



Listed in order of Elevation.

1. Kings Peak, 13,528 ft. Duchesne Co. Highest Peak in Utah
2. Gilbert Peak, 13,442 ft. Summit Co.
3. Mt. Peale, 12,721 ft. San Juan Co.
4. Mt. Waas, 12,331 ft. Grand Co.
5. Eccentric Peak, 12,276 ft. Shared by Daggett and Uintah Co.
6. Delano Peak, 12,169 ft. Shared by Beaver and Piute Co.
7. Ibapah Peak, 12,087 ft. Juab Co.
8. Mt. Nebo North Peak, 11,928 ft. Utah Co.
9. Fish Lake Hightop, 11,633 ft. Sevier Co.
10. Mt. Ellen, 11,522 ft. Garfield Co.
11. American Fork Twin Peaks, 11,489 ft. Salt Lake Co.
12. Bluebell Knoll, 11,320 ft. Wayne Co.
13. Brian Head Peak, 11,307 ft. Iron Co.
14. South Tent Mountain, 11,285 ft. Sanpete Co.
15. Deseret Peak, 11,031 ft. Tooele Co.
16. Unnamed Peak, 10,743 ft. Wasatch Co.
17. East Mountain, 10,743 ft. Emery Co.
18. Monument Peak, 10,452 ft. Carbon Co.
19. Signal Peak, 10,365 ft. Washington Co.
20. Mine Camp Peak, 10,222 ft. Millard Co.
21. Unnamed Peak, 10,027 ft. Kane Co.
22. Naomi Peak, 9,979 ft. Cache Co.
23. Bull Mountain, 9,920 ft. Box Elder Co.
24. Willard Peak, 9,764 ft. Weber Co.
25. Thurston Peak, 9,707 ft. Shared by Davis and Morgan Co.
26. Unnamed Peak, 9,255 ft. Rich Co.

Peak May Honor Bridger after Tribune Contest.

By Paula Huff
Salt Lake Tribune.

Near the foot of Rich County's highest peak Thomas "Pegleg" Smith once spun tales for road weary immigrants who brought vegetables and grains from his trading post.

Losing his leg was a favorite yarn for his former trapper, who operated an outpost from 1843 to 1850.

Either an Indian bullet shattered the foot and calf or an arrow poisoned it during a fall hunting trip, depending on the version. No foreigner to embellishment, Pegleg sometimes claimed he amputated it himself. Other times, partner, James Cockrell helped.

Whatever happened, Pegleg ended up being Bear Lake's most famous mountain man, according to Robert E. Parson, author of *A History of Rich County*. In the northeast county of Utah his reputation stands with many characters that roamed the vales and hills.

At 9,255 ft. Rich County's highest peak is nameless. A Salt Lake Tribune contest has proposed Moniker Bridger Peak, commemorating mountain man Jim Bridger, who sought beaver in nearby creeks.

Bear Lake's emerald-green waters lie to the east of the high point. Bear River Range's Naomi and Doubletop Peaks create a jutting horizon to the west. With squinted eyes the Bear River can be seen to the north. Highway of the overland traveler, its meandering maps the Oregon Trail.

Long before trappers and settlers found a westward route into this soil, Rich County's rocks show it was a shallow marine environment located much closer to the equator, said Sue Morgan, lecturer in Utah State University's geology department.

Over millions of years the water level dropped. The land shifted eastward. The earth stretched apart. Valleys and mountains formed. Rich County's high point was among these ranges, heaving to the sky sedimentary rocks pocked with marine fossils.

In the midst of all this, a musk ox and baby Columbian mammoth died near Bear Lake about 11,000 years ago. Their jawbones and teeth are in David Gillete's hands.

"Finding their bones was not a surprise, but it adds a couple more small pieces to the puzzle of how life was before us." Said Gillete, Utah State Paleontologist.

Musk ox are related to cows and bison. In modern times they live high in the Artic. But these animals – more compact than a buffalo and with backwards curling horns – once wondered as far south as the Gulf Coast.

Some thought this meant the Gulf Coast was a cold climate, said Gillete. Actually, the extinct cousin of the musk ox living in the south was more heat-tolerant.

Columbian mammoths, an extinct relative of modern elephants, lived with the musk ox near a freshwater lake fed by high-mountain glaciers. The climate was much cooler than today.

Little is known about the prehistoric tribes who moved through Rich County when mammoths and musk ox rambled. Archaeologists have hardly set spade to dirt in this country, said David Madsen, Utah State Pale-ecologist.

Written records tell of summer festivals when Chief Bear Hunter's Northwest Shoshoni and Chief Washakie's Eastern Shoshoni gathered on the southwest shore of Bear Lake, said Brigham Madsen, author of *The Shoshoni Frontier and the Bear River Massacre*.

“It was a real fair; they gambled, raced horses, did a little courting and had big feasts just like our own barbecues,” said Madsen, University of Utah professor emeritus of history.

Mountain men held rendezvous on Bear Lake’s south shore in 1827 and 1828. In 1863, Mormons settled into the area. Four months later and a few miles north, Chief Bear Hunter’s tribe was nearly annihilated by Col. Patrick Connor’s army in the Bear River Indian Massacre. The battle followed years of skirmishes between settlers and the North-west Shoshoni.

On Jan. 29, 1863, the U.S. Army’s attack on Bear Hunter’s tribe left an estimated 200 to 300 men, woman and children dead. A reporter at the scene said Shoshonis were left “warrior piled on warrior, horses mangled and wounded in every conceivable form, with here and there a squaw and papoose.”

Following the massacre, settlers quickly claimed this country known for its cold temperatures. Joseph C. Rich, once quipped, “Only men with plenty of hair on ‘em are tough enough to stand the climate of Bear Lake.” The county’s early history is peppered with accounts of settlers who spent one winter in the area, then left the next spring, said parson.

Some finally found it pleasant though its average temperature of 41 degrees Fahrenheit makes it Utah’s coldest county. Sheep and cattle have grazed the hills for more than 100 years. Loggers still take trees, and during the winter, the slopes become a haven for snowmobilers and skiers. In fall it’s hunter’s paradise, filled with deer, elk and moose.

Raspberries also find this a suitable climate.

In July and August Renee LaBeau’s Garden City ice cream shop sells hundreds of Bear Lake raspberry shakes each day.

“I don’t know why Bear Lake raspberries have such a distinct flavor; they are just a sweet, soft berry,” LaBeau said. “But people do buy the same shake made with the same berries at our Logan shop and claim it tastes different than the one they can buy near Bear Lake.”