



Prescott National Forest

Verde Ranger District

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



BUTTERFLY TRAIL #536

GENERAL INFORMATION: Butterfly Trail #536 begins uphill past an old concrete dam and enters a rocky drainage lined with pine, oak, New Mexico locust, and seasonal wildflowers. It is not far to Butterfly Spring, where a tank holds water through much of the year. Look for animal tracks in the mud—deer, raccoon, elk, and bear all live in the forested Mingus Mountain area. The availability of water attracts other creatures, as well, including an array of multi-colored butterflies from which the trail takes its name. Above the spring, TR 536 makes use of a network of historic roads that served the logging industry during the mining boom of the late 1800s and early 1900s. There are a handful of large, stately alligator junipers along these roads that provide welcome shade as the trail continues gradually upwards. The highest reaches of TR 536, not far below the Mingus Mountain summit, lie in ponderosa pine forest.

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

ACCESS AND TRAILHEAD LOCATION: From its intersection with Interstate 17, travel 12.2 miles on Hwy 260 to the junction with Hwy 89A. Turn left and go 16.8 miles, through Jerome, to FR 104 and the Mingus Summit, on the left. Turn left onto FR 104 and go 0.8 miles to the trailhead on the left, located at a sharp bend in the road. Parking is poor.

From the junction of Hwy 89/89A in Chino Valley, travel 18.3 miles on Hwy 89A to FR 104 and the Mingus Summit. Turn right onto FR 104 and follow the directions above.

TRAVEL TIME: 1 hour from I-17; 30 minutes from Chino Valley

ROAD CONDITIONS: Suitable for all vehicles

HIKING TIME: 45 minutes, one-way **LENGTH:** 1.6 miles **DIFFICULTY:** Moderate **USE:** Moderate

NOTES: This trail ends at private property. Please turn back at the dead end sign. Portions of this trail may be overgrown with brush, however, the trail is not typically difficult to find or follow.

RECOMMENDED SEASONS OF USE: Spring, summer, fall

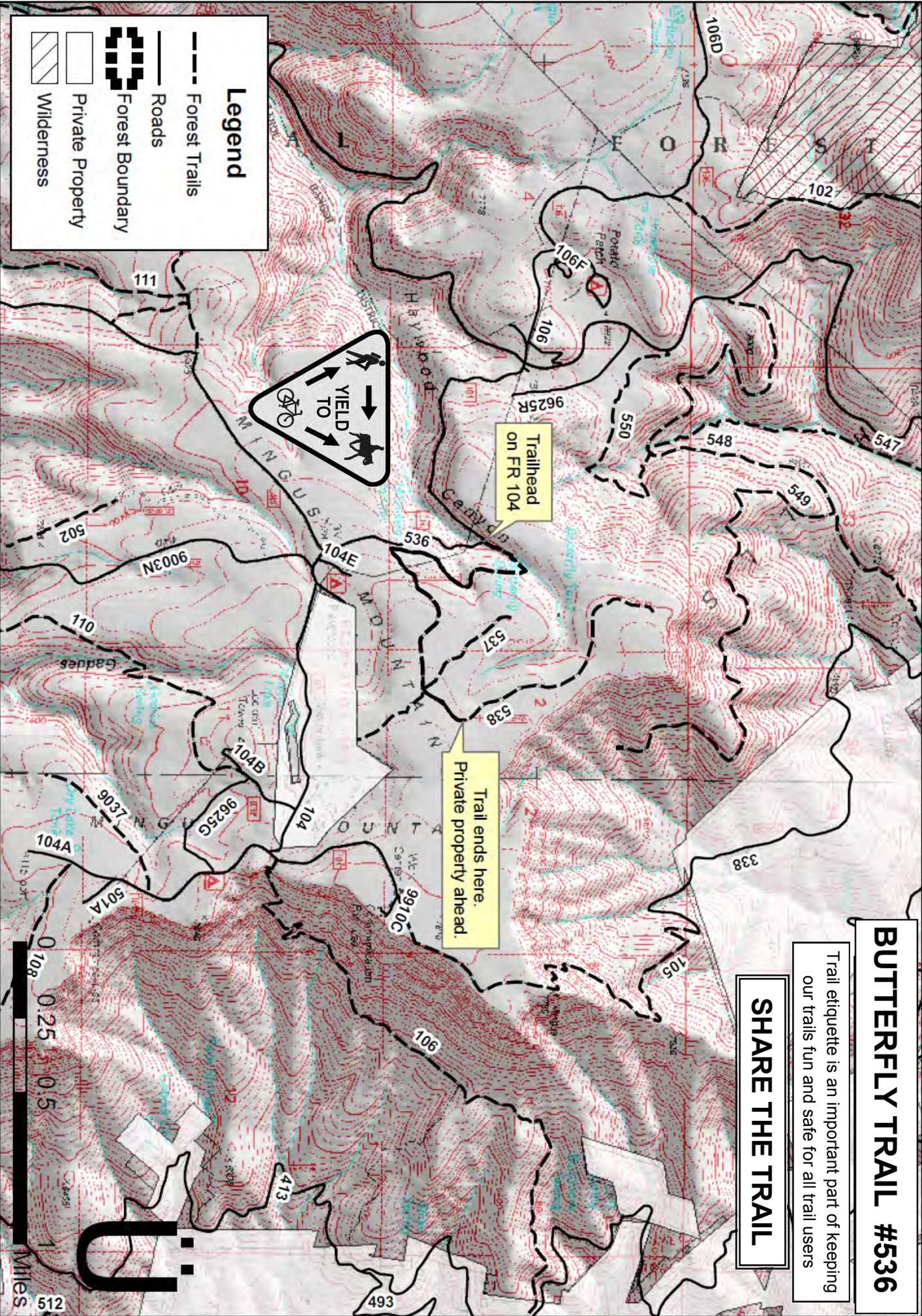
MAPS, OTHER RESOURCES: Prescott National Forest Map, east half; U.S.G.S. topographic 7.5' quads for Hickey Mountain, National Geographic Trails Illustrated Map Sycamore Canyon Verde Valley



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

SHARE THE TRAIL



Legend

- Forest Trails
- Roads
- ◻ Forest Boundary
- ◻ Private Property
- ▨ Wilderness



Trailhead on FR 104

Trail ends here. Private property ahead.



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