

Pagosa Mountain Bike Trail System

Trail Name	Miles	Kilometers	Trail Difficulty	Rating	MTB Project Ranking		
					System	Colorado	National
Aspen Run Trail	2.2	3.5	 Easy/Intermediate	4.3	3	436	4,719
Boulder	0.2	0.4	 Easy	0	0	0	0
Brockover	1.5	2.4	 Easy	1	14	2,284	22,060
Catamount	5.2	8.3	 Easy/Intermediate	4.0	5	630	5,636
Coyote Hill Loop	3.3	5.2	 Intermediate	4.3	4	456	4,874
Creek	0.5	0.8	 Easy	3.0	11	1,547	14,452
Gopher	6.5	10.4	 Easy/Intermediate	4.7	1	278	3,308
Lower Rim	2.4	3.8	 Intermediate	4.3	2	430	4,652
Newt Jack	1.9	3.1	 Easy/Intermediate	2.7	12	1,808	18,964
Park Ave	1.4	2.2	 Easy/Intermediate	3.5	9	1,163	11,783
Powerline	2.9	4.6	 Intermediate/Difficult	3.0	10	1,406	13,233
Quakie Spring	1.7	2.7	 Difficult	2.0	13	1,987	19,798
Round Park	3.2	5.1	 Easy/Intermediate	4.0	6	715	6,343
Turkey Springs	3.6	5.7	 Easy/Intermediate	3.7	7	993	10,634
Turkey Springs Outer Loop	15.3	24.7	 Easy/Intermediate	3.9	1	169	1,180
Upper Rim	3.8	6.1	 Easy/Intermediate	3.5	8	1,051	1,099

Trail Difficulty, Rating, and Ranking based on the MTB Project (www.mtbproject.com)

Trail Difficulty Key

-  Easy 5% grade; 2 inch obstacles
-  Intermediate 10% grade; 8 inch obstacles
-  Difficult 15% grade; 15 inch obstacles, occasional harder sections
-  Extreme Difficulty 20% grade, 15+ inch obstacles, many harder sections

Land Manager

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Trails Maintenance & Development

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MTB Project Trail Comments

 Cattle, horses, and wildlife are present in the area. Temporary trail closures can be expected from time to time. Keep all gates closed.

Aspen Run Trail

Connecting Round Park (304) with Gopher (303), this trail is one of the less frequented, more remote, and pretty much all to yourself trails in the network.

Wander along the trail through pine forest on easy, relatively smooth singletrack. You'll hop a log along the way, pass a pond, see some aspens, and roll out through a fun little valley to eventually meet up with Gopher (303) at a beautiful meadow in Peterson Gulch.

Boulder

Connecting trail between Catamount and Lower Rim Trail.

Brockover

Brockover Road is closed where this trail begins at the north end. The trail follows the old roadbed on a gentle descent south to connect with Aspen Run Trail (307) and Gopher (303). Typical of old roadbed, it has many rocks and few turns. The trail is easy to lose at the overhead power line where it crosses the old power line road. Stay straight instead of following the power line. The intersection with Gopher (303) is not marked with a sign post.

Catamount

This main trail through Turkey Springs connects many of the other trails in the area, making the possibilities for loops nearly endless. The trail traverses mainly Pine forest, passing by an occasional pond and wanders through an occasional aspen grove.

Catamount boasts a gentle grade from one end to the other and avoids old doubletrack and rock for the majority. It begins at Powerline and connects Boulder, Round Park and Creek in the south. It shares a brief roll on rocky doubletrack with Newt Jack before continuing north on singletrack to connect with Park Ave and the namesake Turkey Springs. This trail is just far enough away that cows and other bicycles are the typical encounter, with hikers and runners being more rare.

Coyote Hill Loop

This loop is likely best ridden clockwise. Be prepared to encounter hikers going in any direction on this loop. Part of the Turkey Springs trail network, Coyote Hill Loop is connected by a short section of dirt road.



After leaving the trailhead, the trail wanders up the hill, around a pretty meadow, into a steep section through sagebrush, and tops out to a spectacular view of the mountains. Two-thirds of the loop remains, which is almost all flowing downhill through sagebrush and meadow. A slight uphill grade near the end meets back where the trail began.

Creek

The trail actually connects Catamount with Lower Rim and Upper Rim while providing quick access to Round Park.

Gopher

A fun descent when ridden as part of Turkey Springs Outer Loop. The trail generally follows canyons with some long, gently curving sections combined with shorter, more curvy sections toward its east end. The trail makes a rapid exit from the canyon when the canyon begins to steepen, taking advantage of the more relaxed grades of the mesa typical of the overall Turkey Springs Outer Loop.

Lower Rim

This is one of the more technical trails in Turkey Springs, but only because of its proximity to the steep canyon wall and the frequency of rock encountered along the rim. The western portion of the trail is a gentle meander through Pine and Sage Brush.

Newt Jack

Newt Jack trail begins where Newt Jack road ends. The road once continued where the trail is now, so it is a rocky, eroded, bouncy ride compared to the majority of the Turkey Springs network. One might call it the little brother of Powerline. A good bail-out from the outer loop or Round Park Ave, Newt Jack heads back to the trailhead at "Gate 5" by Upper Rim. Otherwise, most riders use it merely as a connector, choosing the more enjoyable singetrack options in the area.

Park Ave

Where Catamount takes a sharp right to the north, this trail continues straight toward the northwest. It gently and consistently climbs through Pine forest to connect with Turkey Springs. Either direction at Turkey Springs can create a loop with free flowing descents over long distances. This is a main trail on the Turkey Springs Outer Loop. Avoiding this trail and staying on Catamount will add nearly four miles to the Turkey Springs Outer Loop for those hearty souls who like mileages in multiples of ten (in this case, 20 total).

Caution - this trail crosses Newt Jack Road (FS 923) which also serves as a connector for a couple ATV trails in the area.

Powerline

The eastern half of the trail crosses Martinez Cr. canyon with a rocky descent, bash through the willows at the bottom, and a steep, rocky, technical section to gain the west rim of the canyon. From there, it tends to follow the overhead power line more closely. The western half of the trail is an old, rocky, eroded road following the power line. There is no parking for this trail though it does begin at the subdivision roads.

Quakie Spring

Quakie Spring is included on the official Turkey Springs mountain bike trail network map, and wanders off the edge of the map at about the point where it starts to get difficult. The novice may want to turn around at this point.

The hard section is easily identified by its steep descent into a narrow canyon over rocky sections. After crossing the creek bottom the trail mellows out and crosses Devil Creek to meet up with Devil Creek Trail (603), which is more of a horse trail than a bicycle trail. For those who like adventure and exploring in the "back country," this is your starting point. Access any number of "mostly" rideable horse trails that are also open to bicycle use.

Round Park

Connecting to Gopher on the west end and Catamount on the east end, this trail slices through the middle of Turkey Springs Outer Loop with a mostly smooth, winding, constant grade except for a brief steep section near the middle. Cross two fence lines, both with a bike cattle guard and gate. A steep and rocky, but short-lived section resides toward the east end. Otherwise, the trail is fast and free-flowing with some regular tight turns and blind spots. The most technical section is a quick hop over a fallen log that has been built up on both sides with other logs to make it easy to ride-over.

Turkey Springs

Turkey Springs trail technically begins a short distance south of the trailhead at Turkey Springs because it shares a short distance with a motorized trail at the beginning. Once departed from the motorized trail, Turkey Springs trail generally parallels Turkey Springs road as it wanders through Pine forest, touches occasional exposed rock surface, enters a meadow here and there, and brushes the Aspens. This trail accesses Catamount, Park Ave, and Gopher and is roughly the highest trail in the Turkey Springs network, so it's all downhill, swooping and fast from here!

Turkey Springs Outer Loop

Entering the Gate 5 trailhead off Pagosa Blvd. takes the rider on a short section of Upper Rim to join with Newt Jack. Two minor rocky sections at the beginning may have you thinking twice if you're a beginner, but don't get discouraged! Just hike a bike for 10 feet and don't worry about it again for 15 solid miles!

Newt Jack is probably the least desirable of the trails encountered on the loop, with its rocky, "jostle-your-teeth-out" former two-track character. That said, it is short lived and crosses a nice little creek setting. Leave the rocks and erosion behind and quickly forget them on the superb, smooth singletrack of Catamount (313). By now, a person is just far enough out that cows and other bicycles are the typical encounter, with hikers and runners becoming more rare. It is very easy to miss the turn keeping you on Catamount, without realizing you've strayed onto Park Ave. But, it's okay - you're right where you want to be. Gain the remainder of the initial elevation on Park Ave to join with the network's namesake, Turkey Springs. This trail wanders through pine forest, touches occasional exposed rock surface, spirits a meadow here and there, and brushes the aspens. Pretty much everything is downhill from this trail. Keep an eye out for Gopher to join from the left.

Gopher rolls off past Brockover Road making a fun and fast descent along a tributary and into Peterson Gulch on singletrack that ranges from long swooping turns to tight skirts around stumps and between bushes. Just as one begins to feel guilty for all that downhill and starts to wonder how much climbing they'll have to do next, the trail quickly departs the canyon with a surprising, short but steep, technical section. Then, it's quickly back to meandering singletrack atop the mesa through Pine forest to join up with

Lower Rim Trail.

Lower Rim skirts the west side of Martinez Cr. Canyon and features more rocky and steep sections than what has been encountered so far. Such remains the ride as a very brief jaunt on Creek. After a right turn, you'll quickly come to another right turn which keeps you on Upper Rim, back to the starting point of the ride. There are some minor climbs near this end of the ride, but fret not, for it is short-lived and the price to be paid for all the fun downhill in the canyons! Besides, the views over the canyon are worth it.

Upper Rim

Upper Rim trail, number 312 on the USFS printed map at the trailhead at Gate 5, is indicated by the first trail marker near the kiosk. The only "technical" section of this trail is immediately after the trailhead - comprising two small rocky sections. Turning left at the first intersection will follow the loop clockwise along the rim of Martinez Cr. canyon over occasional rocky outcrops and short steep sections. At the junction with Creek (311), take a right to return through Pine forest on undulating grades to the junction with Newt Jack. A right, continuing clockwise, will return to the trailhead.