



Prescott National Forest

Chino Valley Ranger District

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<http://www.fs.fed.usda.gov/prescott>



JUNIPER MESA TRAIL #20

GENERAL INFORMATION: Juniper Mesa Trail #20 is the main thoroughfare serving Juniper Mesa Wilderness, located in the northwest corner of the Prescott National Forest. This remote region encompasses more than 7,000 acres and has been protected under the Wilderness Act since its Congressional designation in 1984. Juniper Mesa is a relic of the Colorado Plateau's ancient extent. Its layers of sandstone and limestone tower above the surrounding fields of granite and basalt. TR 20 traverses the top of the mesa and remains relatively level as it passes through open stands of ponderosa pine, Gambel oak, and alligator juniper. The views from this high country are remarkable.

TR 20 begins at Juniper Spring, on the eastern flank of Juniper Mesa, and ends at its junction with Oaks and Willows Trail #3. TR 3 descends to the foot of the mesa by way of George Wood Canyon.

CAUTION: This trail is open to hikers and horseback riders. Please be considerate of others—slow down and know when to yield the trail.

ACCESS AND TRAILHEAD LOCATION: From its intersection with Hwy 89, take Outer Loop Road 6 miles to Williamson Valley Road. Turn right and continue on Williamson Valley Road for 42 miles to Forest Road 9867A, on the left. If you reach the junction with FR 7, you have gone about 1.5 miles past the 9867A turnoff. Take FR 9867A about 5.5 miles to Juniper Spring. The drive to the spring is steep and rough.

Alternately, TR 20 can be accessed via Juniper Springs Trail #2. Take Williamson Valley Road 27 miles to County Road 125. Turn left and continue 1.4 miles to the trailhead on the right. Parking is fair. Travel 0.3 miles on Old Military Trail #1. TR 2 begins on the left. Follow TR 2 for 2.95 miles to TR 20.

Another way to access this trail is from the intersection of Hwy 89 and Outer Loop Road, take Outer Loop Road for 6 miles to Williamson Valley Road (also County Road 5). Turn right and continue on Williamson Valley Road for 27 miles to County Road 125. Turn left and proceed roughly 9 miles to the trailhead on the right. Parking is good. Access this trail via TR3 or 100.

TRAVEL TIME: 1.25 hours from Chino Valley

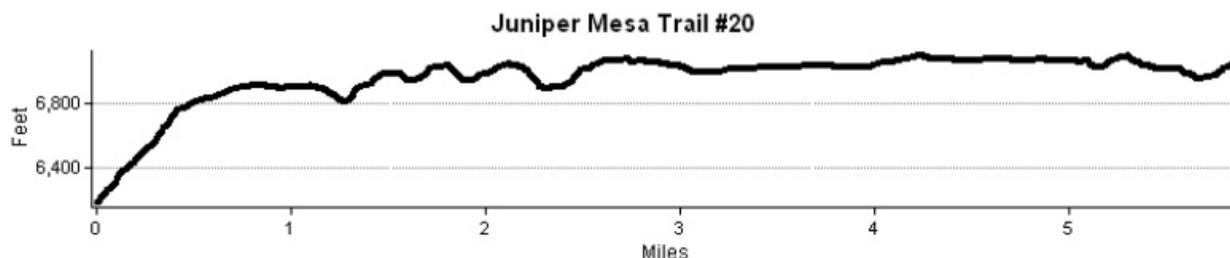
ROAD CONDITIONS: Suitable for most vehicles in fair weather. FR 7 is a semi-graded 4x4 road.

HIKING TIME: 3 hours, one-way **LENGTH:** 5.5 miles **DIFFICULTY:** Moderate **USE:** Light

NOTES: Most of this trail lies within the Juniper Mesa Wilderness. Motor vehicles and the use of any mechanized equipment, including bicycles, are prohibited. Wilderness is an important resource and national heritage—please, leave no trace. There is no reliable source of water at the trailhead or along the trail. Prepare for hot, dry conditions during summer, and pack plenty of water.

RECOMMENDED SEASONS OF USE: Spring, summer, fall

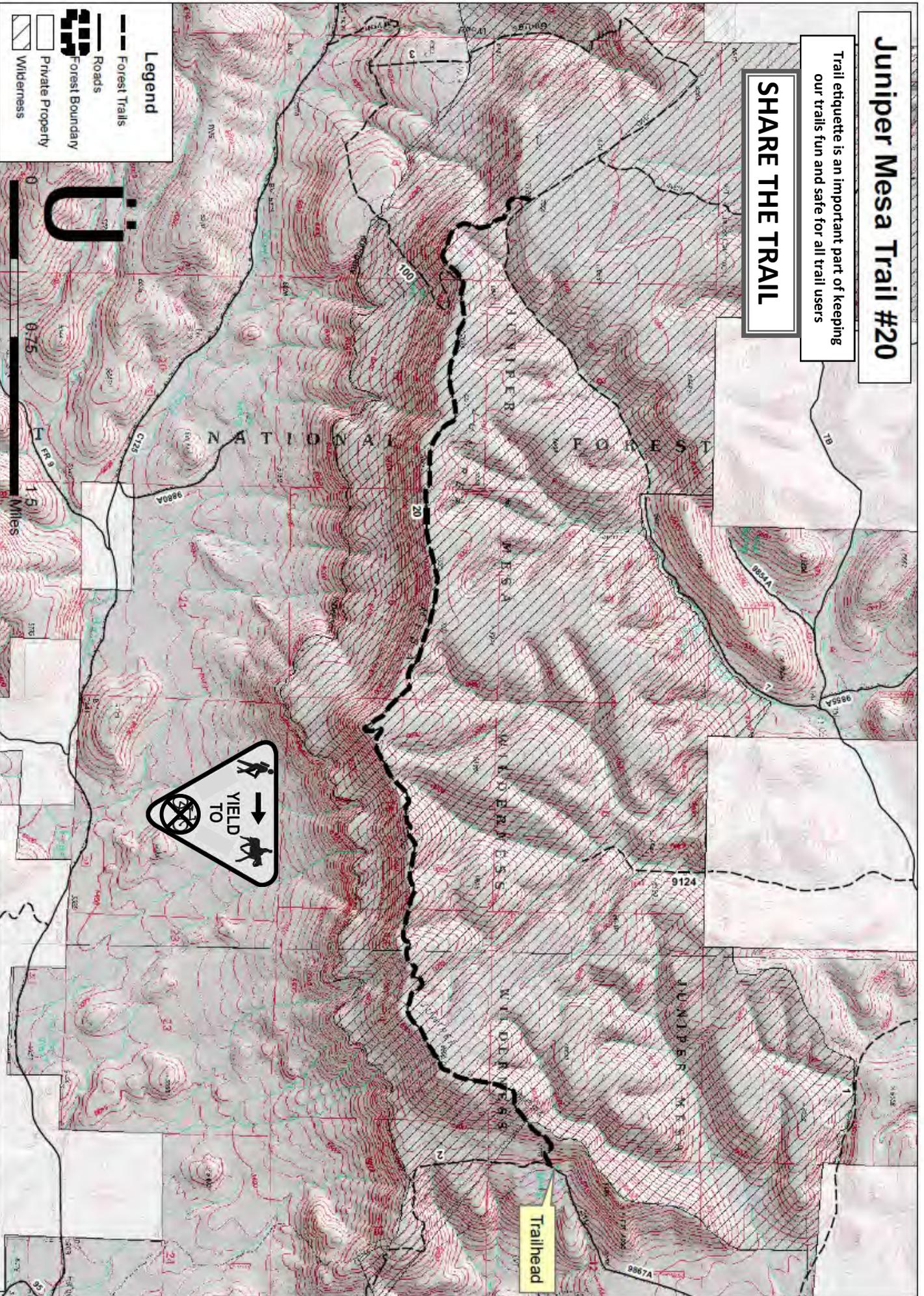
MAPS, OTHER RESOURCES: Prescott National Forest Map, west half; U.S.G.S. topographic 7.5' quads for Juniper Mountains and Indian Peak, National Geographic Trails Illustrated Map Apache Creek Juniper Mesa.



Juniper Mesa Trail #20

Trail etiquette is an important part of keeping our trails fun and safe for all trail users

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