

# Recreation Opportunity Guide

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## LEWIS AND CLARK RELATED SITES IN THE BLACKFOOT VALLEY

1. **BONNER L&C INTERPRETIVE KIOSK**•: Site of several historic markers, and a unique chainsaw carving of Capt. Meriwether Lewis and his dog Seaman.
2. **TWIN CREEK TRAIL REMNANT** •: A short remnant of trail, which could be part of the ancient Cokahlarishkit Road.
3. **“ROAD TO THE BUFFALO” RAIL TO TRAIL SEGMENT** •: Located on the historic Big Blackfoot Railroad, paralleling the ancient Indian trail known as “Cokahlarishkit -- Road To The Buffalo.”
4. **NINEMILE PRAIRIE ‘NOONING’ SITE** •: Capt. Meriwether Lewis and his detachment paused here for lunch on Saturday 5 July 1806 on their return trip across “Old Toby’s Shortcut.” Later in the century homesteaders tried to eke out a living here
5. **“COKAHLARISHKIT” TRAIL ROUTE**•: Route of the ancient Native American Indian Trail, called “Cokahlarishkit” used by Capt. Lewis and his detachment of men.
6. **CLEARWATER JUNCTION L&C INTERPRETIVE KIOSK**•: Located along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.
7. **SPERRY GRADE RIVER FORD SITE?** •: Although the journals make no mention of it, it is likely that Capt Lewis and his detachment crossed the Blackfoot River to avoid a rocky cliff on the north side of the river and visit a large Indian campsite. A Codex sketch hints at the possibility.
8. **MONTURE CREEK FISHING ACCESS**•: Lewis and his detachment camped on or near this site on the night of July 5, 1806. "the road passing through an extensive high prairie rendered very uneven by a vast number of little hillucks and sinkholes {holds}we encamped on the lower side of the last creek just above it's entrance. Here a war party had encamped about 2 months since and concealed their fires."
9. **OVANDO L&C INTERPRETIVE SIGN** •: Historic town of Ovando is located practically astraddle of the ancient trail used by Capt Lewis. The interpretive sign entitled “Lewis Minus Clark” explains the local occurrence. •: Local museum has several items of local historic interest.
10. **HARRY MORGAN FISHING ACCESS SITE** •: Lewis and his detachment crossed the North Fork Blackfoot (“45 yards wide, deep and rapid.”) near the bridge upstream from the Fishing Access site. “...Cottonwood and pine grow intermixed in the river bottoms.” •: A fairly substantial Indian encampment must have been located in the flat, although Lewis made no note of it. •: George Monture’s historic marker is alongside the road, just north of the bridge.
11. **“PRAIRIE OF THE KNOBS”** •: Described on July 6, 1806 by Captain Meriwether Lewis on his return trip from the ocean as "these plains I called (the knob plains) the prairie of the knobs from (the) a number of knobs being irregularly scattered through it"
12. **ROAD TO THE BUFFALO OVERLOOK**•: Near the ancient “Road to the Buffalo” trail. Trail may have been about where the old roadbed is located. To the east is where Lewis noted “the river leaves the extensive plains and enters the mountains” on Sunday, July 6, 1806
13. **ARRASTRA CREEK NOONING SITE**•: After Lewis entered the Blackfoot canyon he went “up the river” and stopped near Arrastra Creek (“12 yds shallow and clear”) for lunch where “river bottoms narrow and country thickly timbered.”

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14. LEWIS & CLARK BICENTENNIAL PONDEROSA PINE GROVE •: Capt Lewis and 9 men passed through our area from July 4 - 7 1806. On July 6th his party passed by a grove of ponderosa pine next to the Blackfoot River. These trees remain to this day standing next to the remnant of this Native American trail called the "River of the Road to the Buffalo." These trees also still bear the scars of Native Americans stripping bark to access the cambium layer, which they chewed like candy.
15. UPPER BLACKFOOT VALLEY L&C INTERPRETIVE PANEL •: Located very near where the old ancient trail would have passed. Sign interprets the return trip of Lewis through the area. Home of Blackfoot Valley Historical Society Museum.
16. HOOPER PARK PAVILION TOTEM CARVINGS•: Interesting chainsaw carvings depicting key members of the Corps of Discovery and a dugout canoe. Coming soon -- A magnificent three panel interpretive kiosk featuring the Lewis & Clark Expedition, local history and land stewardship.
17. LEWIS AND CLARK PASS •: Location where Lewis and his detachment reentered the United States on their return trip. Native American Indians used this as a staging area.
18. BLACKFOOT VALLEY L&C CAMPSITES•: Lewis camped at three sites on his return trip through the Blackfoot Valley July 4, 5 & 6 1806. Private land. Generally unavailable to the public.

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