

T329 Rancherio Trail

Sacramento Ranger District



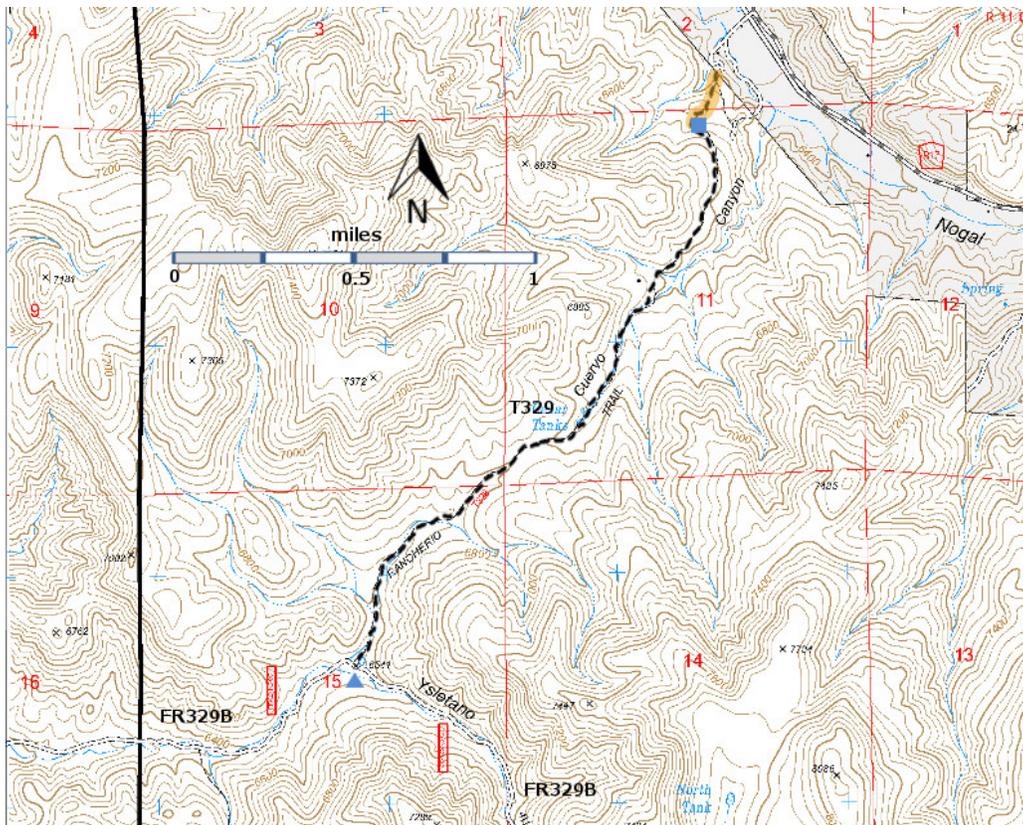
T329

GPS Track (as .GPX)

Left click to open in your browser; then save from browser.

LENGTH	ELEVATION	DIFFICULTY	SCENERY
2.2 miles	6360 - 6840 ft 480 ft difference	Moderate	2

Allowed Usage				
✓	✓	✓	✓	✗



[Link to map color/symbol codes](#)

T329 is shown as a black dashed line on the map.

DESCRIPTION: T329 is the northern-most trail in the Sacramento Ranger District. It follows an old road through juniper-piñon woodlands to a saddle, where ponderosa pines are found. At mile 1.0, near the saddle, the trail appears to fork, with a carsonsite T329 sign on the right fork. That path, which appears to be the work of irresponsible ATV riders, leads up hill to nowhere. Ignore it and take the left fork.

The last 0.1 mile of T329, shown with orange on the map, does not exist. The old road suddenly ends, with no apparent path to follow. I used my GPS to follow the route from this point, as shown on the Forest Service GPS track, and it was pure bushwhacking.

ACCESS: There are two ways to access the south end of T329. Both require a high clearance vehicle.

(1) From the intersection of US54 and US70 in Tularosa, follow US70 6.3 miles and turn right onto Virden Road (same as County B016, and once within the National Forest FR329B). Follow rocky (but not muddy) Virden Road/FR329B for 5.0 miles to the junction with T329, marked only by an ancient carsonsite sign for FR9207 (the “9” has vanished). Turn left and park in the open area on the right.

At mile 0.7 from US70 there is a fork; take the left fork. 1.3 miles further, turn left past a field with many old appliances.

(2) From the intersection of US54/70 and US82 at the north end of Alamogordo, follow US54/70 2.3 miles north to the La Luz traffic light. Turn right and drive 1.8 miles and turn left on J J Henry Road. Follow it 0.6 miles to a stop sign. Turn left onto Laborcita Canyon Road. *Zero your trip odometer here.* Follow curving Laborcita Canyon Road, past Fresnal Canyon Road (2.3 miles) and La Luz Canyon Road (4.6 miles) to the end of the pavement at 8.0 miles. Continue straight ahead on a good gravel road, which, when it enters the National Forest at mile 9.8 becomes FR329. At mile 11.9, the road forks. FR329 continues straight and (unsigned) FR329B goes left, bends sharply and goes up hill. Take the left fork, FR329B.

Follow FR329B 4.3 miles to mile 16.2, and the junction with T329, marked only by an ancient carsonsite sign for FR9207 (the “9” has vanished). Turn right and park in the open area on the right. The last 4.3 miles along T329 are beautiful. It is a lovely forest road through a ponderosa pine forest, with turnouts suitable for primitive camping. Unfortunately there are also several spots where 4WD will be needed to get through mud in wet seasons.

Access at the north end of T329 requires crossing private land and hiking through brush – there is no visible trail. Should you decide to do this, be sure to consult the landowners.

GPS Coordinates for Key Points

NAD83	Lat/Lon hddd mm ss.s	UTM (13 S)
Trailhead (South)	N33 05 57.9 W105 51 31.6	419865 3662636
Trail End	N33 07 14.0 W105 50 35.2	421345 3664968

Links to Other Resources

[Area Map](#)

[Domingo Peak Topo Map](#)

Last Hiked: December 3, 2013

Updated 1/18/2016