



Name Of Trail Loop: Picketpost – Whitford Canyon South – FR650 Loop

Passage And Location: Reavis Canyon Passage 18; Whitford Canyon

Length Of Loop Trail: 15.5 miles

Loop Trail Description: This combines the the Picketpost - Barnett Camp – East/FR650 loop & Whitford Canyon South Loop descriptions: The Arizona Trail leaves the Picketpost Trailhead at the west end of the oblong circle. In 1.9 miles it goes underneath both lanes of US60 bending to the left after the north underpass. The trail crosses Queen Creek, usually dry, eventually reaching East Hewitt Station Road and railroad tracks. Then trail heads up a ridge, staying high above the valleys almost to Barnett Camp for 3.4 miles. Continue north on the Arizona Trail for 1.8 miles. At FR 650 turn right/south and travel 4.8 miles. Take the road (FR357) to the right/west for 0.4 miles to Hewitt Station, turn south onto the Arizona Trail, and follow it back to Picketpost Trailhead. (Use maps for Picketpost Barnett Camp Loops & Whitford Canyon Loops)

Recommended Seasons Of Use: Spring, Fall, Winter

Elevation Start: 2387'

Elevation Gain/Loss: 985'

Access Point: Turn south onto FR231 from US60 approximately 0.4 miles east of milepost #221, which is 5 miles west of Superior and 1.7 miles west of Boyce Thompson State Park. Signs on the highway say "Picketpost Trailhead". Drive 0.2 miles past a corral and windmill until you reach a "T" intersection. Turn left/east onto an old asphalt road and continue approximately 0.6 miles to the trailhead.

Water: There is seasonal water in Whitford Canyon north and south of the narrows - sometimes just big pools. For up to date details on water sources please visit the Arizona Trail Water sources at <https://aztrail.org/explore/water-sources/> and even use the Arizona Trail App <https://aztrail.org/explore/maps/mobile-app/> which has user comments about the status of water sources.

Notes/Warnings: Whitford Canyon is a notorious flood path, so be aware of the weather and don't enter this area when rain is imminent. For specific turn by turn information on the Arizona Trail visit the Arizona Trail databook <https://aztrail.org/explore/databooks/> and even use the Arizona Trail App <https://aztrail.org/explore/maps/mobile-app/>

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