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## **Kenna Loop**

Difficulty: 2.4 Scenic Rating: 3.5

Overall Climbing: 1990 ft.

Access start from exit 116, I-77. From exit take Rt. 21 north for one mile and take a right on Rt. 42. Fisher Chapel church is 0.5 miles on the right.

**0.0 Start Fisher Chapel** - Left from Parking Lot

0.5 R - Route 21

**5.1 L** - Dog Fork Road 21/37

9.3 R - Route 34 Bibbee Ridge

14.3 L- Route 21 Divide Hill

15.6 R - Toward Interstate

16.5 Store (Exxon) on right. Only store on route.

17.8 R - on Fishers Ridge Road

25.2 L - Route 21

27.2 L - 4/2 toward Fishers Chapel

27.3 Finish

The Kenna Loop takes you through the scenic rural portions of Northern Kanawha, Western Putnam, and Southern Jackson Counties. The elevation change along this route makes it a challenging C ride.

The route starts our flat (WV flat that is.) heading up route 21 for five miles to Goldtown. At Goldtown, you take a left onto the narrow Dog Fork road which follows Dog Fork Creek upstream to its headwater before making a steep climb to Bibbee Ridge where you pick up State Route 34\*. The climb up to Bibbee Ridge is the first big climb of the day and starts out at 15%, levels to 8-10% and finishes at 17%. Riding along Bibbee Ridge provides many scenic vistas in both directions, but lots of ups and downs. Elevation varies along the ridge from a high of 1,020 feet near Garnes Knob to a low of 875 feet.

Arriving at Rt. 21 at Divide Hill, the rider takes a left following Rt. 34 and has a sweet gently curving downhill and a flat run into Kenna, before turning right and heading for the Interstate. This starts as a gentle climb that gradually becomes steeper near the interstate and is the steepest just past the Exxon Station near the top. The Exxon Station is the only store and restroom facilities along the route.

Topping the hill past the station, the rider

bears right staying on the main route and there are two short climbs and descents before passing the Goodwill Community Church. Just past the church, you bare right onto Fishers Ridge. For those wanting to do the alternate route\*, you continue straight for another 0.3 miles before making a right at the bottom of a short steep downhill onto Sugar Creek Road.

Fishers Ridge Road route is a narrow windy road that follows the ridge. There is not as much elevation change on Fishers Ridge as their was along Bibbee Ridge but there is still plenty of ups and downs. Again there are multiple scenic vistas along this route. The Fisher's Ridge portion ends with a steep twisting, narrow descent with one or more hairpin turns, so ride under control. After a nice rollout at the bottom of the hill, you come to the intersection of Rt. 21 and complete the loop. Taking a left onto Rt. 21, you have a couple small ups and downs before passing the Allens Fork intersection, and taking the next left back to the church.

## \*Sugar Creek Alternate

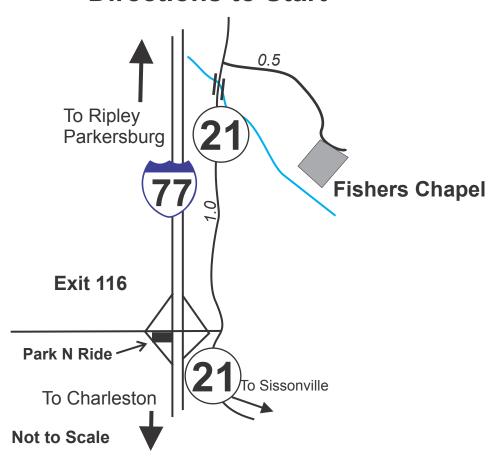
The Sugar Creek route is longer but an easier ride to the finish. Continuing straight at the Fisher Ridge Road option, you take the next right at the bottom of a dip. Sugar Creek is a narrow road with generally a good surface, but has several large breaks in pavement and areas that are patched with gravel, so be aware of changing surface conditions. Sugar Creek provides a long gradual descent to its junction with Middle Fork Creek and Rt. 42. Taking a right at the intersection, (really you are continuing straight because you are coming in on one leg of a Y) you have a mostly flat ride along Middle Fork Creek back to the start. Pavement is heavy and patched on Rt. 42.

## **Allens Fork Alternate**

This was the main route prior to Dog Fork being paved. It will have more traffic as it is used for I-77 access. Fairly flat heading upstream till you have two climbs to get to Bibbee Ridge and the Route 34 interchange. Take a Right onto Route 34.



## **Directions to Start**



From exit take Rt. 21 north for one mile and take a right on Rt. 42. Fisher Chapel church is 0.5 miles on the right.