North of Burst Rock

This document contains descriptions of several crosscountry routes in the granite north of Burst Rock. To get to the trailhead, one should drive up Dodge Ridge Road, turn right at the Dodge Ridge sign, and continue about half a mile to Crabtree Road. Then one should turn right, drive to the top of the ridge, and drive through the pack station (on the left as one turns the corner at the top of the ridge). One continues up this road for another five miles (only the first mile is paved). The road ends at the Gianelli trailhead (marked as Gianelli Cabin on the map shown in Figure 1). The Crabtree Road is shown on that map with solid lines. The road marked with dashed lines is the Gooseberry Road, which comes up from the Dodge Ridge Ski Area loop road. The Crabtree Road is driveable with a 2-wheel drive vehicle; the Gooseberry Road should probably be avoided with such vehicles.
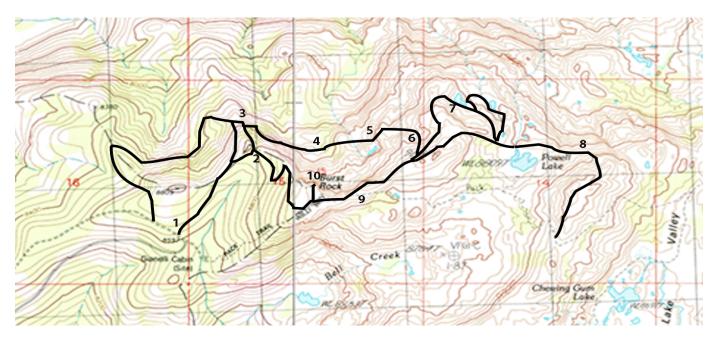

Figure 1: North of Burst Rock.

The trail to Burst Rock and beyond begins at mark 1 on the map. There is a large sign at the beginning of trail; this sign is just to the north of the main parking area at Gianelli. The trail goes northwest for a half mile, and then makes a sharp turn to the right, at mark 2. One can continue on the trail to the top of the ridge, and then take a short walk to Burst Rock, which is mark 10. The trail continues to the Powell Lake area; it is marked on the map. At

mark 9, it is easy to deviate from the trail and stay on the ridge all the way to Powell Lake or to the areas marked 5, 6, and 7.

At mark 2, one can also continue straight instead of turning right. At this point, one can pick one's way down into the bowl that is north of Burst Rock; at the beginning, one should stay to the left as far as possible. At mark 3, one can either turn left, explore to the area to the west, and then hike up to Gooseberry Road, or one can turn right, and contour over to a relatively flat area (mark 4) below Burst Rock.

The picture below shows a view looking up towards Burst Rock from just above mark 3 on the map. The cliffs on the right in the picture are the ridge between marks 2 and 3 on the map.

Figure 2: Looking Up Towards Burst Rock.

The picture below was taken looking north from just south of mark 3.

Figure 3: Looking North From Below Burst Rock.

The next picture was taken from just south of mark 3, and shows the somewhat-flat area, mark 4, in the foreground, and the granite slope, mark 5, in the background.

Figure 4: Looking East From Below Burst Rock.

The route continues towards mark 5. The next two pictures show hikers climbing from mark 5 towards mark 6.

Figure 5: Near the Bottom of the Granite Slope.

Figure 6: In the Middle of the Granite Slope.

The next picture shows the beautiful granite bowl at mark 6.

Figure 7: Granite!

At this point, one can climb up towards the top of the ridge running east from Burst Rock (see Figure 8) or clambor over the granite to the small lake at mark 7 (see Figure 9).

Figure 8: In the Granite Bowl.

Figure 9: Small Lake Northeast of Burst Rock.

After exploring this beautiful area, one can walk to the southeast towards Powell Lake. The picture below is looking east from just west of Powell Lake. One can see a large granite slab in the left-center section of this picture. This slab is at mark 8 on the map. Figures 11 and 12 show the bottom and the top of this slab.

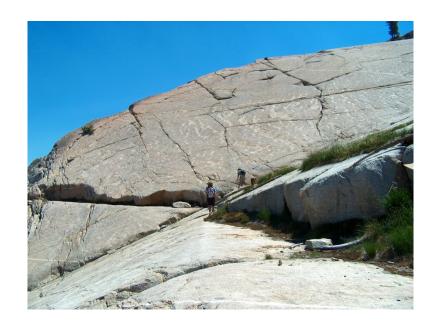Figure 10: Looking East From Above Powell Lake.

Figure 11: At the Bottom of the Slab.

Figure 12: At the Top of the Slab.

The route continues up to the gap at the top left of Figure 12. By continuing to the south along the ridge, one eventually encounters the trail between Powell Lake and Lake Valley. At this point, one can walk back to Gianelli along this trail, one can cross the trail and continue to hike along the ridge (see the "South-of-Burst-Rock-Crosscountry" hike description), or one can walk southeast to Chewing Gum Lake (see the "Gianelli-Chewing-Gum-Lake-Crosscountry" hike description).