

Driving Directions for Bear Canyon Hike in the Pryor Mountains:

(Download hiking directions from www.PryorMountains.org)

A 4WD or high clearance vehicle is not needed. Access to this hike only requires driving four miles off paved roads. The four miles of good gravel road is passable most of the year due to rain and snow shadow of Beartooth and Pryor mountains. The drive from Billings to the mouth of Bear Canyon takes about 1 ½ hour.

Drive to Warren MT, 21 miles south of Bridger, on Highway 310. There is no town at Warren. Look for the Montana Limestone Company sign. Warren is where they load limestone from their quarry at the southwest corner of Big Pryor Mountain onto the railroad cars. Photo shows Highway 310 looking southeast to “Warren.” Highway 310 curves to right. Helt Rd. (or Quarry Rd.) is visible turning left.



A. 0.0 miles: Warren MT. Turn east on Helt road (also called Quarry Rd.) toward the Pryors. If you are traveling south on Highway 310 it is a left turn. Photo shows Helt/Quarry Rd. looking east from Highway 310 and the Montana Limestone Company sign on the right. Follow this paved road for 2.7 miles to a junction and road sign.



B. 2.7 miles: Helt Rd. – Quarry Rd. Junction. The BLM sign says “Bear Canyon Road 3.5” (The paved road continues as Quarry Rd.) Turn right to continue on Helt Rd. which is now narrower and gravel. Go 3.5 miles (past a BLM sign for Stockman Trail) to a BLM sign for Bear Canyon Road.



C. 6.2 miles: Bear Canyon Road. Turn left. It is half a mile to the mouth of Bear Canyon. Most of this road is OK for highway vehicles. The last 250 yds. is rocky. Some people might park and walk that short section.



D. 6.7 miles: Mouth of Bear Canyon. Park and begin hike.

It is possible to drive farther into the canyon, but few people would want to take highway vehicles over the several very rough rocky sections. You came to hike.

