

HOW DID THEY GET HERE?

Before it was developed into a trail system, the State Land was used primarily as an area for getting livestock to summer pastures on the mountain, a grueling trip due to the harsh incline. The design, based on public comment and scoping, started in 2013 and phase 1 of the trail came into fruition in 2015. While it is still being developed, the trail currently encompasses 5.7 miles and in the future, may reach up to a total of 20+ miles of trail. The Red Grade Trail system was established and is maintained by the Sheridan Community Land Trust.

The Red Grade Trail system in being built maintained by your neighbors, friends, school groups, and community businesses, as well as professional trail builders and designers.

The trail was created to offer recreational opportunities year round for hikers, bikers, snowshoers, runners, skiers and eventually equestrian users.

The Red Grade Trail system is the result of a community vision to build a community resource that will benefit generations to come.



Sheridan
Community
LAND TRUST

RED GRADE TRAILS

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PREPARED BY
MINDY SONGER



WILDLIFE

Mule and Whitetail Deer (browsers vs grazers)

- Mule deer are browsers. This means they use their bottom teeth and their skull plate to put pressure on what they are biting and sweep their head to the side to pull the leaves off a branch, flowers off the stem, or tall grass.
- Whitetail deer are grazers which means they have a bottom row of teeth and top row that allows them to eat in grassy meadows.

Birds

Yellow Warbler



Gray-crowned Rosy Finch



Spruce Grouse



GEOLOGY

The Bighorn mountains are a sister range of the Rockies. The range is approximately 70 million years old and was uplifted by the Laramide Orogeny. An orogeny is an event that leads to a large structural deformation of the earth's lithosphere. The elevation of the trail is approximately 7,800 feet at the base of the mountain. The highest peaks of the mountain range are Black Tooth at 13,005 feet and Cloud Peak at 13,715 feet. The Bighorns have been shaped by glaciers, however, the only active glacier is on the east slope of Cloud Peak.



PLANT LIFE

WHAT IS THAT?

Common Harebell



Also known as the "bluebell of Scotland." Are thought to give fairies shelter because of their heavy ground cover.

American Bistort



Native Americans and early settlers used this starchy root as a source of food.

Shrubby Cinquefoil



Only flower of its species to grow in Wyoming.

Wyoming Indian Paintbrush



This is Wyoming's state flower. It can be found in bloom from July to August on dry slopes.