

TRAIL CANYON

The hike for February 28 will be Big Tujunga via Trail Canyon to Tom Lucas Trail Camp.

Trip data:

Distance:	8 miles, round trip
Elevation gain:	1240 feet
Trailhead elevation:	1880 feet
Average slope:	310 ft per mile, 5.9 % grade
Effort:	Moderate

"Trails of the Angeles" says about this hike:

"This is the finest trail in the Big Tujunga area, and one of the best in the range. The footpath, well maintained by the Forest Service, alternates between the woodsy creek bed and slopes of dense chaparral, offering you both close-ups of nature's finery and far reaching panoramas of mountain scenery."

Kathy and I scouted this trip on Feb. 19. We found the trail to be in adequate condition, in some places a bit narrow and in others we encountered some minor boulder hopping. Sturdy shoes or boots are recommended. There are several stream crossings, none of them a real problem. Feet will occasionally become damp. There is no restroom at the trailhead. There is a single outhouse at Tom Lucas Trail Camp, with no paper. When we started up the trail there were a few fingers of ice in puddles on the road. It might be cool when we start. Hiking up hill soon generates enough body heat that it will be comfortable to take off sweaters and jackets. At the trail camp we found about two to three inches of snow. There will probably be none when the OTP gang goes unless there is another cold storm before that time. We forgot to take small ensolite pads with us so it was difficult to find a dry place to sit when we got there as everything was covered with snow. I also forgot to take sunglasses, which caused some me discomfort with my eyes.

From the east, on the 210 freeway (westbound) take the La Tuna Canyon Road off ramp. You will be westbound on Honolulu Avenue, turn right (north) on Tujunga Canyon Blvd. At Foothill Blvd turn left (west), continue to Mt. Gleason Avenue and turn right (north).

From the west, on the 210 freeway (eastbound) take the Sunland Blvd. off ramp. Continue straight and you will find yourself on Foothill Blvd. Turn left (north) on Mt Gleason Avenue.

Drive north on Mt Gleason Avenue; turn right on Big Tujunga Canyon Road. About two miles beyond the Angeles National Forest sign is the Upper Trail Canyon Road, marked by a sign on the right side of the road. Turn left and drive 1/2 mile up the dirt road to the parking area in Trail Canyon. Be not dismayed at the road into Trail Canyon, it is steep just at the beginning and a bit narrow all the way, but it is negotiable by passenger cars. A Ford Maverick made it in and out while we were there.

We will start the hike at 9:30 AM.

Recommended Maps:

San Fernando Valley Area:	Automobile Club
Angeles National Forest:	U S Forest Service
Sunland:	7.5 minute Topographic
Condor Peak:	7.5 minute Topographic