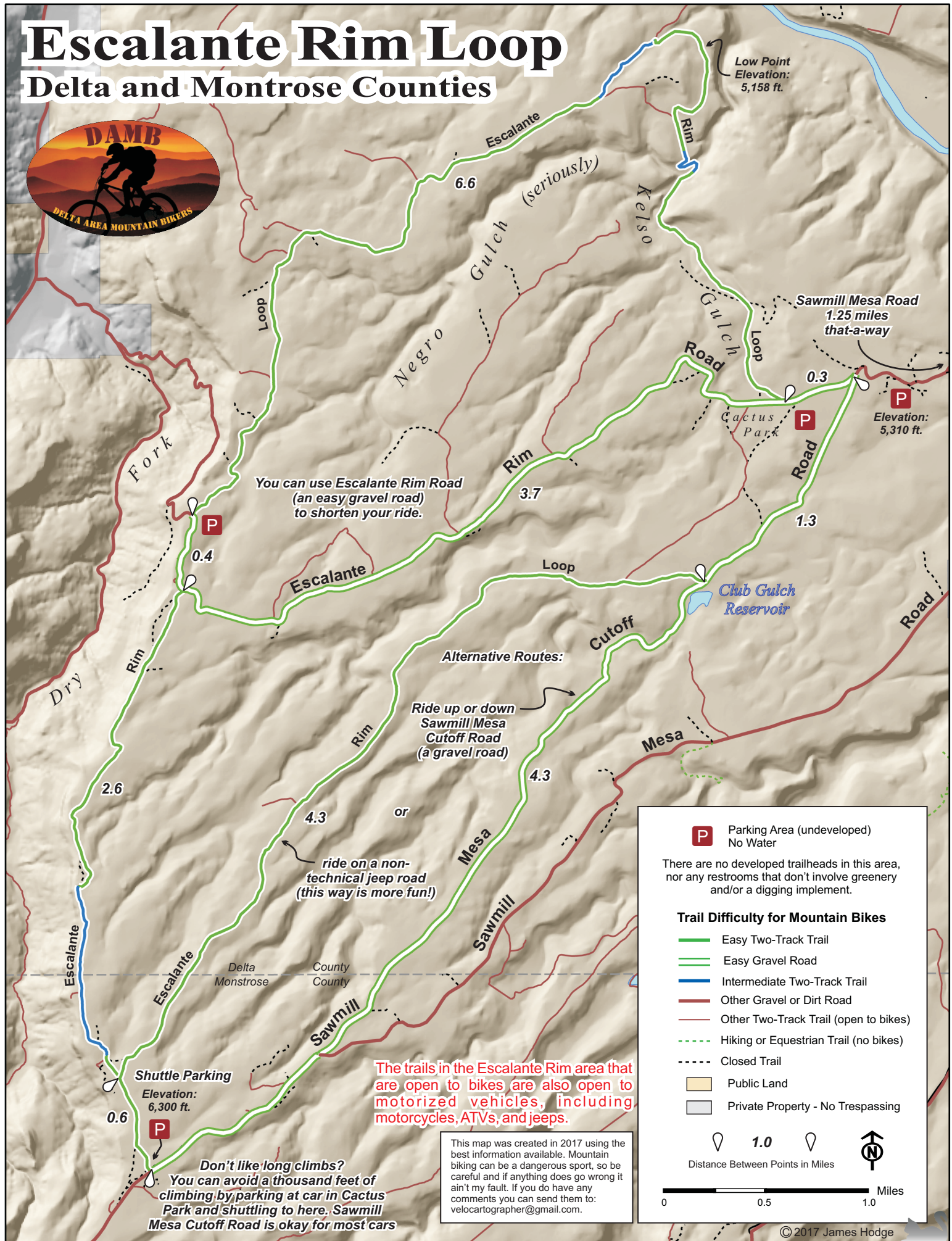


Escalante Rim Loop

Delta and Montrose Counties



Getting to the Trailhead

The Escalante Rim Loop is located west of Delta, Colorado, about an hour's drive south of Grand Junction.

From Grand Junction: Take State Highway 50 east out of Grand Junction towards Delta. After about 33 miles, and still roughly eight miles or so from Delta, just after the highway makes a curve to the left there's a turn lane on the right for G50 Road (there's a sign saying something about a correction facility).

Take G50 Road for 2.8 miles to Sawmill Mesa Road (along the way you'll cross some railroad tracks and the Gunnison River). The intersection is at a weird angle. Turn right on Sawmill Mesa Road. After 4.5 miles you'll come to where the road curves sharply to the left and there are two dirt roads: one to the left and one straight ahead. Take the dirt road to the left (it's signed "Escalante Rim Road").

Just a quarter mile down this dirt road, the road drops down a hill. Right at the top there's a pretty rough ledge that may be a problem if your car is low clearance. If so, you may want to park in one of the clearings at the top of this hill and start your ride from here (it'll add 2.8 miles to your ride).

1.4 miles down the Escalante Rim Road will take you to the Cactus Park area. There aren't any developed trailheads, you just need to find a nice clear spot along the side of the road.

From Delta: Start by heading west on W. 5th St., either from Main St. or from Confluence Drive. Very shortly, without getting off of 5th St., it becomes G Road, and then it becomes Sawmill Mesa Road (all the same road). At 2.1 miles from Main St. you'll come to the intersection with G50 Road. Continue on Sawmill Mesa Road just like the directions above.

A Note On the Trails

If you're the kind of person who enjoys 'high adrenaline' singletrack trails like those found at Lunch Loops and other areas in the Grand Valley, then you may not find these trails all that fun. The trails of the Escalante Rim Loop are two-track ATV and jeep road with some optional gravel roads; most of the trails are technically easy, and even those trails that are considered 'intermediate' are still pretty tame (just some ledges).

These trails are, though, hilly and can be physically challenging. The whole loop has 1300 feet of climbing, and if you ride it clockwise (anyone remember round clocks?) you climb an uninterrupted 1000 feet of that right at the start. If you ride counterclockwise, then you'll find the route is basically a bunch of stair steps: short uphill pitches with flat-ish stretches in between. The loop can be a really good workout. Fortunately, it's also really scenic out here. All of which adds up to a fun ride. Enjoy!

Obligatory Disclaimer

This map was created for the Delta Area Mountain Bikers in 2017 using the best information available. Getting this map right wouldn't have been possible without the generous help of the great people at the Bureau of Land Management, you guys ROCK!

Mountain biking can be a dangerous sport (and we all have the scars to prove it!), so be careful and if anything does go wrong it ain't our fault. If you do have any comments, compliments, suggestions, or gripes you can send them to: velocartographer@gmail.com. This map and a bunch of other trail maps can be found at www.copmoba.org.



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