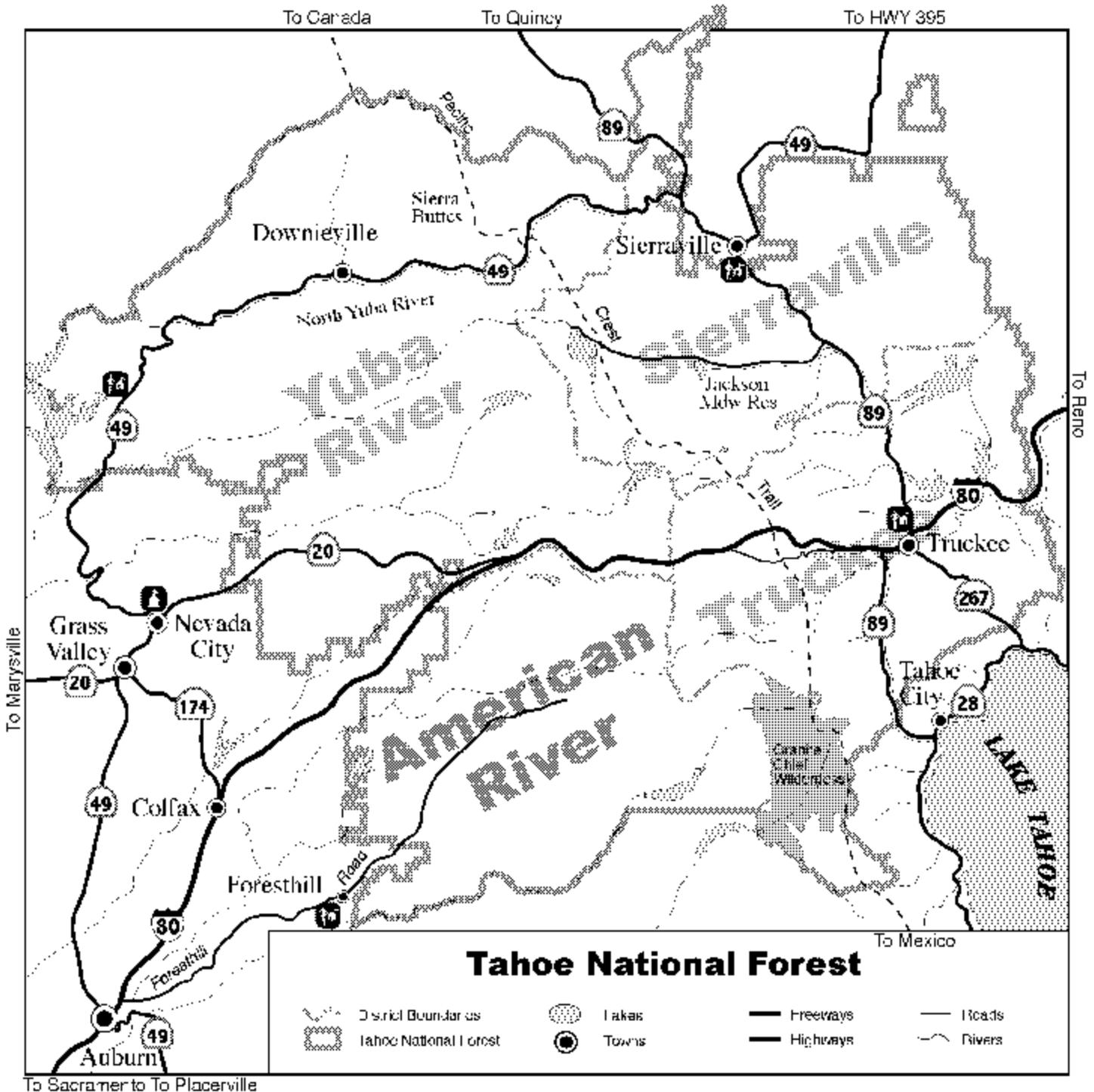


Trails

American River Ranger District Tahoe National Forest



United States
Department of
Agriculture



Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region
www.fs.fed.us/r5/

Tahoe National Forest
www.fs.fed.us/r5/tahoe/

Keep the Back Country Beautiful

Stay on trails and don't cut switchbacks. There are no trash bins in the backcountry, so please carry out what you bring in. It can take thirty years for some trash to decompose. Also remember that pets must be kept under control and cleaned up after.

Be Prepared

Plan ahead! Tell someone where you are going and when you should return. Always take the "10 essentials" - extra food, water, clothing, maps, sunglasses, compass, first aid kit, waterproof matches or lighter, flashlight, and knife. Since weather in the mountains is unpredictable, you should take clothing that can keep you warm and dry. Bring a waterproof poncho and warm outer clothing. Even when days are hot, nights in the Sierra can be very cold.

Maps

Recreation maps of the Forest can be purchased at any Ranger Station. For backcountry travel, topographic maps, also available at Ranger Stations, and at many sporting goods stores, are recommended.

If Lost

Don't panic. Sit down and try to figure out where you are. Use your head – not your legs. As you hike, be aware of prominent landmarks to help you find your way back. Carry a whistle for emergency use. Three of anything (shouts, whistles, etc.) is a sign of distress.

Trail wise

It is never wise to travel alone, but if you must, stay on well-used trails in case you become sick or injured. An illness that is normally minor can become serious at high elevations. If you get sick, get out of the mountains, or at least to a lower elevation, while you can still travel.

Poison oak grows up to about 5,000 feet. It is a green plant in summer, turns red in the fall, and loses its leaves in winter. Learn to identify its changing appearance throughout the year.

Rattlesnakes, important predators in the mountain ecosystem, may be found up to 9000 feet in elevation.

Smokey Says

At certain times of the year the danger of wildfire is high. During these times, building campfires and smoking may be restricted in some areas. Before you leave, check with a Forest Service Ranger Station for current fire danger conditions. Beginning May 1st, a campfire permit is required for all campfires and stoves outside developed campgrounds. The permits are valid until the end of the year issued.

If you wish to smoke, stop and clear an area three feet in diameter down to bare mineral soil before lighting up. Crush your smoke completely in the bare soil. Be sure to pack the remains out.

The Water May Not Be Safe

For day trips, carry sufficient water from home. Water from Sierra streams or lakes may be contaminated with an organism called *Giardia lamblia*. Drinking untreated water can make you very ill. If you do drink water from streams and lakes, be sure to boil it for three to five minutes first.

Private Land

Many parcels of private land will be found within the National Forest Boundary. Please respect the rights of landowners.

All Are Welcome

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Michigan Bluff to Deadwood Trail

(segment of the Western States Trail)

American River Ranger District

Tahoe National Forest



General Information

Mileage: 5.92 miles each way

Elevation: 3,490 to 3,944 feet

Difficulty: Difficult

Use Level: Moderate

Topographic Map: Michigan Bluff

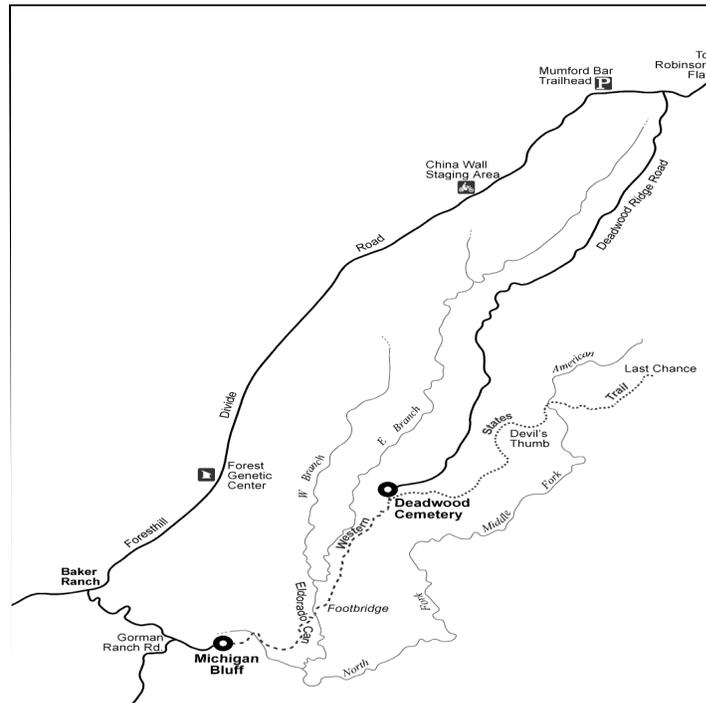
Trailhead Access

From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue approximately 5 miles to Baker Ranch. Make a right on Michigan Bluff Road and follow it through the town. The trailhead is located ¼ mile east of the town off the right side of Turkey Hill Road. **There is no public parking at the trailhead or in the Michigan Bluff area.**

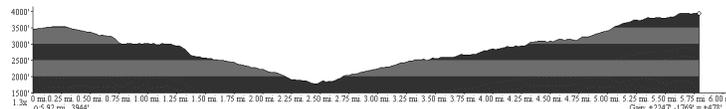
Trail Description

The trail drops off quickly into Eldorado Canyon and switchbacks down to the footbridge over Eldorado Creek. Good camping and fishing are available here. Campfire permits are required for campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs and lanterns. After crossing the West Branch of Eldorado Creek, the trail continues up the other side of the canyon offering some very scenic views of the rugged topography. The trail flattens out and eventually intersects the Deadwood Road near the old Deadwood Cemetery, which acts as the other trailhead for the trip. This hike can be made in a day by anyone in good physical shape or a more leisurely overnight trip.

Trail Map



Trail Profile



For More Information

American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD

Little Bald Mountain Trail

American River Ranger District

Tahoe National Forest



General Information

Mileage: 3.39 mile loop
Elevation: 6,700 to 7,060 feet
Difficulty: Moderate
Use Level: Moderate
Topographic Map: Duncan Peak

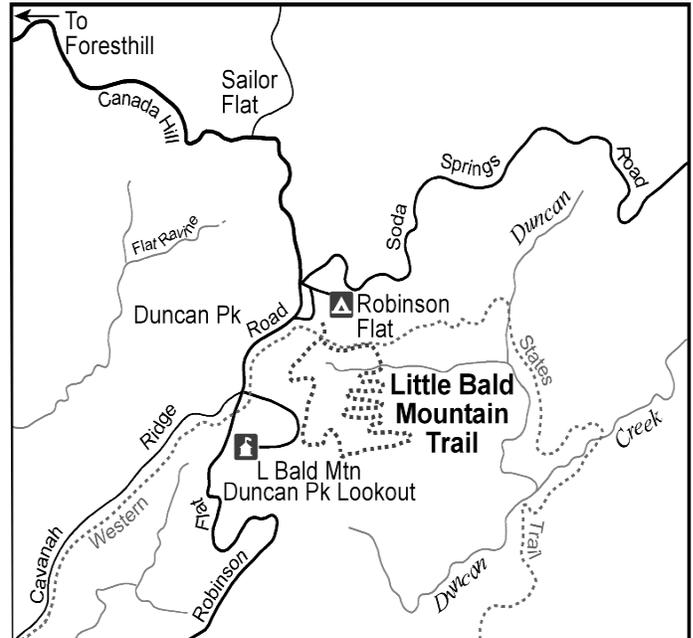
Trailhead Access

From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 27 miles on Foresthill Road to Robinson Flat Campground. Park in the day use area and follow the signs to the trailhead (to the right of the historic guard station and between the equestrian campground and the meadow).

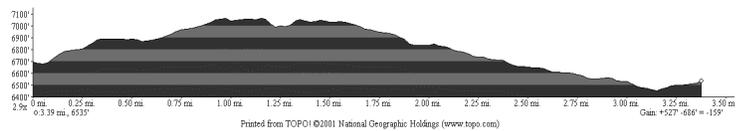
Trail Description

The Little Bald Mountain trail begins near the historic Robinson Flat Guard Station. There is a day use area and an equestrian campground to stage from. The trail starts a moderate incline for the first mile and levels out at the top of Little Bald Mountain. At the top there are spectacular views of Red Star Ridge, Duncan Canyon and French Meadows Reservoir. From there you may choose to make a short side trip to Duncan Peak Lookout, which is staffed during the summer months. The trail continues to switchback down to Little Robinson's Valley and eventually intersects with the Western States Trail and brings you back to Robinson Flat at the family campground.

Trail Map



Trail Profile



For More Information

American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD

Joshua M. Hardt Memorial Trail

American River Ranger District
Tahoe National Forest



General Information

Mileage: 3.5 mile loop
Elevation: 3,605 to 3,702 feet
Difficulty: Easy
Use Level: Heavy
Topographic Map: Dutch Flat

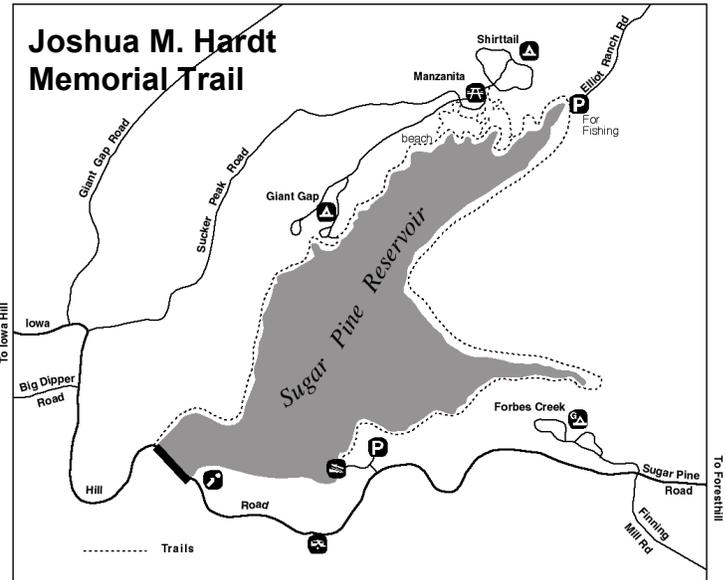
Trailhead Access

From Interstate 80, take Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 10 miles to Sugar Pine Road and turn left. Continue approximately 5 more miles. The trail may be accessed in summer months from the boat ramp parking lot, the dam, or Manzanita picnic area; in winter, the picnic area access is not available. Note: there is a day use fee at the boat ramp and picnic area parking lots, usually from May to September, when the recreation facilities are staffed by concessionaires.

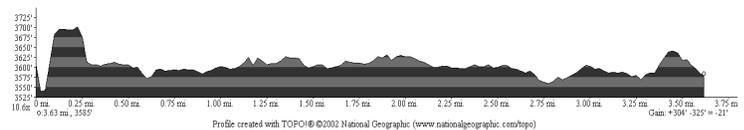
Trail Description

The trail follows the shore around Sugar Pine Reservoir. If you begin in the picnic area and proceed clockwise around the reservoir, the first mile, to the Shirttail Creek bridge, is suitable for wheelchairs. This part of the trail also has an interpretive brochure available in the box during the summer months or at the Ranger Station. Once you cross Shirttail Creek, the trail easily winds its way along the shore with plenty of good spots for fishing, swimming, or just taking a break. You will cross one more bridge, over Forbes Creek, and then pass the boat ramp and travel approximately one mile to the dam. The trail continues along the shore and will bring you back to the picnic area. There are picnic tables, barbeques, restrooms, and water available during the summer months. There are no fires or barbeques allowed around the lake, except in the facilities provided at the picnic area and campgrounds.

Trail Map



Trail Profile



For More Information

American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD

Green Valley Trail

American River Ranger District

Tahoe National Forest



General Information

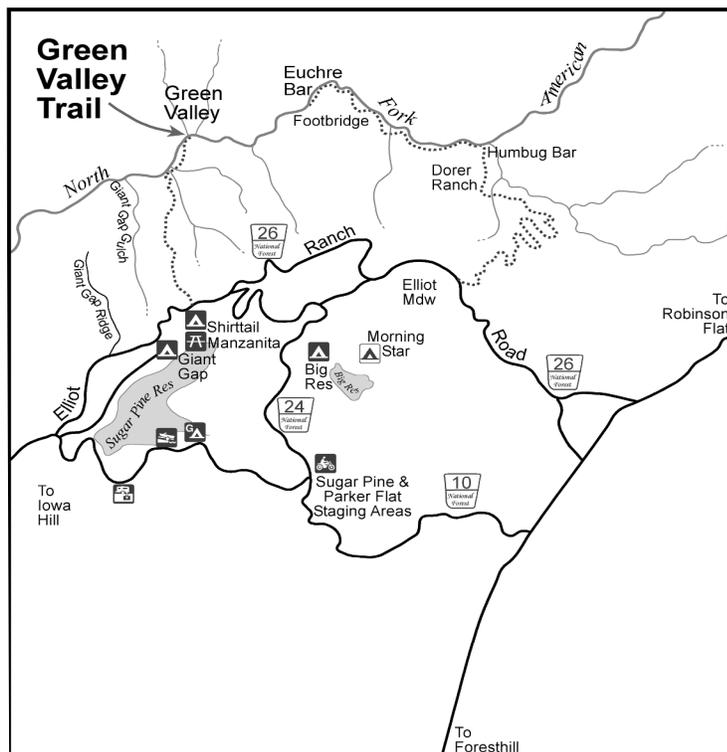
Mileage: 2.62 miles each way
 Elevation: 4,080 to 1,867 feet
 Difficulty: Most Difficult
 Use Level: Light
 Topographic Map: Dutch Flat

Trailhead Access

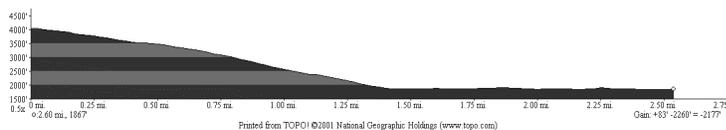
From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 10 more miles to Sugar Pine Road (Forest Road 10). Follow it for 5 miles until you cross Sugar Pine Dam. One mile beyond the dam, turn right on to Elliot Ranch Road, which is the dirt road just past the paved road to the campground. Travel 3 miles to the signed trailhead and make a left. NOTE: The road is rocky and a high clearance vehicle is advised.

Trail Description

Access to the North Fork of the American River via the Green Valley trail is steep and rocky in places. There is a 2,200 foot change in elevation in the 2.6 mile hike; good physical condition is recommended to hike this trail. It is possible to continue downriver for a short way, but the Forest Service established trail does not go far and there is private property in the area; please respect the property owner's rights. Good fishing is available at times, and river access with limited camping is possible along the trail. Campfire permits are required for campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs and lanterns.



Trail Map



Trail Profile

For More Information

American River Ranger District
 Foresthill Ranger Station
 22830 Foresthill Road
 Foresthill, CA 95631
 (530) 367-2224
 (530) 367-2226 TDD

Euchre Bar Trail

American River Ranger District
Tahoe National Forest



General Information

Mileage: 5.28 miles each way
Elevation: 4,175 to 1,972 feet
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Use Level: Light
Topographic Map: Dutch Flat/Westville

Trailhead Access

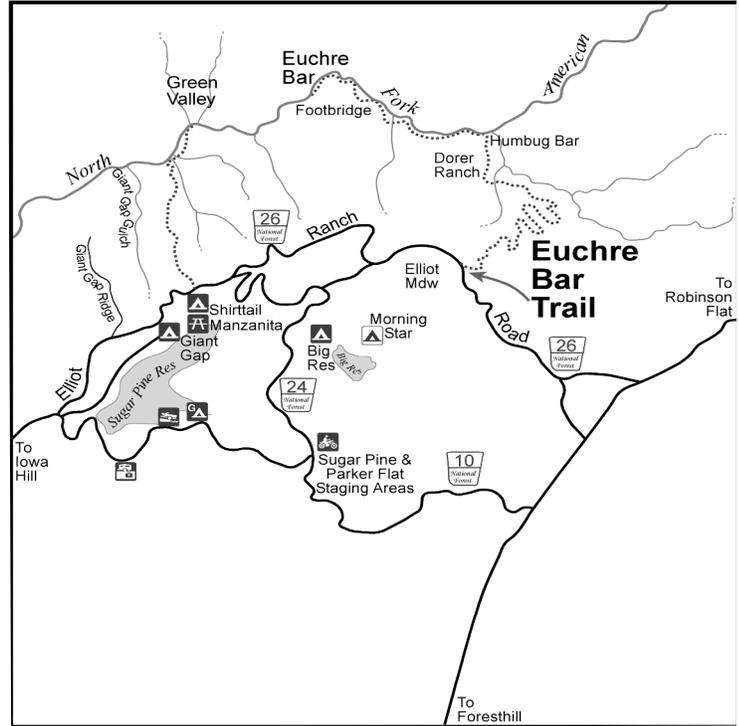
Foresthill access: From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 12 miles on Foresthill Road to Elliot Ranch Road and turn left. Continue approximately 2 ½ miles and the trailhead will be on the right. NOTE: The road is rocky and low clearance vehicles are not advised.

Alta access: From Interstate 80, take the Alta exit to Casa Loma Road. Proceed on Casa Loma and just before the overpass make a right. Continue and cross the railroad tracks then bear left. When the rough dirt road begins to climb up hill, to the right is Iron Point and to the left the road winds down to the trailhead. Those without 4x4 and high clearance should park near the restroom and hike down the road.

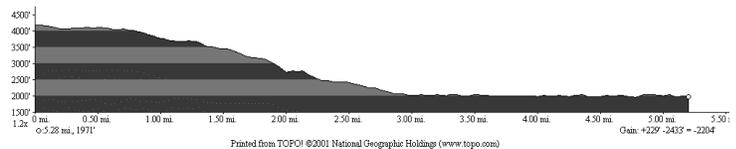
Trail Description

The upstream (east) end of the trail follows the Old Dorer Ranch Road. It passes mining ruins and abandoned equipment from the Gold Rush era. Since it passes through private property, care should be taken to stay on the trail. The portion along the river is 2.4 miles, with opportunities for fishing, camping, and swimming. Campfire permits are required for campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs and lanterns. Once at the river, you may choose to cross at the suspension footbridge downstream and follow the steep trail up the canyon to the other trailhead at Iron Point, near Casa Loma off of Interstate 80.

Trail Map



Trail Profile For More Information



American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD

Italian Bar Trail

American River Ranger District
Tahoe National Forest



General Information

Mileage: 2.12 miles each way
Elevation: 4,834 to 2,447 feet
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Use Level: Light
Topographic Map: Westville

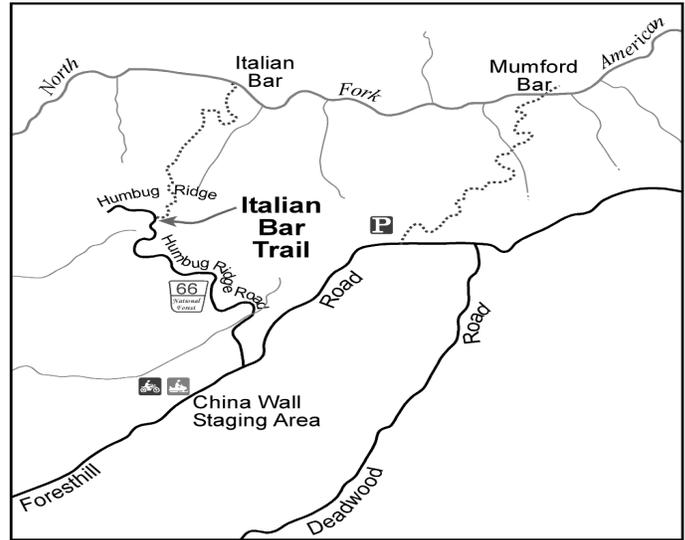
Trailhead Access

From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 14.5 miles on Foresthill Road to Humbug Ridge Road (Forest Road 66) and turn left. Continue approximately 2 ½ miles to the trailhead on the right. NOTE: The road is rocky and a high clearance vehicle is advised.

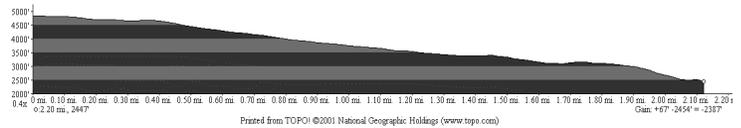
Trail Description

This is an old trail that was used by miners to reach the North Fork of the American River. It is steep with short sections of 35% slope. As you start down the trail there are spectacular views looking up the canyon. About halfway down the trail, be cautious of the poison oak. The trail ends at the river, but it is possible to travel up and down the river by scrambling along the riverbank. Campfire permits are required for campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs and lanterns.

Trail Map



Trail Profile



For More Information

American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD

Mumford Bar Trail

American River Ranger District
Tahoe National Forest

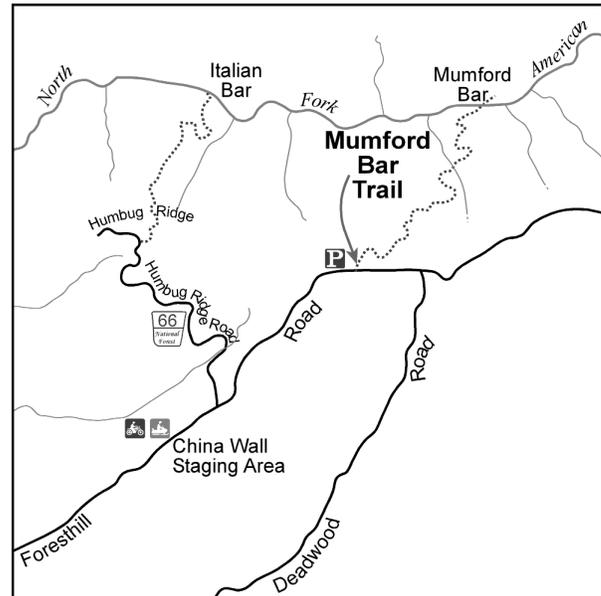


General Information

Mileage: 3.51 miles each way
Elevation: 5,377 to 2,632 feet
Difficulty: Difficult
Use Level: Light
Topographic Map: Westville/Duncan Peak

Trailhead Access

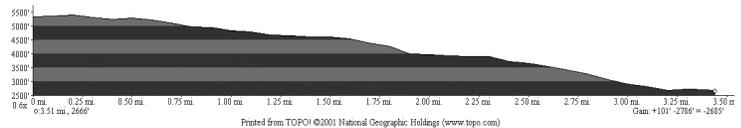
From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 17 miles on Foresthill Road and turn left into the primitive Mumford Bar Campground. To access the trail, there is 5/8 of a mile road (at the back of the campground) that starts out as a 2WD road, but becomes a 4WD road. 2WD vehicles should park in the developed area on top. Motor vehicles are prohibited on the trail.



Trail Description

This is a popular trail to the North Fork of the American River and is used by hikers, bicyclists and equestrians. The trail is well shaded. At 3/4 of a mile down the trail, there is a nice view of the canyon, and straight ahead a view of Royal Gorge. About halfway down the trail the poison oak begins. Be careful, as the leaf is not shiny, but looks like a maple. At the bottom of the trail is Mumford Bar Cabin, which has been restored, but only for viewing. There is access to the river with opportunities for camping, fishing, and swimming. Campfire permits are required for campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs and lanterns. You can continue upstream from here on the American River Trail. (See description on following sheet).

Trail Map



Trail Profile

For More Information

American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD

American River Trail

American River Ranger District

Tahoe National Forest



General Information

Mileage: 7.36 miles each way
 Elevation: 2,870 to 3,326 feet
 Difficulty: Easy, access trails Difficult-Most Difficult
 Use Level: Light
 Topographic Map: Duncan Peak

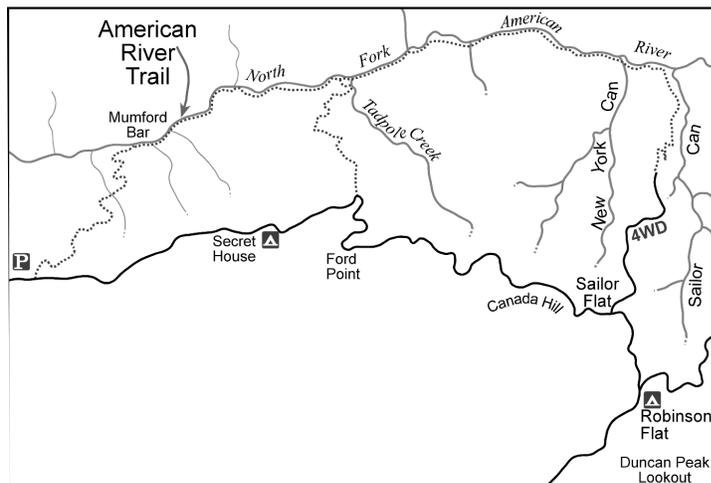
Trailhead Access

From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue on Foresthill Road to any of the following trailheads: Mumford Bar, Beacroft, or Sailor Flat. (See individual descriptions of these trails for mileage.)

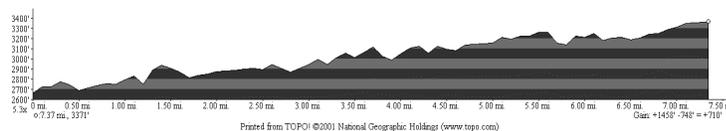
Trail Description

This trail follows the North Fork of the American River (A Wild & Scenic River) from the Mumford Bar Trail to the Sailor Flat Trail. Along the way it intersects the Beacroft Trail, which is another access route. This trail offers a variety of overlooks as it meanders along the river, passing through dense vegetation, past old cabins and mining sites, and through small meadows. Good fishing is available at times and limited camping is available along the trail. Campfire permits are required for campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs and lanterns. Use caution at the trail crossings at Tadpole and New York Creeks, which flow heavily in spring and could be difficult to ford. All trails in the North Fork of the American River are closed to motorized vehicle use.

Trail Map



Trail Profile



For More Information

American River Ranger District
 Foresthill Ranger Station
 22830 Foresthill Road
 Foresthill, CA 95631
 (530) 367-2224
 (530) 367-2226 TDD

Beacroft Trail

American River Ranger District
Tahoe National Forest



General Information

Mileage: 2.36 miles each way
Elevation: 5,463 to 2,870 feet
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Use Level: Light
Topographic Map: Duncan Peak

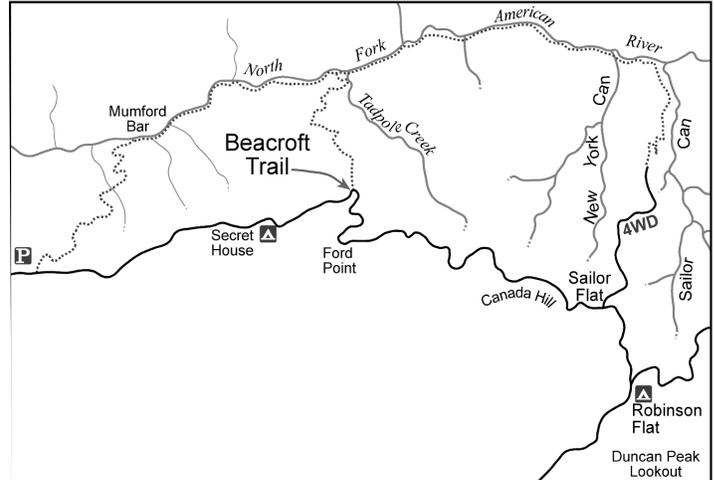
Trailhead Access

From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 21 miles on Foresthill Road and turn left. The trailhead is up the rocky road. Those without 4x4 and high clearance should park near Foresthill Road and walk in to the trailhead.

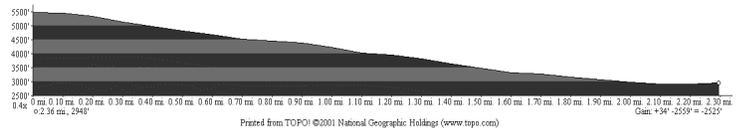
Trail Description

This is a very steep and difficult trail, which involves numerous switchbacks. As you start down the trail, you will cross the Iowa Hill ditch. Further on you will see clusters of ferns beside the small streams. At the bottom of the trail at the river, you may continue upstream toward Sailor Flat, or downstream towards Mumford Bar on the American River Trail. Good fishing is available at times and limited camping is available along the trail. Campfire permits are required for campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs and lanterns.

Trail Map



Trail Profile



For More Information

American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD

Sailor Flat Trail

American River Ranger District
Tahoe National Forest



General Information

Mileage: 3.25 miles each way
Elevation: 6,415 to 3,326 feet
Difficulty: Most Difficult
Use Level: Light
Topographic Map: Duncan Pk/Royal Gorge

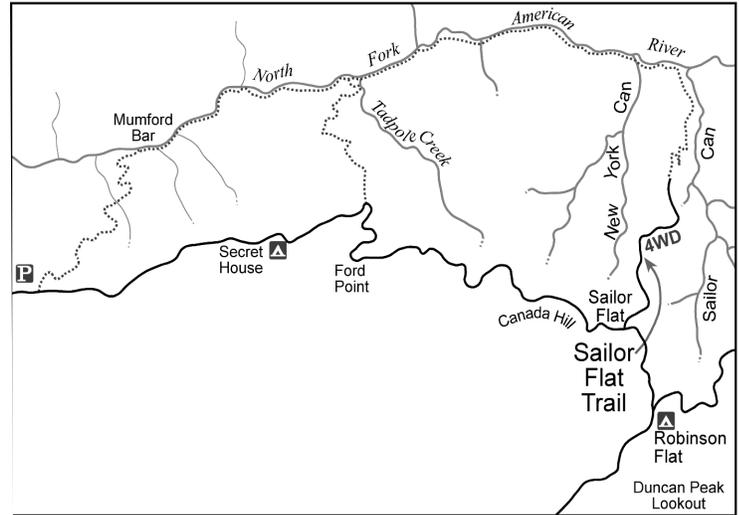
Trailhead Access

From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 26.5 miles on Foresthill Road and turn left on Sailor Flat Road. NOTE: Sailor Flat Road is rocky with waterbars and a high clearance, 4WD vehicle is advised.

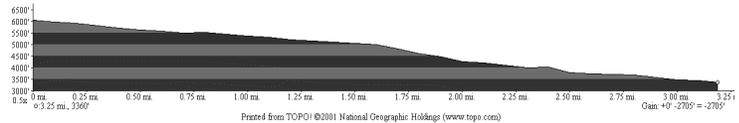
Trail Description

The first 1 ½ miles of the trail follows an old mining road and is relatively easy. The remains of an old gold stamp mill stand near the trailhead. The trail then becomes steeper, with many switchbacks as you drop down to the North Fork of the American River. Good fishing is available at times and limited camping is available along the trail. Campfire permits are required for campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs and lanterns. A popular trip for many is to enter via this trail and then proceed downriver to exit via the Mumford Bar trail. This can be accomplished in one or two days, but would require the use of two vehicles or arranging for pickup. (Total trip distance is 14.12 miles)

Trail Map



Trail Profile



For More Information

American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD

Loch Leven Lakes Trail System

American River Ranger District

Tahoe National Forest



Loch Leven (primary route)

General Information

Mileages (one way):	1.1 miles to railroad tracks
	2.5 miles to 1st lake
	2.6 miles to Salmon Lake trail
	2.8 miles to 2nd lake
	3 miles to Cherry Point trail
	3.6 miles to Upper Loch Leven
Elevation:	5,680 to 6,850 feet
Difficulty:	Moderate
Use Level:	Heavy
Topographic Map:	Cisco Grove/Soda Sprgs

Trailhead Access

The trail begins one-eighth mile east of Big Bend Visitor Center on old U.S. 40 (Big Bend exit off I-80). A restroom is available at the trailhead. The trail begins across the road from the parking area.

Trail Description

Loch Leven trail leaves the South Yuba river canyon, crossing the ridge above to reach the glacially formed Loch Leven lakes chain, small bowls in the granite. The trail is open for hiking early June to November, weather permitting. The trail is not marked for winter use, and is difficult to find in winter.

The trail works its way upward on a moderately steep grade to the southwest to the UPRR tracks, then trends southeasterly.

Granite outcroppings and glacial erratic are numerous along the first portion of the route, and the trail can be difficult to follow on the bare rock sections. As the trail ascends, it crosses minor hogbacks and depressions, generally trending upward. Prior to the railroad tracks, hikers see the markers for a buried telephone trunk line, and petroleum pipeline that they cross. Near the tracks, a small bridge spans a creek that flows swift and cold in early season.

The railroad tracks are on the original 1860s route of the Central Pacific railroad, built by hand with

Chinese labor. It remains a major freight and passenger route in and out of California.

After crossing the tracks, the trail becomes steeper, going from 6,000' to 6,800' in 1.25 miles. At the top of the ridge, the trail descends gradually into the Loch Leven lakes basin. The trail in the basin is primarily level, but follows the topography.

At the south end of lower Loch Leven, a trail junction continues left to middle and high Lochs, or right to Salmon Lake.

Fishing is generally good, and camping is dispersed throughout the basin. Campfire permits are required for campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs, and lanterns.

Salmon Lake (secondary route)

General Information

Mileages (one way):	1 mile to Salmon Lake cutoff
	.1/4 mile from cutoff to lake
	.0.6 mile from cutoff to Loch Leven trail
Elevation:	6,581 to 6,797 feet
Difficulty:	Easy
Use Level:	Light
Topographic Map:	Cisco Grove

Trailhead Access

From Yuba Gap exit on I-80, drive south on Yuba Gap road for 0.3 mile, and turn right toward Lodgepole campground. At 1.1 miles further, turn left on road 19 (unpaved). Drive 4 miles and turn left on road 38. Drive 2 miles to the trailhead, 0.5 mile past Huysink Lake. The trail begins on the left near a willow thicket. Parking is on the right side of the road.

Trail Description

The trail, open from early June to November, weather permitting, initially skirts a meadow blooming with wildflowers in early summer. It then climbs into old growth fir forest, and across weathered granites and metamorphic rocks with expansive views to the south. Grades are not difficult, but the trail rolls across the countryside to Salmon Lake.

The lake sits in a rocky bowl with limited campsites, primarily on the southeast side. Fishing is poor in the lake. Although swimming is possible most users prefer the Loch Leven lakes. Campers will find Salmon lake a less crowded alternative to the Loch Leven basin. Campfire permits are required for campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs, and lanterns.

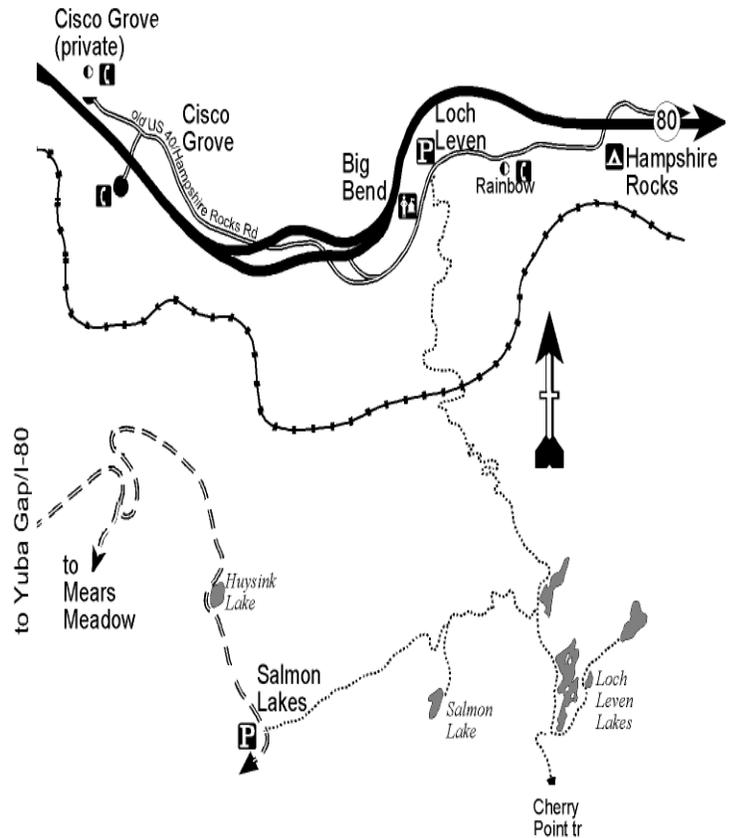
For More Information

Tahoe National Forest
631 Coyote Street
Nevada City CA 95959
(530) 265-4531
(530) 478-6118 TDD

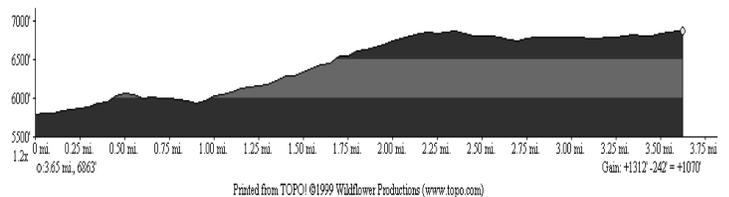
American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD

Big Bend Visitor Center
49685 Hampshire Rocks Road (Old US 40)
Soda Springs, CA 95728
(530) 426-3609

Trail Map



Trail Profile



North Fork of the Middle Fork Trail

American River Ranger District

Tahoe National Forest



General Information

Mileage: 1.03 miles each way
Elevation: 1,450 to 1,650 feet
Difficulty: Easy
Use Level: Moderate
Topographic Map: Michigan Bluff

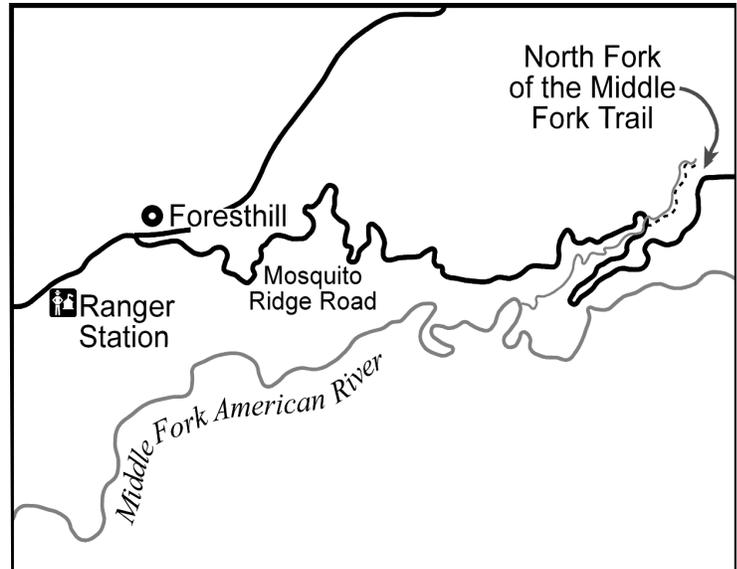
Trailhead Access

From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 1.2 miles and turn right onto Mosquito Ridge Road. Travel approximately 9 miles to where you will see the trail sign on the left after crossing the bridge. Park on the right side of the road and then cross the road to the trailhead.

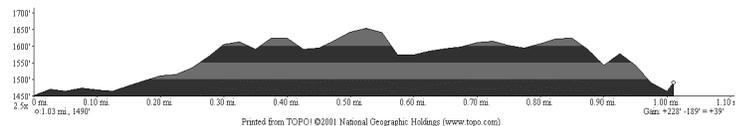
Trail Description

This trail runs upstream along the North Fork of the Middle Fork of the American River. Although it is primarily used by people placer mining along the river, other hikers are drawn to this area due to its easy grade, scenic beauty, and year round accessibility. This trail is a wonderful choice for early or late season hikes, with wildflowers plentiful during spring. The trail increases to a moderate slope, but levels out after the first quarter mile, until it drops down to the river. Good fishing is available at times, and river access with limited camping is possible along the trail. Campfire permits are required for campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs and lanterns. Poison Oak is commonly seen in the canyon and along the trail.

Trail Map



Trail Profile



For More Information

American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD

Mosquito Ridge Trail

American River Ranger District

Tahoe National Forest



General Information

Mileage: 1 mile each way
Elevation: 2,240 to 1,520 feet
Difficulty: Difficult
Use Level: Light
Topographic Map: Michigan Bluff

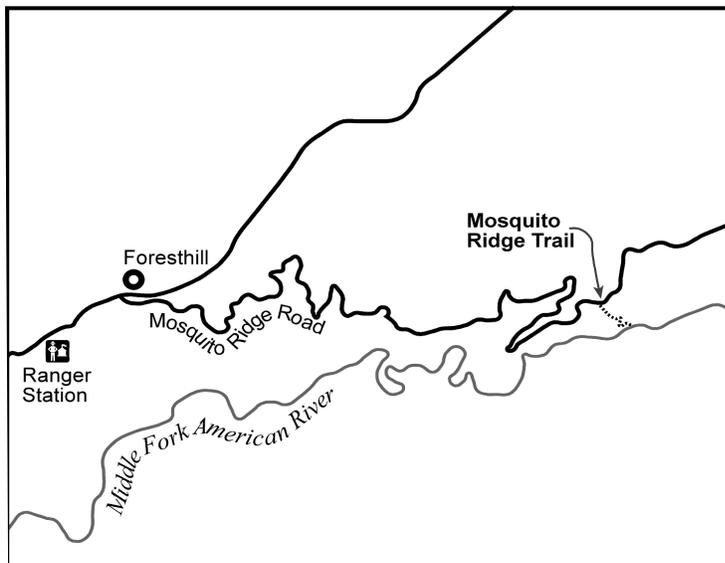
Trailhead Access

From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 1.2 miles and turn right onto Mosquito Ridge Road. Travel approximately 12.4 miles to the trail sign on the right. Park on the left side of the road in the turnout and then cross the road to begin the trail.

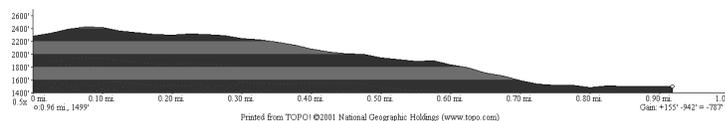
Trail Description

This trail is very steep in places with many switchbacks, as it winds its way down to the Middle Fork of the American River. About halfway down across the canyon, there is a pretty cascade of water coming down the canyon wall. The river has good fishing at times, and there are adequate campsites on the large gravel bars along the river. Campfire permits are required for campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs and lanterns. Because this is a southerly exposure, the trail can be hot during a warm day, and is a pleasant hike during the spring and fall. Poison Oak is present, especially at the beginning of the trail.

Trail Map



Trail Profile



For More Information

American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD

Grouse Falls - Big Trees Loop

American River Ranger District
Tahoe National Forest



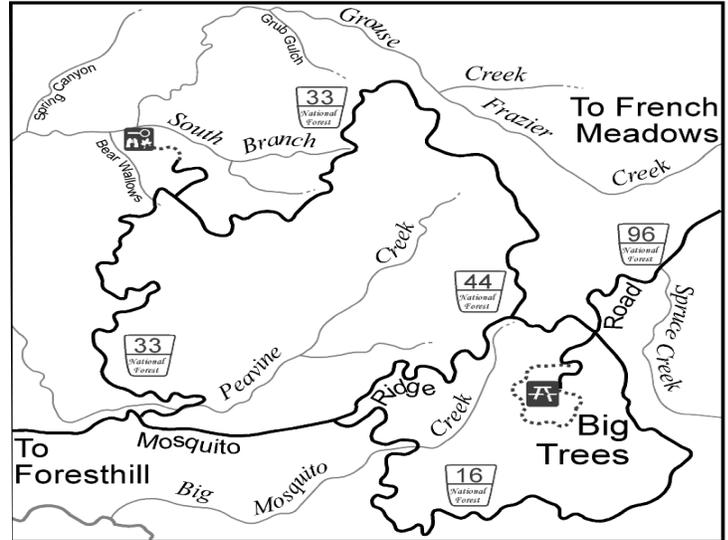
Trail Access and Description

From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 1.2 miles and turn right onto Mosquito Ridge Road. Follow Mosquito Ridge Road 19 ¼ miles to turn left on the Peavine Road (Road 33), then drive almost 5 miles on this graveled road to the Grouse Falls Turnoff. At the end of this short spur (note: road is not recommended for low vehicles) is a parking area where the trail begins. A half-mile hike leads to a deck overlooking the Grouse Falls Cascade, which drops several hundred feet into Grouse Creek. The deep, rugged canyons of this area are a reminder of the hard work and remote life of the early miners who lived and worked in many of the drainages of the area.

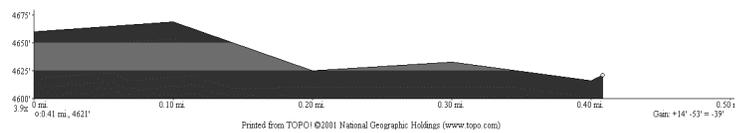
Return to the intersection of Peavine and Mosquito Ridge road. Turn left and travel approximately 5 miles to the Placer Big Trees Turnoff, (Road 16) and turn right. The picnic area and trailhead are ½ mile from this turn.

Placer Big Trees are the northernmost grove of Giant Sequoia, *Sequoiadendron giganteum*, and a self-guided interpretive trail will lead you through this special place. The Forest View Trail is a longer loop that takes you through old growth forest. The adjacent picnic area makes a perfect lunch stop.

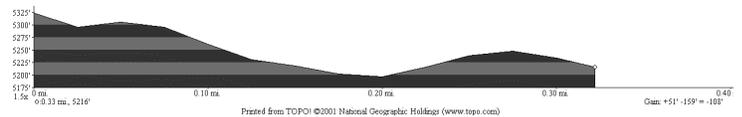
Trail Map



Grouse Falls Trail Profile



Big Trees Trail Profile



For More Information

Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224 voice, (530) 367-2226 TDD

Forest View Trail

American River Ranger District
Tahoe National Forest



General Information

Mileage: 1 mile loop
Elevation: 5,290 to 5,226 feet
Difficulty: Easy
Use Level: Moderate
Topographic Map: Greek Store

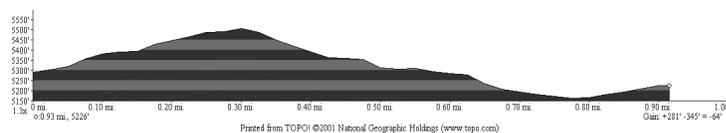
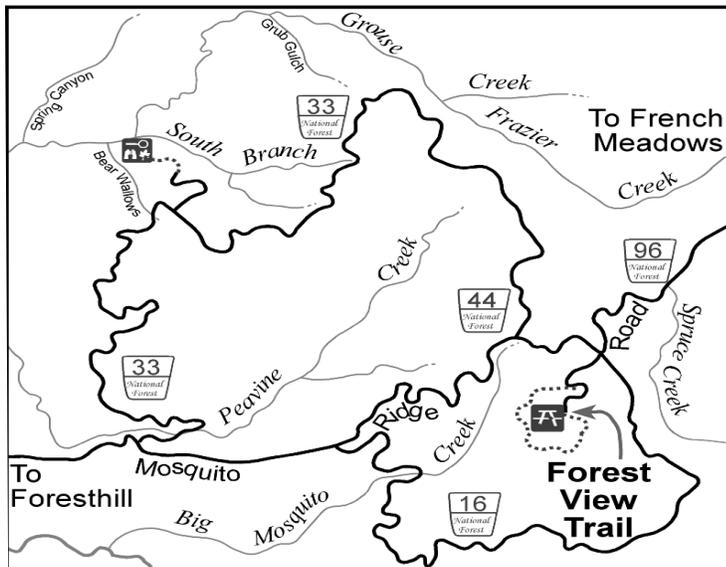
Trailhead Access

From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 1.2 miles and turn right onto Mosquito Ridge Road. Travel approximately 24 miles and make a right on to Forest Road 16. The picnic area and trailhead are ½ mile from this turn.

Trail Description

The Forest View trail winds through old growth forest. Notice the many trees of different sizes, ages, and species. If you happen to visit during the spring, wildflowers are plentiful along the trail. This short trail offers scenic views and is easy enough to be enjoyed by the whole family. The trail intersects with the Placer County Big Trees trail. A self-guided interpretive brochure of the Big Trees trail is available at the Ranger Station. The entire length of both trails is approximately 1 ½ miles. There is a picnic area adjacent to the upper parking lot with tables, barbeques, piped water, and restrooms available.

Trail Map



Trail Profile

For More Information

American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD

McGuire Trail (segment of Western States Trail)

American River Ranger District

Tahoe National Forest



General Information

Mileage: 3.63 miles each way
Elevation: 5,290 to 5,680 feet
Difficulty: Easy
Use Level: Moderate
Topographic Map: Bunker Hill

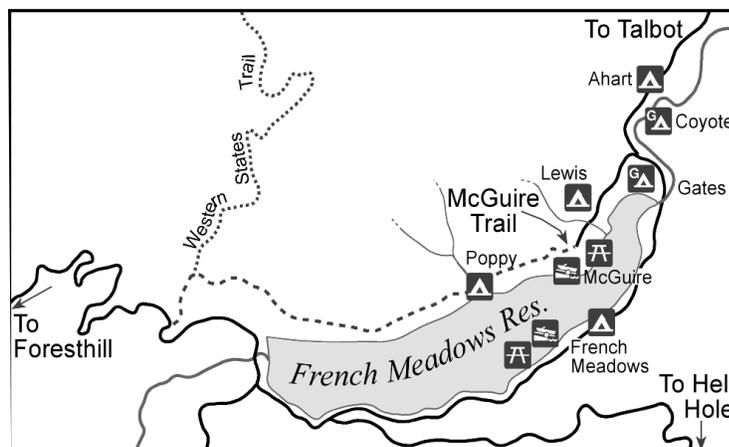
Trailhead Access

From Interstate 80, take the Foresthill exit to Foresthill Road and proceed 15.5 miles to the Foresthill Ranger Station. Continue 1.2 miles and turn right onto Mosquito Ridge Road. Travel approximately 38 miles to French Meadows Reservoir, cross the dam, and turn left. Continue for approximately 5 1/2 miles and turn left at the intersection where the pavement ends, towards McGuire Boat Ramp. The trail can be accessed from the upper parking lot adjacent to the flush restroom..

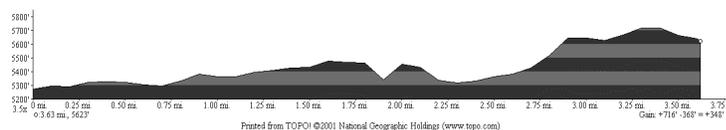
Trail Description

This trail winds through timber and follows the north shore of French Meadows Reservoir, climbing moderately to the top of Red Star Ridge. This short trail offers views of the French Meadows area and is easy enough to be enjoyed by the entire family. Good fishing is available at times, and lake access is possible along the trail. Camping along the trail is restricted to Poppy Campground, which is about 1 mile from the boat ramp trailhead. Poppy Campground has 12 sites with a table and grill-type stove in each. Campfires, backpacking stoves, BBQs and lanterns are permissible only within the facilities provided in the campground.

Trail Map



Trail Profile



For More Information

American River Ranger District
Foresthill Ranger Station
22830 Foresthill Road
Foresthill, CA 95631
(530) 367-2224
(530) 367-2226 TDD