

Hiking/Mountain Biking Trail

Steven's Creek (Also known as Modoc) (McCormick County)



Description: You can start this moderately difficult, well maintained out and back trail from a parking area at Modoc Bridge or Hamilton Branch State Recreation Area. For mountain bikers it is considered a technical trail with some steep climbs, many tight switchbacks, and tricky stream crossings. You will plunge down a rugged, rocky slope (the first of many), navigate flat rocks through a cool running stream, and traverse the deep, quiet forest in the rolling hills along Steven's Creek. From the top of a ridge, you will see the rushing water below. The trail ends at the private property line where a firebreak is mowed just to the left on an uphill slope. If you elect to start from Hamilton Branch State Recreation Area, you will be on county and Forest Service roads until you reach the main trail (Use caution when crossing US 221). Always stay on the main trail, especially during hunting season, and since this trail is quite isolated in places, take proper safety precautions, including carrying water and first aid supplies. Mosquito repellent is a must during warm weather. Watch for snakes and other wildlife.

Length: 5.5 miles one-way. If you start from Hamilton Branch State Recreation Area add approximately 4.5 miles.

Fees: None.

Directions: From Edgefield, drive west on SC 23 for approximately 16.5 miles. The trailhead is on the right just after you cross the bridge over Steven's Creek (Modoc Bridge) at the Edgefield/McCormick county line. An optional trailhead is at Hamilton Branch State Recreation Area. Continue driving on SC 23 and turn right onto US 221. Drive approximately 1.9 miles and the park entrance is on the left.

Hours: Dawn to dusk.

Camping: Hamilton Branch State Recreation Area (\$14.30 per night).

Information: [Sumter National Forest](#), Long Cane Ranger District, 810 Buncombe Street, Edgefield SC 29824, Telephone: 803-637-5396 or Hamilton Branch State Recreation Area, Route 1, Box 97, Plum Branch, SC 29845, Telephone: 864-333-2223.

