



# Big M

Manistee Ranger Station  
412 Red Apple Road  
Manistee, MI 49660  
(231) 723-2211 Voice  
(231) 723-0124 TTY



The Big M Cross Country Ski and Mountain Bike Trails are located deep in the heart of the hardwood and pine forest of the Udell Hills. The trails offer a variety of terrain to challenge every biking and skiing experience level. The hills receive an average of 130 inches of snow from December through March, providing excellent cross country ski conditions. From April through September the hills offer a lush green canopy with many scenic vistas. During the winter the trail system is operated by the Manistee Cross Country Ski Council (email address: [skibigm.org](mailto:skibigm.org)), a non-profit volunteer organization, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service. The Forest Service and volunteers maintain the trails during the summer season.

## LOCATION

Big M is located between the communities of Manistee and Wellston in Manistee County.

## NATIONAL FOREST ACCESS CAMPGROUND

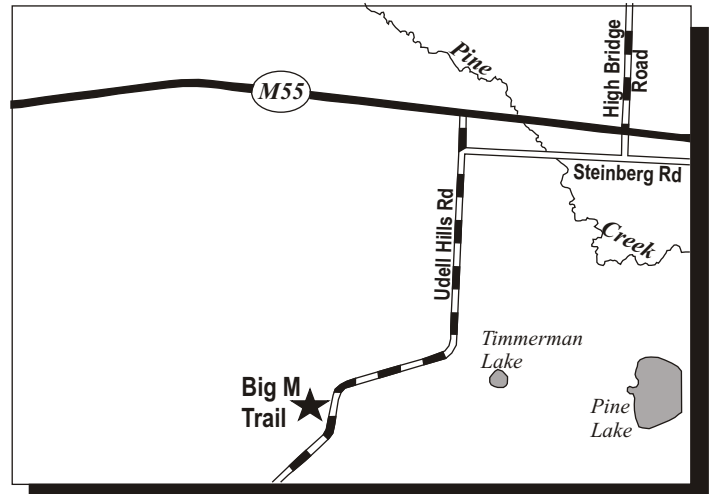
From Wellston, travel west on M-55 for about 4 miles to East Udell Hills Road, then south 3 miles to the Big M entrance and parking area.

## FACILITIES AVAILABLE

There are over 18 miles of well marked cross-country ski trails available. The trails are groomed during the winter and maintained during the summer. There are also over 25 miles of single track mountain bike trails. The trail system offers a Chalet, a hand pump (May-Oct.), a plowed parking lot, and a vault toilet building.

## SEASON

The ski trails are groomed when snow conditions warrant and grooming usually starts in mid to late December through March. The best snow conditions are in January and February. The bike trail is open from April 15 to September 30. For more information, call the Manistee Ranger Station at 231-723-2211 or TTY 231-723-0124.



## FEES

Big M Cross Country Ski trail system is operated by a non-profit group of volunteers and contributions may be placed in a donation tube located at the start of the trail system. A Huron-Manistee Nation Forest vehicle pass is required April 1st to November 1st. For the latest information regarding fees and conditions, please contact the Manistee Ranger Station, (231-723-2211 ext. 3160.)

## CONSIDERATIONS

Most trails are one-way (clockwise) and are extremely dangerous if skied or biked backwards.

The area is open to hunting. It is recommended to wear bright colors during rifle season. Hunters must follow all DNR regulations.

Care should be taken to keep the trail system clean and in the condition it was found, so visitors are asked to please pack out what they pack in.

Dogs must be leashed on groomed trails.

The trail systems are **not** open to motorized vehicles, except where the trail is on a road, then vehicles must be street legal.

“USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity provider and employer.” This information is available in large print upon request.

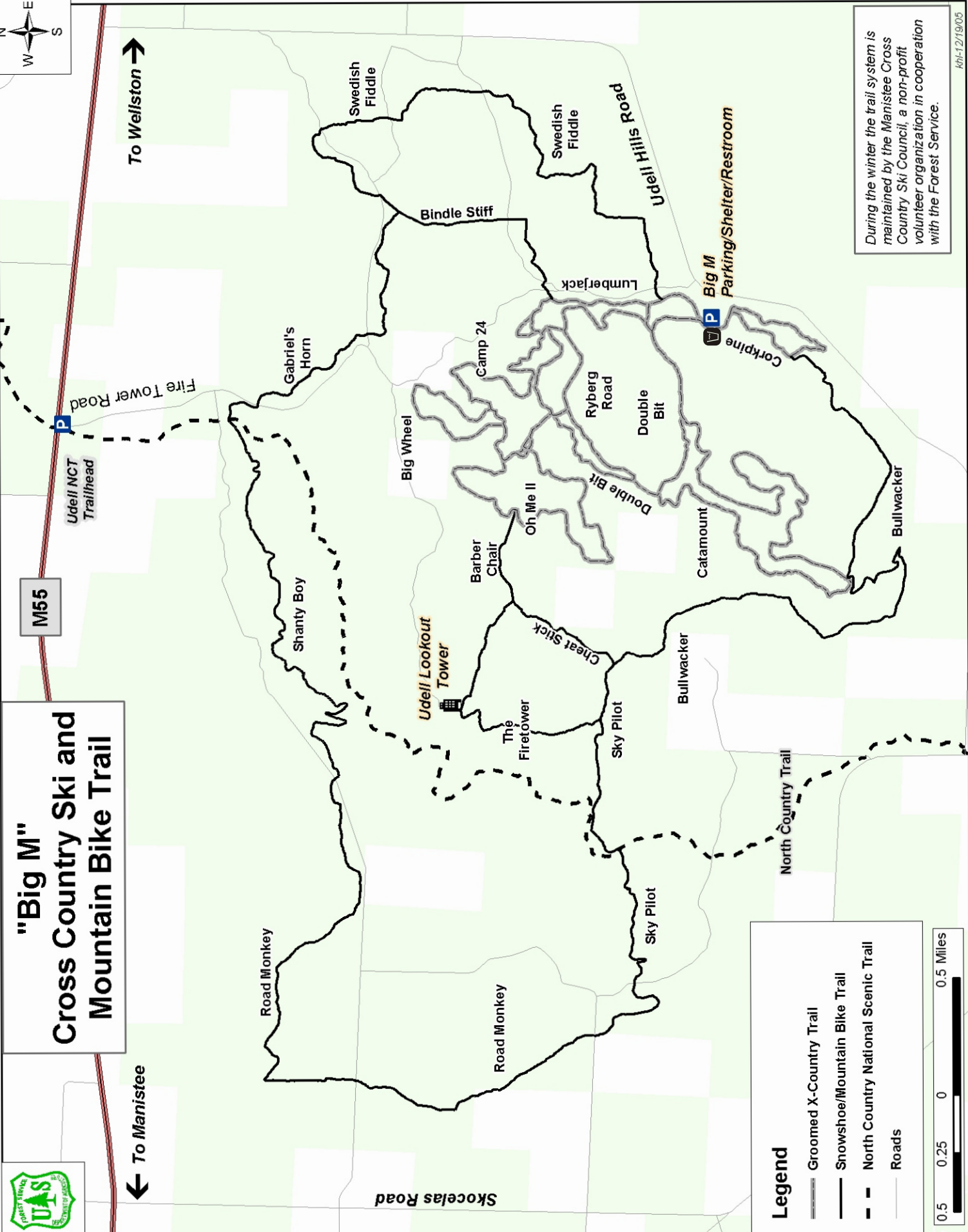


M55

# "Big M" Cross Country Ski and Mountain Bike Trail

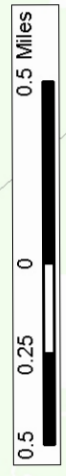
← To Manistee

To Wellston →



**Legend**

- Groomed X-Country Trail
- Snowshoe/Mountain Bike Trail
- North Country National Scenic Trail
- Roads



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