



2026

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Weiser River
Trail**
Idaho



Weiser River Trail

Idaho

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The Weiser River Trail is a feast of desert canyons, evergreen forests, and alpine meadows, following the former right-of-way of a Union Pacific Railroad line between Tamarack and the town of Weiser. Other highlights of the trail include 62 historic rail trestles and wildlife such as deer, waterfowl, quail, turkeys, herons, and eagles. Trail users may even encounter coyotes, bears, or mountain lions. If you like to fish, bring a pole and drop a line for rainbow trout in the Weiser River, which the trail follows for pretty much all of its route.

About the Route

The Weiser River Trail is the longest trail in Idaho, and also a designated National Recreation Trail. The southern end mainly comprises rolling hills and open canyons,

while the northern end tends to be more densely forested. Beginning on the southern end of the old Union Pacific Railroad and the Idaho Northern Railroad corridor, the trail has its roots in the city of Weiser, an agricultural town with a population of roughly 4,600.

Continuing north on the trail, trail users will come across the Weiser River Canyons lining the banks of the Weiser River between the cities of Weiser and Midvale. The Galloway Dam site is a part of the Lower Canyon and a popular fishing spot on the trail. North of the canyons, the trail runs through the small town of Midvale. The next can-not-miss site is 8 miles from Midvale in the city of Cambridge, home of the deepest gorge in North America, Hells Canyon. Its 10-mile wide expanse showcases the differing terrain, climate, and elevation of this rural landscape.

Nearly 21 miles up the trail the trail reaches the small community of Council. The surrounding valley is a beautiful open green space with wooded hills, farms, and ranches. The city is said to have been named after the Shoshoni, who inhabited the area before the arrival of settlers. Visiting pioneers told stories of the Shoshoni gathering in the valley with their horses. To the pioneers, this seemed to represent a council meeting, resulting in its current city name, Council.

North of Council the Weiser River Trail passes through the mill town of Tamarack and then slightly farther north trail users will find the trail's northern end on Whispering Pine Road, past Rubicon.

Four communities along the trail provide services, including Weiser (the largest, with many restaurants, motels, and shops), Midvale, Cambridge, and Council. There is an annual spring bike ride along the trail, and in May, a 4-day wagon train event beginning in Weiser and ending in Council.



Weiser River Trail

Idaho

States: Idaho

Counties: Adams, Washington

Length: 85.5 miles

Trail end points: E 4th St. (Weiser) to Old Hwy 95 (New Meadows)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Ballast, Gravel

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Fishing, Horseback Riding, Mountain Biking, Walking, Cross Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

The Weiser River National Recreation Trail E 4th St. (Weiser) and Old Hwy 95 (New Meadows), with parking available on both ends.

Parking is also available at:

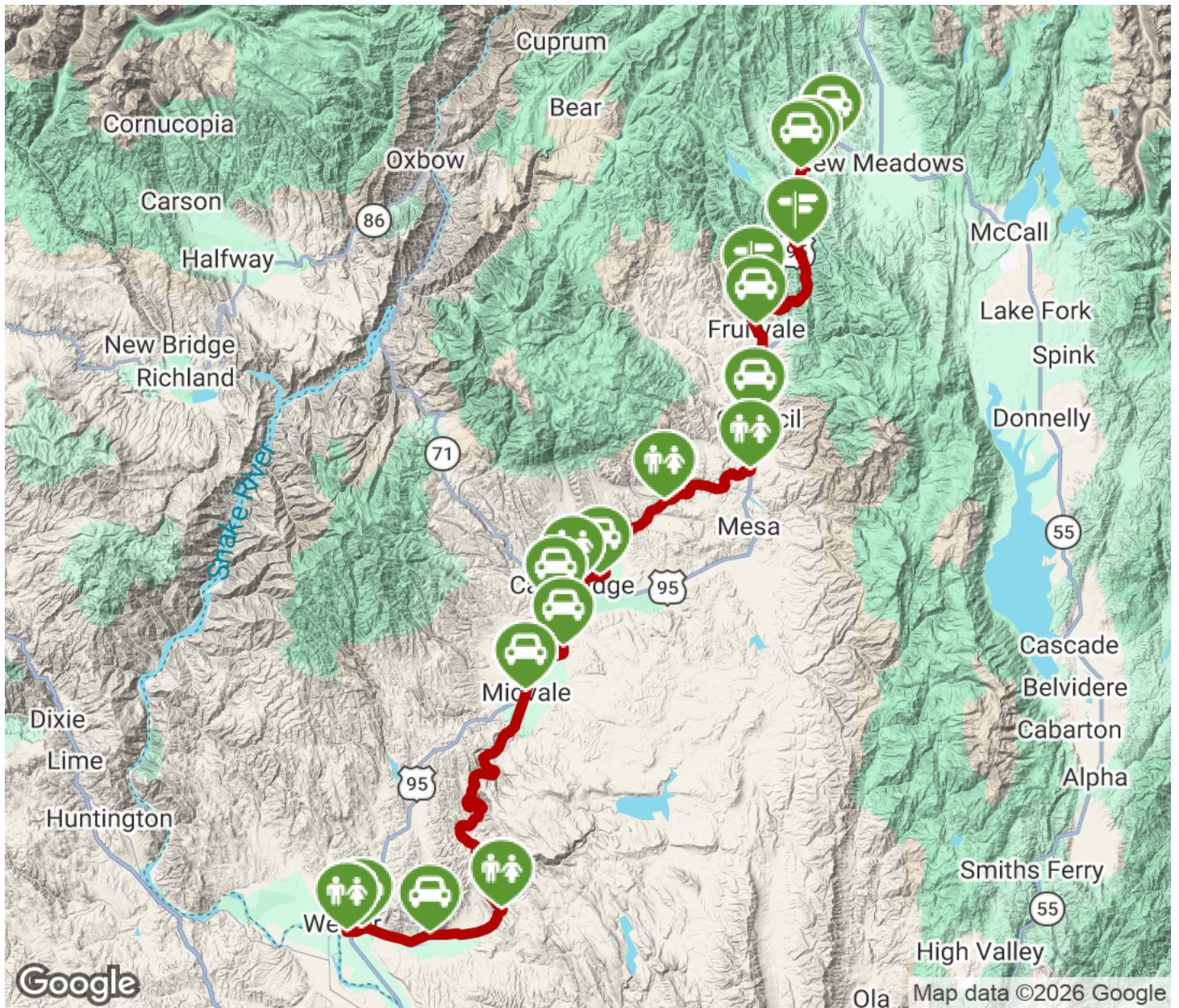
- Wye Campground, 3604 ID 95 (Tamarack)

There are numerous parking options along the trail's route, please see [TrailLink Map](#) for more parking options and detailed directions.



Weiser River Trail

Idaho



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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