

# TONTO National Forest



Recreation  
Opportunity  
Guide

[www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto)



HIKING AND TRAIL RIDING

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## HIGHLINE TRAIL 31

### RANGER DISTRICT

Payson Ranger Station  
1009 East Highway 260  
Payson, Arizona 85541  
Phone (928) 474-7900 Fax (928) 474-7999

### TRAILHEADS (TH)

Pine TH  
Red rock TH  
Geronimo TH  
Washington Park TH  
Hatchery TH  
See Canyon TH  
260 TH

### TERMINI INFORMATION

**West end:** (5360 feet elevation): at Pine Trailhead

**East end:** (6620 feet elevation): at 260 Trailhead

### TRAIL INFORMATION

**Trail use:** Moderate to heavy  
**Trail difficulty:** More difficult (overall)  
**Trail length:** 50.2 miles  
**Estimated hiking time:** 3-5 days  
**Season of Use:** Spring - fall  
**USGS maps:** Buckhead Mesa, Pine, Kehl, Diamond Point, Promontory Butte and Woods Canyon  
**Elevation change:** 1260 feet

### TRAIL NARRATIVE

This trail ties to several other trails, providing opportunities for loop hikes and rides. Be sure to allow plenty of time if you are not familiar with the routes. The Highline Trail runs essentially east to west, below the Mogollon Rim and roughly following it.

### RELATED INFORMATION SOURCES

- *Visitors Guide to Mogollon Rim*, Southwest Natural & Cultural heritage
- *Arizona's Mogollon Rim*, Don Dederer Arizona Highways Book

### ATTRACTIONS

- National Recreation Trail
- Beautiful vistas of rim, canyons, brushy hill and distant mountains
- Unique rock formations and wonderful stands of Ponderosa pine
- Fire is an important aspect of the wild environment. The Dude Fire of 1990 burned portions of the forest along the Highline Trail; thus, this trail is an ideal place to observe how our forests rejuvenate themselves after a fire.
- The Highline Trail, established in 1870, was used to travel between homesteads and to attend school in Pine.
- Zane Grey and Babe Haught used the Highline Trail while hunting.
- The portion of the Highline Trail from Washington Park TH and Pine TH is part of the Arizona Trail.

### CONSIDERATIONS

- No motorized vehicles are allowed
- Carry an adequate supply of drinking water. One gallon/per person/per day is recommended during hot periods.
- **If you PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!!**
- Hikers, yield the right of way to trail stock
- Portions of the trail are rough in places and should be traveled with caution.

### CONNECTING TRAILS

Babe Haught Trail 143  
Col. Devin Trail 290  
Derrick Trail 33  
Donahue Trail 27  
Drew Trail 291  
Geronimo Trail 240  
Horton Creek Trail 285  
Myrtle Trail 30  
Promontory Trail 278  
Pump Station Trail 296  
Red Rock Trail 294  
See Canyon Trail 184