Segment 1 - East Mojave Heritage Trail

Detour for closure of the Underground Telephone Cable Road

The East Mojave Heritage Trail shares a route with the Mojave Road on the Underground Telephone Cable Road at EMHT mile 57.6. The EMHT stays on the Mojave Road until EMHT mile 76.6, Carruthers Canyon Road. This is in normal road conditions. From time to time a short portion of this route over the Piute Mountains becomes impassable due to erosion mainly due to monsoonal rains. When that happens the MDHCA has worked out a detour that regains the East Mojave Heritage Trail in the eastern part of Lanfair Valley, EMHT mile 64.4.

The EMHT detour route will begin at mile 49.1 (map page 110 and text on page 118). The EMHT original text tells you to turn hard right, however, the detour requires that you turn left. This intersection will be mile 0.0 of the detour route, below.

0.0  N35° 1.76' W115° 2.10'  (Elevation 3,204 feet)  Turn left and continue ahead 0.2 mile to:

0.2  N35° 1.79’ W115° 2.30’  (Elevation 3,237 feet)  There is a large quartz rock outcrop on the left, about 30 feet off the road. 0.4 mile to:

0.6  N35° 2.05’ W115° 2.52’  (Elevation 3,310 feet)  The road climbs to the right, up out of the wash in which you have been driving. 0.2 mile to:

0.8  N35° 2.21’ W115° 2.61’  (Elevation 3,311 feet)  Heading north. From this vantage point is a 180-degree scenic view. To the west are the Providence and Hackberry Mountains. To the north are the Castle Peaks and Castle Mountains. To the east lies the Piute Range. 0.2 mile to:

1.0  N35° 2.38’ W115° 2.66’  (Elevation 3,311 feet)  The bell-shaped hill ahead to the left is called Billie Mountain. 0.4 mile to:

1.4  N35° 2.71’ W115° 2.79’  (Elevation 3,303 feet)  Cross a sandy wash. 0.0+ mile to:

1.4+ N35° 2.75’ W115° 2.78’  (Elevation 3,295 feet)  You are now adjacent to Billie Mountain on your left. To your right is the area known as Tungsten Flat. Debris and ruins of the Craig family home site are about 100 yards off the road to the right, among the smooth quartz monzonite boulders. The ruins are not visible from the road. 0.2 mile to:

1.6  N35° 2.88’ W115° 2.81’  (Elevation 3,297 feet)  There is a mine shaft to the immediate right of the road with a bat gate on top. Early settlers obtained water here. 0.1 mile to:

1.7  N35° 2.95’ W115° 2.84’  (Elevation 3,304 feet)  There are two more mine shafts to the immediate left of the road covered with protective bat gates. These cage-type gates seal off dangerous abandoned mines while allowing free movement of bat populations roosting in the cave-like microclimates of mine shafts. 0.2 mile to:
1.9  N35° 3.14’ W115° 2.88’ (Elevation 3,285 feet) There is a “Y” in the road, adjacent to an extensive fenced-in mine area on the left. Keep to the right. 0.3 mile to:

2.2  N35° 3.35’ W115° 2.83’ (Elevation 3,280 feet) The Castle Peaks and Castle Mountains are visible on the horizon far to the north. 0.4 mile to:

2.6  N35° 3.75’ W115° 2.90’ (Elevation 3,272 feet) A road comes in from the right. This road is in the wash and easy to miss. Ignore it and continue ahead. 0.4 mile to:

3.0  N35° 3.99’ W115° 3.13’ (Elevation 3,251 feet) Cross a big wash and continue ahead, beyond the wash. This is the Sacramento Wash, which drains a large area of Lanfair Valley, eventually emptying into Piute Wash just north of Klinefelter. 0.3 mile to:

3.3  N35° 4.21’ W115° 3.23’ (Elevation 3,279 feet) This cleared area to the right was once a watering place for cattle. Beyond this point there is a water line adjacent to the road. 1.6 miles to:

4.9  N35° 5.63’ W115° 3.13’ (Elevation 3,423 feet) There are two mounds of dirt about fifty and one-hundred feet off to the right. 0.7 mile to:

5.6  N35° 6.19’ W115° 3.11’ (Elevation 3,452 feet) Intersection with the Underground Telephone Cable Road. Continue across. 0.3 mile to:

5.9  N35° 6.43’ W115° 3.17’ (Elevation 3,467 feet) Intersection with the East Mojave Heritage Trail at Mile 64.4 on page 141, Map on page 140.

You have now regained the EMHT