

Bankhead Trails



What is a "trail"?

A trail is a narrow highway over which a pack animal can travel with safety during the usual period when the need for a highway exists.

Trail construction on the National Forests, Forest Service, 1915

...a trail is

- A corridor or path to connect places where people wanted to go – villages, food, water
- An administrative tool for management of the forest – check livestock, mining, supply lookouts and fight forest fires
- Access to recreation opportunities – campgrounds, lodges, backcountry

...a trail is

- Healthy exercise – National Trails Day 2004
- Day hikers
- Distance hikers – Appalachian Trail, Pacific Crest Trail, Continental Divide
- An experience itself

Bankhead Trail Systems

- Owl Creek non-motorized trails
- Flint Creek multiple use trails
- Sipsey Wilderness trails
- Recreation Area trails

Owl Creek non-motorized Trails

- 24.9 miles
- 3 loops - blazed
- Horses, mountain bikes, hikers
- 2 trailheads – Owl Creek CG & Pinetorch
- Camping Owl Creek



Flint Creek multiple use Trails

- 16.5 miles
- 2 loops blazed
- ATV's, motorcycles, mountain bikes, horses & hikers
- Day Use Trailhead



Sipsey Wilderness

- 13.3 miles horse & wagon - 2 routes
- 33.4 miles hiking – 9 trails
- NO bikes or motorized
- Minimal signing & maintenance



Recreation Area Trails

- Clear Creek - Raven hiking trail 2.4 miles
- Clear Creek - bicycle/walking trail 1.8 miles
- Houston - hiking trail 3.0 miles
- Brushy Lake - walking 0.5 miles
- Natural Bridge - walking 0.5 miles



Trails by Type of Use

	Owl Creek	Flint Creek	Sipsey Wilderness	Recreation Areas	Total
Hiking	24.9	16.5	46.7	8.0	96.1
Horse	24.9	16.5	13.3		54.7
Motors		16.5			16.5
Mnt bikes	24.9	16.5		1.6	43.0
Total	24.9	16.5	46.7	8.0	96.1