

TrekAid103

Camelback High Adventure Backpacking Award



High Adventure Team
Desert Pacific Council
Boy Scouts of America



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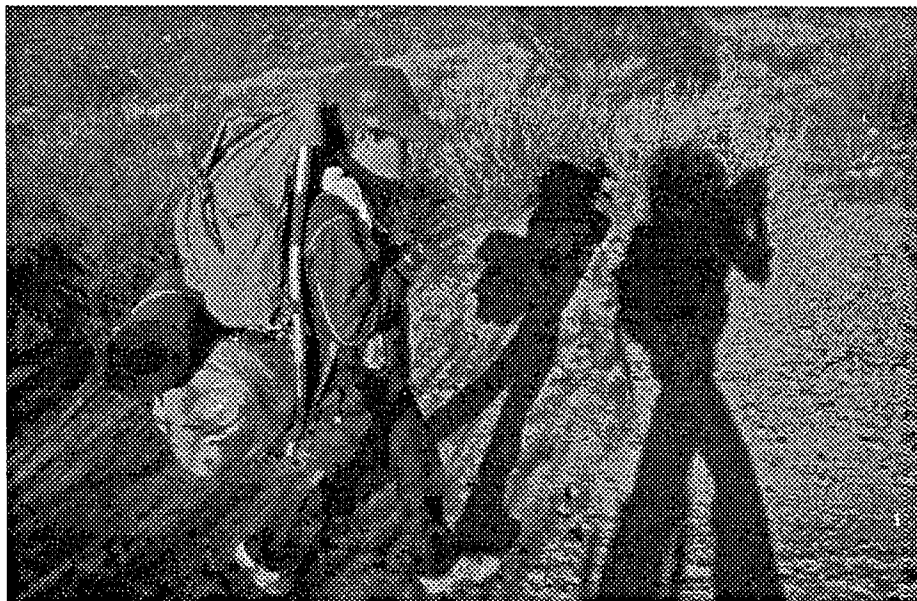
INTRODUCTION

This Trek Aid provides backpacking information for the Camelback High Adventure Backpacking Award. The name of the award comes to us from original backpackers who said the recommended trails resemble the back of a camel as it tracks up the mountains and down into the desert and canyons. This version is in preference to the rumor that those who complete this award smell like a camel at the end of the backpack.

This award is intended to encourage long distance backpacking (15 or 30 miles) on trails associated with the California Riding and Hiking Trail (CR&HT) in the Southern California/San Diego County area within a two or three day weekend. This Trek Aid describes several sections of the CR&HT and feeder trails that may be used to obtain this award. Originally this award was designed to encourage hiking along the California Riding and Hiking Trail. Over the years many sections of the CR&HT have fallen into disrepair. This occurred due to changes in private land ownership, lack of state funding and support, trail rerouting, lack of water in some sections, and general neglect. Therefore, if you are planning to use several miles of the CR&HT outside of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park or Joshua Tree National Park, check out the trail status before you embark on your Camelback trek.

Trek Aid No. 103 is a publication of the High Adventure Team of the Desert Pacific Council, B.S.A. Comments, corrections, and suggestions are welcome and should be addressed to:

Chairman, High Adventure Team
Desert Pacific Council, B.S.A.
1207 Upas Street
San Diego, CA 92103



Camelback Award Requirements



30 Mile Camelback



60 Mile Camelback



Hike in a State Park



Hike in a National Forest

1. Take a backpack along any existing section of the California Riding and Hiking Trail in Southern California, trails in the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, trails in the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, or in the Cleveland National Forest. The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) within the areas listed above can be used in conjunction with other trails, but not alone since the PCT has it's own award.

The backpack shall be:

a. An overnight backpack of at least 15 miles or 7 1/2 hours scheduled backpack time on two consecutive days with the night's camp not closer than 2 hours scheduled backpack time from the trailhead or pick-up point.

or

b. A backpack of 30 miles or 15 consecutive hours scheduled backpack time in not less than three consecutive days with no night's camp closer than 2 hours scheduled backpack time to the trailhead or pick-up point. (Scheduled Backpack Time: The time actually backpacked along the primary trail. It does not include snack stops, fishing, meal stops, over-night camping, or similar type stops.)

2. Each person shall, as part of a group project, complete 1 hour of conservation work to improve the trails, campsites, the general area, or Scout Camp. This conservation project may be completed either on the backpack or within one month before or after the backpack. The awards shall not be applied for until the completion of the conservation project and shall not be presented to anyone who fails to complete the project. NOTE: Trail work, except clean-up, must be authorized in advance by the Area Ranger, the Trail Foreman, or by the High Adventure Team Trail Boss Chairman or his authorized representative.

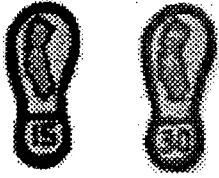
3. Comply with all the GENERAL REQUIREMENTS listed in Trek Aid No. 100.

4. The Camelback High Adventure Awards are:

a. For the first and third 15 miles/7 1/2 hour scheduled backpack time overnight: "Hike in a State Park or Along the California Riding and Hiking Trail" patch or "Hike in a National Forest." See Trek Aid No. 100.

b. Completion of the first 30 miles/15 hour scheduled backpack time in not less than 3 days or the first two 15 miles/7 1/2 hour scheduled backpack time with overnights: The 30 Mile Camelback patch.

c. Completion of first 60 miles in any multiples of 15 miles and 30 miles backpacks: The 60 mile Camelback patch.



Where to go for your Camelback

Topographic Maps required:

Alpine, California
Viejas Mountain, California
Cuyamaca Peak, California
Julian, California
Julian Quadrangle
Ranchita, California
Warner Springs, California
Hot Springs Mountain, California
Beauty Mountain, California
Idyllwild, California
Earthquake Valley, California
Earthquake Valley Quadrangle
Tubb Canyon, California
Tubb Canyon Quadrangle
Borrego Palm Canyon, California

*15 Minute Quadrangles are being discontinued by the USGS

Portions in Anza-Borrego State Park are covered in the 15 Minute Quadrangle map copies available at Park Headquarters

d. Once the 60 mile Camelback patch has been earned, 15 mile and 30 mile Footprints may be earned for each additional 15 mile or 30 mile Camelback backpack taken. Requirements 1 through 3 above must be completed for each additional Camelback backpack.

(See maps listed in the Appendix)

1. Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

The California Riding and Hiking Trail (CR&HT) runs the entire north-south length of the park. Volunteer groups are working to maintain this section of the CR&HT. The CR&HT going north, out of the Cuyamacas, connects with the Pacific Crest Trail and goes into the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. The trail south out of the park currently terminates in the small town of Descanso. Using the many park trails along with the CR&HT, you can easily develop a 15 or 30 mile Camelback.

Camping - There are two primitive camps with water, Granite Springs in the southeast part of the park and Arroyo Seco in the southwest part of the park. Prior permission is required to use these two sites. Two state campgrounds, Green Valley in the south and Paso Picacho in the north, have water and showers. Hual-Cu-Cuish Scout Camp is north of Paso Picacho and is also available for camping. The Cleveland National Forest surrounds the park and you can wilderness camp in it with the proper permits.

2. Cleveland National Forest

This National Forest is contained in Riverside and San Diego counties. The Pacific Crest Trail runs north-south in the eastern part of the forest and various sections of the CR&HT still exist with its boundaries. There are many connecting fire roads that can be combined with the PCT and the CR&HT to plan various Camelbacks.

Camping - Wilderness camping can be done within forest properties, just make sure you are not on private land that is dispersed throughout the forest. There are also various forest service campgrounds off the highways that traverse the forest. The majority of them are in the Mount Laguna area just east of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park.

3. Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

Bits and pieces of the CR&HT within the park can be combined with other park trails. For more information on trails and camping see Trek Aid No.102, "Desert Backpacking".

4. Joshua Tree National Park

A major portion of the CR&HT runs east-west through the northern section of the park. It provides an excellent 30 mile Camelback trek. See Trek Aid No. 102, "Desert Backpacking" for further information on trails and campsites.

By combining trails from Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, Cleveland National Forest, and the Anza-Borrego State Park, varied and challenging 15 and 30 mile Camelbacks may be planned. For example:

a. A typical 30 mile Camelback would start at El Prado Campground (Sunrise Highway S-1 in the Cleveland National Forest). Follow the Laguna Meadow Road to Deer Park Road. Hike north on Deer Park Road to the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park boundary, where you continue on the East Mesa Fire Road to Granite Spring Primitive Campground. With advance permission you can camp here or continue west on the Harvey Moore Trail. Connecting with the East Side Trail, go north, stopping and visiting the Indian Museum. Continue from the museum on the Upper Green Valley Fire Road until it meets the eastward Soapstone Grade Road. Follow the trail signs to the Lake Trail and drop south to the Hual-Cu-Cuish Scout Camp. Leave the Scout Camp and take the Peak Fire Road and Middle Peak Loop Road around Middle Peak south to the junction with Milk Ranch Road. Follow the Azalea Spring Trail to the CR&HT heading south. The CR&HT will take you the Green Valley Campground, or you may follow it to Descanso.

b. For a 15 mile Camelback, you can start at the CR&HT trailhead on S-22 coming out of Borrego Springs (on left, unmarked, starts at the first Anza-Borrego State Park sign about 1 1/2 to 2 miles from the junction of S-22 and Palm Canyon Drive. This is at the beginning of the first left-turning curve.). Follow the trail past Culp Valley Primitive Campground and cross S-22. There you pick up the Jasper Trail and follow that to Tamarisk Grove Campground for completion of the Camelback.

5. Other Suggested Camelbacks

15 Mile Round Trip

Los Caballos campground to Arroyo Seco primitive camp (both in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park) and return - 15 miles.

Trail crossing at Sunrise Highway (S-1) to Banner Store private campground and return - 18.6 miles.

Catholic Mission Church about 1/2 mile north of Warner Springs to Indian Flats US Forest Service campground and return - 16.8 miles.

Peña Springs trail junction at Montezuma Highway (S-3), to Stuart Springs and return - 15.4 miles.

15 Mile Point-to-Point

Hual-Cu-Cuish to Descanso, camping at Arroyo Seco primitive camp. Use junction to Oak Grove Road (blacktop) and Boulder Creek Road for Descanso point - 15.6 miles.

One half mile north of Chihuahua Road on Cooper Cienega Truck Trail to Warner Springs, camping at Indian Flats US Forest Service Campground - 15.0 miles.

North Little Pinyon Crest (1 mile south of Highway 78) to Peña Springs trail junction at Montezuma Road (S-3), camping at Stuart Springs - 15.0 miles.

Foot and Walker Pass to Culp Valley Ranger Station, camping at Stuart Springs - 16.1 miles.

30 Mile Round Trip

Old Mission Church in Viejas Indian Reservation to Arroyo Seco Primitive Camp and return - 33.8 miles.

Hual-Cu-Cuish to Banner Store private campground and return - 30.0.

Junction of San Felipe (S-2) and Montezuma (S-3) roads to Indian Flats US Forest Service campground and return - 33.4 miles.

North Little Pinyon Crest (1 mile south of Highway 78) to Pena Springs and return - 30.8 miles.

30 Mile Point-to-Point

Japatul-Dehesa Road bridge over Sweetwater River (east of Loveland Reservoir) to Los Caballos campground, camping at US Forest Service campground in Descanso - 30.0 miles.

Descanso to Highway 78 crossing at San Felipe Ranch, following regular trail, camping at Los Caballos or Hual-Cu-Cuish - 32.8 miles.

Warner Springs to junction of Terwilliger and Wellman Roads, camping at Indian Flats US Forest Service Campground - 31.3 miles.

Junction of San Felipe (S-2) and Montezuma Roads to Bailey Ranch House, camping at Indian Flats US Forest Service Campground - 32.5 miles.

Sunrise Highway (S-1) crossing east of Cuyamaca Lake to Culp Valley Ranger Station, camping between Blair Valley and Little Pinyon Crest (NO WATER south of Stuart Springs) - 31.8 miles.

Suggestions for New Backpackers & Trek Leaders

If you are just starting to backpack or your unit has little experience in the desert, there are many places to obtain help and guidance. All backpacking treks can be made enjoyable for Scouts and adults alike with training, planning, and common sense.

1. Ask your Scout Executive or Commissioner for help in finding a unit that has backpacking experience. They will be more than willing to help you plan backpack outings and provide needed knowledge. Many will invite your unit to participate in their own planning and outings.
2. Contact the Council's High Adventure Team for assistance. H.A.T. members will help you with your planning and provide information on High Adventure Awards, trails, training, etc. They also have a speaker's bureau that will provide a H.A.T. member who will talk and put on a slide show or equipment demonstration at your meetings.
3. Participate in a weekend backpack training session at one of the Council's camps. This training is for units under their own leadership and is given by experienced H.A.T. Instructors. This is an excellent opportunity for units to learn basic backpacking and trail camping using Council provided equipment. Packs, backpack cooking kits, lightweight stoves, and tube tents are issued at the camp. Individuals bring their own personal equipment and clothes, plus lightweight food. Instructors will assist Scouters in planning food and personal equipment. A backpack of about seven miles will be taken. This training is usually the second weekend of the month, except for June, July, August, September and December. It starts Saturday morning and is usually completed by Sunday afternoon. Reservations should be made by calling Council Headquarters.
4. Have the unit's adult leadership complete the High Adventure Leader Training. Adult Scouter leadership training by experienced H.A.T. Instructors is recommended for all units that plan to have High Adventure activities. It will provide you with an excellent foundation for trek leadership, including:
 - a. Planning and organizing treks afoot and afloat.
 - b. Information on lightweight foods and equipment.
 - c. Practical wilderness conservation, trail customs, and courtesies.
 - d. Information on the permit systems of public land management organizations.
 - e. Health, safety, and trek leadership.
 - f. Information on local trails and the Colorado River.

The basic High Adventure Leadership Training consists of three sessions: one weekday evening, one Saturday, and one weekend practical training at a Council camp. The schedules and times may be obtained by calling Council Headquarters.

Planning, Preparation and Basic Backpacking Information

For detailed information on planning hikes, see Trek Aid 102, Desert Backpacking.

Customs, Courtesies, & Rules

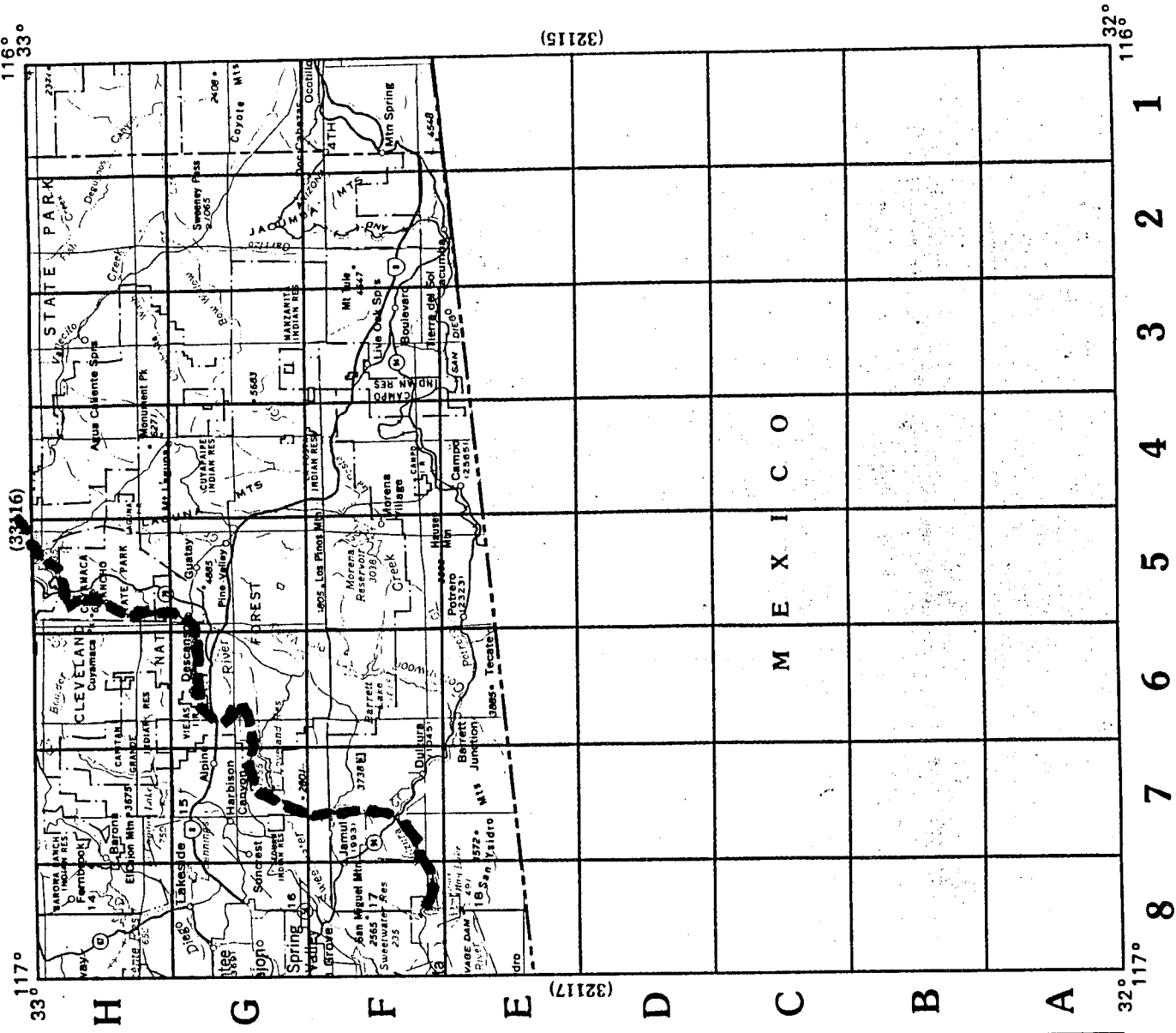
“Take only pictures, leave only footprints”. This sums up the Outdoor Code and the conservation principles championed by the Boy Scouts of America. The outdoors is a museum to be enjoyed by you now and for all in the future. Follow the guidelines listed below on all of your trips, be it for a day or a week.

- Leave the trails, campsites, and open areas as clean or cleaner than you found them. Do not damage or remove plants, trees, animals, or insects. Many are protected by law or could be dangerous to your health and well-being. Scars on the land take centuries, even millions of years, to replace. Always practice “no impact” or “no trace” camping and backpacking. Since most areas in the desert parks and national forests are open to camping, leave your camping area such as when someone else comes along they will never know you camped there. Do not ditch around tents and do not “cut” trails. Both practices leave unsightly results and can cause erosion.
- Never enter private property without prior permission. There are mine claims and home sites in many areas of the desert and national forest. Please respect them. Some private areas have armed guards that do not appreciate trespassers.
- Please take care of your human waste and food waste by burying it in a hole 6" to 8" deep. Place the hole well off trails, away from campsites, and at least 200 feet from any water source. Never burn the toilet paper— it could blow away and start a fire in the underbrush.
- Remember that “A Scout is Friendly”. Let other people pass on the trail when they ask and never block the trails with your pack when you are stopped for a rest or a snack. Horse riders have the right of way on the trail—step off the trail, remaining still and quiet. Some horses spook easily, especially when they see a person with a strange “hump” on their back.
- Respect other people’s campsites and their desire to enjoy the outdoors. Do not enter them unless invited. Be mindful of noise pollution by keeping the noise level down and being quiet at night. Others camped around you may want to enjoy the quiet of the outdoors.
- If you are lost find shade and stay there. Place a large, bright object (spread out tent, ground cloth, etc.) out in the open where it can be seen during the day. Do not attempt to hike out, particularly in the heat of the day. Limit all activities to early morning, early evening, or night.

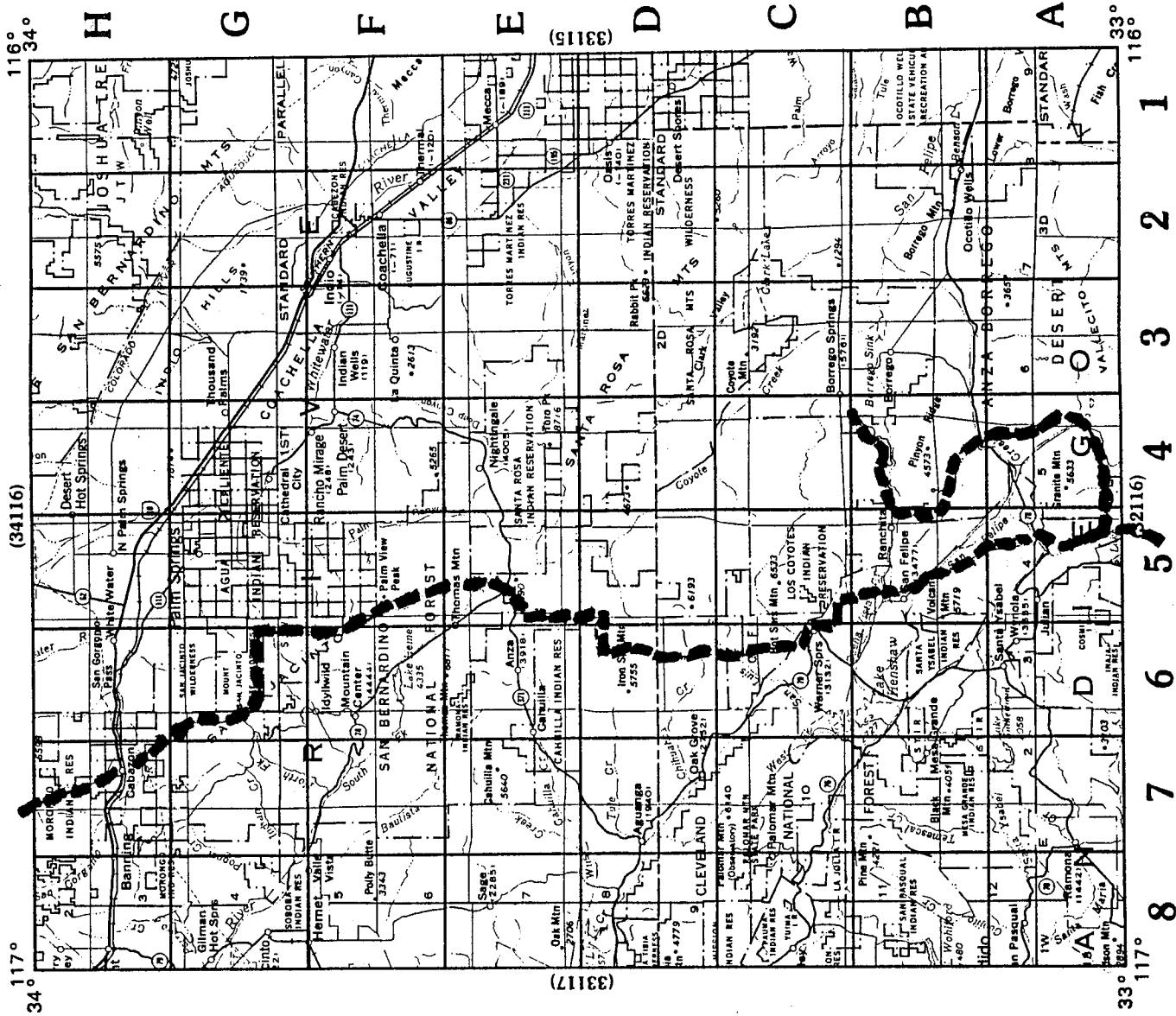
7.5 MINUTE QUADRANGLE NAMES

- | | | |
|----|----|-----------------------|
| A1 | E1 | Tierra Del Sol |
| A2 | E2 | Campo |
| A3 | E3 | Potrero |
| A4 | E4 | Tecate |
| A5 | E5 | Otay Mesa |
| A6 | E6 | In-Ko-Pah Gorge |
| A7 | E7 | Jacumba |
| A8 | E8 | Live Oak Springs |
| B1 | F1 | Cameron Corners |
| B2 | F2 | Morena Reservoir |
| B3 | F3 | Barrett Lake |
| B4 | F4 | Dulzura |
| B5 | F5 | Jamul Mountains |
| B6 | F6 | Carrizo Mtn. |
| B7 | F7 | Sweeney Pass |
| B8 | F8 | Sombrero Peak |
| C1 | G1 | Mount Laguna |
| C2 | G2 | Descanso |
| C3 | G3 | Viejas Mountain |
| C4 | G4 | Alpine |
| C5 | G5 | El Cajon |
| C6 | G6 | Carrizo Mtn. NE |
| C7 | G7 | Arroyo Tapiado |
| C8 | G8 | Agua Caliente Springs |
| D1 | H1 | Monument Peak |
| D2 | H2 | Cuyamaca Peak |
| D3 | H3 | Tule Springs |
| D4 | H4 | El Cajon Mtn. |
| D5 | H5 | San Vicente Reservoir |
| D6 | H6 | |
| D7 | H7 | |
| D8 | H8 | |

7.5-minute maps may not be available for all areas
 Certain areas may be covered by 7.5 x 15- or 15-minute maps
 See CATALOG OF PUBLISHED MAPS for available maps,
 dates, scales, prices, and Map Order Forms



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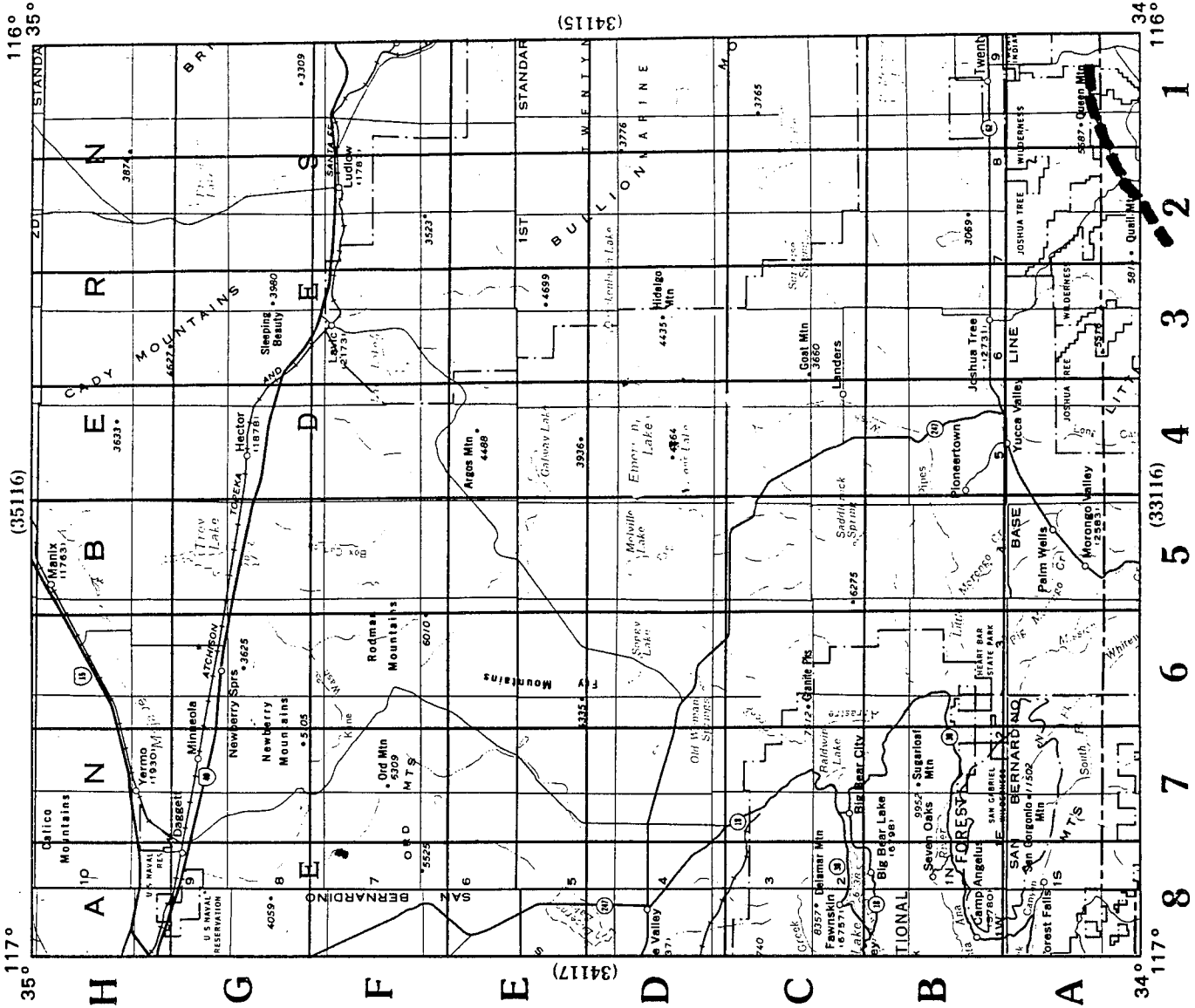
7.5 MINUTE QUADRANGLE NAMES

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|-----------------------|
| A1 | Borrego Mtn. SE | E1 | Mecca |
| A2 | Harper Canyon | E2 | Valerie |
| A3 | Whale Peak | E3 | Martinez Mtn. |
| A4 | Earthquake Valley | E4 | Toro Peak |
| A5 | Julian | E5 | Butterfly Peak |
| A6 | Santa Ysabel | E6 | Anza |
| A7 | Ramona | E7 | Cahuilla Mtn. |
| A8 | San Pasqual | E8 | Sage |
| B1 | Shell Reef | F1 | Thermal Canyon |
| B2 | Borrego Mountain | F2 | Indio |
| B3 | Borrego Sink | F3 | La Quinta |
| B4 | Tubb Canyon | F4 | Rancho Mirage |
| B5 | Ranchita | F5 | Palm View Peak |
| B6 | Warmers Ranch | F6 | Idyllwild |
| B7 | Mesa Grande | F7 | Blackburn Canyon |
| B8 | Rodriguez Mtn. | F8 | Hemet |
| C1 | Seventeen Palms | G1 | Rockhouse Canyon |
| C2 | Fons Point | G2 | West Berdoo Canyon |
| C3 | Clark Lake | G3 | Myoma |
| C4 | Borrego Palm Canyon | G4 | Cathedral City |
| C5 | Hot Springs Mtn. | G5 | Palm Springs |
| C6 | Warner Springs | G6 | San Jacinto Peak |
| C7 | Palomar Observatory | G7 | Lake Fulmor |
| C8 | Boucher Hill | G8 | San Jacinto |
| D1 | Oasis | H1 | Malapai Hill |
| D2 | Rabbit Peak | H2 | Keys View |
| D3 | Clark Lake NE | H3 | East Deception Canyon |
| D4 | Collins Valley | H4 | Seven Palms Valley |
| D5 | Bucksnoot Mtn. | H5 | Desert Hot Springs |
| D6 | Beauty Mountain | H6 | White Water |
| D7 | Aguanga | H7 | Cabazon |
| D8 | Vail Lake | H8 | Beaumont |

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7.5 MINUTE QUADRANGLE NAMES

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| A1 Queen Mtn. | E1 Ludlow SE |
| A2 Indian Cove | E2 Morgans Well |
| A3 Joshua Tree South | E3 Lavic SE |
| A4 Yucca Valley South | E4 Galway Lake |
| A5 Morongo Valley | E5 Iron Ridge |
| A6 Catclaw Flat | E6 Fry Mountains |
| A7 San Geronio Mtn. | E7 Grand View Mine |
| A8 Forest Falls | E8 White Horse Mtn. |
| B1 Twentynine Palms | F1 Ash Hill |
| B2 Sunfair | F2 Ludlow |
| B3 Joshua Tree North | F3 Lavic Lake |
| B4 Yucca Valley North | F4 Sunshine Peak |
| B5 Rimrock | F5 Silver Bell Mine |
| B6 Onyx Peak | F6 Camp Rock Mine |
| B7 Moonridge | F7 Ord Mountain |
| B8 Big Bear Lake | F8 West Ord Mtn. |
| C1 Deadman Lake SE | G1 East of Broadwell Lake |
| C2 Deadman Lake SW | G2 Broadwell Lake |
| C3 Goat Mountain | G3 Sleeping Beauty |
| C4 Landers | G4 Hector |
| C5 Bighorn Canyon | G5 Troy Lake |
| C6 Rattlesnake Canyon | G6 Newberry Springs |
| C7 Big Bear City | G7 Minneola |
| C8 Fawnskin | G8 Daggett |
| D1 Deadman Lake NE | H1 Broadwell Mesa |
| D2 Deadman Lake NW | H2 West of Broadwell Mesa |
| D3 Hidalgo Mtn. | H3 Hidden Valley East |
| D4 Emerson Lake | H4 Hidden Valley West |
| D5 Melville Lake | H5 Manix |
| D6 Old Woman Springs | H6 Harvard Hill |
| D7 Cougar Buttes | H7 Yermo |
| D8 Lucerne Valley | H8 Nebo |

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