

Bob De Wolf's hike, June 7, 2006  
Mt Waterman from Buckhorn  
6 miles round trip, 1300 foot elevation gain

This description is mostly from "Trails of the Angeles", 8th Edition, April 2005.

Drive the Angeles Crest Highway to a point near highway mileage marker 58.00, 34 miles from La Canada.

The trailhead is marked with a sign that simply says "TRAIL". There is also a sign that says "San Gabriel Wilderness, Angeles National Forest". Walk about 30 ft up the fire road, and then go left on a section of trail that parallels the highway for a short distance, and begins to ascend the forested slope. After climbing southward through tall stands of Jeffrey pine and incense cedar for 1.25 miles, the trail reaches a saddle on Waterman's east ridge; from here you look down into the wild upper reaches of Bear Canyon and to Twin Peaks beyond. The trail now turns west and climbs to a junction with the Twin Peaks Trail, .5 mile. The trail does not reach the actual summit of Waterman. When it turns northwest and begins to descend, leave the trail and head southwest, past a subsidiary summit, about 500 yards to the true summit.

Distances:

1)The basic hike is 6 miles and 1300 ft elevation gain with refreshments at the Buckhorn trailhead (MP 58.00).

2)A shorter, 2.5 mile hike can be done by hiking only to the saddle on Waterman's east ridge.

3)Twin Peaks, behind Mt Waterman can also be climbed with return to Buckhorn, but this would be difficult. I estimate about 3200 feet elevation gain (assuming you don't climb Waterman). Not recommended.

4)Another alternative is to ascend from Buckhorn as in 1) and descend the west ridge to Three Points. If you plan to do this, you will need to arrange to leave a vehicle at Three Points for the shuttle back to the trailhead for refreshments (5.25 mi). This is 1300 feet gain, 2100 feet loss. The total distance is about 7 miles.