



Troop 188 Mickelson Trail MTB
High Adventure Trip
June 8th through June 14nd, 2008



This year the scouts have selected mountain biking the Mickelson Trail in the Black Hills of South Dakota as one of their high adventure trips this year. The Mickelson trail, as part of the Rails to Trails project, is a converted railroad and is now a multipurpose use trail. The “Mick” runs 109 miles, north – south, through the Black Hills from Deadwood to Edgemont. This is an extremely diverse area for plants and animals as well as geologically. It should be a great time for everyone.



The trail is primarily crushed limestone and gravel. Since it was previously a railroad, the grade is relatively mild, not exceeding 4%. There are 4 rock tunnels, and over a hundred bridges that we will cross.

While June is a great time to ride the Mick, weather conditions can vary greatly even during the course of the 109 mile ride. Average June high temperatures are 74 ° in Deadwood and 81° in Edgemont, while average lows are 48 ° and 51 ° and precipitation is 3.5” to 2.5”. Scouts will need to “Be Prepared” and dress appropriately each day.

We will do the Mick in 3 days of riding. Camping gear will be sagged by adults using the troop trailer and/or flatbed. **WE DO NEED ADULTS TO HELP SAG AS WELL AS TO RIDE!**

TRIP REQUIREMENTS:

Scouts must be 13 years old, 1st Class, and have First Aid and Personal Fitness merit badges by the start of the trip. In addition, all scouts must have or be currently working on Bicycling merit badge. We will have some training sessions to prepare for the trip. These will be mandatory, but there will be enough that you won't have to attend all of them. In addition, we will be conducting classes for Bicycling merit badge. If you don't already have Bicycling merit badge, these will be mandatory as well. This will all take place in the Spring.

Adults will be required to attend the training sessions too, unless you're sagging. All adults will also be required to be registered, trained and active in the troop.

All scouters will be responsible for providing their own bike, helmet, hydration pack or water bottles, as well as personal camping gear.

TRIP COSTS

The trip costs have been estimated at \$170. Payment schedule for all participants is as follows:

\$50 – Due immediately to reserve your spot on the trip

\$120 – Due April 1st

There will be more information as we finalize some details and as we get closer to the event. Please contact Steve Urlocker at steve_urlocker@agilent.com or at 970.226.1961 with any questions!