



Trail 12--Farmington-Sunset Trail

Duration: 1.5 hours

Distance: 2.8 miles out-and-back

Difficulty: Easy

Trailhead: Unnamed trailhead

Elevation: Trailhead 5244'; Turnaround point below Sunset Campground 6180'; Campground 6400'

Avalanche: Low

Map: Peterson 7.5' quadrangle

GPS Coordinates: End of trail below Sunset Campground: 12 T 0429278/4538907

Introduction: A short trail, it is also a beauty. Following the Farmington Creek for the entire route to the Sunset Campground gives crystal calmness of waterfalls, and a view down Farmington Canyon when you hit the high point. Easily accessed, rolling terrain, and the relatively short distance make it a trail you can jump on when time is limited.

How to Get There: From I-15 take the Farmington exit. Head east. Farmington Canyon sits at the top of 600 North Street in Farmington. This is the north end of Skyline Drive. Turn north on Skyline Drive and head up Farmington Canyon. Follow the road for 1.5 miles where winter maintenance is discontinued and a parking lot sits on the right side of the road. The trail takes off from the north side of the parking lot.

Trail Description: The low elevation of this trail means you'll need a low lying snow pack for the trail to be in snowshoe condition.

From the parking area climb up the embankment on the north side of the parking area and head east along the trail. The trail is pleasant and thin in places, traversing the south side of the mountain as it makes its way up canyon. A short way up the trail a cave, where many a campfire has left its mark, sits to your left. If covered in snow, the trail can be deciphered by making your way east along the south-facing slope of the mountain as it winds above the stream below. In places there is an obvious path space that traverses across the mountain, but when the path moves into more open ground, just head east where the brush allows you to travel.

You will find a Farmington creek crossing and waterfall at .8 miles, and at 1.31 miles another small waterfall tumbles--the stream sits to the south of the trail. Farmington-Sunset trail concludes just below the Sunset Campground which is difficult to decipher in the winter, but if you head north from here, just a hundreds yards or so past the last waterfall, you can make your way up to the campground.

Depending upon snow conditions, snow machines or 4-wheel drive vehicles can make it up the road to the campground by continuing along the road where you pulled off to park. This would allow a shuttle option. The return trip, if you do not shuttle, twists back the way you came and provides even better views of the valley below.