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IN THE WILD



BOB DOWNING/Akron Beacon Journal

Looking down into the Pine Creek Gorge in north-central Pennsylvania.

30-mile trail called best in Pennsylvania

West Rim Trail runs next to the so-called Grand Canyon of Pa.

By Bob Downing
Beacon Journal staff writer

ANSONIA, PA.: The West Rim Trail was once called Pennsylvania's best trail by a national magazine.

That honor was decreed by Outside magazine, and may not be far off target.

The 30-mile one-way trail in north-central Pennsylvania runs next to the Pine Creek Gorge, the so-called Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania.



BOB DOWNING

The trail stretches from near Ansonia off U.S. 6 at the north end to the Rattlesnake Rock parking area near Blackwell on state Route 414 at the south end.

The orange-blazed trail through Tioga State Forest offers a lot of scenic vistas into the gorge and it's at its colorful best in the fall.

Pine Creek is an area that attracts day hikers and backpackers, as well as boaters, bicyclists, rafters and anglers. The mile-wide gorge, up to a thousand feet deep, extends 60 miles south from U.S. 6 near Ansonia to near Jersey Shore.

There are two state parks near Ansonia, one on each rim.

Please see Wild, G3