National Park and Preserve
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Jumbo Mine

Many of the old buildings at Jumbo Mine have collapsed, however the site still contains interesting artifacts and remnants that tell of the heyday of Kennecott Copper Mining.

Maps:
Trails Illustrated WRST map, USGS McCarthy 1:63,360 (B5,B6,C5)

Distance/Time:
Approximately 10 miles round-trip, 3,300 elevation gain from the Kennecott Mill Town to the Jumbo Mine. Allow 6 hours minimum round-trip.

Highlights:
Spectacular mountain scenery and mining history.

Difficulty:
Strenuous. Route follows a trail until the last ½ mile, where the trail fades out on a rocky slope with remnants of the old mine road leading to the mine site.

Route:
To reach the Jumbo Mine from the Kennecott Visitor Center walk through the Kennecott Mill Town towards the Root Glacier. About a half mile beyond the visitor center the road will split. The trail to the Root Glacier will continue out along the glacier edge. To get to the Jumbo Mine turn right and start up the hill. At the top of the first switch-back turn left following the road up the hill. If you find yourself at the top of the mill building you missed the turn. This road, constructed by Wrangell Consolidated in the 1950s in an unprofitable but industrious effort to extract the remaining copper ore from the Jumbo and Bonanza Mine sites. The road is steep; approximately one mile up there is a directional sign to either the Bonanza or Jumbo mines; go left off of the main road to continue to the Jumbo transfer station and mine. The trail crosses Bonanza Creek in approximately ½ mile. The creek flow varies depending on the season. During early summer it is highest and may result in wet feet.

Collapsed Jumbo Mine Bunkhouse

Jumbo Mine

Approximately ¼ mile past Bonanza Creek there is a steep trail to the left. The old Jumbo transfer station is visible up this trail. To explore the transfer station either take this trail, or continue past this point to another easier access trail, also on the left. Please explore the area and structures with care, being mindful of the hazards that exist.

Follow the light limestone rock up and into the mine site area.

Head toward the nearest tram tower after crossing Jumbo Creek headwaters.

Head up and around the right side of the old tramway tower

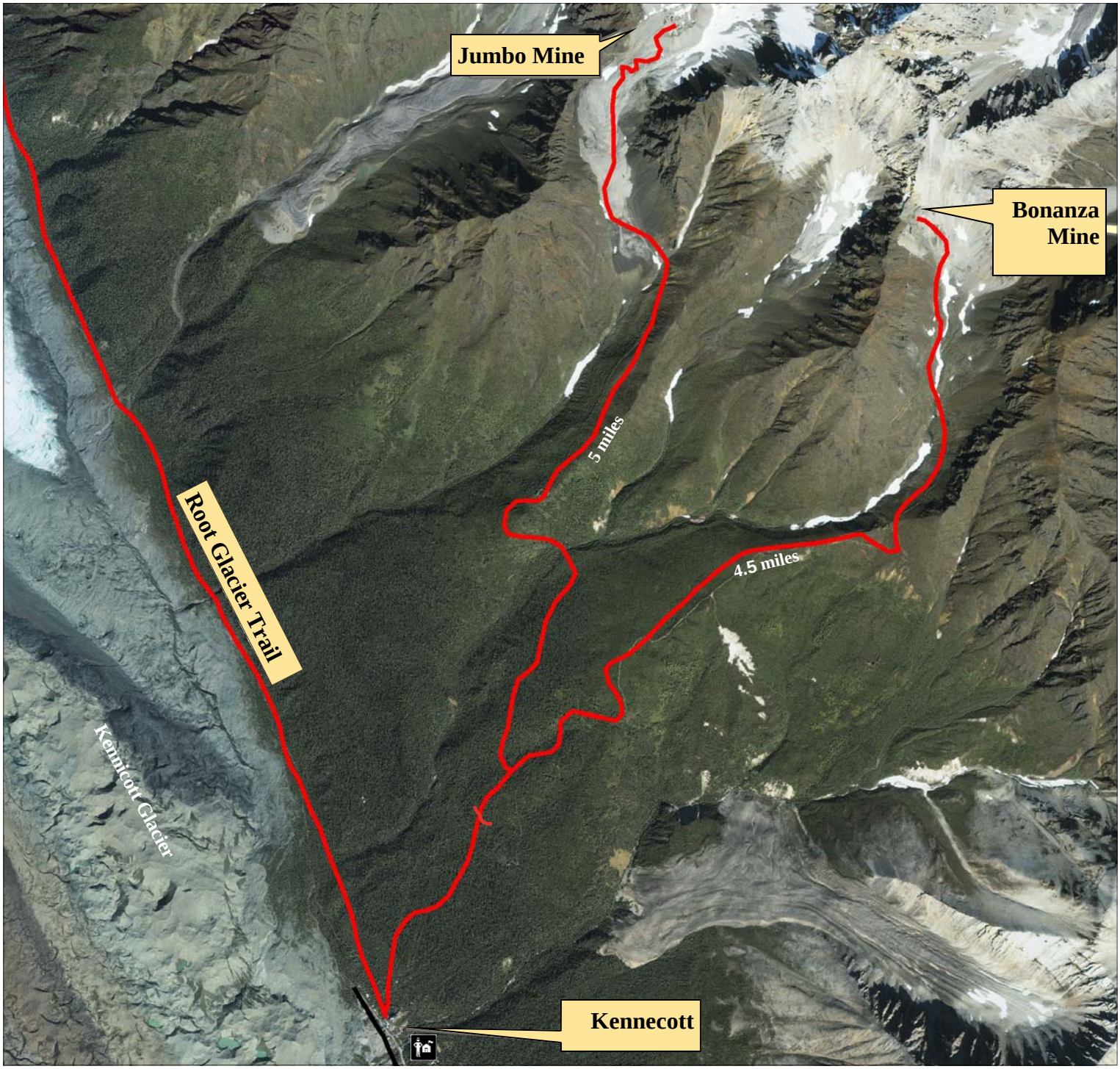
From the transfer station, enjoy the beautiful views of the Kennicott Valley and Chugach range to the south. From here the trail continues up to the Jumbo Mine. The trail narrows and crosses over some rocky and sandy slide areas as it ascends toward the rocky slope leading to the mine site. Continue on the trail and cross the headwaters of Jumbo creek. This creek can be dry later in the summer. At this point the trail becomes less visible.

Head toward the nearest tram cable tower. Near the tower head up and around it to the right continuing up, staying on the lighter limestone rock slope. Generally head where the tram cables terminate, staying on the limestone rock as it ascends into the bowl, which is where the mine is located. Explore the mine site, where many relics of the Jumbo Mine's buildings, tools and artifacts can be seen. For safety, do not enter the remnants of the bunkhouse, as numerous hazards exist.

Please remember:
The Jumbo Mine and the other historic sites at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve are part of our nation's historic heritage. They have been saved by the American people so that they might be explored and protected. The buildings and the artifacts are protected by the National Park Service. The removal of artifacts from the site and the destruction of historic buildings are prohibited. Please explore them in ways that will allow others to explore them in the future. Thank you for helping to protect Wrangell-St. Elias.

photo by L. Stilin

Jumbo Mine



Air photo of the trails to the Bonanza and Jumbo Mines