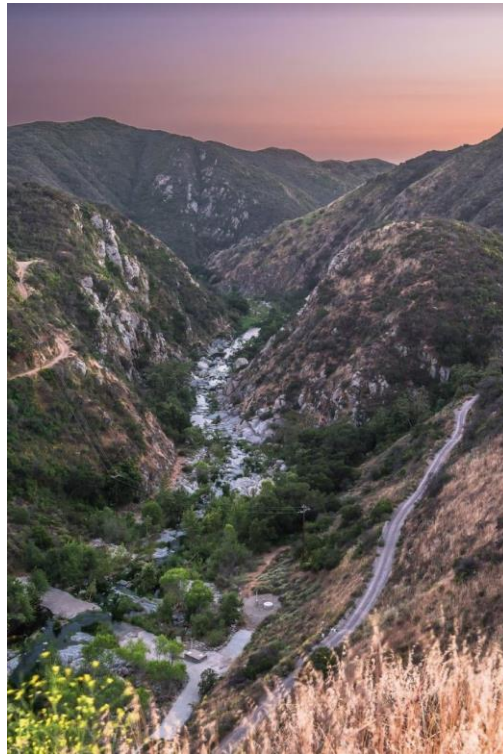




SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
Field Stations Program
College of Sciences

Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve
Temecula Gorge Docent-led Hike



All hikes begin promptly at 8:00 am

This hike is 6½ miles with a 1,400 feet elevation gain and loss, leaving from the Reserve's **South Field Station** to the Temecula Gorge and back.

This moderate hike is on a dirt road with several challenging hills that winds through an avocado orchard, shady oak woodlands, chaparral and finally down into the riparian area of the Santa Margarita River.

To register for this hike, please contact Beth Cobb at smerdocenthikes@gmail.com.

Please visit the SDSU Field Stations website at fsp.sdsu.edu for additional information.

These exclusive docent-led hikes are a fun way to visit this special place which is not open to the public. In addition to protecting local flora and fauna, the reserve provides environmental research opportunities for students and researchers worldwide.

Directions to the South Field Station Entrance

Click link below to get directions:

[South Field Station Entrance \(Google Maps\)](#)

Written Directions:

1. Take the Mission Road exit on I-15 and follow Mission Road west toward Fallbrook. Drive 1.6 miles to Willow Glen Road and turn right.
2. After 2.2 miles, Willow Glen Road intersects with Stage Coach Lane and turns into a dirt road, virtually at the River.
3. Turn right (your only option) onto Stage Coach Lane and drive 1.7 miles to the locked gate of the Reserve. The gate will be opened for tour participants, who will park in a dirt parking lot at the entrance to the citrus grove, about a half mile past the gate.

NOTE:

- You **MUST go down WILLOW GLEN ROAD** to get to the reserve. **Very often a GPS will send you in a wrong direction.**
- The dirt road that parallels the river is beautiful but winding and slow driving.
- We start promptly at 8:00. Please allow 25 minutes to drive from the 15 Freeway / Mission Road off-ramp to the Reserve trailhead.