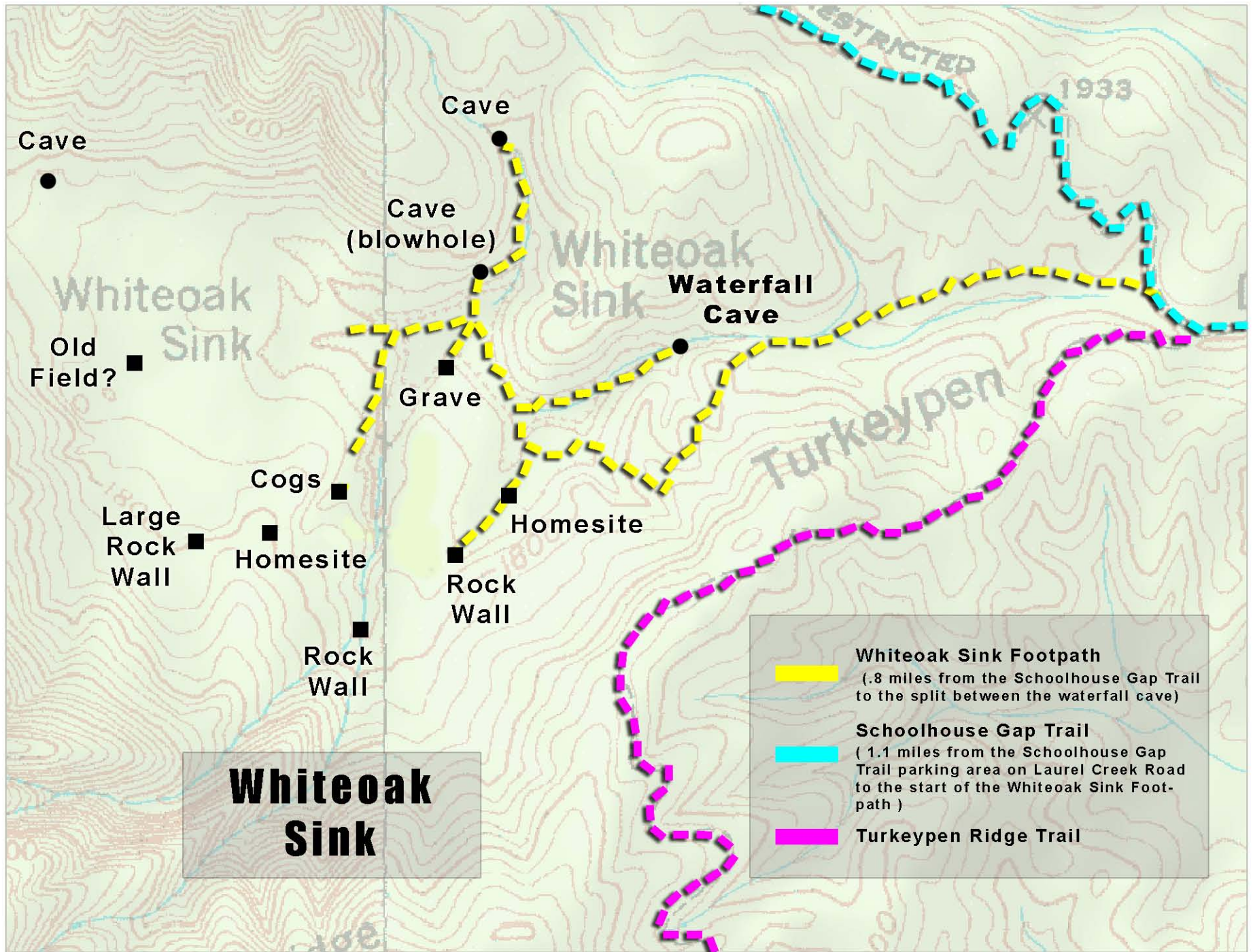


The Whiteoak Sink footpath starts about 50 yards above the Turkeypen Ridge trailhead on the Schoolhouse Gap trail.



Whiteoak Sink Route Description -

1. Park at the Schoolhouse Gap trailhead parking lot on Laurel Creek Road. The Schoolhouse Gap parking lot is about half way between Townsend and Cades Cove. The parking lot is located on the right in you're heading to Cades Cove.
2. Hike the first 1.1 miles on the Schoolhouse Gap trail. Pass the intersection with the Turkeypen Ridge trail. After passing the intersection with the Turkeypen Ridge trail, look for a gate on the left that allows hikers through but prohibits horses.
3. Enter through the horse gate.
4. The next 0.3 miles is an easy walk down to a flat open area. At this point the trail seems to split. **Take the left across the wet boggy/creek area.**
5. The next 0.5 miles navigates through some ridges culminating on a steep descent into the Whiteoak Sink area.
6. Once in the basin the trail splits. The right trail leads to the Rainbow Falls cave, the left trail leads to the Blowhole cave.