

T12

Telephone Canyon Trail

Smokey Bear Ranger District

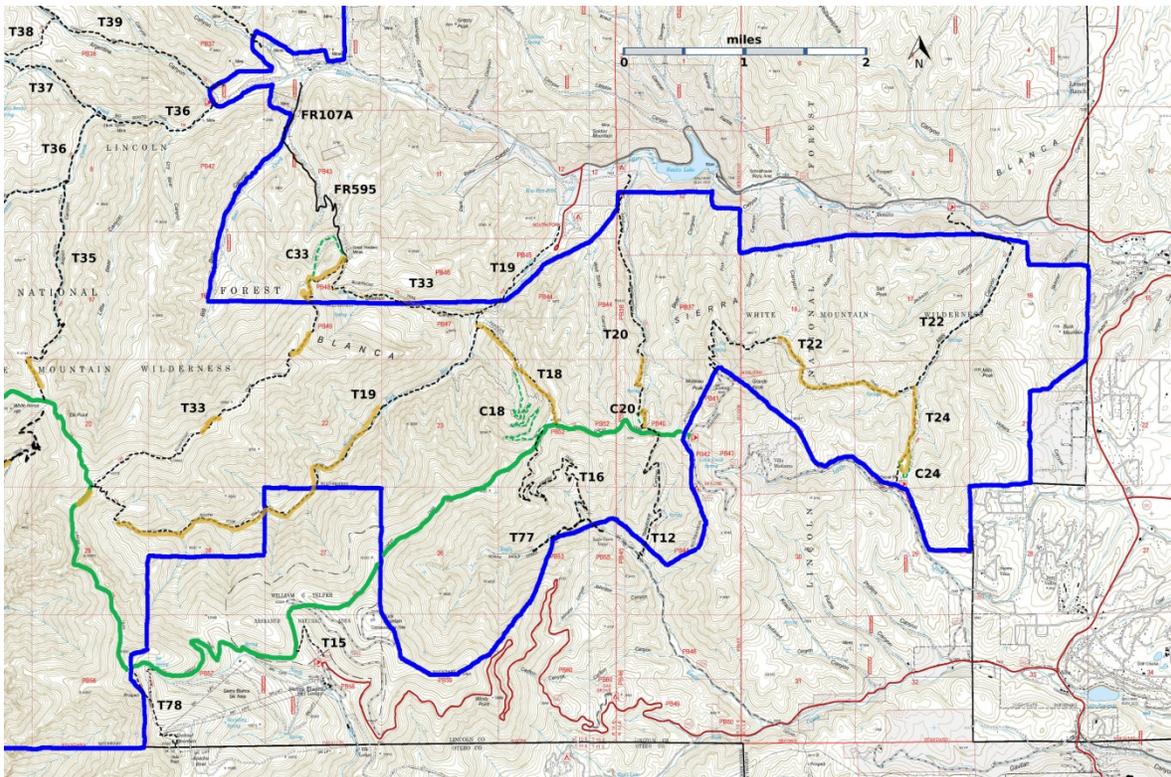
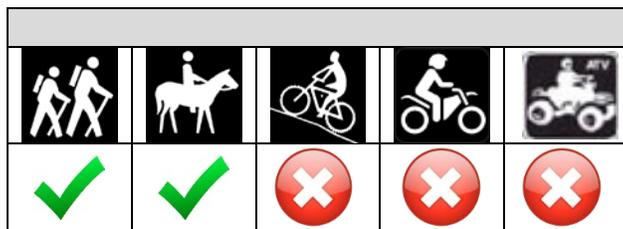


T12
GPS Track (as .GPX)

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

T12 is now open.

LENGTH	ELEVATION	DIFFICULTY	SCENERY
1.4 miles See Text	7960 -9100 ft 1140 ft difference	Moderate	3



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

T12, T15, T16, T18, T19, T20, T22, T24, T33, T35. T36 (partial), T37 (partial), T38, T39 (partial), T77, and T78 are shown as black dashed lines on the map. The solid blue line is the

border of the White Mountain Wilderness. The solid green line is T25 Crest Trail. Yellow over a trail indicates that that portion of the trail is intermittent or hard to follow. The map image may be downloaded through the White Mountain Wilderness link below. The image can then be expanded and/or manipulated at high resolution.

DESCRIPTION: T12 Telephone Canyon Trail and T20 Rodamaker Canyon Trail form one continuous path and are joined on the ridge where T25 crosses them. At this common junction, vistas are spectacular and encompass a large portion of the White Mountain Wilderness! If you walk from one trail to the other, it is suggested that T12 be ascended and T20 be descended, due to the steepness of the latter. The lower end of T12 begins in a recreation residential tract where privately owned homes are on public land. No camping is permitted there.

From its lower end, T12 passes through an open corridor of old growth forest of southwestern white pine, Douglas-fir, and oak. It provides a nice, interesting stroll for a family due to its moderate grade and scenery. The easy-to-follow, well-constructed path has a common gradient of 20%. Distant views are few and filtered. The trail name comes from a telephone line that passed through the canyon from Ruidoso to Monjeau Fire Lookout between 1936 and 1958. As a result of the 2012 Little Bear Fire, there are some downed trees across the trail and modest erosion at a drainage crossing. For a nice 7.5 miles loop hike, take T12 to T25 Crest Trail and follow it 1.2 miles west to the upper T16 Miner’s Road trailhead (unsigned, but there are three big carins). Hike down T16 and return to your car through the Eagle Creek residential area. Note: Because of the lack of signage at the T16/T25 junction, it is probably better to hike this loop as T16 up and T12 down.

ACCESS: To access the lower end of T12 from Smokey Bear Ranger District Office in Ruidoso, drive NM48 north 4.2 miles to the junction of NM532, Ski Run Highway. Turn left and follow paved NM532 for 2.5 miles to the junction of Forest Road FR127A, Eagle Creek Road. Turn right and drive the largely graveled and narrow FR127 for 1.4 miles to the locked gate to the Eagle Creek area. Park and hike 0.5 miles to a road/driveway, marked by a “To T12” sign. Follow this road/driveway 0.1 mile to the T12 Trailhead.

To reach T12 from its junction with T25, Crest Trail, drive NM532 for 0.9 mile from the intersection of NM532 and NM48 to the junction of FR 117, Monjeau Lookout Road, and turn right. Follow this mostly graveled route 5.0 miles to a junction on the left, a short road to the T25 trailhead. Hike T25 for 0.3 mile to the junction with T12.

GPS Coordinates for Key Points

NAD83	Lat/Lon hddd mm ss.s	UTM (13 S)
Junction of T12 and T25	N33 25 31.8 W105 44 21.8	431263 3698703
Lower Trailhead	N33 24 40.4 W105 44 31.8	430992 3697122

Links to Other Resources

- [White Mountain Wilderness Trails-p1 \(11 MB\)](#)
- [Burned Trails Map \(34 MB\)](#)
- [Angus Topo Map](#)
- [WMW Forest Service Resource](#)