

CDT & More in in the North and Central Black Range

Trail work Accomplishments: North to South

From 2 miles north of FR226A, Lookout Mountain road, to Diamond Peak, the CDT is cleared of blowdowns and brush, and most of the tread is repaired. A lot of hazard trees have been felled outside of the Wilderness, and the crews dropped some at Byers Run junction to make a safe campsite. Fisherman's Mesa is also a good campsite, but exposed if storms are in the area.



The CDT between Fisherman's Mesa and Diamond Peak needs some more tread and brush work, but it is passable. The crews 2 more hitches this fall, one with 2 crews, so it'll probably get maintained this year.

South of there, Rattlesnake Trail #107, Crest Trail #79 from Rattlesnake to Spud Patch and Spud Patch Trail #111 have all been worked on extensively this year.

Stock Passable: North to South

The CDT From Highway 59 south to FR226 at the Caledonia TH, it is stock passable but there are still a few blowdowns across the trail.

The CDT is passable for stock from FR226, Caledonia TH, south to Fisherman's Mesa. The Black Range and Wilderness districts have been packing in supplies for crews to Fisherman's Mesa. There are some tough spots south of the mesa that will probably be difficult for stock, though.

On the East Side, it is stock passable get to the Divide via Rattlesnake Canyon Trail. That is how Natural Curiosity packs up there to do their work along the Crest south of Rattlesnake. Continuing South, the Crest Trail is stock passable to Spud Patch and the Spud Patch Trail is also. Note that equine riders should still be ready for very steep sections, especially on upper Spud Patch (in the 3 miles before the crest), and some fairly short stretches with exposed rock – the reality of trails on the east side.



Hazards: The high-severity burn area is from just south of Diamond Peak to about the intersection with the old Byer's Run trail. It is clear of blowdowns at the moment, but still a lot of standing dead. So, there is probably a high chance of stuff falling. Most of the trees are fairly small in diameter, though.

*Photo credits Kio Reid and Andrew Archuleta