



Environs Trail

The Environs Trail is a forested 1.5 mile loop on the south side of Deer Creek located a short walk from downtown. The trail meanders along the old Rough and Ready ditch and remnants of the Providence Mine. Look for signs that describe the life of the original Nisenan people of the area. Soon, a bridge dedicated to the Nisenan will connect the trail to the larger Deer Creek Tribute Trail network on the other side of the creek.

Getting there:

From downtown Nevada City, go south on Pine Street, cross the Pine Street bridge then turn right onto a narrow path known as the Tribulation Trail. Follow this short path to its end, then veer left up a gravel road about 40 yards and turn right on Jordan Street. Follow Jordan Street west about 0.4 mile to where the road widens and there is a sign saying "No Turnaround Beyond." Continue past this sign about 0.3 mile on Jordan Street. Look for signs that say "Tribute Trail Access Point - Pedestrian Traffic Only" or "Wastewater Treatment Plant." The paved road will fork near the wastewater treatment plant. Stay left at the "One Way" sign. Look for the well-marked trailhead on the left.

Distance: 1.5 mile loop.

Elevation change: Ditch is mostly level. However, lower trail maximum drop is 185 feet.

Uses: No motor vehicles or horses; dogs on leash; no smoking; no camping.

A bit of history: The Providence Mine and the Champion Mine were the two largest producing gold mines of the Nevada City mining district. Built in 1850, the Rough and Ready Ditch was sixteen miles long and brought water from Deer Creek about 5 miles east of Nevada City to the mining area of Rough and Ready.

The property on which the trail is located is owned by the City of Nevada City. As of June 2013, no official name has been given the trail, and is awaiting community discourse.

