

■ 4 hours to 2 days ■ 47.7 miles ■ Most difficult

- **Access to trailhead:** From 1 mile north of Austin Junction, turn left onto County Road 20 and go 2.3 miles. Turn right and park at the junction with FR 2010.
- **Nearest Food/Water Source:** Austin Junction.
- **Surfaces Encountered:** Single-track and two-track trail, gravel, and pavement.
- **Comments:** This ride is extremely long and taxing, especially if you intend to do the entire loop. You might want to turn it into a 2-day trip. **Alternative Ride:** Begin at junction of FR 45 and FR 537 or at the junction of FR 2010 and FR 148 and ride through the Indian Rock-Vinegar Hill Scenic Area to turnaround point (on map).
- **USGS Maps:** Desolation Butte SW, Susanville NE, Boulder Butte, Vinegar Hill, Bates.
- **USFS Maps:** Long Creek, N. Fork John Day E 1/2 Fire/District.

#### Mileage Log:

- 0.0** - Ride up FR 2010, following signs to Vinegar Hill.
- 6.3**-Turn left, following primitive road signed "Narrow Road."
- 12.3**-Turn left onto closed-to-vehicles FR 148, a primitive two-track to Dupratt Springs.
- 14.4**-Veer left at sign toward McAlpine Meadow, Boulder Butte, and Indian Rock Lookout.
- 14.7**-Continue along faint two-track through open area for 1/4 mile.
- 15.4**-Follow single-track; watch for Desolation Creek sign.
- 15.6**-Continue straight where sign points left to McAlpine Meadow.
- 17.4**-Continue straight; see sign for Boulder Butte. Follow rock cairns for next 1/2 mile.
- 18.0**-Remains of old Boulder Butte sign; continue following cairns along faint single-track trail.
- 18.1**-Squaw Rock Trail sign on saddle; continue to the northwest along the trail.
- 19.8**-Cross spring drainage.
- 20.4**-See (backside of) sign for Squaw Rock Trail just before coming to grove of trees.
- 20.9**-Head O' Boulder Spring Camp. Turn left onto FR 537.
- 23.3**-Turn left onto FR 45.
- 25.3**-Turn left at fork in road onto FR 45.
- 32.3**-Turn left onto County Road 20.
- 38.2**-Road turns to pavement and crosses middle fork of the John Day River.
- 47.7**-Back to beginning point.

