

## CHUCKWALLA MOUNTAIN 3446 FEET CLASS 2

MILEAGE: 201 miles of paved road, 15.4 miles of good dirt, 1.5 miles of fair dirt, 0.3 miles of poor to 4WD road.

DRIVE: From Desert Center, CA. drive 9.3 miles E on Interstate 10 to the signed Corn Springs Road exit. Turn right (S) at the off-ramp stop sign and follow the paved, signed Chuckwalla Valley Road eastward for 13 miles to the signed, excellent dirt Graham Pass Road. If you're approaching from Blythe, CA on I-10, drive approximately 22 miles W to the Ford Dry Lake offramp. Exiting here, drive S over the freeway to the signed Chuckwalla Valley Road. Turn right (W) and drive 3.0 miles to the signed Graham Pass Road. Turn S, bearing left at a fork in 5.7 miles. Continuing another 9.7 miles (over Graham Pass) to a faint dirt road heading right or NW (marked #588). (As a navigational check here, 0.35 miles further W on the Graham Pass Road will bring you to its junction with the Bradshaw Trail, signed SR301. A sign explaining the features of the Chuckwalla Bench ACEC is posted at this intersection). Follow the faint dirt road NW for 1.5 miles to a junction where it makes a sharp left turn down into a rocky wash. 2WD's park here. 4WD's turn right, continuing another 0.3 miles up a steep, rocky road to where it begins curving left. Park. Vehicle parking and turnaround space is limited here. Note: road is over grown as of 11/20/17, so this may not be an option.

NOTE: This area is the site of a patented mining claim. It would probably be wise to park here only for as long as it takes to do the peak. Overnight camping is not recommended in this area. (Follow up note: no signs of active mining were found on 11/20/17. A fire was found at the 2WD parking area.)

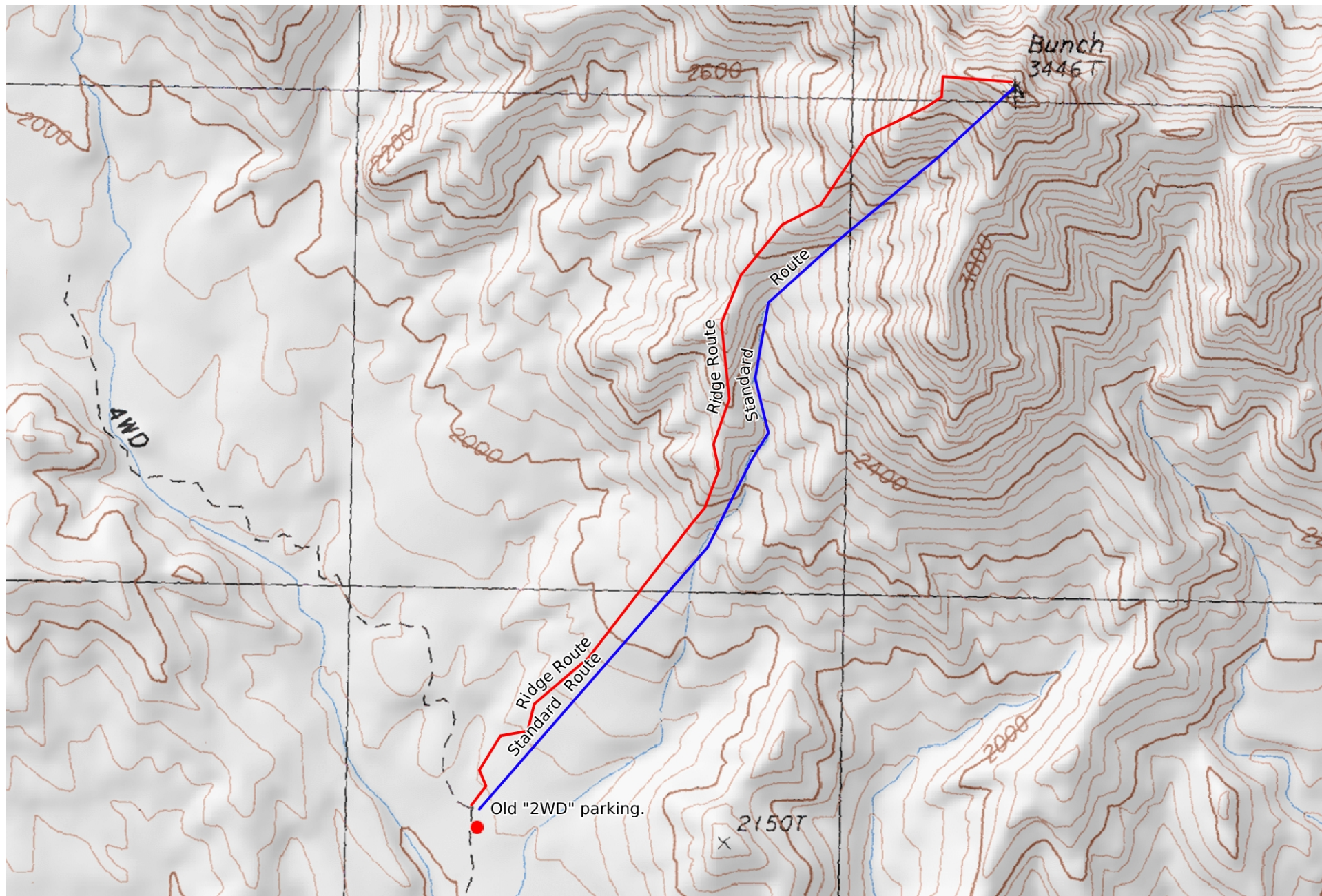
DRIVE/ALTERNATE: If approaching Chuckwalla from Black Butte via the Bradshaw Trail, proceed as follows: From the junction of the Bradshaw Trail and the faint Black Butte dirt road turnoff (see BLACK BUTTE, Guide No. 4.7, Drive/Approach A), drive E on the Bradshaw Trail 14.5 miles to its intersection with the Graham Pass Road at the above-mentioned Chuckwalla Bench ACEC sign. Bear left on the Graham Pass Road, driving 0.35 miles to a faint dirt road heading left (NW). Follow the faint dirt road 1.5 miles to a junction where it makes a sharp left turn down into a rocky wash. 2WD's park here. 4WD's turn right, continuing another 0.3 miles up a steep, rocky road to where it begins curving left. Park. Vehicle parking and turnaround space is limited here.

CLIMB: From the 4WD parking spot, hike toward the mountain at a 75° bearing, dropping into a wash in about 0.2 miles. Following the wash generally N to the summit ridge, turn right (E) for a short walk to the top. Summit views reveal Chuckwalla to be a surprisingly rugged desert peak from many sides.

ROUND TRIP STATS/4WD: 1500 feet elevation gain, 2.5 miles, 2.5 hours

ROUND TRIP STATS/2WD: 1600 feet elevation gain, 3.0 miles, 3 hours

Revised 11/14/17



Mercator Projection  
WGS84  
USNG Zone 11SPT  
CalTopo.com

