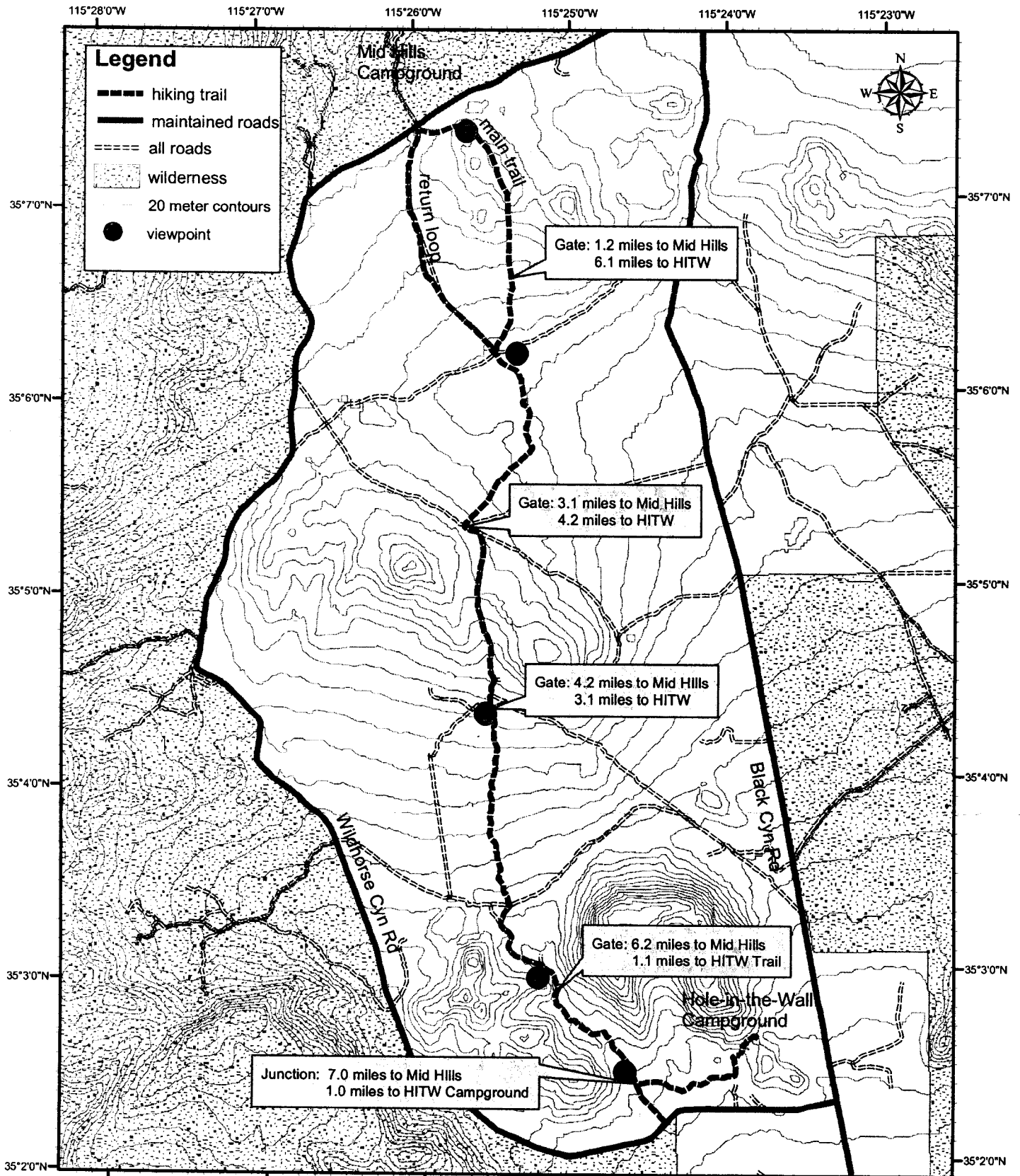




Hole-in-the-Wall to Mid Hills Trail



THE TRAIL

History: The trail was designed by the Bureau of Land Management and constructed by the California Conservation Corps in 1991 for hikers and equestrians to enjoy the beauty of the East Mojave National Scenic Area.

Distance: Eight miles one way, with a 1,200 foot elevation loss from the Mid Hills trailhead to the Hole in The Wall Visitor Center.

Terrain: Gentle to moderately steep slopes, with several sandy washes and areas of loose rock.

Highlights: The trail leads through pinon, juniper, and a "devil's garden" of cactus. Many scenic points of interest along the way (see map on reverse).

Precautions: The trail is fully signed, however it requires a good eye to stay on course as it enters and leaves washes.

Restrictions:

* Non-road portions of the trail are closed to bikes and motor vehicles.

* Hunting is permitted in the National Preserve, subject to Federal, State, and local regulations.

Shooting is prohibited in the Mid Hills and Hole in The Wall campgrounds, and where prohibited by signs.

* There are no sanitary facilities on the trail. For disposal of human waste, dig a hole six to eight inches deep, located more than 100 feet from the trail. Cover all waste and toilet paper with soil.

* Permits may be required for campfires at certain times of the year.

* Pack out what you pack in. DO NOT bury trash. Animals often uncover and scatter it.

MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE

The Mojave is a unique desert region, with many scenic, historic, and natural wonders. Administered by the National Park Service (NPS), it was designated as a National Preserve in 1994, and is an integral part of the California Desert Protection Act, which was passed by Congress in 1994.

WEATHER

Nothing is as certain as the unpredictability of the weather. Be prepared for extreme variations in temperature, particularly in winter, when snow is not uncommon. Summers are hot, with daytime highs often above 100 degrees.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

National Park Service
Mojave National Preserve
Hole in the Wall Visitor Center
P.O. Box 56, Essex, CA 92332
(760) 928-2572

The Visitor Center is open Tues-Sun, from 9am to 4pm.

National Park Service
222 E. Main Street, Suite 202
Barstow, CA 92311
(760) 252-6122

NPS Rangers patrol the Preserve, to protect natural resources, and to assist visitors. They can provide you with additional information and maps, or you can stop by the Hole in The Wall Visitor Center while in the area.

POINTS OF INTEREST

ROUND VALLEY (1)

The key to the cattle business in this portion of the Mojave National Preserve, which began in the 1860's near Round Valley, has always been control of water sources. In 1925, one of the last gunfights of the old west occurred at Government Holes, one of the few reliable water holes in this area, about four miles from where you are now standing. Two men emptied their six-shooters, both men died.

TABLE MOUNTAIN (2)

This mountain is actually a mesa, rising 1,000 feet above the valley floor. It is visible from many locations in the Preserve, and has served as a landmark for Native Americans as well as travelers passing through the region.

WILD HORSE MESA (3)

Wild Horse Mesa is one of the largest mesas in southern California. Iron-rich lava flows contribute to its dramatic contrasts of color. It was named by Jack Mitchell, who also discovered Mitchell Cavers.

OPALITE CLIFFS (4)

Steep white cliffs provide a scenic landmark, and offer a stark contrast to the surrounding landscape.

HOLE IN THE WALL (5)

Hole in the Wall was named by Bob Hollimon, a famous gunfighter, and a member of the Butch Cassidy gang, because it reminded him of his former hideout in Wyoming.