



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF NEVADA BRISTLECONE CHAPTER

GEOREFERENCED PDF MAPS

INTRODUCTION

Georeferenced PDF maps are downloadable digital maps in a special Portable Document File (PDF) format that includes geographical reference data. These maps, when viewed with an appropriate map reading app, can show the user's "exact," GPS-determined position on the map. (Be sure that you've activated "Location Services" on your phone.)

FRIENDS OF RED ROCK WEBSITE

The Friends of Red Rock Canyon website has all the georeferenced PDF maps for Red Rock.

<https://friendsredrock.org/hiking-is-easier-and-safer-now-with-blms-georeference-maps/>

SOUTHERN NEVADA CONSERVANCY WEBSITE (formerly Red Rock Interpretive Association)

The Southern Nevada Conservancy website also has all the georeferenced PDF maps for Red Rock. This page contains multiple map links to the 20+ trails in the Red Rock Core Area (essentially, the areas enclosed by and surrounding the Scenic Loop Road). Click a link to see the map and find a second link to download it.

<https://www.redrockcanyonlv.org/lasvegas/hikes-trails/>

AVENZA MAPS

Avenza Maps is a commercial mapping application (available for iPhone and Android phones). It includes both the phone apps and a website that provide software to read georeferenced PDF maps and plot your GPS-determined position on the map. NOTE: *Avenza* does not require cell service or wi-fi to work. But you do need to download the maps to your phone using either a wi-fi connection or cell service. NOTE: There is, currently, practically no wi-fi or cell service in the Red Rock Canyon Core Area (including, specifically, the Visitor Center), *so download the maps before you arrive!* Then *Avenza* will plot your GPS position as long as you have GPS satellite reception.

<https://www.avenza.com/avenza-maps/>

You can download a free version that will allow you to store up to two (2) *Avenza*-ready georeferenced PDF maps at a time. You can replace these two whenever you want; you are just limited to two at a time. A paid version allows multiple maps and some additional features. While the BLM will not formally recommend any specific GPS software app, the BLM Fire crew who created the georeferenced PDF Red Rock maps will tell you that their own preference for viewing the maps is *Avenza*.

A simple way to view and download maps to your phone is to use the *Avenza* app and its *Map Store* option (found at the bottom of the main screen). Just enter your area of interest; e.g., "Red Rock Canyon," and you'll see an overview maps with red place markers indicating the maps that are available. In the selected area. Click a place marker and a map description will appear.

A selection of "local" (Southern Nevada) *Avenza* maps can also be found [HERE](#).



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These “local” maps include (but are not limited to):

- CHARLESTON PEAK, NV TNM GEOPDF 7.5X7.5 GRID 24000-SCALE TM 2010
- CHARLESTON PEAK NE, NV TNM GEOPDF 7.5X7.5 GRID 24000-SCALE TM 2010
- GRIFFITH PEAK, NV TNM GEOPDF 7.5X7.5 GRID 24000-SCALE TM 2010
- BLUE DIAMOND, NV TNM GEOPDF 7.5X7.5 GRID 24000-SCALE TM 2010
- LA MADRE MOUNTAIN, NV TNM GEOPDF 7.5X7.5 GRID 24000-SCALE TM 2010
- LA MADRE SPRING, NV TNM GEOPDF 7.5X7.5 GRID 24000-SCALE TM 2010
- MOUNTAIN SPRINGS, NV TNM GEOPDF 7.5X7.5 GRID 24000-SCALE TM 2010
- COLD CREEK, NV TNM GEOPDF 7.5X7.5 GRID 24000-SCALE TM 2010
- Cottonwood Valley Mountain Bike Trails

There are loads more! Some are free to download; some have a price of a couple of dollars.

BLM_PUBLISHED MAPS

You can find free BLM’s georeferenced PDF maps, including the Red Rock maps, at <https://www.blm.gov/maps/georeferenced-PDFs> . These include the complete set of 15 maps (thirty trails) for Red Rock Canyon Core Area maps developed by BLM Fire in 2016 and can be downloaded to be used with *Avenza* (with the same 2-map limitation in the free version).

MORE INFO

If you’re really interested in this subject and would like to learn more, try the following link to the National Park Service Fire and Aviation Management document that explains why and how they use georeferenced maps and *Avenza*.

<https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/gsc/FireGIS-2-PDF-maps-for-smartphones-and-tablets.pdf>

[END] (for now!)