

# *Peak Bagging: Program and Awards*



(complete award size: 8" x 6")

Offered by the  
**HIGH ADVENTURE TEAM**  
Greater Los Angeles Area Council  
Scouting America

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The High Adventure Team (HAT) of the Greater Los Angeles Area Council (GLAAC) of Scouting America is a volunteer group of Scouters which operates under the direction of GLAAC-Camping Services. Its mission is to develop, promote and conduct challenging outdoor programs and activities within the Council and by its many Units. It conducts training programs, sponsors High Adventure awards, and publishes specialized literature such as Hike Aids and The Trail Head. It also promotes participation in summer camp, in High Adventure activities such as backpacking, peak climbing, conservation, and in other Council programs.

Anyone who is interested in the GLAAC-HAT and its many activities is encouraged to direct an inquiry to the GLAAC-Camping Services or visit our web site at <https://glaac-hat.org/>. The GLAAC-HAT meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Cushman Watt Scout Center, 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles, CA 90026. These meetings are open to all Scouters.



#### REVISIONS

Feb 2025	General revision. Moved peak bagging award requirements to Hike Aid 6.	Tom Thorpe
Jan 2016	General revision. Peak Bagger Peak list: removed Mt. San Antonio, added Blackrock Mountain. Mini-Peak Bagger list: removed Dawson Peak and Pine Mountain No. 1. Renamed "Suicide Peak" to "Suicide Rock," Updated "General Requirements" section.	Tom Thorpe Dick Rose
Jan 2005	New document incorporating Program Announcements 2 and 3. Prepared by Lyle Whited and composed by John Hainey.	



(Mt. Markham, summit trail)

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2333 Scout Way  
Los Angeles, CA 90026

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*“Over all of the mountains is peace  
... soon you too will be at rest.”  
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

## **Foreword**

Back in the early 1960's, the initial members of the Trails and Awards Committee, predecessor of the High Adventure Team, designed a series of awards to recognize outdoor achievement. Those awards, still offered today, represent fully  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the number currently sponsored by the GLAAC-HAT. Included in that burst of creativity were the two award programs for peak climbing. The objective of these programs was to promote peak climbing as an integral part of the Unit's High Adventure program, to draw Scout Units further into the wilderness and to its highest points. That remains the objective today, and the popularity of the awards attests to wisdom of the Trails and Awards Committee. It's fine to give an award for climbing a single peak, but then what? Climb a bunch, and acquire an entirely new understanding of yourself and the world.

So, include peak climbing in your High Adventure portfolio, looking for the opportunities as a part of the planning for every outing. Success, i.e., reaching the summit and returning safely, is a matter of:

- ◆ Doing a thorough and complete job of planning, including adequate provision for the climb(s).
  - ◆ Seeking a guidebook or person who can tell you about each new peak.
  - ◆ Taking your planning on the trail, and following it.
  - ◆ Knowing where you are, in relation to your map location, your climbing objective, and your trail schedule at all times.
  - ◆ Watching for changing conditions and potential risks and taking appropriate actions.
- The more peak climbing that you do, the more your Scouts will want to do.



## **The Lure of the Summit**

The primary objective in peak climbing is to reach the summit. That singular purpose motivates many persons to annually attempt to climb to the highest points on the planet. It also is the source of a risk that is not shared with other High Adventure activities – the lure of the summit. Hike up to Mine Shaft Saddle from Barton Flats, and Mount San Gorgonio is right there. So close, just off to the southwest of you. How could you not finish the climb? Reality is another 1,500 feet of elevation gain and almost four more miles of hiking above 10,000 feet. Try convincing a group of eager teenagers that you've run out of time to reach its summit on this trek.

Getting to the top is only half the program; the matter of getting back to a base camp or trailhead can never be minimized or ignored in the urge to complete a climb. That is why it is essential that the planning for every peak climb covers these two points.

- ◆ The time when the crew is to leave the summit or to turn back without reaching it.
- ◆ The physical, environmental, and personal conditions that may require the crew to immediately leave the summit or turn back.

These two matters must be discussed with the participants before every activity that includes a peak climb and each one must agree to them as a condition of participation. The hikemaster should explain how the time and the conditions were determined and made a part of the trek plan. Adhering to them while on the climb is vital to the health and safety of the crew and a matter of reasonable and prudent leadership.

The moment when the hikemaster says, “We start back down, now!”, is based primarily on the amount of time that is needed to safely complete the balance of the day’s planned activity, whether it is proceeding to a campsite or returning to a trailhead. For climbing many of the peaks in the local mountains, this often is not a concern – but it is still prudent hiking practice. When doing a climb in the Sierras as a part of a long-term trek, this matter of time management is essential.

Do not expect to make up any extra time used to reach a summit by hurrying on the return trip.

- ◆ The members of the hiking party are tired.
- ◆ Hiking off a peak is often more treacherous than going up, particularly when ice, snow, or hand holds are involved or the trail is wet or rocky.
- ◆ Gravity accentuates the severity of any slip or fall.

Never hurry anyone on the downhill portion of a climb. Never allow anyone to proceed until everyone has crossed any difficult section of the descent.

The other consideration that bears on setting a turn-around time has to do with weather conditions in the mountains in summer. The prudent hiker begins to move off summits and high ridges about one o’clock. That’s the time when thunderstorms begin to develop or appear, and on top with one of those approaching is where you do not want to be. A lightning strike may not always be fatal, but it will certainly ruin your day. Cold rain, sleet, hail, or early snow can make for difficult footing. Snowfall in mid-August does happen above 10,000 feet in the Sierras.

The second matter involves the occurrence of a condition or event for which the Unit is not prepared. This can include such things as:

- ◆ The route to the summit is supposed to be clear, but you find that it is covered with a snow or ice pack. Lacking ice axes and crampons, you turn around.
- ◆ Someone in the Unit becomes ill, injured, or unduly fatigued. No, you never leave a person or part of the crew while others attempt to complete the climb.
- ◆ The weather changes. To continue to climb into a thunderstorm, snow fall, whiteout, whatever, is a fool’s errand. Time permitting, the Unit might remain in a safe location in the hope that the weather will improve sufficiently for a safe completion of the climb and the day’s other activities. Barring that, you abort the climb.

You won’t know what condition or event may happen as you do the planning and preparation for the outing. What is necessary is that everyone understands and agrees that should something of this nature occur, reaching a summit no longer matters, regardless of how close it may be - or appear to be. The health and safety of a participant or the crew is not negotiable. The hikemaster must be constantly alert to conditions and potential risks and make a decision to turn back once it appears that something has happened, or is about to happen, that is beyond the crew’s ability to handle. This is not a “sharing leadership” moment; a lightning strike won’t wait for a vote of the membership.

Do not allow “the lure of the summit” to override good judgment and good hiking practices. The peak will be there to be climbed another day.



## **Lightning**

Facts.

- ◆ Primary strikes and secondary effects kill from 100 to 300 people and injure about 1,500 more each year in the United States. This is several times more deaths than from snake bite and bee sting.
- ◆ A person does not have to be struck by the lightning bolt to be killed or injured.
- ◆ Lightning travels at 300 miles per second.
- ◆ It has been recorded as traveling over 118 horizontal miles.
- ◆ It can reach a temperature of 50,000 degrees.
- ◆ A discharge can generate between 100 million and one billion volts.
- ◆ Scientists estimate that there are about 2,000 thunderstorms at any given time and that lightning strikes the earth about 100 times every second.
- ◆ The National Weather Service estimates that the U.S. has about 100,000 thunderstorms annually.
- ◆ Lightning is a condition of each thunderstorm, whether you see it or not.
- ◆ Your odds of being struck are 1 in 600,000.
- ◆ A person struck by lightning does not retain any electricity.
- ◆ Ninety percent of all deaths occur between May and September, prime climbing months.

Source: USDA-Forest Service, 2004.

Warning signs of an approaching storm.

- ◆ Dark clouds, wind picking up, a drop in temperature, and a drop in barometric pressure.
- ◆ Birds and insects have suddenly disappeared.
- ◆ Thunder. If you can hear it, you can be struck by lightning.
- ◆ Metal objects may start to buzz or crackle. Your skin may begin to tingle or your hair may stand on end. These conditions are caused by a buildup of positive ions, prior to a discharge.

As soon as you observe any of these warning signs, move immediately to a safe location.



## **Other Risks**

Other than the lure of the summit, adding peak bagging to the Unit's High Adventure program doesn't necessarily add to the risks that are discussed in Hike Aid 9, "Risk, Health, and Safety." The nature of peak climbing can, however, increase the severity of the impact of many of them. This is because:

- ◆ Most summits and their approaches, particularly those above 9,000 feet or in the desert, have the climber continually and completely exposed to the sun and other elements.
- ◆ The final approach to a summit is usually cross-country, or along a primitive path which is rough and uneven.
- ◆ Climbing some of the peaks in the Sierras means hiking at least part of the way across hard snow pack or glacial ice.
- ◆ As the crew moves away from the main trail and begins an ascent of a lesser-known peak, it is likely to be on its own. You cannot expect that someone will come along to provide help, if you have a problem.

These conditions mean that the Unit leaders must be extra diligent in enforcing good mountain

travel practices.

- ◆ Keep everyone together – there can be no stragglers.
- ◆ Continually monitor the terrain, the weather, and the condition of the crew members.
- ◆ Everyone is across any hazardous section before anyone proceeds.
- ◆ Always select the safest option – never compromise on safety.

These are the final challenges that add to the feeling of accomplishment when everyone gets to the top.



### **Mountaineering and Technical Climbing**

The peak climbing awards that are sponsored by the GLAAC-HAT are not intended or expected to involve or lead the Unit into a situation that requires mountaineering or technical climbing practices. Climbing, as covered in the National Council publications, Climb on Safely and Belay On, is a completely separate program. The peaks that are on the approved lists for the GLAAC-sponsored awards have Class 3 routes that should be climbable without the extensive use of the skills and equipment that are a condition of mountaineering and technical climbing. Many of the peaks that are on the Sierra Club program lists are not on the GLAAC-approved lists because climbing them does involve these climbing skills.

Units that have the trained leadership and the equipment are encourage to include climbing as a regular part of their High Adventure activities, including peak bagging. However, climbing, no matter where, why, or as a part of another activity, must always comply with the requirements of Climb on Safely. Of course, an unexpected incident in the backcountry means that you do what you gotta do to provide for the safety of the Unit or group.

Some of the peaks in the Sierras have approaches or summits that are covered with snow pack or glacial ice. When climbing those peaks, the Unit will be carrying crampons, ice axes, and climbing rope. All participants must be trained in their use and feel comfortable about hiking in these conditions. The GLAAC-HAT offers specialized training for adults who will be leading treks of this nature: Snow and Ice Travel, and Rock Climbing and Rope Use/Rescue.



### **Program Resources**

Most of the members of the GLAAC-HAT are enthusiastic peak climbers and are more than willing to provide counsel and assistance to a Unit, whether it is just getting started or needs some advice about the final approach to one of the Group F peaks. Catch your HAT District Representative at Roundtable or attend a HAT meeting. Moreover, just as there are a wealth of mountains to be climbed, so there are a wealth of additional resources available to your Unit.

#### **Sierra Club**

The peak climbing programs of this organization were well known to the members of the Trails



and Awards Committee. They drew upon them in developing criteria for the awards, preparing lists of approved peaks, and establishing the difficulty ratings. Members of that Committee attended outdoor training programs that were conducted by the Sierra Club; several past members of HAT served as trek leaders for it.

Unit leaders who are interested in peak climbing will find it a valuable source of information. The Los Angeles Chapter's 100 Peaks Section has hike plans and trek leader reports for just about anything climbable in California. It certainly has them for all of the approved peaks for the Peak Bagger and Mini-Peak Bagger Awards. The main thing to check is that the plan and report are for the GLAAC-required trailhead/approach, as most peaks have several. This material may be accessed and downloaded at <https://hundredpeaks.org/>. The national organization's website is <https://www.sierraclub.org/>. Take a look at these sites every so often.

### Guidebooks

Back in the 1960's, there were few guidebooks to trails and outdoor locations that didn't involve killing something. The only thing BSA had that came close to a wilderness guide was the Fieldbook, which was initially published in 1944. Hike Aids and Trek Aids were prepared, therefore, to fill the need for information about wilderness practices and local hiking and climbing conditions. Now, there is such a quantity of literature that it's difficult to keep up with what's available. The listing in Reference Materials is acknowledged to be incomplete, and new and revised guides are published all of the time.

The specialty outdoor stores have book departments that contain many of them. Moreover, they usually have knowledgeable employees who can help you find what you need. Before you buy, be certain that the book covers the locations and peaks that you intend to climb. You could also buy online, from ebay or Amazon, or directly from some of the publishers, such as The Mountaineers. Patronize your local specialty outdoor store – it's earned your business.

### Park/Forest Service maps and literature

You must have their stuff. The Trail Profile and Trail Schedule require topographical maps to prepare. The National Forest maps are much more current than topos in showing trails and campsites. Computer-based maps also generally are more current. The professional staffs and volunteers for each Park and Forest regularly prepare informational brochures and leaflets about their locations. Many of these items are free; the rest are nominally priced.

Topographical and National Forest maps may be purchased at most District Ranger Stations, Visitor Centers, and specialty outdoor stores. You need to visit or call the Park and Forest Service office to get the literature that has been prepared for that locale. Get in the habit of stopping at them when you're out and about.



### **Additional Equipment**

As peak climbing will usually be done as an extension of the Unit's backpacking program, its members will already be carrying most of the equipment for it. It does, however, place a premium on four items to be carried on the summit climb:

- ◆ Summit bags that contains the Ten Essentials-Plus.
- ◆ Hiking staves or trekking poles.

- ◆ A quality bear bag rope – at least 50 feet of ¼ inch diameter twisted nylon.
- ◆ The Unit first aid kit.

Some of the peaks on the Peak Bagger list are likely to have an approach or a summit that is covered with snow or ice. On treks that may include these conditions, each participant will be carrying:

- ◆ An ice axe.
- ◆ Crampons.

The hikemaster should also consider having each person carry:

- ◆ A locking carabineer – the climbing quality, not the key ring variety.
- ◆ Four feet of 6-mm accessory cord – to make a handhold, with a Prusik knot, on the bear bag or climbing rope.

When the Unit has a climbing program, the leaders may chose to carry a coil of dynamic rope, in addition to the bear bag rope.

Ice axes and crampons can often be rented from a specialty outdoor store. Remember, everyone must be trained in the use of all personal and Unit equipment that a crew will be taking on any trek.



### **Peak Bagger Award**

The Peak Bagger Program is designed to stimulate a greater appreciation of the alpine wilderness, while persons experience the beauty, peace and majesty of the mountains. Each peak has been carefully selected so that a variety of locations may be reached on backpacking treks, without the use of mountaineering skills. The Peak Bagger Award is a cumulative award series that recognizes High Adventure achievement, and is shown on the front cover. While few people are privileged to make first ascents, it is possible to experience the thrill of standing on the windswept summit and carry the memory forever. Look upon the lush, flower-starred greenness of alpine meadows, the harsh purity of rocky landscapes above timberline, or the almost supernatural touch of alpenglow upon the peaks, and you will surely join the growing ranks of those who love the mountains.

Careful planning is a must before climbing each of the peaks listed here. Unit leadership must consult trail guides or booklets on the area and forest service and topographic maps, and seek information from fellow backpackers. Route descriptions and profiles for most of these peaks are to be found in the books listed in Reference Materials. Many sources of information should be used diligently to ensure the success of hiking and climbing experiences.

The Peak Bagger Program is graduated to fill the needs of all, from the relative novice to the experienced mountaineer. The Basic Award is easy enough for the newcomer who is ready and willing to put forth that extra effort required. But, even the Basic Award is more than just climbing five mountains. The groups of peaks are such that a Scout has the opportunity to enjoy various sections of the California wilderness as an Award is earned. It is also a learning experience, that is, learning the effects of high altitude, the need for carrying the ten essentials, and the rewards and sense of achievement from standing on a mountain top.

Once the Basic Peak Bagger has been earned, any peak in a higher group may be substituted for a peak requirement in a lower group, e.g., a Group F peak for a Group D peak. The list of qualifying peaks is considered sufficiently extensive that most Units should find it relatively

easy to select mountains that satisfy their particular needs. For this reason, there should be no need for substitutes beyond the approved list. Substitutes may be granted only in unusual circumstances after a written request is submitted for consideration of the Greater Los Angeles Area Council High Adventure Team prior to climbing a peak.

There is no time limit for earning these awards. Therefore, it is essential that an accurate record be maintained to ensure that each participant receives proper credit. The Peak Bagger Award Record (available at <https://www.glaac-hat.org/ApplicationForms.html>) is suggested for this purpose. It is also to be used in applying for an award. Happy climbing, and remember -

*"Climb the mountains and get their good tidings"*  
*John Muir*



### **Rating System**

Although people of varied capabilities will be using this guide, an attempt is made here to provide uniform ratings for the trips to the peaks. The rating system is based on two factors, (1) the approach, and (2) the class of climb. The "Rating" column for the Approved Peaks list shows a letter and number, for each peak.

#### **Approach Rating:**

This considers the difficulty of the ascent and the time required.

"M" = an easy to moderate, two-day trip.

"H" = a strenuous, two-day trip.

"S" = a moderate to strenuous, three day trip.

"L" = a peak normally climbed as part of a week-long hike.

#### **Class of Climb Rating:**

The Sierra Club uses these classifications.

- 1 = A trail leads all the way to the summit. Almost any footgear could be used, but boots are recommended for more comfortable hiking.
- 2 = The final ascent (usually above your campsite) has no maintained trail; however, a "climber's route" may sometimes be followed. The terrain is rougher and proper footgear, such as lug-soled boots with good traction, are strongly recommended. Hands may occasionally be used for balance in climbing,
- 3 = Handholds and footholds are used; lug-soled boots are required. Exposure is such that some persons may wish to be belayed at times, so a rope, and knowledge of its use, should be taken.

Peak climbing may be attempted most seasons, provided every safety precaution is observed! However, since snow pack conditions vary, travel over ice and snow will require additional time, capability, and proper snow and ice travel equipment. The approach rating will usually be raised by at least one letter where travel over them will be encountered.



1. East of Shields Flat (approximately 0.6 mile)
2. ESE of Lake Peak
3. North of Mine Shaft Saddle
4. Fish Creek Meadow trailhead does not meet minimum hiking hours for Peak Bagger trip.

Anderson Peak	10840	Big Bear Lake	M1	Barton Flats; Forsee Creek
Dobbs Peak	10459	San Gorgonio Mtn	M2	Poopout Hill
E. San Bernardino	10691	Big Bear Lake	M1	Barton Flats; Forsee Creek
Jepson Peak	11205	San Gorgonio Mtn	M2	Poopout Hill; Vivian Creek
Mt. San Gorgonio	11499	San Gorgonio Mtn	M1	Poopout Hill; Vivian Creek
Shields Peak	10680	Big Bear Lake	M1	Barton Flats; Forsee Creek
Sugarloaf Mtn	9952	Moonridge	M1	Hwy. 38; Wildhorse Creek



<u>Name</u>	<u>Elev.</u>	<u>Topo map</u>	<u>Rating</u>	<u>Trailhead/Approach</u>
Mitchell Peak	10365	Mt. Silliman	M1	Horse Corral Mdw; Lodgepole
Monache Mtn	9410	Monache Mtn	M2	Kennedy Mdw
Morgan, Mt.	13748	Mt. Morgan	M2	Rock Creek
Muah Mtn	11016	Bartlett	M2	Cottonwood; Mulkey Mdw
Nelson Mtn	10220	Nelson Mtn	M2	Dinkey Creek Road
Spanish Mtn	10051	Rough Spur	H2	Wishon Reservoir; Spanish Lakes
Starr, Mt.	12870	Mt. Abbott	M2	Rock Creek
Templeton Mtn	9932	Templeton Mtn	S2	Cottonwood
Three Sisters	10619	Dogtooth Peak	L2	Dinkey Creek Road
Vandever Mtn	11947	Mineral King	M2	Mineral King
Warren, Mt.	12327	Mt. Dana	H2	Warren Fork; Log Cabin Mine
White Chief Peak	11020	Mineral King	M2	Mineral King

\* Cirque is a D peak when approached from Chicken Spring Lake.

#### Group D

Agassiz, Mt.	13891	North Palisade	H2	South Lake/Bishop Pass
Angora Mtn	10202	Kern Lake	L2	Mineral King
Bago, Mt.	11869	Mt. Clarence King	L2	Charlotte Lake
Banner Peak	12945	Mt. Ritter	S3	Thousand Island Lake
Basin Mtn	13240	Mt. Tom	H2	Horton Creek
Blackcap Mtn	11559	Blackcap Mtn	L2	Wishon Reservoir; Kings River
Cirque Peak	12900	Cirque Peak	H2	Chicken Spring Lake*
Dade, Mt.	13600	Mt. Abbott	H2	Rock Creek/Treasure Lakes
Dana, Mt.	13053	Mt. Dana	H2	Tioga Pass
Davis, Mt.	12311	Mt. Ritter	S2	Thousand Island Lake
Florence Peak	12432	Mineral King	H2	Mineral King/Franklin Pass
Gayley, Mt.	13510	Split Mtn	H3	So. Fork Big Pine Creek
Graveyard Peak	11494	Graveyard Peak	H2	Edison Lake/Graveyard Lakes
Guyot, Mt.	12300	Mt. Whitney	L2	Cottonwood/Guyot Flat
Hitchcock, Mt.	13184	Mt. Whitney	L2	Crabtree Lakes
Hutchings, Mt.	10785	The Sphinx	S2	Kings Canyon
Johnson Peak	11371	Johnson Peak	L2	Mineral King
Kennedy Mtn	11433	Slide Bluffs	S2	Kings Canyon
Langley, Mt.	14042	Mt. Langley	H2	Cottonwood/ New Army Pass
Lone Pine Peak	12944	Mt. Langley	H2	Whitney Portal/Meysan Lake
Mallory, Mt.	13850	Mt. Whitney	H2	Whitney Portal/Meysan Lake
Muir, Mt.	14015	Mt. Whitney	L3	Crabtree Mdw
Red Mtn	11951	Mt. Henry	L2	Courtwright Reservoir/Flemming Creek
Sawtooth Peak	12343	Mineral King	S2	Mineral King/Sawtooth Pass
Silver Peak	11878	Sharktooth Peak	L2	Edison Lake
Tom, Mt.	13652	Mt. Tom	H2	Horton Creek
Tyndall, Mt.	14018	Mt. Williamson	S2	Symmes Creek/Shepherd Pass
Whitney, Mt.	14505	Mt. Whitney	L1	Crabtree Mdw
"	"	"	S1	Whitney Portal

\* Cirque is a C peak when approached from New Army Pass.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Elev.</u>	<u>Topo map</u>	<u>Rating</u>	<u>Trailhead/Approach</u>
<u>Group E</u>				
Arrow Peak	12958	Mt. Pinchot	L2	Bench Lake
Baldwin, Mt.	12614	Convict Lake	H2	Lake Dorothy; Mildred Lake
Barnard, Mt.	13990	Mt. Williamson	L2	Wallace Lakes
Black Giant	13330	Mt. Goddard	L2	Muir Pass
Bradley, Mt.	13289	Mt. Williamson	L2	Center Basin
Crocker, Mt.	12457	Mt. Abbott	S2	McGee Creek; Rock Creek
Donohue Peak	12023	Koip Peak	S2	June Lake
Eagle Scout Peak	12040	Triple Divide Peak	L2	Crescent Mdw; Kaweah Gap
Electra Peak	12442	Mt. Lyell	L2	Twin Lakes
Emerson, Mt.	13225	Mt. Darwin	H2	North Lake/Piute Pass
Fiske, Mt.	13524	Mt. Darwin	L2	Helen Lake; Sapphire Lake
Florence, Mt.	12561	Mt. Lyell	S2	Yosemite Valley
Foerster Peak	12058	Mt. Lyell	L2	Blue Lake
Gabb, Mt.	13711	Mt. Abbott	L2	Lake Italy
Henry, Mt.	12196	Blackcap Mtn	S2	Courtwright Reservoir
Hilgard, Mt.	13361	Mt. Elgard	L2	Lake Italy
Hopkins, Mt.	12302	Mt. Abbott	S2	Rock Creek
Huntington, Mt.	12405	Mt. Abbott	H2	Rock Creek
"	"	"	L2	Pioneer Lake
Marion Peak	12719	Marion Peak	L2	Marion Lake
Merced Peak	11726	Merced Peak	S2	Yosemite Valley
Midway Mtn	13666	Mt. Brewer	L3	Milestone Creek; Colby Lakes
Morrison, Mt.	12268	Convict Lake	H2	Convict Lake
Pinchot, Mt.	13495	Mt. Pinchot	L3	Pinchot Pass
Red Slate Mtn	13163	Convict Lake	S2	McGee Creek
Rixford, Mt.	12890	Mt. Clarence King	S2	Onion Valley
Sill, Mt.	14162	North Palisade	L3	Palisade Basin
Silliman, Mt.	11188	Mt. Silliman	S2	Lodgepole/Twin Lakes
Stanford, Mt.	12851	Mt. Abbott	S2	McGee Creek; Rock Creek
Striped Mtn	13189	Mt. Pinchot	L2	Taboose Pass
Triple Divide Peak	12634	Triple Divide Peak	L3	Tamarack Lake; Nine Lake Basin
Woodworth, Mt.	12219	North Palisade	L2	Middle Fork Kings River
<u>Group F</u>				
Brewer, Mt.	13570	Mt. Brewer	S2	Cedar Grove
Conness, Mt.	12590	Tioga Pass	S3	Young Lakes
"	"	"	H3	Saddlebag Lake
Goddard, Mt.	13568	Mt. Goddard	L2	Wanda Lake
Kaweah, Mt.	13802	Mt. Kaweah	L2	Big Arroyo
Lyell, Mt.	13114	Mt. Lyell	L2	Tuolumne Mdw
Maclure, Mt.	12988	Mt. Lyell	S3	Tuolumne Mdw
Matterhorn Peak	12264	Matterhorn Peak	H2	Twin Lakes
Olancho Peak	12123	Olancho Peak	H2	Sage Flats
"	"	"	L2	Cottonwood
Ritter, Mt.	13157	Mt. Ritter	S3	1000 Island Lake

<u>Name</u>	<u>Elev.</u>	<u>Topo map</u>	<u>Rating</u>	<u>Trailhead/Approach</u>
Split Mtn	14058	Split Mtn	S3	Red Mtn Creek
"	"	"	L2	Upper Basin
University Peak	13632	Mt. Williamson	S2	Onion Valley
"	"	"	L2	Center Basin
Williamson, Mt.	14375	Mt. Williamson	S2	George Creek

### Approved Peaks - Philmont

Baldy Mtn	12441
Cimarroncito	10468

There are also peaks that may be climbed for Mini-Peak Bagger credit. However, only two peak climbs on a single Philmont trek may be used toward earning an GLAAC-sponsored award. Both may be Peak Bagger or Mini-Peak Bagger, or one for each award. Crew Leaders must advise Philmont - Logistics, before beginning the trek, of any peak climb to be taken that is not on the route of its approved itinerary.



## **Mini-Peak Bagger Award**

The Mini-Peak Bagger Program is offered by the Greater Los Angeles Area Council to acquaint Units with backcountry experiences that include elements of backpacking, peak climbing, and conservation work. The Unit Leadership is encouraged to use these outings as an opportunity for developing outdoor skills and working on related merit badges. As most of these peaks are within easy reach for one-day outings, Units that are unable to take overnight backpacking trips can participate in this challenging program. It is hoped that these peak climbing experiences will prepare and lead each hiker into the broadest participation in the High Adventure Program of the GLAAC-HAT. The awards are shown on the back cover.

There are three Mini-Peak Bagger awards, which are earned when a total of 8, 16, and 24 different peaks from the Approved Peaks list are climbed and all other requirements are satisfied. There is no time limit for earning these awards. Therefore, it is essential that an accurate record be maintained to ensure that each participant receives proper credit. The Mini-Peak Bagger Award Record (available at <https://www.glaac-hat.org/ApplicationForms.html>) is suggested for this purpose. It is also to be used in applying for an award.

A Unit may request to climb a peak that is not on the approved list, or to use an alternate trailhead for climbing an approved peak. Such a request must be made in writing, at least four weeks prior to the peak climb. The GLAAC-HAT will consider the request at its next scheduled meeting and respond in writing. To be eligible for award credit, the summit of a peak must be line-of-sight from an established trail or the trailhead, have an elevation between 5,000 and 10,000 feet, and have an elevation gain of 800 or more feet from the trailhead. A request is to contain the peak name, elevation, topographical map coverage, trailhead or approach to be taken, and any other pertinent information. However, any peak or trailhead that have conditions that require the use of ropes and/or technical hardware or, otherwise, fall under the National Council policy stated in Climb On Safely will not be approved.

Information about many of these peaks may be found in Trails of the Angeles and San Bernardino Mountain Trails by John Robinson, On Foot in Joshua Tree National Park by Patty Furbush, and the Sierra Club Los Angeles Chapter's "100 Peak Section Peak Bagger Guide." Your GLAAC-HAT District Representative is also an information source.

*"Nothing of worth or weight can be  
achieved with half a mind, with a faint  
heart, or with lame endeavor"*

*Barrow*



### **Difficulty Scale**

These ratings are provided to assist the Unit Leadership in selecting peak climbs and participating in the Mini-Peak Bagger Program. They are, by nature, subjective, and actual experience will vary from Unit to Unit. The plan which you prepare for the outing will give you the actual hiking distance and elevation gains for each peak. Start with some easy ones and build your program to progressively include peaks of greater difficulty.



<u>Name</u>	<u>Elevation</u>	<u>Topographic Map</u>	<u>Trailhead/Approach</u>	<u>Difficulty</u>
<u>San Bernardino National Forest</u>				
Bertha Peak	8201	Fawnskin	Big Bear Ranger Station	E - M
Allen Peak	5795	Forest Falls	Wilson Creek	E - M
Birch Mountain	7826	Forest Falls	Oak Glen Ranger Station	M
Little San Gorgonio	9133	Forest Falls	Little San Gorgonio Trail	S
Wilshire Peak	8707	Forest Falls	Wilshire Peak Trail	M
Apache Peak	7567	Idyllwild	Morris Ranch Road	M - S
Slide Peak	7841	Keller Peak	Lookout Road	E
Mineral Mountain	7230	Onyx Peak	Round Valley Campground	E
Suicide Rock	7528	San Jacinto Peak	Deer Spring Trail	E
<u>Los Padres National Forest</u>				
McDonald Peak	6870	Alamo Mountain	Snowy Creek or Alder Creek	E - M
Snowy Peak	6559	Alamo Mountain	Snowy Creek or Buck Creek	M
Black Mountain No. 2	6216	Black Mountain	Buck Creek	M
White Mountain No. 2	6253	Black Mountain	Buck Creek	M
Frazier Mountain	8013	Frazier Mountain	Chuchupate Campground	E - M
Antimony Peak	6848	Pleito Hills	Road End	E - M
Grouse Mountain	8650	Sawmill Mountain	(optional)	E
Sawmill Mountain No. 1	8750	Sawmill Mountain	(optional)	E
<u>Joshua Tree National Park</u>				
Quail Mountain	5814	Indian Cove	Juniper Flat	M
Eureka Peak	5516	Joshua Tree South	Black Rock Canyon C. G.	E - M
Inspiration Mountain	5575	Keys View	Keys View Road	E
Ryan Mountain	5457	Keys View	Sheep Pass	E - M
Lost Horse Mountain	5188	Keys View	Keys View Road	E
Queen Mountain	5687	Queen Mountain	Queen Valley	M
Bernard Peak	5360	Rockhouse Canyon	Pleasant Valley	M
<u>Other Southern California Locations</u>				
Cuyamaca Peak	6510	Cuyamaca Peak	(optional)	E - M
Little Stonewall Peak	5250	Cuyamaca Peak	Los Cabellos Campground	E
Stonewall Peak	5730	Cuyamaca Peak	Paso Picacho Campground	E

#### Philmont Scout Ranch \*\*

Peaks from the following list that are climbed while on a trek may be used to satisfy the requirement for a Mini-Peak Bagger award.

Burn Peak    9938 feet

Hart Peak    7978 feet

\*\* There are also peaks that may be climbed for Peak Bagger credit. However, only two peak climbs on a single trek may be used toward earning a GLAAC-sponsored award; both may be Mini-Peak Bagger or Peak Bagger, or one for each award. Crew Leaders must advise Philmont - Logistics, before beginning the trek, of any peak climb to be taken that is not on the route of its approved itinerary.



## Other Climbing Awards

The Greater Los Angeles Area Council is not the only Council in Southern California to offer an award that is based upon climbing one or more designated peaks. Units that are interested in learning about them are advised to check with the Councils listed below to get an understanding of what may be involved. Any questions about earning and obtaining any of these awards must be directed to the sponsoring Council. It is advisable to do so before beginning any activity to earn one of them. The Council may be the only source for acquiring the patch, although arrangements can sometimes be made through the Scout Shop in the Cushman Watt Scout Center.

The following is a listing of those Councils, the name of the award(s), and a brief statement about the requirements.

### California Inland Empire Council

- ◆ Mt. Baden-Powell: day hike. Trailhead-optional.
- ◆ 9 Peaks Honor Award: 3-day trek on San Gorgonio Massif. Trailhead-Forest Falls.
- ◆ San Bernardino Peak: weekend trek. Trailhead: Angelus Oaks or Forsee Creek.
- ◆ Mt. San Antonio: day hike. Trailhead-Baldy Village Ranger Station. Other unique requirements.
- ◆ 3-T's Trail Award: backpack-Telegraph, Thunder Timber Peaks, Trailhead-Icehouse Canyon.

### Long Beach Area Council

- ◆ Broken Arrow Trail Medal: 4-day trek on San Gorgonio Massif. Trailhead-Camp Tahquitz.

### Los Padres Council

- ◆ Seven Sisters: day hike. See award brochure.

### Orange County Council

- ◆ High Low Award: backpack to Mt. Whitney and in Death Valley. Trailhead-optional.
- ◆ White Mountain: Day hike and summit White Mountain (14,246' elevation) in the Inyo-White Range.
- ◆ Mount Whitney Day Trek: In-and- out trek in a 24-hour period. Trailhead-Whitney Portal.
- ◆ Santiago Peak: 15 mile round trip day hike to the summit of Orange County's highest peak at 5,687'; features a 4,000' elevation gain.
- ◆ Telescope Peak: Day hike and summit 11,049' Telescope Peak in Death Valley National Park. Camp at Mahogany Flat Campground (8,133' elevation) the night before the trek.
- ◆ 3 Saints Award: Summit Mt. San Antonio (Mt. Baldy), Mt. San Jacinto, and Mt. San Gorgonio within a 15 month period.
- ◆ Eagle Scout Peak Awards: climb Eagle Scout Peak in the Sequoia backcountry. See award brochure.

### San Diego-Imperial Council

- ◆ Mt. San Gorgonio: weekend trek. Trailhead-optional.
- ◆ Mt San Jacinto: weekend trek. Trailhead-optional.

### Southern Sierra Council

- ◆ Mount Whitney Trail: 3 or 4-day trek. Trailhead-Whitney Portal.

Western Los Angeles County Council

- ◆ 14,505' Club: 3 or more day trek to Mt Whitney. Trailhead-optional.

Remember that Councils regularly create new awards, and some of them may include a peak climb. The GLAAC-HAT attempts to advise Scout leaders through its literature and website as this happens, but communication breakdowns do occur. Talk to members of the High Adventure Team and others who are active in outdoor programs and ask as to new awards being offered.



*"A journey is a person in itself, no two are alike.  
And all our plans, safeguards, policing, and coercion are fruitless.  
We find after years of struggle that we do not take a trip;  
a trip takes us."*

*John Steinbeck*

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*"The land belongs. It has been there forever – in people terms – carved by the wind, gashed by rivers, shoved violently upward by volcanic explosion, twisted into odd shapes by eons of erosion, but always enduring, and accepting those forms of life which are able or willing to adapt themselves to the environment."*

*John Milton, The Writer's West*



(Patch size: 3" x 3" each)

*"Go expressly to enjoy the moon and it turns to tinsel, but discover it on a necessary journey and its beauty bathes the soul."*

Ralph Waldo Emerson