

Rio Laja Trail- Section 10: *KM 79 Trail*

Description:

This section of the trail is only navigable during the dry season, because much of the trail has been eroded and therefore necessitates travel in the riverbed. It is not as pleasant as other sections comprising the network of trails along the Rio Laja. This section is 3.02 miles/ 4.8 km long.

Access to trailhead parking:

Take a left turn at San Ignacio sign onto an old cobblestone road. There will be an agricultural field on the left. Take the first left onto a dirt road. After roughly 1 mile/ 1.6 km, the road will bend right, continue following signs to San Ignacio. The agricultural field will now be on the right. After 1.5 miles/ 2.4 km, park off to the left under trees.



Waypoint 1: Trailhead parking at mile 0.0/ km 0.0. GPS coordinates: 21.109, -100.834. Parking is located under a strand of trees between two agricultural fields. The access road passes through two metal gate posts, descending to riverbed. Concrete bridge visible on the left. Follow along the right side of the riverbed, a footpath ascends from the riverbed on the right. Two Eucalyptus trees are seen on the right side. Follow trail with barbed wire and wooden post fence on the right.



Waypoint 2: A wire gate leads from a field, at .76 miles/ 1.22 km. Trail opens onto farmer's access road, a wire gate leads from a field, carrizo on the right. Continue following road and barbed wire fence, with tall trees on the right. Road narrows to a trail, which becomes a rocky, indistinct surface on the river embankment. The wire fence line ends. Continue through brush with river embankment on left. River takes a 90 degree turn to the west/northwest. Cross a small natural arroyo.

In clearing is an access road to field



Waypoint 3: Possible old hacienda, very close to highway, at 1.17 miles/ 1.88 km. Path opens to a large cleared area with group of white buildings on the right side, including an old hacienda (with bullring). It is favorable to leaving trail here, traversing into and up the riverbed.

Waypoint 4: Electrical transformer on power pole on top of knoll to left, at 2.04 miles/ 3.3 km. Cross over to left side of riverbed, until river takes sharp 90 degree turn. High voltage lines pass above. Ascend the left embankment and follow road, with river to right.



Transformer can be seen on far left of river

Waypoint 5: End of Section 10, start of Section 11, at 3.02 miles/ 4.8 km. GPS coordinate: 21.130, -100.857. A large and impermanent greenhouse structure is seen on the right side of the river. There is nothing distinct here to signify end of the Section, save a brick house with scooped wall above riverbank to right. This section is 27.24 miles/ 43.6 km from the start of Section one on the Rio Laja trail network.