T5601

Apple Tree Canyon Trail

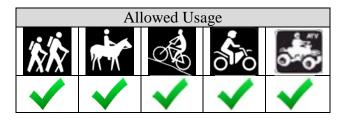
Sacramento Ranger District

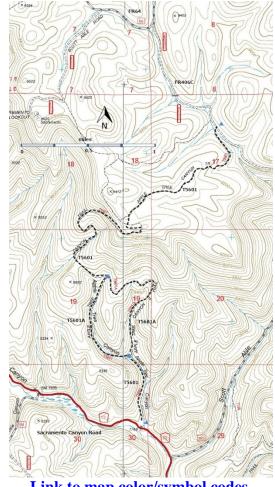


T5601 GPS Track (as .GPX)

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

LENGTH	ELEVATION	DIFFICULTY	SCENERY
4.1 miles	7780 - 9280 ft 1500 ft difference	Difficult	3





Link to map color/symbol codes

T5601 and T5601A are shown as black dashed lines on the map.

DESCRIPTION: T5601 and T5601A provide a leisurely 3.2 mile round trip through two canyons. It is suggested that you hike the loop clockwise. Go up T5601 2.0 miles to the upper junction with T5601A; turn right and follow T5601A to its lower junction with T5601. Maximum gradient is 20%, but the average grade is much less.

For trail users who wish to go a longer distance than just a round trip with T5601A, hike T5601 for 1.1 mile beyond its upper junction with T5601A to an outstanding distant view. Beginning from the right and going left, the panorama spans from the lower end of the White Sands and San Andres Mountains, to the Organ and Franklin Mountains, and finally to lone, humpbacked Cerro Alto Mountain not far from the El Paso International Airport. On very clear days, the hazy outline of mountains in Mexico can be detected between Cerro Alto Mountain and the Franklin Mountains.

Hike another 0.2 mile along T5601 and arrive at an old timber road (unsigned FR462) that invites exploration. Turn right on the road and go 0.1 mile for an exceptional view overlooking the large forest area where the Bridge Fire occurred in 1994. Return to the trail.

To continue, hike up the short, steep trail for 0.1 mile to a nice meadow, the high point along T5601. An old helicopter landing site is identified by "703" outlined with yellow-painted rocks. From here, follow the trail downhill 0.2 mile to unsigned FR462. T 5601 turns left and follows FR462 to unsigned FR460C and the signed upper trail head.

ACCESS: To reach the lower trailhead, begin in Cloudcroft at the US82 and NM130 intersection, drive NM130 south 1.8 miles and turn right on NM6563, Sunspot Highway. Go 14 miles to milepost 14. Drive another 0.2 mile to the Sunspot junction, the turnoff for the Sunspot Highway (ending at Sunspot), and the beginning Sacramento Canyon Road (same as County C002 and FR537). Drive on Sacramento Canyon Road 7.0 miles to signed T5601 trailhead on the left.

To access the upper trailhead for T5601, drive to milepost 13 along Sunspot Highway. Go south another 0.1 mile and angle left on FR64. Drive on FR 64 for 5.1 miles to its junction with signed FR460C on the right. There is a "To T5601" sign at this junction. Drive approximately 0.5 miles along FR460C and park. FR460C is closed beyond this point. Hike for 0.5 miles along FR460C to the signed upper trailhead for T5601.

GPS Coordinates for Key Points

NAD83	Lat/Lon hddd mm ss.s	UTM (13 S)
Upper Trailhead	N32 44 43.9 W105 44 18.2	430824 3623317
Upper Junction of T5601 and T5601A	N32 43 46.3 W105 45 07.1	429539 3621553
Lower Junction of T5601 and T5601A	N32 43 15.2 W105 44 56.8	429800 3620594
Lower Trailhead	N32 42 50.6 W105 44 50.9	429949 3619834

Links to Other Resources

Bug Scuffle Topo Map Graveyard Canyon Topo Map

Last Hiked: 7/9/2015 Updated 1/3/2019