Camuesa Connector Trail Loop (10 mile loop)
Santa Barbara Ranger District
Los Padres National Forest

Directions to trailhead: Highway 154 to Paradise Road, and then 5.7 miles on Paradise Road to the first crossing of the Santa Ynez River. Just after crossing the river, and before crossing the bridge, turn left onto the road that goes to Upper Oso Campground. At Upper Oso Campground, take the road around the lower loop of the campground until it comes to a parking area adjacent a locked gate. The Camuesa Connector Trail Loop begins here.

Description of trail: The Camuesa Connector Trail Loop contains 2 miles of dirt road, 4 miles of single-track trail and 4 miles of paved road. There is over a 1000 feet elevation gain from Upper Oso Campground, to the Camuesa Connector Trail. Most mountain bike riders take the Camuesa Road to the Camuesa Connector Trail, and then follow the trail back down to the Santa Ynez River and Paradise Road. This trail guide starts the loop at Upper Oso Campground and goes clockwise. Other starting places are Lower Oso Picnic Area and on Paradise Road near the Camuesa Connector Trail junction. Motorcycles and ATVs are allowed on the dirt road portion of the loop, but not on the single-track trail.

The Camuesa Connector Trail Loop: Starting at Upper Oso, going clockwise

Section 1.
The Camuesa Dirt Road (2 miles): Start at the Upper Oso locked gate. The Camuesa Road then gains elevation on its many switchbacks. At the Camuesa Connector Trail sign (2 miles), turn right on the Camuesa Connector Trail.

Section 2.
Camuesa Connector Trail (4 miles/dirt): Take the single-track trail which is mostly downhill, with some uphill sections, to the Santa Ynez River. Cross the river and continue to Paradise Road. Some of the year, the river crossing may be impassable.

Section 3.
Paradise Road (2.5 miles/paved): Take Paradise Road heading west back toward Upper Oso Campground. The road is mostly flat, but does have some sections which gain in elevation. This road can be busy with vehicle traffic and there is a wet river crossing.

Section 4.
Upper Oso Road (1.4 miles/paved): Turn right onto the road at Lower Oso Picnic Area just after crossing the bridge. Take this road 1.4 miles back to the Upper Oso Parking Lot. This section is slightly uphill.

This road can be busy with car traffic and there is a wet river crossing.

Fees: The Forest Adventure Pass is needed for day use recreation in the Santa Ynez Recreation Area. This area is all managed by Rocky Mountain Recreation Company. A separate fee is charged for camping in the area. Visit our website at www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres and look under Passes and Permits section of the website or call the district office for more information.

Places to buy an Adventure Pass: please call ahead to confirm availability of passes

Los Prietos Ranger Station
3505 Paradise Rd.
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
(805) 967-3481
Monday-Saturday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
5 miles from Highway 154 on Paradise Road

Los Padres National Forest Headquarters
6755 Hollister Ave, Suite 150
Goleta, CA 93117
(805) 968-6640
Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Rocky Mountain Recreation Company
Paradise Campground and when the kiosks are open
(805) 967-8766
Campground Reservations 1-877-444-6777

Big 5 Sporting Goods
3935 State Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
M-F 10 a.m. –9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.-7 p.m. (805) 964-4749

The Adventure Pass is available at most Southern California Big 5 Sporting Goods.
9.9 Mile Camuesa Connector Loop