

Photos of Crab Creek Coulee Hike
Spokane BLM District

May 11, 2013



The hike begins just south of the Rocky Ford Bridge and climbs the giant gravel bar behind the gate.



For the first half mile, the route gradually ascends a sagebrush slope to the top of the rim.



On top of the rim, the route is a level contour for about two miles, with scenic views of Crab Creek below.



In Spring, the north-facing slopes just below the rim are covered with showy balsamroot and bush lupine.



At 2.6 miles, one finds a stacked rock cairn along the rim, marking the end of the cross-country traverse.



A hundred yards east of and below this rock cairn, there is an old jeep road leading down to Crab Creek.



At 3.4 miles, the jeep road ends on the floodplain of Crab Creek, at green meadows and shade trees.



Crab Creek flows year-round, but is at its peak in Spring — a welcome oasis at hike's end.