

Arizona Backpacking Trails

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Please send me any updates, additions or corrections.

CHARLES M. CHRISTIANSEN TRAIL



Difficulty: Easy to Moderate
Distance: 11 miles one way
Elevation: 1,100 feet
Vertical gain: varies with trail
Vertical loss: varies with trail
USGS maps:
Cost: none
Management: Phoenix Mountains Preserve
Park Rangers 602 262-7901
Trailhead: 40th Street, Dreamy Draw Park, Cave
Creek Road, Seventh Street or Mountain View Park

This eleven mile trail traverses the Phoenix Mountain Preserve. In the early 1960s, community leaders had the foresight to preserve 7,000 acres of mountain and desert from developers' bulldozers. Among the people responsible for the Mountain Preserve was Charles Milo Christiansen, avid hiker and longtime director of Phoenix's Parks and Recreation Department. So it's only fitting that the preserve's major trail was named for him. One end of the trail is at Mountain View Park, off Seventh Avenue, north of Dunlap Avenue. There you'll find the dedication monument to Christiansen, who died in 1985.

These city and county park trails are close-in to metropolitan Phoenix and with one exception (see Alto Trail description and restrictions), provide hiking opportunities for younger Scouts.

MOUNTAIN VIEW PARK TO CAVE CREEK ROAD: From Mountain View Park at Sixth and Cheryl Drives the trail heads north past the C. M. Christiansen memorial, goes around North Mountain, and crosses Seventh Street via tunnel after two miles of hiking. From here pass, the Pointe at Tapatio Cliffs and hike two more miles to Cave Creek Road at Cortez. The trail is relatively easy and is well marked with Trail 100 signs.

CAVE CREEK TO DREAMY DRAW: This three mile section continues from Cortez Road and Cave Creek to a parking area off Dreamy Draw again via a tunnel

DREAMY DRAW TO TATUM BOULEVARD: From the parking area, another tunnel crosses the northbound lanes of Dreamy Draw and opens to four more miles of trail ending at a somewhat inconspicuous parking area on Tatum. The entire hike including all three sections can be done easily in one day. Scout out the parking area on Tatum ahead of time!

SQUAW PEAK TRAILS

PERL CHARLES TRAIL: This five mile loop of moderate difficulty starts and ends at a tunnel beneath 19th Street just south of Pleasant Drive. You will climb to an elevation of 1900 foot on Squaw Peak before descending back into this peaceful valley.

CIRCUMFERENCE TRAIL: One of the finest trails around Phoenix, this four mile trail wraps around Squaw Peak after its start from the Hopi and Navajo ramadas on the north side of Squaw Peak Drive. Numbered 302, this trail shares the route of the nature trail and Perl Charles Trail for part of its length. Some Scouters rate the trail moderately difficult and suggest a counter-clockwise approach.

QUARTZ RIDGE TRAIL: This four mile trail starts at Squaw Peak Park's Hopi and Navajo ramadas following the nature trail for about .4 miles and crosses the Mountain Preserve to meet up with the Christiansen Trail at the 40th Street alignment. You may hike the .44 miles out to 40th Street or return back to the park.



SOUTH MOUNTAIN TRAILS



Difficulty: Easy to Moderate
 Distance: varies with trail
 Elevation: 1,400 to 2,400 feet
 Vertical gain: varies with trail
 Vertical loss: varies with trail
 USGS maps: Lone Butte
 Cost: none
 Management: South Mountain Park
 Central Ave. Gatehouse 602 495-0222
 Phoenix Parks and Recreation
 (602) 495-5811.
 Trailhead: From Phoenix, take Central Avenue south to the park entrance, and follow the signs to the trailheads.

At the request of the South Mountain Park rangers only three of the four trail awards are available to younger scouts. Because of past accidents on the Alta Trail, its use is restricted to older Scouts who have obtained clearance from the park ranger and who will follow agreed-upon safety procedures. No over night camping on South Mountain Trails. You can however camp at BSA Heard Scout Pueblo or GSUSA Camp Sombrero at the base of South Mountain..

BUENA VISTA LOOKOUT TO PIMA CANYON: From the Buena Vista Lookout off Summit Road follow the National Trail to the parking loop on Pima Canyon Road. This trail descends 890 feet as you travel the 3.4 miles west to east.

BUENA VISTA TO KIWANIS: Leave the lookout and follow the National Trail west to Telegraph Pass where you pick up the Kiwanis Trail to head downhill until you meet the lower road. Scout leaders take heart, the 7.5 miles is mostly downhill!

NATIONAL TRAIL TO SAN JUAN ROAD: From the signpost at Telegraph Pass, follow the National Trail west along the ridge to descend to San Juan Road after a little more than 4.5 miles. To go west to east means climbing about 1200 feet!

ALTA TRAIL: (USE OF THIS TRAIL IS RESTRICTED TO OLDER SCOUTS -SEE NOTES AT SOUTH MOUNTAIN TRAILS INTRODUCTION) This trail starts on the San Juan Road one half mile west of its junction with Summit Road. From the metal post with Alta painted on it head north to the ridge and follow the ridge past Maricopa Peak and down to the ramada at the west end of San Juan Road. Great views repay the difficulty in hiking this 4.5 mile trail. As described, the trail ascends 1100 feet to later descend 1300 feet. Hiking west to east would be somewhat more difficult with the figures reversed.

Seven Springs and Cave Creek Trails



Difficulty: Easy
Distance: 2 miles one way
Elevation: 3,400 feet
Vertical gain: 200 feet
Vertical loss: 160 feet
USGS maps: Humboldt Mountain, New River Mesa
Cost: \$4.00 per day per car
Management: Tonto National Forest, Cave Creek Ranger District, (480) 595-3300.
Trailhead: Drive east from Carefree on the Cave Creek Road for 6 miles to the Tonto National Forest boundary. From here continue another 12 miles on the same road which is now Forest Road 24. This good dirt road is passable to all vehicles. The trailhead and parking area are just north of the Seven Springs picnic grounds and the CCC campground.

This is a nice beginner hike. This is the first hike for our troop each year. The trail follows the Cave Creek which has water in it year around. This hike follows trail #4 along a flowing stream with shady trees. There is a nice camping area two miles south from the trailhead. The creek has water in it, but you should bring enough water to drink. There are 31 miles of trails throughout the Cave Creek Trail System. There are the Cave Creek Trail (#4), The Cottonwood Trail (#247), The Skull Mesa Trail (#248), The Skunk Tank Trail (#246), and The Quien Sabe Trail (#250). Because Trail #4 is in a valley, at night it can get cold. I have had my water bottles freeze in October.

USERY MOUNTAIN TRAILS



Difficulty:	Easy
Distance:	varies with trail
Elevation:	2,000 feet
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	Apache Junction
Cost:	\$4.00 per day per car
Management:	Usery Park Information (480) 984-0032.
Trailhead:	Take US 60 to Ellsworth Exit. Drive 7 miles north on Ellsworth Road from US 60 (this road turns into Usery Pass Road at McKellips Road).

The Usery Mountain Recreation Area is maintained as a regional park by Maricopa County in the east valley. The trails described below start in the park but reach well out into the Tonto National Forest that borders the park to the north and east.

WIND CAVE TRAIL: This trail is easy and climbs about 800 feet in 1.3 miles to reach the shallow "cave" depressions eroded from the tuff layer by wind and rain. Take Usery Park Road to Wind Cave Drive and follow that to the restrooms at picnic area #8 from which the trailhead sign is visible. The 2.6 mile roundtrip features some nice views and interesting geologic formations.

PASS MOUNTAIN TRAIL: Rated strenuous by the Arizona State Committee on Trails, this seven mile loop has lots of ups and downs as it circles Pass Mountain and requires four to five hours hiking time. The effort is repaid with great views of the surrounding mountain ranges. The well marked trailhead is near the south picnic grounds at the horse staging area. Take plenty of water with you!

BLEVINS TRAIL: This trail of moderate difficulty affords a leisurely hike through some of the finest lush upper Sonoran Desert terrain available. The trail stays between 1800 and 1900 feet as it covers 3.84 miles inhabited by a rich variety of birds and mammals. Take Usery Park Road all the way through the park to the horse staging area and look to the west for the trailhead.

The Arizona Trail



Difficulty:	Easy to Strenuous
Distance:	790 miles one way
Elevation:	1,000 to 12,000 feet
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	many
Cost:	none
Management:	Arizona Trail Association http://www.aztrail.org 602-252-4794
Trailhead:	many.

The Arizona Trail is a 790 mile non-motorized trail that traverses the State from Mexico to Utah. The Arizona Trail is intended to be a primitive, long distance trail that highlights the State's topographic, biologic, historic, and cultural diversity.

The primary users are hikers, equestrians, and mountain bicyclists (outside of wilderness or other specially managed areas). Opportunities will also exist for cross-country skiers, snowshoers, joggers, and packstock users. Government agencies, volunteers, and private groups and businesses are working together to make the Arizona Trail a reality.

In most cases, the Arizona Trail utilizes existing trails that are also known by their original name and number. Primitive roads are temporarily being used in areas where linkages are needed. However, new trail construction is needed in these areas, especially to maintain the vision of a non-motorized trail. When completed, the Arizona Trail will become one of the premier long-distance trails in the country.

The Arizona Trail is a great place for a Scout outing. You get to hike some of the most beautiful parts of Arizona on recently constructed trails.

And you have the opportunity to help build the Trail itself. Several Scout troops have taken the opportunity to do a service project and help in the building of Arizona's finest trail at the same time. Every Scout who works on the trail becomes part of the history and heritage of the Arizona Trail.

Pick a 5 mile or 10 mile part of the trail and hike it.

The Butterfield Stage Route Trail



Difficulty: Easy
Distance: 3 miles one way
Elevation: 1,600 feet
Vertical gain: 134 feet
Vertical loss: 210 feet
USGS maps: Butterfield Pass
Cost: none
Management: BLM, Phoenix Field Office
602-580-5500

Trailhead: From Phoenix drive south on I-10, exit at Maricopa Road (Route 347). Go south 17 miles to Route 238 then west 24 miles past Mobile to a dirt road heading north. There will be a wooden sign for Butterfield Stage Trail. Go north 6.5 miles on the dirt road to the trailhead.

This is a great beginner hike. The hike is short and flat. After hiking a couple of miles west from the trailhead turn north and camp in the North Maricopa Mountains Wilderness.

In 1857 Congress voted to subsidize a semi-weekly overland mail service. The line was to run "from such point of the Mississippi River as the contractors may select, to San Francisco." Further, this service was to be performed with "good four horse coaches or spring wagons suitable for the conveyance of passengers, as well as the safety and security of the mails." And the distance each way had to be traveled in twenty-five days or less, "the service to commence within twelve months after the signing of the contract." John Butterfield, who had been a stage driver for some eastern stagelines, and had started the American Express company, bid successfully for the six-year contract. The famous Butterfield Overland Express Company carried the mail from St. Louis, following a southerly route through Texas and Arizona and then up the California Coastline to San Francisco.

John Butterfield was born in Berne, New York in 1801 and grew up on a farm amidst the technological revolution of the first steamboat, the Erie Canal, the steam locomotive and the electric telegraph.

In 1850, Butterfield convinced Henry Wells and William Fargo to consolidate their express companies with his own Butterfield & Wasson Company to form the American Express Company, which Butterfield then directed. Although the original American Express Company was primarily an express-transportation company, it is today a worldwide organization based in New York City, providing travel-related and insurance services, as well as international finance operations and banking.

In 1857, John Butterfield won a \$600,000 contract to deliver the St. Louis mail to San Francisco in 25 days. This contract, the largest for land mail service that had yet been given, was awarded to Butterfield's Overland Stage Company after 9 groups had entered bids.

Originally, all groups had submitted routes that were north of Albuquerque, New Mexico territory. But the southern Postmaster General mandated that the new line be required to go through Fort

Smith, Arkansas, then proceed through Texas to El Paso, onward to Fort Yuma, California and then up to San Francisco. Called the "Ox-bow Route," it added 600 miles to the original bids.

The Overland Mail continued to make two trips a week for 2 1/2 years. Each Monday and Thursday morning the stagecoach would leave Tipton and San Francisco on their transcontinental journey, conveying passengers freight and up to 12,000 letters. The western fare one-way was \$200, with most stages arriving at their final destination 22 days later.

<<http://www.desertusa.com/mag98/dec/papr/photos/gmnp08.jpg>> While it prospered, the Butterfield Overland Stage Company employed more than 800 people and had 139 relay stations, 1800 head of stock and 250 Concord Stagecoaches in service at one time.

In March of 1860, John Butterfield was forced out, and the Butterfield Overland Stage Company was taken over by Wells, Fargo & Company due to large debts that Butterfield owed to Wells and Fargo.

With the beginning of the Civil War, the Butterfield Overland Mail discontinued the Oxbow Route; the last Overland Mail trip through the Desert Southwest was made on March 21, 1861. Wells Fargo continued to prosper with more northerly routes through mining camps, and the transcontinental railroad soon replaced the need for overland stagecoaches.

At age 59. John Butterfield retired to his home in Utica, New York, where he later suffered a paralyzing stroke and died in 1869. He had established an incredible mail route, the longest in the world at the time, which provided a regular line of communication for Americans separated by almost 2,000 miles of hot, dry, rugged desert wilderness.

Mormon Battalion

In July 1846, under the authority of U.S. Army Captain James Allen and with the encouragement of Mormon leader Brigham Young, the Mormon Battalion was mustered in at Council Bluffs, Iowa Territory. The battalion was the direct result of Brigham Young's correspondence on 26 January 1846 to Jesse C. Little, presiding elder over the New England and Middle States Mission. Young instructed Little to meet with national leaders in Washington, D.C., and to seek aid for the migrating Latter-day Saints, the majority of whom were then in the Iowa Territory. In response to Young's letter, Little journeyed to Washington, arriving on 21 May 1846, just eight days after Congress had declared war on Mexico.

Little met with President James K. Polk on 5 June 1846 and urged him to aid migrating Mormon pioneers by employing them to fortify and defend the West. The president offered to aid the pioneers by permitting them to raise a battalion of five hundred men, who were to join Colonel Stephen W. Kearny, Commander of the Army of the West, and fight for the United States in the Mexican War. Little accepted this offer.

Colonel Kearny designated Captain James Allen, later promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, to raise five companies of volunteer soldiers from the able-bodied men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five in the Mormon encampments in Iowa. On 26 June 1846 Allen arrived at the encampment of Mt. Pisgah. He was treated with suspicion as many believed that the raising of a battalion was a plot to bring trouble to the migrating Saints.

Allen journeyed from Mt. Pisgah to Council Bluffs, where on 1 July 1846 he allayed Mormon fears by giving permission for the Saints to encamp on United States lands if the Mormons would

raise the desired battalion. Brigham Young accepted this, recognizing that the enlistment of the battalion was the first time the government had stretched forth its arm to aid the Mormons.

On 16 July 1846 some 543 men enlisted in the Mormon Battalion. From among these men Brigham Young selected the commissioned officers; they included Jefferson Hunt, Captain of Company A; Jesse D. Hunter, Captain of Company B; James Brown, Captain of Company C; Nelson Higgins, Captain of Company D; and Daniel C. Davis, Captain of Company E. Among the most prominent non-Mormon military officers immediately associated with the battalion march were Lt. Col. James Allen, First Lt. Andrew Jackson Smith, Lt. Col. Philip St. George Cooke, and Dr. George Sanderson. Also accompanying the battalion were approximately thirty-three women, twenty of whom served as laundresses, and fifty-one children.

The battalion marched from Council Bluffs on 20 July 1846, arriving on 1 August 1846 at Fort Leavenworth (Kansas), where they were outfitted for their trek to Santa Fe. Battalion members drew their arms and accouterments, as well as a clothing allowance of forty-two dollars, at the fort. Since a military uniform was not mandatory, many of the soldiers sent their clothing allowances to their families in the encampments in Iowa.

The march from Fort Leavenworth was delayed by the sudden illness of Colonel Allen. Capt. Jefferson Hunt was instructed to begin the march to Santa Fe; he soon received word that Colonel Allen was dead. Allen's death caused confusion regarding who should lead the battalion to Santa Fe. Lt. A.J. Smith arrived from Fort Leavenworth claiming the lead, and he was chosen the commanding officer by the vote of battalion officers. The leadership transition proved difficult for many of the enlisted men, as they were not consulted about the decision.

Smith and his accompanying surgeon, a Dr. Sanderson, have been described in journals as the "heaviest burdens" of the battalion. Under Smith's dictatorial leadership and with Sanderson's antiquated prescriptions, the battalion marched to Santa Fe. On this trek the soldiers suffered from excessive heat, lack of sufficient food, improper medical treatment, and forced long-distance marches.

The first division of the Mormon Battalion approached Santa Fe on 9 October 1846. Their approach was heralded by Col. Alexander Doniphan, who ordered a one-hundred-gun salute in their honor. At Santa Fe, Smith was relieved of his command by Lt. Col. Philip St. George Cooke. Cooke, aware of the rugged trail between Santa Fe and California and also aware that one sick detachment had already been sent from the Arkansas River to Fort Pueblo in Colorado, ordered the remaining women and children to accompany the sick of the battalion to Pueblo for the winter. Three detachments consisting of 273 people eventually were sent to Pueblo for the winter of 1846-47.

The remaining soldiers, with four wives of officers, left Santa Fe for California on 19 October 1846. They journeyed down the Rio Grande del Norte and eventually crossed the Continental Divide on 28 November 1846. While moving up the San Pedro River in present-day Arizona, their column was attacked by a herd of wild cattle. In the ensuing fight, a number of bulls were killed and two men were wounded. Following the "Battle of the Bulls," the battalion continued their march toward Tucson, where they anticipated a possible battle with the Mexican soldiers garrisoned there. At Tucson, the Mexican defenders temporarily abandoned their positions and no conflict ensued.

On 21 December 1846 the battalion encamped on the Gila River. They crossed the Colorado River into California on 9 and 10 January 1847. By 29 January 1847 they were camped at the Mission of San Diego, about five miles from General Kearny's quarters. That evening Colonel Cooke rode to

Kearny's encampment and reported the battalion's condition. On 30 January 1847 Cooke issued orders enumerating the accomplishments of the Mormon Battalion. "History may be searched in vain for an equal march of infantry. Half of it has been through a wilderness where nothing but savages and wild beasts are found, or deserts where, for lack of water, there is no living creature."

During the remainder of their enlistment, some members of the battalion were assigned to garrison duty at either San Diego, San Luis Rey, or Ciudad de los Angeles. Other soldiers were assigned to accompany General Kearny back to Fort Leavenworth. All soldiers, whether en route to the Salt Lake Valley via Pueblo or still in Los Angeles, were mustered out of the United States Army on 16 July 1847. Eighty-one men chose to reenlist and serve an additional eight months of military duty under Captain Daniel C. Davis in Company A of the Mormon Volunteers. The majority of the soldiers migrated to the Salt Lake Valley and were reunited with their pioneering families.

The men of the Mormon Battalion are honored for their willingness to fight for the United States as loyal American citizens. Their march of some 2,000 miles from Council Bluffs to California is one of the longest military marches in history. Their participation in the early development of California by building Fort Moore in Los Angeles, building a courthouse in San Diego, and making bricks and building houses in southern California contributed to the growth of the West.

Following their discharge, many men helped build flour mills and sawmills in northern California. Some of them were among the first to discover gold at Sutter's Mill. Men from Captain Davis's Company A were responsible for opening the first wagon road over the southern route from California to Utah in 1848.

Historic sites associated with the battalion include the Mormon Battalion Memorial Visitor's Center in San Diego, California; Fort Moore Pioneer Memorial in Los Angeles, California; and the Mormon Battalion Monument in Memory Grove, Salt Lake City, Utah. Monuments relating to the battalion are also located in New Mexico, Arizona, and Colorado, and trail markers have been placed on segments of the battalion route.

Susan Easton Black

The history of the Mormon Battalion began when the United States Congress declared war on Mexico, May 13, 1846. American goals were to conquer and hold the isolated provinces of northern Mexico and to end the war quickly by taking Mexico City. In order to accomplish this, General Winfield Scott, President Polk and his advisors outlined the strategy. Three armies would conquer Mexico. General Zachary Taylor, "Old Rough and Ready", defeated and held Chihuahua and northeastern Mexico. Leading the "Army of the West", Colonel (later General) Stephen W. Kearny occupied Santa Fe and then marched to subjugate California. His objectives were to conquer and hold the provinces of New Mexico and California. Finally, General Scott captured Mexico City, thereby forcing the Mexicans to sue for peace. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, signed February 2, 1848, formally ended the war.

Colonel Kearny, who marched from Fort Leavenworth to Santa Fe ahead of the Mormon Battalion, conquered Santa Fe without firing a shot, and proceeded to Southern California.

Under orders from Kearny, the Mormons generally followed the Cimarron Route of the Santa Fe Trail to Santa Fe. Colonel Philip St. George Cooke assumed command in Santa Fe and led the battalion by a circuitous route to San Diego. The 2,000 mile journey was at that time the longest march by Infantry in U.S. Military history.

Due to stereotypes and misunderstandings on both sides, the government of the United States, considering the Mormons a hostile force, was ready to intercept the Mormons should they cross the Rocky Mountains. Hearing of this, the Mormon leadership sent letters to Stephen A. Douglas and other members of Congress to persuade the government that there was no hostile plan on the Mormons' part to ally with other nations against the US. It was at this time that Mormon leadership also began to lay plans to obtain government patronage while journeying west. Eventually, the decision was made to invade California, and President Polk issued an order that a battalion of men was to be drawn from the Mormon emigrants then in Iowa. This not only enabled the almost destitute Mormons to travel west, but also reinforced General Stephen Watts Kearny's Army of the West. The Mormons set out on their journey at the end of July, 1846.

SUPERSTITION WILDERNESS TRAILS



Difficulty:	Moderate to Strenuous
Distance:	varies with trail
Elevation:	2,400 to 5,000 feet
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	Pinyon Mountain, Iron Mountain (eastern end) Weavers Needle, Goldfield (western end) Superstition Wilderness by Beartooth Maps
Cost:	\$4 per car per day at Peralta and First Water Trailheads
Management:	Tonto NF 928-474-7900
Trailhead:	many.

The Superstition Wilderness area just east of Apache Junction, famous for the Lost Dutchman's Mine and other legends, offers hiking/backpacking adventures never to be forgotten but warrants a few words of warning before you take a Scouting unit into the wilderness. Even though just a few short miles from a bustling metropolitan area, the Superstitions comprise a rugged and unforgiving wilderness.

A wilderness area should be enjoyed, not just endured. Summer hiking here is a test of survival and is not recommended for Scout units. Reliable water sources are scarce. The two most consistent are Charlebois Spring and La Barge Spring and they can be counted on year round. The other frequently mentioned water sources may be unreliable depending on season and water needs must be carefully planned.

For each hike the most useful topo map is mentioned as well as the best trailhead. The Tonto national forest also puts out a great Superstition Wilderness map. The unit is ultimately responsible for planning a safe trip. More than one Troop has been rescued from this area by the National Guard!

FREMONT SADDLE: This area is most accessible from the Peralta Trailhead. It follows Peralta canyon for about 2.5 miles while climbing nearly 1400 feet to offer one of the finest views of Weaver's Needle and a western desert vista. A return leg could be via the Cave Trail as it passes Geronimo's Cave making a good day hike. No water is available. (Topo: Weaver's Needle Quadrangle)

SECOND WATER: Accessible from either First Water Trailhead or Canyon Lake Trailhead, this trail provides a variety of desert scenery from the beauty of Garden Valley to the rocky ruggedness of Boulder Canyon and the Second Water Springs area itself. This makes a fine day hike of 4 to 6 miles dependent on choice of route with minimal elevation changes. (Topo: Goldfield Quad)

CHARLEBOIS SPRING: Of this true desert oasis, an old miner once said, "There is no finer water in the Superstitions." Seven to nine miles of hiking are required depending on selection of several

trailheads and 1000 feet change in elevation is encountered regardless of choice. This hike is recommended as an overnight trek and camping space is available near the spring. (Topo: Weaver's Needle Quad) '

LA BARGE CANYON: A narrow winding canyon with many sheer drops ends in a beautiful area known as Upper La Barge Box. This challenging hike can begin at Peralta Trailhead or even Tortilla Flat Trailhead. The canyon has a spring at either end with La Barge Spring most reliable. Camping space is available and this 20 miler is best done as an overnight trek. (Topo: Weaver's Needle Quad)

MINER'S NEEDLE: One of the most interesting rock formations Superstition Wilderness, Miner's Needle actually resembles a sewing needle. From the Miner's Summit, Coffee Flat and its mountains create a panoramic view. Some legends say Miner's Needle is the site of the infamous Lost Dutchman's Mine. This area is most accessible from Peralta Trailhead. There is no water near Miner's Needle, but this needle makes a great highlight in a loop through Bluff Spring or even La Barge Spring. Miner's Summit is 1000 feet higher than all surrounding areas. Bluff Spring loop is 9 miles and La Barge Spring loop is 15 miles. (Topo: Weaver's Needle Quad)

REEVIS RANCH: The best trailhead to this site of an early territorial ranch is Reevis Ranch Trailhead although the Rogers Trough Trailhead will work. Reevis Creek usually supplies water and in September apples can be harvested from the old orchard trees. From the Reevis Ranch Trailhead this challenging hike takes you up 1000 feet before you drop into the ranch area. This is a 16 mile overnight hike.

For the Reevis Ranch trailhead, take Highway 60/70/80 to Apache Junction then north on State Highway 88 (Apache Trail) approx. 30 miles to the Reevis Road #212 Turn-off (Approximately 1 mile past The ADOT maintenance yard). Follow this approx. 3 miles to top of ridge overlooking Apache Lake to parking lot.(Topos: Pinyon Canyon and Iron Mountain Quads)

ROGERS CANYON: Accessible by Rogers Trough Trailhead, this canyon is a major drainage for the wilderness and is greener with more forms of vegetation than most other areas. Another attraction is accessible prehistoric ruins on the canyon walls at the west end. Water is usually available in the creek. This 6 or 7 mile trip could be a day hike but difficult trailhead accessibility makes an overnight trip a more pleasant outing.

To get to Roger's Trough, go east on U.S. Highway 60/70/80 through Florence Junction to Queen Valley Road. Follow this north 1.7 miles to Forest Road 357. Turn right following 357 for 3 miles to Forest Road 172. Turn left and follow 172 approx. 8 miles north to Forest Road 172a. Turn right onto 172A and follow it for 4 miles to the end at trail head parking lot. This is a difficult trail head to reach, especially the last 1 mile. A high clearance 4WD vehicle is necessary for the last mile.

(Topo: Iron Mountain Quad)

BRADSHAW MOUNTAIN TRAILS



Difficulty:	Easy to Strenuous
Distance:	varies with trail
Elevation:	5,000 to 7,200 feet
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	varies with trail
Cost:	none
Management:	Prescott NF 928-771-4700
Trailhead:	many.

Several years ago the Old Capital District of the Grand Canyon Council assembled this set of hiking awards to celebrate the beauty of the mountains surrounding Prescott, Arizona. These hikes are easy to moderately difficult and cover elevations from 5000' to 7600'. For the Mingus Mountain hike contact the district ranger at Verde Ranger District, Star Route 1, Box 1100, Camp Verde, Arizona 86322 (928-567-4121) . For all other hikes in this series contact the district ranger at Bradshaw Ranger District, RFD 7, Box 3451, Prescott, Arizona 86301 (928-771-4700). Both districts are in the Prescott National Forest and offer a newly revised edition of the Forest map. This map has the Forest Service trail numbers, a feature lacking in the USGS Topographical maps that will be cited. These trail descriptions have been repeatedly updated but with development around Prescott you can always expect new encroachments to once open trails. Prepare ahead of time with map and contacts to assure a smooth outing.

BRADSHAW TRAIL: Take Forest Road 84 off the Senator Highway about three miles southeast of Palace Station and follow it past the Dandrea ranch house by one quarter mile. Head down the trail along Turkey Creek and leave the creek to the right of the War Eagle Mine buildings. Follow the blazed trail up the mountain to the northeast. Turn right up the road and then left up the jeep trail and right up the forest trail: One half mile north of Mt. Union the trail turns down the left hand fork. Past Hassayampa Lake, turn right up jeep road opposite mine tailings dump..This is a good area to camp and water is often available. Follow Forest Trail #307 to the top of Spruce Mountain then follow 2:5 miles of graded road. Take the marked Watershed Trail (FT#299) until you reach the marker for Government Canyon. Make your way along this canyon into Prescott. The entire hike is about 15 miles. These instructions are old and it is imperative that you first plan the route out on a map. (Topos: Prescott [15'], Mount Union [15'], or the newer 7.5' quads for Prescott, Groom Creek, and Battleship Butte for the very beginning near Dandrea Ranch)

MAVERICK RIDGE: This six mile hike starts from the Senator Highway (Forest Road 52) at the road going in to the Davis Dunkirk Mine. Follow this dirt road past the remains of the mine and on to the top of the ridge. Then follow the jeep trail west to the forest trail that says" Kendall Camp-one mile:' Follow the trail and road (79A then 79) to Hassayampa Creek. Go west down the road that follows the creek (79B) then over the ridge on the jeep trail (74) to the Wolf Creek Campground. (Topos: Mount Union [15'J or Groom Creek Quads)

SIERRA PRIETA: This eleven mile hike was most recently updated in 1984 as follows. Begin on the graded road behind the fountain at Prescott Pines Mobile Home Resort. After about a quarter mile bear left onto the poorly marked but well used road that leads to Quartz Mountain on private land. Just beyond the gate to Quartz Mountain take the primitive road to the right. At the top of the road behind Quartz Mountain, there will be many roads. Take the westerly trail (290 degrees) which is blazed and heads toward Wolverton Mountain and its communication disks. At the top of Wolverton pick up the road that leads to FR 196. Turn left and follow that road. Do not take the Aspen Creek Trail at either junction. Stay on FR 196 until you reach FR 373 and follow that until you see Forest Trail #264 (West Spruce Trail) on the west side of the road. Follow the trail to the junction with a road where a sign says "To Iron Springs Road" and follow that road to FR 47 which will take you into Highland Pines. In Highland Pines stay on Skyline until you get to the store. (Topos: Iron Springs and Prescott [15'J(or Prescott and Wilhoit 7.5') Quads)

GRANITE MOUNTAIN TRAIL: Find the trailhead at Iron Springs, three and a half miles out of Prescott, and head out on Forest trail #37. After about 1.5 miles you will hit FT#40 from Clarke Spring but continue on #37. At Blair Pass 4.5 miles into the hike you pick up FT #261 which you follow to Granite Mountain Saddle. Here you turn right and after another half mile you reach Vista Point. There are many campsites nearby and the summit is three fourths of a mile farther. The round trip is just over eleven miles. (Topos: Iron Springs and Jerome Canyon Quad)

MINGUS MOUNTAIN TRAIL: Start at the intersection of FR 102 and the old narrow gauge RR road, FR 318A. Find Forest Trail #102 and follow it up over Woodchute Mountain for about seven miles until the trail meets the powerline and FR 106 at the same time. Follow along the powerline southwesterly into the canyon. At the bottom of the canyon after a couple of miles you will find a forest trail that will bring you up to US Alternate Route 89. Be careful of the blind curve! (Topos: Munds Draw and Hickey Mountain Quads)

OAK CREEK - SEDONA TRAILS



Difficulty:	Moderate to Strenuous
Distance:	varies with trail
Elevation:	2,400 to 5,000 feet
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	
Cost:	none
Management:	Coconino NF (928) 527-3600
Trailhead:	many.

This unique and beautiful red rock country abounds with rugged canyons, forested slopes, and isolated mesas and buttes. Most of the hikes here described are day hikes that lend themselves to small groups of ten or less. Some of the hikes provide excellent overnight trips, although only two of the hikes have dependable water with the others requiring a "dry camp." The wild beauty of this area will more than repay any inconvenience. Most of the hikes are in newly designated wilderness areas but they have relatively easy access on good paved or all-weather roads. Here is a good training ground for "no trace" wilderness camping techniques that will go a long way in preserving these beautiful but small wilderness areas.

Overnight hikes include:

- Wilson Mountain (6-8 miles)
- East Pocket Trail [A.B. Young Trail] (5-7 miles)
- Wet Beaver Creek (6-8 miles)
- Dry Beaver Creek (6-8 miles)
- Loy Trail (10 miles)
- Mooney Trail (12-14 miles)
- West Fork of Oak Creek (14 miles)

Day hikes include:

- Handing Spring Trail (1.5 miles)
- Cookstove Trail (1.5 miles)
- Thomas Point Trail (2 miles)
- Casner Canyon Trail (4 miles)
- Jacks Canyon-Munds Mountain (9-10 miles)
- Soldier Pass Trail (4 miles)
- Vultee Arch-Devil's Bridge (5-6 miles)
- Dry Creek Trail (6 miles)

Spring and fall are the best times for hiking most of these trails. Summer temperatures may exceed 100 degrees in the lower elevations with little or no water available on some trails. Violent

thunderstorms are frequent during the monsoons of July and August when flash floods can be a threat. In winter expect deep snows above 6000 feet and frequent storms. BE PREPARED for cold weather in the winter and always check the weather forecast before heading out for the higher elevations.

These hikes have two things in common; they are all in Arizona's beautiful red rock country and they all fall inside the bounds of the Coconino National Forest. Otherwise they are quite diverse in length, elevation and location, being spread out some 40 to 50 miles from the Beaver Creek Ranger station near Camp Verde, up through the canyon of Oak Creek to near the switchbacks climbing back up to Flagstaff. Use the Coconino National Forest map, the brief descriptions presented here, the indicated topo maps, and the up to date information provided by the Sedona Ranger District (Red Rock Ranger District (928) 282-4119).

WILSON MOUNTAIN TRAIL: Set out on Forest Trail # 10 from Midgley Bridge at 4600' elevation and climb 2300 feet up out of the riparian zone, through pinyon juniper, and up onto First Bench. Climb to the top and enjoy the views from the Ponderosa covered summit punctuated with mountain meadows. Alternately, you can start at Encinosa picnic area and take the North Wilson Trail #123 until it picks up this National Recreation Trail at First Bench. History has it that this mountain and trail are named after Richard Wilson who was killed by a bear in the canyon that also honors his name around 1885. Check with the district ranger for recommended campsites. (Topos: Munds Park and Wilson Mountain Quads)

EAST POCKET TRAIL (A.B. YOUNG TRAIL): Count 33 switchbacks as you wind up FT #100 out of Bootlegger Campground to reach the rim above. Make your way along the rim to the East Pocket Knob fire lookout tower. Best campsites at the -top are to the west of the fire lookout. An overnight camp is required on each of these first six trails. (Togo: except for the very beginning of the trail, the hike lies on the Wilson Mountain Quad)

WET BEAVER CREEK: From the vicinity of the Beaver Creek ranger station, take the Bell Trail #13 and head upstream along Wet Beaver Creek until you meet Apache Maid Trail #15. Here you have a choice. Take either trail until you reach the edge of the rim above and make camp for the night there or return to the creek below. Beware spring runoff and high water levels. Here, get your advice from the nearby ranger station. (Topo: Casner Butte Quad)

DRY BEAVER CREEK: This overnight hike is best in late winter or spring when the creek is wet because of snow melt in the Woods Canyon drainage. At other times of the year, there may be no water. The trailhead is at a gate on a little used four wheel drive road about 0.8 miles south of Wild Horse Mesa Drive at the village of Oak Creek. Take FT #93 to its end about two miles past Rattlesnake Canyon. Backtrack and add a side hike either one mile up into Rattlesnake Canyon (no trail) or take FT #94 to Horse Mesa. (Topos: Sedona and Munds Park Quads)

LOY TRAIL: This trail is best hiked spring, summer, or fall and will provide a dry camp regardless of season. Start out on FT #5 just southeast of Loy Butte at the edge of the private Hancock Ranch. The trail skirts the ranch then follows the Loy Canyon drainage in a northerly direction until it meets Secret Mountain Trail #109 on Secret Mountain Saddle. There are plenty of good campsites on Secret Mountain but plan an a dry camp along this historic cattle trail. (Topo: Loy Butte Quad)

MOONEY TRAIL: Too hot in summer, too cold in winter, leaves spring and fall as ideal times to attempt this 12-14 mile overnigher. Forest Trail #12 starts at Black Tank on the Sycamore Pass Road (FR 525C). The trail climbs a long wide north-south ridge for well over a mile. A large rock cairn within sight of some ranch buildings to the east marks the place to turn right along a vague

trail that drops off the ridge in a northerly direction into the Mooney Creek drainage. The rest of the trail is quite evident until it tops the rim at Buck Ridge near the Taylor Cabin Trail into Sycamore Canyon. Campsites are available along Buck Ridge but they are all dry sites. You may go back out the same way or follow the powerline over Casner Mountain to Sycamore Pass Road. (Topo: Loy Butte Quad)

HARDING SPRINGS TRAIL: This short but lovely FT #51 start just across the road from the entrance of Cave Spring Camp and reaches the east rim in about three quarters of a mile. If you work your way north along the rim about a mile you can descend Cookstove Trail to the Pine Flat campground along the highway. (Topo: Mountaineire Quad)

COOKSTOVE TRAIL: Trail #43 is much like the Harding Springs Trail but it offers rougher going at the onset. Consider combining the two trails or settle for the 1.5 mile roundtrip. Start across the road from the water standpipe at the north end of Pine Flat Camp. (Togo: Mountaineire Quad)

THOMAS POINT TRAIL: This slightly longer FT #142 climbs the rim from the highway at about milepost 384.4. The two mile roundtrip takes you through chaparral as well as mixed conifers. Probably built around 1880 by C. S. "Bear" Howard who built a cabin across the creek. Ten years later he sold out to members of the Thomas family and thus the name we know today. (Topo: Munds Park Quad)

CASNER CANYON TRAIL: This trail is twice as long as the previous three and climbs nearly twice as high. Park along Highway 89A at about milepost 376.9 and look east across Oak Creek to find the notch that marks the opening of Casner Canyon. Ford the creek and head into the canyon where the lower part of FT #11 is often washed away. Keep a sharp eye to the left to pick up the trail as it starts climbing the north slope. It is believed this trail was built to move cattle to upper level grazing around 1877 by Moses and Riley Casner. (Topo: Munds Park Quad)

JACK'S CANYON - MUNDS MOUNTAIN: This hike combines another old cattle trail (FT#55) through Jack's Canyon for a distance of 6.5 miles and a climb of 2000' with the shorter Munds Mountain Trail #77 that climbs another 450' in 2.5 miles. There are great views at the end of this trail and after nine miles already, you may wish to head back the next day. (Togo: Munds Mountain Quad)

SOLDIER PASS TRAIL: From State Route 89A take Soldier Pass Road until you find the forest service trailhead signs near the end of the road midway between Devil's Kitchen and Coffeepot Rock. Follow Soldier Pass Trail #66 about two miles to Soldier Pass. Take the cutoff to the right and head easterly until you pick up Brins Mesa Trail #119. Follow this trail south-easterly to its southern trailhead. Now cut across to Devil's Kitchen and back to the starting point. (Topos: Sedona and Wilson Mountain Quads)

VULTEE ARCH-DEVILS BRIDGE: Both accessible from FR 152, these two separate hikes are easily done in one day and total just over five miles roundtrip. On Trail #120 you'll climb 400 feet to the red sandstone arch known as Devil's Bridge. Take FR 152 to its end and hike Trail #22 to the bronze plaque commemorating the crash site that claimed the lives of California aircraft designer Gerard Vultee and his wife in 1938. This trail also requires a 400 foot ascent. (Topo: Wilson Mountain Quad)

DRY CREEK TRAIL: From the end of FR 152 at the same point you started the Vultee Arch Trail, take the Dry Creek Trail westward at first but then swinging north for a two mile journey up dry

creek. Add a one mile or so side trip up the primitive trail up Bear Sign Canyon and you've put together a nice six mile trip through red rock Country. (Topo: Wilson Mountain Quad)

WEST FORK OF OAK CREEK

OUTING LOCATION : West Fork of Oak Creek. Best hiked by splitting into two patrols. One starts at trailhead in Oak Creek Canyon, the other starts at trailhead at the top, 18.5 miles south on Woody Mountain Road. Each patrol hikes one direction and goes home in opposite cars left at each trailhead. (Make sure the drivers remember to swap keys). The entire troop camps together at the midway point, about 7 miles (total hike 14 miles). If hiking in one direction, start at top and finish at Oak Creek.

GETTING THERE : Drive to Sedona by way of I-17 and state Route 179. At the junction of 89A, drive north 10.3 miles to a large parking lot on the north side of the road. This is the south trailhead. To get to the North trailhead drive to Flagstaff, go east on old Rt. 66 to Woody Mountain Road. Drive south 18.5 miles. Look for small sign " West Fork". This is the start of the North Trailhead.

CAMPSITE : Find a wide spot in the Canyon up out of the streambed. Look to stop about the 7 mile mark. If heavy rain is in the forecast do not attempt this hike. Flash floods can be nasty.

WATER SOURCES : You are hiking in or by water the entire trip. In about 6 spots, toward the upper end of the trail, you have to swim thru pools about 10 - 30 yards long - 4-12 feet deep. Each patrol needs to bring an inflatable pool tube and about 100 feet of rope. Backpacks are laid across the tube and pushed forward by the swimmer as he crosses to the other side. Tube will then be pulled back to the next scout so he can repeat the process until all scouts and leaders are across.

TRAIL LENGTH : 14 Miles (Hiking Speed about 1 mile per hour because of difficulty). Total elevation change about 1500 feet over the 14 miles.

TRAIL DIFFICULTY : For the more experienced hiker. Elevation change over 14 miles, about 1500 feet. Lots of rock hopping. Bring a walking stick for stability. There are about 6 water pools that have to be crossed by swimming. 10-30 yards 4-12 feet deep. Bring inner tubes and 100 feet of rope for pack crossings.

PERMITS : None required - Wilderness Area

MAPS: Dutton Hill, Arizona and Munds Park, Arizona

BOOKS: Sedona Guide by Krause and Henkle (see page 67)
Flagstaff Hikes (Revised 3rd Edition) (see page 244-245)
Arizona Highways - August 1999 pages 52-56

TIPS : This is one of the most beautiful hikes in Oak Creek. It is not one for a first time hiker or someone who can not take cold water or is a non swimmer. Hike should be taken between May and September. If heavy rain is expected, stay out.

Submitted by : Dave Davenport - Scoutmaster Troop 375 - Foothills Ward.

FLAGSTAFF AREA TRAILS



Difficulty:	Moderate to Strenuous
Distance:	varies with trail
Elevation:	varies with trail
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	
Cost:	none
Management:	Coconino NF (928) 527-3600
Trailhead:	many.

The San Francisco Peaks area north of Flagstaff, Arizona, is an ancient volcanic field perched atop the southwest limits of the Colorado Plateau. The prominent high peaks are the remains of a volcano that may have once reached 15000 feet above the plateau. Numerous cinder cones, some active as recently as 1066 AD, and lava flows surround the San Francisco Peaks. Visitors unfamiliar with the area are encouraged to first stop at the Museum of Northern Arizona to view the displays explaining the geology, flora, and fauna of this area.

Some of these hikes are now located in the Kachina Peaks Wilderness. Be sure to abide by the BSA Wilderness Policy. Make every effort to walk softly and employ minimum impact camping techniques. Some of these hikes require cross-country orienteering skills with map and compass. An altimeter would come in handy on these off trail excursions. Proper preparation is essential for both Scouts and adult leaders. Study the maps ahead of time, take several copies with you, and check in with local agencies before leaving. When attempting the San Francisco Peaks routes be especially mindful of the weather. In the winter months beware of Pacific fronts moving in from the coast. These are usually fairly predictable over a twenty four hour period. Beyond that it is difficult even for the National Weather Service. Check with them and the Coconino County Sheriffs Office at (520) 774-4523 before attempting winter outings. In the summer monsoons severe thunderstorms can develop quickly just about any afternoon. Stay off high ridges and don't become a lightning rod. Be sure to have raingear for summer hikes. Probably the safest months are June and September, just before and after the usual monsoons. Be prepared regardless of the month!

SAN FRANCISCO PEAKS Be sure to include elevational changes in your planning so you can pace yourself and allow enough time. Topo maps are essential and an altimeter will be very useful.

ROUTE #1 Enter Lockett Meadow area by FR 552 and stay on this dirt road going into the Inner Basin to the intersection with FR 146. Hike along FR 146 to Abineau Canyon , a distance of just under five miles. This road is excluded from but surrounded by the wilderness area. **NO CAMPING IS ALLOWED IN THE INNER BASIN.** (Togo: Humphreys Peak Quad)

ROUTE #2 Head south from the Snow Bowl parking lot and watch carefully for the marker indicating entry point into the forest from Snow Bowl Road. Follow the special ribbons to the top

of an old larva slope where you drop into an open valley aligned roughly north-south. Follow this drainage south until you hit a dirt road and follow the road to the Veit Springs area where you'll find a number of old cabins and a well. Treat any water taken here to be on the safe side. Follow the road to Freidlein Prairie Road and on this road continue until you get to the junction with Weatherford Road. Total distance here is about six miles. (Topo: Humphreys Peak Quad)

ROUTE #3 From the end of FR 146 in Abineau Canyon, drop directly down the canyon to the 9600' contour, then head west around the mountain maintaining that elevation. When well into White Horse Canyon head just south of west toward the center of mass of the Hochderffer Hills to meet the road shown on the map as ending just above the 8760' contour line. Follow this road downhill to Little Spring. The water is good here but please treat it to be sure. This six mile hike is slow going on the off-trail portions. Allow 4 or 5 hours even in good weather. (Topo: Humphreys Peak Quad)

ROUTE #4 From Little Spring proceed cross-country towards Bismarck Lake, then to Lew Tank, and finally head toward the Snow Bowl's parking area about two miles farther. Keep low enough on the contours so you hike in the aspens staying below the firs. After the initial elevation gain coming out of Little Spring, the going should be easy. This four mile journey should only take 2 to 3 hours. (Topo: Humphreys Peak Quad)

ROUTE #5: Proceed north on the Weatherford Road (FR 522) from Schultz Pass Road (FR 420) to the first road leading to the right. Hike this road as it leads up a small valley, turns into a trail, and finally disappears. This will be no problem as you continue up this open valley until reaching Aspen Spring. Notice the old sheep watering troughs and pipes coming down from the spring. Fencing protects the spring somewhat but use tablets to treat the water anyway. From the spring follow the trail up the northwest flank of Schultz Peak to a saddle area at about 10000' elevation. Now proceed up the ridge to the top of the volcanic ridge below Doyle Peak. Follow this ridge to the northeast and begin descending along the northeast ridge of Doyle Peak until you reach the service road. Allow 6-8 hours to complete this hike. The elevational gain from Aspen Spring to the top of the volcanic ridge is 1600 feet of tough climbing even in good weather. The volcanic ridge can be very dangerous when it's windy. Watch for blowing snow before venturing out. This hike covers six to seven miles. (Topo: Humphrey Peak Quad)

ROUTE #6: Hiking from Lockett Meadow pick up FR 146 and follow it around the boundary of the Kachina Peaks Wilderness until you meet Schultz Pass Road (FR 420). This nine mile hike parallels the contour lines for little elevational change and should take but three or four hours. (Topo: Sunset Crater West Quad)

ROUTE #7 From the Snow Bowl take the Humphreys Peak Trail until it meets the Weatherford Trail (FT #102). Turn left and follow this trail to the summit at 12633 feet. You can't get any higher in Arizona! Once you reach 11400 feet you are nearing timberline and alpine tundra. The tundra is extremely fragile and leaving the established trail is prohibited. Be careful of violent electrical storms especially in the summer. Hikers with hair standing on end and their clothes aglow with static electricity had better heed the warning and get low quickly. This hike is 8.7 miles for the round trip. (Topo: Humphreys Peak Quad)

ROUTE #8 From the trailhead off FR 522 near Aspen Spring follow the Weatherford Trail (FT #102) nine miles to Humphreys Peak. Heed the warning from the previous route description regarding the fragile tundra. (Topo: Humphreys Peak Quad)

SYCAMORE CANYON This hike through rugged Sycamore Canyon is a two or three day trip

best traveled downstream starting from either Camp Raymond or Winter Cabin at Turkey Butte and ending at the Verde River. This most demanding hike covers 44 miles. For information and maps call to the

Coconino National Forest
Supervisor's Office
2323 E. Greenlaw Lane
Flagstaff, AZ 86004
(928) 527-3600.

(Topos: Loy Butte, Sycamore Basin,~Sycamore Point Quads)

TUTHILL VIA VOLUNTEER Following the power lines between Fort Tuthill (County Fair Grounds) and Camp Raymond, this 18 mile hike crosses typical Coconino plateau with Ponderosa pine over a volcanic base but at one point crosses Volunteer Canyon a number of times. This is a relatively easy one day hike but there is no reliable water along the way. If hiked from Camp Raymond to Fort

Tuthill be sure to follow the powerline to the right when they separate . Once you reach the gravel pit you can choose from a number of roads to reach the fair grounds. Contact the Flagstaff District Ranger for more information. (Topos: Flagstaff West, Bellemont, Garland Prairie Quads)

CRACK-IN-THE-ROCK This hike is a nine mile walk to the major Indian ruins in Wapatki National Monument. This 18 mile round trip across fairly level terrain is fairly easy going except when the weather is hot. Wapatki is located on Highway 89 northeast of Flagstaff. Specific permission must be obtained ahead of time from the Superintendent, Wapatki National Monument, Tuba Star Route, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001 [Telephone (520) 527-7040]. (Topos: Wapatki Southeast, Wapatki Northeast Quads)

MOUNT ELDEN: The Mount Elden-Dry Lake Hills Trail System near Flagstaff has a series of great trails in and around the Mount Elden area. Information and trail maps are available from the National Forest Service, Elden District. (Topos: Flagstaff East, Flagstaff West, Humphreys Peak, Sunset Crater West Quads)

Mazatal Wilderness Trails



Difficulty: Moderate to Strenuous
Distance: varies with trail
Elevation: 2,200 to 6,800 feet
Vertical gain: varies with trail
Vertical loss: varies with trail
USGS maps: Mazatzal Peak
Cost: none
Management: Tonto NF 928-474-7900

Trailhead: From Shea Boulevard, take Arizona 87 north and drive 47.2 miles to the Barnhardt Trailhead turnoff. Turn left then right and drive five miles on Forest Road 419 to the trailhead..

"Mazatal" to the Paiute means "empty space between." The Mazatal Wilderness Area is located in central Arizona between the Verde River on the west and the Beeline Highway (Arizona 87) on the east. It stretches from south of Strawberry to just north of Sunflower and lies in Gila, Maricopa, and Yavapai Counties. With 205,000 acres it is the second largest wilderness area in Arizona. The local pronunciation is Ma-ta-zel' and it seems to be widely used and accepted. The pronunciation found in Webster's Geographic Dictionary is Ma'sa-tsal'

Elevations range from 2200' along the Verde to 7000' in the highest passes along the north-south "Mazatzal Divide" near the eastern boundary. From the divide the land slopes west towards the Verde River in a series of rugged mountains and twisted canyons.

Weather and vegetation vary greatly in this rugged area. Extreme temperatures range from -15 to 120 degrees F. Vegetation ranges from Ponderosa Pine and Douglas-fir in the high north facing slopes to cacti and desert shrub in the lower south facing areas. Dangerous winter storms and blistering summer heat (and dried up springs and creeks) make spring and fall the best times to hike this wilderness.

The Tonto National Forest administers this wilderness and can be contacted for more information. The Tonto National Forest has four Ranger Districts concerned with this wilderness (Cave Creek, Payson, Mesa, Tonto Basin). The Forest Service also distributes the Tonto National Forest Map and the Mazatzal Wilderness Area Map for a nominal fee. The wilderness area map is excellent. Also see topos listed for each hike described below.

BARNHART: Beginning a hike at Barnhart Trailhead, visit one or more of these areas; Clulson's Spring, Brody Seep, Malapais Spring, Winsor Spring, Hopi Spring. The trails in this segment are best suited for hiking in the spring or fall. (Topo: Mazatzal Peak Quad)

DEER CREEK TRAIL COMPLEX: The Deer Creek Trailhead is probably the easiest Mazatzal trailhead to reach, yet it is not heavily used. From Arizona 87, about 20 miles south of Payson, at the junction with Arizona 188, turn west on Forest Road 492. Drive to the parking area at the trailhead. Three trails start from this trailhead, all infrequently used. It is possible to use two of

these trails as part of a fine over-night or three-day loop hike into the rugged and scenic country at the head of Deer Creek. Follow the signed start of Deer Creek Trail (Forest Trail #45). The trail works its way north about 1/2 mile through desert grassland and drops into Deer Creek. It then follows the creek west through riparian growth of cottonwood and sycamore trees. (The stream flows most of the year.) After about two miles, the trail passes the creek's confluence with Bars Canyon. The trail becomes narrower and rougher, climbing along the south wall of the canyon. Over the next three or four miles the trail climbs steadily, finally entering a fine stand of ponderosa pine just before entering the site of Chilson Camp (McGowan Camp on the wilderness map). This area of open meadows offers a number of possible campsites. There is normally water in the creek except during long dry periods.

Forest Trail #45 continues up the creek a short distance then climbs steeply out to the south, reaching the Mount Peeley road (Forest Road 201) at its end. It is possible to hike up the Divide Trail (Forest Trail #23) and explore the interesting country around Mount Peeley. It is also easy to hike cross-county up Mount Peeley from the north. You can return to your car via Deer Creek or return on Forest Trail #46 via the South Fork of Deer Creek.

Forest Trail #47 follows an especially scenic route. To do this, walk east from the end of Forest Trail #45 on the Mount Peeley road about 2 miles. Because the road is long and rough, there is little traffic. Maple Spring, located just north of the road about a mile east of the Deer Creek Trail is unsigned but may be a reliable water source. Except near the start where it passes through an old burn, the road stays on the north-facing slopes shaded by fine stands of ponderosa pine and Douglas fir. About two miles from the Deer Creek Trail, the road swings abruptly south out of the forest, and at this point Forest Trail #47 forks left (northeast).

The trail starts as a jeep trail which is closed after a short distance, and continues through tall pines, working its way northwest down the complex ridge system. About three miles from the Mount Peeley road, the trees finally give way to chaparral. The foot trail veers right from the old jeep trail and climbs over a small hill, then drops rapidly off the ridge to end at the trailhead. It is a pleasant 2 mile walk down the road to the fork near the highway.

DEER CREEK Beginning at the Deer Creek Trailhead, hike one or more of these trails in its entirety; #45, #46, #47. You must also visit either McGowan Camp or Maple Springs on this hike. Best time is September through June. (Topo: Mazatzal Peak Quad)

DOLL BABY: Beginning a hike at either Doll Baby or City Creek Trailhead and visit at least one of the following; The Park (Pete's Pond area), Fuller Seep, Brush Spring. The higher elevation options are best in October, November, April or May. The lower options are best hiked October through April. (Topos: North Peak and Cypress Buttes Quads)

CROSS FRANCH: To earn this segment do all of the following:

A. Hike all of Trail #244 from Cross F Trailhead

B. Hike Trail #88 between its junctions with #244 and #87 C. Visit Potato Patch

This area is best hiked October through May. (Topos: Lion Mountain and Reno Pass Quads)

TWIN BUTTES Beginning at the Twin Buttes Trailhead, hike to the East Verde River in spring or fall. (Topos: Cane Spring Mountain and Verde Hot Springs Quads)

SHEEP CROSSING Begin at Sheep's Crossing suspension bridge over the Verde River. Use Trail #22 to hike to Dutchman's Grave Spring. This trail runs through high desert from 2200 to 3100 feet elevation and is not suitable for summer hiking. This trail is shown on the Mazatzal Wilderness

Map but not on the Topo: Chalk Mountain Quad.

ARAVAIPA CANYON WILDERNESS TRAIL



Difficulty: Moderate (Fun walk in water)
Distance: 11 miles one way
Elevation: 2,600 to 3,100 feet
Vertical gain: 500 east bound
Vertical loss: 500 west bound
USGS maps: Brandenburg Mountain, Booger Canyon
Cost: \$5.00 per person per day
Management: BLM
East Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness
Klondyke Ranger Station
(928) 828-3380
West Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness
Brandenburg Ranger Station
(928) 604-0810 (temp)
<http://www.az.blm.gov/sfo/aravaipa/aravaipa.html>
Trailhead: East End of Canyon and West End.

You'll need a permit to enjoy this deep wilderness gorge of outstanding natural beauty. Situated at a low desert elevation, its summer temperatures can exceed 100 degrees. Spring and fall months are ideal for hiking but winter nights get a little cold for camping inside the wilderness..

Aravaipa Creek flows year-round, an unusual enough phenomenon in the Arizona desert. Nurtured by this perennial water supply, large sycamores, ashes, cottonwoods and willows line the banks flanked by other riparian species. The creek itself is home to several native fishes, mostly minnow and sucker species. The canyon is a bird watchers paradise with more than 200 species observed in the canyon. Along the north canyon walls desert bighorn sheep will make an occasional appearance.

Aravaipa Canyon is about 11 miles long. The land is rugged, with no marked trails, and campsites are primitive in the wilderness tradition.

The steep-walled confines of the narrow canyons provide almost no means of escaping fast-rising waters from thunderstorms and flash flood potential must always be in mind. All hikers should bring sturdy footgear suitable for hiking over rocks and wading and a good supply of drinking water. Campers should bring chemical stoves as the supply of firewood in this popular spot is nearly exhausted. Of course, please pack out all litter!

The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for preserving and protecting this favorite wilderness of Aravaipa Canyon. The number of hikers allowed in the canyon is limited. Group size is limited to 10 or fewer and permits are required for entry. Advance reservations are nearly always necessary in the milder months as demand is so high. For information, reservations and permits contact BLM Safford District Office at 425 East 4th Street, Safford, Arizona 85546 (Telephone 520-428-4040). You can make a reservation up to 13 weeks in advance of the day you wish to hike. Please remember that spring and fall weekends are most popular and fill up almost immediately on the opening day 13 weeks in advance. The reservation system is a viewable calendar on the internet showing the number of available spaces or "full" dates up to 13 weeks from

the current date.

GETTING THERE : If you hike from both trailheads, be sure to send your high clearance 4 wheel drive vehicle to the East Trailhead. Some minor stream crossings and sandy areas. The West trailhead is OK for regular passenger cars. To get to the trailheads, drive to Superior. From there the East trailhead vehicle will continue to Globe and then head toward Safford (Highway 70). About 8 miles past Ft. Thomas look for Klondyke Road. It is dirt but kept in good condition. It is 50 miles to the end, at the Aravaipa Trailhead. Park on high ground in case of rain. For the vehicle going to the West trailhead, from Superior, turn south on Highway 177. Go to Winkelman and continue south on Highway 77, about 6 miles look for Aravaipa Road, follow it to the parking lot.

CAMPSITE : Horse Camp or Booger Canyon. These two side canyons are about half way in from both trailheads. If heavy rain is in the forecast do not attempt this hike.

WATER SOURCES : You are hiking in or by water the entire trip. No swimming is necessary but there are some swimming holes that the boys can take a dip if they get hot.

TRAIL LENGTH : 11 Miles one way. Total elevation change about 500 feet over the 11 miles.

TRAIL DIFFICULTY : Walking thru water about 80% of the time. The younger scouts can do it. Water will get waist high in some areas. Suggest you bring a walking stick to maintain balance

PERMITS : Only 50 total permits per day into this canyon issued by the BLM. They are split 30 from one trailhead and 20 from the other. Max size of group is 10. I suggest you divide into 2 patrols. Hike from each trailhead, camp in the middle, Horse Camp Canyon, and drive home in the opposite cars. Be sure to swap keys. The permits go fast. Reservations are taken 13 weeks in advance. Call 928-348-4400.

MAPS: Brandenburg Mountain and Booger Canyon Quads

BOOKS: Streamside Trails by Steve Krause (See Cover and pages 50-51)
Arizona Highways Book - Outdoors in Arizona (Pages 104-109)

TIPS : If heavy rain is expected, stay out. Put plastic compactor bags (this is a heavier plastic bag) in the stuff sack bag for your sleeping bags and anything you do not want to get wet. Someone **WILL** fall in the water. If you do two patrols, have the bigger, stronger scouts hike upstream from the East trailhead. Bring some binoculars. Watch for Eagles and Big Horn Sheep.

Campfire Theme : Setting a direct course and not deviating from it. Obstacles get in the way but we go around, over and under to get to the final destination. Enjoy the scenery along the way. Life is in the journey not in the end.

DON'T FORGET PERMITS! BOTH BLM WILDERNESS AND BSA LOCAL TOUR ARE NEEDED.

Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness is managed by the Bureau of Land Management Safford Field Office. BLM has a excellent website describing the Aravaipa Canyon, the area and the permit process. The URL link directly to the Aravaipa homepage is

<http://www.az.blm.gov/sfo/aravaipa/aravaipa.html>
From that site, there is a link to the reservation system.

BLUE RANGE PRIMITIVE AREA TRAILS



Difficulty:	Moderate to Strenuous
Distance:	varies with trail
Elevation:	2,400 to 5,000 feet
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	varies with trail
Cost:	none
Management:	Apache NF, Alpine Ranger District 520 339-4384
Trailhead:	many.

The Blue Range Primitive Area lies in east-central Arizona between State Highway 666 and the New Mexico border. It is named for the Blue River that flows north to south through the center of the area. It is rugged terrain similar to the White Mountain area to the west of the highway and is also a three season hiking area. **BE SURE TO BE IN TOUCH WITH THE APPROPRIATE U. S. FOREST SERVICE DISTRICT OFFICE BEFORE HIKING THESE TRAILS!**

The topographical maps covering each hike will be named with each description, but USFS trail numbers are not given on these maps. They should be used in conjunction with the USFS Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests Map available through forest service offices and retail outlets.

HORSE RIDGE: Backpack or use vehicular support for this two day hike from the Coronado Trail (State 666) to the Blue River and back. The Horse Ridge trailhead is located on State 666 one half mile southwest of its junction with Forest Road 567 by Beaverhead Lodge. From the trailhead hike down Trail # 38 to #76 to #5 to Blue Crossing Campground. For the return, backtrack on #5 to #56 and follow this trail northwest to Forest Road 567. Contact:

Alpine Ranger District
Apache National Forest P.O. Box 469
Alpine, AZ 85920
Telephone: (928) 339-4384

This 22 mile hike covers 8000' to 6200' in elevation. (Tops: Hannagan Meadow [15'] and Blue [15] Quads)

BEAR MOUNTAIN: Bear Mountain stands in the heart of the Blue Range Primitive Area and provides a sweeping view of mountain upon mountain in every direction. Three or four days are needed to complete this moderately difficult backpacking trek. Start at Trailhead #38 (see previous hike) and follow Trail #38 to #76. On #76 hike to Blue Camp on the Blue River and pick up #51 (Largo Creek Trail) and proceed past Dutch Oven Spring to #54 (WS Lake Trail) which takes you

to the top of Bear Mountain. Descend by Trail #39 (Sawmill Canyon Trail) down Telephone Ridge to the Blue River. Three quarters of a mile downstream pick up Forest Road 281 and Trail # 75 up Grant Creek to the highway. Continue northeast about three quarters of a mile where there is a turnout at which a vehicle can be safely loaded. Elevation ranges between 8000' and 6100' on this 3°~ mile hike. Contact Alpine Ranger District. (Topos: Hannagan Meadow [15"] and Blue [15] Quads)

STRAYHORSE CREEK: Take two or three days to backpack this loop in either direction. Start at Rose Peak off State Highway 666 and follow Trail #20 about twelve miles down to the Blue River. Follow the river downstream about seven miles to Trail #14. After hiking west on this trail about ten miles you return to State 666 six or seven winding miles downhill from the starting point. It's best to arrange being picked up where you hit the road. Contact:

Clifton Ranger District
Apache National Forest P.O. Box 698
Clifton, AZ 85533
Telephone (520) 865-4129

This 29 mile hike descends and climbs between 8780' and 4940' elevation. (Topos: Hannagan Meadow [15'] and Blue [15] Quads)

BLUE RIVER: This is not a beginners hike regardless of choice of direction. We suggest you cover the wild 42 miles heading downstream from Hannagan Meadow's 9100' to the 3860' confluence with the San Francisco River. This trail follows an old wagon route that connected Clifton, Arizona to Luna, New Mexico and was used by miners, stockmen, soldiers, and other pioneers of the 1870's and '80's. From Hannagan Meadow take Forest Road 29A a short distance to pick up Trail # 73 and follow it to the Blue River. Follow the Blue until it joins the San Francisco River . Plan to be picked up where Forest Road 212 hits the river. Plan this long route carefully. Contact the Alpine Ranger District for the upper half and the Clifton Ranger District for the lower half. (Topos: Hannagan Meadow [15'], Blue [15'], Dutch Blue, Fritz Canyon, and Big Lue Mountains [15'] Quads)

PUEBLO PARK: Cross the entire primitive area and hike into New Mexico on this thirty-three mile hike. Start at Burnt Corral south of Strayhorse at the junction of State 666 and Forest Road 587. Follow Trail # 89, then #20 eastward to the Blue River. Hike downstream to Trail # 55. Follow this trail to #54 East and on to #43 East up through Bear Canyon and- upstream along Pueblo Creek to the Pueblo Park Campground on Forest Road 232. Elevational changes range from 8400' to 5070'. The hike starts in the Clifton Ranger District but ends in the Luna Ranger District. Contact:

Luna Ranger District, Gila National Forest,
Box 91, Luna, New Mexico 87824.
Telephone (505) 547-2661.

(Topos: Hannagan Meadow [15'], Blue [15] , Saliz Pass, N. M., and Bull Basin, N. M. Quads)

WHITE MOUNTAIN TRAILS



Difficulty:	Moderate to Strenuous
Distance:	varies with trail
Elevation:	varies with trail
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	varies with trail
Cost:	none
Management:	White Mountain Apache Tribe (928) 338-4385 Apache NF, Springerville Ranger District (928) 333-4372
Trailhead:	many.

The area in which these hikes are located is rugged high mountain country along the Mogollon Rim. This famous east-west escarpment separates Arizona's high plateau from the basin and range below. These eastern Arizona hikes are all located between the eastern boundary of Apache land (Fort Apache and San Carlos Reservations) and State Highway 666, the Coronado Trail. This beautiful green area boasts the state's highest rainfall and provides three seasons of hiking. In the winter it gets downright cold. The record low for the state was recorded at nearby Hawley Lake at -40 degrees F. Regardless of season, CONTACT THE U. S. FOREST SERVICE BEFORE TAKING ANY OF THESE HIKES AND HEED THEIR ADVICE.

The USGS topos covering each hike are given with the description; but none of these contain the trail numbers assigned by the Forest Service. You will need the USFS Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests Map available at all ranger stations as well as at hiking shops and map stores.

MOUNT BALDY: Starting at Greer, Arizona, hike either Trail #94 or #95 to the top of Mount Baldy and return by the other trail. Mount Baldy on the eastern boundary of the Ft. Apache Reservation is the highest point in eastern Arizona and affords a vast view in all directions. This is best done as an overnight hike and the summit is on the reservation. Camping there requires a permit issued by the White Mountain Apache tribe. Contact:

Game and Fish Department
White Mountain Apache Tribe
Box 220
Whiteriver, AZ 85941
Telephone (928) 338-4385

For off-reservation information contact:

Springerville Ranger District
Springerville, AZ 85938
Telephone (928) 333-4372

Elevations range from 8560 feet at Greer to 11403 feet at the summit. The hike to the summit and back is 25 miles. (Topos: Mount Ord and Big Lake [15]J Quads. Also see USFS Mount Baldy Wilderness Visitor's Travel Guide and Map.)

SQUIRREL CANYON: Hike this loop down off the rim and through a couple of rugged canyons to Honeymoon Campground. You may hike it either direction but we recommend making it an overnigher with camping at Honeymoon. Backpack it or have your gear brought to the campground by support vehicle. Drive 4.2 miles west on Forest Road 54, take Trail #34 southwest through Squirrel Canyon to # 45 and turn south to the campground. Return the next day back up #45 to #48 through Warren Canyon to pick up #34 back to the road. The loop is, about 20 miles with elevational changes between 8800 feet and 5800 feet:

Contact:

Clifton Ranger District
Apache National Forest
P.O. Box 698
Clifton, AZ 85533
Telephone (520) 865-4129

(Topo: Hannagan Meadow [15'] Quad)

EAST EAGLE CREEK: This rugged two day hike sometimes following pretty Eagle Creek can be hiked in either direction and gear may be brought to camp by vehicle if desired. Start from Strayhorse Campground located 0.2 miles in on Forest Road 504 off State Highway 666. Hike south on Forest Road 587 to Burnt Corral on East Eagle Creek, then take Trail #33 downstream to the junction with Trail #45. Follow #45 south to Honeymoon Campground and make camp for the night. The next day take Trails #45, #27, #91, and #15 easterly to Rose Peak and Highway 666. Contact is again Clifton Ranger Station. This hike is 22 miles long and covers elevations of 7200' to 5340'. (Topos: Hannagan Meadow [15'] and Robinson Mesa Quads)

ROSE SPRING: One leg of the route takes you along the top of the rim with the return leg beneath the rim, providing vivid contrasts in altitude and terrain. This two day backpacking trip can be hiked in either direction. Drive to the end of Forest Road 54 west of State 666. Take Trail #54 west along the rim to #45 on which you head north 1/2 mile to Rose Spring. Return the following day to State 666. Again, contact Clifton Ranger Station. This 24 mile hike ranges in elevation from 8800' to 6700'. (Topo: Hannagan Meadow [15'] Quad)

BEAR CANYONS: Imagine, two Bear Canyons in the same hike! Take Forest Road 54 west from State 666 for 2.5 miles to Trail #26 and down Bear Canyon to Chitty Canyon and #37. Continue downstream to #18 and on to East Eagle Creek, up Hot Air Canyon via #15, west on #27 and south on #19 to #46, the Bear Canyon Trail. Descend down another Bear Canyon via #46 to Forest Road 217. Contact Clifton Ranger Station. Hike covers 26 miles with elevations between 8800' and 4850'. (Topos: Hannagan Meadow [15'], Robinson Mesa, and Bee Canyon Quads)

NORTHERN ARIZONA TRAILS



Difficulty:	Moderate to Strenuous
Distance:	varies with trail
Elevation:	varies with trail
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	varies with trail
Cost:	none
Management:	Navajo Indian Reservation (928) 871-4941, Extension 1645
Trailhead:	many.

COAL MINE CANYON

OUTING LOCATION : Coal Mine Canyon is one of Arizona's hidden treasures. Its unusual landscape will make you believe you are in another world.

GETTING THERE : If you split your troop and hike from both trailheads, be sure to send your high clearance 4 wheel drive vehicles to the North Trailhead. The South trailhead is OK for regular passenger cars. To get to the South trailhead, take I-17 to Flagstaff, continue north on State Route 89 to State Route 160. Turn East on SR 160 and drive to Tuba City. At Tuba City go East on State Route 264 to Mile Post 336.8. Turn left on the dirt road and head toward the windmill, 1/4 mile. You will not see the Canyon until you get to the windmill. Trust me, it is there. Do not try this hike if you expect rain.

CAMPSITE : Once you get to the bottom of the canyon, about 2 miles. It flattens out and you can camp where ever you want. There is no firewood. Bring your camp stoves.

WATER SOURCES : None. Carry in what you need.

TRAIL LENGTH : 7 miles from South to North. You can shorten it by hiking in about 3 miles and then turning around and coming back out the same way.

TRAIL DIFFICULTY : Easy, once you slide down the first 30 yards on your hind end. A little difficult climbing back out with a full pack on .

PERMITS : None required. Navajo Indian Reservation. Respect the land. For information, contact:

Director
Recreational Resources Department - Navajo Tribe
Window Rock, Arizona 86515
[Telephone (520) 871-4941, Extension 1645]

BOOKS: Flagstaff Hikes - Revised 3rd Edition (pages 56-57)
Arizona Highways - January 1999 (Pages 24-31)
Arizona Highways - December 1999 (Pages 24-25)

TIPS : If heavy rain is expected, stay out. Hike is best done between September and May. The summer months can get a little hot. Elevation is 5000 feet. If done in the winter, it can get very cold. We did it in December 1999 and it was 10 degrees at night. This is a "bring your camera" hike. OK for younger hikers. Make sure you have enough adult supervision and keep your patrol hiking together. Learn the legend of Quayowuuti, Eagle Woman, and tell it around the campfire.

Submitted by : Dave Davenport - Scoutmaster Troop 375 - Foothills Ward.

Grand Canyon Trails



Difficulty:	Moderate to Strenuous
Distance:	varies with trail
Elevation:	varies with trail
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	varies with trail
Cost:	\$10 fee plus \$5 per person per day
Management:	Grand Canyon National Park http://www.nps.gov/grca Backcountry Reservation Office http://www.nps.gov/grca/backcountry
Trailhead:	many.

The exploits of one-armed Major John Wesley Powell are well known to any who have read about the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River. As a government explorer, however, he was not the first. He was preceded twelve years earlier by Lieutenant Joseph Christmas Ives, who led an 1857 land expedition into the area. Ives's report to congress, related by author/hiker Colin Fletcher a masterpiece in malprognostication, stated:

Ours has been the first and will doubtless be the last party of whites to visit this profitless locality. It seems intended by nature that the Colorado River, along the greater portion of its lonely and majestic way, shall be forever unvisited and undisturbed.

In its report to the 103rd Congress, the National Park Service reported 4,547,027 visitors to the Grand Canyon in 1992 alone! In 1992 there were over 800,000 user days inside the Canyon. Camper nights in the popular corridor area totaled 44,136 with another 42,692 nights spent in other parts of the Canyon. A permit system has been in use for years. Respect for its restrictions is vital to the preservation of this most grand hiking opportunity. Hikes in the Canyon, perhaps more than anywhere else, require fastidious planning and preparation. With those 4,547,027 visitors came 1,170 emergency medical service responses, 421 costly search and rescue incidents, and 20 deaths. Scout groups were involved in all three categories in 1992. What follows is not to be taken lightly.

PERMITS It should go without saying that the Grand Canyon National Park is internationally popular (about 40% of its visitors came from other countries). There are more people wishing to camp in the Canyon than there are spaces for them, especially during the summer months and spring break. Unless you plan your trip and receive reservations well in advance, you will probably be disappointed in not getting a permit. Full compliance with National Park Service rules and regulations is required, and **VIOLATORS ARE CITED. ALL HIKES IN THIS SERIES REQUIRE PERMITS.** For information, a trip planner packet, hiking permits, and camping reservations in the Grand Canyon, contact:

Backcountry Reservation Office
Grand Canyon National park
Box 129
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023

The Supai, Rainbow Bridge, and Paria Canyon hikes require contacting other agencies as noted in the hike descriptions.

MAPS Unless otherwise indicated, either of these USGS topographic maps covers the trails in this awards series: Grand Canyon National Park and Vicinity, Arizona (1:62,500); or Bright Angel Quadrangle, Arizona (15'). A large number of hiking guides and privately published recreation maps are available. Some are better than others, depending on the experience of the reader/hiker. Ask advice from experienced hikers and do plenty of homework. The planning packet available from the Backcountry Reservation Office contains a good map and lots of information.

PACE: A simple but important rule of thumb - It takes two to three times as long to hike out of the Canyon as it does to hike in! On summer days the temperatures can exceed 100 degrees Fahrenheit. More than a gallon of water may be needed each day per, hiker. Drink the water, don't save it!

LODGING: When school is out during the summer months, you may arrange for your unit to use the Grand Canyon High School for sleeping before the hike starts and to leave extra gear safely stored while in the Canyon. There is a small fee and you must sign a facilities use agreement and show proof of insurance. Contact:

Business Manager
Grand Canyon Schools Box 519
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023

CAVEATS Grand Canyon National Park and Grand Canyon Council, BSA, combine to offer a few additional cautions.

1. Plan your trip with the least experienced hiker in mind. Allow plenty of time for the slowest hiker. The faster hikers can use the extra time to soak up the experience.
2. Good physical condition is required of both Scouts and Scouters. Admit it: the kids will probably not be the out-of-shape hikers. Don't underestimate the ruggedness of this one-mile-deep canyon.
3. Completion of a corridor hike is strongly recommended before attempting threshold, primitive, or wilderness hikes. Corridor trails are well maintained trails crossing the Canyon and include the North and South Kaibab Trails and the Bright Angel Trail.
4. Leaders of any non-corridor hike are strongly advised to experience the hike themselves before leading the unit.
5. A ratio of 6 boys to 2 leaders is optimal to assure both safety and resource protection.
6. Summer months (May to September) are very hot in the Canyon and hikes are not recommended for these months.

GRAND CANYON TRAIL AWARDS

This series of hiking awards is available only to registered Scouts, and consists of a center or title patch and twelve segments. The title patch is available to any Scout who completes one of the segment hikes. It is highly recommended that new Scouts and those with no experience in the Canyon start with one of the first two hikes described. A brief description of each of the twelve hikes follows.

RIM TO RIVER Actually, rim to river to rim, unless you hire a helicopter or mule to get back out,. We recommend this or the following hike for a first-time Grand Canyon experience. On this one

you don't have to catch a ride 100 miles to pick up your vehicles. Use the Bright Angel Trail, the South Kaibab Trail, or a combination of both. If you want to experience both, go down the shorter but steeper Kaibab and up the longer but more gradual Bright Angel. Camping (by permit only) is available at Phantom Ranch and Indian Gardens.

RIM TO RIM A minimum of three days is recommended for this hike. From the South Rim, take either the Bright Angel Trail or the South Kaibab Trail to the River, then take the North Kaibab Trail up along Bright Angel Creek to the North Rim. The route may be done in reverse as well. Using the Bright Angel Trail the total distance is 23.5 miles, compared to 20.3 miles via the South Kaibab Trail. There are only three campgrounds along this route and camping elsewhere is prohibited. Reservations must be made well in advance.

RIM TO RIM TO RIM This hike is 40.6 to 47 miles depending on route choices and should not be attempted in less than four days. Use any combination of corridor trails (South Kaibab, Bright Angel, and North Kaibab Trails). The entire trip is to be completed in one outing but is not to be a marathon; allow plenty of time.

BASS, GRANDVIEW, HANCE, HERMIT, and THUNDER RIVER TRAILS These are five separate hikes, each recognized by a different segment. They all go from the South Rim to the River, except for the Thunder River Trail, which starts at the North Rim. None of these trails is maintained, but each still requires a permit, as does all inner-Canyon hiking. To get that permit, previous Grand Canyon hiking experience is required. Information, experience, and mature judgement are especially important on these hikes. Do plenty of reading and learn from the experiences of others. To complete each of these hikes you must reach the Colorado River.

PRIMITIVE TRAILS: Go from either rim to the Colorado River by any route not yet mentioned. The Boucher and Tanner Trails are examples. Everything said for the previous five trails applies to this segment too.

Havasupai Trail



Difficulty: Moderate to Strenuous
Distance: varies
Elevation: 2,400 to 5,000 feet
Vertical gain: lots
Vertical loss: lots
USGS maps: Pinyon Mountain, Iron Mountain
(eastern end)
Weavers Needle (western end)
Cost: \$12 fee plus \$9 per person per day
Management: Havasupai Tourist Enterprise
928-448-2121 or 928-448-2141
<http://www.haughey.com/havasupai/brochures/b1.htm>
Trailhead: many.

SUPAI TO RIVER: This hike takes you into Havasu Canyon, home of the Havasupai tribe. The ten mile trail to the campground isn't part of the awards program, but is the only way to get to the trailhead. The hike for this segment begins at Mooney Falls and goes eight miles to the Colorado River. The 16 mileround trip takes a full day, so three days are needed for this outing. The water-covered vertical descent down Mooney Falls is strenuous and hazardous. The last four miles are within Grand Canyon National Park, and camping is not permitted in that area of the park. Advance registration and fees (\$30.00 per hiker for two nights in 1992) are required. Write:

Havasupai Tourist Enterprise
Supai, Arizona 86435
Telephone (928) 448-2141

Drive to Hualapai Hilltop, 60 miles north of Peach Springs, Arizona, on Arizona 66. The best map is USGS Grand Canyon National Park, West Half (1:48,000).

GLEN CANYON TRAILS



Difficulty:	Moderate to Strenuous
Distance:	varies with trail
Elevation:	3,000 to 5,000 feet
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	varies with trail
Cost:	
Management:	Glen Canyon National Recreation Area 928-645-2471
Trailhead:	many.

These hikes in northern Arizona and southern Utah traverse some of the roughest and most spectacular country in the southwest. They range from 15 to 78 miles in length and from 3000 to 5000 feet in elevation. They are all in remote rugged terrain managed by the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Most of the trailheads are reached by dirt roads that may be seasonally closed or in poor condition and travel is usually slow. Hikers must get information in advance of starting out. Let authorities know your hiking plans.

Write to the Superintendent, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Box 1507, Page, AZ 86040 [Telephone (928) 645-2471]; or contact the Kanab District Office, BLM, 320 North First, East, Kanab, Utah 84741 [Telephone (801) 644-2672].

Three USGS maps will be helpful: Escalante 1:250,000; Rincon and Moody Creek Quads, both 15' (1:62,500) series topographic maps. Also the Southeastern Utah Multi-purpose Map #1 can be obtained from the Utah Travel Council, State Capital, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114. Also helpful in planning a trip will be the BLM Recreation and Wildlife Map of South-Central Utah (use the BLM address above). The National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management have adjoining areas of management within the Escalante drainage. Last minute information on road, trail, and river conditions can be obtained at the BLM/NPS Office, Box 225, Escalante, Utah 84726 [Telephones NPS (801) 826-4315, BLM (801) 826-4291].

EGYPT: Starting at the Egypt Trailhead at the end of a ten mile dirt road off the Hole-in-the-Rock Road (also dirt), the trail drops down to the Escalante River. Turn downstream and follow the River 33 miles to Coyote Gulch. Follow the gulch back up to the road for a 51 mile total hike

ESCALANTE: This hike starts at Calf Creek by Highway 12 and follows the Escalante into Coyote Gulch and out to Hole-in-the-Rock Road as in the previous hike. Total distance is about 78 miles.

MOKI: The hike starts (or finishes) at Moki Canyon where it is crossed by the access road to Hall's Crossing. Hike down the canyon to Lake Powell where one can be met by boat. It would be wise to contact the Park Service Ranger at Hall's Crossing in advance. Call (801) 684-2270. This hike is about 30 miles.

MOODY CREEK: This hiking route makes a loop and returns to its starting point at the junction of dirt roads that go to Moody and Silver Falls Creeks. This junction is on a dirt road 17 miles south of the Burr Trail. This is a difficult point to reach and takes a good deal of driving time. From the junction hike down the road to Moody Creek and follow the creek down to the Escalante River. Turn upriver and hike 15 miles to Silver Falls Creek. Hike up the creek until you reach the road junction you left 41 miles ago. The route is readily reversed.

SILVER FALLS: Start this hike at the Harris Wash Trailhead and follow the wash down to the Escalante River. Head upstream just a short distance to Silver Falls Creek and head up the creek to the same destination mentioned in the previous hike. This route may be reversed. To get transportation around to the final destination across the Escalante River requires a lot of driving and you may opt to double back to the starting point. This, of course, doubles the hiking distance and the 25 miles becomes 50!

NARROWS: This hike starts at the town of Escalante and follows the river to Highway 12. Both the trailhead and terminus are open most of the year. It includes some of the narrowest parts of the Escalante bed and often requires wading. Two nice side canyons (Death Hollow-Mamie Creek and Sand Creek) should be explored. A natural arch near Sand Creek and Escalante Natural Bridge should be seen. This hike is 15 miles without the side canyons. Additional maps helpful for this hike are the Calf Creek and Escalante 7.5' Quads.

RAINBOW BRIDGE: There are two trails you may hike to earn this segment. The first is the 14 mile Rainbow Trail (elevations: 6,300' to 3,800') that starts at the old abandoned Rainbow Lodge and goes around the west side of Navajo Mountain. The Cameron Trail is several miles longer but offers easier going (elevations: 6,000' to 3,800'). It starts near Navajo Mountain School and goes around the east and north sides of the mountain. You can return by either trail, go out by boat on Lake Powell, or come in by boat and hike out. Information for these hikes is available from:

Superintendent
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area Box 1507
Page, Arizona 86040
[Telephone (520) 645-2471]

This hike is in a remote and seldom visited area of the Navajo Reservation. Permits are required by and are available from the tribal government. Contact:

Director
Recreational Resources Department - Navajo Tribe
Window Rock, Arizona 86515
[Telephone (520) 871-4941, Extension 1645]

(Topo: Navajo Mountain, UT AZ, 15' Quad)

PARIA CANYON: The canyon of the Paria River is about 45 miles long, with its origin near Bryce Canyon National Park and its terminus at Lees Ferry on the Colorado River. The hike begins in a shallow wash just below US 89 in southern Utah. Hikers should allow four to six days to complete the trip to Lees Ferry. The river is shallow and easily waded in its entirety, except in flood conditions. Check weather conditions with the BLM office just before you set out. Contact:

Bureau of Land Management
320 North First Street East
Kanab, Utah 84741
[Telephone (801) 644-2672]

A backpacker's guide and illustrated map are available from the Kanab District Office. Also before leaving, check in with the National Park Service at Lees Ferry [(520) 335-2235] to let them know when you expect to arrive and how many are in your group in exchange for up-to-the-minute hiking conditions. (Topos: Paria, Utah; Paria Plateau, Arizona; and Lees Ferry, Arizona Quads; all 15)

TONTO NATIONAL FOREST TRAILS



Difficulty:	Moderate to Strenuous
Distance:	varies with trail
Elevation:	varies with trail
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	varies with trail
Cost:	
Management:	Tonto NF 928-474-7900
Trailhead:	many.

The Tonto National Forest contains many spectacular areas served by well developed hiking areas. The principal trail in the area is the 51 mile Highline Trail. (Highline Trail Information)

Throughout the Tonto National Forest are a series of other trails. These trails have been divided into two groups: the Rainbow Trails of Camp Geronimo (Rainbow Trails) and the Tonto National Forest Trails listed here. Below are notes just some of the trails within Tonto National Forest.

FOSSIL SPRINGS TRAIL #18: The upper trail to Fossil Springs follows a steep, dusty old jeep road two miles down past an old gravel pit. There is a lot of loose rock on this part of the trail, making it easiest to go down than the return climb out. The trail then turns south and goes a half mile to the Springs. To reach the trailhead, drive north from Payson 17 miles on Highway 87. Turn left on the Fossil Creek Road (FS Rd #708) at Strawberry Lodge in the town of Strawberry. Go 4 miles west on a dirt road. Turn right and progress 1/2 mile to the trailhead parking lot.

These is an alternate route, the Flume Trail, that can be accessed 5 miles further along the road. From the parking area near the Irving Power Plant, an old jeep road follows the moderately sloped flume to the springs (about 4 miles to the springs). The first half mile leads upward to the level of the flume road. From either trail, you can discover the little Shangri La where you can swim, picnic, study fossils, or explore the waters of travertine pools along the creek. If you have two cars, one can be parked at the beginning of each of the trails so it is not necessary to return over the same trail. If you go in via the upper trail and out by the flume trail, your hike will be generally down hill and much easier than hiking in the reverse direction. Hiking the two trails plus the five mile return to the first parking lot is a bit difficult for most hikers to cover in one day.

The million gallons of 72 degree of water that gush from the springs every hour have created a lush environment which support over 30 types of trees and bushes and over 100 species of birds. The canyon walls near the springs contain small fossils from an ancient sea that washed over the area 350 million years ago. The wood flume built in 1916 supplies water from the springs to the Irving and Childs Power Plants which still rely on its water to turn their power generating turbines.

PINE CANYON CREEK #26: This 8 mile day hike near Pine goes up or down the Mogollon Rim,

with a moderate to difficult rating. Approximately 2 1/2 miles south of Pine on State Highway 87 is the signed Highline trailhead. Hike about 450 feet on the Highline trail to reach the Pine Canyon trailhead.

The Pine Canyon Trail offers a variety of sights along its eight miles. The hiker will get several distant views of Pine Canyon, be treated to rich green fern undergrowth as the trail follows Pine Creek, and get some birds' eye views of Pine Canyon as the trail makes its way up to the rim. The hiker faces a steep climb at the end of the first mile and again at mile six when the trail begins to ascend the Mogollon Rim in a series of switchbacks.

PUMP STATION TRAIL #296: This one mile trail is rated as easy and doesn't take long to hike. The trail was created by homesteaders to provide access to the Highline Trail. The pump (from which the trail receives its name) pumps water from the Blue Ridge Reservoir, above the Mogollon Rim, into the East Verde River, to replace water used by Phelps Dodge Corporation for mining in southern Arizona. The north end of the trail is on the Highline Trail east of Washington Park. The south end of the trail is on Forest Route #32A. USGS Map: Kehl Ridge

MILITARY SINKHOLE TRAIL #179: This trail is probably the easiest trail down the Mogollon Rim in terms of steepness and hazards along the way. The upper portion of this trail follows the original military road built by General George Crook. When building the road, the Army came upon a sink hole and used it as a water stop. A fissure later allowed this to become a dry hole. The trail climbs through juniper, Gambel oak and pine. Higher in the dense pine forest are spectacular views of the country below. The west end of the trail is at the Two Sixty Trailhead, along Highway 260 between Christopher Creek and Heber. The east end is along the General Crook Trail, Forest Road #300. Trail is rated MOST DIFFICULT along its 2 1/2 mile length. USGS Map: Woods Canyon

BABE HAUGHT TRAIL #143: This 2.2 mile trail is rated as difficult. It is a fairly steep access with some rocky areas and some shade. Look out for the rattlesnakes! This trail can be accessed from the Trout Hatchery. Go west from R-C Scout Ranch to Forest Road 289, turn north and continue to the Fish Hatchery. The trailhead is visible at the entrance to the Fish Hatchery. USGS Map: Knoll Lake

HORTON SPRINGS TRAIL #292: Here is another fine trail that begins at the Highline Trail at the Trout Hatchery east of the R-C Scout Ranch. The trail climbs from 6600 ft at the hatchery to 7800 feet on the Mogollon Rim along General Crook Trail. The 1.3 mile hike is rated as MOST DIFFICULT. This is a beautiful area with pine, fir and wild flowers in the spring. This trail was used by Zane Grey and Babe Haught to reach hunting areas above the Rim. USGS Maps: Promontory Butte, Knoll Lake

THE HIGHLINE TRAIL

For a great hiking adventure, the Highline Trail is hard to beat with its breathtaking scenic beauty, varying flora and fauna, spectacular geologic formations and historical background.

The name "Highline" comes from its location along the highest contour line below the majestic Mogollon Rim for which a trail is possible. It was built by the rangers of the Tonto National Forest to access remote and rugged areas with fire fighters and equipment. Portions of the trail were used even earlier as routes of communication between early ranchers.

The trail begins just south of Pine, Arizona and winds its way eastward 51 miles at an elevation of 5700'. It parallels the famous General Crook Trail atop the rim as it winds through dense stands of Ponderosa Pine and one of the states best groves of Smooth bark Cypress along Milk Ranch Point. The trail passes just south of Camp Geronimo BSA and north of Shadow Rim GSUSA and continues to Washinton Park, Tonto Creek, See Canyon and ends near Arizona 260. The trail has been divided into three sections of about equal length. Each segment can be hiked in one day if there are no mistakes or injuries. Two days per segment would be a lot more enjoyable and a week for the entire trail would be ideal. The trail is identified as Forest Trail 31.

BAKER BUTTE SEGMENT: One mile south of Pine on Highway 87 a sign reading "Pine Trailhead" leads the way to a staging area for hikers and horsemen. This 18 mile segment skirts Milk Ranch Point through smooth-bark cypress and heads eastward past Camp Geronimo and on to Washington Park. Camping is available at several trailside sites including Camp Geronimo with prior reservations. (Topos: Buckhead Mesa and Kehl Ridge Quads)

FISH HATCHERY SEGMENT: This section begins at Washington Park and heads east past the site of Zane Grey's Cabin ending at Tonto Creek below the trout hatchery. This section traverses the area of the Dude Fire. The trail is about 17 miles long with numerous campsites along the way with water usually available. Camping at Tonto Creek affords an opportunity to visit the state hatchery and a chance to watch American Dippers forage on the bottom of the creek. (Topos: Kehl Ridge, Dane Canyon, Promontory Butte, and Knoll Lake Quads)

PROMONTORY BUTTE SEGMENT: This segment begins at Tonto Creek, wraps around Promontory Butte, and ends at Highway 260 between Christopher Creek and the top of the Rim. This segment is about 16 miles and no matter which direction you go you must climb into and out of See Canyon. (Topos: Promontory Butte and Woods Canyon (15] Quads)

RAINBOW TRAILS OF CAMP GERONIMO



Difficulty:	Easy to Moderate
Distance:	varies with trail
Elevation:	varies with trail
Vertical gain:	varies with trail
Vertical loss:	varies with trail
USGS maps:	Pine, Kehl Ridge Mogollon Rim West (Earth Tracks)
Cost:	none
Management:	Camp Geronimo BSA
Trailhead:	many

Surrounded by National Forest, Camp Geronimo offers unlimited hiking opportunities for Scout campers. The first nine hikes described can be done anytime your unit is visiting Camp Geronimo. The last seven hikes are recognized only during the summer and as part of the formal program have special requirements and instructions. All hikes outside the camp boundaries require a permit on file at headquarters while camp is in session. This is a fire safety requirement! Where applicable, Forest Trail (FT) numbers are included.

MILK RANCH POINT TRAIL (FT 217) Leaves campsite 15 and passes Balanced Rock as you ascend to the top of the Rim. From there look down over thousands of acres of Ponderosa wilderness. (Round trip 4.2 miles-approximately 3.5 hours)

WEST WEBBER TRAIL (FT 228) A longer but more scenic (and easier) trip to the top of Milk Ranch Point leaves campsite 12, proceeds via Turkey Springs and on through Rosie's Run to the top, ending 0.2 mile from the Forest Service Road. (Round trip 6.8 miles-3.25 hours)

EAST WEBBER TRAIL (FT 289) Leaves camp past campsite 29, winds along and across Webber Creek up through a beautiful canyon, and continues well past the junction with the Rim View Trail. (Round trip 5.4 miles-2.5 hours)

MILK RANCH POINT WEST TRAIL Leave past campsite 12 on west camp road. Within 1/4 mile watch for sign and take trail (road) to the left and climb to the top of the rim. This trail intersects the West Webber Trail above Rosie's Run outpost camp.

HIGHLINE TRAIL (FT 31) Leave camp by south gate of parking area. Follow entry road to Geronimo Trailhead and turn left to head toward Washington Park and eventually to R-C Ranch. A hike to Bear Springs or Bray Creek qualifies for this segment. (Round trip to Bray Creek 6.8 miles-3 hours)

OLD SPADE RANCH ROAD Leaves camp through south gate of parking lot. Look for signs to trailhead. (Round trip to Control Road and back 7.8 miles-3.5 hours; return via Control Road okay on week days when accompanied by an adult. NO WATER available on this hike!)

RIM VIEW TRAIL This trail connects the East Webber Trail. with the Highline, making it possible to cover both the same day. The Rim View Trail is split nearly in half by the lower portion of the Chief Miller Trail which leaves camp behind site 19 along the fence and meets the Rim View Trail about two miles out. (length of Rim View Trail itself - 3.7 miles)

LOWER MILLER TRAIL (To Rim View) This trail begins at the fence near site 19. Follow the fence line to the sign to continue on the trail until it meets the Rim View Trail after two miles.

GERONIMO TRAIL (FT 240) This trail begins down the road south of the parking lot at the Geronimo Trailhead. Go right at the trailhead, cross the creek, and follow the highline Trail west until you see the Geronimo Trail sign. The trail continues around camp until it meets with the East Webber Trail above site 29. (Distance 4.7 miles-2.5 hours)

SOME PLANNING GUIDELINES FOR GENERAL USE TRAILS
(All distances and times from camp headquarters)

PLACE	TRAIL	MILES	TIME
Balanced Rock	Milk Ranch Point Trail	1.5	1 Hr, 20 Min
Bray Creek*	Highline Trail	3.4	1 Hr, 30 Min
Elk Park*	Milk Ranch Point Trail	2.1	2 Hr, 15 Min
Elk Park*	West Webber Trail	4.5	3 Hr, 15 Min
Elk Spring	Highline Trail	1.0	30 Min
Sycamore Creek	Highline Trail	4.5	1 Hr, 50 Min
Old Spade Ranch	Old Spade Ranch Road	10.0	4 Hr
Patton Springs	East Webber Trail	1.2	1 Hr
Headwater Spring	East Webber Trail	2.1	1 Hr, 15 Min
Poison Spring*	Highline Trail	3.0	1 Hr
Rosie's Run	West Webber Trail	2.3	55 Min
Top of Rim	West Webber Trail	3.4	1 Hr, 30 Min
Turkey Spring*	Milk Ranch Point Trail	.8	20 Min
Pine Spring	Control Rd/Old Spade Ranch Rd	6.0	3 Hr
Washington Park	Highline Trail	9.0	4 Hr
R-C Scout Ranch	Highline Trail	38.0	5 Days with a burro!!

* Recommended outpost camp NOTE: Elk Park is a dry camp!

SPECIAL RAINBOW TRAILS (see below)
with restricted availability

LEVI YOUNG NATURE TRAIL: Available as part of Nature Lodge program during summer sessions. Includes nature quiz to qualify. See Nature Lodge staff to schedule for troop.

CAT EYE, GOLDEN EYE, HAWK EYE, & EAGLE EYE NIGHT TRAILS A compass, a good flashlight and determination make these night hikes fun for young and old alike. Start with the Cat Eye for the new Scouts and let them work their way up through these hikes of varying difficulty. They will enjoy thinking that any of the reflective eyes might be the real thing and **THEY MIGHT!** Special bearing and distance instructions are needed for each hike and these are available at headquarters during summer sessions.

CHIEF MILLER'S TRAIL This trail is available only during regular summer camp as part of the older boy challenge/reward program. This strenuous hike continues a tradition honoring George F. "Chief" Miller. Scouts of First Class rank and above and interested Scouters will hike together with qualified staffers each Wednesday. Ask your program commissioner for details.

SOLO HIKE Only seasoned Scouts need apply. This outstanding opportunity is available to Scouts nominated by their Scoutmaster after three or more years at camp. They must apply by Sunday afternoon after which they must convince the camp director that they are prepared to challenge the secret route and spend the night alone in the wilderness. To be selected is an honor, to succeed is a thrill!

For more information on the Rainbow Trails, consult the Tonto National Forest map and the latest annual Camp Geronimo BSA Leader's Almanac

National Forest Camping Guidelines

THE FOREST BELONGS TO EVERYONE... however, there are some firm guidelines we must all follow out of respect for everyone who owns the Forest, human and animal. You may camp most anywhere on the National Forest (unless otherwise posted) according to the following guidelines:

1. Generally, there is a 14-DAY PER MONTH STAY LIMIT (14 days in a 30-day period) on the Coconino National Forest. Please note that there are some exceptions where the limit is less than fourteen days. Establishing residency is against federal regulation.
2. No camping or campfires on the forest within city limits.
3. Do not camp on private property unless you have the owner's permission.
4. No camping within one-fourth mile of a wildlife watering tank/hole. (State Law)
5. Camp at least one mile from a pay (designated) campground, or as posted.
6. Please do not camp in or drive through open meadowland due to the scarring effect it causes.
7. Firewood may be gathered around your camping area for use at your campsite but it is illegal to load wood in a vehicle to take out of the Forest without a special permit.
8. If you build a campfire, clear the area of brush and needles for at least 10 feet, encircle with large rocks and use common sense in the event of high winds. Call the nearest district office to find out if camping and/or campfire restrictions are in effect (due to dryness or high winds). When putting campfire out, use water and dirt. Touch coals with bare hand. **COALS MUST BE COLD TO ENSURE THE FIRE IS OUT.**
9. Camp 200 feet from the main roadway, 20 feet from forest road, behind the county or state right-of-way fence.
10. Always use the pack-in/pack-out method for the disposal of litter to keep your Forest clean.
11. Please use a digging tool to bury all human and pet waste at least 6 to 7 inches deep.
12. Pets are welcome in most areas but must be kept leashed at all times.

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man and, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.

-- 1964 Wilderness Act

BSA WILDERNESS ETHIC

Recent studies conducted by both private organizations and public agencies concerned with the impact of the people on our wilderness and backcountry areas indicate the need for an immediate reduction in both the overall number using specific wilderness areas as well as in the numbers in each individual wilderness group. Large numbers (larger than 8 or 10 patrol or crew size) wear out campsites by causing excessive compacting of soil, destroying ground cover, building unsightly fire places, and using up fuel wood supplies. They tend to destroy the wilderness solitude with excessive noise pollution and are not considered desirable neighbors by others using the area. Large groups tend to have a lower proportion of adult leaders for each 8 or 10 campers. This sometimes results in gross violations of wilderness manners, specified regulations of the specific area, and even irresponsible cutting or other destruction of the vegetation.

In light of these facts and because we are alerted to more unfavorable situations involving scouting personnel each month, the following policy has been adopted by the Program Committee of the Boy Scouts of America. The Boy Scouts of America strongly recommends the following procedures and practices to all units using wilderness or backcountry areas in order that they may have an opportunity to enjoy and appreciate a wilderness atmosphere.

- * Limit the size of the group to 8 or 10 with at least one adult included and preferably more.
- * Organize each wilderness patrol or crew to function independently-i.e. plan own trip on different dates, serve own food, provide own transportation to trailhead, secure own permit, camp in separate and distinct group.
- * When economics or logistics dictate combined transportation, planning or buying, group should still hike, canoe, camp and travel separately from other groups of the same unit. Groups should avoid meeting at the campsite.
- * Obtain and use backpacking chemical stoves, particularly in areas where fuel supply is limited. Many wilderness areas now restrict the use of any open fires.
- * Contact appropriate supervisory authorities of area to be visited well in advance of planned trip to become aware of and to comply with permit requirements and special regulations.
- * Place a special emphasis on pretrip training on the proper wilderness rules of behavior as established in the program of BSA and by the managing agency, i.e., use: biodegradable food containers, to carry out all trash, dig holes for latrines only in undeveloped areas if permissible, carry all the equipment you need, use no natural materials except firewood and when cutting dead wood is required, use a small folding pack saw, carry only one axe for splitting if needed.
- * Place special emphasis on the need for preserving solitude, and minimizing group impact through proper camping practices, sanitation and conservation of fuel.
- * Develop the WILDERNESS ETHIC in your Troop or Post and practice it on the trail.
- * Match the ruggedness of high adventure experiences in wilderness and backcountry areas to

the physical ability and maturity of your Scouts and leaders. More rugged trips should be limited to older Scouts in the Troop. But also be extremely aware of overexertion. Many injuries are caused by exceeding the individuals capacities.

Providing the reasons for a regulation is almost always more effective than simply stating the rule.
International Journal of Wilderness

Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests



The Apache and the Sitgreaves National Forests were administratively combined in 1974 and are now managed as one unit from the Forest Supervisor's Office in Springerville. The two million acre Forest encompasses magnificent mountain country in east-central Arizona along the Mogollon Rim and the White Mountains.

Alpine Ranger District
P.O. Box 469
Alpine, AZ 85920
Voice: (928) 339-4384
TTY: (928) 339-4566

Clifton Ranger District
HC 1, Box 733
Duncan, AZ 85534
Voice: (928) 687-1301
TTY: (928) 687-1301

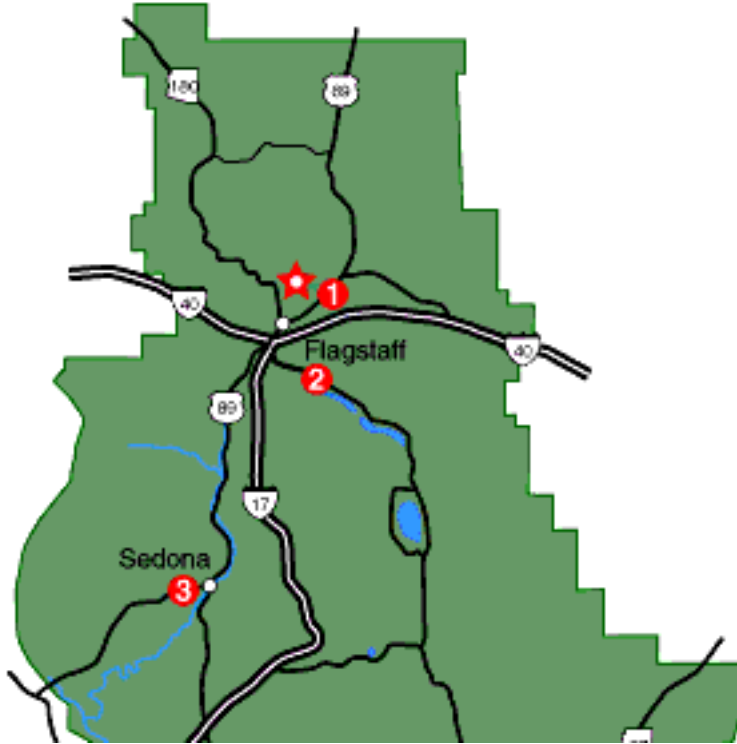
Black Mesa Ranger Districts
P.O. Box 968
Overgaard, AZ 85933
Voice: (928) 535-4481
TTY: (928) 535-3213

Lakeside Ranger District
2022 W. White Mtn. Blvd.
Lakeside, AZ 85929
Voice: (928) 368-5111
TTY: (928) 368-5088

Springerville Ranger District
P.O. Box 760
Springerville, AZ 85938
Voice: (928) 333-4372
TTY: (928) 333-6618

Forest Supervisor's Office
P.O. Box 640
Springerville, AZ 85938
Voice: (928) 333-4301
TTY: (928) 333-6292

Coconino National Forest



Coconino is the word the Hopi use for Havasupai and Yavapai Indians. The Coconino National Forest was so named because it is located in the central portion of Coconino County.

Coconino National Forest
Supervisor's Office
2323 E. Greenlaw Lane
Flagstaff, AZ 86004
(928) 527-3600, FAX 527-3620

[] Peaks Ranger Ranger District
5075 N. Highway 89
Flagstaff, AZ 86004
(928) 526-0866, FAX 527-8288

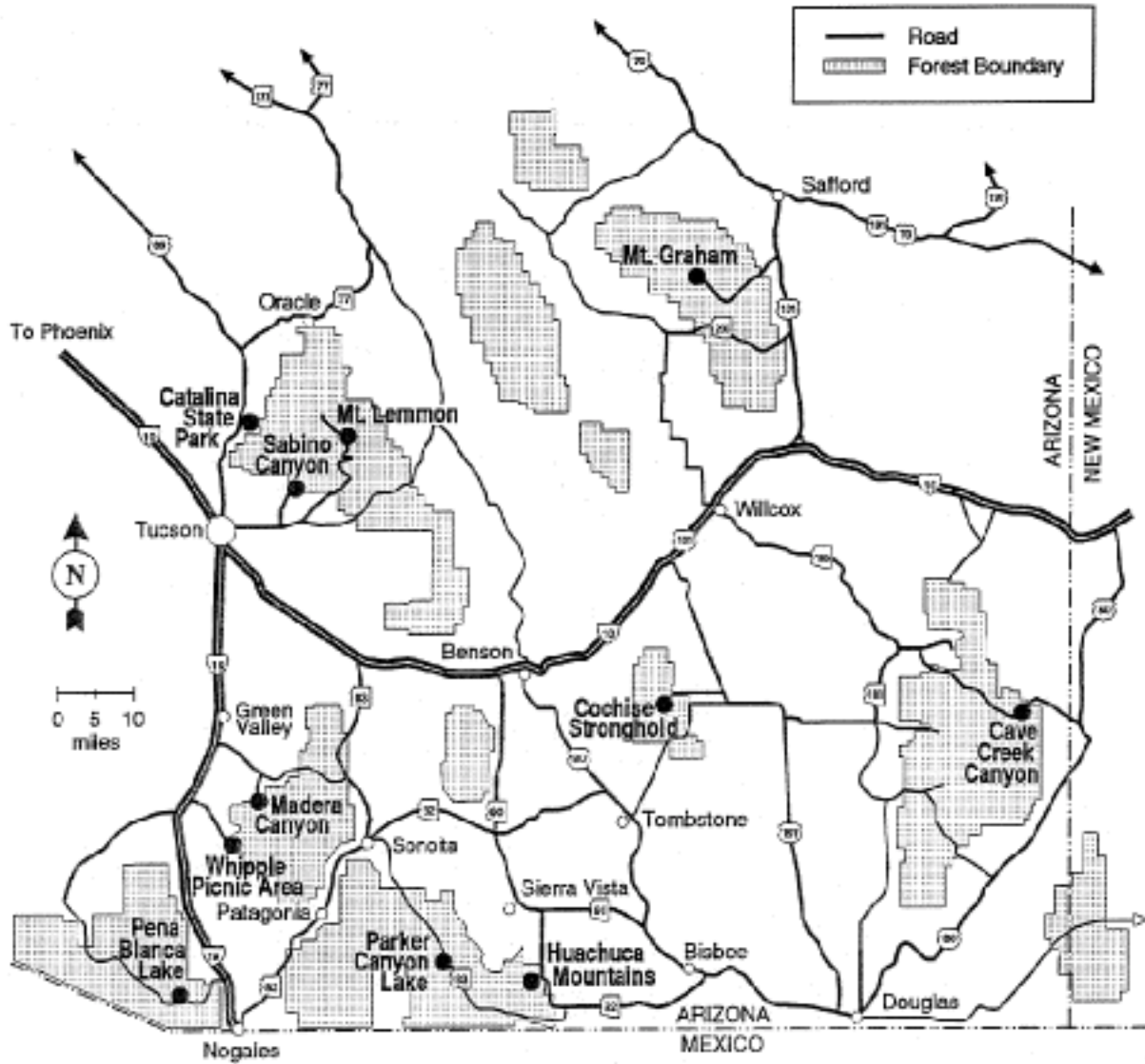
[] Mormon Lake Ranger District
4773 S. Lake Mary Road
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(928) 774-1147, FAX 774-1147

[] Red Rock Ranger District
P. O. Box 300
250 Brewer Road
Sedona, AZ 86339-0330
(928) 282-4119, FAX 282-4119

[] Happy Jack Info Center
P. O. Box 19664
Happy Jack, AZ 86024
(928) 477-2172, FAX 477-2173

[] Mogollon Rim Ranger District
HC 31, Box 300
Happy Jack, AZ 86024
(928) 477-2255, FAX 527-8218

Coronado National Forest



Coronado National Forest
300 W. Congress St.
Tucson, Az. 85701
520-670-4552
520-670-4584 TTY

Douglas R.D.
3081 N Leslie Cyn Rd.
Douglas, Az. 85607
520-670-4506
520-364-3468 TTY

Nogales R.D.
303 Old Tucson Rd.
Nogales, Az. 85621
520-670-4596
520-281-2296 TTY

Sierra Vista R.D.
5990 S. Hwy. 92
Hereford, Az. 85615
520-670-4625
520-378-0311 TTY

Safford R.D.
P.O.Box 709
Safford, Az. 85548-0709
520-670-4515
520-428-4250 TTY

Santa Catalina R.D.
5700 N. Sabino Cyn. Rd.
Tucson, Az. 85750
520-670-4717
520-749-8700 TTY

Kaibab National Forest



Did you know that the Kaibab National Forest is part of the largest contiguous ponderosa pine forest in the United States? Bordering both the north and south rims of the Grand Canyon, the 1.6 million acres of the Kaibab has the distinction of being divided by one of Nature's greatest attractions. Headquartered in Williams, Arizona, the South Kaibab covers 1,422 square miles and the North Kaibab stretches over 1,010 square miles. Elevations vary on the forest from 5,500 feet in the southwest corner to 10,418 feet at the summit of Kendrick Peak on the Williams Ranger District.

North Kaibab District
430 South Main
Fredonia, AZ 86022

Office Hours:
8-5, Mon.-Fri.

Phone: 928-643-7395
Fax: 928-643-7609

Tusayan District
P.O. Box 3088
Tusayan, AZ 86023-3088

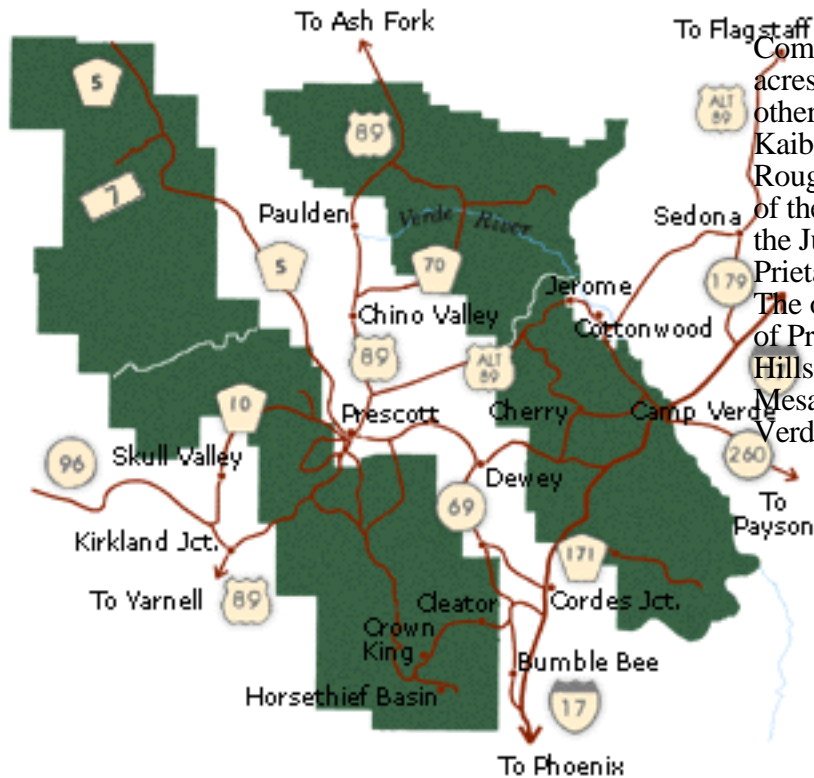
Office Hours:
8-4:30, Mon.-Fri.

Phone: 928-638-2443
Fax: 928-638-2443, Ext 126

Williams District
742 South Clover Road
Williams, AZ 86046
Office Hours:
8-5, Mon.-Fri.
Phone: 928-635-5600
FAX: 928-635-5680

Visitor's Center
200 W Railhead Ave
Hours: 8-6:30, Daily
Phone: 928-635-4707
800-863-0546

Prescott National Forest



Comprised of about 1.25 million acres, the Prescott borders three other National Forests in Arizona: Kaibab, Coconino, and Tonto. Roughly half of the forest lies west of the city of Prescott, Arizona, in the Juniper, Santa Maria, Sierra Prieta, and Bradshaw Mountains. The other half of the Forest lies east of Prescott and takes in the Black Hills, Mingus Mountain, Black Mesa, and the headwaters of the Verde River.

Prescott National Forest
344 South Cortez Street
Prescott, Arizona 86303-4398
(928) 771-4700
TTY *(928) 771-4708

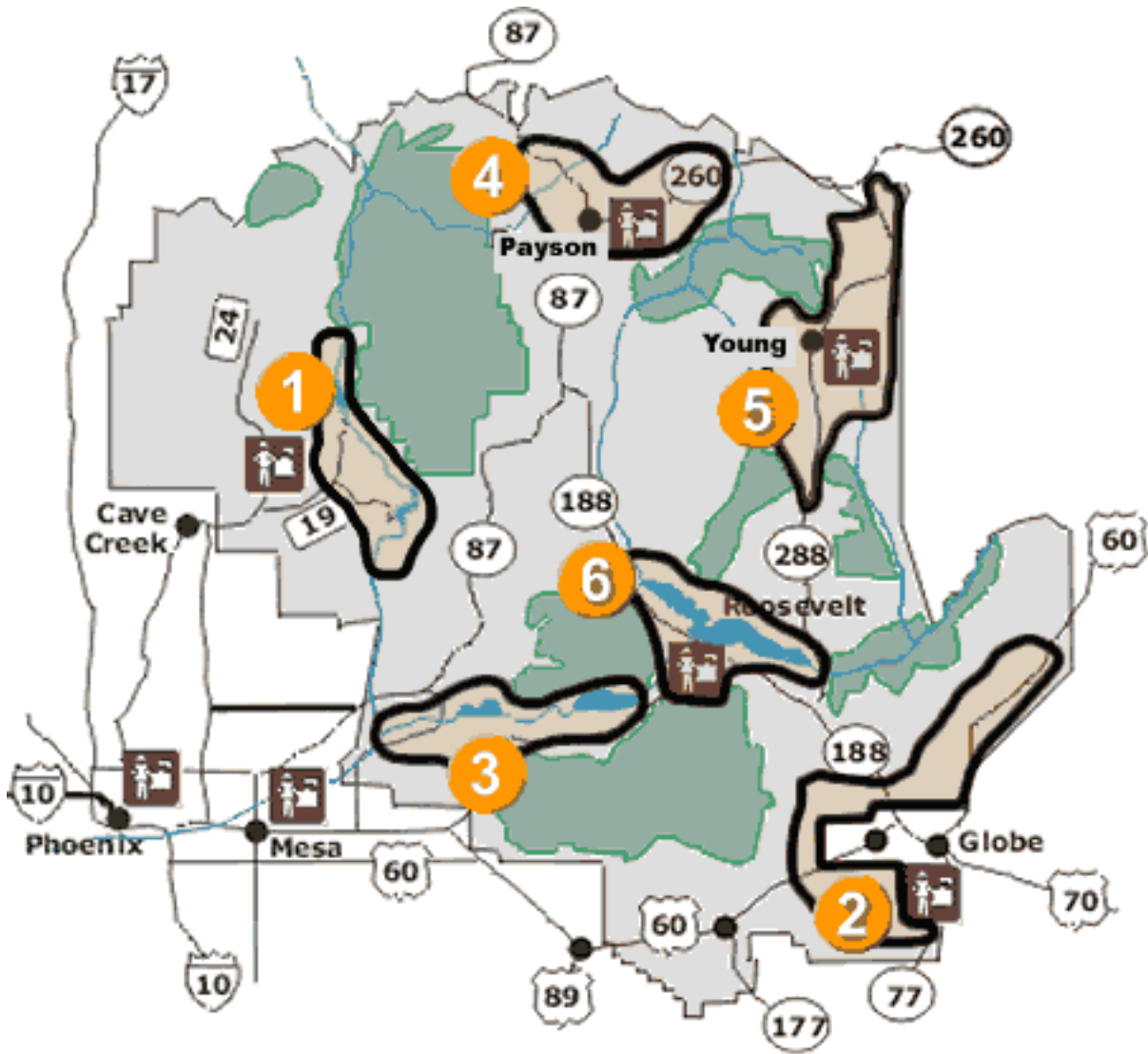
Chino Valley Ranger Station
735 N. Hwy. 89
Chino Valley, AZ 86323-0485
(928) 636-2302
TTY *(928) 636-3108

Ranger Stations

Bradshaw Ranger Station
344 South Cortez Street
Prescott, AZ 86303-4398
(928) 771-4700
TTY * (928) 771-4708

Verde Ranger Station
P.O. Box 670 (300 E. Hwy. 260)
Camp Verde, AZ 86322-0670
(928) 567-4121
TTY *(928) 567-1108

Tonto National Forest



The Tonto National Forest occupies nearly 3 million acres located north of Phoenix, Ariz., to the Mogollon Rim and east to the San Carlos and Fort Apache Indian reservations.

Its scenic landscapes range from cactus-studded desert to pine-clad mountains. This variety coupled with a range of elevation (from 1,300 to nearly 8,000 ft.), offers outstanding recreation opportunities all year long.

Tonto National Forest
2324 East McDowell Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85006
(602) 225-5200
TTY (602) 225-5395

1. Cave Creek Ranger Station
40202 N. Cave Creek Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85262
(480) 595-3300

2. Globe Ranger Station
768 S. Sixshooter Canyon Rd
Globe, AZ 85501
(928) 402-6200

3. Mesa Ranger Station
P.O. Box 5800, 26 N. MacDonald
Mesa, AZ 85211-5800
(480) 610-3300

4. Payson Ranger Station
1009 E. Highway 260
Payson, AZ 85541
(928) 474-7900

5. Pleasant Valley Ranger Station
P.O. Box 450
Young, AZ 85554
(928) 462-4300

6. Tonto Basin Ranger Station
Hwy. 88
HC 02
Box 4800
Roosevelt, AZ 85545
(928) 467-3200

Arizona Wilderness Areas

Fast Facts for Arizona Wilderness Areas

Total acres in state:	72,964,006
Total Wilderness acres:	4,518,442
Percent of land Wilderness	6.19%
Total number of areas:	90
Largest Wilderness:	Cabeza Prieta
Smallest Wilderness:	Baboquivari Peak
Managing Agency(s):	BLM,FS,FWS,NPS

(See map next page)

1 Apache Creek	15 Fossil Springs	29 New Water Mountains
2 Aravaipa Canyon	16 Gibraltar Mountain	30 Parajita
3 Aubrey Peak	17 Granite Mountain	31 Peloncillo Mountains
4 Baboquivari Peak	18 Hassayampa River Canyon	32 Pine Mountain
5 Bear Wallow	19 Hells Canyon	33 Redfield Canyon
6 Beaver Dam Mountains	20 Imperial Refuge	34 Salome
7 Castle Creek	21 Juniper Mesa	35 Sierra Ancha
8 Cedar Bench	22 Kachina Peaks	36 Sierra Estrella
9 Chiricahua National Monument	23 Kendrick Mountain	37 Signal Mountain
10 Cottonwood Point	24 Miller Peak	38 Strawberry Crater
11 Coyote Mountains	25 Mount Baldy	39 Swansea
12 Dos Cabezas Mountains	26 Mount Logan	40 Trigo Mountain
13 East Cactus Plain	27 Mount Trumbull	41 West Clear Creek
14 Escudilla	28 Muggins Mountain	42 Wet Beaver
		43 Woodchute

Aldo Leopold is credited with establishing the first official wilderness area within the national forest system. In May 1924, just as Leopold was moving from the southwestern US to Wisconsin to head the Forest Products Laboratory of the USFS, the Gila Wilderness Area in New Mexico was created.

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."
Aldo Leopold A Sand County Almanac, 1948

Arizona Wilderness Areas

