

HUGHES

HIKE ON THE SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS FORESTED HOGBACK AT 5500-6500 FT.



AVOID VERBAL ORDERS

DESTINATION: MESSENGER FLATS VIA THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL ON MOUNT GLEASON PEAKING AT 6502 FT. THIS AREA IS A BIRD SANCTUARY AND THE TERRITORY OF AT LEAST ONE MOUNTAIN LION.

TO: O.T.P. AND OTHERS **CC:** MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM-ACTON **DATE:** SCHEDULED: 19 JUNE 1996
ORG: HIKING & DEBATING SOCIETY (AKA: PHOTOGRAPHY NUTS) **REF:** ANGELES FOREST FRONT COUNTRY MAP(HARRISON)
SUBJECT: ELEVATION UP & DOWN: 1200 OR 1000 FT. [YOU CHOOSE] **FROM:** DAVID [THE FORESTER]
HIKE ROUNDTRIP DISTANCE: 11 OR 6 MILES [YOU CHOOSE] **ORG:** ONE OF THE VALLEY BOYS
TRAIL CONDITION: PREDOMINANTLY SMOOTH UNDER A CANOPY OF INTERIOR LIVE OAK, BLACK OAK, BIG-CONE SPRUCE, INCENSE CEDAR, AND THEN NEAR THE PEAK: JEFFREY PINES

ALLOW AT LEAST 35 MINUTES TRAVEL TIME FROM THE LA CAÑADA EXIT OF THE I-210 FREEWAY TO HWY 2, THE ANGELES CREST HIGHWAY. DRIVE 9.3 MILES TO CLEAR CREEK JUNCTION (SIGN SEZ TO PALMDALE). TURN LEFT DOWN THE ANGELES FOREST HIGHWAY (HWY N3), AROUND AND UP FOR ANOTHER 13.7 MILES TO MILL CREEK SUMMIT. THERE IS A SIGN POINTING LEFT WHICH SEZ: MESSENGER FLATS 12 MILES. BUT PERHAPS A STOP FOR RELIEF? - DRIVE UP MT. GLEASON ROAD FOR APPROXIMATELY 5.25 MILES TO THE SECOND DIRT ROAD ON YOUR RIGHT. THIS IS THE DROP-OFF POINT FOR HIKERS GOING ON THE 11 MILE HIKE. BY CHANCE, SHOULD ALL PERSONS IN YOUR CAR INTEND TO GO ON THE LONG HIKE, PERHAPS YOU CAN TRUST ONE OF THE SHORT-HIKERS TO DRIVE YOUR CAR TO THE END POINT FOR ALL HIKERS? OR HAVE A LONGER HIKE.

- 0900 TO 0915: YOU HAVE ARRIVED AT THE FIRST TRAILHEAD [THE DEPARTURE POINT FOR THE 11 MILE HIKE] DUMP ALL THE LONG-HIKERS WITH THEIR BELONGINGS AND DETERMINE WHO WILL DRIVE YOUR CAR TO THE SECOND TRAILHEAD IF YOU ARE GOING ON THE LONGER HIKE. THE FORESTER HAS TO FIND SOMEONE.
- 0920 OR SO: THE FORESTER WILL LEAD THE 11 MILE HIKERS DOWN THE DIRT ROAD TO THE HEADWATERS OF GLEASON CREEK AND THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL AROUND THE PROMONTORY ON WHICH THE YOUTH CORRECTI-ONAL CAMP IS SITUATED. HIKE IS CLASSIFIED AS MODERATE. COOKIES WILL BE EQUAL TO EFFORT.
- 0930: ALL O.T.P. & OTHERS, NOW ORGANIZED, WILLING TO GO ON THE 6 MILE HIKE AND DRIVE ALL CARS TO THE SECOND TRAILHEAD, SHOULD GET GOING. CONTINUE ON MT. GLEASON ROAD UNTIL YOU REACH THE ENTRANCE TO THE PRISON. DON'T GO IN. TURN LEFT DOWN THE DIRT ROAD AND TRAVEL ONE-HALF MILE TO WHERE IT BOTTOMS OUT. PARK IN THE CLEARING TO YOUR RIGHT. WALK RIGHT TO THE LOWER EAST END WHERE YOU WILL SEE A YELLOW LOCKED GATE. PASS THE GATE AND WALK DOWN ABOUT 25 YDS TO WHERE YOU INTERSECT THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL. GO LEFT, UP & AWAY! YOU HAVE A 2.6 MILE HEADSTART. THIS IS CLASSIFIED AS A MODERATELY EASY HIKE UNLESS YOU RUN. THEN IT IS STRENUOU

PEAKBAGGERS: AS YOU CLIMB HIGH ON THE NORTH SHOULDER OF MOUNT GLEASON, JEFFREY PINES RULE AND VIEWS OPEN NORTHWARD TO THE MOJAVE DESERT. CROSS AN OLD DIRT ROAD AND ABOUT 1/4 MILE JUST BEFORE THE PCT STARTS ITS DESCENT TO MESSENGER FLATS, YOU REACH A SIDE TRAIL JUNCTION. GO LEFT TO FOLLOW THE SIDE TRAIL UP THE RIDGE AND OVER SEVERAL HUMMOCKS TO THE FLAT TOP. YOU HAVE ADDED ABOUT A MILE TO YOUR HIKE SINCE NOW YOU HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL TO DESCEND TO MESSENGER FLATS AND LUNCH AND REST AND IT'S LOVELY.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AT THE PICNIC AREA OF MILL CREEK SUMMIT. IF YOUR CAR IS AT THE FIRST TRAILHEAD, YOU SHOULD START BACK TO THE SECOND TRAILHEAD SOONER [UNLESS YOU HITCH A RIDE]

NOTE: All hike mileage is approximate. Forester is not responsible for anything at all.

