

Trail Information

Length of Trail: 23.5 miles one-way, no loops. For your convenience, park additional cars at trailheads.

Directions: Traveling north on Arkansas Highway 14, the Allison Trailhead is located 8 miles northwest of Mountain View, AR.

Trail Information: Unsurfaced. Trails are marked with international "hiker" symbols for posts. Directional signs are located at road crossings and access points.

Safety: Wear proper clothing for the season. Wear footwear suitable for mountain hiking. Hike with a partner and tell others where you are going.

Requirements: Foot travel only. Vehicles, motorcycles, bicycles, OHVs and horse traffic are not allowed.

Recommended Seasons: Spring and fall are best.

For more information, contact:

Sylamore Ranger District
1001 East Main Street
Mountain View, AR 72560
(870) 269-3228

Leave No Trace Principles

Plan Ahead and Prepare

- Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.
- Schedule your trip to avoid times of high use.
- Visit in small groups when possible. Consider splitting larger groups into smaller groups.

- Repackage food to minimize waste.
- Use a map and compass to eliminate the use of marking paint, rock claims or flagging.

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

- Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grasses, or snow.
- Protect riparian areas by camping at least 200 feet from lakes and streams.
- Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is not necessary.

Leave What You Find

- Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch cultural or historic structures and artifacts.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Do not build structures, or dig trenches.
- Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.

Minimize Campfire Impacts

- Campfires can cause lasting impacts to the backcountry. Use a lightweight stove for cooking and enjoy a candle lantern for light.
- Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, fire pans, or mound fires.
- Keep fires small. Only use sticks from the ground that can be broken by hand.
- Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.

Be Considerate of Other Visitors

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Be courteous. Yield to others on the trail.
- Take breaks and camp away from trails and other visitors.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests

Sylamore Ranger District North Sylamore Creek Trail

Hiking



Southern Region

Arkansas

July 2008

Attractions:

The trail follows along the North Sylamore Creek, a federally designated scenic river, from which it is named. Hikers will encounter a wide variety of forested landscapes ranging from lower streamside elevations to high ridges.

Main points of interest include Slick Rock Hollow, numerous scenic overlooks, and beautiful open fields managed as openings for wildlife.

In addition to the original 13.75 mile section, the trail now extends from Barkshed Campground, upstream along the creek to a new trailhead on Cripple Turkey Road where it intersects the Ozark Highlands Trail. The ten mile extension was completed in 2006, largely through the efforts of the Ozark Society and American Hiking Society in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service.

Three trailheads are located within the District's developed recreation areas: Blanchard Springs, Gunner Pool, and Barkshed. Camping is available only within developed sites at the recreation areas, but primitive camping is allowed at the Allison and Cripple Turkey Trailheads.

The new extension of the trail can be accessed from Arkansas State Highway 341 in Baxter County. To find the trail from Hwy 341, turn east onto Barkshed Road (FDR 1108) to access Cripple Turkey Road (FDR 91079A) and Cole Fork Road (FDR 1125). Cole Fork Road offers access to the trail roughly halfway between Barkshed Campground and the Cripple Turkey Trailhead giving the option of hiking the extension in sections.

With caution, the access roads for the extension can be negotiated in almost any vehicle. The roads are gravel, narrow, rough, and not populated or heavily traveled. Cole Fork Road is subject to flooding, and caution should always be used crossing Cole Fork Creek near the end of the road.

Surface water (never safe to drink) is present year round in the lower 15 miles of the trail where access to the North Sylamore Creek is available. Water availability is very limited on the new trail extension north of Barkshed Campground, as the creek goes underground for much of the year. Water caches are recommended and please treat all water!

Use Caution – In addition to bears, particularly between early April and mid-November, hikers may encounter copperheads, rattlesnakes, cotton mouth moccasins, stinging insects, chiggers, and ticks. Remove ticks in less than 24 hours to minimize the risk of infection. Red oak borers and diseases have killed many trees causing overhead limbs or trees to fall. Avoid poison ivy. Be careful crossing roads.

In addition to this trail, the Sylamore Section of the Ozark Highlands Trail joins the North Sylamore Trail and offers hikers another 32 miles of hiker only trail. If mountain biking is your thing, the 50-mile Syllamo Mountain Bike Trail offers a variety of challenges for all experience levels. Visitors can also enjoy fishing and canoeing on the White and Buffalo Rivers bordering the east and west sides of the District.

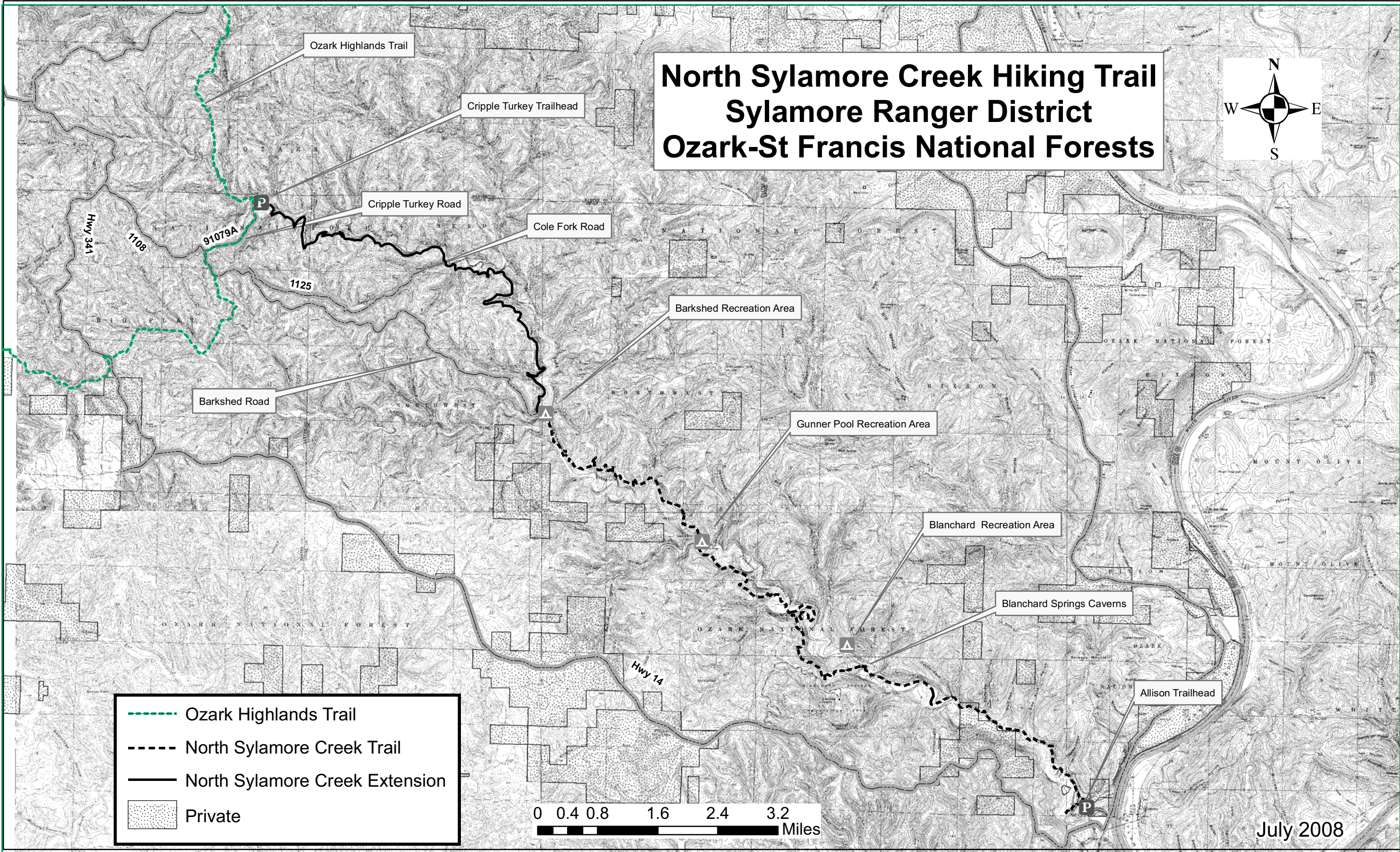
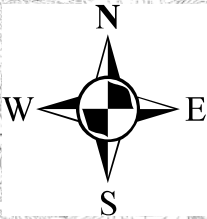
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Ozark-St. Francis National Forests <http://www.aokforests.com>

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North Sylamore Creek Hiking Trail Sylamore Ranger District Ozark-St Francis National Forests



- Ozark Highlands Trail
- North Sylamore Creek Trail
- North Sylamore Creek Extension
- Private

0 0.4 0.8 1.6 2.4 3.2 Miles

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