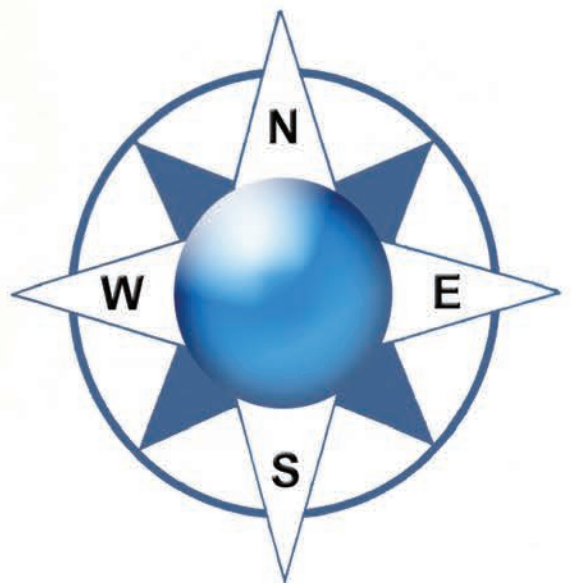
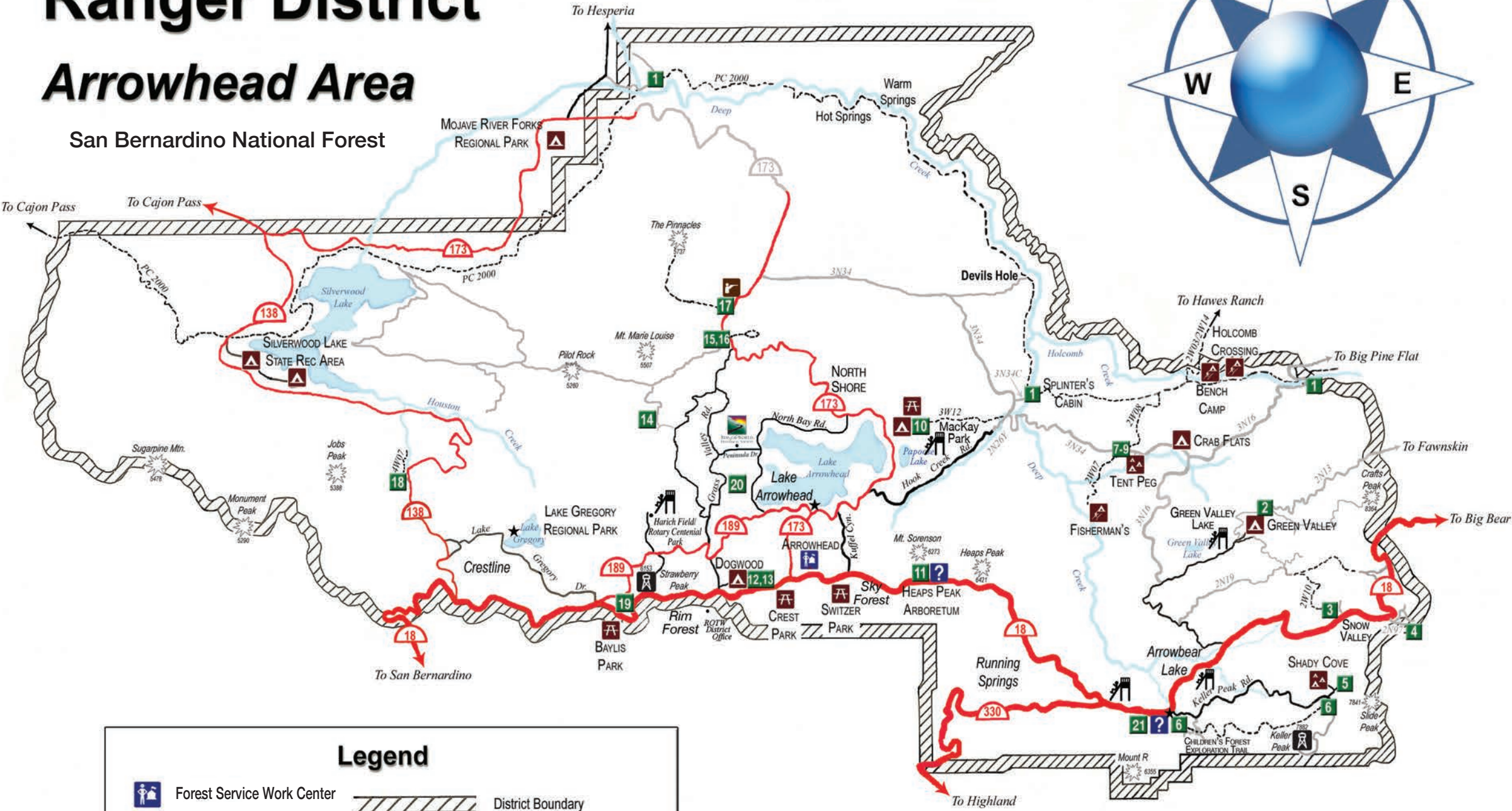


Mountaintop Ranger District

Arrowhead Area

San Bernardino National Forest



Welcome to the Mountaintop!

Hiking is one of the most fulfilling ways to experience the beauty and tranquility of the San Bernardino National Forest. It provides access to parts of the forest that are removed from the sights, smells and sounds of the city, and allows for wildlife viewing, relaxation and connection with our beautiful mountain surroundings.

The trails within the Arrowhead area of the Mountaintop Ranger District offer a variety of hiking experiences, from gentle strolls to lengthy expeditions. Whether you're a beginning outdoor enthusiast or a seasoned veteran, always make sure you're prepared for the hike ahead. Remember to allot adequate time, prepare all necessary equipment, be aware of weather conditions and tell a family member or friend before beginning your hike.

An Adventure Pass is required to park at many trailheads in the San Bernardino National Forest. It can be purchased at the Heaps Peaks Arboretum Information Booth and a number of local retailers. Camping is available at trail and group campgrounds by advance reservation.



Legend

	Forest Service Work Center		District Boundary
	Visitor Information Center		Highway
	Picnic Area		Paved Road
	Campground		Unpaved Forest Service Road
	Group Campground		Hiking Trail
	Trail Campground		Creek
	Hiking Trailhead		
	Fire Lookout		
	Shooting Range		
	ROTW Parks & Rec Parks		
	Chamber of Commerce		

Scale (Miles)

0 1 2 3 4

This trail guide was produced by the
Rim of the World
Interpretive Association,
a nonprofit organization.

The mission of the Rim of the World Interpretive Association (ROWIA) is to raise public awareness of and inspire active interest in the San Bernardino Mountains through nature-focused educational activities. ROWIA's vision emphasizes caring for the National Forest, including area treasures such as Heaps Peak Arboretum.

www.hparboretum.com

Editor/photography: Tim Wilcox
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PLANNING YOUR HIKE

Careful planning and preparation are essential to a safe and enjoyable hike. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

Travel

- Check weather forecasts and don't hike during storms.
- Leave word with a friend about where you're going.
- Avoid hiking alone.

Water

- Use water only from developed sites, such as spigots at campgrounds.
- Before beginning your hike, be sure that you're carrying adequate water. Don't assume water will be available along the trail.

Fire Safety

- Smoking: If you smoke, please stop in an area that's clear of vegetation. Please pack out all butts and other materials.
- Fire: Campfires are allowed only in designated fire rings. A campfire permit is required and can be obtained from the Children's Forest Visitor Information Center.
- Both smoking and campfires may be limited during the dry season.

Hazards

- Be on the lookout for hazards such as fallen trees or limbs, eroded trails, steep drop-offs, barbed-wire fences and swift streams. Some of the trails listed in this brochure have been burned in recent fires, which can increase the chance of hazards.
- Poison Oak typically grows below 4000 ft. in elevation. It has shiny, lobed leaves that grow off the branch in groups of three, and can take a variety of forms, from vines to bushes. New leaves often have a reddish tone.
- Rattlesnakes can appear anywhere at anytime. Normally they're not aggressive and only want to get away from you, so please give them time to move safely away from the trail if you see or hear them.

Remote Camping

There are a few opportunities to camp in the forest outside developed campgrounds. Contact the Big Bear Discovery Center (909.382.2790) for more details.

We need your help!

- Pack Out Everything! If you can pack it in full, you can pack it out empty. Animals dig up buried trash, which can make them sick.
- Trail Switchbacks: Please stay on designated trails. Cutting

- across switchbacks mars the landscape and hastens trail erosion.
- Wildflowers: Picking wildflowers is prohibited by law. Removing plant material affects the ecosystem and may prevent wildflowers from returning in future years.
- Sanitation and Waste Disposal: Human and animal waste must be disposed of properly, as it can spread disease. Please dispose of human waste and tissue in a hole 6 - 8 inches deep (use a trowel) and cover with a layer of soil. Make sure the hole is at least 200 feet from the nearest water, trail or campsite. Animal waste should be picked up in a bag and disposed in a trash receptacle.

TRAILS TO HIKE

PLEASE NOTE: All distances are one-way, except as noted in the trail description.

1. PACIFIC CREST NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL PC2000

90+ miles, moderately difficult.

The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) extends 2600 miles from Canada to Mexico. Although a few hikers have gone the entire length in one trip, most take the trail in segments over a series of years. The PCT traverses about 93 miles of the Mountaintop Ranger District. The trail is open to foot and horse traffic only; however, due to regular slides and unpredictable trail conditions, pack animals are not recommended. All motorized vehicles and bicycles are prohibited. Some of the highlights in the Arrowhead area include:

- **FS Road 3N16 to Crab Flats Trail 2W08 (3 miles)** This section of the PCT meanders along scenic Holcomb Creek and passes by two trail campgrounds.
- **Crab Flats Trail 2W08 to Splinter's Cabin (3 miles)** Along this portion of the PCT, you'll have spectacular views toward the Lake Arrowhead area.
- **Splinter's Cabin to Devils Hole (3 miles)** This popular stretch of the PCT follows Deep Creek to its confluence with Holcomb Creek, terminating at one of the largest natural riparian areas in Southern California. The meadow is home to several endangered species and should be treated with care.
- **Devils Hole to Hot Springs (6 miles)** This stretch of the PCT follows scenic Deep Creek past a variety of beautiful spots, including warm springs.
- **Hot Springs to Mojave Dam (6 miles)** The final portion of the PCT within the Mountaintop Ranger District crosses Deep Creek on a high bridge and passes some favorite local swimming holes.

2. CRAFTS PEAK

3 miles, moderate

This trail begins on FS Road 2N13, behind Green Valley Campground. From Green Valley Lake Rd., follow FS Road 2N13 1 mile to FS Road 2N16A. Turn right onto FS Road 2N16A and follow along Crab Creek, keeping left at the intersection with FS Road 2N19B.

3. LITTLE GREEN VALLEY TRAIL 2W10

1.5 miles, difficult

This trail begins on the north side of Hwy. 18, across from Snow Valley Mountain Resort. It's between the ski area's west and east gates where the Keller Hut sign is located. Turn onto a narrow asphalt road and bear left to find the trailhead's parking area. The trail itself ascends steeply north through a shaded conifer forest and ultimately intersects FS Road 2N19.

4. CAMP CREEK TRAIL 1W09

2 miles, very difficult

This trail starts on FS Road 2N97, which is accessed 0.4 mile east of Snow Valley Mountain Resort. Follow FS Road 2N97 for 0.3 mile and look for a trail heading to the right (south). The trailhead is slightly off the main road. The trail descends 2000 feet over 2 miles to Bear Creek, providing fantastic views of the surrounding valley. From Bear Creek, you can continue toward Big Bear on Trail 1W04.

5. CHILDREN'S FOREST TRAIL 2W09

0.5 mile loop, easy walk

This paved trail begins off Keller Peak Rd., 4 miles up from Hwy. 18. The trail was designed and is maintained by youth volunteers from the National Children's Forest. The trail accommodates the needs of the visually and physically impaired. It's wheelchair accessible.

6. CHILDREN'S FOREST EXPLORATION TRAIL

4.5 miles, moderately difficult

This trail can be accessed either at the bottom or the top of Keller Peak Rd. The lower trailhead is located near the first bend in Keller Peak Rd. at Dry Creek; the upper trailhead is 4 miles up Keller Peak Rd. The Exploration Trail leads through a variety of ecosystems. Near the top it provides spectacular views of the Inland Empire and greater Los Angeles areas.

7. CRAB CREEK TRAIL 2W07

2 miles, moderately difficult

This trail begins on FS Road 3N34, 0.2 mile past Tent Peg Group Campground. The trail descends through a recently burned area and crosses Crab Creek and Deep Creek, providing access to Fisherman's Group Trail Campground. Camping is available at Fisherman's Campground by reservation. Please note: attempting to cross Deep Creek when it's running high during winter and spring and during summer thunderstorms is unsafe.

8. CRAB FLATS TRAIL 2W08

1.4 miles, moderately difficult

This trail begins 0.2 mile past Tent Peg Group Campground on FS Road 3N34. The trail descends through an area that has recently burned, and connects with the Pacific Crest Trail 0.5 mile west of Bench Camp Group Campground.

9. HAWES PEAK TRAIL 2W03/2W14

4.5 miles, moderate

This trail begins by following Crab Flats Trail 2W08 from FS Road 3N34 to the Pacific Crest Trail. Follow the PCT east 0.3 mile to 2W03 and go north 3 miles to the junction with 2W14. Here you have the option of following a side trail to Muddy Springs, but it's not advised due to fallen trees. Continue 1.5 miles north on 2W14 to the trailhead, at the junction with 3N14.

10. NORTH SHORE TRAIL 3W12

1.7 miles, moderately difficult

This trail begins just behind the North Shore Campground on Hospital Rd. off of Hwy. 173. The trail descends along seasonal Little Bear Creek to FS Road 2N26Y, intersecting the road about 1 mile above the Splinter's Cabin trailhead.

11. HEAPS PEAK ARBORETUM TRAIL 3W05

0.85 mile loop, easy walk

This interpretive trail begins at Heaps Peak Arboretum, located 2 miles east of the Skyforest Ranger Work Center on Hwy. 18. The trail takes you through a self-guided tour with 25 points of interest about native plants and wildlife. The site has an Information Booth that's normally staffed by volunteers from Rim of the World Interpretive Association on weekends.

12. ENCHANTED LOOP TRAIL 3W18

0.3 mile loop, easy



This trail is located within Dogwood Campground, beginning near the amphitheater parking area. The trail winds through dense cedars and eventually joins the Dogwood Trail.

13. DOGWOOD TRAIL 3W04

0.75 mile, moderate

This trail is located within Dogwood Campground, beginning near the amphitheater parking area. The trail descends through groves of huge dogwood trees, offering stunning views of Lake Arrowhead.

14. TUNNEL II TRAIL 3W19

1 mile, easy

This trail begins at FS Road 2N34. From Hwy. 189, take Grass Valley Rd. 0.4 mile to Clubhouse Dr. Follow Clubhouse Dr. 0.1 mile to Fairway Dr. Turn right on Fairway Dr. and follow 0.4 mile to Brentwood Dr. Turn right on Brentwood Dr. and follow for 0.8 mile to Sonoma Dr. Turn left on Sonoma Dr. and follow 0.1 mile to FS Road 2N34 (across from Sutter St.). Follow FS Road 2N24 for 0.4 mile to the trailhead, staying to the right at any forks in the road.

15. INDIAN ROCK TRAIL 3W15

0.5 mile, easy walk

This trail begins behind Rock Camp Fire Station on Hwy. 173, across the highway from the Metate Trailhead parking area. The trail leads to a number of bedrock mortars that were used by Serrano Indians to grind acorns and to make flour. Please be respectful of these cultural artifacts when you're examining them along the trail.

16. PILOT ROCK

3 miles, moderate

This trail begins on Hwy. 173 at the Metate Trailhead parking area, across the highway from Rock Camp Fire Station. Park here and follow Pilot Rock Rd., which becomes FS Road 2N33. Follow FS Road 2N33 for 1.4 miles, until you're directly below Pilot Rock. Then take the trail to the left to ascend to the rock.

17. PINNACLES TRAIL 3W16

1.8 miles, difficult

This trail begins at the entrance to the Rifle Range on Hwy. 173, 0.7 mile north of Rock Camp. The trail ascends through rocky terrain and ends at the top of the Pinnacles peak, providing spectacular views of the surrounding area. Please note: Near the top the trail requires some scrambling over boulders.

18. HEART ROCK TRAIL 4W07

1 mile, easy walk

This easy hike follows Seeley Creek to a well-known formation called Heart Rock. The trail begins on FS Road 2N03, a narrow paved road that skirts Camp Seeley. From Hwy. 138, turn left onto FS Road 2N03 (adjacent to Camp Seeley's prominent sign) and continue 0.3 mile past the camp's fenced entrance. The trailhead parking area is marked with an iron post that displays the trail number.

19. PONDEROSA TRAIL

0.5 mile loop, easy

This trailhead is located across from Pine Crest Center along Hwy. 189. It's an easy hike through scenic forests with a spur trail to a vista point.

20. WILL ABELL MEMORIAL TRAIL

2 mile loop, moderate

This trail is located at Arrowhead Ridge on Grass Valley Rd. It ascends and descends the ridge through one of Arrowhead's most impressive forests.

21. JIM AND KATHIE SIMMS TRAIL

2 mile, moderate

Parking is located at the Hootman Senior Center with the trailhead at the far end of the ballfield. This hike is steep in the beginning and leads to a large rock summit with a 360-degree view of the surrounding forest and valley below.