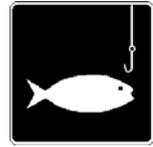


TONTO National Forest



Recreation
Opportunity
Guide

www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto



FISHING

HAIGLER CREEK

RANGER DISTRICT

Pleasant Valley Ranger Station
P.O. Box 450
Young, Arizona 85554
Phone (928) 462-4300
Fax (928) 462-4346

SEASON OF USE

April-November

RELATED OPPORTUNITIES

Camping, picnicking and water activities

LOCATION AND ACCESS

Creek Access Point #1 (FISHERMAN POINT):

From Payson, travel east for 24 miles on State Hwy. 260. Turn right on Forest Road (FR) 291 (unpaved) & travel 3 miles to FR 200; turn right on FR 200 (unpaved). Travel on FR 200 for 5 miles. Take trail for ¼ miles to the creek.

Creek Access Point #2 (HAIGLER CANYON

CAMPGROUND): From Payson, travel east for 24 miles on State Hwy. 260. Turn right on Forest Road (FR) 291 (unpaved) & travel 3 miles to FR 200; turn right on FR 200 (unpaved). Travel on FR 200 for 5 miles to the site.

Creek Access Point #3 (ALDERWOOD

CAMPGROUND): From Young, take State Hwy. 288 for 3 miles and turn left on Forest Road (FR) 200. Follow FR 200 (unpaved) for 7 miles, to FR 202A, and turn left. Follow FR 202A for ½ mile to the site. This site is ½ miles south of Haigler Canyon Campground.

Creek Access Point #4 (HELL'S GATE):

From Young, go west on Forest Road (FR) 129 for 7 ½ miles. Turn left onto FR 133 for approximately 8 miles to the Smokey Hollow Trailhead. Hike north on the Hellsgate Trail 37 for approximately 2 ½ miles to the confluence of Haigler and Tonto

Creeks.

-OR-

Travel approximately 11 ½ miles east of Payson on State Hwy. 260, (past Mile Marker 266). Turn right on FR 405A and follow it for ½ mile to a cement water-trough on the right, which is the Hellsgate Ridge Trailhead. It is possible to drive further if you have a four-wheel-drive vehicle. Follow the rugged Hells Gate Trail 37 for approximately 6 miles to the creek.

INTRODUCED SPORT FISH PRESENT

Rainbow Trout

CONSIDERATIONS

- Elevation is approximately 5200 feet.
- Forest Road (FR) 133 is a very primitive road and should not be attempted without a four-wheel-drive. Both FR 129 & 133 become very muddy after a couple of days of rain.
- Hells Gate Trail 37 is **not** for novice hikers
- Both Tonto and Haigler Creeks have cold water
- Native fish species include: the Long-Fin Dace, Desert Sucker, and the Sonora Sucker. These are all important members of this aquatic ecosystem.
- Discarded fishing line can kill wildlife: **PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!!**

STOCKING INFORMATION

Arizona Game and Fish Department begins stocking the creek in mid-April until late August.

NEAREST COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Young: Gas, food and phone

Payson: All services

RELATED INFORMATION SOURCES

- Hellsgate Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Guide*, USDA Forest Service