

## Cerro Noroeste 04F

Lat/Lon 34.8308108,-119.2034437  
UTM 11S 298502E 3856494N

Elevation: 8286'

View Caltopo [map](#) or download [GPX](#)

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Cerro Noroeste on [Peakbagger.com](#)

Current Weather on [NOAA](#)

Location: Kern County, about 16 miles west of Frazier Park, 95 miles from Los Angeles

Nearby peaks: Grouse Mountain, Sawmill Mountain, Mount Pinos

Land Manager: Los Padres National Forest, Mount Pinos Ranger District (661) 245-3731

**USE AT YOUR OWN RISK. CONDITIONS MAY CHANGE, AND UNEXPECTED HAZARDS MAY BE PRESENT.**

### About the peak

Once referred to as Mount Abel, after a Kern County supervisor responsible for building the road to the peak, the name fell out of favor when his Ku Klux Klan affiliation was disclosed, prompting the USGS in 1989 to assert its original Spanish name. The name persists on the benchmark, however. Cerro Noroeste is one of several peaks where the location of the HPS summit is different from the USGS summit.

Although Cerro Noroeste can be a drive-up peak (Route 1), it is usually paired with some or all of the remaining peaks on the ridge to Pinos (Route 2). There is a nice and sparsely visited campground on top.

Please keep the register hidden since it is so close to the campground. Mount Pinos, Sawmill Mountain and Grouse Mountain, and Cerro Noroeste (Mt. Abel) are often combined as a car shuttle trip from Pinos to Cerro Noroeste, 7.5 miles with 2100' gain. By reversing the climbing instructions, it can be done in the reverse order.

Cerro Noroeste has 2 official HPS routes:

## Cerro Noroeste Route 1- Driveup

Distance: None

Gain: None

Time: None

Difficulty rating: Drive-up

Navigation difficulty: Easy

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Road type: Paved

Adventure Pass may be required

### Driving directions:

- Go north on I-5 to the Frazier Park exit.
- Go west 7.2 miles past Frazier Park and on to Lake of the Woods.
- Keep straight here and go 5.3 miles farther to the junction with Mil Potrero Road. Turn right. Note odometer and go as follows:
- At 8.3 miles, highway junction and a ranger station at Apache Saddle. Turn left.
- At 16 miles, a circle road at the campground on the summit. Park at the south end of the circle near a restroom.

### Hiking directions:

- Hike south about 200 yards along a dirt road (which goes to a radio site) to a rockpile on the right side of the road. This is the traditional HPS summit, which differs from the USGS summit 150 yards to the east.

### Additional Route notes:

## **Cerro Noroeste Route 2- From Mount Pinos Ridge**

Distance: 3 miles one way on trail and road, 5 miles round trip from Mount Pinos trailhead

Difficulty rating: Class 1, easy

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Adventure Pass may be required

Gain: 750

Time: 1.5 hours one way

Navigation difficulty: Easy

Road type: Paved

### **Driving directions:**

- See driving directions for Grouse Mountain.

### **Hiking directions:**

- From the top of Grouse Mountain, hike north 1/4 mile back down to the trail.
- Turn left (west) on the trail and follow it down to where it meets the Mesa Spring Trail at Puerto del Suelo (the saddle between Grouse Mountain and Cerro Noroeste.)
- Continue straight (west) on the trail as it goes up a short steep section until it meets the road in Route 1.
- Turn right (north) up the road and walk 0.8 mile to the top following Route number 1 driving and hiking instructions.

### **Additional Route notes:**

From Grouse Mountain.