

Hike #779

**The Backbone Trail
From Old Topanga Road to Saddle Peak Road by way of Hondo Canyon
and Beyond to Saddle Peak
2 November 2005
John Chady, Hike Leader**

The Hike: 7.6 Miles round trip from trail head on Old Topanga Road to the "luncheon rock" overlooking Saddle Peak Road and canyon vistas. Those who wish to do Saddle Peak itself will continue for about another 1-1/2 miles past the rock outcropping. (I have made a map showing approximate trail route for those who couldn't find the trail the last time.) Return the way you came. Approximately 1200 feet gained and lost to "luncheon rock". Add 600 feet for Saddle Peak itself. Hike is rated: Moderate

Refreshments after the hike will be at the trail head

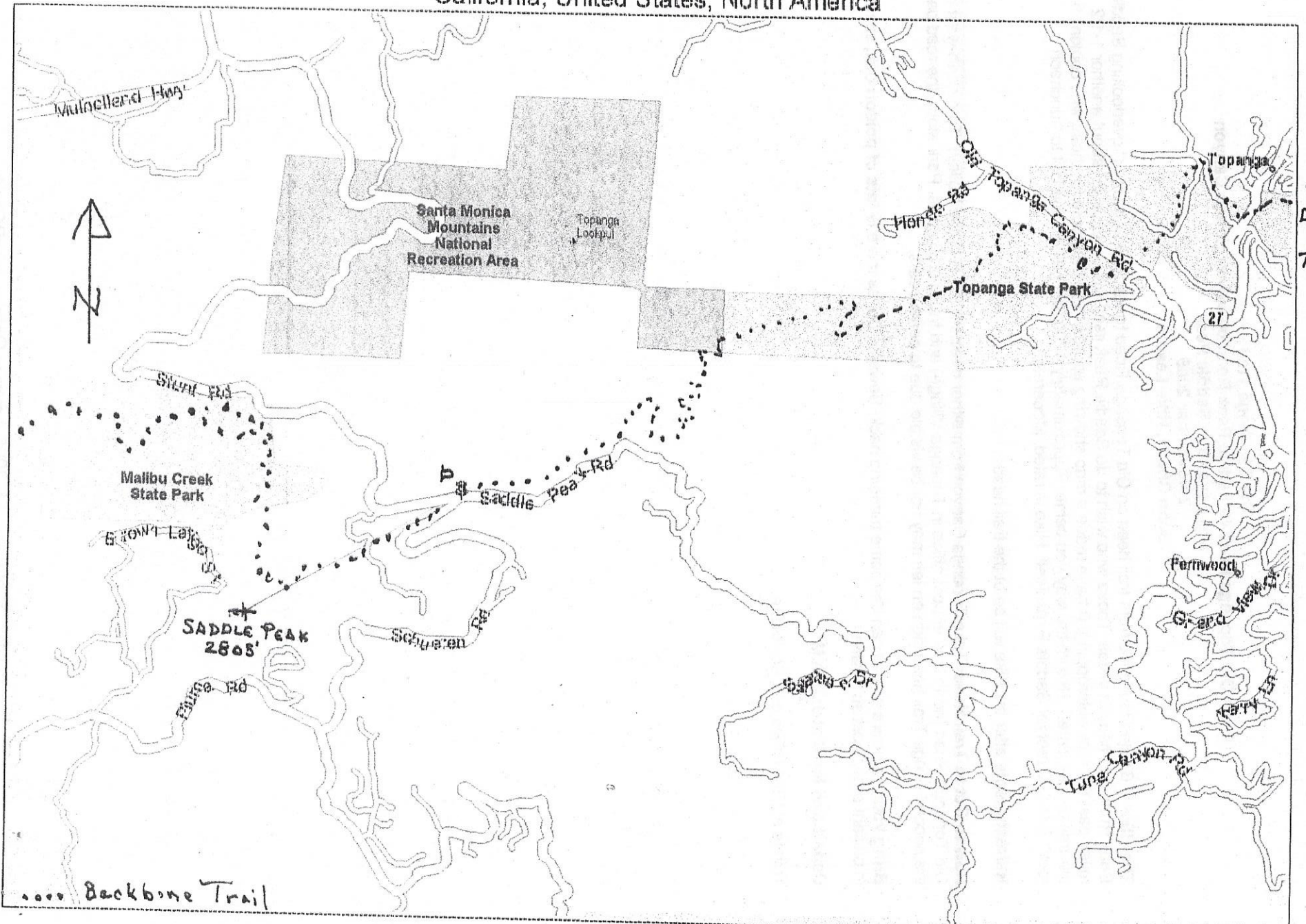
How to Get to Trail Head: Take Topanga Canyon from either direction (PCH or the Valley). Turn north-west on Old Topanga Road (north side of post office in Topanga Village) and travel 0.35 miles. Park along the road past the second bridge. Trail head sign on left may not be visible due to parked cars.

Bring your snippers as trail can use some trimming back. Beware, too, as there is **lots of poison oak**, some in brilliant reds, most still green.

Depart trail head at 9:30 A.M.

Toilets at Post Office and Bookstore.

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