

600

## SOLEDAD CANYON TO VASQUEZ ROCKS, VIA PACIFIC CREST TRAIL

Feb. 20, 2002

Start Time: 9:00 AM, to set up shuttle

Leader; Tom Frye (818) 341-1403

DISTANCE: About 8 Mi.

ELEVATION GAIN: About 1,360 Ft.

### THE HIKE:

From the intersection of Soledad Canyon and Indian Canyon Road, At Marker #17.56, a good trail crosses the stream and RR tracks, and proceeds on up the hill. In the first two miles it climbs 650 feet as it winds through the hills, the Trail drops 240 feet before climbing another 490 feet to another ridge.

From this second ridge, there is a view of the I-14 Freeway with Vasquez Rocks in the background. The trail works it's way down the hill, and through a tunnel under the Fwy. The tunnel is about 1+1/2 miles from the parking lot. The trail follows the streambed for about 3/4 mi. where there is an intersection with a trail turning up and sharply to the right. There is a brown fiberglass marker with the PCT logo peeled off.

This trail heads east as it climbs 220 feet to a dirt road atop the ridge, then sharply to the left near the parking area. Here there are Andy Gumps and picnic tables for our party.

### C A U T I O N!!!!

This is a strenuous cross-country hike, with no bail out points. Anyone who feels it is more than they want to comfortably attempt, might want to start at Vasquez Rocks. That is the scenic part of the hike and there are enough trails in the park to last all day.

### DIRECTIONS;

Take I-14 Freeway north, headed toward Palmdale. Exit at Agua Dulce Road and turn right. Go to Soledad Canyon Road and turn left. In about a mile and a half there is a forestry camp with restrooms. Watch carefully for it on the left. There is no sign, and it is hard to see. You may then proceed to the trailhead at Indian Canyon Road, Paddle #17.56.

### THE SHUTTLE:

The drivers will disgorge their passengers, and their gear. The drivers will then drive to the parking lot at Vasquez Rocks and leave their cars. Valley people will then haul the drivers back to the trailhead (16 Mi. round trip).

I believe the hike will be worth the hassle of the shuttle.

Happy Trails

Tom