

Lolo National Forest Trails Ninemile Ranger District

Reservation Divide East Trail #98 From the Edith Peak Road to Ch-paa-qn Peak Extended Information

Trail Attributes Table

Item	Remarks
Managed Use(s):	Hiker
Difficulty:	Moderate
Trail Length:	3 miles
Trail Termini:	The beginning of the trail is on the Edith Peak Road #476, and is a part of the much longer Reservation Divide Trail. The ending terminus for this trail is at the junction of trail #707 which is also the base of the peak. The Reservation Divide trail continues north past the peak, but most people stop at the junction (by the rock cairns) and head up the peak for the wonderful view from the top of Ch-paa-qn Peak (pronounced "Cha pa kwin").
Trail Elevation:	Begins at 6200 feet and ends near the base of the peak which is 7640 feet. Ch-paa-qn Peak's summit is 7996 feet.
Managed Use Seasons:	Late spring through late fall.
Maintenance Frequency:	Every three years
Trip Type/Duration:	Day hike.
Trail Usage:	Medium to heavy
Trailhead Facilities:	Parking
Trail Use Restrictions:	Non-motorized use only
Reference Maps:	Lolo Visitor's Map, West Half USGS Topo Map – Hewolf Mountain
Map Location:	Section 19, T16N, R21W
Associated Trails:	Reservation Divide Trail #98, Kennedy Creek Trail #746, and Ch-paa-qn Trail #707.

Attractions and Considerations

This peak marks the highest point on the Ninemile Ranger District and is a major attraction for hikers in the local area. From the summit on a clear day, a person can experience a panoramic view of the Mission Mountains, Flathead Indian Reservation, Frenchtown, Missoula, and the Bitterroot Valley. On a day with excellent visibility, one can see the Montana/Idaho divide.

There are three trails that lead to Ch-paa-qñ Peak; collectively, these are called the "Ch-paa-qñ Peak Complex." Of the three, this is the easiest hike. There is one steep pitch, but it is otherwise a moderate hike passing through many habitat types. This trail is recommended for first-time peak visitors and children.

Trail Description

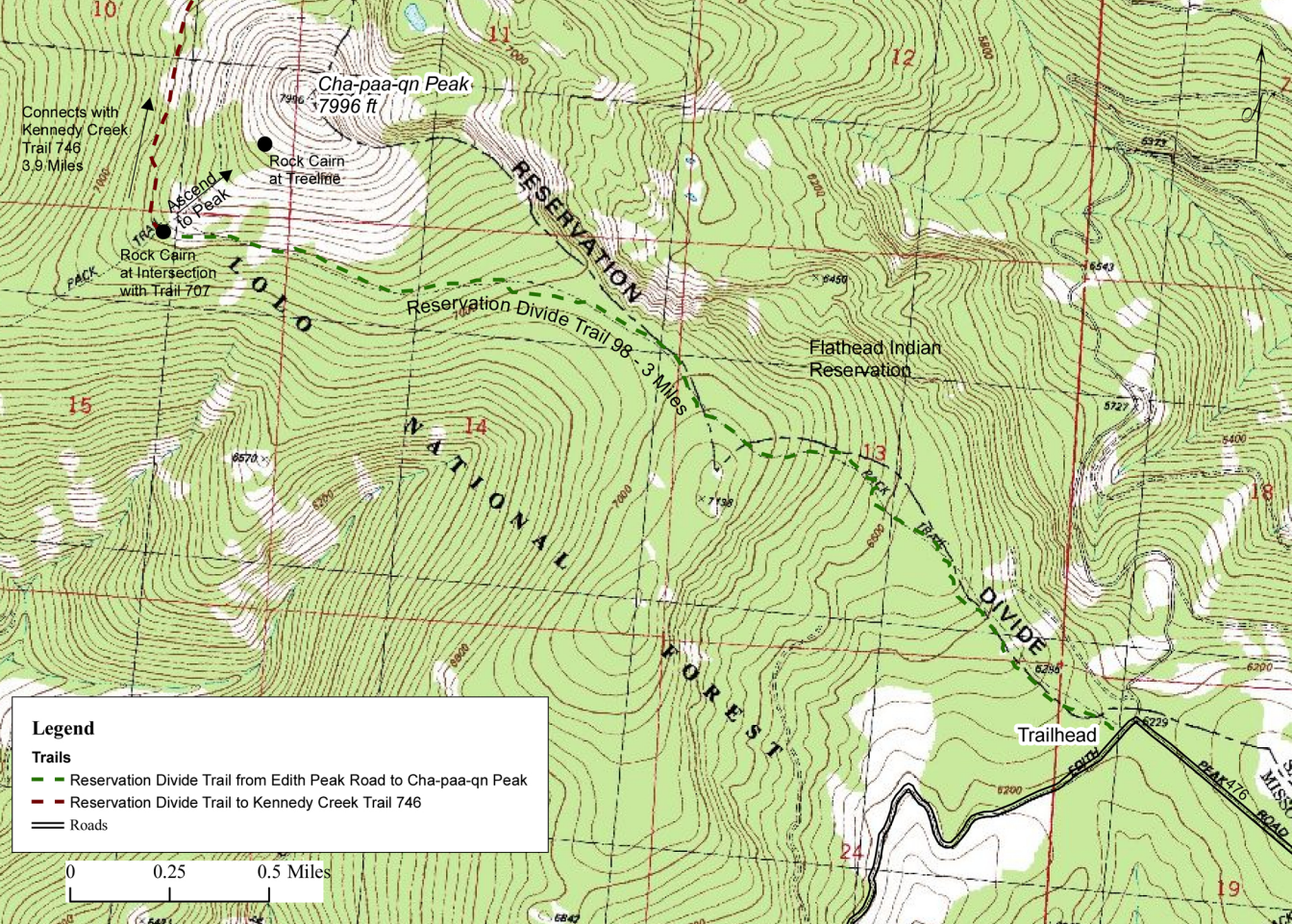
The tallis rock pinnacle of Cha-paa-qñ Peak is easily recognized and viewed from Missoula, a distance of 25 miles. The trail does not climb directly to the summit of the peak, but rather skirts the southern side of this rocky viewpoint. Hikers can reach the actual summit by leaving the trail and rock-scrambling the boulders to the peak.

Hikers are advised to pack adequate water and supplies when hiking this trail. Several options for extended loop or one-way trips exist when using this trail in conjunction with associated trails and roads in the area.

Trail Map

(trail map appears on next page)

Map note: The Reservation Divide Trail #98 continues north past the base of Ch-paa-qñ Peak, but for this write-up, we will only address the portion of trail leading up to the rock cairns at the base of Ch-paa-qñ Peak because this is the destination for most hikers on this section of trail.



Connects with
Kennedy Creek
Trail 746
3.9 Miles

Ascend
to Peak

Cha-paa-qn Peak
7996 ft

Rock Cairn
at Treeline

Rock Cairn
at Intersection
with Trail 707

RESERVATION
Divide Trail 98 - 3 Miles

Flathead Indian
Reservation

L O L O
N A T I O N A L
F O R E S T

D I V I D E

Trailhead

Edith Peak Road

Legend

Trails

— Reservation Divide Trail from Edith Peak Road to Cha-paa-qn Peak

- - - Reservation Divide Trail to Kennedy Creek Trail 746

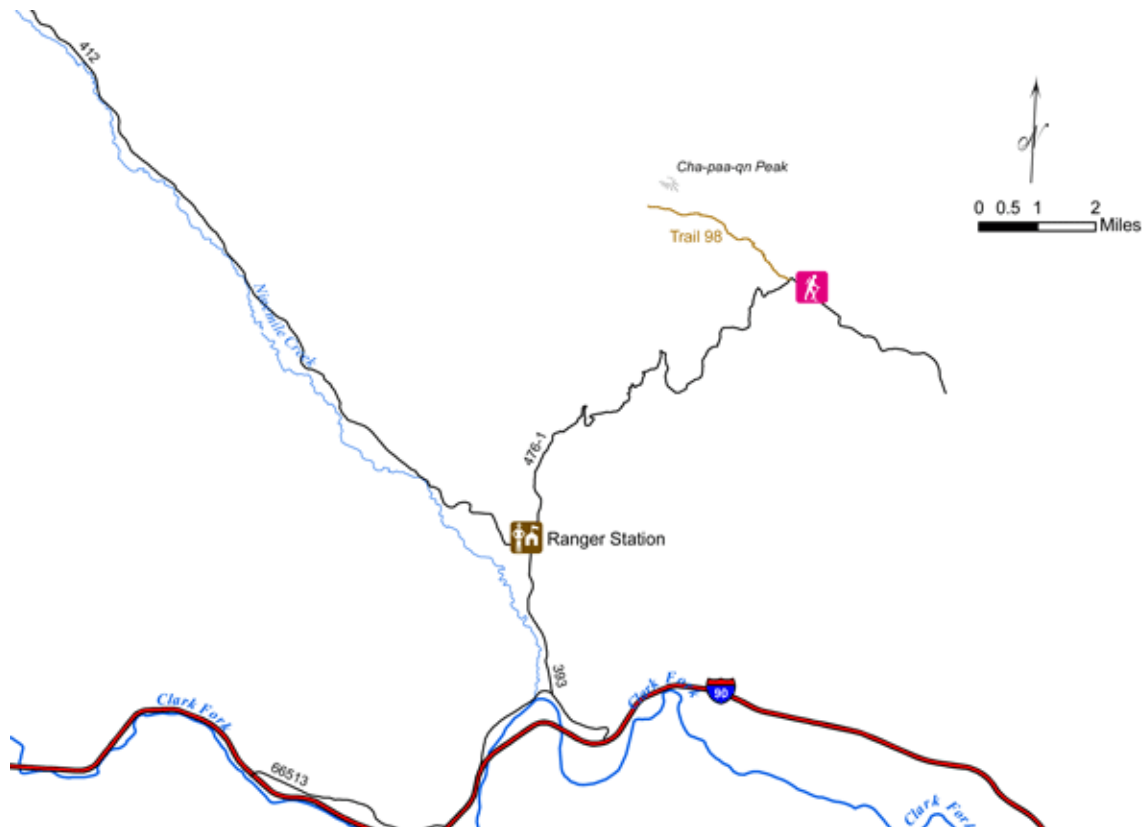
== Roads

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Trail Access

From Interstate 90, exit 82 at Ninemile, take Montana 10 west to the Remount Road. Turn north (right) and continue to the Ninemile Ranger Station. From there, continue north on the Edith Peak Road #476 for approximately 10 miles to the signed trailhead.

Access Map



Map note: The Reservation Divide Trail #98 continues north past the base of Ch-paa-qn Peak, but for this write-up, we will only address the portion of trail leading up to the rock cairns at the base of Ch-paa-qn Peak because this is the destination for most hikers on this section of trail.

Reminders

Visitors are reminded to practice Leave No Trace techniques. For details on this and other trail etiquette topics, visit our main trails page at:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/lolo/recreation-trails>

More Information

For current trail conditions and other trail information, contact the Ninemile Ranger District at (406) 626-5201, 20325 Remount Road, Huson, Montana.

To visit the ranger station: from Interstate 90, take exit 82, which is 22 miles west of Missoula, and head north. Proceed 2 miles until you reach the Remount Road, then head north again (right-hand turn) and follow the road for 3 miles to the historic Ninemile Ranger Station.