

USE AT YOUR OWN RISK

McKinley Mountain

3,795'

Location: San Bernardino County, 3 airline miles N of Highland
Maps: Forest Service San Bernardino National Forest
Topo: Harrison Mtn. 7.5

Primary Route: 1.5 miles o/w, 1,500' gain

Driving Instruction:

From I-10 in Redlands take Hwy. 30 to Running Springs/Mountain Resorts. After 5 miles leave Hwy 30 and take Hwy 330 towards Running Springs. Drive up Hwy. 330 and park 3.5 miles after leaving Hwy 30 on a small turnout/parking space on the right (East) side of Hwy. 330. If you pass a bridge or the closed City Creek Ranger Station you have gone too far. The hike starts at marker 32.29 on the left side of the road.

Hiking Instructions:

Use caution walking and crossing the road, lots of traffic! The hike starts across the mile marker (right) to the left (East) beyond some big boulders. Fires in 1999 and again in 2003 burnt the area. Take the firebreak straight ahead to the West, it is open and clearly visible. Follow this steep firebreak, paralleling another ridge to the right with a faint trail visible, just as steep as the firebreak you are on. Continue up the ridge 3/8 miles to a cut bank on your right. Stay left (South) on the rather flat road for 100 yards, then take a sharp right (East) turn and again climb uphill more of the steep firebreak. You get to a flat grassy area, sometimes used for a Helicopter Landing Pad. From here you can see a rusty yellow triangle marker to the west, the summit, about 1/8 of a mile ahead. Now head west on the main ridge with the trees on your right, there is a use trail to this marker, which is McKinley Mountain. The peak visible to the south is higher (3808'), but has no name.

Notes:

This is a very steep climb. The peak was burnt in the October 2003 Old Fire. Adventure Pass required. No water.

Fast growing chaparral can change the topography in a short time, be prepared for heavy brush and ticks.

Near-by Peaks: Harrison Mountain

Write-up: Don Taylor 1989, rev. 2004