

**The Trail:** The trail is located on the east side of Lindero Canyon Road south of Rockfield Street. The trail surrounds the north, east and south sides a discrete residential development on Concerto and Rhapsody Drives. The trailheads are on the north and south sides of the subdivision. The trail abuts tightly the small back yards of the homes but is about five feet below the yards. The trail is short but sweet! The eastern side of the trail is creekside, with running water and a dense tree cover. The length of the trail is 0.4 miles round trip. *Lindero*," as in Lindero Canyon Road, means "boundary." The boundary between two Spanish land-grants ran in a straight line from the center of the canyon in the south north to the top of Simi Peak.

**Plant Life:** Plants along the trail are a mixture of exotic and native species. Those noted, from north to south, were sugar bush, yellow sweet clover, coast live and valley oaks, Japanese mock orange, arroyo willow, California sycamore, wild rose, toyon, coyote brush, ripgut brome, purple nightshade, black and Mediterranean mustards, Italian and yellow star thistles, narrow-leaved bedstraw, wild oats, Fremont Cottonwood, wild cucumber, fig, and datura (highly toxic).

Animal Life: Animals that may be observed along the trail may include mammals, such as California ground squirrels, Botta's pocket gophers, brush rabbits and desert cottontails, many types of bats, raccoons, coyotes, striped skunks, and maybe mountain lions and bobcats. Birds may include many species common to riparian woodlands. Reptiles are probably limited to Great Basin fence lizards.

While mountain lions are present in the hills around Simi Valley, encounters are unlikely, but you should always be alert. It is best that you do not hike alone and that you keep small children close at hand. Rattlesnakes may be encountered — Stay on the trail and avoid them when they are encountered — Be observant and never try to handle them. Do not handle any wildlife, including bats, even if they appear to be injured or sick. Remember, you are visitors to their homes.

Mike Kuhn, Executive Chair, Rancho Simi Trail Blazers Please see **Trail Safety Tips** at this trail's main page for more info.