



Great Western Trail (GWT)

Deer Creek Section TR. NO. 001.9

Dixie National Forest, Escalante Ranger District

General Description: The Great Western Trail is a continuous trail system that extends from Canada to Mexico and crosses through Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho. The trail is marked by the Great Western Trail symbol and has sections open to hikers, bikers, horseman, and Off Highway Vehicles (OHVs). Approximately 80 miles of the Great Western Trail traverses the Escalante Ranger District, utilizing existing trail systems.

Mileage: 5.8 miles

Difficulty: Foot: Easy
Bike: Moderate
Horse: Easy
OHV: Not Permitted, including E-bikes

Trailhead access: Graded dirt road

Elevation loss / gain: 640 feet

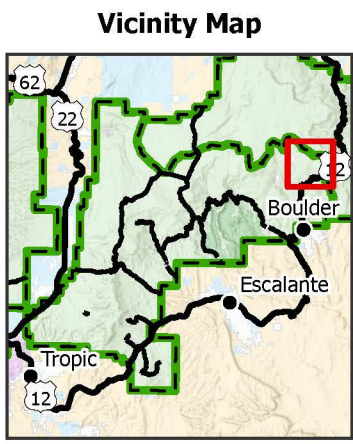
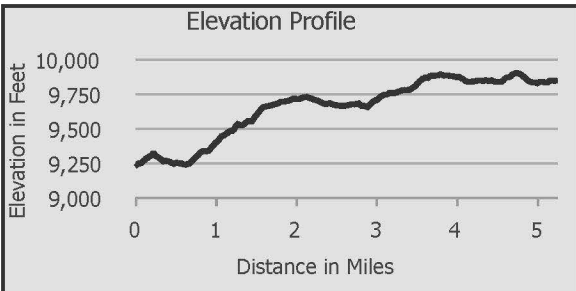
Water availability: Water is available at Chriss Lake, Deer Creek Lake and other nearby lakes and streams. Bring your own water for day hikes. All water should be filtered or treated before drinking.

Hazards / obstacles: Sections of the trail can be difficult to follow. Look for cairns and blazes marking the trail. Mosquitoes are prevalent in spring and early summer. Wear a long sleeve shirt and pants and use insect repellent. Weather can change quickly. Be prepared for cold weather year-round. Ridges, saddles, view points and open meadows are dangerous during thunderstorms.

Topo maps: USGS 7.5 minute quads: Deer Creek Lake

The Trailhead: From Hwy 12 take forest road 165 (FR 165) west (also signed "Garkane Power Plant"). Stay on forest road 165 following signs to Kings Pasture. Park at the Kings Pasture Trailhead on FR 165 just north of the junction of FR 508.

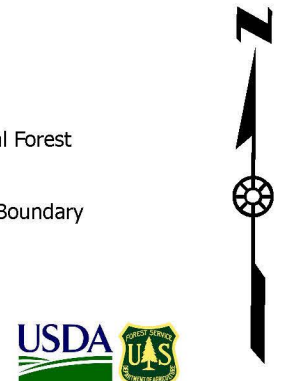
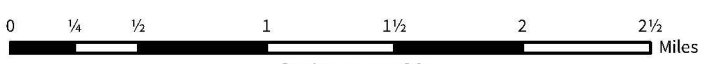
The Trail: From the Kings Pasture Trailhead walk back to FR 508 and turn left. At 0.25 miles turn right on the Great Western Trail. About 50-100 feet from this turn the trail leaves the road to the right and is now a single-track trail. The trail gradually climbs now through a beautiful aspen forest. At 1.5 miles the trail reaches a ridge and stays relatively flat for the rest of the trail. At 2.8 miles the Chriss Lake Trail No. 016 comes in on the right, stay straight. At 4 miles the Deer Creek Lake Trail No. 048 leaves on the left. At 5.6 miles the Deer Creek Trail No. 015 comes in on the right. The Deer Creek Section of the Great Western Trail ends at the Escalante/Fremont River district boundary fence.



GWT: Deer Creek Section

Escalante Ranger District, Dixie National Forest

- Trailhead
- Highway
- Non-Forest/Private Trails
- National Forest
- GWT Deer Creek
- Trail Non-Motorized
- Perennial Stream
- Private
- Improved, Gravel
- Non-Forest Road
- Intermittent Stream
- Forest Boundary
- Unimproved Road (4WD)



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