



Experience the Trail

The Manistee River Trail is an 18 - 24 inch wide trail that begins near Red Bridge on the North side of Coates Highway. The trail follows the east bank of the Manistee River for 10.5 miles to Seaton Creek Campground.

As visitors hike the trail they will pass through a variety of vegetation, ranging from pine to deciduous trees, to swamps and cedar seeps. Several spring-fed waterfalls and tributary creeks, as well as breathtaking views of the Manistee River make this trail one of the most popular on the Forest.

Two connector trails, located at the southern and northern portions of the trail connect the Manistee River Trail to the North Country National Scenic Trail, making a 22-mile loop. Along the trail there are several sites marked by carsonite/fiberglass posts with numbers. You can also camp 200 feet from water and 100 feet off of the trail.

Seaton Creek Campground, located at the northern end of the trail, is a 17 site campground with drinking water.

Mountain Bikes - Although mountain bikes are not allowed on the Manistee River Trail, they are allowed on the section of the North Country Trail from Marilla Trailhead to Dilling Road that is part of the 22-mile loop.

Fishing - The river is popular for many types of fishing. Consult the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fishing Guide or MI-DNR website: www.dnr.state.mi.us for complete information.

Manistee River Trail and Backwaters Access

Seaton Creek Campground (from Mesick)

- ◇ Travel south on M-37 for 4.5 miles.
- ◇ Turn right and travel west on 26 Mile Rd. for 3 miles.
- ◇ At the fork veer right on O'Rourke Rd.
- ◇ Turn right and travel north on FR 5993 for .4 miles into the campground.

Float Times

Site	Hours
Hodenpyl Dam to Red Bridge	3.5

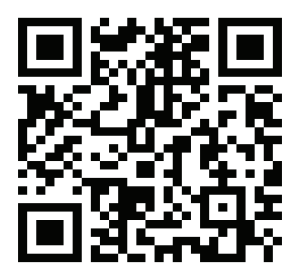
Red Bridge River Access (from Manistee)

- ◇ Travel east on M-55 for 15 miles.
- ◇ Turn left and travel north on High Bridge Rd. for 6 miles.
- ◇ Turn right and travel east on Coates Highway for 8 miles.



Recreation Fees are required at most day-use sites and campgrounds. Check bulletin boards for fees and information.

Contact Information



Email: r9_hmnf_website@fs.fed.us

Website: www.fs.usda.gov/hmnf

Toll Free: 1-800-821-6263

Manistee Ranger Station

Phone: 231-723-2211

TTY: 711-231-723-2211

Supervisor's Office

Phone: 231-775-2421

TTY: 711-231-775-2421

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Conduct and Ethics

Plan Ahead and Prepare

- ◇ Bring water or a filtration system with you.

Camp on Durable Surfaces

- ◇ Campsites must be at least 200 feet from water and 100 feet from roads and trails.

Dispose of Waste Properly

- ◇ Create waste disposal areas 200 feet from water, camps and trails.

Minimize Campfire Impacts

- ◇ Make sure fires are cold to the touch before leaving.

Respect Wildlife

- ◇ Observe wildlife from a distance

Be Considerate of Other Visitors

- ◇ Remove trash when you leave.
- ◇ Keep noise to a minimum.



United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

Manistee River

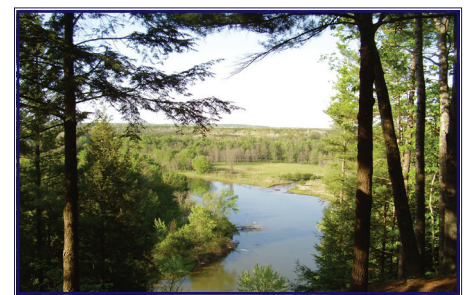
Manistee River Trail and Backwaters



Red Bridge River Access



Manistee River Backwaters



View along the trail

Huron-Manistee National Forests

