

T27

Spring Canyon Trail

Smokey Bear Ranger District

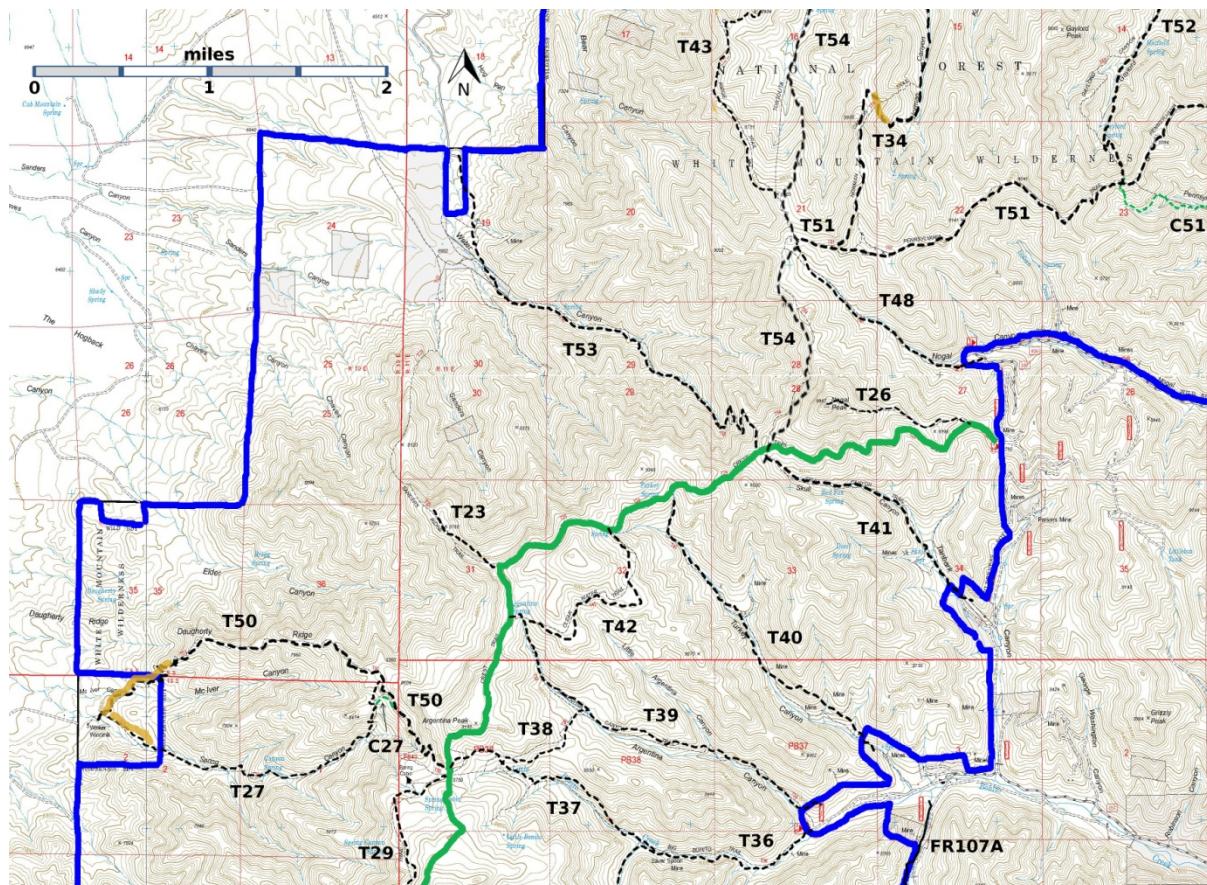
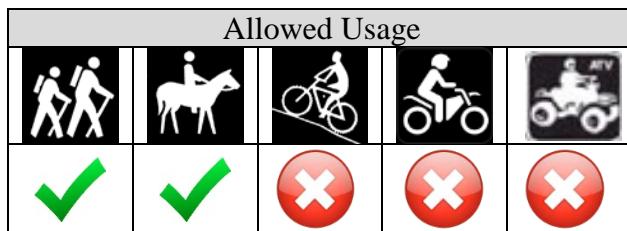


[T27](#)

GPS Track (as .GPX)

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

LENGTH	ELEVATION	DIFFICULTY	SCENERY
3.0 miles	6800 -8440 ft 1640 ft difference	Difficult	2



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

T23, T26, T27, T29 (partial), T34 (partial), T36 (partial), T37, T38, T39, T40, T41, T42, T43 (partial), T48, T50, T51 (partial), T52 (partial), T53, and T54 (partial) are shown as labeled 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.

NOTE: It is difficult, if not impossible, to obtain permission to cross private land between US54 and Walker Windmill at the lower T50 trailhead. Therefore, both trails must be accessed from the upper T50 trailhead. Since both ends of T27 branch off T50, the two trails taken together make a nice loop route.

DESCRIPTION: T27 becomes a canyon bottom trail after leaving its upper trailhead, passing through a mixed conifer forest. It is in relatively good shape but it is steep in some places, with many fallen trees. Above Canyon Spring the trail is on the south side of the canyon, and below Canyon Spring, it is on the north side. It rejoins T50 at a (post but no sign) junction, about 150 yards from Walker Windmill. There is very little tread visible for T27 in the grassy lower part.

ACCESS: To find the upper T50 trailhead from Smokey Bear Ranger District Office in Ruidoso, drive NM48 north 8.3 miles to NM37. Turn left and follow NM37 for 1.3 miles to FR107, Rio Bonito Road (signed Bonito Lake). Turn left and follow the narrow 2-lane, sometimes rough, paved road past Bonito Lake. Go beyond the end of the pavement, through the riding stable area, to the end of the road at mile 8.3. Corrals are here for those with horses. Camping is also permitted. After parking, follow T36, Big Bonito Trail, 1.2 miles to T37, Little Bonito Trailhead. Follow T37 for 1.5 miles to its upper end with T25 Crest Trail. This is also the common trailhead for T50 that descends the west side of the White Mountains. Look for a relatively new T50 sign about 35 yards northwest of this junction.

The upper trail head for T27 is not signed. To reach the upper trailhead for T27, hike T50 for 0.7 mile from its beginning off T25 to the T27 junction, where after a steep part of T50 a pine needle covered path veers off to the left (C27-LM.gpx, shown as a green dashed line on the map). As an alternative, continue 0.2 miles further on T50 where it runs below an open ridge and look for a path (unsigned) that goes down canyon. It is strongly recommended that hikers download the GPX tracks for T27, C27 and T50 and use them to follow these little used trails.

GPS Coordinates for Key Points

NAD83	Lat/Lon hddd mm ss.s	UTM (13 S)
Junction of T27 and T50 (upper, 0.7 miles))	N33 28 25.1 W105 50 57.0	421099 3704121
Junction of T27 and T50 (upper, 0.9 miles)	N33 28 31.5 W105 51 00.7	421005 3704317
Junction of T27 and T50 (lower)	N33 28 21.6 W105 52 45.7	418294 3704034

Links to Other Resources

[White Mountain Wilderness Trails-p3 \(6 MB\)](#)

[Godfrey Peak Topo Map](#)

[Nogal Peak Topo Map](#)

[WMW Forest Service Resource](#)

Last Hiked: 10/2/2016

1/8/2018