

Kaufman Creek Trail #852



Kaufman Creek Trail
Photo by Anne Williams Spring 2006

The Kaufman Creek Trail offers large parks and beautiful stands of aspen with opportunities for solitude and wildlife observation. After branching from the Little Robinson Trail #850, one mile past the parking area at the Robinson Trail Head, the trail assumes a gradual route with views of the unique Mosley Ridge. The views are excellent at the terminus of Kaufman Ridge and around Porcupine Cone. Because the first half of the trail parallels the creek, camping is no problem. The tread way is good, averaging only an 8% slope. However, cattle trails can confuse the route. The final ascent towards Porcupine Cone is steep in places, but offers sweeping views of Coal Basin and Mount Gunnison.

Don't forget your camera!



Trail Ethics:

The Kaufman Creek Trail is maintained for foot and horse travel. Please don't cut across switchbacks or create new trails.



Motors & Machines:

Motorized vehicles and bicycles are not allowed on the Kaufman Creek Trail or in Wilderness areas.



Drinking Water:

DO NOT drink water directly from a river or stream. Water needs to be treated first by either filtering, boiling for at least 10 minutes or treating with iodine tablets.



Multiple use:

As you use this area you may notice that the Forest is managed for a broad range of uses. Recreation use alone includes hiking, horse-back riding, hunting, and sightseeing. In addition, the vegetation in the Forest requires some form of management. Livestock grazing is a form of land management you may encounter while using this area. The livestock grazing on this area is managed in a very progressive and specific manner. The fences and gates that you may see are critical to managing the livestock and meeting the resource objectives that are planned for this area. Please close all gates that you open as you travel through the area. Controlling the livestock in the manner that we have planned is important.



Be prepared for inclement weather at all times.

Familiarize yourself with the area.



Please don't litter!

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#852

Length 7.9 Miles



Looking North from Kaufman Creek Trail
Photo by Vic Ullrey Paonia R.D.

Gunnison National Forest
Paonia Ranger District



For any questions or comments please contact:
Paonia Ranger District
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E-Mail: lbroyles@fs.fed.us or vullrey@fs.fed.us



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Trail Beginning: Intersection of Little Robinson Trail #850 just past the Little Robinson Creek crossing.

Trail Ending: Intersection of Elk Basin Trail #854.

Access #1: Via the Little Robinson Trail #850 1 mile past its origin from Forest Road #709, Coal Creek Road.

Access #2: Via Trail #528 which begins from Road #721 in Big Soap Park.

Use: Foot and Horse

Recommended Seasons:



USGS quad maps: Big Soap Park & West Beckwith Mountain

Dispersed Camping

Dispersed camping is permitted in most areas of the Forest. Recreation maps are available at all local Forest Service offices and personnel can answer questions on specific sites. Camping in undeveloped areas requires more from the camper to help keep the site in the condition in which it was found. If you Pack it in-Pack it out!

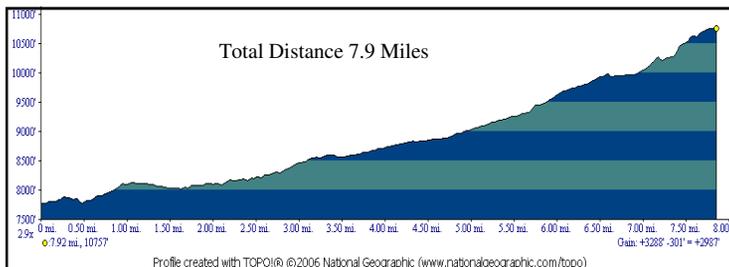


Fire Safety:

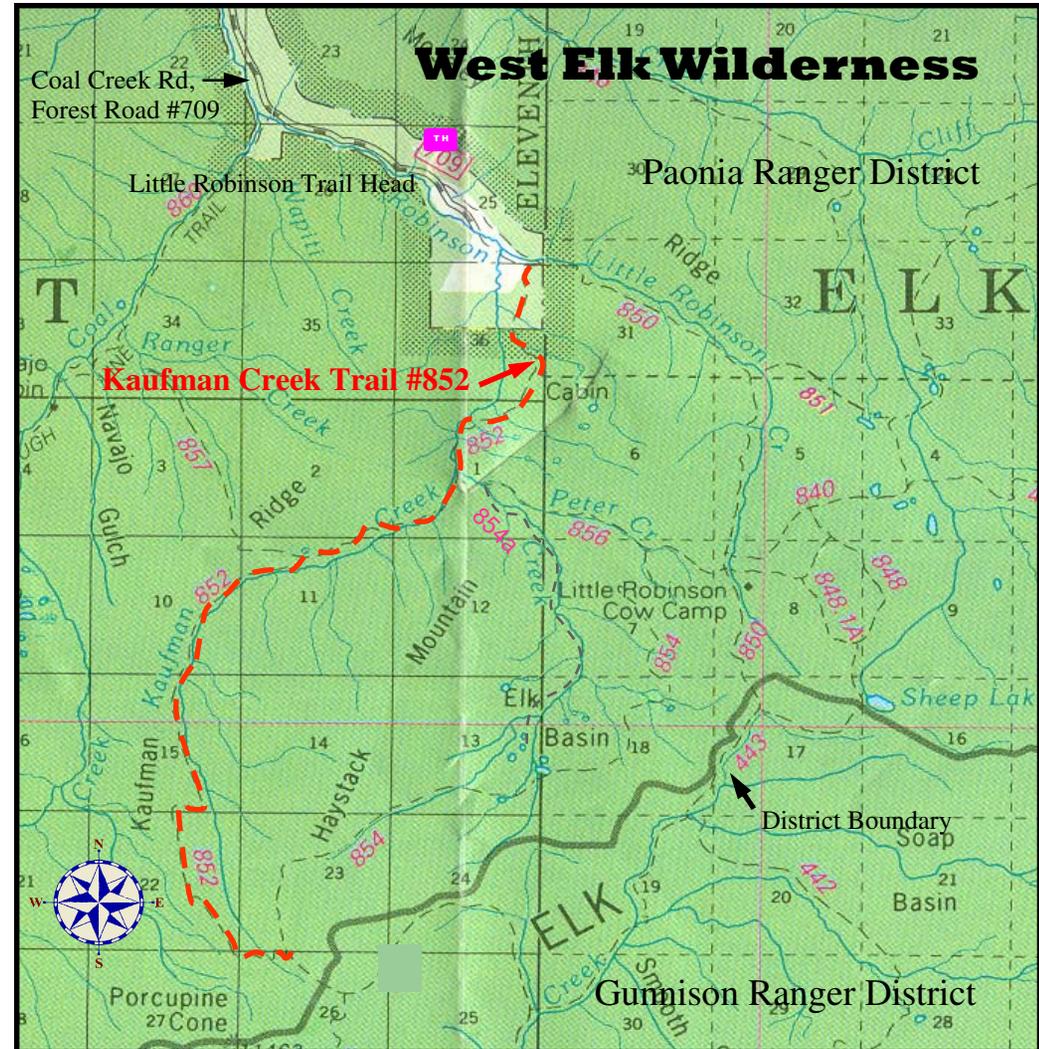
Check in with your local Forest Service office to see if fire bans are in effect.



Elevation Profile:



A View of Porcupine Cone From the Kaufman Trail



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Principles of Leave No Trace:

1. Plan Ahead & Prepare
2. Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors