

# Cruel Jewel 50 Mile

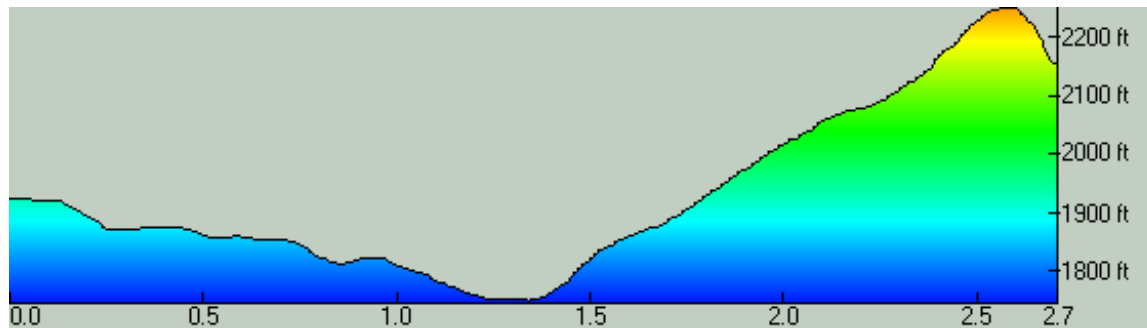
## Course Description

The Cruel Jewel 50 is a 56-mile foot race deep within the beautiful Chattahoochee National Forest of the North Georgia Mountains. It consists of 49 miles of trails, 7 miles of mountain roads, and 10 aid stations. Along your journey from Blue Ridge to Vogel State Park you will experience tough, and sometimes technical, single track trails, ferns and old growth poplar trees, steep ascents and even steeper descents, an historic steel bridge spanning the Toccoa River, the Dragon's Spine, lush green hardwood forests, rocks, roots and ridge lines ... all of which will be passed before you reach your final destination. And as a bonus we have thrown in 17,000 feet of gain and 17,000 feet of loss just to keep it interesting!!

**Start: Camp Morganton:** Start on gravel road next the lake.

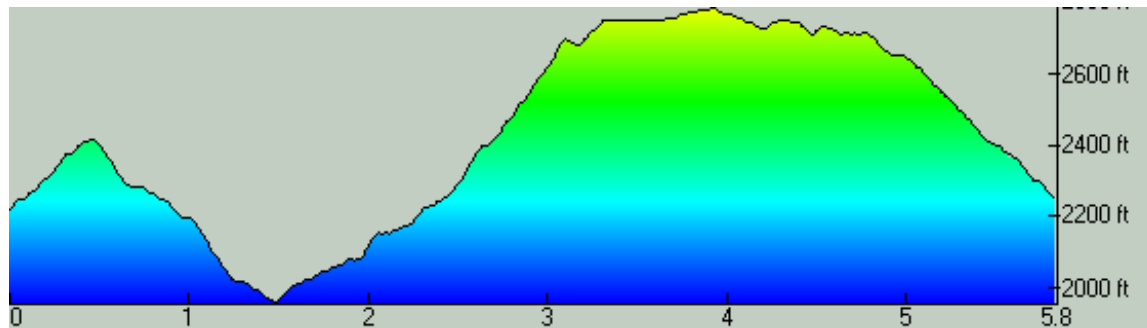
**Aid Station 1: Deep Gap. NO CREW ACCESS!!**

Exit Camp Morganton on gravel Camp Morganton Rd. Follow gravel road to the end and turn left onto paved Snake Nation Rd. Continue to end and turn right onto paved Aska Rd. Turn Right at Deep Gap Trailhead. Aid Station 1 is at junction with Flat Creek Loop. **DEEP GAP**



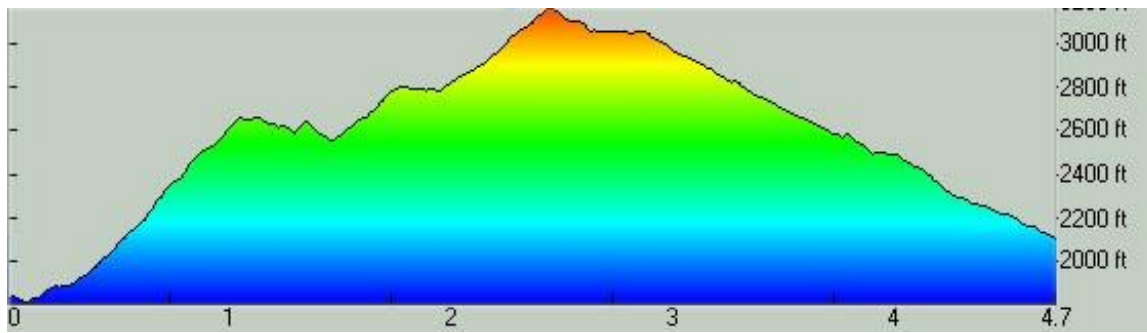
**Aid Station 2: Deep Gap. NO CREW ACCESS!!**

Leave Deep Gap and follow the Flat Creek Loop Trail counterclockwise over Flat Creek, up Davenport Mountain and back down to Deep Gap Aid Station. **DEEP GAP**



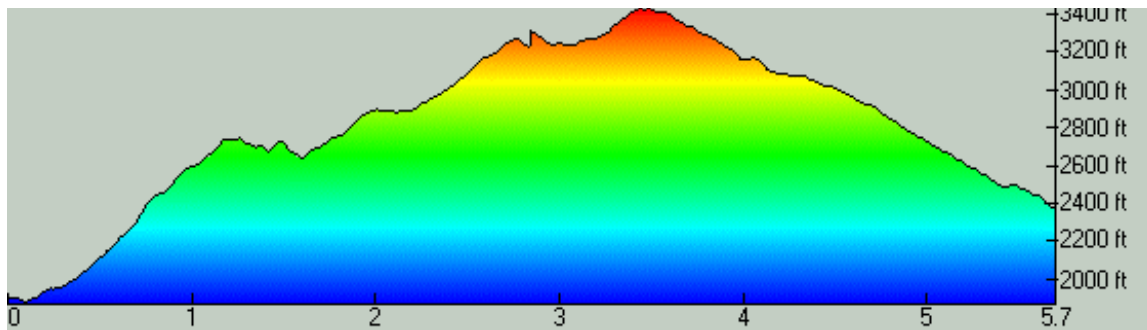
**Aid Station 3: Weaver Creek Road NO CREW ACCESS!!**

**[SEP]** Leave Deep Gap and follow the Stanley Gap Trail to the T intersection with the Benton MacKaye Trail (BMT). Turn right on the BMT and follow it briefly up before descending to **WEAVER CREEK ROAD**



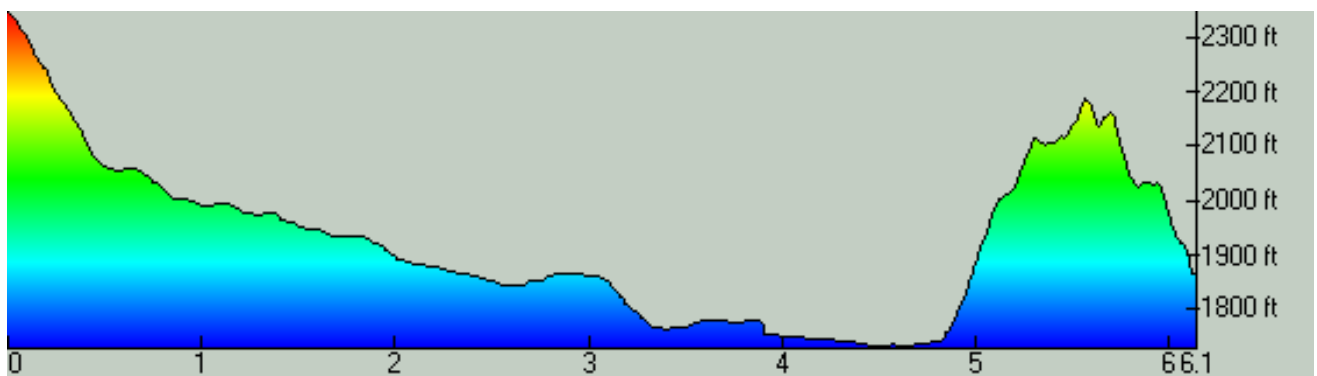
**Aid Station 4: Stanley Creek. NO CREW ACCESS!!**

[SEP] Leave Weaver Creek Road and follow the Benton MacKaye Trail back up Rich Mountain, past the first Stanley Gap Trail junction on the left. Continue on the Benton MacKaye Trail to the second Stanley Gap Trail junction on the right. Turn right and follow the Stanley Gap Trail down to the **STANLEY CREEK** Parking area.



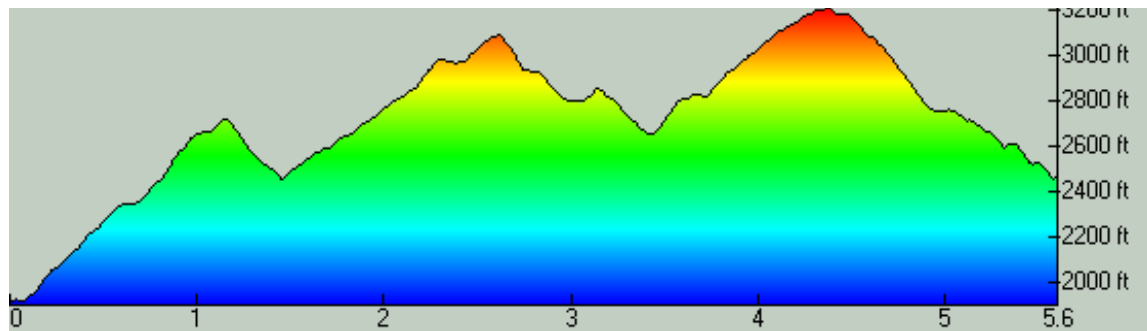
**Aid station 5: Old Dial Road. CREW ACCESS!!**

[SEP] Follow gravel Stanley Creek Rd (will turn to pavement in 1.25 miles) to the end. Turn right on paved Aska Rd and follow for .5 miles to the Shallowford Bridge. Turn left and cross the Toccoa River on an old steel bridge, turn right on gravel Shallowford Bridge Road for .5 miles to the junction of the Benton MacKaye Trail on left. Follow the Benton MacKaye Trail over Free Knob to dirt **OLD DIAL ROAD**.



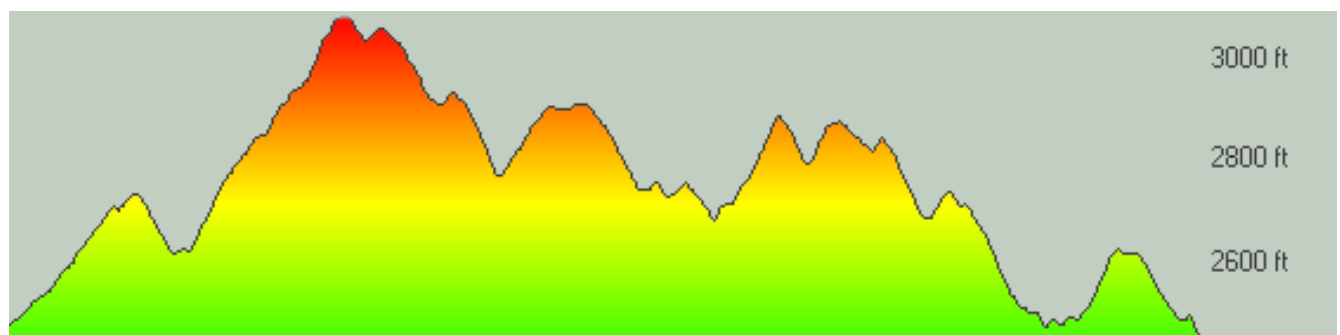
**Aid Station 6: Wilscot Gap. CREW ACCESS!! DROP BAG LOCATION!!**

Cross Old Dial Rd and continue on the Benton MacKaye Trail single track. Climb Garland Mountain, descend into Garland Gap, climb Brawley Mountain with its view of the Brawley Fire Tower, back down to Ledford Gap, over Bald Top, over Tipton Mountain, and finally down to paved HWY 60 (BE ALERT! WATCH FOR CARS!) **WILSCOT GAP**



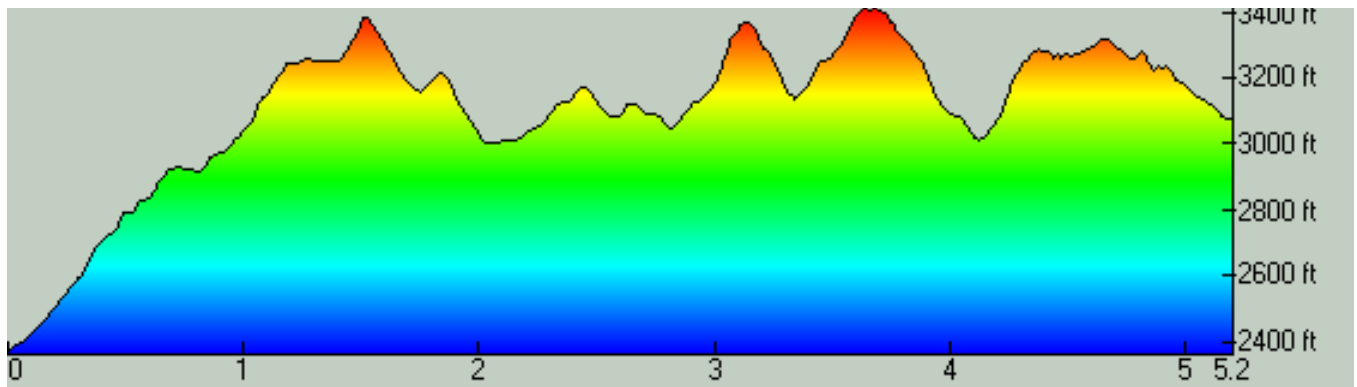
**Aid Station 7: Skeenah Gap. CREW ACCESS**<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

Continue on the Benton MacKaye Trail up Wilscot Mountain, through Lula Head Gap, over Deadennen Mountain, along the not so flat ridge, down into Payne Gap, and back up down again before ending at paved Skeenah Gap Road. Cross paved Skeenah Gap Rd (BE ALERT!! WATCH FOR CARS!) **SKEENAH GAP**



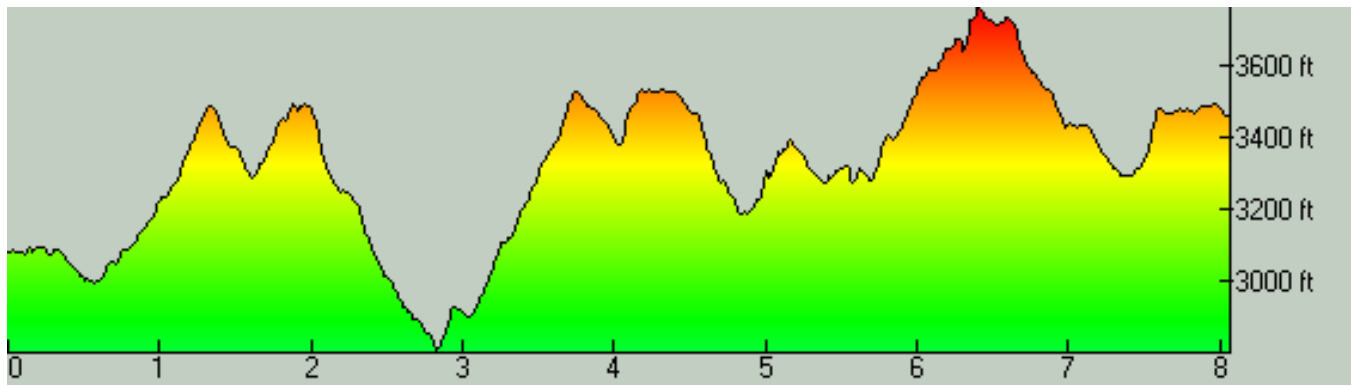
**Aid Station 8: Fish Gap. NO CREW ACCESS!!**

Say hello to the Duncan Ridge and the Dragon's Spine! Up to this point the course has been friendly and gentle, but as you climb Rhodes Mountain it's game on! In 1.25 miles you will come to the junction of the Duncan Ridge Trail (DRT). Veer left onto the DRT and continue climbing Rhodes Mountain. Descend straight down into Rhodes Gap, climb up Chinquapin Ridge, drop into Gregory Gap, climb Gregory Knob, over Payne Knob, through Sarvis Gap, up High Top, and then descend into **FISH GAP**.



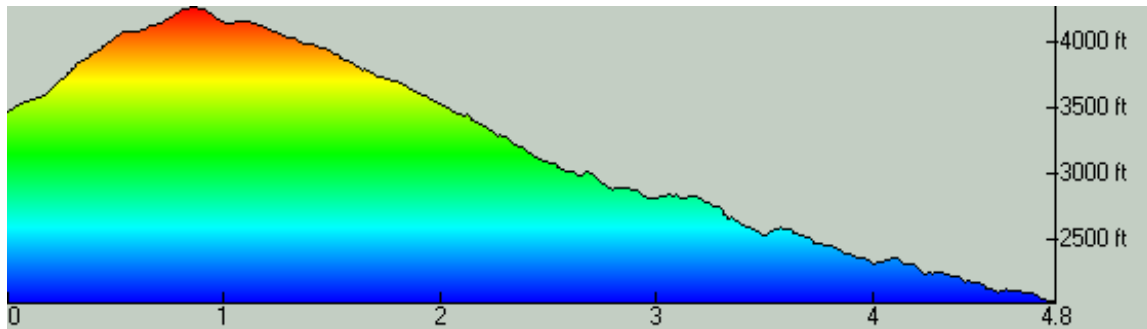
**Aid Station 9: Fire Pit. NO CREW ACCESS!!**

Leave Fish Gap and continue on the DRT over Fish Knob, descend into Akin Gap, then ascend over Clements Mountain and Akins Mountain before dropping into Mulky Gap. Cross dirt Mulky Gap Rd and begin climbing West Wildcat Knob and continue through West Wildcat Gap. Continue on the DRT over Buck Knob and through Bryant Gap (you will have limited views of dirt Duncan Ridge Road, do NOT enter or cross it!!! STAY ON THE <sup>DRT</sup>DRT!!), and Buckeye Gap before climbing Buckeye Knob and descending into **FIRE PIT**.



**Aid Station 10: Wolf Creek. NO CREW ACCESS!! WATER ONLY!!**

Continue following the DRT as you climb Coosa Bald. As you are descending Coosa Bald (.25 miles) you will come to the junction of the Coosa Backcountry Trail and the DRT. Turn left and begin following the Coosa Backcountry Trail. Here you will start your 2,000-foot descent to Wolf Creek. Along the way you will cross a dirt Forest Service Road in Calf Stomp Gap, and continue through Locust Stake Gap before reaching dirt **WOLF CREEK** Road.



**FINISH: Poor Decisions (Vogel State Park) CREW ACCESS**

Continue following the Coosa Backcountry Trail across Wolf Creek. Cross paved Hwy 180 (BE ALERT!! WATCH FOR CARS!!) and continue on Coosa Backcountry Trail into Vogel State Park. Turn left at paved road and follow signs to **FINISH!**

