

Off-Highway Vehicle Gorge trail riding

The Pembina Gorge State Recreation Area is being developed in a way new to the state of North Dakota. The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department is implementing a multiuse trail system to accommodate the three classes of Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs): dirt bikes, four wheelers, and side by sides.

The most recent development is a 12 mile looped trail completed in the fall of 2011. It accommodates OHVs up to 60 inches wide. An additional 10 to 12

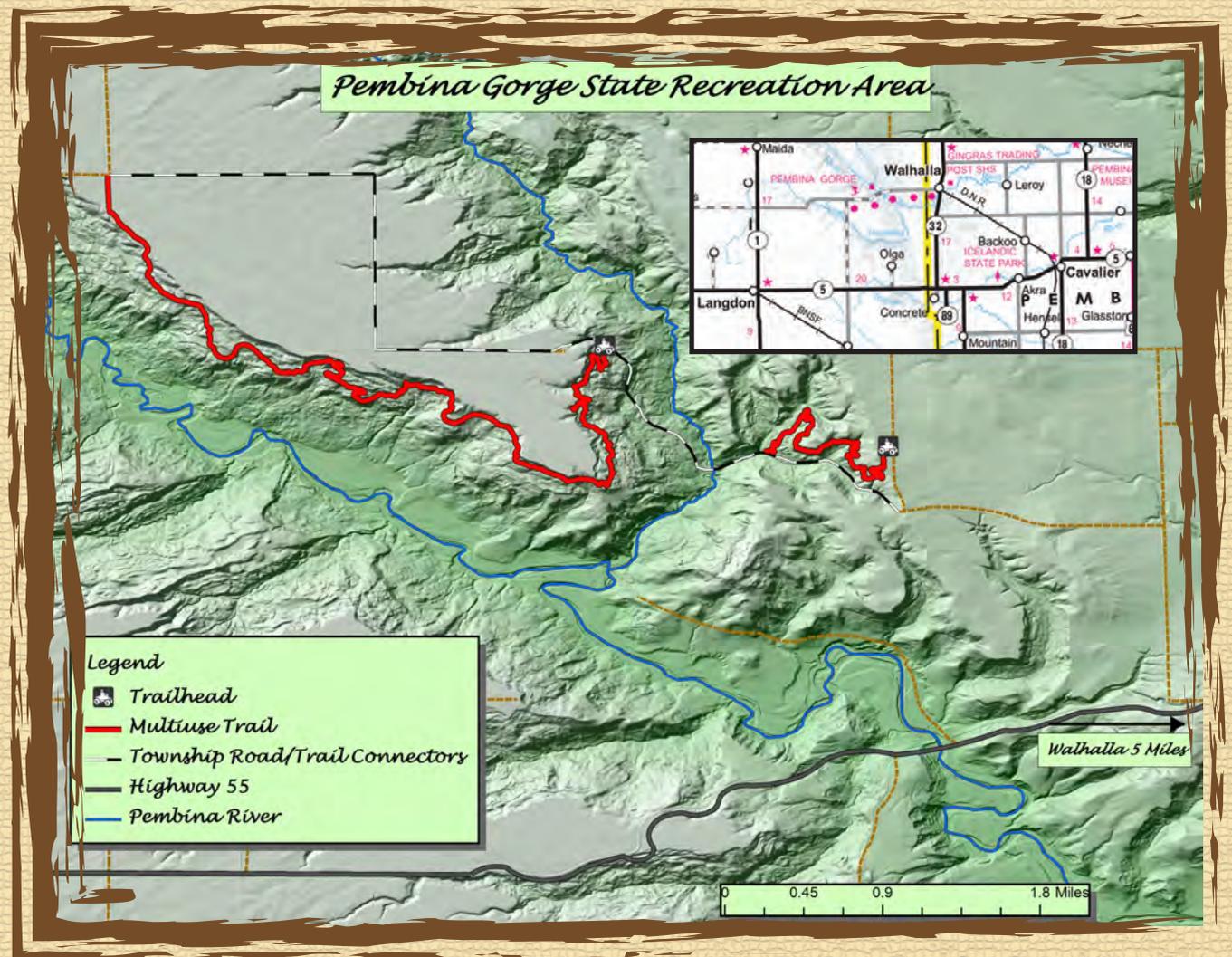


mile loop is planned for construction in 2012.

More traditional, non-motorized trail opportunities are in the works as well. The Tetrault Woods State Forest, located south of Walhalla, is undergoing some trail enhancements which includes a floating bridge across a beaver pond and trail repairs to provide an unforgettable walk through the woods.

The City of Walhalla recently completed some beautiful scenic overlooks showcasing the Pembina River Gorge.

In addition to the ecotourism development in the area, there is also plenty of North Dakota history on display at the Gingras Trading Post, the Kittson Trading Post, or the nearby Icelandic State Park



Trail rules & safety

- There is no fee to use the OHV trail
- Trail open to registered Class 1, 2, 3 OHVs.
(Side-by-sides cannot be over 60 inches in width.)
- Riders under age 18 must wear a helmet.
- Ages 11 and younger cannot ride.
- Ages 12-15 must have a OHV safety certificate.
- Non-motorized trail uses are permitted.
- Follow trail signage
- Respect private lands adjacent to the trail.
- Wear proper riding gear

For complete trail regulations see the NDPRD website at www.parkrec.nd.gov.

Things to do

Other recreational opportunities in the Pembina Gorge area include:

- Hiking
- Mountain biking
- Horseback riding
- Bird watching
- Primitive camping
- Wildlife viewing.
- Canoeing/kayaking

What to expect when riding the Gorge

Explore the Pembina Gorge on your ATV or dirt bike on the North Dakota Park and Recreation Department's newest trail. The trail head is located 1 mile north, 1 mile west, and ¼ mile north of the beautiful Walhalla Country Club.

At the trail head riders are treated to a breathtaking view from the top of the Three Sister Hills. This overlook provides one of the area's best photo opportunities. The first leg of the trail comes in over a set of beaver dams that feed into a stream, leading you down to the Little North Pembina River.

After crossing the Little North the trail travels up the valley past the fossil dig site (known locally as the **Yellow Bank**). Once past Yellow Bank, the trail follows the top shelf of the valley to the confluence of the Big Pembina and the Little North Pembina rivers. From here riders can see the entire Norman Atta — second highest hill in North Dakota — and the Frost Fire Mountain ski area.

The route then heads west, passing an old homesteader's road known as Swinky's Trail. Near the end of this segment, the trail, crosses a very steep crevasse ending up on an overlook approximately three miles west of the confluence. At this point, riders can see a local landmark, known as the Round Mound, and a good deal of the Pembina River itself. The second leg of the ride works past the pines and out to the meadows behind Butch's Cabin.



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Pembina Gorge Recreation Area



Explore the Gorge!

