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## A new way to see the extreme Downieville downhill mountain biking



Anyone who has ever tried mountain biking Downieville's legendary downhill trails knows you need great skills, brawny legs and an excellent medical plan. I attempted the 17-mile, high-speed plunge last year for a [Los Angeles Times Travel article](#) and was lucky I survived with only a few bruises and cuts.

But Bobby McMullen, a mountain biker from Redding, California, must have nerves of steel. He is once again taking on the [Downieville Classic Mountain Bike Race](#) this weekend. Oh, yeah, and he's legally blind. McMullen's daredevil exploits have been documented in a film called "The Way Bobby Sees It," by [Poison Oak Productions](#).

Clips of McMullen's spills and successes in Downieville have also been a huge hit on [YouTube](#). You can see McMullen take on the downhill course again this weekend in Downieville or you can watch the documentary at the fourth annual [Action on Film international film festival](#) July 29 at the [Laemmle Theatres](#) in Pasadena.

— Hugo Martin, Los Angeles Times staff writer

[Photo: Bobby McMullen follows a guide on a Downieville trail by Forrest Arakawa]

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