

## TRAIL HEAD DIRECTIONS

**Distance: Prescott to TH is 30 miles, all blacktop.**

Drive east and south on Hwy 69 from Prescott and Prescott Valley towards I-17, using Mile Posts (MPs) to track progress. Drive ~3 miles past Mayer (MP 270) to MP 266.7 where you pull off Hwy 69 to the right (southwest) onto a short dirt road.

- This dirt road is 0.4 miles past crossroads by Mayer Fire Station (crossroad is Old Sycamore Rd and Daybreak Ranch)
- **Go slowly here so you don't overshoot** (at turn off, there is a gap in the divided highway median on the left).

The blacktop ends almost immediately after you turn off, and you will see a locked chain-link gate just ahead.

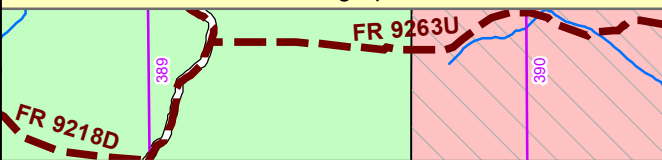
- Park to the right of this gate without blocking it.

**There are no signs, so follow these directions carefully:**

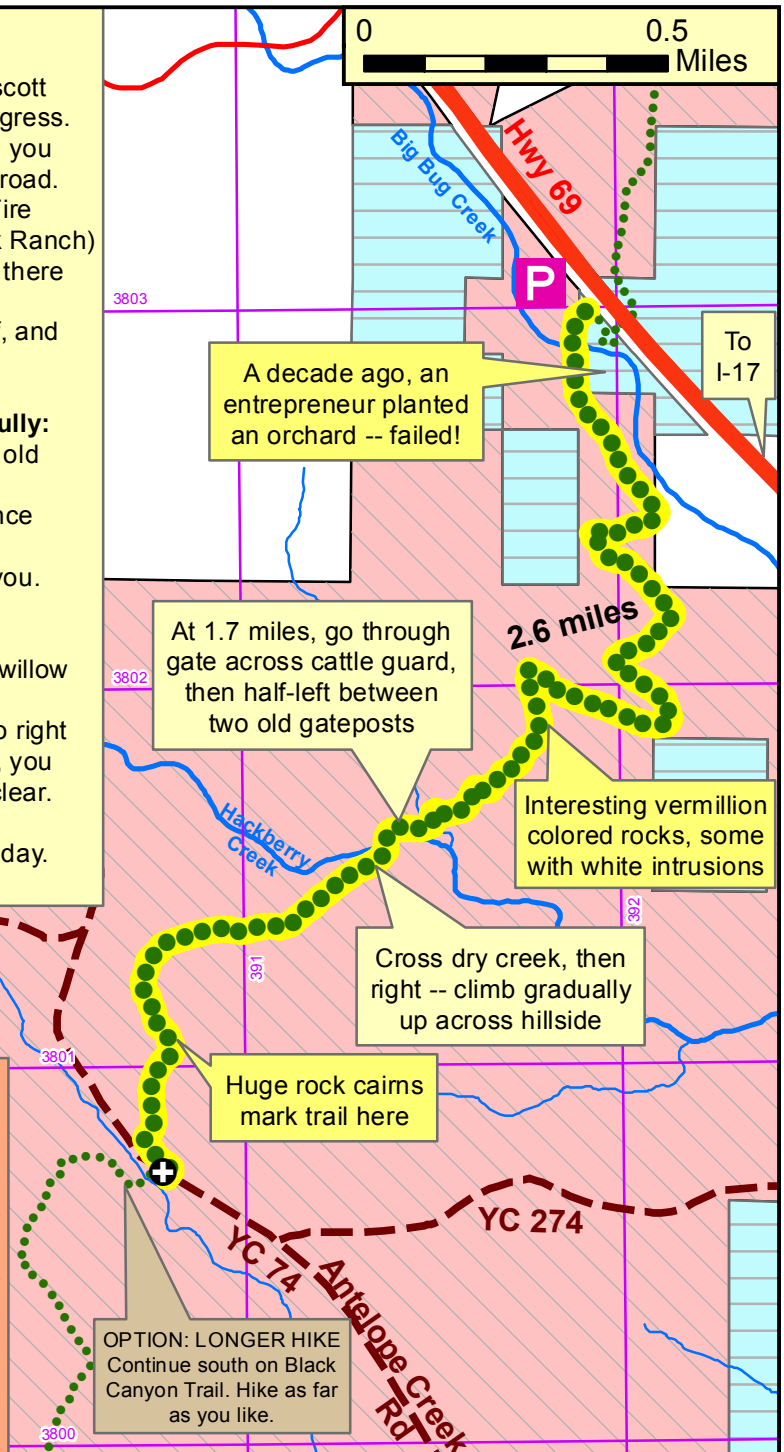
- From the gate, hike to your left for 100 yards along an old track, parallel with the fence.
- Look on your right for a narrow barbed-wire gate in fence just below the track, flanked by two concrete blocks.
- Go down to this gate and through it, closing it behind you.
- You are now on a faint trail which will pass between a fenced area on your left and a trash pile on your right.
- Follow this trail, which drops down between two large willow trees and crosses Big Bug Creek.
- On the far side, go uphill diagonally left, keeping just to right of a dilapidated wire fence. At top corner of this fence, you will see a Black Canyon sign, and trail becomes very clear.

**Total out-and-back hike is 5.2 miles (moderate)**

Trail has minimal shade: hike when cooler or on cloudy day. TH elevation is 4000 feet, high point is 4150 feet.



The Black Canyon Trail (BCT) has historic significance. It is part of a sheep driveway corridor, which has been used for 100 years to herd sheep from the Phoenix area (winter) to the cooler climate of the Mogollon Rim (summer) -- some of the driveway is still in use! The current narrow trail starts way south in Maricopa County on Carefree Highway. From that trailhead it goes north past Black Cyn City, Bumblebee and old Cortez, crossing the Agua Fria River twice on the way. Almost all of the trail is on BLM land, including the segment south of Hwy 69 that you will be hiking on. This long distance trail was constructed by volunteers over the past few years, with various Federal Grants, and support from the BLM and the Black Canyon Trail Coalition. Their work has received national recognition. Get more info at: [www.bctaz.com](http://www.bctaz.com)



## 8. Black Canyon Trail (BLM)

### ROADS

Surfaced Roads

Dirt Roads

### TRAILS

SPREE Trail Route

Spree Motorized

Other non-motorized

Other motorized

### LAND USE

Prescott Nat. Forest

Bureau of Land Mgmt

State Trust Land

Trail Point/Jct  
(with approx. mileages between pts/junctions)

Purple grids are for GPS (UTM NAD83)

Scale is 1:20,000

Yavapai County assumes no responsibility for errors, omissions, and/or inaccuracies in this mapping product. NJER Revised 09/15/11



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