



To reach the lower Sand Canyon TH from Cortez, head west on US160 to US491. Turn left (south) on 491/160 for about 2.8 miles to G Road and turn right (west) at the Hovenweep National Monument sign. Drive 12 miles west on G Road to the TH. Park on the right side of the road on slickrock. Vehicles with low ground clearance should exercise caution, because the bedrock is uneven and unforgiving.

There are several hiking options, including a 6-mile one-way through hike to the Sand Canyon Pueblo ruins or an out-and-back hike to the “house with standing curved wall” (~7 mi RT). The latter also spares you a steep 700’ climb in only ½ mile. In addition, there are loops of 7 and 7.5 miles in Rock Creek and East Rock Creek canyons, respectively.