

## **Trail-Closure Information**

Until further notice, certain private-land parcels owned by Rusty Nichols in Silver Pick Basin and near Wilson Peak have been closed to public access by the landowner.

This private-land closure begins about 1.0 mile south of the Silver Pick Trailhead and Parking Lot.

Please note that although all National Forest land surrounding the Nichols private land remains open to public use:

- The private-land closure essentially restricts all traditional access routes to the Rock of Ages Saddle through Silver Pick Basin.

and

- Closes public access on the standard route (southwest ridge) to Wilson Peak.

### **Questions/Answers:**

1. **Question:** Why is the landowner prohibiting public access on his lands?

*Answer:* The landowner has not disclosed why he is prohibiting public access on his land. The Forest Service respects the landowner's right to manage his private land.

2. **Question:** Can I still hike to the summit of Wilson Peak on the standard route? If not, what route should I use to avoid trespassing on private land?

*Answer:* No, the standard route to Wilson Peak (along the southwest ridge) is closed to public access.

There are no alternative routes designated or recommended around the private land at this time.

3. **Question:** Can I still hike on the Silver Pick Road through Silver Pick Basin?

**Answer:** Yes, but only for the 1.0 mile of trail from the Silver Pick parking lot south to the private land boundary.

4. **Question:** What route could I use to skirt the private land in Silver Pick Basin?

**Answer:** There are no alternative routes designated or recommended around the private land at this time.

5. **Question:** Will the closed parcels of private land be posted? Will the closures be enforced?

**Answer:** The private landowner has stated that he plans to post and enforce the closures on his land. How and when this might occur has not been shared with the Forest Service.

6. **Question:** Can I still access Navajo Basin and the other two fourteeners (El Diente and Mount Wilson)? How?

**Answer:** Yes, there is access to Navajo Basin, El Diente and Mount Wilson from six of the other wilderness trailheads: Navajo, Kilpacker, Cross Mountain, Lizard Head Pass, Bilk Basin, and Woods Lake. The Navajo Trail is the shortest, most direct route into Navajo Basin.

*Please ---*

Respect private land by adhering to all posted signs

Contact the Norwood Ranger District for additional information by calling (970) 327-4261.

