

SERRANO CANYON

July 28, 2004

Hike Leader: Larry Nava

Approximate Distance: 8 miles

Approximate Elevation Gain/Loss: 700 ft.

Directions to Trailhead: Take Pacific Coast Highway (Hwy 1) to Sycamore Canyon Campground north of Malibu. We will gather at the day use parking area. If you do not wish to pay the \$10 day use parking fee, you may continue on PCH past the entrance and park on the right at an area by the cliffs, and walk back going behind the fence (there is a path). Free parking may also be available on the beach side of PCH, north of the entrance. If you park here, **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CROSS PCH ON THE HIGHWAY!** Walk down to the beach and back under the bridge at PCH to the day use parking area. Restroom facilities are available at the day use parking area.

The Hike: Proceed thru the Sycamore Campground and up the Sycamore Canyon road for approximately 1 mile. At the sign post for Serrano Canyon turn right and hike easterly into a wooded canyon that criss-crosses a dry stream bed. The trail gradually gains elevation and rises to gently rolling grassland set against the steep background of Boney Mountain. At this point there is a crossroads. Take the left trail up the meadow. After about a third of a mile you come across an old water pump assembly to the right of the main trail. In about another third of a mile on the main trail, you come to a tee at a sign post. This is the start of the loop part of the hike. Take the trail to the right and down across a wooded gully (this might be a good shady area for lunch) and then in a northerly direction up into the chaparral. After about 2 miles you reach an old auto frame. Take the trail that leads in a southerly direction and reach the sign post again. At the tee, take the trail to the right back down the meadow and at the crossroads take the trail to the right back down into Serrano Canyon. At the junction of Sycamore Canyon, turn left and continue to the day use parking area where we will have refreshments.