

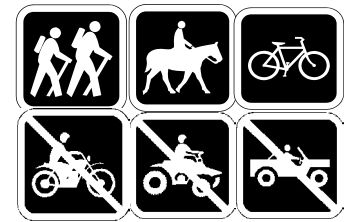


Prescott National Forest

Verde Ranger District

928 567-4121

<http://www.fs.fed.usda.gov/prescott>



MINGUS RIM TRAILS #536/537/538

GENERAL INFORMATION: Butterfly Trail #536 begins uphill past an old concrete dam and enters a rocky drainage lined with ponderosa pine, oak, New Mexico locust, and seasonal wildflowers. It is not far to Butterfly Spring, where a tank holds water through much of the year. Look for animal tracks in the mud—deer, raccoon, elk, and bear all live in the forested Mingus Mountain area. The availability of water attracts other creatures as well, including an array of multi-colored butterflies from which the trail takes its name. Above the spring, TR 536 makes use of a network of historic roads that served the logging industry during the mining boom of the late 1800s and early 1900s. Large, stately alligator junipers provide welcome shade as the trail continues towards the 4-way junction with Middle Trail #537 and West Rim Trail #538. It is 1.5 miles to this point.

TR 537 contours downhill through a shady forest of fir trees and then ties back into TR 536 near the spring. This loop is 2.4 miles long.

TR 538 travels north and west across Mingus Mountain's rim country where ponderosa pine, juniper, and fir grow up alongside one another. TR 538 is 1 mile long, one-way, and is an out-and-back hike.

CAUTION: This trail is open to hikers, horseback riders and mountain bicyclists .

Please be considerate of others—slow down and know when to yield the trail.

ACCESS AND TRAILHEAD LOCATION: From its intersection with Interstate 17 near Camp Verde, travel 12.2 miles on Hwy 260 to the junction with Hwy 89A. Turn left and go 17.1 miles, through Jerome, to FR 104 and the Mingus Summit. Turn left onto FR 104 and go 0.8 miles to the trailhead on the left, located at a sharp bend in the road. There is room for two vehicles to park alongside the road.

From the junction of Hwy 89/89A near Chino Valley, travel 18.8 miles on Hwy 89A to FR 104 and the Mingus Summit. Turn right onto FR 104 and follow the directions above.

TRAVEL TIME: 1 hour from I-17; 30 minutes from Chino Valley

ROAD CONDITIONS: Suitable for all vehicles

HIKING TIME: Varies **LENGTH:** 3.7 total miles of trail **DIFFICULTY:** Moderate **USE:** Moderate

NOTES: TR #536 ends when it intersects with trails #538 and 537. Private property is just south of this junction. Please respect private property.

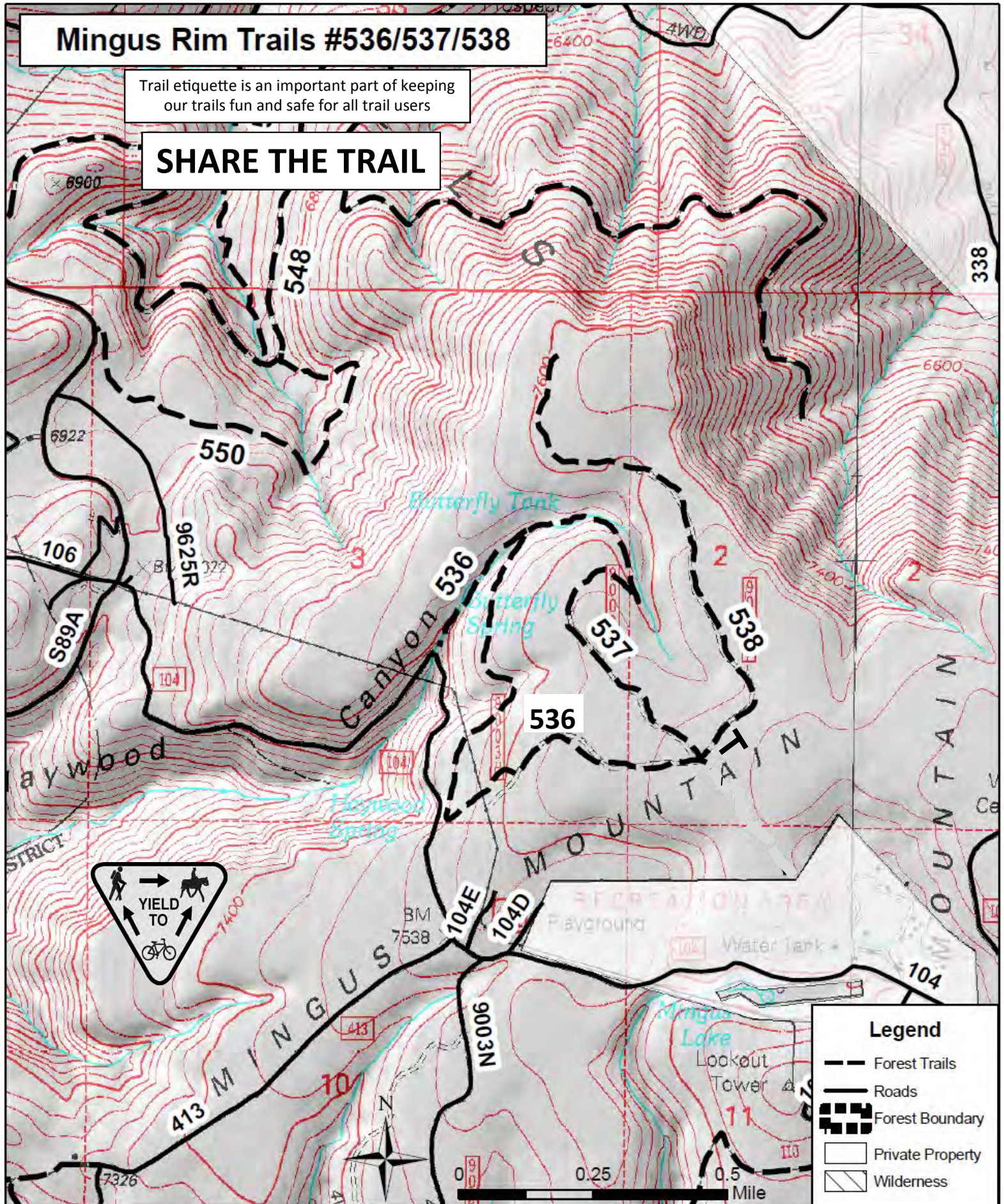
RECOMMENDED SEASONS OF USE: Spring, summer, fall

MAPS, OTHER RESOURCES: Prescott National Forest Map, east half: U.S.G.S. topographic 7.5' quad for Hickey Mountain, National Geographic Trails Illustrated Map Apache Creek Juniper Mesa.

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Trail etiquette is an important part of keeping our trails fun and safe for all trail users

SHARE THE TRAIL



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