

MATAGUAY LOOP TRAIL ROUTE EAST FROM PARKER DINING HALL CLOCKWISE AROUND CAMP

This describes a 5-mile loop through camp that starts at the Parker Lake Dining Hall. From the Dining Hall, go to the telephone pole at right rear of the building. Find the Blackfoot trail here and follow it above the campfire bowl to the paved road (0.1). Cross the road and follow this trail across a dirt road to Pawnee and past a new trail, which will go to the Blackfoot Fort Bridge, to the Hopi Campsite near the Nature Den (0.3).

Follow the dirt road, as it climbs above the Nature Den to the Crow Campsite (0.1). Turn up here, staying about 30' to the right of the flagpole, walk about 170' to the new North-Side Trail. It drops, right, across a major gulley and contours to the junction of the future North Side Trail and the Nature trail. (0.1) Take the right branch and follow the nature trail as it drops to the Mataguay Connector Trail and follows it to the Barn Bridge Trail Jct. (0.3). You have traveled 0.9 miles from Silva Lodge and will return to this point on your way back to Silva.

Continue up the canyon past the Upper Lake Lateral trail (0.4) and through a gate (0.4). As the trail enters an area with ribbon wood "trees" look for a trail coming across a culvert on the right (0.14). Here the Mataguay Connector Trail continues left up hill. It eventually will connect with the Pacific Crest Trail.

Instead turn right across the culvert and follow it to a road at the back gate (0.14) (2.0 Miles). Take this road downhill to a road going left (0.36). Follow it up the hill past a water tank (0.1) and look for a path leading up to a trail. Follow this trail as it descends to Treanor's Grave (0.1). Continue down a temporary trail and new trail to a trail going north from Upper Lake (0.2). Turn right and follow the Upper Lake Lateral Trail back across a dirt road to the MCT. (0.3) (Mile 2.9)

Here we turn left and follow the MCT down to the Barn Bridge (0.4). When the MCT is completed down the canyon the South side trail will use it to go around the south side of camp. For now we use a temporary route that crosses the picnic table bridge and follow the old road to the right. At the top of the hill, go right to the Old Commissary (0.1). Here you can usually get water.

To pick up our temporary route now we walk 100' to the Spine Trail at a pole barrier near a small tool shed (3.5 mile mark).

Follow this trail as it wanders through the woods to the Slant Bridge Trail (0.1), turn right and cross the bridge to the road through Blackfoot (0.1). Turn left on this road and look for a telephone pole with 2 transformers on it. It will point you in the direction of the SE corner of the Blackfoot pool. Go around the creek side of this pool and drop down to the Blackfoot Bridge (0.2). Cross this bridge; go left around the Blackfoot Fort to the front gate.

Now cross the paved road and walk down an old road for 100' to a point where the OA path goes left. Turn right to the Kumeyaay restroom with a drinking fountain (0.1) (4 mile mark). From here the access road drops 100 yards down to a junction with another road near a pond.

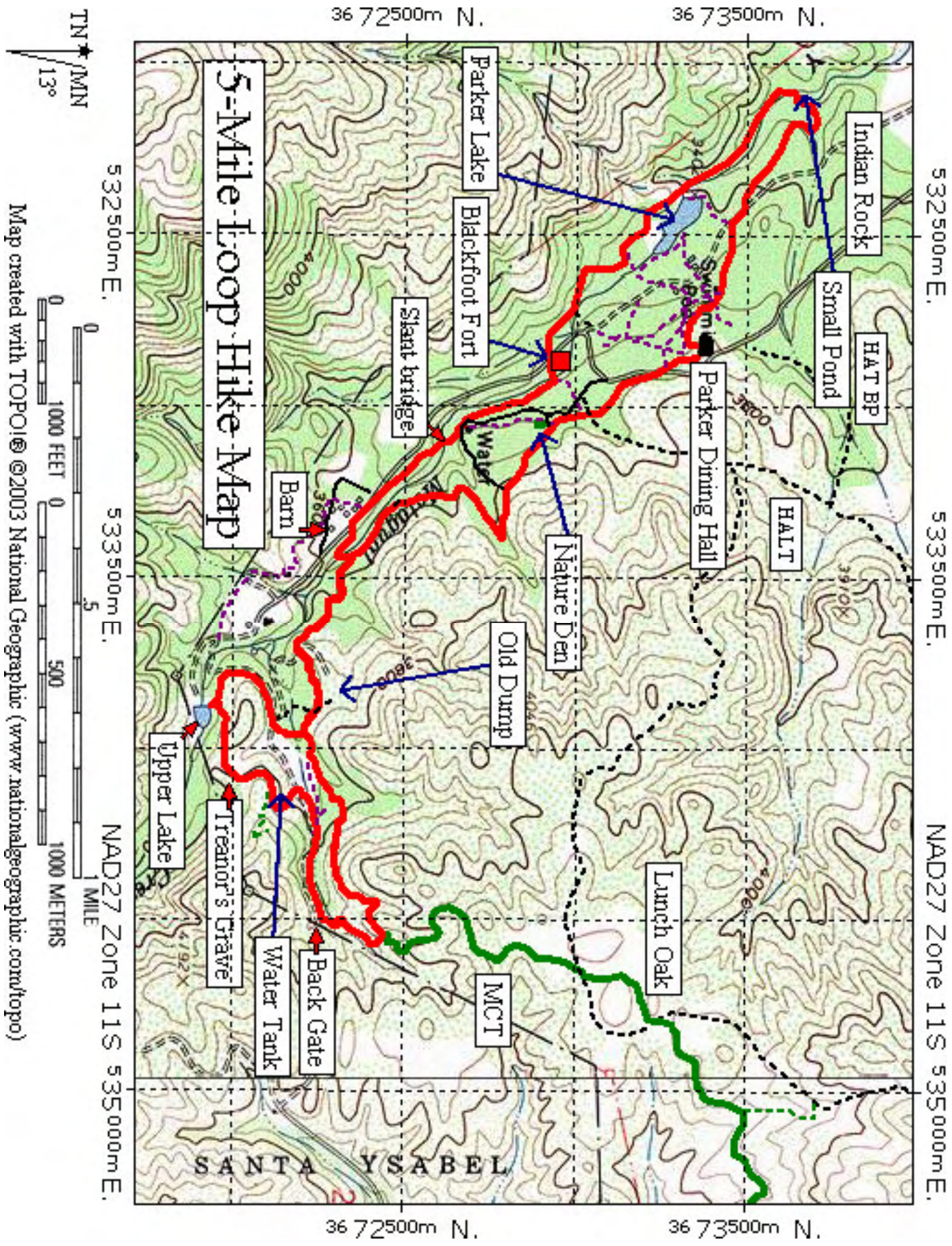
Turn left and follow this road to its end near the ranges (0.3). Follow the trail along the range fence that goes up the hill to the last range. This trail continues down past the Parker Lake spillway (0.1) and on down the canyon to a side wash crossing at burned tree (0.3). Now our route drifts right for 200' down to a creek side boulder. (4.7 miles)

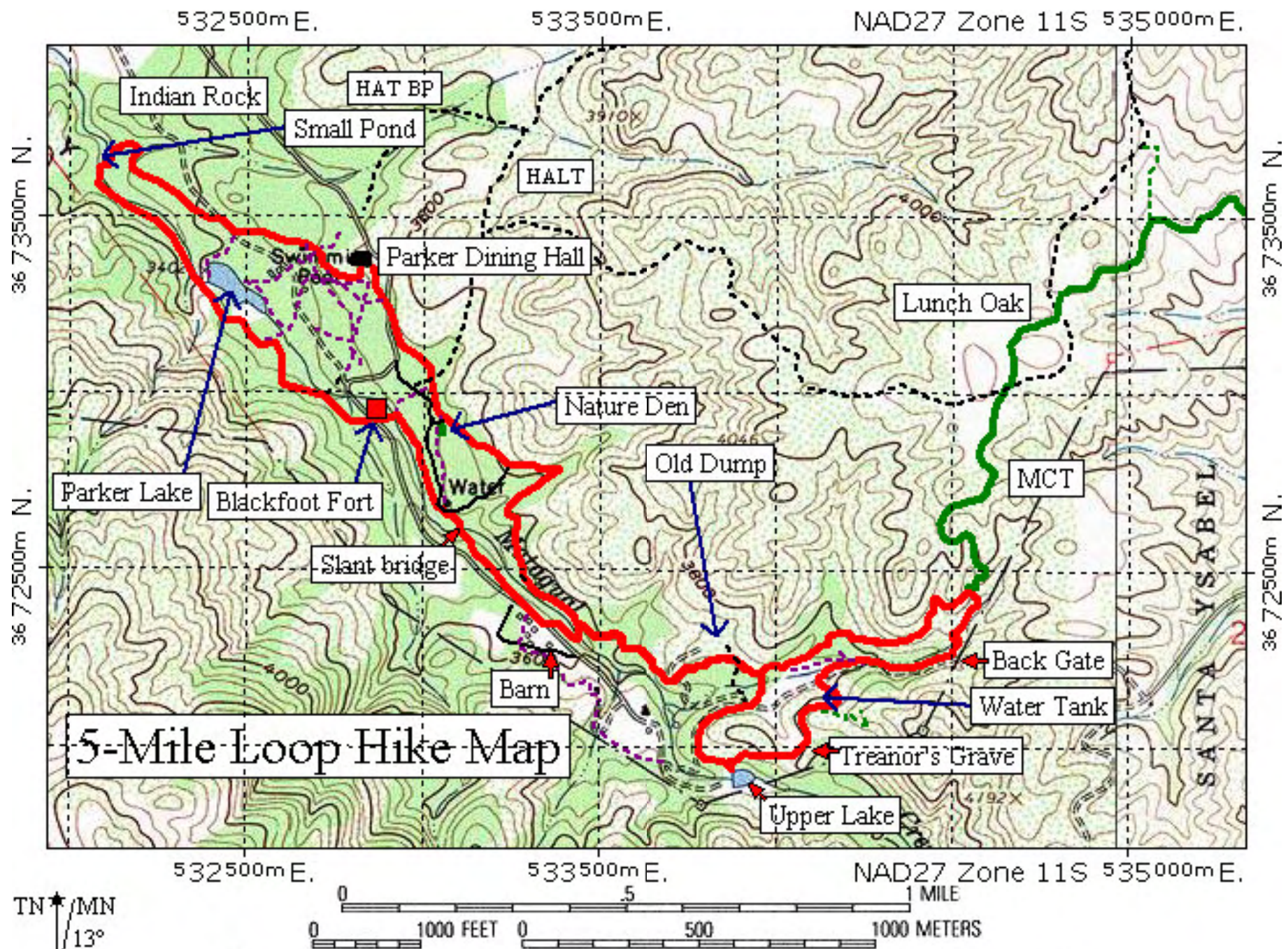
Use this boulder to cross the creek and climb up to the first tree. Go around this tree to a pond and then around the pond to a sandy area. Turn right up a wash to a 2' diameter oak. Here find a use trail that takes you up on to the north bank of the wash and follow it up the canyon about 150' to a burned snag near the creek bottom (0.1). Switchback around this tree to the wash bottom and follow the use path from near this snag steeply up the opposite slope to a flat near an old stove stand.

Go south through a clearing to a boulder and turn left to find the remains of an old road. Follow this road up through camps to the paved road at 2 phone pole stumps (0.2) (5 miles). Turn right and go 150 yards up the road. Just past the first campsite look for an orange arrow on a tree. It points the way to a path that leads to a large stump. Here you turn half right and the path leads to the north side of Silva Lodge (0.2) (5.2 miles)

At the "Reverent" sign take a 20-degree turn to the right and follow the new trail uphill. It curves to the right around the slope. Keep to the left at a trail junction and you will come to the Campfire circle. Climb up the steps to the Dining Hall. (0.1)

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