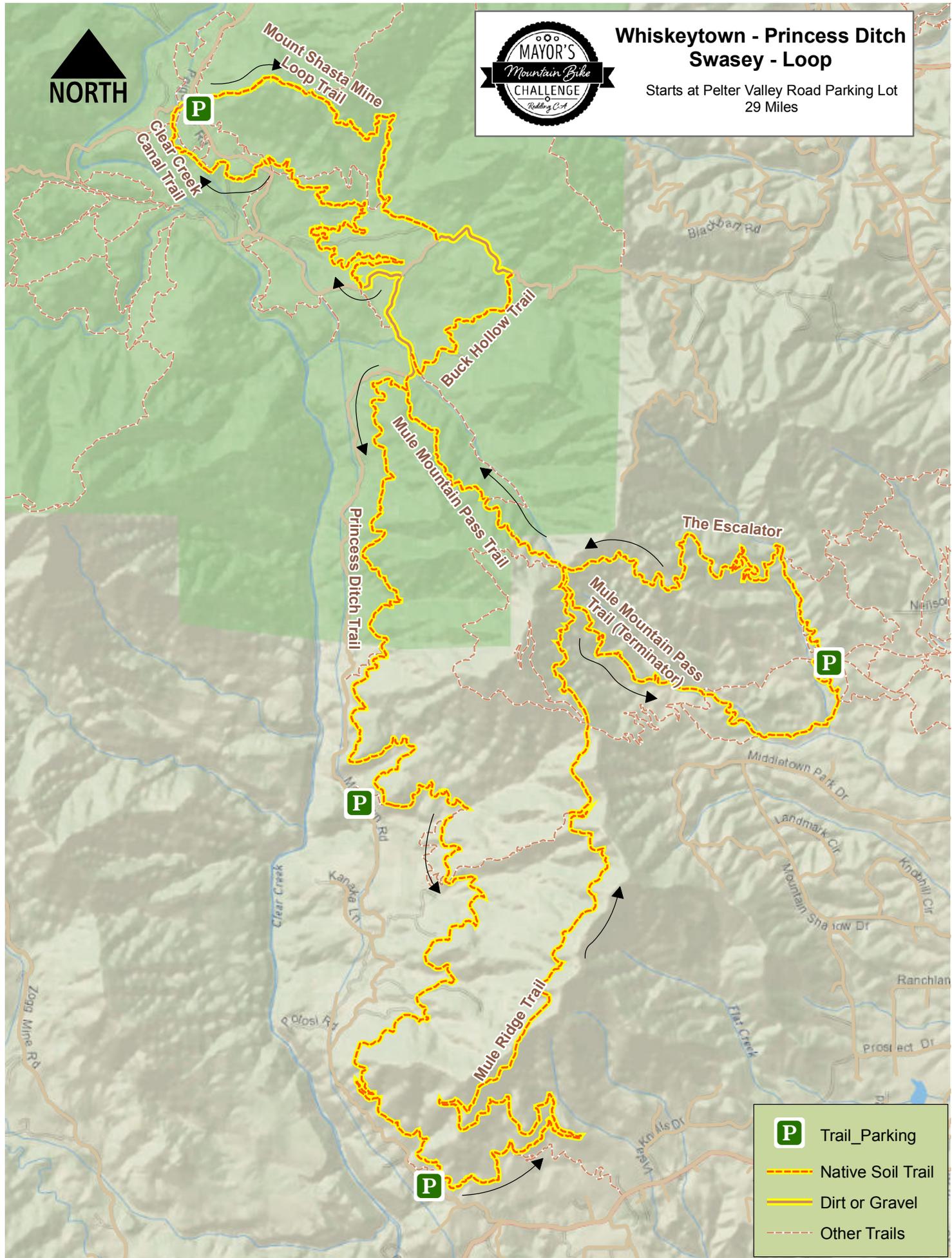




Whiskeytown - Princess Ditch Swasey - Loop

Starts at Pelter Valley Road Parking Lot
29 Miles



-  Trail_Parking
-  Native Soil Trail
-  Dirt or Gravel
-  Other Trails

Whiskeytown – Princess Ditch – Swasey Loop

Parking Lot at Paige Bar Rd and Peltier Valley Rd in WNRA

- 0.00 Start - Whiskeytown Parking Lot Page Bar Road - start on the east end at the picnic table - head up the trail to the east
- 0.05 Almost immediately the trail intersects with a fire road - hang a left and start climbing
- 0.60 The single track levels out some after a short open climb, take a rest and note the single track signed as Shasta Mine Trail that takes off down the hill to your right. Take that trail, lots of fun ahead, you have earned it.
- 1.60 At the bottom of a very rocky downgrade the trail crosses a creek and then a very short distance later tees with another trail - the Prospect Trail - go left and cross the creek and up the hill
- 2.00 The Prospect Trail tees with Muletown Road. Take a left on Muletown Road.
- 2.50 On a sharp bend in the road, you will note a trail to the left. This is the Buckhollow Trail. Take this trail, rough/fun up and down cross country single track ahead.
- 3.30 Creek Crossing - cross the creek and veer right, Muletown Road is ahead
- 3.40 Muletown Road - take a left and head up the hill
- 3.50 At the top of the hill, see the single track trail to your left - take the trail and head up the hill
- 3.60 In a very short distance after a very rocky/rutted up hill, take the trail to your right onto the Princess Ditch Trail.
- 7.70 Stay on the well traveled trail, mostly in an old ditch. There will be two different spots where you can take a right and head down to Muletown Road, stay straight in the ditch until there is a clear split just after a bridge crossing - take the trail to the left up the hill and out of the ditch.
- 8.20 Cosmos Trail Intersection - note the trail clearly signed Cosmos, do not take that up the hill, continue straight on the Princess Ditch Trail
- 11.10 Trail intersects with a single track that takes you down to the Oak Knoll Parking lot and Mule Town Road - stay straight in the ditch and start the climb up towards Mule Ridge.
- 11.70 Trail intersections with a trail marked taking users to Placer - stay left on the trail up to Mule Ridge.
- 14.00 You have reached the top of Mule Ridge, nice work, take a break on the picnic table on the left side of the trail before continuing.
- 15.70 After a tight left switch back you will come to the top of the Cosmos (signed) and a trail to your right that takes you to Black Bear Pass. Take the trail to your right, do not go down Cosmos

16.20 Black Bear Pass - after a short difficult climb you will reach an intersection of a lot of trails, picnic table and a trail marker marked Black Bear Pass. Take the trail straight (to the North) and down the hill to the top of the Escalator, lots of fun downhill ahead.

17.20 At the top of the Escalator (lots of trails intersect here), take a quick right and head down the Terminator (name is fitting).

18.40 At the bottom of the Terminator (after crossing a couple creeks) you will come to an intersection with trail to the left and right. Take the trail to the right, cross the creek immediately and take a very quick left into a ditch trail.

19.00 The trail gets rocky and crosses a creek, stay straight on the well traveled trail.

19.30 The trail crosses another creek, cross it, stay left onto a fire road/trail and up the hill.

19.40 The fire road soon intersects with a single track trail signed as Meiners Loop Trail. Take a left into the ditch trail.

19.70 Soon you will see a trail that takes up the hill, out of the ditch and away from the creek, take this trail.

19.80 When the trail gets to the top of the hill, veer left across the dirt road and then veer right up the trail towards the parking lot.

19.85 Just after a short switch back the trail intersects with the main trail out of the north end of the upper Swasey Parking lot, take a left on this trail (Meiners Loop Trail).

20.40 Intersection of Meiners Loop and the lower end of the Escalator - stay straight on to the Escalator Trail...now it really begins to Climb

23.00 After an extended climb and a short descent on the Escalator you will come to an intersection of several trails (you have been here before). Take a rest at the picnic table before taking a right down into Whiskeytown Park. Fun old fashioned downhill segment ahead, stay on the well traveled trail.

24.60 The single track trail will empty back on to Mule Town Road, you have been here before. Take a right and head downhill.

25.10 Muletown Road will soon come to an intersection with a road that will take you towards Whiskeytown Lake (Paige Bar Road). Hang a left onto this road.

25.30 After a short distance there will be a ditch trail to your right (Clear Creek Canal). Take this ditch trail to the right. You will be in and out of this ditch for some time...

26.90 The ditch trail goes down a steep hill, crosses a creek, goes back up the hill and back into the ditch...keep going on the well traveled single track ditch trail.

27.80 The ditch trail will come to an intersection with a heavily rooted trail taking off slightly uphill to the right. Stay in the ditch trail, in a very short time it will cross a paved road (Paige Bar Road).

27.85 The ditch trail intersects with Paige Bar Road and takes up again on the other side...keep going on the ditch trail. Over the next mile there will be some fainter trails taking off back towards the paved road and elsewhere, stay on the well traveled ditch trail.

28.80 The ditch trail will intersect with a dirt road (Peltier Valley Road). Take a right on the dirt, road and very soon you will cross the paved Paige Bar Road and you will see the parking lot you started at ahead.

28.90 Back to the Parking Lot - well done!