

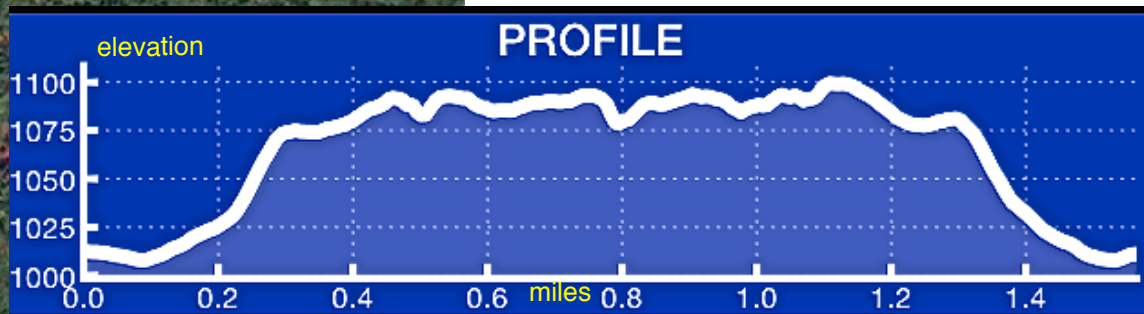
Big Springs “out & back”

1.0-1.6 miles

160-290' vertical

0.7-1.2 hours

Chaugham Lookout



profile of the second option

Mileage summary:

Follow the B/Y trail southwest to Chaugham Lookout at 0.5

reverse direction to return to your car at 1.0

A second option is to continue on the B/Y to the Grand View at 0.8

reverse direction to return to your car at 1.6

The Big Springs “out & back” hike is a very hiker friendly trail in the middle of Peoples State Forest. There are two options: a 1.0 mile “out & back” to Chaugham Overlook with 160 vertical feet or a 1.6 mile “out & back” to the Grand View Overlook with 290 vertical feet. There are no steep climbs on either one.

Park at the Big Springs area located 2.6 miles past the Greenwoods Gate, on the left or right. Hike north for 150 feet on Greenwoods Road and turn left on the Jessie Gerard Trail marked by blue blazes with a yellow dot (B/Y). At 0.1 bear left to stay on B/Y as a snowmobile trail continues straight. At 0.3 pass between 2 large glacial erratics, the Veeder Boulders, deposited there 15,000 years ago, (photo op 1) At 0.5 reach Chaugham Lookout (above photo #2) with its views northwest & Riverton. Retrace your steps back to your car at 1.0, if you are going with the first option. The second option is an additional 0.25 mile ending at the Grand Vista (photo op 3) with a view of Meriden Mountain to the south. The B/Y trail continues to East River Road, but the descent gets steep after the Vista. Retrace your steps to your car for a total 1.5 mile hike.