

Oak Grove Park, Altadena to Oakwilde

Distance: 9 to 10 miles round trip

Elevation gain: 900 feet

Date: 4/23/14

Leader: Joanie Schugel

Directions to Trailhead:

From 210, exit at Oak Grove/Berkshire off ramp. Go East on Berkshire Avenue. Turn Left where it dead-ends into Oak Grove Drive. Turn Right at the first light into the park (Oak Grove Park). After entering the park, take the first Left down to the parking area near the ball field.

The Hike:

There are two roads next to each other heading north. The road on the left goes to the JPL parking lot. Take the road on the right with locked vehicle gate. Follow the sign marking the Gabrielino Trail. Hike past the locked gate up the paved road. At the junction just before the mouth of the canyon, take the right fork. Cross the first bridge and pass the assorted Pasadena Water dept. markings. At the junction take the left fork with a marker 2N70A. Hike past the Forest Service residences. Pass the Elmer Smith Bridge which is fenced off. We may run into several creek crossings. Go past the Gould Mesa Campground on the west bank of the creek. Look for the sign to Oakwilde campground. In about 0.3 miles reach Nino Picnic area. Cross modern footbridge and concrete slab stream crossings. Continue past Paul Little Picnic Area to Oakwilde Campground.

For those wishing a lesser hike, turn around at any point.

Return the way you came.

Refreshments at the trailhead.

Additional Notes for the hike.

The heavy rains in February and perhaps even the station fire has changed the trail in places. When we leave the parking lot we keep to the left - past the new JPL parking structure and stay left until it ends at the bridge at JPL entrance. Turn right and cross bridge. Immediately make a left turn and follow the trail up to a paved road, continue making lefts at any forks. There are several (at least 3 river crossings) when we were there we really needed two sticks to navigate rolling rocks and logs. I would think that the water would be down by now. If you make it to Nino Campground you would have made the 3 crossings and done 2.5 miles. Beyond this are two more river crossings (which most of us decided

against) and Little Paul Campground at aprox 3 miles. The Ranger station has confirmed that the road is closed any further than this. Originally it was scheduled to be open by the 1st of April. But that has now been postponed.

<http://www.simpsoncity.com/hiking/arroyoseco.html>

http://sangabrielmnts.myfreeforum.org/archive/gabrielino-trail-between-paul-little-and-oakwild_o_t_t_4521.html

(I suggest that you review the information in the above links. Mike)