

BIG HORN MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS 5-7-20

Trail maps for segments in the Big Horn Mountain Wilderness

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Trail-Maps/Big-Horn-Wilderness/i-ZqBHfD8>

Big Horn Mountain Loop (Big Horn Mountain Wilderness). Rating B. This is a clockwise loop hike around Big Horn Peak of 9.3 miles with an elevation gain of 1600 ft. There is no formal trail, but for two-thirds of the hike the vegetation is scarce enough not to have to actually bushwhack. The climb up and back down is a steep, boulder filled bushwhack. There are lots of interesting rock formations along the way. There are no restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is approx. 90 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BigHornMountainWilderness/Bighorn-Loop>

Directions to Big Horn West Trailhead

Go West on I-10 to Exit 81 (Salome Road).

Turn right (north) and go .6. miles to the canal.

Turn right on the dirt road just before the canal and go 3.5 miles.

Park on the left just east of the bridge across the canal.

Hike starts across the canal and to the right up the hill.

The final 3.5 miles is on a good dirt road (even a sedan could do it).

No facilities at the trailhead.

Big Horn Summit Trail (Big Horn Mountain Wilderness). Rating B+/A-. This is an 8 mile hike with an elevation gain of 2300 ft. The first part of the hike is easy desert hiking but as we start making our way up to the shoulder, route finding becomes critical. Above the shoulder it requires carefully navigating our way through a fairly dense area of Cholla. As we ascend farther up you have to work your way up a very steep loose section to reach the base of the peak. The climb at this point becomes a class 3 scramble (this is the A portion of the hike) for about 25-30 feet to the top. Working your way back down the steep loose section is tricky in that you must be careful not to start sliding. It is also not easy finding the same route down as it all looks alike. There are no restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is approx. 90 miles.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BigHornMountainWilderness/Big-Horn-Peak>

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