

## **Snowball Creek to Jackson Mountain Trail Notes**

### By Car or Bike:

- In Pagosa Springs, turn north on N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (by the Forest Service office). 2<sup>nd</sup> Street becomes Snowball Road. Drive (or ride) 4.2 miles. Park along the road at the entrance to the Hershey Ranch. The mileages below begin at the gate to the Hershey Ranch.

### Bike:

- Reset your bike computer/GPS unit at the entrance gate to the Hershey Ranch.
- Ride through the ranch, respecting the private property on both sides of the road.
- At 1 mile, you come to a fork in the road and a metal gate on the right fork. Go through the gate – closing it behind you.
- The road drops down and follows Snowball Creek.
- At mile 4.3 you ford Snowball Creek and follow a jeep road on the other side of the creek.
- At mile 5.26 you pass a large, old-growth ponderosa on your left. There is a single-track shortcut here if you want to take it. Otherwise stay on the jeep road, which is badly deteriorated in places. (You can see these diverging route on the TOPO! Map.)
- At mile 5.59 (mileage calculated following the jeep road) you come to a road junction. Turn right onto FR 738 E.
- At mile 6.88 you reach the end of the road. Continue straight and pick up a single track that loops to the right and climbs the hill.
- At mile 7.69 you arrive at the summit of Jackson Mountain. Stop for a snack, catch your breath and enjoy the view.
- The trail follow the top of the ridge for a short ways then loops right and begins a wonderful descent through the aspens.
- At mile 9.03 you intersect FR 738 E that you climbed earlier. Turn left and retrace your route.
- At mile 9.45 you reach the FR 738 E junction you passed through earlier. Continue to retrace your route back to your vehicle.
- At mile 14.88 you arrive back at the gate to the Hershey Ranch.