

OTP & OTHERS
Hiking and Debating Society

WEST FORK SAN GABRIEL RIVER
Hike, Bike, Run Fish, Swim or whatever

The hike for February 18, 2009 will be an easy or strenuous stroll up the West Fork of the San Gabriel River. The whole way to Cogswell Dam is on a paved road from which all traffic except official vehicles are excluded. If you wish, this is an excellent opportunity to bring a bike or fishing gear. All stream crossings along the West Fork, except for a couple of small trickles, are by bridge, so if any one gets their feet wet they will have to do it on purpose. On this hike each individual can go as far or not as they wish.

About 7 miles from the trailhead is Glen Canyon camp. A faint trail to the left will take you to Glen Canyon Falls. This is a triple cascade falls and one the more spectacular when there has been a wet year. The upper cascade is bit difficult to see. At the end of the trail one must scramble up the bank on the right and peer through the trees.

Cogswell Dam is 8 miles from the trailhead, an easy trip if you bring a bike or a bit strenuous if you hike.

You can make this outing as easy or as difficult as you wish. The adventurers can take a side trip up Bear Canyon. One mile up the West Fork is the trail to Bear Canyon. The Bear Canyon trail involves a few water crossings so expect to get your shoes wet. There is a walk-in campground up the canyon, which is an excellent place to have lunch and perhaps turn around. Nearby are the remains of an old cabin. Just some stone walls left.

From the 210 Freeway go north on Route 39 about 11 1/2 miles above Azusa to mileage paddle 26.96. Park in the West Fork parking area on the left. An Adventure pass or Golden Age pass will be required for parking.

We will convene at 9:15 AM at the trailhead and with a 15 minute grace period we will start the hike at 9:30 AM. The refreshments will be available from about 1:30 to 3:00 PM. If you opt for a longer hike and don't get back until after 3:00 PM; gee, that's tough. You'll also have to square it with your ride pool.

Trip data:

Distance: 1 to 16 miles, round trip
Elevation gain: 0 to 600 feet or whatever
Effort: Extremely easy or hard
Leaders: Jim Spotts

Recommended Maps:

Los Angeles County and Vicinity: Automobile Club
Angeles National Forest: U S Forest Service
Glendora, Azusa: 7.5 minute Topographic