

## **Strawberry Peak OTP Hike May 12, 1999, 9:30 AM**

### **Features**

Strawberry Peak's 6164' summit beats by a smidgen 6161' San Gabriel Peak, thus claiming the honor of being the highest peak in the Front Range. Although its profile appears rounded as seen from most places, in reality its flanks fall away sharply on three sides, leaving only one relatively easy route to the top which we will take.

### **Trailhead Directions**

Meet at Red Box Station at mileage paddle 38.38 on the Angeles Crest Highway (about 14 miles from I-210 at the Mt. Wilson road turn off). Be sure to be there in plenty of time for a 9:30 departure.

### **The Hike**

From Red Box, walk east along the left shoulder of Angeles Crest Highway to an abandoned fire road slanting left up the hillside. Continue up the eroded bed of that road for 0.6 mile to reach a trail on the left. From there the trail switchbacks through chaparral taking us northwest to a saddle due south of Mt. Lawlor's summit. From there to the saddle on the northwest shoulder of Mt. Lawlor the trail gains elevation very gradually.

At the saddle we leave the main trail and take an old fire break slanting left along an undulating, chaparral covered ridge. We work our way north and finally west to Strawberry's shaggy-looking summit. Scattered Coulter pines and bigcone Douglas firs struggle for existence near the summit.

Total distance is about 6.5 miles with an elevation gain of about 1800 feet.

### **Ron Forbess' Hike**