



MEDICINE BOW-ROUTT NATIONAL FORESTS  
 THUNDER BASIN NATIONAL GRASSLAND  
 HAHNS PEAK-BEARS EARS RANGER DISTRICT

	<p><b>TRAIL NAME: #1101 WYOMING/ CONTINENTAL DIVIDE TRAIL</b></p>
<p><b>TRAIL BEGINNING:</b> 10,038' elevation (3060 m) at Base Camp Trailhead.</p> <p><b>TRAIL ENDING:</b> 9250' elevation (2819 m) Continental Divide as it crosses Forest Road #550 in the Medicine Bow National Forest, WY.</p>	<p><b>LENGTH:</b> 61.8 mi (99.5 km)</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED SEASON:</b> Summer   Fall</p> <p><i>Note: Only a portion of this trail is for mechanized use.</i></p>
<p><b>INTERMEDIATE LOW POINT:</b> 8000' elevation (2438 m) at Seedhouse Campground.</p>	<p><b>INTERMEDIATE HIGH POINT:</b> 11,880' elevation (3621 m) at Lost Ranger Peak.</p>
<p><b>ACCESS #1:</b> Travel on US Hwy 40 for 19 miles southeast of Steamboat Springs, up Rabbit Ears Pass, to the Dumont Lake sign. Turn left (north) at this sign (NFSR 315) and continue about 1.5 miles to the old Rabbit Ears stone monument. Turn left here (NFSR 311-Base Camp Road) and drive 4.5 miles on this bumpy dirt road to the Base Camp TH. <b>*There is no defined route to the east or west--only travel to the north along CDNST is possible from this access point.</b></p>	
<p><b>ACCESS #2:</b> Travel west of Steamboat for about 2 miles to the airport turnoff; turn right on this road (County Road 129) and travel approximately 30 miles to the junction of CR 129 and NFSR 550. Take the right fork (#550) through Crane and Whiskey Parks into Wyoming for about 1 mile to the Continental Divide. The trail goes to the east (right) and is marked by black and yellow signs identifying the center of the stock driveway.</p>	
<p><b>NOTE: THIS IS A VERY BRIEF GUIDELINE TO THIS TRAIL AND IS NOT INTENDED TO TAKE THE PLACE OF MOUNTAINEERING SKILLS, COMPASS AND TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS OF THE AREA. BE FAMILIAR WITH BACKPACKING AND MOUNTAIN WEATHER BEFORE ENGAGING IN ANY BACKPACK TRIP.</b></p>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b><u>SPECIAL NOTE ON TRAVEL REGULATIONS</u></b></p> </div> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The full length of the trail is open to foot and horse travel.</li> <li>• From Base Camp Trailhead north to Fish Creek Trail #1102 and Percy Lake Trail #1134, the trail is also open to mountain bikes.</li> <li>• From Fish Creek Trail #1102 and Percy Lake Trail #1134 north to Buffalo Pass Road 60, the trail is also open to mountain bikes, motorcycles and ATV's.</li> <li>• From Buffalo Pass Road 60 north to Seedhouse Road 400, the trail is in the Mount Zirkel Wilderness and mountain bikes and all motorized uses are prohibited.</li> <li>• From Seedhouse Road 400 north to Diamond Park Road 431, the trail is also open to mountain bikes and motorcycles.</li> <li>• From Diamond Park Road 431 north to NFST # 1197, the trail is also open to mountain bikes, motorcycles and ATV's.</li> </ul>	

**ATTRACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS:** This trail is the designated route for the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST) and most of it is actually located on the Divide, much of it above timberline. It offers outstanding views east into North Park and west towards Utah. Twenty miles are within the Mount Zirkel Wilderness. There are opportunities for day trips and multi-day trips. Snow may cover portions of the trail into July. Users need to be prepared for weather extremes at all times. Parts of this trail are open to mountain bikes and to motorized use (see SPECIAL NOTE ON TRAVEL REGULATIONS below).

**NARRATIVE:** From Base Camp TH, the Wyoming Trail begins by dropping down into a grassy meadow, then climbing to reach Fishhook Lake. You pass by Lost Lake Trail #1133 and Lake Elmo before reaching Fish Creek Trail #1102 and Percy Lake Trail #1134. Continue through patches of timber and open parks on rolling terrain along the Divide past Grizzly Lake and on to the Buffalo Pass (south) Trailhead.

Follow the road a short distance to the north to the Buffalo Pass (north) TH to where the trail begins on the north side of the road and enters the Mount Zirkel Wilderness. You pass through alternating meadows and forested areas, crossing back and forth across the Divide. You will pass several trail intersections as you travel: Newcomb Creek Trail #1132, Luna Lake Trail #1168, Craggs Trail #1182 and Rainbow Lake Trail #1130. Along the way, the trail passes just west of and below Mt. Ethel. You reach the summit of Lost Ranger Peak, the trail's high point at 11,880', before dropping back down past Lost Ranger Trail #1131 and on to North Lake Trail #1164. At this point, the CDNST route turns off and follows North Lake Trail. Continuing north on the Wyoming Trail, you pass Three Island Trail #1163 in an area with good views of Mount Zirkel and the Sawtooth Range to the north. You will pass Lone Pine Trail #1129 before dropping steeply down towards Gold Creek Trail #1150 and Gold Creek Lake. This portion of the Wyoming Trail ends here. To continue north on the trail requires heading west on Gold Creek Trail for about 3 ½ miles, exiting the Wilderness, to Slavonia Trailhead and then following Seedhouse Road 400 west for about 3 miles to Seedhouse Trailhead.

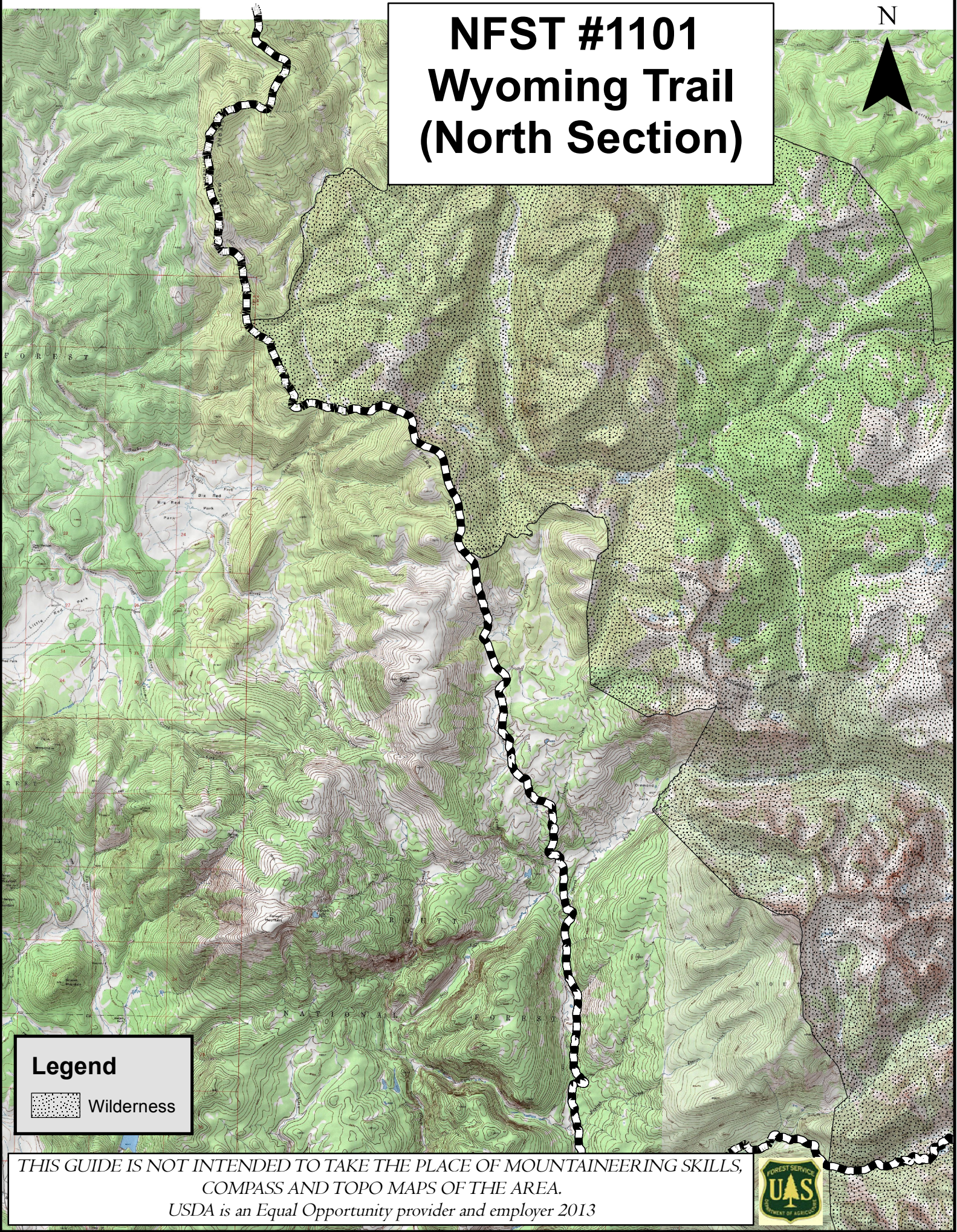
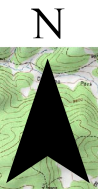
Wyoming Trail (again the route of the CDNST) begins again on the north side of the road at Seedhouse Trailhead and runs parallel to the North Fork of the Elk River. The trail is at lower elevation for quite a ways, crossing English and Lost Dog Creeks, Road 44 and the North Fork of the Elk before reaching the open expanses of Diamond Park and crossing Road 431. From here, the trail climbs, intersects Main Fork Trail #1152, crosses Trail Creek, passes Trail Creek Trail #1154, climbs the Sierra Madre and meets Hare Trail #1199 atop the Continental Divide again. The trail follows the Divide northwest through the Sierra Madre past Manzanaras Trail #1204 and ends at the trailhead on Road 499. Follow Road 499 north about 2 miles to the intersection with Road 500 and go north on Road 500 for several miles to the trailhead at the end of the road. Wyoming Trail takes off again from there, continuing north past Whiskey Creek Trail #1197 to the Wyoming state line, where Wyoming Trail ends. From there the trail becomes Continental Divide Trail #412, crossing Road 550 on the Medicine Bow National Forest.

Last updated: January 2013  
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# NFST #1101 Wyoming Trail (North Section)



## Legend

 Wilderness

*THIS GUIDE IS NOT INTENDED TO TAKE THE PLACE OF MOUNTAINEERING SKILLS,  
COMPASS AND TOPO MAPS OF THE AREA.*


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# NFST #1101 Wyoming Trail (Mid/North Section)

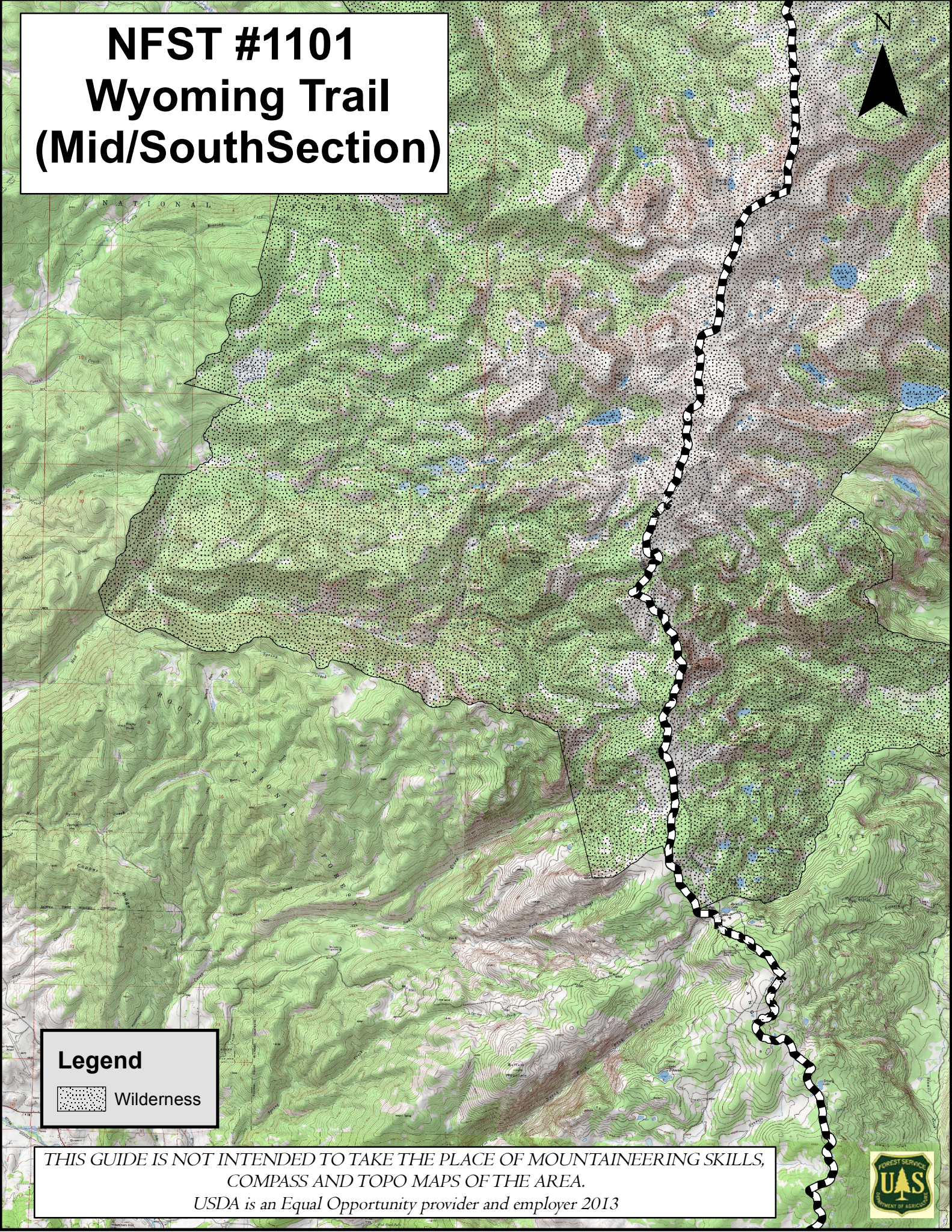
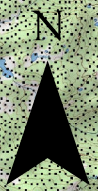
**Legend**

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# NFST #1101 Wyoming Trail (Mid/South Section)



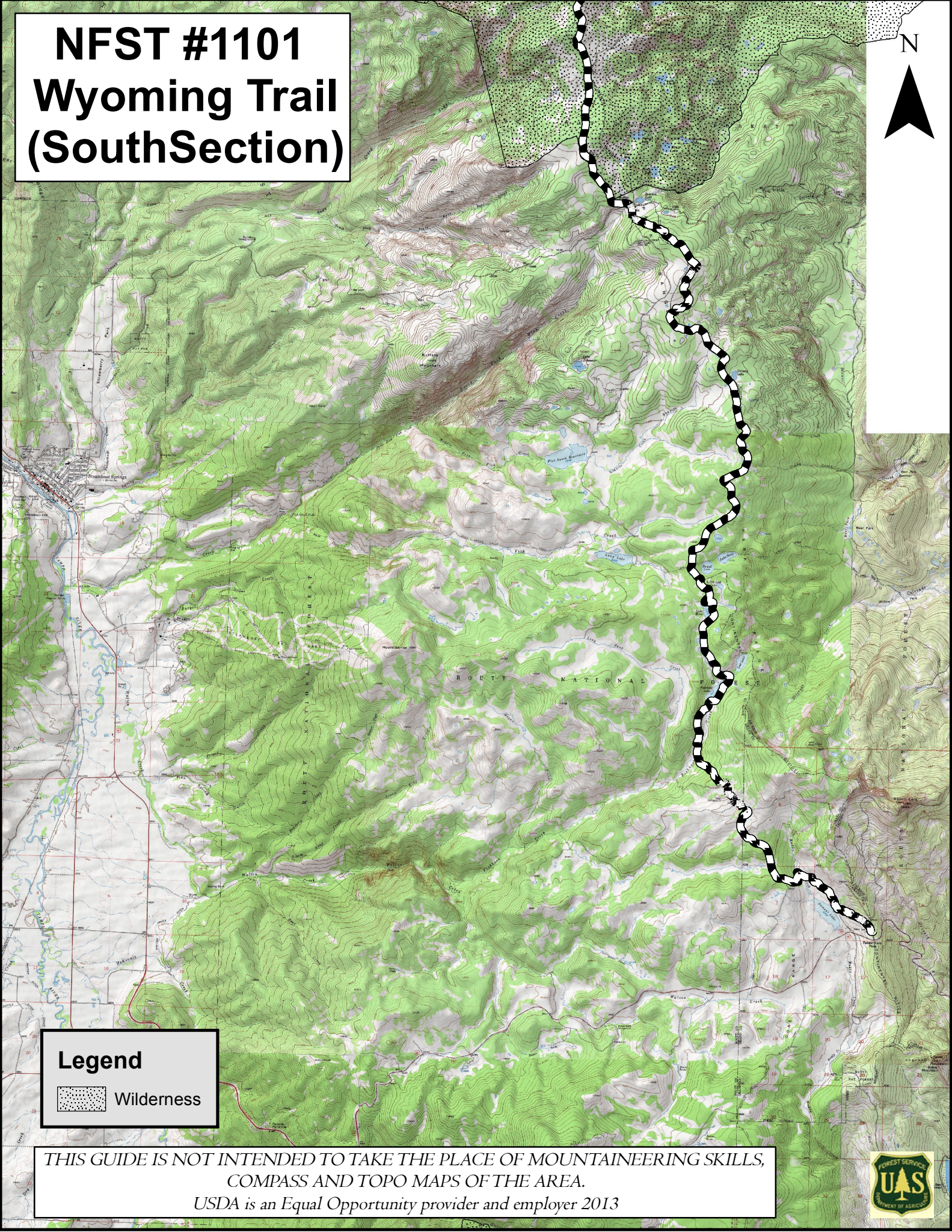
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# NFST #1101 Wyoming Trail (South Section)



**Legend**

 Wilderness

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