

Fall & Winter Fossil Creek Area Regulations

Bob Bear

Trailhead

O Fossil

Springs

It is your responsibility to know and obey national forest rules. Violations are punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000 and/or 6 months in iail.

Head of

Fossil Creek

Bob Bear Trail

8 miles round

trip 1500 ft elevation

Town of Strawberry

- · Camping is prohibited within a quarter mile either side of Fossil Creek from the Old Fossil Creek Dam, downstream to Fossil Creek Bridge.
- · Camping is allowed downstream of Fossil Creek Bridge if your camp is at least 100 feet from the edge of the creek. Backpack camping is also allowed upstream of the Old Fossil Creek Dam.
- · Campfires are prohibited within a quarter mile of Fossil Creek from the head of Fossil Creek, down stream 12 miles to Ike Saddle near milepost 4 on Forest Road 502. Propane stoves allowed.
- Glass food and beverage containers are prohibited within the entire Wild & Scenic River area.
- Driving off road is prohibited
- The construction of new campsites or the improvement of existing campsites is prohibited.



Fossil Creek Wild & Scenic River

Regulations to Protect Fossil Creek, Coconino and Tonto National Forests



RESERVATIONS REQUIRED April 1 - October 1

> FOR RESERVATIONS www.recreation.gov or (877) 444-6777

NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED October 2 - March 31



Forest Service

Southwestern

RG-R3-04-04 Revised April 2016

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What Makes Fossil Creek Special?

In 2009, Congress designated Fossil Creek as a Wild & Scenic River to ensure for the protection of its rare, unique, and exemplary geologic, biological, and recreation values, as well as its exceptional cultural value to the Yavapai-Apache Nation. Fossil Creek is one of only two Wild & Scenic Rivers in Arizona and has been described as the most diverse riparian area in the state.

At its headwaters Fossil Creek seems to appear out of nowhere, originating from a collection of artesian springs that produce a constant, year-round flow of nearly 30 million gallons of water per day. The high mineral content of this water leaves travertine dams and deposits, giving rise to the fossil-like features for which the creek is named.

Early in the twentieth century Fossil Creek was diverted for hydropower production. In 2005, the hydropower project was decommissioned, restoring full flows to the creek. This effort enhanced conditions for the many plants and wildlife species that depend on Fossil Creek for habitat, including otters, beavers, leopard frogs, common black hawks, and federally listed or sensitive native fish species. The restored flows also allow visitors to fully enjoy Fossil Creek's deep, clear pools and beautiful blue-green water. Fossil Creek has a number of Dilzhé'é (Western Apache) culture sites. The Dilzhé'é lived along Fossil Creek for generations and still consider this to be their homeland.

The Forest Service has an obligation to protect this special place and is working with the public to develop a long-term plan for the area's management. In the meantime, interim rules have been implemented to protect Fossil Creek's diverse and unique values. Please help us in this effort by respecting and abiding by the rules listed on this brochure.

For More Information...

Or to comment or become involved in the long term planning for Fossil Creek, contact:

Coconino National Forest 1824 S. Thompson Street Flagstaff, AZ 86001-2529 Phone: (928) 527-3600

http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/coconino/fossilcreek

