



TRAIL HEAD DIRECTIONS

Distance: Prescott to TH 11.7 miles, incl 0.6 mi dirt.
 Drive to Walker Road on Hwy 69 (east out of Prescott, west out of Prescott Valley. Walker Rd is the light just west of Costco at MP 293. Turn south onto Walker Rd (YC 57) and go 6.9 miles to jct with Big Bug Mesa Rd (FR 670) – this is just after the bridge over Lynx Creek.
- On the way, don't miss Howells (see Hist. Note 2).
 Go left (east) on Big Bug Mesa Rd, a well graded dirt road, for 0.6 miles to the jct with Charcoal Kiln Road (also dirt) on your right (west). Park on right shoulder, just past this junction. Hike down Charcoal Kiln Rd for 0.2 miles to the TH for trail #303. TH is on the right as road climbs – a short way past a "mansion".
Total Out and Back hike is 0.6 miles (very easy)
 Parking elevation is 6380 feet, low point at kiln 6300'
Description: This very short trail leads to an interesting historical site, one that many people are unaware of. For more info, see Historic Note 1 below.
NOTE: After 9A, do 9B (separate map and directions).

HISTORIC NOTE 2
 You'll pass two interesting historic sites on the way to kiln. Softwind Trail road goes off on right at 6.1 miles from Hwy 69 (MP 6.1) -- go slowly here. Park on left shoulder opposite this road. Hike down track on left (# on tree 5195) - drops steeply to sign at jct. Go left to ghost town of Howells, or right to CCC site.
 - Howells is 0.2 miles along the dirt track, then curve up by creek to left. At top, there are old walls of smelter on left and more remains a little farther on.
 - CCC was the Civilian Conservation Corp, which provided jobs during the Great Depression (1930s). For CCC, walk ~200' along track and left to creek. Find a concrete foundation of the main bldg, ~60' by 10'. Also two other concrete remains on bank.

HISTORIC NOTE 1
 The charcoal kiln was constructed around 1880 by the Carmichael brothers, and is in excellent condition considering its age. The kiln was used to convert oak wood into charcoal by burning with almost no air. The charcoal was used at nearby smelters.
 If you walk inside the kiln, you can still see carbon on the walls – take care as it is dark! The opening near the top was probably used to load wood into the kiln – with a wooden bridge for access. The ponderosa pines were all cut down for mine props, leaving an open forest, which has since grown back over many decades.

9A. Charcoal Kiln

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| ROADS | LAND USE 1 |
| Surfaced Roads | Private Land |
| Dirt Roads | Prescott National Forest |
| TRAILS 1 | Wilderness Area |
| SPREE Trail Route | Parking (at trail head) |
| Trail along dirt road | Trail Point/Junction (with approx. mileages between points/junctions/parking) |
| Other trails | Purple grids are for GPS (UTM NAD83) |
| Old Forest Roads | Scale is 1:5,000 |

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HIGHLANDS CENTER for NATURAL HISTORY
 (Hiking Spree Map for 2016)



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