

Driving Directions to Pryors Hiking Trailheads

(See maps below.)

Trailheads on Pryor Mountain Road:

Rangers Trail, Crater Ice Cave / Big Pryor Mountain, Roberts Bench, Cave Ridge, and Lost Water Canyon Trailheads.

From Bridger MT:

Drive **2.5 miles** south of Bridger on Highway 310 to Pryor Mountain Road (PMR) *PMR is 0.5 mile south of the bridge over the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River.*

Turn east on PMR.

Follow PMR as it wanders **12.2 miles** to a “T” junction. *PMR is paved for 2.0 miles to a railroad crossing. Then it is good gravel to the “T” junction.*

Turn north (left) at the “T” junction. *This is still PMR.*

After **4.3 miles**, and several right angle turns on section lines, arrive at Railbed Rd. *There probably is no road sign. It is a long abandoned railroad.*

Cross Railbed Rd and continue east. *This next section of PMR is the worst section of the road. It can be impassible even with 4WD when wet and muddy. When dry, there may be deep leftover ruts in the mud, but, when dry, it is usually passible with many highway vehicles if driven carefully.*

Continue **5.5 miles** farther (**22 miles** from Highway 310) on PMR to the Custer Gallatin National Forest (CGNF) Boundary. *PMR (now also #2308) is much better on the National Forest.*

From the CGNF boundary fence and cattleguard on PMR (#2308):

Rangers Trail is 0.25 miles to Powerline Road, and then **one mile** up to the trailhead.

Crater Ice Cave Trail is 7.7 miles to Tie Flat Road, and then **0.1 mile** to the trailhead.

Crooked Creek Rd (#2085) Junction is 8.3 miles.

Roberts Bench, Cave Ridge, and Lost Water Canyon Trailheads are on PMR about 0.7, 4.1, and 7.7 miles respectively beyond the Crooked Creek Rd Junction. See the individual hike guides for more info.

Trailheads on Crooked Creek Road:

Crooked Creek Access, Demijohn Flat, Lisbon Zig-Zag, and Penney Peak Trailheads.

From Bridger MT:

Follow the above directions from Bridger MT to the PMR junction with Crooked. *The Crooked Creek Access Trailhead is 3.8 miles south on Crooked Creek Rd. The Demijohn Trailhead is at the USFS / BLM boundary fence and cattle guard, 9.0 miles south on Crooked Creek Rd. The Zig-Zag and Penney Trailheads are respectively 0.8 and 6.2 miles south of the boundary fence and cattleguard.*

From Warren MT:

Drive to Warren MT, **21 miles** south of Bridger, on Highway 310. *Look for the Montana Limestone Company sign. There is no “town” at Warren. Warren is where limestone from the quarry at the southwest corner of Big Pryor Mountain is loaded onto railroad cars.*

Turn east on Helt Rd (also called Quarry Rd.).

Follow this paved road for **2.7 miles** to a junction and road sign. The BLM sign on the right fork says, “Stockman Trail 1.5” and “Bear Canyon Road 3.5”. *The paved road curves left as Quarry Rd.*

Continue straight on Helt Rd, which is now narrower and gravel. *Go past BLM signs for Graham Trail, Stockman Trail and Bear Canyon Rd.*

Follow gravel Helt Rd **4.4 miles** from the pavement (**7.1 miles** from Highway 310) to a “Y” junction and cattle guard. Take the right fork, which is Gyp Springs Rd. *The left fork is Helt Rd., a more scenic alternate route to Crooked Creek Rd., but it is two miles longer, more winding, narrow and rougher.*

Continue on Gyp Springs Rd. for **7.0 miles** (**14.1 miles** from Highway 310) to a “T” junction.

Turn left (north) on Crooked Creek Rd. at the “T” junction.

The Helt Rd junction with Crooked Creek Rd is **0.2 miles** north of the Gyp Springs Rd junction with Crooked Creek Rd.

This Helt Rd junction is the key point from which to find the Trailheads to the north on Crooked Creek Rd.

The Penney, Zig-Zag, and Demijohn Trailheads are respectively 2.9, 5.4, and 6.2 miles north of the Helt Rd / Crooked Creek Rd junction. The Demijohn Trailhead is at the BLM / USFS boundary fence and cattle guard. The Crooked Creek Access Trailhead is 5.2 miles north of the boundary fence and cattle guard.

Bear Canyon, Pygmy Panther, and Trailheads on Horse Haven Rd:

Pygmy Panther, Bear Canyon Ridge and Creek, and Hikers' Haven Area: Rocky Juniper, Big Sky and Big Sky Ridge, and Doug Fir Trailheads.

From Warren MT:

Drive to Warren MT, **21 miles** south of Bridger, on Highway 310. *Look for the Montana Limestone Company sign. There is no "town" at Warren. Warren is where limestone from the quarry at the southwest corner of Big Pryor Mountain is loaded onto railroad cars.*

Turn east on Helt Rd (also called Quarry Rd.).

Follow this paved road for **2.7 miles** to a junction and road sign. The BLM sign on the right fork says, "Stockman Trail 1.5" and "Bear Canyon Road 3.5". *The paved road curves left as Quarry Rd.*

Continue straight on Helt Rd, which is now narrower and gravel. *Go past BLM signs for Graham Trail, and Stockman Trail.*

Follow gravel Helt Rd **3.5 miles** from the pavement (**6.2 miles** from Highway 310) . Turn north (left) on Bear Canyon Rd to the **Pygmy Panther Trailhead (0.2 miles)**, and **Bear Canyon Trailhead (0.5 miles)**.

For Horse Haven Rd and **Hikers' Haven Trailheads** bypass the Bear Canyon Rd turn. Continue on Helt Rd for another 0.9 miles past Bear Canyon Rd

At **4.4 miles** from the pavement (**7.1 miles** from Highway 310) there is a "Y" junction.

Take the left fork across the cattle guard. *This is still Helt Rd.* (Right fork is Gyp Springs Rd.)

Horse Haven Rd forks left from Helt Rd in 0.4 miles.

The Rocky Juniper, Big Sky and Doug Fir Trailheads are respectively 0.9, 1.8, and 2.8 miles from Helt Rd on Horse Haven Rd. See individual hike guides for more details.

Petroglyph Canyon:

Follow the above directions for Bear Canyon ... and Trailheads on Horse Haven Rd. to the Helt Rd./Gyp Springs Rd. "Y" junction **7.1 miles** from Highway 310.

Take the right fork: Gyp Springs Rd.

Follow Gyp Springs Rd. 3.5 miles to a fence and cattleguard (north of the word "Springs" on the maps).

Just past the cattleguard turn right (south) onto an *unsigned (as of September 2022)* road. (This road is not on the attached maps.) It is 1.6 miles to the trailhead. See the Petroglyph Canyon hike guide.

Bent Ridge Loop, Water Canyon and Timber Canyon Trailheads:

From Bridger MT:

Drive **2.5 miles** south of Bridger on Highway 310 to Pryor Mountain Road (PMR) *This is 0.5 mile south of the bridge over the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River.*

Turn east on PMR.

Follow PMR **12.2 miles** to a "T" junction. *PMR is paved for 2.0 miles to a railroad crossing. Then it is good gravel to the "T" junction.*

Turn **south (right)** at "T" junction. *This is opposite the turn to the PMR and Crooked Creek Trailheads.*

Drive south **1.5 miles** to a right angle left turn, then east **1.3 miles** to a second "T" junction at Railbed Rd.

From the Railbed Rd "T" Junction:

For the **Bent Ridge Loop Hike:** Turn left (north) on S Railbed Rd. Then follow the directions in the Bent Loop Hike guide: 1.1 mile to South Trailhead, and 0.9 mile farther to the North Trailhead.

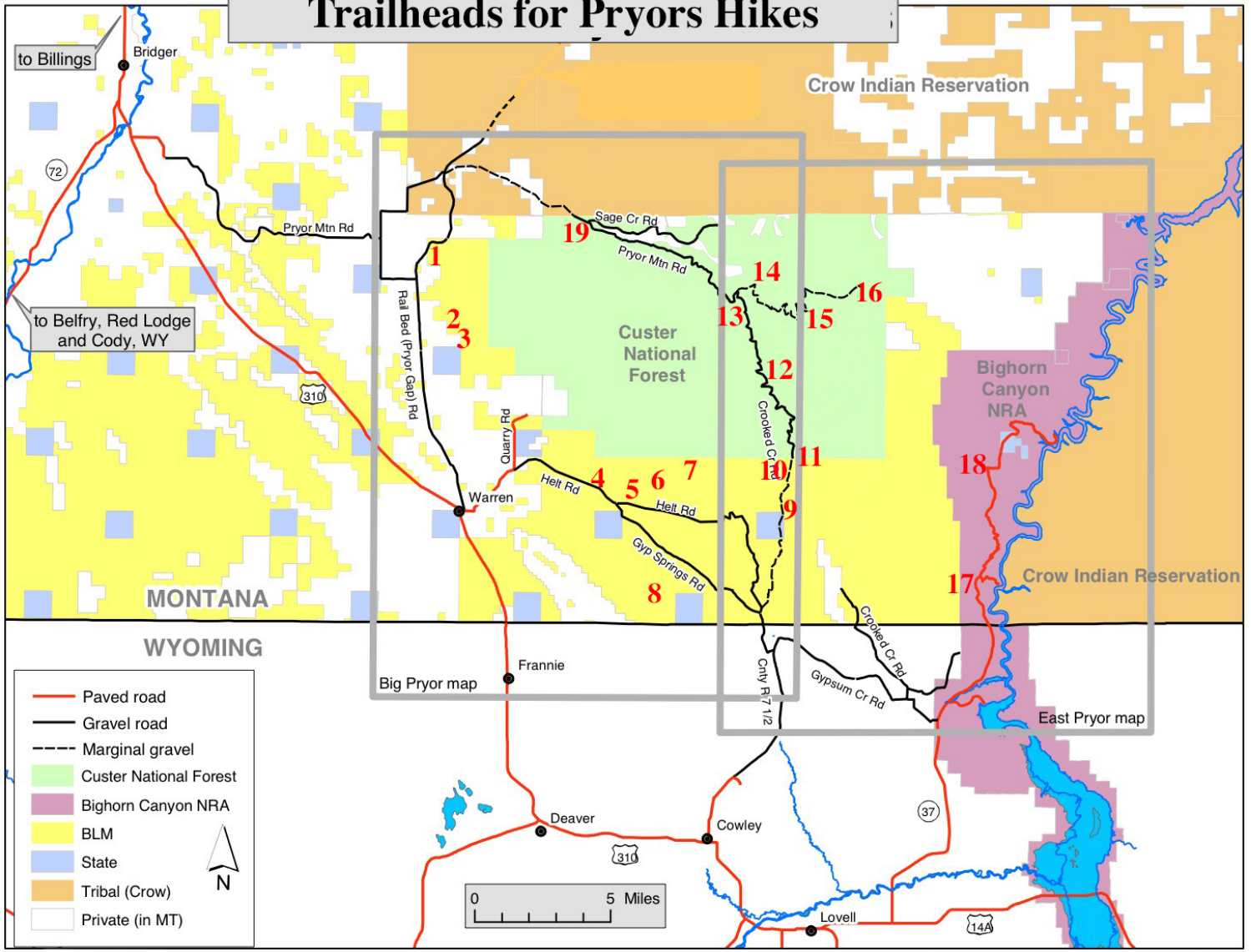
For the **Water and/or Timber Canyon Hikes:** Turn right (south) on S Railbed Rd for one mile. Then follow the directions in the Water and Timber Canyon Hike guide.

Sykes Arch & Upper Layout Creek Trailheads:

From Lovell WY:

See directions in the Sykes Arch and Layout Creek Hike guides.

Trailheads for Pryors Hikes

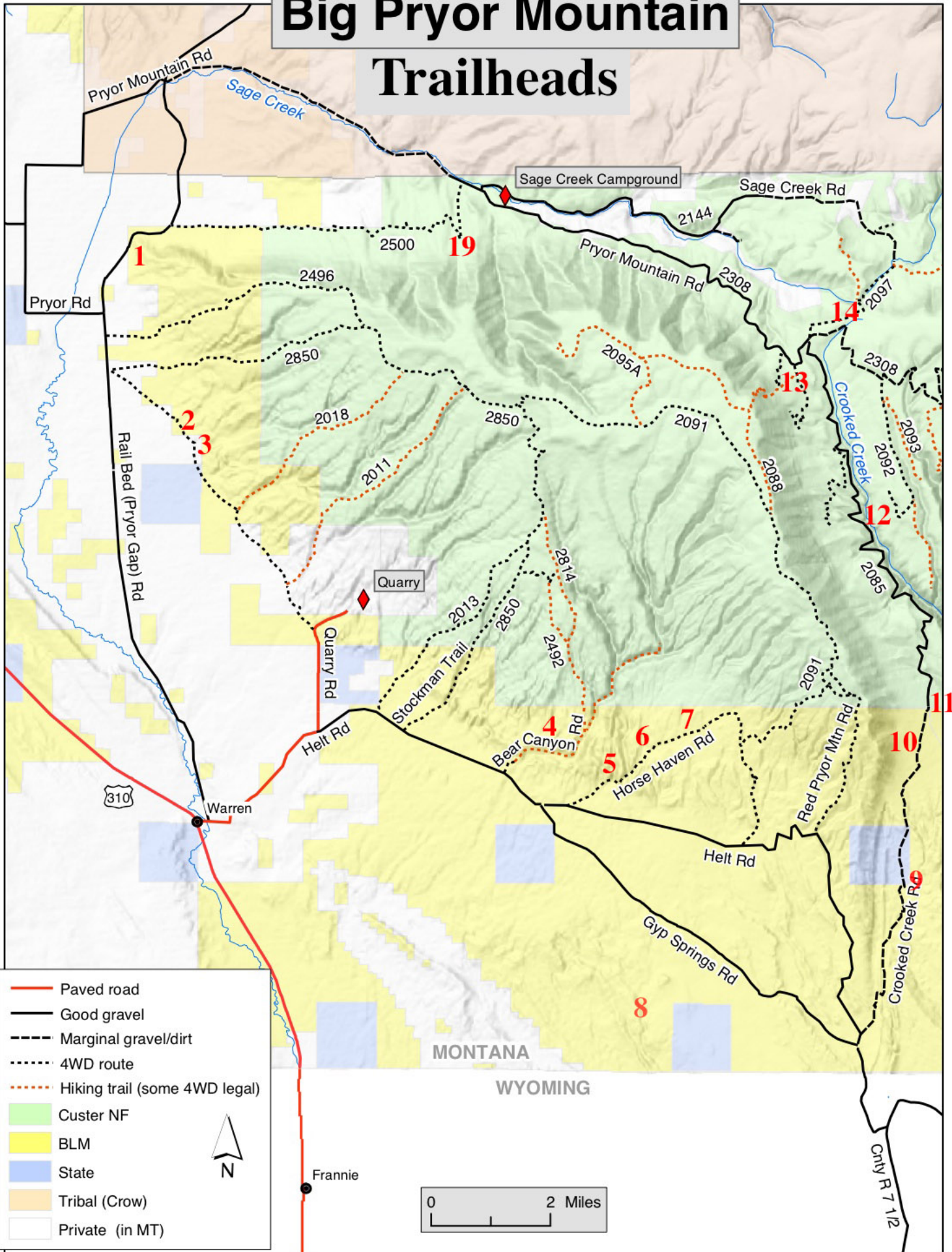


Pryors Coalition, www.PryorMountains.org

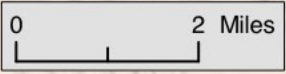
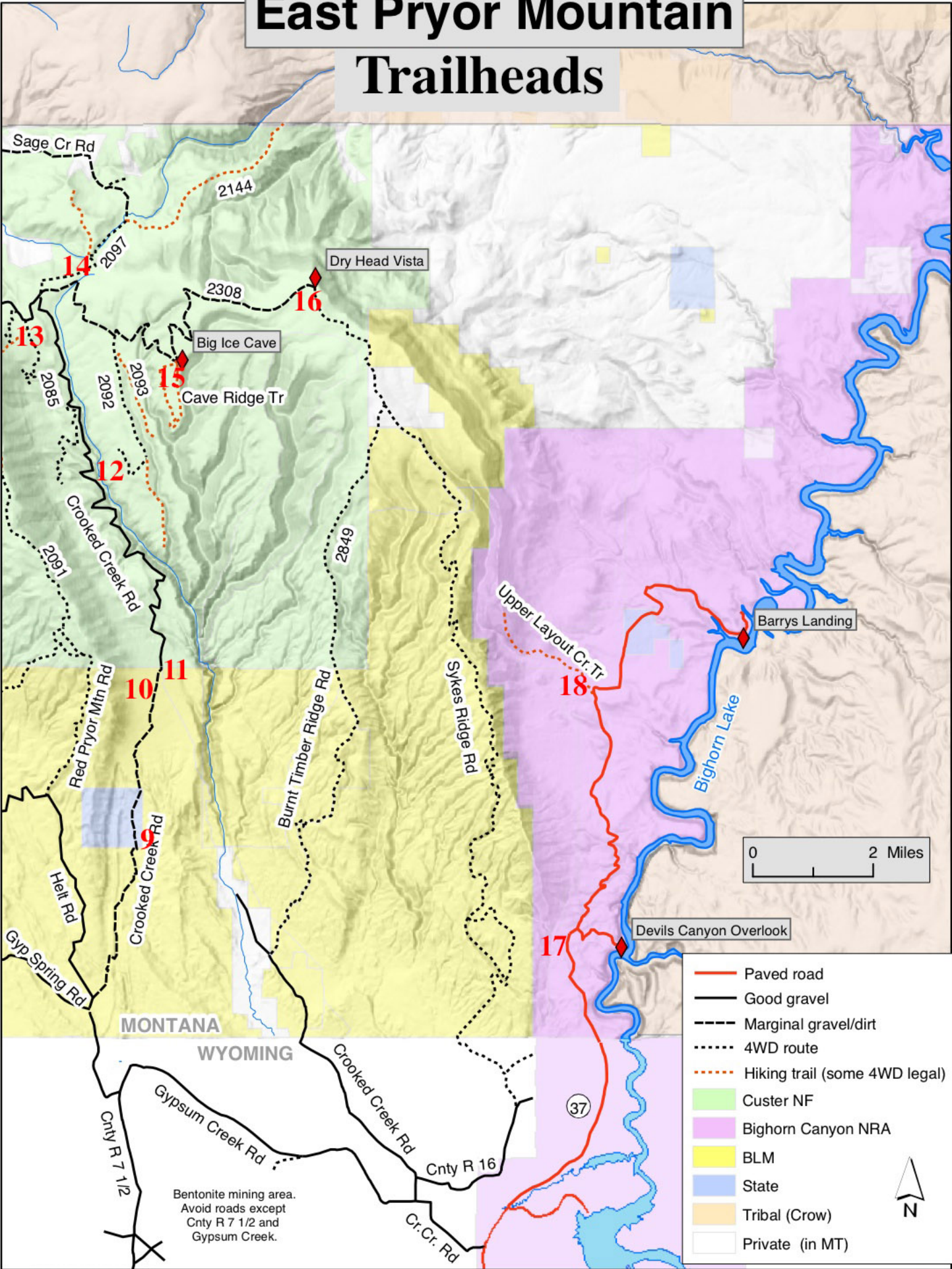
Trailhead Key

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bent Ridge Loop 2. Timber Canyon 3. Water Canyon 4. Bear Canyon, & Pygmy Panther <u>Hikers' Haven Area: 3 Trails</u> 5. Rocky Juniper 6. Big Sky 7. Doug Fir 8. Petroglyph Canyon 9. Penney Peak | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Lisbon Zig-Zag 11. Demijohn Flat 12. Crooked Creek Access 13. Crater Ice Cave / Big Pryor Mountain 14. Roberts Bench 15. Cave Ridge 16. Lost Water Canyon 17. Sykes Arch 18. Upper Layout 19. Rangers Trail |
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Big Pryor Mountain Trailheads



East Pryor Mountain Trailheads



- Paved road
- Good gravel
- - - Marginal gravel/dirt
- · · · · 4WD route
- · · · · Hiking trail (some 4WD legal)
- Custer NF
- Bighorn Canyon NRA
- BLM
- State
- Tribal (Crow)
- Private (in MT)

Bentonite mining area.
Avoid roads except
Cnty R 7 1/2 and
Gypsum Creek.