

# Western Plateau Loop to Elliott Mountain



## Highlights

- Hawk Canyon Trail is beautiful under its oak canopy
- Views in all directions from the top of the Elliott Mtn. Trail
- All singletrack trails are really fun for mountain bikers
- The Outlaw Loop Trail is a challenge for mountain bikers with its multiple tight turns and some very short but steep and rocky parts.
- One of the segments of the 2022 Conejo Open Space Challenge (<https://cosf.org/challenge>)

## Description

This complex route covers most of the best trails in the Western Plateau / Conejo Canyons area. It passes through multiple terrains from an oak forest along the Hawk Canyon Trail, a grassy meadow along the Plateau Rim Trail, and an outstanding view in all directions from Elliott Mountain. (Elliott Mtn. is named for Burt Elliott, a dedicated volunteer who helped the COSCA rangers plan, build and maintain a great number of our trails in the Conejo Valley.)

## Key Statistics

**Popularity:** Good likelihood of encountering a few other visitors but not crowded


**Parking:** Free in the Conejo Center Drive parking area

**Distance:** 9.2 miles

**Cumulative Climbing and Descent:** about 1000' each.

**Tread Surface:** Singletrack trail and fire road; mostly firm with some uneven sections. Hidden Rim Trail can have ruts and loose rocks. For mountain bikers, there are some technical challenges on the Outlaw Loop.

**Hazards:** Little shade except in Hawk Canyon and it can be very hot in the area during the summer. Poison Oak grows in abundance along the south section of the Hawk Canyon Tr. Parts of the east half of the Outlaw Loop are very close to a cliff edge.

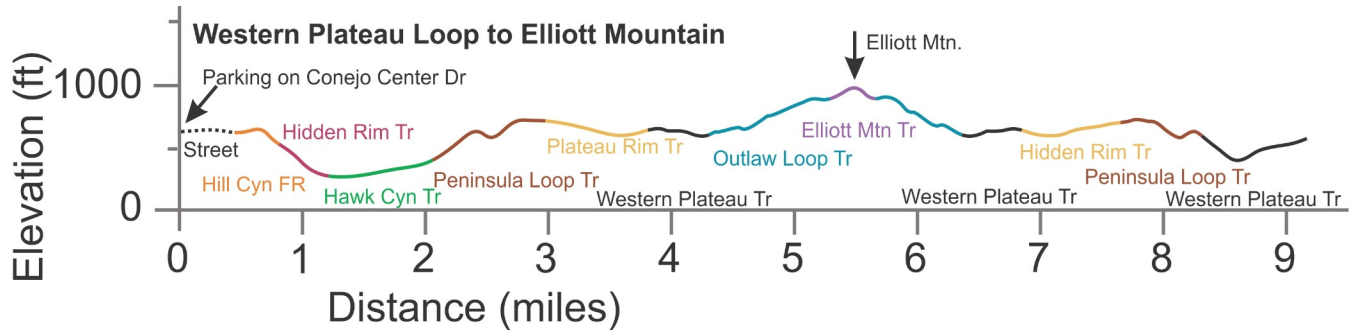
**Facilities:** Benches are marked by orange stars on the map below .

**Connections:** Hill Canyon Trail to the Santa Rosa Valley, Arroyo Conejo Trail, the rocky and volcanic Lichen Trail, a few unsanctioned "use" trails, and private Edison roads.

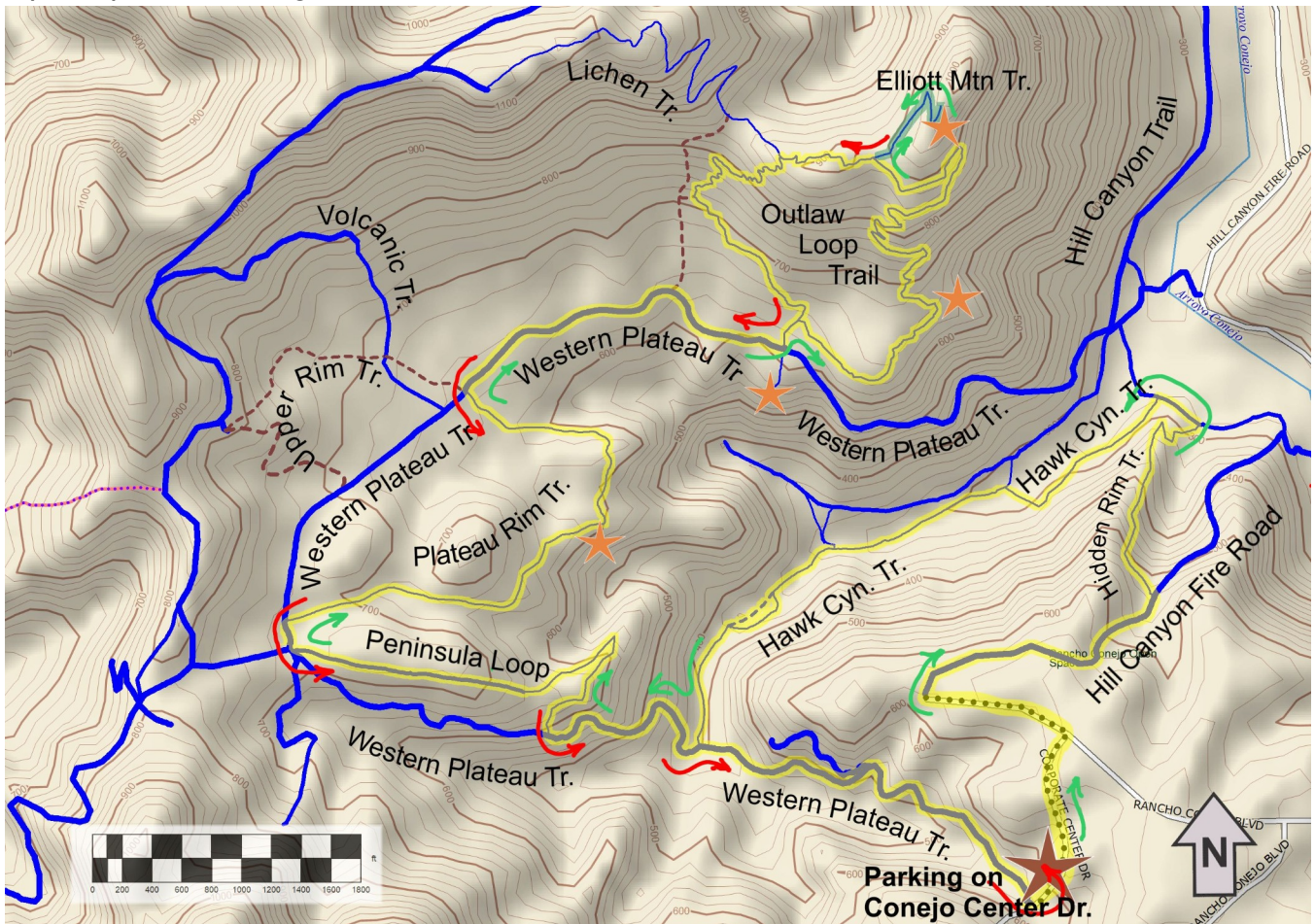
**Driving Directions:** From the 101 Freeway in Newbury Park, exit at Rancho Conejo Blvd heading north. Drive 1.8 miles, almost to the end, then turn left onto Conejo Center Drive. Continue 0.3 miles then park in the dirt lot on the right or at the side of the road.

**Map:** <http://bit.ly/UchB4u>

**Elevation Profile**, starting at the parking area on Conejo Center Drive and heading north to the Hill Canyon Fire Road trailhead.



Follow the green arrows on the way out and the red arrows back. The orange stars show the locations of benches. The green highlight is the Elliott Mtn. Trail segment for the 2022 Conejo Open Space Challenge.



Map courtesy of <https://www.venturacountytrails.org>

Updated February 6, 2022

## Photos

Hidden Rim Trail



Peninsula Loop



Hawk Canyon Trail



Plateau Rim Trail



Outlaw Loop



Western Plateau Trail



Elliott Mountain Trail

