

Cloudburst Summit to Cooper Canyon

Dec. 13, 2006

Jim Spotts, Leader

Hike: 5.8 mile round. trip, approx. 1000 foot climb coming back (longer versions are feasible and are described below).

This hike is challenging the weather gods since it is being scheduled in late Fall and Cloudburst Summit is at an elevation of 7018 feet! Don't say that you haven't been warned that it will probably be COLD.

Getting there: Cloudburst Summit is at mileage paddle 57.04 on Angeles Crest Highway (32.6 miles from the 210 fwy.). If you want to get fortified with hot coffee before you get there, Newcomb's restaurant is at paddle 50.98 and will probably be open.

The hike: We will descend to Cooper Canyon through beautiful country. We will reach Cooper Canyon Campground approx. 2.8 miles from start. The people doing the "regular" hike can have their (early) lunch here by the creek and then return up the same trail to the start.

Those wanting a longer hike can hike along Cooper Creek another 1.1 miles (and a drop of 500 more feet) to the junction with the Burkhart Trail and turn around and go back the same way they came. This will result in a hike of approx. 7.8 miles and an elevation gain coming back of approx. 1500 feet. Note: Although you might be tempted to go back up the Burkhart Trail to Buckhorn Campground and make the hike a shuttle hike, this isn't recommended at this time of year since the road to Buckhorn Campground is closed and you would have to hike the road out to the highway. If you want to go another 0.3 miles past the junction with the Burkhart Trail before turning around, you will reach the Littlerock Creek crossing. This creek goes all the way to Littlerock Reservoir (almost to Palmdale).

I will have maps at the start, which should make it easier to sort out the alternatives.

If the weather gods go against us in the form of snow, etc. the alternate hike will probably be from Clear Creek junction.

