

## **Damfino Loop – 2011**

**Huckaby TH**

**3.1 miles**

**768 Cumulative Elev. Change**

**1 h 46 min travel time**

**2 h 45 min total**

The Damfino Loop is a climb from Huckaby to a saddle in Damfino Canyon and then a scramble/bushwhack to shelves that lead to the FS Marg's Draw trail and Huckaby. Views are afforded of Twin Buttes, Submarine, Battlement, and Snoopy.

Walk up Schnebly Road just until the first sharp turn to the left. If you look to the right you will see a narrow ditch with a Forest service sign "road closed." Go up this ditch and follow the trail to the first set of Damfino shelves. Cross these and find the continuation of the trail at the far right corner. Work your way up to the next set of shelves and continue in this direction across the shelves. (Feel free to explore the shelves and take in the views before heading up to the pass – it's worth it.) You will see a trail on the right heading up off the shelves to a slightly higher level. Take this trail up and then continue to work your way across the shelves. As you come to the end of the shelves, you will see a trail heading off through the woods right across the wash ahead of you. This will take you up to the pass. The trail is often very steep, so take it slowly.

At the top of the pass the views are spectacular in both directions. If you head to the left (south) you can climb a small outcropping and enjoy views in all directions while having lunch or a snack.

The trail down is difficult—very steep and very slippery. The trail starts at about the middle of the pass and is quite clear at first but soon becomes obscure. Just look for the easiest way through the vegetation and keep working your way down. As you get lower you can go down the wash along the left side. Head down to the shelves to the right and below you, a good lunch spot.

The trail continues at the left edge of the base of the shelves and works its way toward the large flat rocks you see in the valley below. When you reach the first flat rocks, find your trail leading off to the right. Caution: There are many trails in this area. Your goal is to work your way around the rock outcropping between you and the Huckaby parking lot by staying as close to the base of these rocks as you can. The main trail will lead you too far south, so at a certain point you want to turn off to the right on a trail that will head up on the ledges at the base of the rock outcroppings. Follow these ledges around until a short trail leads you to the main FS Marg's Draw trail. Turn right and take Marg's Draw back to the parking lot.