

# Cannell Trail

(From Sherman Pass overlook 9200')

Get on the trail on the south left side of the road & pass the cattle guard. Ride 7.5 miles towards Big Meadow. This first section is fun and challenging as you are at 9000' plus. It has "BURNING DESIRE"- a  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile climb or hike-a-bike that will challenge most. Wait at the top for others, rest, refuel, or talk shit.

Now you will descend forward 4 miles towards Big Meadow. Enjoy the descent "KIDNEY PUNCH" stay in control and watch for other users. As you come off the trail you'll have campsites to your left you'll come to a road that goes left or right you should ride STRAIGHT across the road and continue on single track. After about 50yds there will be a porta potty on your left (last toilet until Kernville). Continue straight down the road into Big Meadow. This road stays to the right side of the Meadow & ends up running into Cherry Hill Road (wood fence & 8,000 foot sign overlooking Big Meadow).

Relax, Rest & Wait for others, Photo opt, Refuel. Please STAY ON DIRT ROAD TO HEAD SOUTH AND DO NOT TAKE CANNELL TRAIL (SIGN ON LEFT). Ride about 1 mile toward first water stop. 1st- H2O STOP (Fresh Spring water and it is cold and delicious). You should drink what you have left & more & refill your bottles & hydration packs. The Spring is on the right side of the road, about 300 yards prior to the fork in the road. Take the right fork. Ride the road up and out of Big Meadow. (Photo ops overlooking Big Meadow). Wait for others & get back on the trail at the top left side of the road. Ride down about .5 miles & cross over road & go up the other side. Climb about .8 up the trail (Burning Desire SOUTH). This climb is challenging, but very doable without stopping- give it a shot! Just over the top some cell services might be usable. Continue down the trail (very rocky-this section loves to give you flats). I love this section and you will too, BUT stay on top of your game until the end. As you hit the road at bottom wait for others, celebrate, & check your breaks & yourself.

Next, either cross the road & continue on the trail OR turn right & go 200yards & Turn left down into Cannell Cabin area (1st USF outpost on the Forest 1906). Cell phones might work about 30 yards above cabin. H2O spot-Please drink as much as you can handle and fill your bottles & packs. The water spot is behind the cabin. Relax and be thankful for such an awesome place, fuel up, SMILE because the real fun is coming up.

Go back to the trail head & continue on the trail down through the meadows 3miles of pure fun single track (Watch for bears toward the end of the canyon). Come out

to a dirt road turn left, travel about 20 yards crossing the creek & turn right on the trail again. This will lead you just past Pine Flat (small camping area on left). Stay to the right as the trail comes out onto a road again & then go back onto the trail after about 20 yards. This will lead you up a small trail. You will crest the top & then go down about 40 yards where you'll have to open a fence gate (Please close all gates behind you). Head on down the trail & you come to what we call the "GATES" (as you come around the mountain you will see the whole valley & lake (Awesome photo opts & Cell phones work here). Now you have about 7.5 miles "THE PLUNGE" (an awesome descent ahead of you followed by a 100 yard hike-a-bike up to the right. (It has been ridden up by only a few, but don't hurt yourself).

Continue on the descent to white knuckles #1 (first set of switchbacks) and white knuckles #2 (second and more challenging set of switchbacks). You will pass through 3 more gates before you come out to the road Sierra Way.

Welcome home and Congratulations. PLEASE CHECK BACK IN @ MRA Store in town or call

760-376-6553

"THANKS AND RIDE FOREVER"

Please each person/group that is together CLOSE each gate you pass through. If left open the next person assumes it should be left open and so it will remain. Also the cows don't know it will be closed by the next person coming when left open.