

Stunt Rd. Fossils

OTP HIKE FOR MAY 18, 1994

"A HIKE FOR FOSSILS TO GO LOOK AT FOSSILS"

Brigitte Zilliacus

Start: 9:30 am @ intersection of Schueren, Saddle Peak, and Stunt Roads in the Santa Monica Mountains

Directions to Trailhead: (Note: All mileage reference points are with respect to the corner of PCH and Topanga Canyon Boulevard) Take Topanga Canyon Boulevard for 3.7 miles and turn left onto Fernwood Pacific (look for Country Natural Food Restaurant); go on Fernwood Pacific until it becomes Tuna Canyon Road (5.1 mile ref. point); continue on Tuna Canyon until it intersects with Saddle Peak Road (6.5 mile ref. point); turn right onto Saddle Peak and take it to the intersection of Saddle Peak, Schueren, and Stunt Roads. You are now approximately 9.6 miles from PCH and 5.9 miles from Topanga Canyon Boulevard. There is ample side-of-the-road parking.

General: This hike is a unique opportunity for us to:

- 1) See up-close the devastation wreaked by the fire
- 2) Witness the extraordinary recovery of the plants in the mountains. This was pre-hiked on May 9 and a veritable explosion of wildflowers is in progress!
- 3) View the result of a probable once-in-a-lifetime (firestorm) unveiling of an archeological bonanza.

This is an easy hike, so no one should "wimp out". I urge all my buddies, especially those who haven't been hiking lately, to join me in this beautiful experience. There is no poison oak, either. You are urged to bring cameras to record your own favorite views. Because it is anticipated that there will be considerable time spent in either botanical or archeological pursuits no hike length estimate is appropriate. The hike is out-and-back, and we will turn to make it back to the cars in a timely manner. Lunch will be in a "Ghost Forest". Attention: Wear only clothes which you don't mind getting permanently stained: the pollen from several varieties of flowers resists conventional laundry ablutions.

