

Trapper Peak #5630(&A) & #133

(Strenuous - walking sticks recommended)

DIRECTIONS TO TRAILHEAD: From Triple Creek's driveway, turn right and head up the West Fork Road. At the sign for Trapper Peak, turn right on Lavene Creek Road. The sign here indicates the trailhead is 4 miles from this point, but it is actually about 6.5 miles. Follow this good gravel road for .6 miles to a junction. Take the left fork and follow the sign pointing to Troy Creek and Trapper Peak. Continue climbing on this road four miles to the trailhead, which lies just past a switchback and is marked by a sign. There is a wide spot in the road for parking just before the trailhead.

ELEVATIONS: Trailhead – 6,360 ft.; Trapper Peak – 10,157 ft.

MILEAGE: 5 miles to peak.

TRAIL DESCRIPTION: This hike is not suited for everyone, as the high elevation and rough terrain make it quite difficult. It is very steep in places and is always a steady ascent. The trail starts high on a ridge overlooking Boulder Creek to the west and the West Fork of the Bitterroot River to the south. For the most part, it winds through the trees, but does offer occasional views of the Boulder drainage, Boulder Peak and Trapper Peak itself. The size of the trees gradually diminishes with altitude, at about 3 miles. The trail then emerges from a group of stunted, windswept trees onto an open boulder field. For the last few miles, the trail winds toward a saddle among the boulders above the timberline and is well marked by rock piles. The actual peak lies just to the left of this saddle. The final ascent to the peak follows an easily traversed ridge.

Scramble over the last of these boulders and enjoy the view from above 10,000 feet! To the north, the view is a sheer drop. Thousands of feet down lies picturesque, glacial Cave Lake surrounded by bare, jagged peaks. This spectacular view is definitely well worth the effort it takes to get there!

Have Fun & ENJOY!