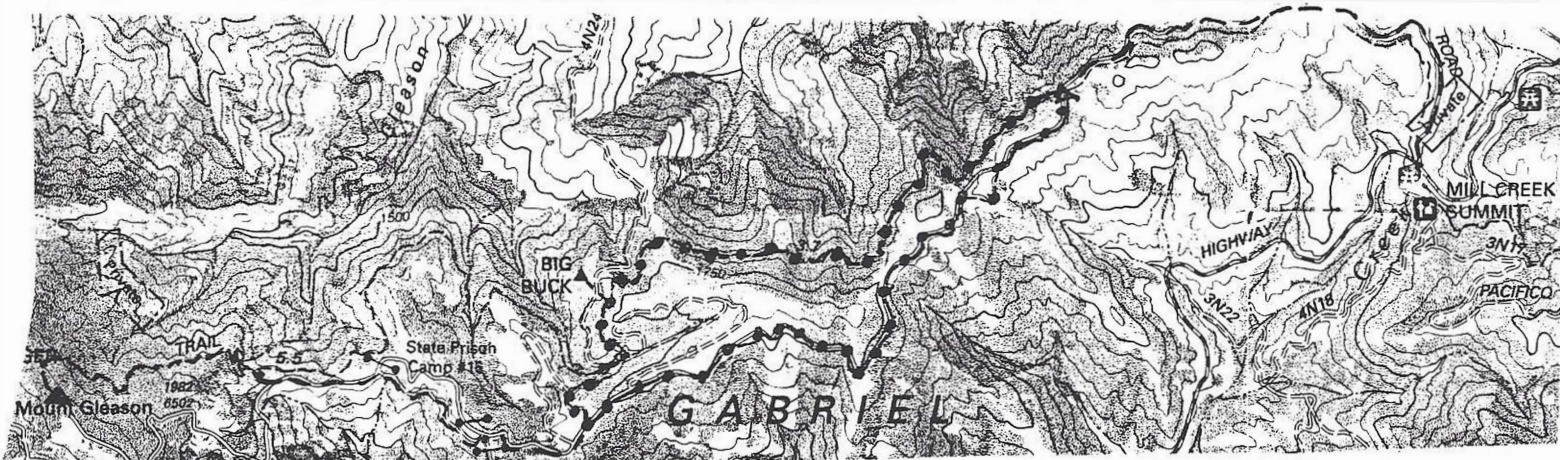


A NEW HIKE FOR THE O.T.P. HIKING & DEBATING SOCIETY: PACIFIC CREST TO BIG BUCK

TRAILHEAD IS ON MOUNT GLEASON ROAD 2.5 MILES FROM MILL CREEK SUMMIT, WHICH IS 23 MILES FROM LA CAÑADA AT I-210. ALLOW 40 MINUTES. TAKE ANGELES CREST HIGHWAY 2 TO CLEAR CREEK JUNCTION AND TAKE ANGELES FOREST HIGHWAY [SIGNS STATE TO PALMDALE] TO MILL CREEK SUMMIT [FOREST SERVICE PIT TOILETS AVAILABLE] ACROSS THE HIGHWAY IS MT. GLEASON ROAD [SIGNED MESSENGER FLATS 12 MILES]. EXERCISE CARE ON THIS NARROW ROAD UNTIL YOU COME UPON THE VALLEY BOYS WAITING. THAT POINT SHOULD BE ABOUT 2.5 OR SO MILES WHERE THE ROAD WIDENS. I BELIEVE?

TRAIL PROGNOSTICATOR: DAVID LILLBACK DATE: 13 SEPTEMBER 1995 START: 0930 !!
 DEPENDING UPON WEATHER, HIKE MAY START ON PACIFIC CREST TRAIL OR THE ROAD!



7.5 TO 8 MILES ROUNDTrip WITH AN ELEVATION GRADUAL GAIN OF 600' TO 6050'.

HIKE CLASSIFICATION: MODERATE SINCE HIKING ALTITUDE IS ABOVE 5400 FEET.

SEASON: MAY THROUGH OCTOBER TOPO MAP: ANGELES FRONT COUNTRY & ACSC L.A. COUNTY

HIKE DESCRIPTION: START THE HIKE ON MT. GLEASON ROAD SOUTHWEST. LOOKING OUT SOUTHWARD ONE CAN SEE ON A CLEAR MORNING ALL OF BIG TUJUNGA CANYON, AND THE FRONT RANGE MOUNTAIN PEAKS: JOSEPHINE, STRAWBERRY, LAWLOR, RABBIT, ROUNDTOP, VETTER, HILLYER AND Mt. PACIFICO AT 7124 FEET. LOOKING SOUTHEASTWARD, ONE MAY SEE WATERMAN AND TWIN PEAKS. BINOCULARS WOULD BE REAL HANDY ON THIS HIKE FOR THE ROAD IS ON THE RIDGE OF THE MOUNTAIN WITH VIEWS TO THE NORTH AS WELL AS BEING A DESIGNATED WILD BIRD REFUGE ON THE FLYWAY. SOME BIRDS JUST STAY HERE. IN ADDITION THERE IS A TREE FARM. BUT ONWARD ALONG THE ROAD FOR ABOUT 3½ MILES. THEN FIND THE DIRT ROAD GOING DOWN NORTHWARD TO CROSS GLEASON CREEK AND THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL. IT IS ABOUT A MILE TO THE BIG BUCK TRAIL CAMP AND LUNCH. LOOKING NORTHWARD DOWN GLEASON CANYON, ONE MAY MAKE OUT THE GOLD MINES: THE GLEASON, THE LOST PADRES AND THE EAGLE. DURING OUR RETURN ALONG THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL, YOU CAN LOOK NORTH ACROSS THE DRAB EXPANSE OF THE MOJAVE DESERT AND PERHAPS (?) THE ANGULAR SNOW-STREAKED PEAKS OF THE HIGH SIERRA. BUT SOON WE WILL BE BACK AT THE CARS AND TRAVEL DOWN TO MILL CREEK SUMMIT PICNIC AREA FOR REFRESHMENTS! HOPEFULLY, THERE WON'T BE A THUNDERSTORM. SEE YOU THERE.