

MT. ISLIP FROM ISLIP SADDLE

Date: June 17,2009
Leader: Jim Gardner
Distance: Basic hike about 5.8 miles
Gain: Basic hike about 1250 feet.

Directions: Follow Angeles Crest Hwy beyond Buckhorn Campground to Islip Saddle, which is where the old Hwy 39 meets the Angeles Crest Hwy. Park in parking area on the north side of the highway. No restroom facilities. Refreshments in the parking area at the end of the hike.

The hike follows the Pacific Crest Trail, starting across the highway from the parking area. There are three options:

Option 1: Mt. Islip via Little Jimmy Campground. Distance about 5.8 miles, and 2000 ft. net gain. Go about 2.1 miles to Little Jimmy campground. At the campground there is a trail which turns right from the Pacific Crest Trail and then curves up toward Mt. Islip (elev. 8250). When the trail reaches the ridge, turn right (west) and follow it to Mt. Islip. Return the same way.

Option 2: Extension to Windy Gap. Adds about 0.3 miles each way. In Little Jimmy Campground continue on the Pacific Crest Trail to Windy Gap. At Windy Gap turn right (West) and hike on to Mt. Islip. Return either the same way, or use the trail to Little Jimmy. Windy Gap was partially burned in the fire of 2003. It should be interesting to see how it's recovered.

Option 3: Mt Hawkins. Distance about 9.2 miles, and 2650 ft. net gain. From Islip saddle follow trail to Windy Gap and then on to Mt. Hawkins. Return by same route.