



## Trail 54--Granite Flat Campground

**Duration:** As long as you make it

**Distance:** A couple of miles of loops

**Difficulty:** Easy; Groomed

**Trailhead:** Tibble Fork Reservoir parking area

**Elevation:** Granite Flat Campground 6800'; Tibble Fork parking area 6389'

**Avalanche:** Low

**Map:** Timpanogos Cave 7.5 quadrangle

**GPS Coordinates:** None

**Dogs:** On leash

**Introduction:** One of Utah's most beautiful, steep, and stark canyons, American Fork Canyon is infamous for avalanches. The steep walls appear almost vertical in spots and the roads up the canyon have avalanche warning signs along each section. Granite Flat Campground is located in aspen, douglas fir, spruce and pine trees. This locale provides a set of safe loop roads maintained and groomed by the Forest Service in an area of gorgeous sky-scraping scenery and a running river. Off the beaten path enough to avoid snowmobiles and find solace, this area makes for a great day retreat.

**How to get there:** American Fork Canyon sits 25 miles south of Salt Lake City. From the Alpine/Highland exit off I-15 turn east onto S.R.92. Follow this road into American Fork Canyon. The highway forks five miles from the mouth of the canyon. The right fork takes you to the Alpine Scenic Loop while the left will take you toward the Tibble Fork Reservoir parking area where you will embark on snowshoe toward Granite Flat Campground. This parking area is heavily used by a variety of outdoor sportspeople. Once parked, snowshoe around the bend in the road which will lead you,

after .8 of a mile, to the entrance of the campground marked by a fee booth for summer campers, a gate and a granite rock.

**Trail description:** The roads in the campground are groomed by the Forest Service for Nordic skiing and snowshoeing. Unlike other areas of the canyon, snowmobiles are not allowed on these trails, so they allow solitude amidst dramatic surrounds and freedom from the motorized traffic that uses the same trailhead as a launch point for other trails. The trails makes loop after loop around the campground amidst the trees. You can also head off the trails to enjoy the powder at will.

**Other:** The Deer Creek-Dry Creek Loop (trail 57) is accessed right inside the campground entrance to the right. The Silver Lake Flat trail is accessed just before the campground entrance on the right side of the road also.