2025

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Guides

TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

Railroad Right-of-Way Trail

Idaho

The 38-mile Railroad Right-of-Way Trail winds through the pristine wilderness of Idaho's Targhee National Forest. The sprawling

rerouted just to the east, providing closer views of the Warm River.

North of the closed tunnel, the trail continues through pine and fir forest before emerging into a boggy stretch of terrain. Springs and creeks are abundant along the entire length of the trail, but this section can be particularly wet. Trail users who want to stay dry (or avoid slogging through sandy soil) can take the adjacent forest road to avoid this segment.

The trail continues north of the Idaho–Montana state line, as the Yellowstone Shortline Trail, which was paved in 2024 and is a popular gateway to Yellowstone National Park.

The 38-mile Railroad Right-of-Way Trail winds through the pristine wilderness of Idaho's Targhee National Forest. The sprawling forest is a unit of the even larger Caribou-Targhee National Forest, which borders famous Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks.

About the Route

Built on a former railroad corridor that once provided tourist access from Idaho Falls, Idaho, to West Yellowstone, Montana, the trail parallels Warm River for a few miles from its south trailhead at Warm Springs Campground. About 3 miles north of the campground, a short tunnel—original to the railroad—leads through a steep piece of terrain. Unfortunately, the tunnel suffered a cave-in in 2008, so access is prohibited. The trail has been

Railroad Right-of-Way Trail
Idaho

States: Idaho

Counties: Fremont

Length: 38miles

Trail end points: Warm River Campground (Ashton) to MT/ID State Line

Trail surfaces: Ballast

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: ATV,Horseback Riding,Mountain Biking,Snowmobiling,Walking,Cross Country Skiing
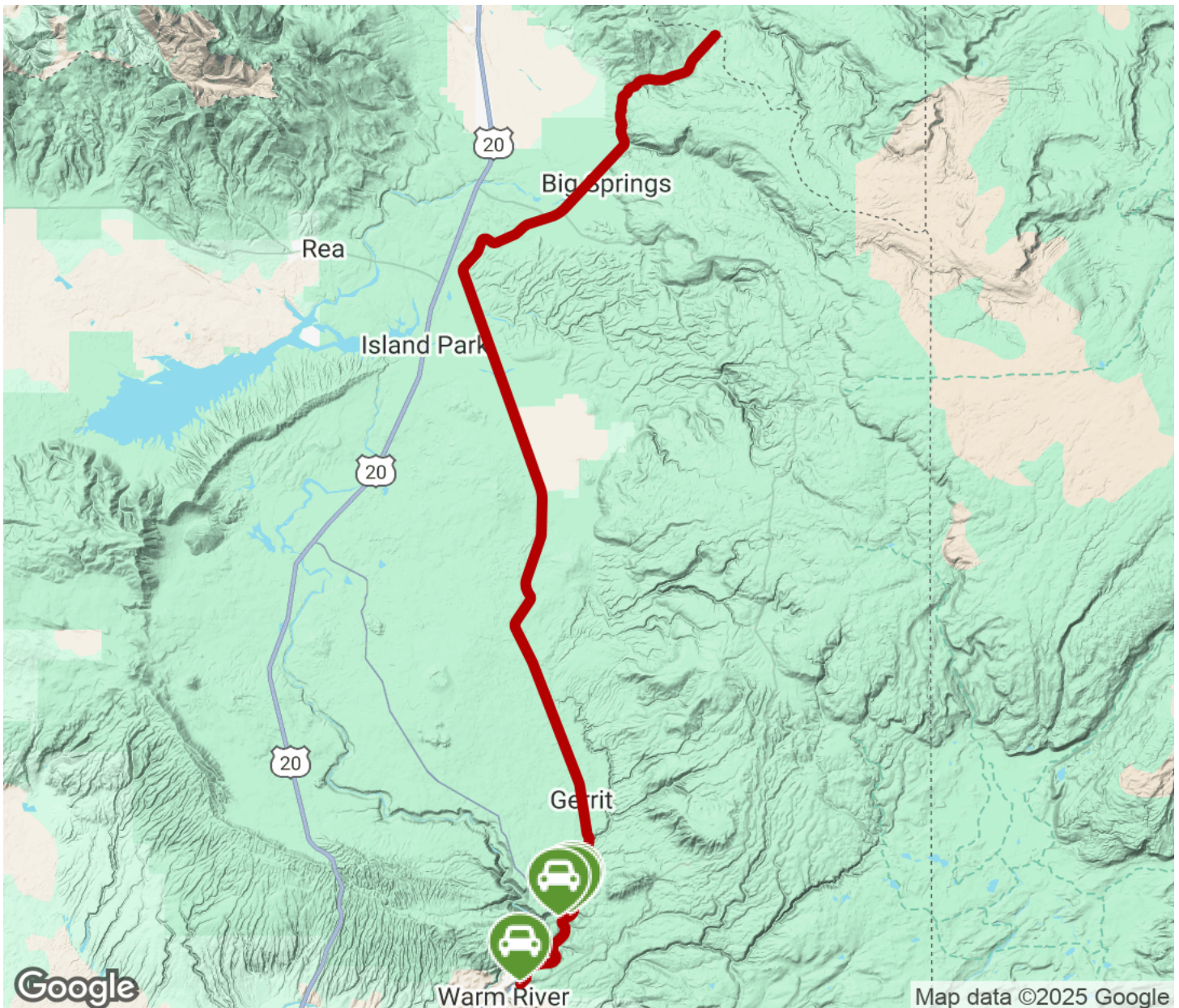
Parking & Trail Access

The Railroad Right-of-Way Trail runs between Warm River Campground (Ashton), where parking is available, and MT/ID State Line.

Parking is also available at the Bear Gulch Trailhead.

Railroad Right-of-Way Trail
Idaho

🚩 Trailhead		👫 Restroom		🚗 Parking		💧 Water Fountain		🅿️ Tunnel	

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