



**Hike:** Mack's Peak — up and back   
**Trailhead:** End of Mack's Canyon road – Not marked  
**Distance:** 6 miles — round trip  
**Elevation gain:** 1,813 feet  
**Elevation Peak:** 10,033 feet  
**Time:** 4 to 5 hours— round trip  
**Difficulty:** 3  
**Danger level:** 4  
**Class:** 3  
**How easy to follow:** 4  
**Children:** no  
**Map:** Charleston Peak, NEV – See Page 4  
**Waypoints:** See Page 4  
**Fee:** None



**Photo 1**

  
**Directions:** From the Mirage on Las Vegas Boulevard (the Strip) go north 1.5 miles and turn left (west) onto Sahara. In less than one mile, turn right (north) onto I-15. Take I-15 two miles to US 95 north. Take US 95 north 28 miles to State Route 156. Turn left (west) onto 156 and drive 13.6 miles to Mack's Canyon Road. (If you pass the intersection of 158/156 you have gone too far.) Follow the gravel road till it ends (4.3 miles). A four-wheel drive is not needed.

**Overview:** The route begins along a gravel road, follows a drainage, and traverses a slope to a saddle. It follows the ridge to the base of Mack's Peak. The route then traverses to the ramp that leads to the top.

**Comments:** Mack's Peak is a tough mountain.

Only a handful of hikers make it to the peak each year. Fantastic views in all directions are seen from the peak. **Due to loose rock, limit the number of hikers to four.**



**Photo 2**

**The Hike:** The unmarked route begins where boulders block vehicles from continuing on the gravel road. Mack's Peak is not visible from the trailhead due to the ridgeline that the route eventually climbs. The route heads SW and is a continuation of the gravel road. This part of the hike has a gentle incline as it passes white fir and pinion pines. About 650 yards from the trailhead, go west (right) into a drainage. (See Photo 1.) The tree stump in the Photo 2 is your landmark. It's an enlargement of Photo 1. ([Waypoint 1.](#))

About 250 yards up the drainage a huge tree has fallen into the drainage. An obvious path leads around the tree. Just after the tree, the drainage divides. ([Waypoint 2.](#))

Take the left fork. The incline becomes steep as the drainage climbs toward the



**Photo 3**

ridgeline.

Don't hike all the way to the ridge; instead traverse west up the slope toward Mack's Peak, which soon comes into view. (See Photo 3.)

The idea is to aim for the saddle. If you go too far to the east (right) you'll be climbing up a ridge only to hike down the west side of the same ridge. The closer you get to the saddle, the easier it is to adjust your course.

At the saddle ([Waypoint 3](#)), stay on the ridge and head west toward Mack's Peak. Cairns and a path lead to the base of Mack's Peak. At the base the path traverses north along the cliffs. When the cliffs pull away, the path goes straight up toward



**Photo 4**

the base. This 20-yard trek is very steep. The path again heads north. In about 50 yards the path goes to a ramp that leads to the peak.

A large burnt bristlecone marks the ramps. (See Photo 4.) (Waypoint 4.) The ramp is filled with loose rocks. It's best to climb the right side of the ramp, which avoids much of the loose rock. (Waypoint 5.) At the top of the ramp go right making an almost 180 degree turn (Waypoint 6) and follow the path 75 yards to the peak.

At the peak a cairn contains a sign-in-book. The peak extends northerly and becomes very narrow past the sign-in-book. A second peak lies 200 yards to the north; however, it is very tricky coming off the north side of the first peak. Massive

McFarland Peak lies to the SW and the Sisters rests to the SE.

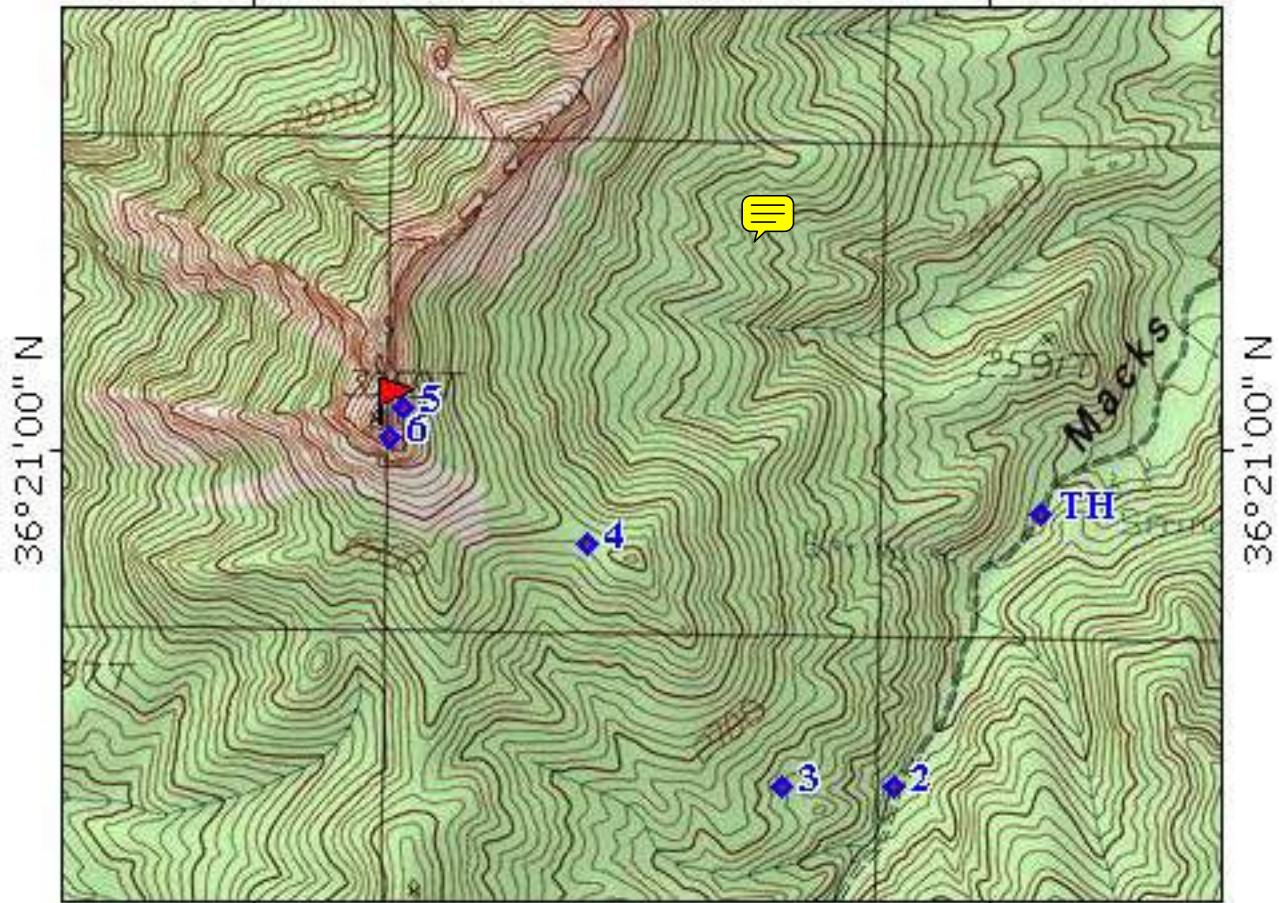


**To Descend:** Retrace your steps by going east of the sign-in-book and descend. Once you come to the drop-off, go left onto the ramp. If a group is descending the ramp, let individuals descend the ramp and walk to the far right of the ramp before the next person starts down. Most people descend the lower part of the ramp by sliding down the rocks. The rocks tumble off the ledge and crash down by the entrance of the ramp.

Once off the ramp, follow the path down the ridge. When the ridge starts to ascend, descend south (right) across the slope. You don't have to hike down the same drainage you hiked up. Just keep descending to the gravel road. Once at the road, head east (left) and follow it back to your car.

115°42'00" W

WGS84 115°41'00" W



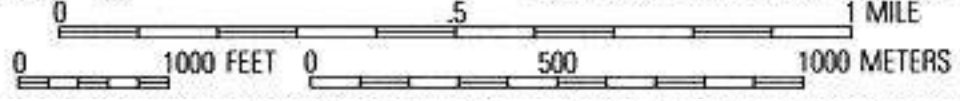
36°21'00" N

36°21'00" N

115°42'00" W

WGS84 115°41'00" W

TN★/MN  
13½°



◆ TH	36°20'56" N	115°40'56" W	8235 ft.
◆ 2	36°20'38" N	115°41'08" W	8402 ft.
◆ 3	36°20'38" N	115°41'17" W	8564 ft.
◆ 4	36°20'54" N	115°41'33" W	9265 ft.
◆ 5	36°21'03" N	115°41'48" W	9671 ft.
◆ 6	36°21'01" N	115°41'49" W	9893 ft.

