

1064

## Franklin Canyon Hike

Leader: Anna Decker

December 21, 2011

Approx. 6 miles

Directions to Trailhead: **From Orange County:** Exit 101 at Coldwater Canyon, head south, when it meets Mulholland Dr you turn right on Franklin Canyon Dr. Continue on to the entrance of Franklin Canyon Park & look for large parking lot on your left. **From Valley & South Bay:** Exit 405 at Skirball Center Drive, which soon merges with Mulholland Dr. Head east until Mulholland merges with Coldwater Canyon Dr. and then turn right on Franklin Canyon Dr, continue on to the entrance to Franklin Canyon Park, you'll soon come to the parking lot on the left.

**ALERT... VERY IMPORTANT.....MAKE SURE THAT FULL STOPS ARE MADE ONCE IN THE PARK .....since they are monitored by cameras and the fines are steep. Park in the lot just north of the picnic area.**

Basic Hike: Return to Franklin Canyon Dr. from the parking lot and look for a trail across Franklin Canyon Dr. marked by two large boulders. Head south on this trail eventually returning to Franklin Canyon Dr. Continue south a short distance then turn left at the intersection with Lake Dr. Continue southerly on Lake Dr. turning left at the first possible opportunity which is the Hastain Trail.

Head east on the Hastain Trail to an intersection with a smaller trail leading off to the left up to a ridge, a peak and the intersection with the Hastain Fire Road. Take in the views at this point, and then continue southerly on the ridge to a small trail which traverses the ridge (do not take the fire road down off the ridge). Take this trail, which ultimately turns westerly, down to Lake Dr. (bypassing the larger trail leading down to the right at the hair pin turn midway down).

At Lake Dr., jog left a short distance then right taking a trail starting across Lake Dr. and paralleling Lake Dr. going north. This trail dead-ends on the Discovery Trail which, with a left turn, leads up the steep hill to Hillcrest Drive. Continue north on Hill Crest, which becomes Franklin Canyon Dr. Continue north on Franklin Canyon Dr. PAST the intersection with Lake Dr. to a trail leading off to the right leading to the dam area. Take either route leading west or east around the lake ultimately converging on the parking lot.

An alternate path back to the parking lot is the Blinderman Trail which starts about midway off of the east route around the lake and bypasses Sooky Goldman Nature Center, other park facilities. This trail is essentially two loops with many options. The important thing to remember is to head north and west to get back to the picnic area where the after hike party will be held.

**PLEASE** check your e-mail on Monday December 19th before printing the trail directions, do to possible changes.