



## Trail 59-- Mineral Basin Road

**Duration:** 5 hours

**Distance:** 4.6 one-way

**Difficulty:** Length--Difficult; Terrain—Easy to Moderate

**Trailhead:** Tibble Fork Reservoir parking area

**Elevation:** Tibble Fork Reservoir 6389; Dutchman Flat 7550'

**Avalanche:** Known avalanche paths

**Map:** Timpanogos Cave 7.5' quadrangle; Dromedary Peak 7.5' quadrangle; Brighton, 7.5' quadrangle

**GPS Coordinates:** None

**Dogs:** Allowed on leash

**Introduction:** Mineral Basin road follows Upper American Fork Canyon and is a popular snowmobile playground. If you're looking for solitude, other trails may serve you better. This road is easily accessed, follows Silver Creek for many miles, and is usually groomed/packed down.

**How to get there:** From the fee booth up Hwy 92/American Fork Canyon, travel 4.75 miles to a fork in the road. Take the left fork for another 2 miles to the Tibble Fork Reservoir Parking Area. Park here.

**Trail description:** Mineral Basin road exits the Tibble Fork parking area on the east end and continues in an easterly direction. The road parallels the river, sometimes above it, sometimes next to it, as it climbs deeper into the mountain. This trail will be easy to follow because of the heavy snowmobile traffic it is likely to have seen, and the indentation of the road which defines its form. The beginning of the trail holds the flattest sections. The route can be as long or short as you wish, but if you take in the entire route to Dutchman's Flat the last portion of the route swings sharply east and makes its

way up the mountain sporting steep drop offs and more elevation gain. Once at Dutchman's Flat you can recognize the area as it opens a bit and a bridge crosses the river on the far north/east end where the road continues deeper into the mountains. There are log fences strewn around the area, though many may be covered by deep snow. Make your way back down the road to return to your car.