

# **4\_Temporal Gulch Passage**

### Patagonia to Gardner Canyon







\*Mountain Bikes Prohibited in Wilderness Areas

#### **General Information**

This passage begins at the Post Office in Patagonia, leaves the community of Patagonia and traverses northward to link with the Santa Rita Mountains passage. The trail spans 15.3 miles of the Nogales Ranger District in the Santa Rita Mountains. A combination of new trail construction, existing trails, and low use (dirt) roads have been used to create this route. A 5.3-mile portion of this passage crosses through the Mt. Wrightson Wilderness area. It features scenic views from the higher elevations of Mt. Wrightson and visits Kentucky Camp. The trail frequently follows an abandoned aqueduct to the mining camps through oak, pine and grasslands.

#### Location:

Southeast Arizona on the Coronado National Forest between Patagonia and Gardner Canyon.

Length: 19.4 miles

Difficulty Rating: Easy to Difficult

Recommended Seasons of Use: Fall, Winter, Spring

**Elevation:** 4050' to 6560'

#### Access:

To reach the southern access point travel to the community of Patagonia located south of Interstate 10, south of Tucson, on State Highway 82. Turn north on First Avenue near Patagonia High School. Pass through a residential area and continue until the road crosses a cattle guard and becomes Forest Road FR 72. A trailhead has been built for vehicle parking 6 miles north of Highway 82 on FR72. The road becomes suitable for 4WD vehicles only after this point. The road becomes suitable for 4WD vehicles only after this point. The trail can be accessed at several locations north of Patagonia. These areas are Kentucky Camp, and were the trail crosses the Box Canyon and Gardner Canyon Roads.

**Trail Route Description:** 

From the southern terminus, the trail follows a dirt road, FR 72, for 12 miles, where it intersects Walker Basin Trail. The trail climbs in elevation through Walker Basin, then descends in an easterly direction through Big Casa Blanca Canyon intersecting the Chinaman's Trail after 3.3 miles. This portion of the trail was used historically as an open aqueduct to furnish water to mining operations at Kentucky Camp. Following this portion of the trail for 3.3 miles, trail users will reach Tunnel Spring on the Gardner Canyon Road, FR 785.

NOTES: Please close all gates, and respect all livestock operations. Water is scarce along this passage.

#### Resources

Maps: This map, and more detailed maps available in the future. Also Coronado National Forest Map and

USGS Quadrangles: Sonoita, Mt. Wrightson, Empire Ranch, and Helvetia.

(Mt. Wrightson 15 minute quadrangle)

Santa Rita Mountain Trail and Recreation Map - Rainbow Expeditions.

### For more information, contact:

Nogales Ranger District, Coronado National Forest, 303 Old Tucson Road, Nogales, Arizona 85621. Phone (520) 281-2296.





IMPORTANT NOTE: This possage sheet is intended only as an informational document to introduce you to the many recreational opportunities provided by the Arizona Trail. Always refer to the appropriate Forest Service or topographic map before plausing any outing on the Arizona Trail, do not rely on the information provided in this passage sheet alone. The Arizona Trail Association is not responsible for any personal injury, damage to property, or any violation of the law which may occur in connection with the use of this document. Please respect the rights of private landowners and permittees, observe all applicable rules and regulations, and always be propared to encounter the worst that mature has to offer on the Arizona Trail.

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