

**Sun City Festival Hiking Club
HIKE DESCRIPTION FORM**

Hike Name: Groom Creek Loop

Location: Prescott Vicinity

Hike Description: Groom Creek Loop Trail #307 is one of the most attractive trails on the Prescott National Forest, offering a rewarding hike through the area's forested high country. This trail passes through idyllic stands of ponderosa pine and Gambel oak as it climbs to the top of Spruce Mountain. While there are no actual spruce trees on the peak, there are Douglas fir and a number of other cone-bearing species that thrive in the cool mountain conditions. A picnic area, a vault toilet, and a lookout tower are located at the top of the trail. Hikers may visit the lookout tower when it is staffed, usually throughout the summer months. The views, of course, are stunning. The trail is well maintained and easy to follow. There is a 1,300' elevation gain/loss.

Rating: Moderate to difficult

Type: Loop

Trail Names: Groom Creek #307

Length – Miles and Time: 8.7 miles for loop; about 7 miles out and back.

Trailhead Start and End: Groom Creek Trail #307 Trailhead

Elevation Change: 1,300'

Entrance Fee: No

Website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/prescott/recreation/hiking>

Cell Phone Coverage: Unknown

GPS Coordinates, if known: Unknown

Travel Directions: Sun Valley Parkway to 303 North to I-17 North to Exit #262 (Cortes Junction). Then west towards Prescott on HWY #69. At junction, take 89 South, stay left and turn left at Mount Vernon Ave (aka Senator HWY). Continue for 6.6 miles. Groom Creek Trail Head #307 will be on the left.

Travel Time: 2 Hours

Parking: Graded Dirt Lot

Rest Rooms: At Trailhead and Mountain Top

Water: No