

Billys Peak Lookout

Moderate-to-Strenuous, 6.0 miles



The peak that towers over the town of Coffee Creek is generally called Billys Peak. In fact, it is unnamed, but would more properly be called Billys Peak Lookout. The actual, slightly taller Billys Peak is about 1.4 miles to the west-northwest of the lookout and cannot be seen from Coffee Creek. Billys Peak Lookout once had a fire spotter lookout tower on its peak, hence the name. In the photo to the right, you see one of several footings from the long-gone tower with the heart of the Alps in the far background. This peak was chosen due to the commanding views it has of the eastern Alps from the red Trinities and the ridge of Bear Lakes basin to the north, to the Ycatapom Peak ridge dividing the Coffee Creek and Swift Creek drainages to the south. This hike is a steady climb, and it ends with a rock scramble to the peak, but the views are well worth it!

Hikes

♦ Billys Peak Lookout (41° 7.292'N, 122° 44.773'W)

Total Length (round-trip): 6.0 miles

Elevation Gain: 2,870'

Difficulty: Moderate-to-Strenuous

Topo Map

♦ Carrville

Directions to Trailhead

14.1 miles to Billys Peak Lookout Trailhead

Take Hwy 3 north from Trinity Center about 9.8 miles to USFS Road 38N34, at mile marker 69.8. At the intersection, to the right (east) is North Derrick Flat Road. But turn left and follow the dirt road 4.3 miles to the trailhead. About 1¾ miles, bear right; and at about 2.3 miles, go straight and avoid the right turn on 38N34B. Just before the trailhead is a fork, where you will go left to the parking area. There is a post marking the trailhead on the outside of the turn. Try not to block the road since the trailhead is on the outside edge of a hairpin turn to a logging road.

The Trail

The trail starts uphill immediately, but the gradient eases in a few dozen yards. After a climb in the forest, you begin to find an increasing amount of brush, primarily buckbrush with a little Manzanita and other flora. Some fallen trees are on the trail, making this trail not friendly to large, four-legged critters.

Once the trees start thinning, you begin to see some of the views that you will enjoy from the top. You can see Trinity Lake, and a magnificent view of Ycatapom Peak and the domes to the west along its shoulder, such as Tapie Dome.



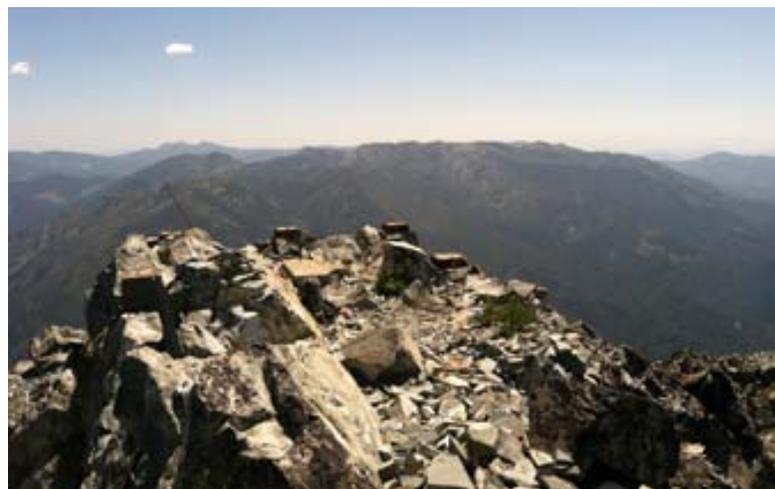
Billys Peak Lookout Photo by Angela Jones

The majestic, granite Alps are not really in this viewscape, but nevertheless, the views are breathtaking.

Mt. Shasta, Mt. Lassen, and Mt. Eddy are all in view. From this perch you can see the red and green Trinities, with just a peak at the white Trinities. The Trinity River canyon and the northern half of Trinity Lake lie before you. You can see Trinity Center airport, but you are far above the airplanes in the pattern.

Billys Peak Lookout is not a well-traveled trail, so there is a very good chance you will have it to yourself, to sit and contemplate.

It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see.
Henry David Thoreau



The Old Lookout Tower Footings Photo by Angela Jones

Trinity Lake Revitalization Alliance
PO Box 128, Trinity Center, CA 96091
NorthTrinityLake.com
facebook.com/northtrinitylake



Billys Peak Lookout (continued)

