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Tahoe Rim Trail (TRT) From Kingsbury Grade Hwy 207 to Mr. Toads Wild Ride (Pioneer Trail at Meyers) - (Advanced)



Focus On You Photography
Freel Peak Looking North

This ride gives you great views of Lake Tahoe, but is a very long section of TRT (Tahoe Rim Trail). For this reason, this trail is best done one way with a car waiting on the other side. I left my wife on the beach, and called her when I was done. It cost me dinner, but was well worth it. This section is best done in spring or fall as long as there is no snow. Much of the trail is very rocky, and very sandy. The trail has many rock steps and drops, and many short sections require you to jump off the bike and jump over the rocks then re mount and ride. If ridden in the spring or fall, the moisture in the ground helps keep the sandy trail packed down.

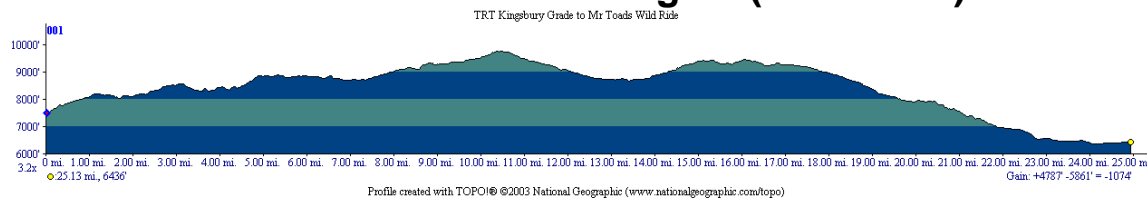
If you want more scenery you can hike Freel peak. This peak is ½ way from Kingsbury Grade to Mr. Toads Wild Ride. You have to ditch your bike in the trees and hike 1400 feet in a mile to get to the top. However, if you make the trip you have a 360 deg. view in all directions. It is just beautiful.

From Reno take Hwy. 395 south through Carson City to Hwy 50 west. (You can continue all the way to Hwy 207 Kingsbury Grade, but the scenery is not as nice.) Take a right on Hwy 50 east and follow it up Spooner Summit to the junction of Hwy 28.

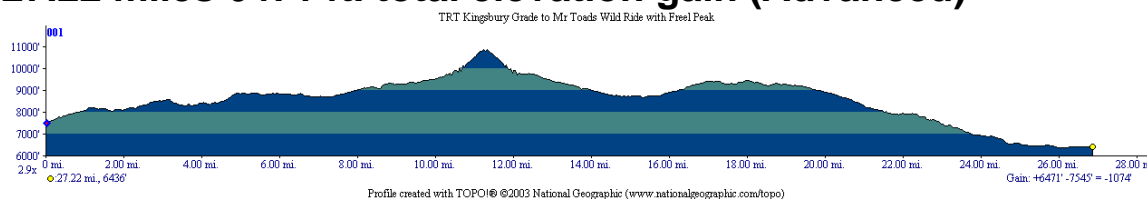
Take Hwy. 28 to the left, south. Follow Hwy. 28 almost into Stateline. Just before Stateline take a left on Hwy 207 Kingsbury Grade. Follow Hwy 207 to the summit of Kingsbury Grade, and turn right on Tramway Dr. You are going to follow Tramway drive all the way to the Heavenly Ski Resort Nevada Side Lodge Parking Lot. You will know you are there when you see the first ski lift. This first and only ski lift is called Stagecoach Lift. The TRT starts right at the motor house for the lift. So unpack in the parking lot and head to the lift to start you ride. If you are being picked up at the other end, the stoplight at Pioneer Trail and Hwy 50 west is a great meeting place.

Tahoe Rim Trail (TRT) From Kingsbury Grade Hwy 207 to Mr. Toads Wild Ride (Pioneer Trail at Meyers)(Black Trail) (Advanced)

25.13 miles 4787 ft. total elevation gain (Advanced)



This is the profile if you want to hike Freel Peak. 27.22 miles 6471 ft. total elevation gain (Advanced)



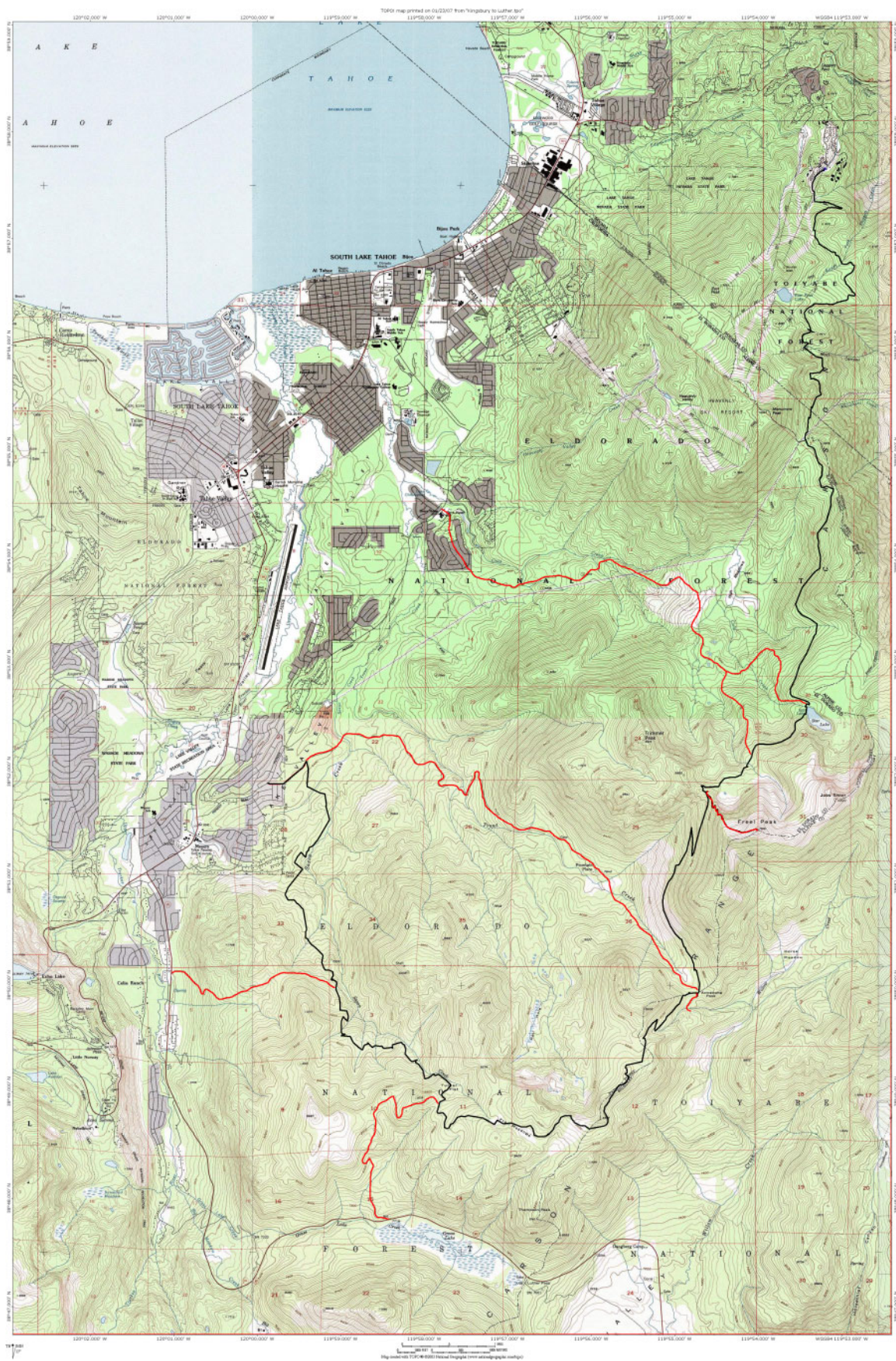
The hardest to follow section of this trail is the start. Once you park, or get dropped off in the Heavenly Valley Ski Resort parking lot, look to the west. You will be looking at a chairlift called "Stagecoach". The trail starts immediately below the lift. You will also see a wooden sign that designates this trail as the TRT (Tahoe Rim Trail.) Once on the trail, it will start to gradually climb to the west for a very short distance. Then the trail will turn to the south and start a loose climb. Once up the climb, you drop out on to a jeep road. This is .3 miles from the chair lift. Once at the jeep road you will see the TRT directly across the road heading south. The single



track heads strait into the trees, then turns east, then it will switch back to the west. This section also starts your rock step up's. You will have one rock step up, then ride 25 or 50 feet and have another. There is about ½ mile of these, and then it gets smoother. So from the last jeep road, follow the TRT for 2.75 miles (3.05 miles from the start) where the TRT will drop out onto another jeep road. Here you will see a jeep road the goes strait up on your right. Don't go that way. Follow the jeep road to the south west down hill where in .25 miles (3.30 miles) you will see the TRT pick up again on the right. If you

pass this turn, you drop quickly into Jacks Valley below then have to climb back up. So don't miss the turn. Take a right on the TRT and follow it mainly south. The trail will continue to

climb, and then start a quick uphill section with a couple of tough rock steps that will take you to the ridge. The ridge is 1.4 miles (4.70 miles) from the last jeep road. Here you will drop out on the ridge where the trail will follow the topography south. This section of trail is sandy and also the most fun section of the trip. The trail is fast and rolling but mainly flat. You are going to follow the TRT south for 3.5 miles (8.2 miles) where you will hit Star Lake. If you are crazy enough to bring a fishing rod, this little lake has great fishing. Right before Star Lake you will see a jeep road on your right. This is a great escape route if needed. It is 6.2 miles straight down to Pioneer Trail on an easy jeep road. From Star Lake, stay on the west side of the lake, you will need to jump the outlet of the lake to pick up the trail on the other side. It climbs quickly west away from the lake, then levels out for a short flat section. This section is 1 mile (9.25 miles) and at this flat you will cross over another small creek (trickle). Just before the creek crossing you will notice a very faint jeep road that heads straight down the canyon on your right. This jeep road will also take you out to Pioneer Trail, but requires some cross country to find your way out. I had to use this one once. Anyway, cross the creek and you now have a good climb up to the ridge. This ridge is .7 miles (9.9 miles) from the creek crossing. Once at the ridge we ditched our bikes on the left side of the trail and hiked up Freel Peek. The hike is only a mile, but it is straight up. You have about 1000 vertical feet up. The view is great, and if you do not have a forest fire at Fallen Leaf Lake, you can see everything. It is worth the climb. If you look at the picture above, you can see the smoke. Anyway, take some food and enjoy the view, then hike back to the bikes and continue on. From the ridge, you will have a long and slightly sandy down hill section. This section does have some technical sections to it, but not bad. So follow the single track for 3 miles (12.9 miles) where you will come to a crossroads. If you go left, you will drop down into Hope Valley on Luther Pass. If you go right you will drop down a lovely single track, then pavement down to Pioneer Trail. This is also a good way to shorten the ride if you want to get out early and is much easier than Mr. Toads. This down hill has 2.3 miles of great down hill single track, then another 4.5 miles of down hill pavement. The trail is called Oneida's because it drops you out on Oneida's St. which drops out onto the base of Mr. Toads Wild Ride on Pioneer Trail. Lots of people will climb up this trail to ride down Mr. Toads. Anyway, continue straight on the TRT heading west. This is the least technical section of the ride. The trail will continue rolling up one ridge, down the next, then back up again and back down again. After this much distance covered you wonder if it will ever end. It does. Finally in 4.8 miles (17.7 miles) you will come to another intersection. This is where the TRT heads off to the left, west, and Mr. Toads drops straight down on your right to the north. It is mostly down hill from here, but the upper section of this trail is much more technical than what you just came across. So again, be careful, watch your speed, and make sure you have a helmet. Continue carefully. This upper section has many big drops, and sections of nothing but rocks. There is also a huge stair step section that comes up on you quick, so be very, very careful. This is also a great place to jump on the cell phone and call for your ride. In the time you get to the bottom, a driver has just enough time to reach Pioneer Trail and Hwy 50 if they are leaving from Stateline. In 3.5 miles (21.2 miles) you are finally through the real technical sections. That does not mean you are out of the woods. Still be careful. Here the trail has banked turns, and is a very fast section. As you come around some of the blind turns, you will find that there are wild pine trees (these are the endangered kind) that jump out and grab your shoulders when you least expect it, so watch for them. Continue for another 4 miles (25.2 miles from the start) and you will drop out on Oneidas Rd again. Take a left, and you can ride a couple of blocks to the intersection of Pioneer Trail and Hwy 50 west.



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