant wildlife – including monarch butterflies in the late summer. There is also good food to be found in both towns after your hike.

Maps: find the NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3cf7BWB>, or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: Camping is available at the U.S. Forest Service's Jorgen's Hollow Campground, along the NCT at the FFA Campsite near Colfax, and at Walcott and Colfax City Parks. Food and gas are available in both Colfax and Walcott.

Cautions: Stay off the railroad tracks and cross them only at grade crossings. Be sure to look for trains before crossing.

More information: Contact the DPC Chapter at dpc@northcountrytrail.org.



Hike U - Gateway to the Dakotas: Hike the NCT around Abercrombie



Distance: 3.2 miles out-and-back

Access and Parking: At the Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site on the east side of town. GPS: 46.445721, -96.720094

Trail description: This easy urban hike through the Trail Town of Abercrombie includes the grounds of Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site (the eastern terminus of the NCT in North Dakota), two town parks, and a private park with an old highway bridge northwest of town. The Trail is marked with blue NCT stickers on white plates.

Maps: find the NCTA's interactive map at <https://bit.ly/3cf7BWB>, or download the **Southeastern North Dakota** map set (either to print out or use on your smartphone with the Avenza app) at <https://northcountrytrail.org/the-trail/trail-map-and-downloads/>.

Services available: This friendly Trail Town likes hikers, and has a post office, store, café, gas station, museum, and more. Camping is available in the main town park. Fort Abercrombie has an excellent Visitor Center (with rest rooms) and guided tours of the 19th century Fort grounds.

Cautions: spring flooding of the Red River may impact the operation of the State Historic Site

More information: Contact the DPC Chapter at dpc@northcountrytrail.org.

