This Special Place

The Trap Hills area has become a popular destination for backpackers and day hikers alike. In recent years, the area has been featured in numerous hiking magazines as a “must-see.”

Composed of rocky cliffs, small streams, rolling forested hills and a variety of hardwoods, the Trap Hills area extends from the southeast corner of the Menominee National Forest and1/8 mile west to Old Victoria, and southwest of Rockland on Hwy 45. There is no complete loop trail because of some great views from many of the rock outcrops along the cliffs that dot the terrain.

Vegetation in the Trap Hills is predominantly northern hardwood forest on glacial till, with sugar and red maples, hickory, yellow birch, and aspen along most of the trails and in the ridge tops, while birch, basswood, elm, and oak dominate in the lowland forested area or near streams. There are numerous rare plants and flowers. New plants are discovered every year. This area is a great place to see native flora.

Hiking is enjoyable, and the flora is wonderful. The hills are a great place to see both spring ephemeral wildflowers in Michigan, and other specialists in their habitat.

Leaving a Good Impression

When visiting your national forests, we ask that you please TREAD LIGHTLY! to protect the environment you enjoy. Here is the TREAD LIGHTLY! challenge:

I PLEDGE TO TREAD LIGHTLY BY:

Travelling and recreating with minimum impact.
Respecting the rights of hikers, bikers, campers, skiers and others to enjoy their activities undisturbed.
Eating only by obtaining food supplies and water supplies from public agencies, complying with signs and other barriers, and asking the owner’s permission to cross private property.
Allowing for future use of the outdoors—I’ll leave an area better than I found it.
Doing responsibly to protect the environment and preserve opportunities to enjoy my vehicle on wild lands.

The Forest Service uses the most current and complete data available. GIS data and product accuracy may vary. They may be maintained or corrected with accuracy, accuracy may vary at certain scales, based on modeling or interpretation, incomplete while being created or revised, etc. Using GIS products for purposes other than those for which they were created, may violate an incorrect or misleading results. The Forest Service reserves the right to correct, update, modify, or replace GIS products without notification. The Forest Service will not be liable for any activity using this information.

For more information, contact:

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Gogebic Ridge Trail

An interesting side trip from the Bergland portion of the North Country Trail is the Gogebic Ridge Trail. It begins from a point along Forest Road 25a, one mile north of M-89 at Merriview. The trail branches east from Forest Road 25a along the north and east shore of Weary Lake to a lodge overlooking Lake Gogebic, and then northward where it intersects M-89. The trail crosses M-89 and continues east over Cookout Mountain to Old Victoria. After crossing Old M-64, the trail leads to Shell Creek and finally ends at its junction with the North Country Trail.

The Gogebic Ridge Trail is rated as moderate to difficult.

Cascade Falls Trail

Two trails lead to/from the falls. The main trail is the easiest, at 3/4 mile one way to/from the falls, with only moderate changes in elevation. The Hilt Trail, at a mile one way to/from the falls, leaves and rejoins the main trail and is quite challenging, requiring eighteen up rocks at times. This trail provides outstanding vistas. The main trail is moderately difficult due to its length, with slight elevation changes, rocks and roots on the path. This waterfall is named as it cascades over the rocks.

The trailhead for both trails can be found by traveling 7 miles northeast of Bergland on Forest Road 400 until reaching Forest Road 46.

Hacking Site Trail

This trail allows access to the Trap Hills area. Although it has minimal trail markers, and there is no official trailhead, it may be accessed from Forest Road 328. It connects to the North Country Trail near the encampment.

Other Local Amenities

The closest town to the Trap Hills area is Bergland, Michigan. Businesses include a gas station, grocery store, restaurant, bar, post office, Laundromat and motel.

The Bergland Cultural & Heritage Center. Operated by the Friends of the Bergland Cultural & Heritage Center (a non-profit organization), the Center is located in the Historic Bergland Ranger Station. The Center is open part-time during the summer season with variable hours. Area information, a walking trail and picnic tables are available.

Camping.

Several campgrounds are located on the shores of Lake Gogebic. These sites include private campgrounds, State, county and township campgrounds. Some are full-service and some are partial- or limited-service campgrounds. Camping is also available at the Porcupine Mountain Wilderness State Park located along the shore of Lake Superior.