

IDAHO



The Chatcolet Bridge carries the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes across Lake Coeur d'Alene. | Photo by Lisa James

ROUTE

The Great American Rail-Trail travels through the northern Panhandle of Idaho along primarily developed rail-trails. The NorPac Trail and Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes are in RTC's Rail-Trail Hall of Fame for their exceptional views of the rugged Idaho landscape.

TABLE 24 GREAT AMERICAN RAIL-TRAIL MILEAGE IN IDAHO

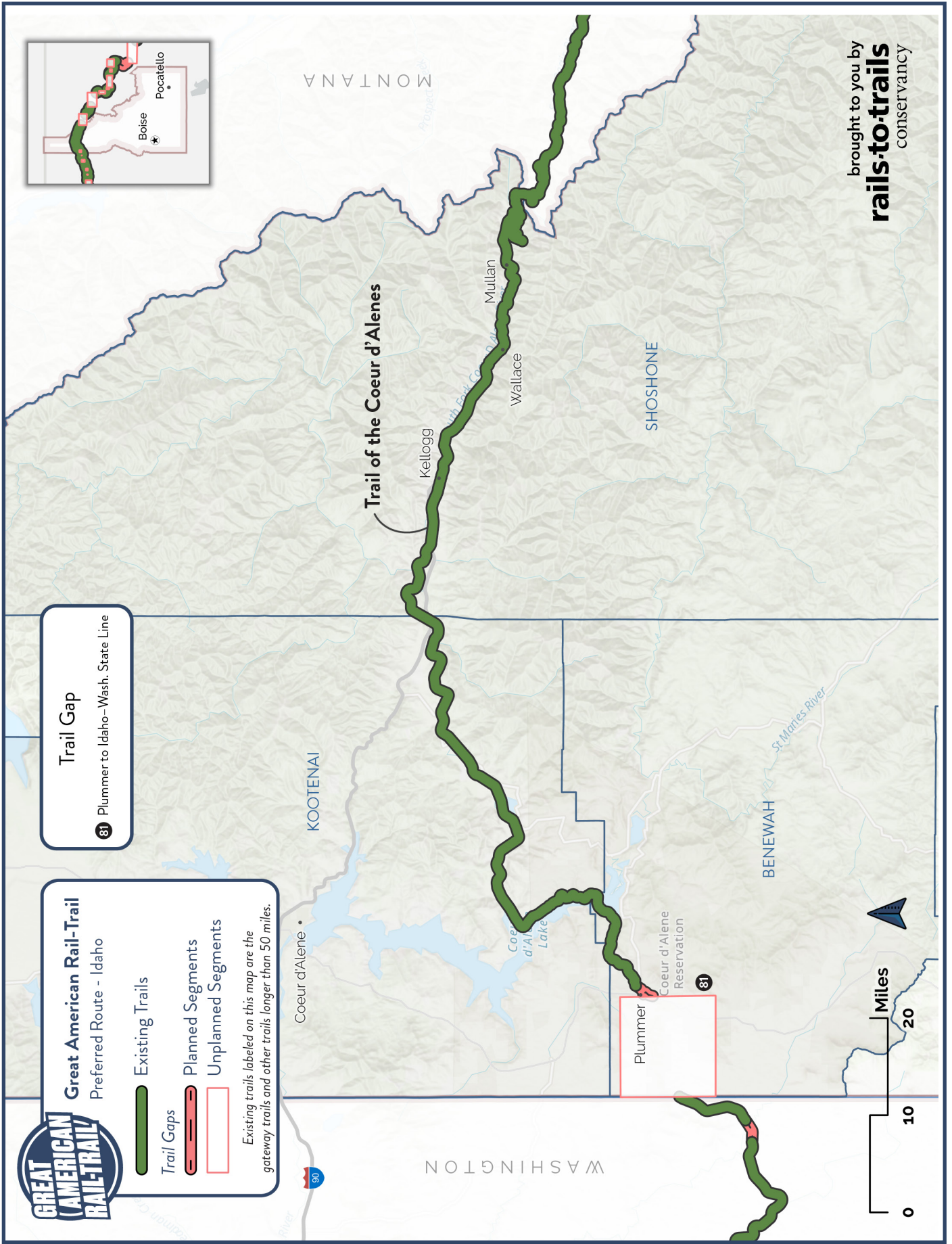
Total Great American Rail-Trail Existing Trail Miles in Idaho (% of Total State Mileage)	79.1 (88.3%)
Total Great American Rail-Trail Trail Gap Miles in Idaho (% of Total State Mileage)	10.5 (11.7%)
Total Trail Gaps in Idaho	1
Total Great American Rail-Trail Miles in Idaho	89.6

TABLE 25 GREAT AMERICAN RAIL-TRAIL ROUTE THROUGH IDAHO

Existing Trail or Trail Gap Name	Length in Idaho Along Great American Rail-Trail (in Miles)
NorPac Trail	7.8
Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes	71.3
TRAIL GAP 81 – Plummer to Idaho–Wash. State Line	10.5
Total Miles	89.6
Existing Trail Miles	79.1
Trail Gap Miles	10.5

GREAT AMERICAN RAIL-TRAIL ROUTE ASSESSMENT 2023

MAP 12: IDAHO



brought to you by
rails-to-trails
 conservancy

GREAT AMERICAN RAIL-TRAIL ROUTE ASSESSMENT IDAHO

NORPAC TRAIL

Total Length (in Miles)	22.2
Total Length Along Great American Rail-Trail in Idaho (in Miles)	7.8
Trail Type	Rail-trail
Surface Type	Concrete, dirt, gravel
Trail Manager	U.S. Forest Service (Lolo National Forest – Superior Ranger District)
Website	friendsofcdatrails.org/northern-pacific-trail
TrailLink Map	traillink.com/trail/norpac-trail

The Idaho portion of the NorPac Trail runs 7.8 miles through the state, heading west from the Montana–Idaho state line. The separated trail ends at Beacon Light Road, about 4 miles from the eastern endpoint of the Trail of the Coeur d’Alenes in Mullan. Trail users can follow the low-volume Larson Road/Friday Avenue west into Mullan, where a separated trail picks up along Earle Street and connects to the Trail of the Coeur d’Alenes trailhead at 2nd and River streets.

TRAIL OF THE COEUR D’ALENES

Total Length (in Miles)	71.3
Total Length Along Great American Rail-Trail in Idaho (in Miles)	71.3
Trail Type	Rail-trail
Surface Type	Asphalt
Trail Manager	Coeur d’Alene Tribe, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, Old Mission State Park
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> friendsofcdatrails.org/trail-of-the-coeur-dalenes parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/parks/trail-coeur-d-alenes
TrailLink Map	traillink.com/trail/trail-of-the-coeur-dalenes

The Trail of the Coeur d’Alenes, inducted into RTC’s Rail-Trail Hall of Fame in 2010 (with the Route of the Hiawatha, also in Idaho), covers 71.3 miles of paved rail-trail through Idaho’s scenic mountains and valleys. The area has a rich mining, railroading and Native American history, and the Coeur d’Alene tribe was instrumental in the development of the trail. The trail originates in Mullan at 2nd and River streets and terminates in the west at the city of Plummer in a public park with interpretive signage on tribal history.



Trailhead for the Trail of the Coeur d’Alenes in Idaho | Photo by Kevin Belle, courtesy Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TRAIL GAP 81 – PLUMMER TO IDAHO–WASHINGTON STATE LINE

Local officials in the city of Plummer have identified a potential corridor through Plummer to continue the trail westward into Benewah County, Idaho. The trail will then need to continue through Benewah County to connect into the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail at the Idaho–Washington border in Spokane County, Washington. The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad (the Milwaukee Road) corridor travels between Plummer and Spokane County, and local farmers and property owners have had preliminary discussions on how to make this connection possible. The state of Idaho and local officials should continue to work with landowners through the Lovell Valley to find an opportunity to complete the 10.5-mile connection between the Trail of the Coeur d’Alenes and the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail.