



362000m E, 392000m E, 422000m E, 452000m E, 482000m E, 512000m E, NAD27 Zone 12T 592000m E

Trail 23 - Spruces Campground

Duration: Variable, no designated trail

Distance: Variable, no designated trail

Difficulty: Easy

Trailhead: Campground entry

Elevation: Campground 7500'

Avalanche: Low

Map: Mt. Aire 7.5' quadrangle

GPS Coordinates: Not needed

Dogs: Not allowed in Big Cottonwood Canyon

Introduction: Spruces is the largest campground in the Salt Lake Ranger District with 97 campsites. During winter no fees are charged and with the exception of scout troops training in winter camping skills, the campsites are open for roaming. The restroom next to the parking area is open during winter due to the high use of the area. The Spruces parking area is the starting point for many winter trails.

How to get there: Spruces Campground is 9.7 miles up Big Cottonwood Canyon/S.R. 190 on the south side of the road. The parking lot sits just past the big red and white road-block arms.

Trail Description: The perfect area for beginners, or those simply wanting an easy escape into the solitude of the forest. Make your outing as long or short as you wish. The Big Cottonwood Creek runs through sections of the campground, and comes complete with trout and beaver dams--if you can see them beneath the snow. Chic-a-dees, blue grouse, snowshoe hare, coyote, ermine, bobcat, goshawk, and owl call the area home during winter months, and while deer and mountain lion move down canyon when the snow is deep, chances are you may see moose.