

## Strawberry Potrero from Strawberry Trail Head

Main Hike: 1500 ft up and 4.2 miles to Strawberry Potrero

Date: 7/15/2009

Leader: Norm Maclean

## Directions to Strawberry Trail Head

Angeles Crest Highway (SR 2) to Clear Creek then left on Angeles Forest Highway. Continue past the tunnel 1.6 miles to the Upper Tujunga Canyon Road, where you turn right and continue about 1.2 miles to the Colby Ranch Road. Then turn right and go about 1 mile and cross a green one-lane bridge to the Strawberry Trailhead parking lot (elev. 3160). The forest service has thoughtfully provided restrooms and two picnic tables at the trailhead. Valley hikers may want to take the Big Tujunga Canyon road to the Angeles Forest Highway, and then turn left and continue as above.

Main Hike: Hike up the trail 2.8 miles and 1240 ft elev. gain to the first trail junction (elev. 4400). The main hike goes to the left. Take the right fork to return via Colby Methodist Camp (Option Three). The next junction (elev. 4460) is 0.4 miles and 60 ft gain further. Here you take the right fork to Strawberry Potrero. Don't take the left fork which goes to Strawberry Spring and eventually Red Box. Strawberry Potrero is about one mile and 200 ft. more elevation rise further, where we will have lunch. Take plenty of water.

Option One: Continue past Strawberry Potrero to Josephine Saddle (elev. 4840) (an extra 2 miles and 200 ft. rise) where you can look South down Colby Canyon. This is 6.2 miles one way and 1680 ft. net gain. Take more water

Option Two: From Josephine Saddle continue 2 more miles and 718 ft. additional rise to Josephine Peak (elev. 5558), a total of 8.4 miles each way and 2400 ft rise. Only the extremely hardy or foolhardy should try Option Two. Take more water.

Option Three: From the first junction on the main hike, turn right and descend through Colby Methodist Camp and down the road to the trailhead, making a loop hike. Camp Colby is in a pretty wooded glen, but private property, so act accordingly.

Option Four: Bring a camp chair and walk about 125 ft east of the picnic tables at Strawberry Trail Head to a shaded spot along Big Tujunga Creek where you can see pretty pools and wait for the rest of us to return for post-hike snacks.