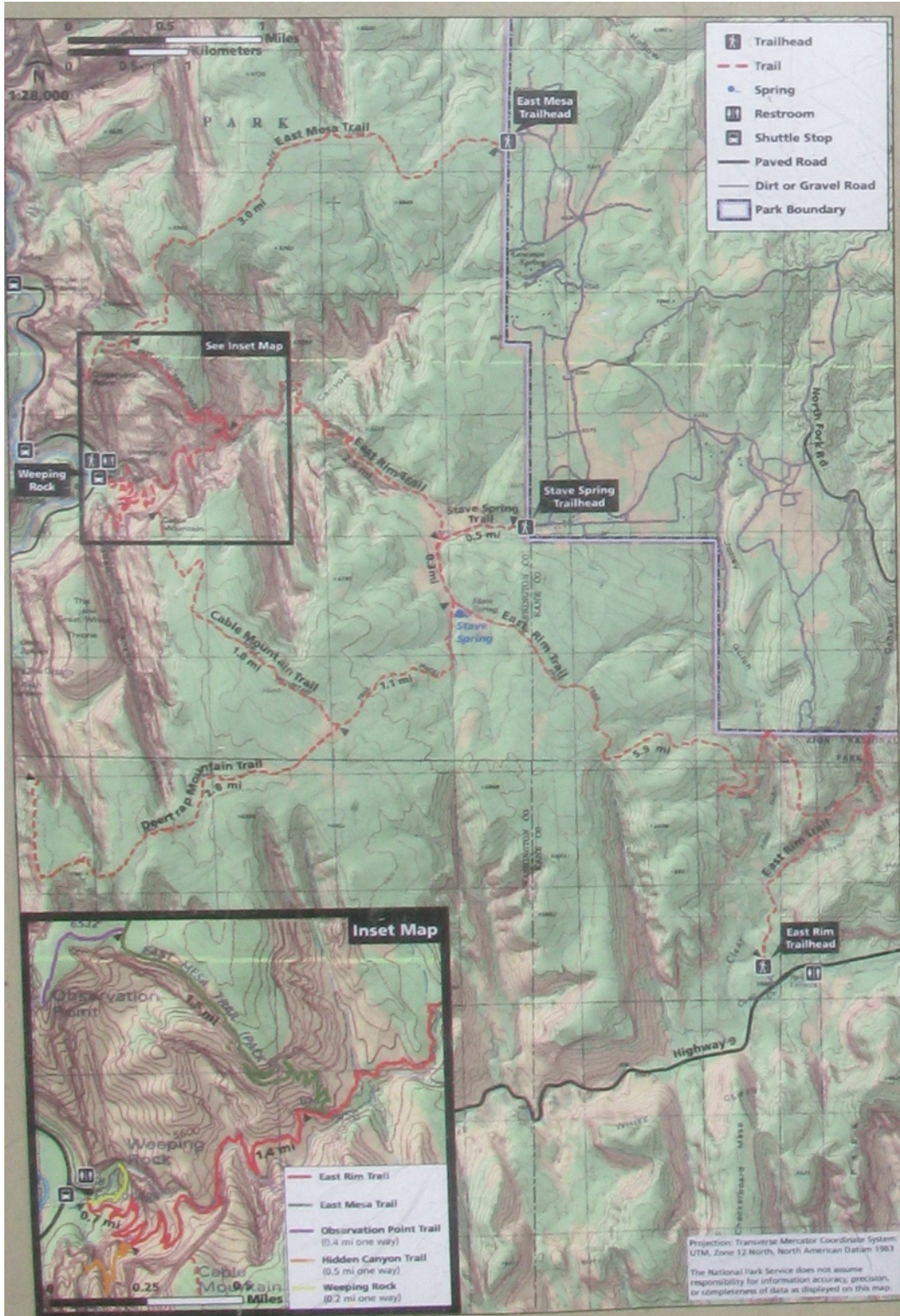
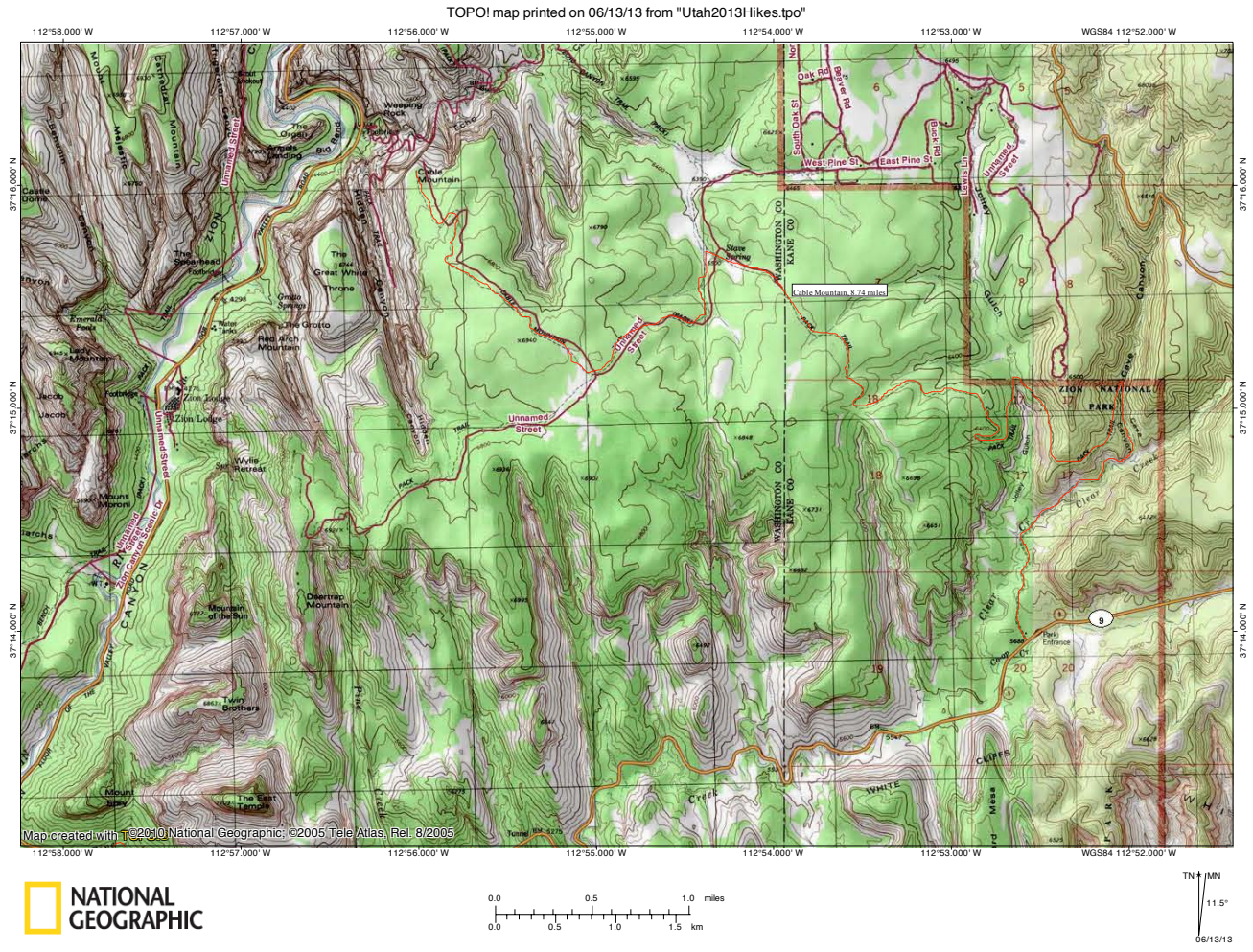


CABLE MOUNTAIN IN ZION NATIONAL PARK

The most popular routes to Cable Mountain start from either the East Rim trailhead or the Weeping Rock trailhead. We hiked in from the East Rim trailhead, as, although it is a mile longer, the elevation gain is less than from Weeping Rock—plus, we could get an earlier start as we would not have to ride the shuttle. The total round trip distance was about 8.8 miles. It appears to be possible to access Cable Mountain by parking at the Stave Spring Trailhead, and there is a parking area near Jolley Gulch, but I do not know the status of the access roads to these trailheads. Photograph of the trail sign at the East Rim trailhead:



TOPO map of the hike to Cable Mountain:



Panorama looking towards Checkerboard Mesa from the first view spot on the East Rim Trail:



Looking into Jolley Gulch:



Zooming in on the floor of Jolley Gulch far below; I wonder how often canyoneers rappel down this cliff:



Trail from the parking area near Jolley Gulch:



Panorama from a little further along the trail, looking into Jolley Gulch with Checkerboard Mesa on the right:



Another view of Checkerboard Mesa before the trail turns away from the rim of Jolley Gulch and starts to cross the plateau towards Stave Spring:



Looking northeast on the way to Stave Spring:



We encountered quite a few flowers, as well as butterflies and horned toads, on this trail:





Eventually, the trail starts to descend towards the spring and the junction of the Cable/Deertrap Mountain Trail with the East Rim Trail:



Panorama of the trail junction; the Cable/Deertrap Mountain Trail is the one in the middle, the one on the left heads back towards Stave Spring (about 500 meters) and the way we came, and the one on the right goes down towards Weeping Rock:



Looking down towards the upper reaches of Echo Canyon from the Cable/Deertrap Mountain Trail:



The trail junction of the Deertrap Mountain trail (to the left) and the Cable Mountain trail (to the right); it is only 1.8 miles to Cable Mountain from here:



Heading out on the last stretch of trail to Cable Mountain, with the West Temple just barely visible in the distance to the left of the trail:



Zooming in on the West Temple from here:



As we continue down the trail, we start seeing more and more of the cliffs of Zion Canyon up ahead:



Finally, we reach the end of the trail. Panorama looking up Echo Canyon (right) with the cable-works to the left :



Another panorama looking up Echo Canyon:



The next three panoramas are of Angel's Landing, Observation Point, and the main Zion Canyon; in each one I tried to work around the cable-works to get as much of the scenery as I could:



This amazing view is definitely worth the hike! Looking towards Angel's Landing and the road below:



Panorama of the route to Angel's Landing (with the high-resolution version it was interesting to zoom in on the hikers on the trail to get a better feel for the route as this is a hike I have never completed):



Zooming in on the crowds at Observation Point:



Photo of the sign at the cable-works:



All too soon, it is time to head back so that we are not returning in the dark; the next two panoramas show the view looking towards Cable Mountain from the trail back to the Cable/Deertrap Mountain trail junction:



Panorama looking north from somewhere on the East Rim trail on the way back:

