Continental Divide Trail from Pipestone Pass to Highlands Trailhead (TH) (19 km single track trail)

A beautiful point-to-point where you start with a climb and then roll along up and down the rest of the way. Arrange return transportation from Highlands TH. Normally passable from June through October, but snow and ice can linger in high areas with northern exposure.

Directions:

Drive old Hwy 2 (Harding Way) to Pipestone Pass TH (no facilities). Begin run from there going south. Cross Lime Kiln Road at 5 km. You will also cross a couple lesser roads further along.

Alternative Start: To run the route in reverse you must drive to Highlands TH by exiting Hwy 2 going south on Roosevelt Dr. Veer left to Moose Creek Road, staying southward, at the "Y." You will eventually find the Highlands TH on the right (west) side of Moose Creek Road, opposite the turn to The Highlands and Red Mountain. The Highlands TH's only facilities are an outhouse.

Description:

The 19 km route has net altitude gain of 260 meters (750 m gross) on standard USFS grade. The footing is normally good but has some rocky areas.

Negatives:

Automobile shuttle needed. Mountain lion habitat -- running companion recommended. Cows roam the CDT -- avoid pies.