

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 06 58



DVD capture



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 06 58

Location: Carseland, AB, 110 Railway Avenue

GPS: 50d 51m 1.50s -113d 28m 0.84s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Signal Bar (Exterior)

Travel Directions:

Hwy 24 at the intersection of Range Road 260. Go north across the railroad tracks. Railway Avenue is the first road to the left (west).

Remarks:

Welcome to Carseland's Blue Bar. Originally a brilliant blue (some would say much too brilliant), the film's producers painted the structure's south façade in tasteful earth tones. When shooting was completed, the owners insisted upon a full restoration.

The Blue Bar's friendly barmaids are glad to share *Brokeback Mountain* shooting stories with customers and visitors. "One of the actors was very nice, the other was so busy working into his role that he was a bit of a [pain]," says one of them, who got to sit next to Ang Lee during the shoot. See:

<http://ca.epodunk.com/profiles/alberta/carseland/2003618.html>

Pictures of surrounding area:





Revised 26 November 2014

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 08 17



DVD capture



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 08 17

Location: Carseland, AB, 110 Railway Avenue

GPS: 50d 51m 1.50s -113d 28m 0.84s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Signal Bar (Interior)

Travel Directions:

Hwy 24 at the intersection of Range Road 260. Go north across the railroad tracks. Railway Avenue is the first road to the left (west).

Remarks:

The tiny bar counter gave *Brokeback's* 19-year-old cowboys a larger-than-life presence that made their sad stories even tougher to hear. For those who are passionate about such things, the arresting collection of western lariats, spurs, branding irons, and castration tools on the wall behind Ennis is no longer there. Though the tavern does incorporate a simple upstairs hotel, you won't get to stay there. It is rented by the week or month to locals. See:

<http://ca.epodunk.com/profiles/alberta/carseland/2003618.html>

Brokeback is not the Blue Bar's first brush with Hollywood fame. Sam Elliott made *The Hi-Lo Country* in Carseland in 1998. (See the plaque on the west wall near the pool table.)

Quotation:

"Can't please my old man, no way."

Pictures of surrounding area:





Revised 26 November 2014

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 08 27



DVD capture *



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 08 27

Location: Hwy 1A, Stoney Native Reservation

GPS: 51d 8m 39.6s -115d 0m 14.82s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Sheep Staging #1

Travel Directions:

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Morley Road, Exit 131, north 3.6 km to Hwy 1A, turn left (west) on 1A, 12 km to “Stoney Indian Park / Buffalo Paddock” sign. Turn left (south) at the “Peacekeepers” building (now a burned ruin), proceed 0.8 km to gate, continue approximately 0.4 km to where there is a road, and a large rusted dumpster on your right, behind some birch trees. Turn right and proceed 0.2 km, passing the dumpster and two small wood buildings to the right. Note: If you pass the vandalized building with the peaked roof and the “WOMEN” and “MEN” signs on the front, you have gone too far.

[Alternately, if you are coming from the cliffs at Seebe (see Chapter 12, [01 09 28](#), and [01 09 38](#)), turn right (north) onto 1X (the road you came in on), go 2.1 km to intersection of 1A; go right (east) 8.8 km; turn right (south) at “Peacekeepers” building, proceed as directed above.]

The park is officially closed during wintertime though access by foot is feasible, weather permitting. You might want to contact Ray Greenwood, (403) 881-2614, for access arrangements, which may require payment of a \$5 fee. Security guards in the area have been known to save paperwork by collecting fees from visitors on the spot.

Remarks:

Both the Sheep Staging areas and the Sheep Tangle scene were shot on the Stoney Reservation at the foot of imposing Yamnuska Mountain. Yamnuska is among Canada’s most famous mountains and has a special place in Stoney heritage and culture. The steep face is a favorite for experienced professional climbers, but intermediate hikers can access the summit along a trail that skirts the western slope. See:

<http://www.peakfinder.com/peakfinder.ASP?PeakName=Yamnuska>

The snowy peaks that we see in the film are imposed. Though you might be forgiven for missing the similarity, they are the same mountains shown on the postcard that we see in the final scene (Mount Loughed and Windtower). For a fascinating explanation of how this and other effects were accomplished, see:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPw5plmkd6Q> (Groupe Image Buzz Video)

Although this is a park, please be mindful that it is Native land and worthy of special respect. One indignant resident complained to us about “that (expletive) gay cowboy movie.” Though it was painful to hear this, it’s important to remember that Native people certainly have precedent for mistrusting outsiders. As if the legacy of broken treaties and genocide, which parallels U.S. history, was not tragic enough, Christian missionaries in this area did their utmost to demonize homosexuality and two-spiritedness; meanwhile Native youth were taken from reservations for education in church schools where, tragically, some were sexually abused. So in this sorry context, we urge you to respect the Stoney land, and recognize that it takes time, patience and understanding on all sides to correct the wrongs of the past.

For first-person information on this scene, seek out Alberta cowboy Kim Anton who portrays the weathered Basque counter in the sheep-staging scenes. Kim shares his vast knowledge of cowboy history and lore as a guide at the Bar U National Historic Site, a preserved working 19th century cattle ranch 13 km south of Longview on Hwy 22. See:

http://www.pc.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/ab/baru/visit/visit1_E.asp

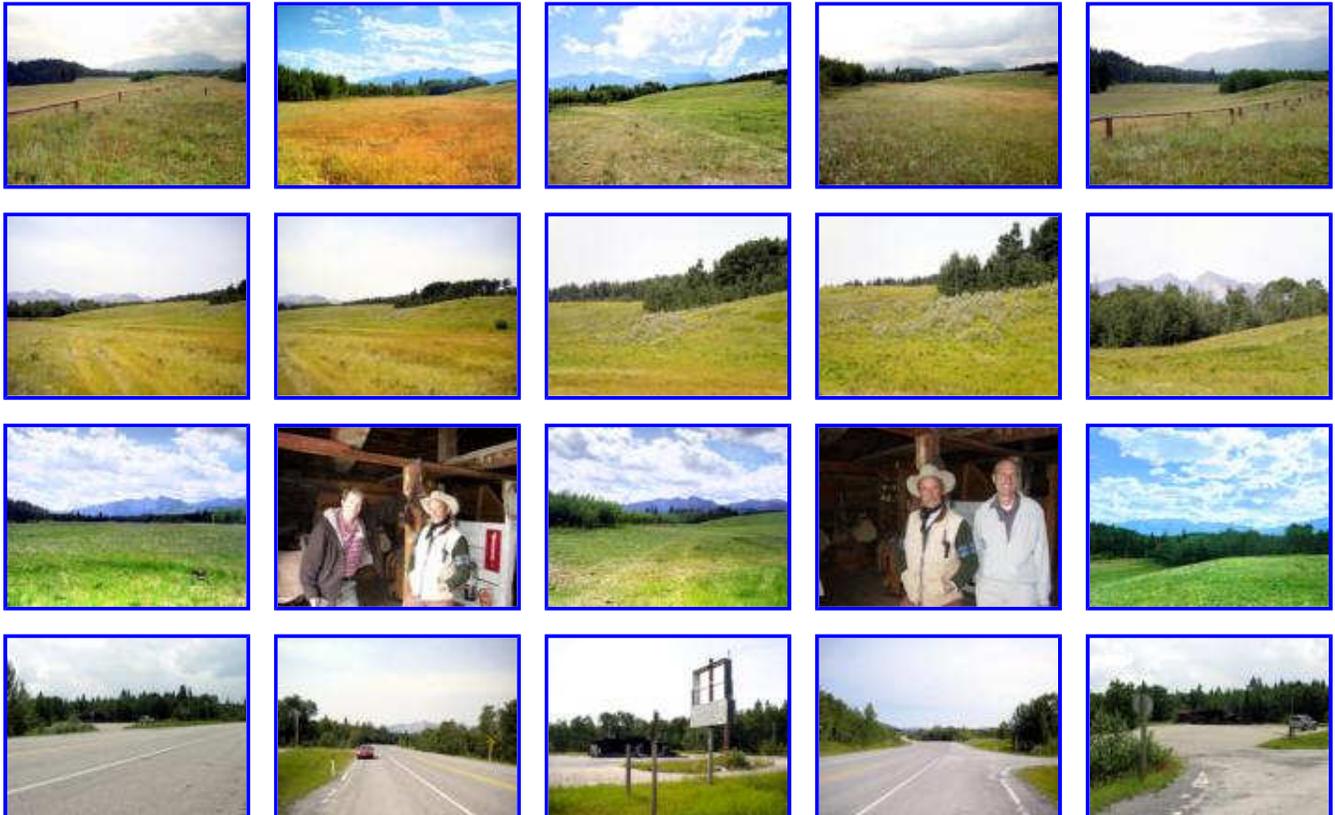
Important:

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Quotation:

“You wanna watch it there. That horse has a low startle point.”

Pictures of surrounding area:





Revised 28 January 2015

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 08 38



DVD capture



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 08 38

Location: Hwy 1A, Stoney Native Reservation

GPS: 51d 8m 39.6s -115d 0m 14.82s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Sheep Staging #1

Travel Directions:

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Morley Road, Exit 131, north 3.6 km to Hwy 1A, turn left (west) on 1A, 12 km to “Stoney Indian Park / Buffalo Paddock” sign. Turn left (south) at the “Peacekeepers” building (now a burned ruin), proceed 0.8 km to gate, continue approximately 0.4 km to where there is a road, and a large rusted dumpster on your right, behind some birch trees. Turn right and proceed 0.2 km, passing the dumpster and two small wood buildings to the right. Note: If you pass the vandalized building with the peaked roof and the “WOMEN” and “MEN” signs on the front, you have gone too far.

[Alternately, if you are coming from the cliffs at Seebe (see Chapter 12, [01 09 28](#), and [01 09 38](#)), turn right (north) onto 1X (the road you came in on), go 2.1 km to intersection of 1A; go right (east) 8.8 km; turn right (south) at “Peacekeepers” building, proceed as directed above.]

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Remarks:

The breathtaking Stoney Reservation near Morley is a fitting backdrop for starting a journey up *Brokeback Mountain*. The Buffalo Paddock area is a large tribal park which is used for rodeos and outdoor ceremonies.

The Stoney, who have distinct cultural ties to the Sioux, are one of western Canada’s proud Native peoples. For centuries, the nomadic Stoney lived in harmony with the land, following the seasonal migration routes of deer and bighorn sheep in the Canadian Rocky Mountains. It is believed that the modern day Bearspaw, Chiniki, and Goodstoney bands all have Stoney roots.

To learn more about the history of the Stoney people, see:

<http://www.canmorealberta.com/directory/about/history/kananaskis.html>

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Quotation:

“Don’t let them stray. Joe will have your ass if you do.”

Pictures of surrounding area:



Revised 17 December 2012

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 08 44



DVD capture



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 08 44

Location: Hwy 1A, Stoney Native Reservation

GPS: 51d 8m 39.66s -115d 0m 15.0s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Sheep Staging #1

Travel Directions:

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Morley Road, Exit 131, north 3.6 km to Hwy 1A, turn left (west) on 1A, 12 km to “Stoney Indian Park / Buffalo Paddock” sign. Turn left (south) at the “Peacekeepers” building (now a burned ruin), proceed 0.8 km to gate, continue approximately 0.4 km to where there is a road, and a large rusted dumpster on your right, behind some birch trees. Turn right and proceed 0.2 km, passing the dumpster and two small wood buildings to the right. Note: If you pass the vandalized building with the peaked roof and the “WOMEN” and “MEN” signs on the front, you have gone too far.

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Remarks:

Not far from the spot where the Basque provisioner warned Ennis about bulky soup boxes, the magnificent Bow River forms a lovely small canyon. Named for the resilient trees which grow along its banks that were used by Native peoples to make hunting bows, the river has a distinctive turquoise color. It is fed by glaciers high in the Canadian Rockies to the west. From there, it makes its way to Calgary where it meets the Elbow River near the site of Fort Calgary.

The Bow River can be seen in Sheep Procession #1 (Chapter 2, [00 09 29](#)), in the Sheep Rock scene (Ch. 6, [00 30 50](#)), and the Diving Cliff scene (Ch.12, [01 09 28](#)). The Elbow River is featured in the “Sweet Life” (Ch.12, [01 09 57](#)) and “Maybe Texas” (Ch.15, [01 30 12](#), [01 30 26](#), [01 31 59](#)) Riverside scenes, as well as Riding in the River (Ch. 15, [01 30 01](#)).

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Quotation:

“Only thing, don’t never order soup.”

Pictures of surrounding area:



Revised 24 September 2009

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 08 52



DVD capture



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 08 52

Location: Hwy 1A, Stoney Native Reservation

GPS: 51d 8m 39.6s -115d 0m 14.82ss

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Jack's Filly

Travel Directions:

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Morley Road, Exit 131, north 3.6 km to Hwy 1A, turn left (west) on 1A, 12 km to "Stoney Indian Park / Buffalo Paddock" sign. Turn left (south) at the "Peacekeepers" building (now a burned ruin), proceed 0.8 km to gate, continue approximately 0.4 km to where there is a road, and a large rusted dumpster on your right, behind some birch trees. Turn right and proceed 0.2 km, passing the dumpster and two small wood buildings to the right. Note: If you pass the vandalized building with the peaked roof and the "WOMEN" and "MEN" signs on the front, you have gone too far.

[Alternately, if you are coming from the cliffs at Seebe (see Chapter 12, [01 09 28](#), and [01 09 38](#)), turn right (north) onto 1X (the road you came in on), go 2.1 km to intersection of 1A; go right (east) 8.8 km; turn right (south) at "Peacekeepers" building, proceed as directed above.]

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Remarks:

This simple, lighthearted scene tells the viewer a lot about the film's protagonists. In "Doubt there's a filly that could throw me" and "Let's get," Jack shows us a bit of his fearlessness and impatience, qualities that would dictate the course of his tragic life and, ultimately, his fate. Meanwhile, Ennis is preoccupied with *tying knots*, and in "You wanna watch it there. That horse has a low startle point," warns Jack that some creatures can be overwhelmed by fright.

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Quotation:

“Doubt there’s a filly that could throw me.”

Pictures of surrounding area:

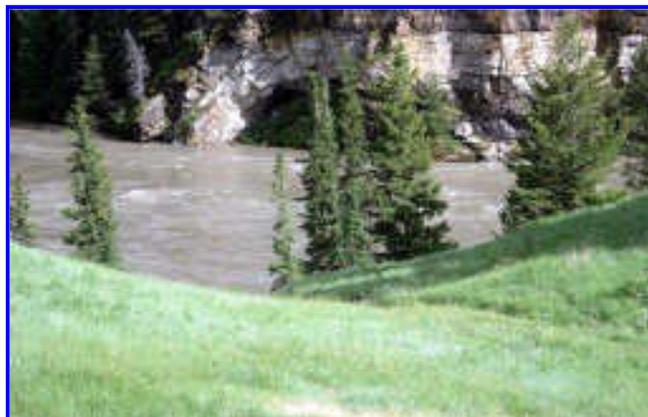


Revised 17 December 2012

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 09 29



DVD capture



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 09 29

Location: Hwy 1A, Stoney Native Reservation

GPS: 51d 8m 24.6s -114d 59m 17.34s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Sheep Procession #1

Travel Directions:

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Morley Road, Exit 131, north 3.6 km to Hwy 1A, turn left (west) on 1A, 12 km to “Stoney Indian Park / Buffalo Paddock” sign. Turn left (south) at the “Peacekeepers” building (now a burned ruin), 0.8 km to gate, then go 1.5 km beyond the gate to the site (past the vandalized building with the peaked roof and the “WOMEN” and “MEN” signs on the front at approximately 0.7 km, then an additional 0.8 km). The site is on the right (south) side of the road. Note: The last 1 km of this road is rough; walk it if your vehicle can’t stand it.

[Alternately, if you are coming from the cliffs at Seebe (see Chapter 12, [01 09 28](#), and [01 09 38](#)), turn right (north) onto 1X (the road you came in on), go 2.1 km to intersection of 1A; go right (east) 8.8 km; turn right (south) at “Peacekeepers” building, proceed as directed above.]

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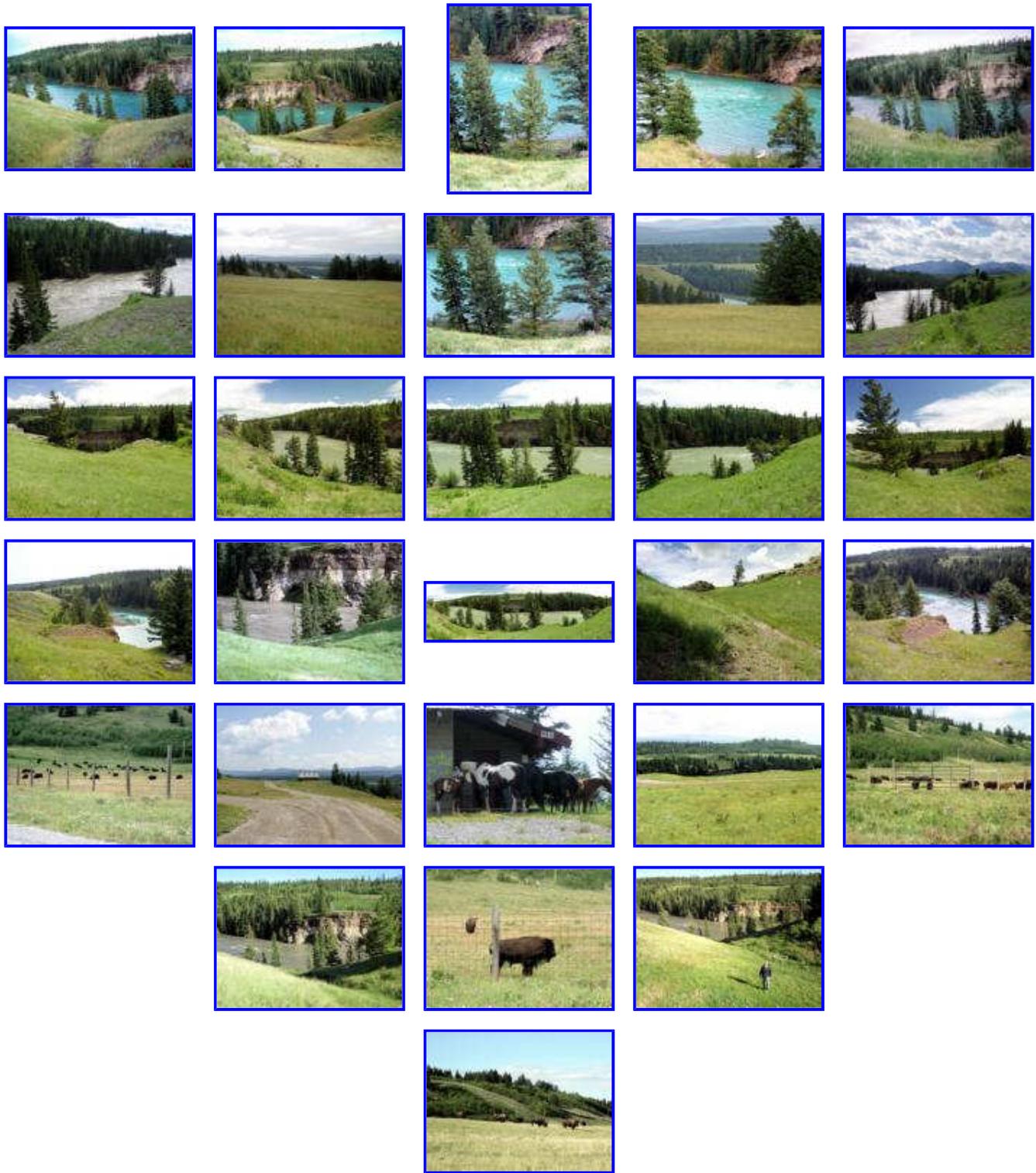
Remarks:

Although this is a park, please be mindful that it is Native land and worthy of special respect. Most of the Sheep Procession #1 footage was taken at Canyon Creek and nearby Moose Mountain. This shot (which is actually quite close to the locations of the Dead Sheep and the Sheep Tangle scenes) captures the lovely Bow River, as well as the dramatic canyon that it forms.

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Pictures of surrounding area:



Revised 17 December 2012

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 09 55



DVD capture



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 09 55

Location: Hwy 66, Canyon Creek

GPS: 50d 53m 58.02s -114d 47m 31.68s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Sheep Procession #1

Travel Directions:

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Exit 161A “Bragg Creek Rd / Hwy 22.” Go south on Hwy 22 approximately 17.4 km to the 4-way stop in Bragg Creek. (Do not follow the “Bragg Creek West” sign.) Turn left at the 4-way stop (continue on Hwy 22) and go 3.4 km to the “T” intersection of Hwy 22 and Hwy 66. Turn right (west) onto Hwy 66 and go approximately 16.6 km to Canyon Creek Road. Turn right (north) onto Canyon Creek Road and go 0.8 km to the parking area on the right. Walk north past the locked gate beyond the parking area, and follow the well-maintained gravel road 3.0 km to the bridge, then past two gas metering stations. At the crest of the next hill you will see four concrete barriers and a row of large stones to the left side of the road (4.66 km north of the gate). The site is to the left.

Remarks:

The Canyon Creek trip (which also features Campsite #1 and the Creek Crossing sites) is great for a leisurely hike or a bike ride. The round trip distance is 11 km and the generally flat grade and gravel roadbed make for easy travel. Approximately 0.4 km to the south of this site is the place where the sheep were offloaded from trucks and herded into the valley.

As you walk Canyon Creek Road you will be surrounded by natural gas extraction equipment, including pumping, metering, and sour gas burn-off facilities. Shell Canada operates the gas plant and maintains the road. See:

<http://www.braggcreek.ca/kananaskis/elbowmap.htm>

If you visit in early spring you will see the lovely creek at its finest. As summer approaches, the creek slows to a trickle and eventually becomes a very rocky highway of stones.

Important:

Use caution. For intermediate and experienced hikers. Wear hiking boots. Take ample water and protective gear. Never leave valuables in a car at trailheads. Use caution; bear activity is common in this area, and in all mountain locations. See:

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 10 10



DVD capture



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 10 10

Location: Hwy 66, Canyon Creek

GPS: 50d 54m 8.52s -114d 48m 2.82s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Creek Crossing

Travel Directions:

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Exit 161A “Bragg Creek Rd / Hwy 22.” Go south on Hwy 22 approximately 17.4 km to the 4-way stop in Bragg Creek. (Do not follow the “Bragg Creek West” sign.) Turn left at the 4-way stop (continue on Hwy 22) and go 3.4 km to the “T” intersection of Hwy 22 and Hwy 66. Turn right (west) onto Hwy 66 and go approximately 16.6 km to Canyon Creek Road. Turn right (north) onto Canyon Creek Road and go 0.8 km to the parking area on the right. Walk north past the locked gate beyond the parking area, and follow the well-maintained gravel road 5.37 km to the sour gas plant and containment basin at the end of the road. Go to the left of the concrete barriers for approximately 1/3 of the way down the left side; turn left onto a path that will lead to the creek bed. The site is on your left.

Remarks:

The lovely Creek Crossing is one of the most poignant moments in the opening part of the film. Cinematography critics and commentators have written volumes about the questions presented by this memorable scene. Are Ennis and Jack figuratively crossing the Styx? The Rubicon? The Jordan? Is Christian imagery intended by the prominent use of the lambs and Jack’s “water walk”? Could Jack’s jeans possibly be any tighter?

A *Brokeback* production marker (a rock marked with a black “X”) can be found on the north side of the creek on the hillside. (GPS: 50d 54m 07.62s -114d 48m 02.04s)

The Canyon Creek trip (which also features Campsite #1 and the Sheep Procession #1 sites) is great for a leisurely hike or a bike ride. The round trip distance is 11 km and the generally flat grade and gravel roadbed make for easy travel.

As you walk Canyon Creek Road you will be surrounded by natural gas extraction equipment, including pumping, metering, and sour gas burn-off facilities. Shell Canada operates the gas plant and maintains the road. See:

<http://www.braggcreek.ca/kananaskis/elbowmap.htm>

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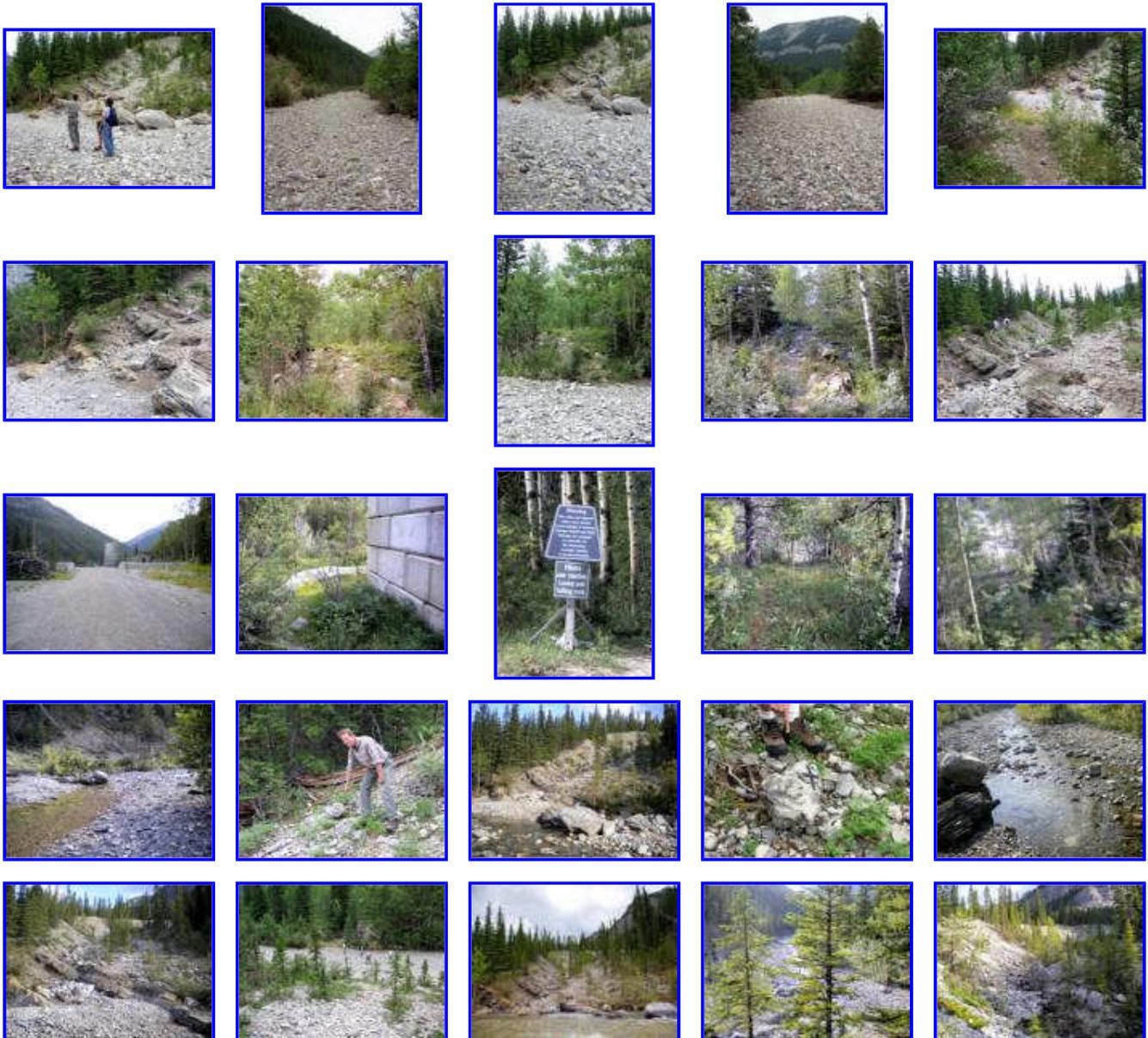
Important:

Use caution. For intermediate and experienced hikers. Wear hiking boots. Take ample water and protective gear. Never leave valuables in a car at trailheads. Use caution; bear activity is common in this area, and in all mountain locations. See:

<http://srd.alberta.ca/RecreationPublicUse/AlbertaBearSmart/BearsOutdoorRecreation.aspx>

Always consult park wardens and take appropriate precautions.

Pictures of surrounding area:





Revised 08 April 2013

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 10 24



DVD capture



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 10 24

Location: Hwy 66, Moose Mountain

GPS: 50d 56m 39.42s -114d 47m 59.76s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Sheep Procession #1

Travel Directions:

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Exit 161A “Bragg Creek Rd / Hwy 22.” Go south on Hwy 22 approximately 17.4 km to the 4-way stop in Bragg Creek. (Do not follow the “Bragg Creek West” sign.) Turn left at the 4-way stop (continue on Hwy 22) and go 3.4 km to the “T” intersection of Hwy 22 and Hwy 66. Turn right (west) onto Hwy 66 and go approximately 13.9 km to Moose Mountain Road. Turn right (north) onto Moose Mountain Road and follow it 7.0 km to the well-marked trailhead. The trail begins in the trees at the green vehicle barrier, located on the south side of the parking area. As you approach the tree line, find the spot where the road ascends a tree-lined hill and look to your right. For a “perfect” view, climb to the summit of the nearby hill. (Note: Moose Mountain Road is unmarked; it is just west of the “Paddy’s Flat” sign on Hwy 66.)

The Moose Mountain summit is 7.1 km from the parking area and trailhead, gaining 477 m (1,565') in elevation. Allowing time to explore filming locations, budget a total of 4 to 5 hours for a rewarding hike to and from the vast Moose Mountain meadows, where several sheep herding scenes were filmed. Mornings generally provide the most reliable weather conditions. See:

<http://www.braggcreek.ca/kananaskis/trails/moosemtn.htm>

http://www.braggcreek.ca/kananaskis/trails/moose_prairie.htm

<http://www.braggcreek.ca/kananaskis/outdoor.htm>

The hike to the meadows is a moderately strenuous ascent. Though no filming took place above the meadows, the adventurous may wish to keep climbing to the summit using a series of switchbacks leading to a fire lookout station. Budget approximately 50 minutes for the final ascent, along slippery shale surfaces.

Remarks:

This long and very scenic ascent shot is intended to emphasize the upward climb to Campsite #1 (which is actually located at a lower elevation at nearby Canyon Creek!).

The sheep in this scene are a computer creation. Though live sheep were brought to the meadows atop Moose Mountain, this location is in a very remote spot several kilometers away. For a fascinating explanation of how the sheep and other effects were accomplished, see:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPw5plmkd6Q> (Groupe Image Buzz Video)

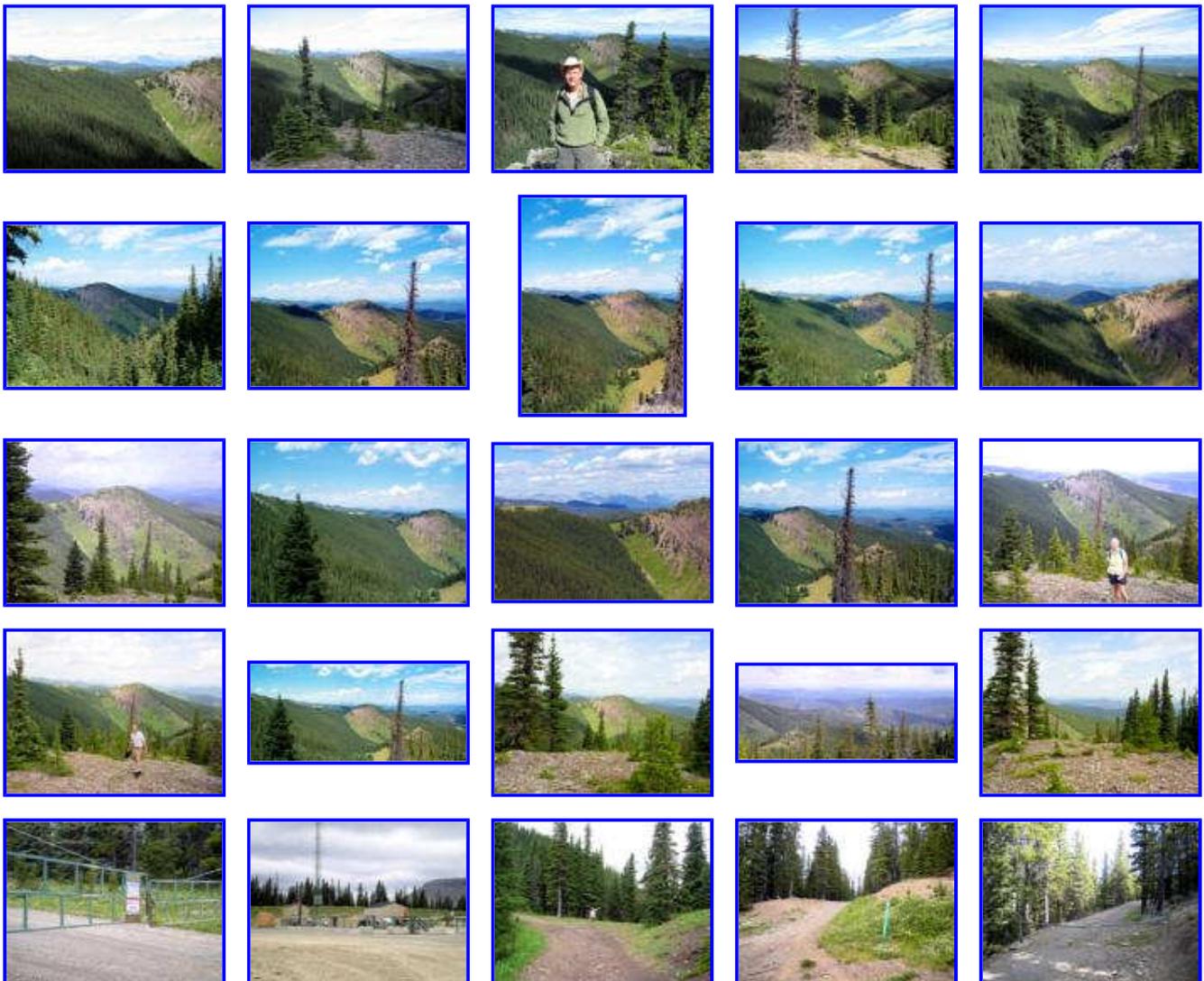
Important:

Vehicle access to the trailhead and parking area is subject to seasonal closure, usually opening in mid-May and closing after Canadian Thanksgiving (the second Monday in October). Note: For intermediate and experienced hikers. Wear hiking boots. Bring ample water and protective gear. Never leave valuables in a car at trailheads. Use caution; bear activity is common in this area, and in all mountain locations. See:

<http://srd.alberta.ca/RecreationPublicUse/AlbertaBearSmart/BearsOutdoorRecreation.aspx>

Always consult park wardens and take appropriate precautions.

Pictures of surrounding area:



Revised 08 April 2013

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 10 33



DVD capture *



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 10 33

Location: Hwy 1A, Stoney Native Reservation

GPS: 51d 8m 28s -114d 59m 29s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Sheep Survey

Travel Directions:

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Morley Road, Exit 131, north 3.6 km to Hwy 1A, turn left (west) on 1A, 12 km to “Stoney Indian Park / Buffalo Paddock” sign. Turn left (south) at the “Peacekeepers” building (now a burned ruin), 0.8 km to gate, then go 1.5 km beyond the gate to the site (past the vandalized building with the peaked roof and the “WOMEN” and “MEN” signs on the front at approximately 0.7 km, then an additional 0.8 km). The site is on the right (south) side of the road. Note: The last 1 km of this road is rough; walk it if your vehicle can’t stand it.

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Remarks:

Jack removes a thorn while Ennis basks in the serenity and solitude of this place. It is a lovely moment, free of fear, confusion, and guilt.

Of course, we soon return to this spot under much more painful circumstances. This is also where Ennis ponders the dead sheep. And Earl.

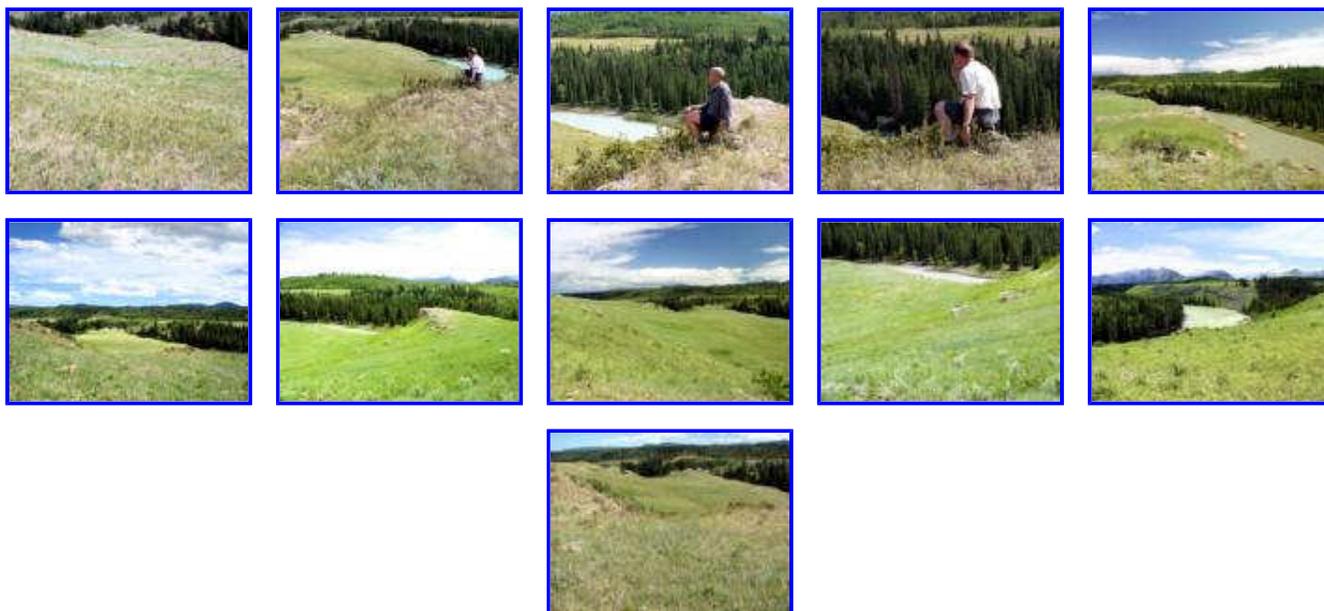
Like many of the sheep scenes, this one was made at the Stoney Native Reservation near Morley. The lovely Bow River flows through the area but, in order to give this site authenticity as a high mountain location, the river was removed using special effects. See:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPw5plmkd6Q> (Groupe Image Buzz Video)

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Pictures of surrounding area:



Revised 24 April 2011

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 10 45



DVD capture



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 10 45

Location: Hwy 66, Canyon Creek

GPS: 50d 54m 3.6s -114d 47m 43.5s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Campsite #1

Travel Directions:

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Exit 161A “Bragg Creek Rd / Hwy 22.” Go south on Hwy 22 approximately 17.4 km to the 4-way stop in Bragg Creek. (Do not follow the “Bragg Creek West” sign.) Turn left at the 4-way stop (continue on Hwy 22) and go 3.4 km to the “T” intersection of Hwy 22 and Hwy 66. Turn right (west) onto Hwy 66 and go approximately 16.6 km to Canyon Creek Road. Turn right (north) onto Canyon Creek Road and go 0.8 km to the parking area on the right. Walk north past the locked gate beyond the parking area, and follow the well-maintained gravel road 3.0 km to the bridge, then past two gas metering stations. After you pass four concrete barriers to the left side of the road (Sheep Procession #1) look for a culvert under Canyon Creek Road and a road which intersects from the right (Moose Dome Creek Road, unmarked).

As you face the left side of Canyon Creek Road with both the culvert and the intersection to your right, look for an overgrown path blocked by large stones ahead to your left. (For reference, this location is 5.02 km north of the gate and is 50d 54m 7.08s, -114d 47m 43.44s.) Proceed 200', turn right at the gravel path, go 200' and turn left. The site is on the creek bank near the circle of campfire stones.

Remarks:

The trail to the famous Ice Caves lies beyond the Canyon Creek Road intersection and to the right. Due to many accidents, the caves were officially closed to the public in 2000. See:

<http://www.braggcreek.ca/kananaskis/icecave.htm>

<http://www.braggcreek.ca/kananaskis/outdoor.htm>

Though the road is now closed to private vehicles, hiking in the area is permitted, though access to the Ice Caves area remains strictly prohibited.

Important:

For intermediate hikers. Wear hiking boots. Bring ample water and protective gear. Never leave valuables in a car parked at trailheads. Use caution; bear activity is common in this area, and in all

mountain locations. Always consult park wardens and take appropriate precautions. See:

<http://srd.alberta.ca/RecreationPublicUse/AlbertaBearSmart/BearsOutdoorRecreation.aspx>

Pictures of surrounding area:



Revised 26 November 2014

Chapter 2 - Herding Sheep - 00 11 17



DVD capture *



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 00 11 17

Location: Hwy 66, Moose Mountain

GPS: 50d 56m 25s -114d 48m 38s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Jack's Dark Camp

Travel Directions:

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Exit 161A "Bragg Creek Rd / Hwy 22." Go south on Hwy 22 approximately 17.4 km to the 4-way stop in Bragg Creek. (Do not follow the "Bragg Creek West" sign.) Turn left at the 4-way stop (continue on Hwy 22) and go 3.4 km to the "T" intersection of Hwy 22 and Hwy 66. Turn right (west) onto Hwy 66 and go approximately 13.9 km to Moose Mountain Road. Turn right (north) onto Moose Mountain Road and follow it 7.0 km to the well-marked trailhead. The trail begins in the trees at the green vehicle barrier, located on the south side of the parking area. The site is about 0.4 km beyond the tree line to the southwest (downhill and to the left). (Note: Moose Mountain Road is unmarked; it is just west of the "Paddy's Flat" sign on Hwy 66.)

The Moose Mountain summit is 7.1 km from the parking area and trailhead, gaining 477 m (1,565') in elevation. Allowing time to explore filming locations, budget a total of 4 to 5 hours for a rewarding hike to and from the vast Moose Mountain meadows, where several sheep herding scenes were filmed. Mornings generally provide the most reliable weather conditions. See:

<http://www.braggcreek.ca/kananaskis/trails/moosemtn.htm>

http://www.braggcreek.ca/kananaskis/trails/moose_prairie.htm

<http://www.braggcreek.ca/kananaskis/outdoor.htm>

The hike to the meadows is a moderately strenuous ascent. Though no filming took place above the meadows, the adventurous may wish to keep climbing to the summit using a series of switchbacks leading to a fire lookout station. Budget approximately 50 minutes for the final ascent, along slippery shale surfaces.

Remarks:

Jack, denied the chance to make his own fire by Joe Aguirre's rules, feels drawn to the distant spot where Ennis is portrayed as an isolated fire in the vast, empty night. Of *Brokeback*'s many poignant metaphors, this one, which works as well on the screen as it does on the printed page, is among the

most powerful and most cherished.

Important:

Vehicle access to the trailhead and parking area is subject to seasonal closure, usually opening in mid-May and closing after Canadian Thanksgiving (the second Monday in October). Note: For intermediate and experienced hikers. Wear hiking boots. Take ample water and protective gear. Never leave valuables in a car at trailheads. Use caution; bear activity is common in this area, and in all mountain locations. See:

<http://srd.alberta.ca/RecreationPublicUse/AlbertaBearSmart/BearsOutdoorRecreation.aspx>

Always consult park wardens and take appropriate precautions.

Quotation:

“Jack, in his dark camp, saw Ennis as night fire, a red spark on the huge black mass of mountain.” [1]

[1] *Brokeback Mountain - Story to Screenplay* by Annie Proulx, Larry McMurtry and Diana Ossana (Scribner) ISBN-13: 978-0-7432-9416-4, page 4.

Pictures of surrounding area:



Revised 08 April 2013