

Great Northern/Burlington Northern Santa Fe Marias Pass Mileposts

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Marias Pass in the Montana Rockies has a long and interesting history. The Great Northern Railway built through the area in the 1890's and named many of the locations along the rail line. The list below is a compilation of the Great Northern names and associated mileposts contrasted with the current [2002] Burlington Northern Santa Fe names and mileposts. Through the years many of the locations have had two or three names assigned by the railroad and these names are not to be confused with United States Post Offices along the line. Many times the US Post Office and railroad had conflicting names for the same location. This list only addresses the names used by the railroads.

HOW TO READ THE LIST:

The left **BLUE** column is the actual Great Northern Railway milepost location. [miles are counted west from St. Paul, Minnesota]

The **GREEN** column is compiled from the 2002 Burlington Northern Santa Fe milepost location. The BNSF milepost number may vary from the original GN milepost because of line relocations are other reasons – a “railroad mile” may or may not be 5,280’ feet in length, the “miles’ vary either shorter or longer than 5,280 feet to conform with rail location for maintenance purposes, not to specify exact distance locations. [NOTE; many railroads now use a “CP – Control Point” number for location markers as these don't have to relate to any actual distance]

The **PINK** column is the list of current names [Black Letters] and locations [Dark Red Italic Letters] between Whitefish, Montana and Browning, Montana, which includes all of Marias Pass. Most of the trackside tunnels, snowsheds and major bridges are listed here.

The **PURPLE** column on the right lists former names of stations and structures in relation to other station locations along the line. The small font names are former names of stations, the all-larger font capital letter names are locations that still exist, with the locations in bold italics being old Great Northern structures [tunnels, bridges, snowsheds] and their relation to GN and BNSF locations.

The sources in this guide are listed below.

SOURCES:

Altamont Press, “*Mountain Plains Region Timetable – Montana, Wyoming & Nebraska*” various years - published by Altamont Press, Modesto, CA

Burlington Northern Santa Fe, “*Montana Division - Employee Timetable #3, April 18, 1999*” published by BNSF, Inc.

Coy, John R. & Del Grosso, Robert C., “*Montana's Marias Pass: Early GN Mileposts and BNSF Guide*” published 1996 by Great Northern Pacific Publications, Bonners Ferry, ID

Great Northern Railway, “*1962 Track Profile - Blackfoot, Montana to Whitefish, Montana*” November 1962 St. Paul, MN

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GN Milepost	BNSF Milepost	Existing Station Name	Former Station Name
MP 1219.2	MP 1217.5	WHITEFISH	
MP 1215.0	MP 1212.8	HALF MOON	
MP 1211.6	MP 1211.6	COLUMBIA FALLS	Columbia Monaco
MP 1209.6	MP 1208.7	CONKELLY	
	MP 1207.6	TUNNEL #5	
MP 1204.8		CORAM BRIDGE	
MP 1204.5	MP 1203.9	CORAM	Citadel
MP 1202.0			LAKE FIVE Miles
MP 1199.0			Grizzly Egan
MP 1196.1	MP 1196.1	BELTON	WEST GLACIER
	MP 1194.5	TUNNEL #4	
	MP 1194.0	TUNNEL #3.9	
MP 1193.5			Silvertip Rockhill
	MP 1192.5	TUNNEL #3.8	
	MP 1191.2	TUNNEL #3.7	
MP 1191.0	MP 1191.0	OUSEL CREEK BRIDGE	
MP 1188.6	MP 1188.6	GREAT BEAR CREEK	
MP 1188.5			Sheldon
MP 1188.3	MP 1188.3	MOCCASIN CREEK	
MP 1188.0	MP 1188.0	NYACK	
MP 1185.8	MP 1185.8		RED EAGLE WYE
MP 1185.2	MP 1185.2	RED EAGLE	
MP 1181.4	MP 1181.4	TWIN BRIDGES	
MP 1181.2	MP 1181.2	TWIN BRIDGES	
MP 1180.0			Hidden Lake Garry Stanton Creek Bridge
MP 1179.1			
MP 1177.6	MP 1177.6	PAOLA	
MP 1176.7	MP 1176.7	TUNNEL #3	
MP 1176.5	MP 1176.5	TUNNEL CREEK BRIDGE	
MP 1176.2	MP 1176.2	TUNNEL #2	
MP 1174.0			Pyramid
MP 1173.7	MP 1173.7	PAOLA CREEK BRIDGE	
MP 1173.2	MP 1173.2	PINNACLE	
MP 1172.9	MP 1172.9	ESSEX GRAVEL PIT	
MP 1170.5	MP 1170.5	DICKEY CREEK BRIDGE	
MP 1169.2	MP 1170.2	ESSEX	Walton
MP 1168.5	MP 1169.5	SNOWSHED #12	
MP 1166.7	MP 1169.0	SHEEP CREEK BRIDGE	
MP 1165.5	MP 1166.1	JAVA WEST	Briggs
MP 1165.3	MP 1165.3	MIDDLE FORK BRIDGE FLATHEAD BRIDGE	
MP 1165.2	MP 1165.2	JAVA EAST	Nimrod
MP 1163.8	MP 1163.8	SNOWSHED #11	
MP 1163.4	MP 1163.4	SNOWSHED #10.7	
MP 1162.8	MP 1162.8	SNOWSHED #10	
MP 1161.4	MP 1161.4	SNOWSHED #9	
MP 1161.0	MP 1161.0	SNOWSHED #8	
MP 1161.0	MP 1161.0	SINGLESHOT	Highgate
MP 1160.5	MP 1160.5	SNOWSHED #7 & 7A	
MP 1160.3			Tunnel #1.5 Windy Point
MP 1159.9	MP 1159.9	SNOWSHED #5 & 6	
MP 1159.7	MP 1159.7	SNOWSHED #4D	
MP 1159.4			Snowshed #4C
MP 1158.5			Tunnel #1
MP 1157.6	MP 1157.6	BLACKTAIL	Fielding
MP 1152.2	MP 1152.2	MARIAS	Skyland
MP 1149.8	MP 1149.8	SUMMIT	
MP 1149.0			Pike
MP 1145.0			False Summit
MP 1144.0	MP 1144.0	BISON	Buelow Pershing Cataract Arklow
MP 1143.0			Rising Wolf Lubec
MP 1142.0			Talbott
MP 1140.5			
MP 1138.2	MP 1138.2	MIDVALE CREEK	
MP 1138.1	MP 1138.1	GLACIER PARK	EAST GLACIER Midvale
MP 1137.1	MP 1137.1	TWO MEDICINE BRIDGE	
	MP 1136.1	GRIZZLY	
MP 1133.9			Snowshed #2
MP 1131.8	MP 1131.8	SPOTTED ROBE	Kilroy
MP 1129.0			Triple Divide
MP 1126.0			Durham
MP 1124.6			Snowshed #1
MP 1123.9	MP 1123.9	BROWNING	

GN Milepost BNSF Milepost Existing Station Name Former Station Name