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WILDERNESS RECORD

Proceedings of the California Wilderness Coalition

May 1996

Barkley Salvage Sale stopped

First "lawless logging" sale to be stopped

By Ryan Henson

Last month, due to "escalating public concerns," the Clinton administration cancelled the Barkley salvage sale in the Lassen National Forest. This news delighted activists, who, after more than a year of often bitter and desperate fighting, have made the Barkley sale the first project authorized under the salvage rider to be withdrawn in response to public protest.

Since the salvage rider (a law exempting many kinds of logging on public lands from federal environmental laws) prohibits citizen appeals and severely limits judicial review, conservationists initially had little hope that they could stop the Barkley sale. However, scores of letters from outraged citizens, intense lobbying, and a media campaign accomplished what appeals and lawsuits normally could have.

Critical wildlands at stake

The sale would have devastated a large portion of the 9,700-acre Polk Springs Roadless Area adjacent to the Ishi Wilderness. This remote and rugged section of the northern Sierra foothills has long been a refuge for sensitive species of plants and wildlife and was also home to Ishi, the last Native American to live "in the wild," apart from Euro-American culture. The roadless area contains many critical old-growth forest groves and several pristine streams, including Deer Creek which, along with Mill Creek to the north, hosts the best remaining chinook salmon and steelhead habitat in the Sacramento River watershed. Because of its outstanding wildlife, water quality, and recreational opportunities, Deer Creek is proposed for wild-and-scenic river status by the Forest Service.

Ironically, the Forest Service claimed that logging ancient trees and bulldozing roads would restore the damage caused by a wildfire that burned through the area in 1994. Conservationists rejected this reasoning, noting that the forests slated for clearcutting had evolved in tandem with fire and did not have to be "restored" through logging. They also noted that the burned forests were recovering naturally: carpets of young trees were sprouting in the burned groves, and wildflowers, bunchgrass, and other plants rose up within weeks of the fire to cover the naked soil. Adjacent private land, by contrast, was completely clearcut after the fire and had no plant



Iceland Lake, Emigrant Wilderness. Photo by Jim Eaton

regeneration or soil cover whatsoever. Silt from the logging filled streams flowing through the private lands; the streams flowing through the Polk Springs Roadless Area remained clear and clean. To conservationists, the roadless area provides the only buffer between the devastated private lands and Deer Creek's irreplaceable salmon and steelhead habitat.

Thanks to a letter writing campaign organized by the California Wilderness Coalition (CWC) and Friends of the River, the Barkley sale was temporarily shelved in 1995. The Quincy Library Group's (QLG) vehement opposition to the project also was instrumental in initially stopping the sale. The QLG is an informal gathering of loggers, environmentalists, and others who agreed to protect wild areas in the Lassen and Plumas national forests while still allowing sustainable logging in less controversial areas. Since the group agreed that the Polk Springs Roadless Area deserved protection, the timber corporations involved in the QLG refused to bid on the Barkley sale (indeed, when

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New Emigrant Plan: tough on dogs, soft on cows

By Jim Eaton

In what could be a blueprint for the long-term health of the Emigrant Wilderness, the Forest Service has released a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) on the proposed management of this 112,000-acre wilderness. The 250-page document outlines the alternatives considered by the Forest Service in deciding the how the Emigrant will be managed in the future. There are few substantive differences among the six alternatives, however, and the plan skirts major issues. The Forest Service does propose a few positive steps to enhance the wilderness character of the Emigrant, which is home to numerous threatened or endangered wildlife species and is a popular destination for backpackers.

Striving to take the "most consistent and balanced approach to the issues," the Forest Service's recommended plan only marginally differs from the other alternatives for managing the Emigrant. The agency chose not to address major impacts to wilderness such as commercial grazing, fish stocking, and party size in this document, but did discuss issues like crowding, dog control, firewood avail-

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Another salvage sale scuttled

By Ryan Henson

There was more good news in April. The Forest Service notified the California Wilderness Coalition (CWC) that it will not salvage log the Deep Creek Roadless Area in the San Bernardino National Forest (see January 1996 *Wilderness Record*).

The proposed Devil salvage sale would have allowed off-road vehicle users to drive cross-country through the roadless area to chop down trees burned by a fire last year. The proposal outraged conservationists because it would have damaged fragile soils, hampered post-fire recovery, and created vehicle routes through the roadless area. Fortunately, after a spate of letters from CWC members and others, the Forest Service decided that protecting soil health and the primitive character of the roadless area was more important than providing cheap firewood for the off-road vehicle crowd.

Because of the salvage rider, the CWC could not have stopped the Devil salvage sale through administrative appeals or the courts. Once again, it was public outrage alone that turned the tide and saved yet another of California's irreplaceable wild areas.



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...to promote throughout the State of California the preservation of wild lands as legally designated wilderness areas by carrying on an educational program concerning the value of wilderness and how it may best be used and preserved in the public interest, by making and encouraging scientific studies concerning wilderness, and by enlisting public interest and cooperation in protecting existing or potential wilderness areas.

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Coalition news

Monthly Report

"What's going on in the community center?" my neighbors ask me when they see yet another gathering of environmentalists. "Just saving the Sierra Nevada," I replied last month.

Although I would prefer to meet in the Sierra, the logistics of gathering activists who hail from Loyaltown to Tehachapi and from Mammoth Lakes to San Francisco often brings us together in Davis.

This time some 40 environmentalists representing more than a score of organizations spent two days laying the groundwork for a major campaign to protect the Sierra. It was not an easy task. Strong personalities and different agendas kept the meeting both exhilarating and frustrating. We did accomplish most of our goals and set a course for the future, but I regretted spending the delightful spring weekend indoors rather than gardening or hiking.

My plans to take a few days off afterwards to camp and stargaze were dampened by some late heavy rains, so aside from my daily walk, my only travel was a drive to Hathaway Pines to meet with the Forest Service.

The Coalition appealed a Forest Service decision to change the boundary of a proposed wilderness addition to the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness. Ryan and I spent the afternoon with the district ranger and his staff discussing our appeal. They feel they must accommodate snowmobilers while we believe the rare wolverines and fishers come first. Since there was no middle ground, we agreed to disagree and let the appeal move forward. But at least the drive through the Sierra foothills was pretty.

Inyo and I had been enjoying our walks in "Evergreen Forest," the future subdivision that has lain fallow for several years while awaiting its fate. The past few months we watched the lupine, fiddleneck, phacelia, and vetch bloom while the mustard grew chest high (for me; Inyo trotted through tunnels created by the jackrabbits). In this canine jungle, we flushed more pheasants and doves than rabbits.

The migrating cedar waxwings next paid a visit, while red-winged blackbirds staked out their territories and added to the cacophony. Overhead, northern harriers and Swainson's hawks ruled the skies.

One morning we heard the growling and clanking of heavy machinery. In the distance we spotted a slowly moving tractor tilling under the wildflowers row-by-row. First to go was the burrowing owl nesting site which had been spared the plow the previous year. Can't have those critters standing in the way of progress, can we?

By the end of the week, the deed was done. Only a few individual plants had been missed by the wheeled locust, and each had a diehard blackbird reigning over clods of brown earth. A few rabbits looked in vain for food, running towards the Interstate when they saw us coming. They live in the freeway right-of-way and slip through the chain link fence to forage.

It was painful to witness the change. The only assuaging fact is that all this will be streets and houses soon, anyway. The wildlife had been eliminated once before when these lands were tomato fields; the plants and animals returned during the transition years from farm to city.

Inyo and I still walk out there. If anything, we get far more exercise than before try hiking through a freshly plowed field to see what I mean.

And despite witnessing the sad conversion of the land, it does give me hope that The Wildlands Project will succeed. I saw firsthand that some species quickly recolonize disturbed habitats if we just have the generosity of spirit to allow them to do so. The challenge is to stop the machine, to protect all existing wildlands and allow disturbed wild places to recover.

There's no time like the present to begin.

By Jim Eaton



Join the Rapid Response Team

The California Wilderness Coalition wants you to join its rapid response team!

Public comments on Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management projects often mean the difference between wilderness and a clearcut, road, or stripmine.

However, many of the destructive projects proposed for California's wild areas are announced with little time to spare. For this reason, the CWC cannot always inform its members about these projects in the *Wilderness Record* or by mailing out a wilderness alert.

Technology can come to the rescue. We are currently compiling a list of electronic mail addresses and fax

numbers from members willing to write letters on projects with two weeks notice or less. As always, we will try to keep our alerts to a minimum, and we will also try to give you as much notice and guidance as possible.

Thanks in advance for your help. To join our rapid response team, please send your electronic mail addresses or fax numbers to Ryan Henson at the address, fax number, or electronic mail address in the upper left hand corner of this page.

REI helps CWC, again.

Recreational Equipment, Inc. recently awarded the California Wilderness Coalition a grant for \$3,000. The money will be used for outreach to recruit more members and activists for the CWC. This isn't the first time that REI has helped the Coalition. They are a good friend to wilderness, and we extend our thanks to them.

Welcome, Seven Generations Land Trust

The Coalition's newest member group is in the business of practicing what many only preach. Seven Generations Land Trust works to establish a cooperative network of what it calls "land-based models of practical applications of deep ecological principles."

So far, the Trust has two projects that promote sustainable living: Lost Valley Educational Center near Eugene, Oregon, and Fox Creek in the high desert of eastern Oregon. An urban study center in Berkeley, where the Trust is based, is under consideration.

For more information about the Seven Generations Land Trust and its projects, call (510) 849-9876 or write to P. O. Box 3417, Berkeley, CA 94703.

Wilderness Trivia Question

When and where were wilderness permits first required?

Answer on page 7

Cattle grazing

This Cud's For You! Anheuser-Busch's Cows are Destroying the Golden Trout Wilderness

Anheuser-Busch, maker of Budweiser and Bud Light, is the most profitable U.S. brewer and the owner of businesses that include metal packaging, food products (Eagle Snacks), and theme parks (like Sea World and Busch Gardens).

But few know the brewer is also in the ranching business. The company bought the Cabin Bar Ranch near Olancho in 1992. The ranch, which has some of the finest riparian and wetland habitat remaining in the Owens Valley, has a diverse assemblage of rare, threatened, endangered, or locally endemic species. The Owens tui chub, a desert fish, and the Owens Valley checkerbloom, a wildflower, make their home there. This is where Anheuser-Busch now grazes a large herd of cattle.

When the company bought the ranch, it also acquired the right to graze 800 cow-calf pairs on two grazing allotments in the Golden Trout Wilderness. Anheuser-Busch's herd of cattle spends summers and early autumns consuming and compressing the grasses, sedges, and soils of the core habitat of California's state fish: the golden trout.

The cattle graze on two biologically-important allotments in the Inyo National Forest 10 to 20 miles south of Mt. Whitney. The Whitney Allotment shares a 10 to 15 mile border with Sequoia National Park. This land is critical to the native biological diversity of the Sierra Nevada. Cattle grazing threatens that biodiversity.

The Whitney Allotment also contains the headwaters of the South Fork of the Kern River: Golden Trout Creek and Volcano Creek. These three creeks are the ancestral home waters of the only remaining pure strains of Volcano Creek golden trout. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is considering proposing this species for listing as threatened, primarily due to habitat degradation. In places throughout the Golden Trout Wilderness, the fish's habitat has been degraded by loss of overhanging vegetation, collapsed stream banks, sedimentation, lack of in-stream and bank cover, and other factors. Livestock grazing is the biggest reason.

Anheuser-Busch's herd of cattle spends summers and early autumns consuming and compressing the grasses, sedges, and soils of the core habitat of California's state fish: the golden trout.

The rivers and creeks of the Whitney Allotment still support golden trout populations, but the allotment is deeply degraded—and is worsened each year—by cattle. Forest Service data gathered in September 1995 reveal that meadows at the headwaters of the South Fork are extremely degraded. The proportion of nearby South Fork Meadow in "healthy" condition has declined from 35 to 15 percent over the last fifteen years, 85 percent is in either "damaged" or "threatened" condition, and 22 gullies scar the meadow.

The company also runs cattle on the Templeton Allotment, which abuts the southeastern border of the

Whitney Allotment and contains some of the largest wet meadows in the Sierra Nevada. It was heavily used by sheep in the mid-to-late 1800s and was heavily stocked with cattle through the early- and mid-twentieth century. Cattle-induced erosion has lowered the water table so much that the South Fork Kern often is ten feet lower than it was 150 years ago. Sagebrush colonization is rampant, indicating deg-

Cattle-induced erosion has lowered the water table so much that the South Fork Kern often is ten feet lower than it was 150 years ago.

radation of wet meadows. Many areas along the South Fork lack protective willows, and many sections bear the wide and shallow characteristics of degraded streams. The Forest Service said in 1991 that less than 10 percent of trout habitat in the Templeton Allotment was in acceptable condition; nearly 70 percent of stream banks had "fair to poor" stability.

Cattle grazing is a major impediment to trout habitat recovery in the Templeton Allotment. Though golden trout population numbers remain substantial, most of the trout are young. Habitat here seems adequate for spawning, but not for long-term survival and growth of individual fish. What this means for species viability is unclear. Smaller, younger fish occupying wide, shallow river habitat without protective deep pools and overhanging vegetation may be vulnerable to extreme temperatures. Short life span exposes the whole golden trout population to risk if spawning fails for a number of consecutive years. Spawning failed in 1995.

Cattle are also degrading mule deer habitat on the Kern Plateau. A portion of the Monache deer herd uses both the Whitney and Templeton allotments for summer range, fawning, and migration. The Monache deer herd is between a third and a quarter its historic size of 8,000–10,000. Undoubtedly, poor quality of riparian habitat in the Golden Trout Wilderness is affecting the deer. Water and high-quality, succulent forage—important for lactating does—make meadow-riparian habitat particularly valuable to mule deer. Three-quarters of all such meadowland in that allotment was identified as "damaged" in 1981.

Other wildlife hurt by the cattle operation in the wilderness include montane voles, yellow warblers, willow flycatchers, carnivores such as the fisher and marten, and the endangered plant Ramshaw Meadows abroni (*Abronia alpina*).

Public pressure on the Forest Service may result in limited improvements. In 1996 or 1997, the agency will reassess grazing on the Templeton Allotment to decide if extensive fencing and a rest-rotation grazing system are needed there. Anheuser-Busch will resist any change, and the Forest Service—assuming it has the gumption to propose change at all—will buckle under pressure unless the public makes a fuss. The company's permit for the Whitney Allotment expires in 1999, so little management change can be expected there until then.

More broadly, the Forest Service will start preparing



South Fork Kern River, Golden Trout Wilderness (the measuring devices were temporarily placed by the photographer). Photo by Todd Shuman

an environmental impact statement for the four grazing allotments in the Inyo National Forest portion of the Golden Trout Wilderness in 1998. This may provide us with the best opportunity to challenge grazing in the wilderness. A large public response and a sustained legal challenge to the Forest Service's final decision could produce significant changes and advance the national campaign against corporate ranching on public lands.

Still, the Golden Trout Wilderness won't show marked habitat improvement without sustained rest from cattle grazing. This may not be possible until the 1964 Wilderness Act is amended to exclude domestic livestock grazing from designated wilderness lands, and who knows if that ever will occur?

To get on the mailing list for Inyo National Forest range issues, contact Resource Officer Ron Keil at United States Forest Service, Inyo National Forest, 873 North Main Street, Bishop, CA 93541-2494; (619) 873-2400.

For more information about this issue, contact the Golden Trout Wilderness Protection League, 1442 A Walnut Street, Suite 240, Berkeley, CA 94709

Reprinted from the May 1996 issue of *Terrain*, the newsletter of the Ecology Center in Berkeley.

Ancient forests

Barkley sale forever quashed

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the Barkley sale was first offered to the timber industry, no firms responded, largely because of the QLG agreement). The Clinton administration was loath to log an area that the timber industry itself sought to preserve.

Unholy resurrection

Representative Wally Herger's (R-Marysville) demand that the Barkley Salvage Sale go forward at all costs breathed new life into the project. Hi-Ridge Lumber Company of Yreka, a firm based in Rep. Herger's district stood to profit from the logging and became one of the project's main proponents.

This pressure, coupled with the Forest Service's own strong desire to clearcut the roadless area, led the agency to revive the Barkley sale just when activists thought it had been cancelled permanently. To their dismay, conservationists were notified in late March that the trees would be sold to the timber industry on April 3. At a meeting in Washington, D.C., the CWC complained to Department of Agriculture officials about the project's rebirth. Interestingly, administration officials seemed unaware that the Barkley sale had been revived at all, confirming suspicions that the Forest Service had reauthorized the project without the approval of the Clinton administration.

After learning of the sale's revival, conservationists launched another letter writing campaign to both the Forest Service and the Clinton administration. Activists also sought help from Congress. Despite Rep. Herger's role in promoting the Barkley sale, the roadless area is in Representative Vic Fazio's (D-West Sacramento) district. Activists met with Rep. Fazio and convinced him to appeal to the Clinton administration to cancel the sale. Fazio was particularly concerned about the sale's impacts on the Quincy Library Group and on the Deer Creek Watershed Conservancy (a coalition of ranchers, loggers, and environmentalists working to restore Deer Creek's ecological health). Fazio feared that the project would jeopardize both of these promising local partnerships and re-ignite the "timber wars" that raged throughout the 1980s.

Death watch

In the last days before the project was slated to be sold, conservationists bombarded the Clinton administration with complaints. Since the salvage rider prevented activists from stopping the Barkley sale in court, the CWC, Friends of Plumas Wilderness, and Earth First! began organizing a desperate, last-ditch protest and demonstration against the sale—something the CWC had never done. Activists who had fought the project since 1994 grew weary and depressed even as they continued to lobby the Forest Service. Steve Evans of Friends of the River compared the last days of March to a "death watch."

On March 28 and 29 activists undertook the grim task of taking "before" pictures of the roadless area (see photo before), hoping against hope that they would not have to return to take "after" pictures. After hiking through eight miles of devastated private lands, we arrived in the cool oasis of the roadless area. Calls of the elusive, old-growth dependent pileated woodpecker could be heard in the distance, and bear tracks were abundant throughout. Wildflowers grew in profusion, and burnt-but-majestic ponderosa pines sheltered new generations of trees in their shadow. A lazy stream meandered through the old-growth with rings of wildflowers and bunchgrass growing along its banks. The area was almost painfully beautiful in its spring richness, and imagining it being clearcut was more abhorrent than ever.

On April 2 activists fired off one last barrage of faxes and phone calls to the Clinton administration to these letters made it clear that if the Barkley sale proceeded, President Clinton would be held directly—and very publicly—responsible. Activists also sent out press releases with vivid photographs of the sale area, including a remarkable aerial photo taken by Linda Blum of the Quincy Library Group that shows clearly that the old-growth grove slated for logging is surrounded by cliffs dropping straight into Deer Creek. The Forest Service had claimed the sale would result in very little erosion into Deer Creek.

A stay of execution

That afternoon the phone began to ring off the hook at the CWC. The first call was from a reporter who informed us that "you people have started a war" in Washington between the Forest Service and the Clinton administration over the Barkley sale. The next call was from another breathless reporter who told us that a war was indeed underway and that the outcome would be decided momentarily. About an hour later the Lassen National Forest, the Forest Service's regional office, Rep. Fazio's office, and even more reporters called to tell us that the sale had been killed on orders from Washington.

The conservation community will probably never know what finally drove a stake through the heart of the Barkley sale. What we do know is that the struggle against the sale was a rare victory in the battle against the salvage rider, and by extension, against those who would destroy our last wild places in blind pursuit of the profit.

The CWC thanks everyone who responded to the Barkley Sale alerts. Because of your dedication, the haunting call of the pileated woodpecker will still echo through the Polk Springs Roadless Area, and Deer Creek's threatened salmon and steelhead will face one less hurdle in their desperate struggle against extinction.

A Brief History Of The Polk Springs Roadless Area

The history of the Polk Springs Roadless Area is typical of many wild areas threatened by Forest Service "management." It is a story of an agency which favors resource exploitation and routinely ignores overwhelming public opinion supporting wilderness protection. Nevertheless, the Polk Springs area has dodged the axe three times now—primarily due to the persistent work of its dedicated defenders. But can it survive a fourth attempt?

The key events in the chronology of the area follow:

1977 - The Forest Service includes the 9,400-acre Polk Springs Roadless Area in a congressionally mandated inventory of Forest Service wildlands known as RARE II.

1978 - The Forest Service proposes to "salvage" 8 million board feet of supposedly dead and dying trees by helicopter from the Polk Springs area and Deer Creek canyon. The sale is appealed by conservation groups.

1979 - In response to the RARE II survey, 74 percent of all public comments and 96 percent of all personally written letters support wilderness designation for the Polk Springs area.

1980 - Ruling on the Polk salvage appeal, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Rupert Cutler concludes the proposed logging will harm the area's wilderness character and cancels the sale.

1984 - Congress designates the 41,000-acre Ishi Wilderness but "releases" the adjacent Polk Springs Roadless Area to potential logging and development.

1986 - The draft Lassen National Forest land and resources management plan allocates most of the Polk Springs Roadless Area to Wild River and Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized Recreation management. A majority of public comments in response to the draft plan support wilderness management for the area.

1989 - The Forest Service proposes to log 10.9 million board feet from the Polk Springs Roadless Area and Deer Creek canyon as part of the Polk timber sale. Public comments overwhelmingly oppose the sale, noting that it violates the draft forest plan. The sale is subsequently withdrawn pending completion of the forest plan.

1992 - The final version of the Lassen forest plan reallocates portions of the Polk Springs Roadless Area to intensive timber management. Conservationists appeal the plan.

1994 - The Barkley fire burns 40,000 acres of mostly grassland and brush, including portions of the Polk Springs Roadless Area.

1995 - In response to the fire, the Forest Service proposes to "salvage log" 2.4 million board feet of supposedly dead and dying trees from the area, which igniting a fire storm of public protest. No one bids on the proposed Barkley sale, and it is temporarily shelved.

1996 - The Forest Service pulls the Barkley sale off the shelf and announces its intent to solicit bids. In response to intense opposition from conservationists, local landowners, elected officials, and even some timber companies, the Forest Service permanently cancels the sale.

—Steve Evans



The former Barkley sale area.

Photo by Ryan Henson



Salvage logging on the adjacent Collins Pine land, Deer Creek watershed.

Photo by Steve Evans

Wilderness management

Lassen National Forest plan in the making

By Steve Evans

The Forest Service is proposing to develop a wilderness management amendment to the Lassen National Forest land and resource management plan to preserve and protect the natural character of the Ishi, Thousand Lakes, and Caribou wilderness areas. The amendment, when coupled with a task-oriented implementation schedule, is intended to take the place of individual wilderness plans.

Existing wilderness plans for the Caribou and Thousand Lakes areas are nearly 20 years old and need to be updated. A wilderness plan for the Ishi Wilderness was released in 1989 but was successfully appealed by the California Wilderness Coalition and Friends of the River due to its failure to address the impacts of livestock grazing on the wilderness.

In response to the appeal, the Regional Forester in 1990 remanded the Ishi wilderness plan back to the Lassen forest supervisor, directing that a new plan be developed with specific management objectives and direction for managing livestock grazing to prevent degradation of wilderness values. The Regional Forester also ruled (on a separate appeal submitted by a private citizen) that the Forest Service must fully evaluate access to privately owned inholdings in the Ishi Wilderness.

Livestock grazing in the Ishi Wilderness remains a concern. In 1995, the Forest Service revoked a permit to graze 125 cattle in the wilderness because the permittee apparently was grazing more cattle than allowed and the cattle were causing extensive damage to wet meadows, riparian areas, and trails. Since the permit was cancelled, more than 300 cows have been rounded up from the wilderness. The California Cattlemen's Association has lobbied the Forest Service to grant a new permit, but conservationists contend that no new permits should be granted until the agency complies with the Regional Forester's 1990 directive.

The Forest Service's announced intention to amend the Lassen forest plan with new wilderness management direction does not specify whether the amendment will incorporate the grazing and inholder access direction mandated by the Regional Forester in 1990. However, the public notice does state that the amendment will address soil compaction and vegetation damage along lakeshores, proliferation of fire rings and trails, trail deterioration, human and animal wastes, damage to wet meadows, introduction of non-native vegetation, fire and fuel management, opportunities for solitude, protection of cultural resources, permits for commercial outfitters, visitor access, and managing increased recreation use.

The amendment notice fails to acknowledge that the existing wilderness management prescription in the Lassen forest plan applies not only to designated wilderness areas but also to roadless areas the plan recommends for wilderness designation: the Trail Lake addition to the Caribou Wilderness, Wild Cattle Mountain, Heart Lake, and Mill Creek. Therefore, the new amendment should address wilderness management issues in these areas as well.

Another more general concern which has arisen with wilderness plans elsewhere in the state is the agency's misinterpretation of the Wilderness Act's mandate to provide opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation. The Forest Service often erroneously assumes that the Wilderness Act requires wilderness areas to be managed for both. Although virtually all wilderness areas provide outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation, more popular areas may not be able to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. The agency may choose to limit use to provide solitude, but it is not required to do so.

What you can do

The Forest Service is soliciting public comments until May 17, 1996, on the proposed forest plan amendment for the Ishi, Thousand Lakes, and Caribou wilderness areas. Specifically, the agency is asking the following questions:

- What should the wilderness areas look like?
- How should the wilderness areas be managed?
- What recommendations do you have concerning the issues listed above?

Please write a letter and mail it by May 17 to Elizabeth Norton, Wilderness Plan Amendment, Lassen National Forest, 55 South Sacramento Street, Susanville, CA 96130. In addition to your personal views in response to the questions asked by the agency, you should note the following:

- The Forest Service may choose to manage wilderness areas for solitude or primitive recreation, but it's not required by law to manage for both.

- The Forest Service should follow the Regional Forester's mandate to reduce the impacts of livestock grazing and consider inholder access issues in the Ishi Wilderness. Grazing impacts should also be addressed for the Thousand Lakes and Caribou wilderness areas.

- Much of the Ishi Wilderness has burned repeatedly in the last 100 years, so there is no need for aggressive fuel management. The need for prescribed burning to control fuels in the Thousand Lakes and Caribou wilderness areas should be addressed.



Deer Creek, Ishi Wilderness Area

Photo by Brad Richards

- The amendment should address management of wild horses in the Ishi Wilderness.

- The amendment should address wilderness management issues in roadless areas recommended for wilderness by the Forest Service, including Trail Lake, Wild Cattle Mountain, Heart Lake, and Mill Creek.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Norton at the Lassen National Forest, (916) 257-2151.

Steve Evans is conservation director for Friends of the River and a director of the California Wilderness Coalition.

Emigrant wilderness plan

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ability, and water developments instead.

Despite dodging serious topics, the draft EIS does set a number of indicators and standards to monitor how well the Forest Service's regulations are protecting the wilderness from overuse.

In addition to the "no action" alternative, five action alternatives were developed. But the differences among these alternatives is often minor or nonexistent—for 14 of 18 action items, there is absolutely no difference.

Minor differences may be found among proposals for fish stocking, cabins, and dams. Though there are more than 100 lakes in the wilderness, the Forest Service is considering discontinuing fish stocking in 5 to 14 lakes, with the preferred alternative choosing 11 lakes to evaluate. Either all cabins (used as cow camps or for snow surveys) will remain, or 5 of 6 will be kept in the most environmentally sensitive alternative. Of 18 dams, each alternative preserves, restores, or stabilizes either 6 or 7 of the structures. The remaining dams are expected to take from 50 to 100 years to deteriorate.

Other actions will not be triggered until unacceptable changes are noted by the Forest Service. For example, the EIS states that "it is likely that dogs create the single most important disturbance factor for Emigrant wildlife with the possible exception of hunting activities for game species." If more than 15 percent of dogs encountered are out of control, the Forest Service will require that dogs be leashed or banned from the wilderness.

Other issues the Forest Service will monitor include firewood availability, stream bank stability, stock holding areas, campsites, and crowding.

The crowding item stems from an arbitrary standard based on solitude. Correctly reprinting section 2(c) of the 1964 Wilderness Act, which defined wilderness as a place with "outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primi-

tive and unconfined type of recreation," the Forest Service repeatedly changes the 'or' to an 'and' when discussing crowding. In the most protected zone, should two parties camp at a lake deemed suitable for one party more than five times a year, the Forest Service could implement a trailhead quota or a destination quota system.

Two-thirds of the Emigrant Wilderness is grazed either by commercial or recreational stock, yet the management plan barely addresses grazing. Although a range analysis is generally done for each grazing allotment every 10 years, only one of the four allotments in the Emigrant has been analyzed in the last decade. Analyses for the other allotments were done in 1961, 1971, and 1972-73. Despite this lack of monitoring, the Forest Service reports that "long-term trends for range condition within the Emigrant Wilderness [are] improving."

But a look at a range condition summary shows a different story. Only 18 of 61 transects studied rated good or excellent (only two were excellent); the remaining 70 percent ranked fair, poor, or very poor.

Though the Forest Service seems unready to correct grazing abuses, the agency does devote a half dozen pages in the EIS to potential grazing impacts on wilderness and wildlife. In fact, the entire chapter on "Affected Environment" is full of interesting information about the Emigrant Wilderness and various potential impacts to the area.

Comments on the draft plan will be accepted until May 13 and should be sent to: Summit Ranger District, Stanislaus National Forest, Attn: Lisa Gowe, #1 Pincrest Lake Road, Pincrest, CA 95364.

Wilderness news

People have reservations about Inyo permits

By Gary Guenther

The contracted wilderness reservation system that went into operation this April in the Inyo National Forest has triggered a storm of protest on the East Side of the Sierra Nevada and beyond. Under the new system, all wilderness permits will be available only by advance reservation. Wilderness users throughout the state are complaining that the new reservation system was implemented without public input, was not well thought out, has the potential to reduce access, and increases the inequity of allocation of use between the commercial pack stations and all other users.

Due to a 30 percent reduction in its wilderness budget, the Inyo National Forest accelerated its plan to turn over its wilderness reservation system to a private contractor by one year. Some major changes were made at this time. One was that all quota trailhead permits would be reservable, where in the past 50 percent were reservable and 50 percent available the day of the hike. Another change was that the permits would be mailed to the visitors, where in the past only a confirmation letter was mailed and the permit was then picked up in person the day of the hike. The \$3 per person reservation charge would remain the same, the difference being the fees collected now would go to the contractor instead of the U. S. Treasury.

While these changes might seem insignificant on the surface, a closer look reveals many concerns. In the past, 70 percent of the 61,000 wilderness visitors annually chose the option of obtaining a permit in person on the day of their trip; only 30 percent chose to reserve their permits. Clearly, the majority of visitors have been unable or unwilling to plan their trips months in advance due to such things as mountain conditions, work schedules, and life styles. This change will force them into a system that in the past they have chosen not to use. It is likely that visitors will reserve many more trips than they intend to go on and then make last-minute decisions on which trips they will take, thus locking up a large portion of the quota.

In the past, the no-shows were tracked and their permits re-issued to day-of-hike visitors. As an afterthought, the Forest Service is in the process of determining what the no-show rate on reserved permits was so it can re-issue that percentage to day-of-hike visitors. Nearby Yosemite National Park, which tracks this data, finds its reserved permit no-show rate is 40 percent. When this scenario is linked to lack of tracking no-shows (due to the permit being mailed), the result is a de facto reduction in quotas since those permits will not be re-issued.

Another concern is the loss of the personal contact an experienced ranger provided when issuing the permit. Important information about recent bear activity, dangerous stream crossings, fire conditions, and wilderness protection regulations will not be conveyed to the visitor. The wilderness permit concept, which was controversial when it was first implemented, emphasized education prior to visiting wilderness.

While the Forest Service acknowledges "that this is a tremendous change," it maintains the change is related to "implementation of an established administrative function" and that consequently no analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the change was needed. No public scoping, amendment to the forest or wilderness plans, or "finding of no significant impact" was done. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires a range of alternatives to be evaluated. Alternatives they might have included are: closing entrance stations, having campground concessionaires issue permits, reducing the hours permits are available, and finding innovative funding mechanisms. NEPA requires a determination to be made on the potential impact an action can have on both the physical and human environment.

The new wilderness reservation system has been very controversial and has brought to a head a lot of related

issues. In the past, the general public has been supportive of the quota and other restrictions placed upon them to protect wilderness qualities, and has been an ally of the agency. Many trailhead quotas have been implemented and lowered over the past 20 years for users other than commercial pack stations. This has led to an artificially high demand for packing services. It is apparent that an increasing number of visitors is seeking the services of a packer for one-way spot trips so they can have their packs carried and also obtain a wilderness permit for about the same cost as bail on a permit violation.

Any major change in the wilderness reservation system should have been incorporated into the soon-to-be-released draft environmental impact statement for the joint management plan being developed for the John Muir and Ansel Adams wildernesses. This document is the appropriate place to address the allocation of use between the outfitting and non-outfitting public. As our wilderness areas experience increasing use, situations similar to what the Inyo National Forest faces will become more prevalent. A simple solution to the allocation of, and need for, commercial use could be addressed by all user groups going through the same system to obtain a permit. After the permit is issued, the visitor would have the option whether to be outfitted. While quotas will continue to be a necessary and valuable tool for reducing impact to the wilderness, other mitigation measures, such as education, in combination with campfire, camping, and grazing restrictions, should also be considered.

What you can do

Write to Inyo National Forest Service supervisor Dennis Martin (873 North Main Street, Bishop, CA 93514).



John Muir Wilderness, in the vicinity of Horton Lakes.

Photo by Pete Yamagata

Tell him you are concerned that the reservation system now in use does not meet his mandate to protect the wilderness. Changes to the permit/quota system should be integrated into the new wilderness plan and evaluated in the environmental impact statement that will accompany that document. Also mention that you believe the inequities and inconveniences inherent in the new reservation system are alienating recreationists and wilderness guides who should be partners in the agency's efforts to protect the wilderness. Send a copy of your letter to Wilderness Program Leader, Gary Oye at the Forest Service's regional office (2245 Morello Avenue, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523).

• Write to the Inyo National Forest (873 North Main Street, Bishop, CA 93514, Attn. Becky Bittner) and ask to be included on the mailing list for the upcoming John Muir/Ansel Adams wilderness plan.

Gary Guenther worked four seasons as a wilderness ranger in the Inyo National Forest.

An analysis by any other name...

By Ryan Henson

The Forest Service is seeking public input on an "area analysis" of the Silver Creek watershed in the Toiyabe National Forest, which extends from Ebbetts Pass (Highway 4) to the East Fork Carson River and includes portions of the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness, the Mokelumne Wilderness, the Carson-Iceberg Roadless Area, and the Raymond Peak Roadless Area. If you've never heard of an area analysis, you're not alone. But it seems to be a new name for an old habit—logging.

The Forest Service says its area analysis will assess the current ecological condition of the watershed, craft a desired future condition, and develop a list of projects to achieve this condition. Analyzing ecosystems in an integrated, landscape-scale context sounds like a good thing, especially to scientists and conservation activists, who have complained for decades that the agency manages its land piecemeal and ignores the cumulative impacts of timber sales and other projects which can only be discerned only through a comprehensive study conducted over a large area.

Activists nonetheless fear that these studies (which are usually called watershed analyses) are written to justify increased logging, grazing, and mining, a fear borne out by

the frequency with which watershed analyses are followed by large-scale logging. Since the analyses are not subject to environmental laws, activists cannot legally challenge their conclusions no matter how misguided.

The Silver Creek watershed already supports extensive recreation and wildlife. The Pacific Crest Trail runs through the watershed, as do many other popular hiking and cross-country skiing routes. The watershed is also home to several sensitive wildlife species including Lahontan cutthroat trout, goshawk, and California spotted owl.

What you can do

Write to Maureen Joplin, Toiyabe National Forest, 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431 by May 30, 1996. Request that in the Silver Creek area analysis, the Forest Service consider the critical role of roadless areas, wilderness areas, and old-growth forests in maintaining watershed health, biological diversity, and opportunities for non-motorized recreation. Also request that the area analysis recommend complete protection from logging, road construction, and other development in roadless areas and old-growth forests.

Ryan Henson is the CWC's Conservation Associate

Wilderness forum

Book Reviews

Defying Gravity: High Adventure on Yosemite's Walls

By Gary Arce, Wilderness Press, Berkeley, 1995, 194 pp., \$24.95.

Defying Gravity attempts a complete history of climbing in Yosemite Valley, from early pioneering efforts amongst the peaks of the Yosemite area, to modern sport climbing and the world of 5.14 rock climbs. It transcends a time span from multi-day pioneering efforts on the big walls of El Capitan and Half Dome to multiple-route speed ascents done in one day.

The climbing development in Yosemite is described in many climbing magazines, books, the *American Alpine Journal*, and *Sierra* magazine. Arce draws liberally from these articles both in description and as a source of photographs. Unfortunately, one of the book's weaknesses is that Arce fails to provide sources for his many quotes. While the quotes help to establish the flavor, I miss the fullness of the original articles.

Many have described the period from the late 1950s to the late '60s as the Golden Age of climbing in Yosemite Valley. New techniques, better equipment, and a psychological understanding of what it meant to climb these big walls led to rapid development of many of the more natural lines on the cliffs. Steve Roper described that time in his recent book, *Camp 4*. Based largely upon his own experiences and personal knowledge of the era, Roper's

book has a richness and understanding of both the climbing and the life of climbers of that time that Arce cannot have.

However, a book was needed to chronicle more recent climbing into the period of very difficult 5.14 free climbing, sports climbing, and speed ascents. Climbers perfected these skills on short, fierce routes both in the Valley and on the domes of Tuolumne Meadow. They then took these new skills back to the big walls of Yosemite. The Nose of El Cap was free climbed in one day by Lynn Hill, and Steve Schneider and Hans Florine climbed El Capitan three times in one day.

I really enjoyed this part of Arce's book. It filled in many of the blanks I had in my own knowledge of the era—I am afraid that my personal knowledge and experience is largely parallel to Roper's. Then again, perhaps I was merely swayed by the two full-page color photos of my younger brother, who still occasionally takes me climbing.

Enjoy the book. It will become dog-eared from many readings.

—Bob Schneider



California Wilderness Coalition's 20th Anniversary Celebration

Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Alan Cranston
David Darlington

Vicky Hoover
Carl Pope

Deborah Reames

Marc Reisner

State Senator Byron Sher

Johanna Wald

David Rains Wallace

and

Edgar Wayburn

invite you to join them
at a party in celebration of
the California Wilderness Coalition's
twentieth anniversary

Organic food courtesy of Semifreddi's and Millennium Restaurant, among others

Natural wines from Casa Nuestra, Coturri and Sons, Ltd., Red and Green wineries, and Storybook Mountain

Date: Wednesday, May 29

Time: 6:30PM to 9:00PM

Location: The Firehouse in Fort Mason Center, San Francisco

Cost: \$50 (\$20 for low income/student)

Speeches: Short and sweet!

For more information please call the CWC at (916) 758-0380

Letters to the Editor

Editor,

Your February article about the Sierra Club's Bradley Hut gave the impression Sierra Club is "disputing" the Forest Service wish to remove this hut, which is inside the Granite Chief Wilderness. While you since corrected that, let me give an update on the Club's position. The Sierra Club supports the Forest Service's gradual program to remove a number of structures, both huts and dams, from various California wilderness areas. Thus, although some individuals may be attempting to sway the Forest Service to consider Bradley "historical," the Sierra Club is working closely with the Service to remove Bradley Hut and establish a new location, outside of wilderness, for a replacement hut in the Tahoe area.

As a longtime Sierra Club outings leader, I myself have been to Bradley various times—have led one or two trips

there. I share others' feelings of nostalgia for the years of memorable ski and snowshoe trips to Bradley Hut. However, as a conservation activist too, I appreciate that the Sierra Club's venerable outings program—dating back to 1901—has always been designed to support our conservation efforts. If there is a rare instance of potential conflict, our desire to uphold the principles of the Wilderness Act is paramount.

In March, the Club's California/Nevada Conservation Committee voted very strongly to support the removal and relocation of the Hut. The committee members emphatically didn't think the Club should try to get for its own use an exception from the Wilderness Act's general prohibition of permanent structures in wilderness. This support will let us work more effectively to convince the

Forest Service to remove structures elsewhere as for example in the Emigrant Wilderness, where we're commenting on a new wilderness management plan.

The Sierra Club and the Forest Service plan to make the removal and relocation of Bradley Hut, and restoration of the old site, a model wilderness restoration project during 1996. We'll base our extensive dispersed winter recreation program on huts outside of wilderness and show that our ongoing high priority remains achieving "an enduring resource of wilderness" in California.

Vicky Hoover

Chair, Sierra Club Northern California/Nevada Regional Conservation Committee

Calendar

May 13 COMMENTS DUE on the draft management plan for the Emigrant Wilderness in the Stanislaus National Forest (see article on page 1). Send to: Summit Ranger District, #1 Pinecrest Lake Road, Pinecrest, CA 95364 Attn: Lisa Gowe.

May 17 COMMENTS DUE on new wilderness management plans being developed for the Caribou, Ishi, and Thousand Lakes wildernesses (see article on page 5). Send your ideas about what issues the plans should address to: Wilderness Plan Amendment, Lassen National Forest, 55 South Sacramento Street, Susanville, CA 96130.

May 18 PUBLIC MEETING on the upcoming management plan for wilderness areas in the southern Sierra. For information contact the BLM at Ridgecrest Resource Area, Attn: Lee Delaney, 300 S. Richmond Road, Ridgecrest, CA 93555, (619) 384-5400.

May 18-19 TRAINING WORKSHOP on grazing reform sponsored by the California Grazing Reform Alliance, in Sonora. For more information, call the California Mule Deer Association at (916) 645-3288.

May 19 FOREST CONFERENCE at Farnsworth Park in Altadena, organized by the Ancient Forest Task Force of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club. For details, call the chapter at (213) 387-4287.

May 29 CWC's 20th ANNIVERSARY Celebration at the Firehouse in Fort Mason Center in San Francisco, from 6:30 to 9:00 pm. Tickets are \$50; for more information call the CWC at (916) 758-0380.

June 28-29 PUBLIC CONFERENCE to present the findings of the Sierra Nevada Ecosystem Project (SNEP) at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds in Placerville. The SNEP report assesses the health of the Sierra Nevada. Look for upcoming articles discussing this important project. For information about the conference, contact Erin Fleming at (916) 752-8086 or epfleming@ucdavis.edu

Wilderness Trivia Answer

Boundary Waters Canoe Wilderness
in 1966.

Coalition Member Groups

Ancient Forest Defense Fund; Branscomb Back Country Horsemen of CA; Springville Bay Chapter, Sierra Club; Oakland Bay Chapter Wilderness Subcommittee; S. F. California Alpine Club; San Francisco California Mule Deer Association; Lincoln California Native Plant Society; Sacramento Citizens for Better Forestry; Hayfork Citizens for Mojave National Park; Barstow Citizens for a Vehicle Free Nipomo Dunes; Nipomo

Committee to Save the Kings River; Fresno Conservation Call; Santa Rosa Davis Audubon Society; Davis Desert Protective Council; Palm Springs Desert Subcommittee, Sierra Club; San Diego Desert Survivors; Oakland Eastern Sierra Audubon Society; Bishop Ecology Center; Berkeley Ecology Center of Southern California; L. A. El Dorado Audubon Society; Long Beach Friends Aware of Wildlife Needs (FAWN); Georgetown

Friends of Chinquapin, Oakland Friends of Plumas Wilderness; Quincy Friends of the Garcia (FROG); Point Arena Friends of the Inyo; Lone Pine Friends of the River; Sacramento Friends of the River Foundation; S. F. Fund for Animals; San Francisco Hands Off Wild Lands! (HOWL); Davis

High Sierra Hikers Association; Truckee International Center for Earth Concerns; Ojai Kaweah Flyfishers; Visalia Keep the Sespe Wild Committee; Ojai Kern Audubon Society; Bakersfield Kern River Valley Audubon Society; Bakersfield Kern-Kaweah Chapter, Sierra Club; Bakersfield Klamath Forest Alliance; Etna League to Save Lake Tahoe; South Lake Tahoe Loma Prieta Chapter, Sierra Club; Palo Alto

Los Padres Chapter, Sierra Club Marble Mountain Audubon Society; Etna Marin Conservation League; San Rafael Mendocino Environmental Center; Ukiah Mendocino Forest Watch; Willits Mono Lake Committee; Lee Vining Mt. Shasta Area Audubon Society; Mt. Shasta Mountain Lion Foundation; Sacramento Native Species for Habitat; Sunnyvale Natural Resources Defense Council; S.F. NCRCC Sierra Club; Santa Rosa Nordic Voice; Livermore North Coast Center for Biodiversity & Sustainability; Leggett

Northcoast Environmental Center; Arcata People for Nipomo Dunes Nat'l. Seashore; Nipomo Peppermint Alert; Porterville Placer County Cons. Task Force; Newcastle Planning & Conservation League; Sac. Range of Light Group, Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club; Mammoth Lakes Redwood Chapter, Sierra Club; Santa Rosa The Red Mountain Association; Leggett Resource Renewal Institute; San Francisco San Diego Chapter, Sierra Club; San Diego San Fernando Valley Audubon Society; Van Nuys Save Our Ancient Forest Ecology (SAFE); Modesto Sequoia Forest Alliance; Kernville Seven Generations Land Trust; Berkeley Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund; S. F. Sierra Nevada Alliance; South Lake Tahoe Sierra Treks; Ashland, OR Soda Mtn. Wilderness Council; Ashland, OR South Fork Mountain Defense; Weaverville South Yuba River Citizens League; Nevada City Tulare County Audubon Society; Visalia Tule River Conservancy; Porterville U.C. Davis Environmental Law Society Ventana Wildlands Group; Santa Cruz Western States Endurance Run; S. F. The Wilderness Land Trust; Carbondale, CO The Wilderness Society; San Francisco Wintu Audubon Society; Redding Yolano Group, Sierra Club; Davis Yolo Environmental Resource Center; Davis

"If I go on any trips this summer I won't bother getting a permit because there aren't enough wilderness rangers out there to catch me."

— An employee, overheard at the Big Pine office where wilderness permits for the Inyo National Forest are issued (article on page 6)

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Mail to:
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2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5
Davis, California 95616

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2. *animal design* in beige (no med.) or gray: \$12
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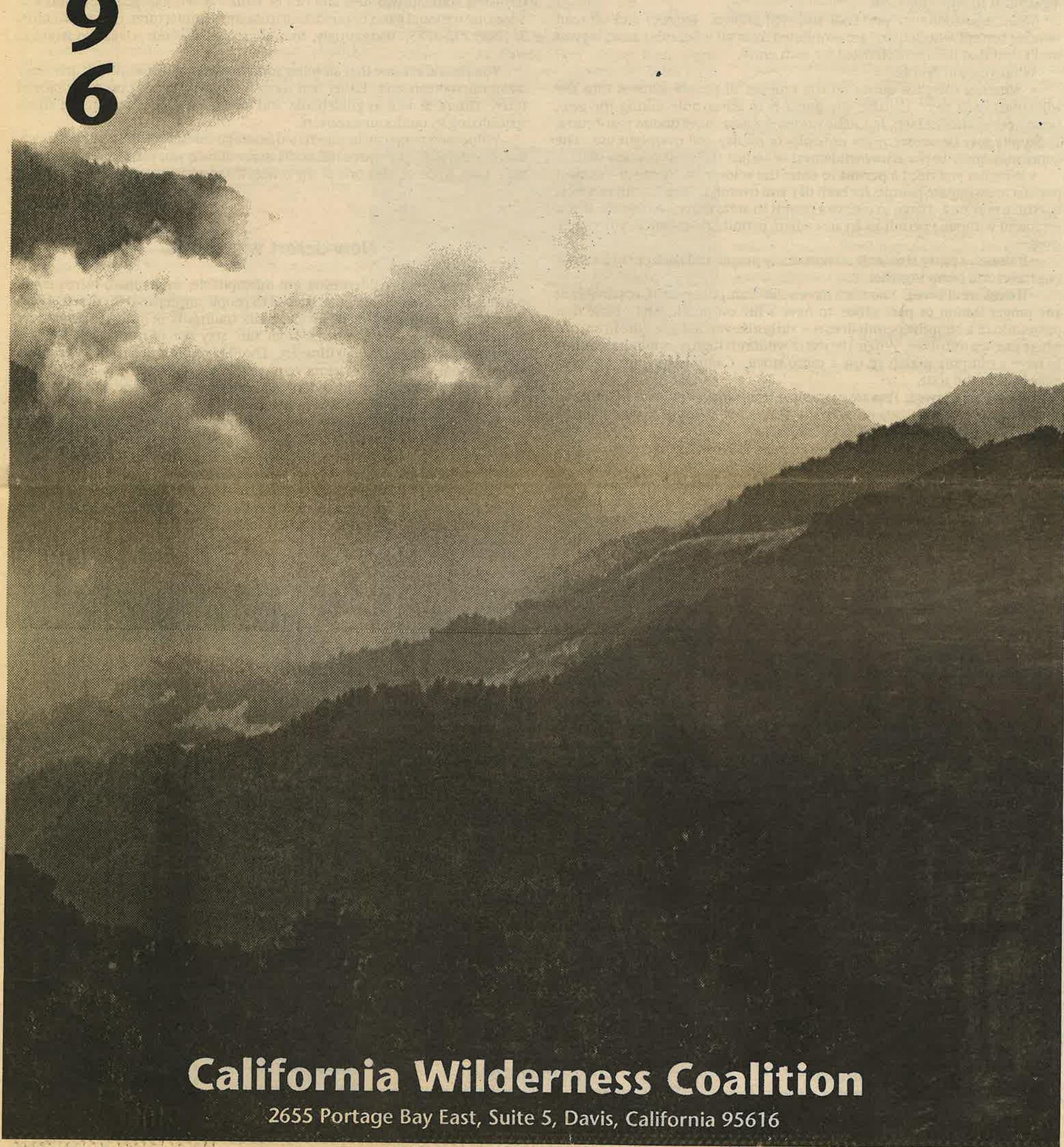
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Wilderness Guide



California Wilderness Coalition

2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5, Davis, California 95616

How to use this guide

California has a wealth of wilderness areas—so many that sometimes the most difficult part of planning a trip is narrowing down the possibilities. Whether you want to take a three-week trek or a weekend hike, planning your trip starts with the basics, and among other things, that means knowing what is and isn't allowed. To get you started, we surveyed the managers of the 134 state and federal wilderness areas you can visit in California about the regulations in effect for 1996.

Some regulations are universal and well-known. Bicycles and off-road vehicles (except wheelchairs) are prohibited from all wilderness areas, so you won't find that information listed for each entry.

What you *will* find is:

- Whether there's a **quota** on the number of people allowed into the wilderness each day. Usually, the quota is in effect only during the peak summer recreation season, but some wilderness areas have quotas year-round. The quota may be on overnight use only, or on day and overnight use. The quota may apply to the entire wilderness or to just the most popular trails.

- Whether you need a **permit** to enter the wilderness. Some of the most popular areas require permits for both day and overnight use. Permits are free, but there may be a charge to reserve a permit in areas that have quotas. If you are found without a permit in an area where permits are required, you can be cited.

- If there's a **party size limit** on how many people and pack or saddle stock can travel and camp together.

- If **fires** are allowed. You must have a state campfire permit, obtainable at any ranger station or park office, to have a fire on public land. Note that possession of a campfire permit does not authorize you to have a fire in an area where fires are restricted. Where the risk of wildfire is high, you may be required to have a campfire permit to use a camp stove. Campfire permits are valid anywhere in the state.

- If **pets** are allowed. Pets are prohibited from wilderness areas in state and national parks. Where pets are allowed, they must be under control, and in many wilderness areas dogs must be leashed.

- Whether any portion of the wilderness is closed to recreational use. **Closures** may be needed to protect sensitive species or fragile ecosystems.

- The office to **contact** for more information. Because regulations can change suddenly in response to local conditions, contact the ranger district (RD), national forest (NF), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), or park office before you leave for your trip. This is especially important during fire season.

All wilderness managers now recommend or require "leave no trace" recreation. Among other things, that means camping well away from water sources and trails, carrying weed-free feed for stock, packing out all litter, not shortcutting switchbacks, and building campfires only with dead and down wood in existing rings or pits or, better still, not at all.

In bear country, you may want to carry your food in a bear-proof canister. Canisters come in two sizes and can be rented at Sequoia-Kings Canyon and Yosemite national parks or purchased from the manufacturer, Garcia Machine, at (209) 732-3785. Increasingly, they are sold at outdoor recreation stores as well.

You should assume that all water sources are contaminated with giardia or other microorganisms. Either boil water for five minutes or use an approved filter. Filters, as well as guidebooks and maps, are widely available at stores specializing in outdoor recreation.

Wilderness maps can be purchased from the Forest Service and Park Service. Both agencies also have free handouts that will help you plan, and enjoy, your trip. Call, write, or visit one of the offices listed as contacts.

New desert wilderness

The new desert wildernesses are inhospitable, unmapped, infrequently patrolled, and consequently dangerous to people unprepared for desert conditions. Do not expect to find developed trails, trailheads, or mileage signs. Carry plenty of water, protect yourself from sun, stay out of mines, and be sure someone back home has your itinerary. The BLM recommends that you contact a local resource area office before venturing into the wilderness.

The California Desert Information Center in Barstow and the California Desert District office of the BLM in Riverside can provide general information about desert wilderness. A desert access guide with maps (at a scale of 1:100,000) showing routes but not wilderness boundaries can be purchased from the BLM. Individual topographic maps of the 70 new wilderness areas established by the California Desert Protection Act are not yet available.

You can reach the desert information center at 831 Barstow Road, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8760 and the Riverside office of the BLM at 6221 Box Springs Boulevard, Riverside, CA 92507; (909) 697-5200.

Agua Tibia

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 8 stock Fires: no Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water; no overnight stock use; no target-shooting or plinking Contact: Palomar RD, Cleveland NF, 1634 Black Canyon Road, Ramona, CA 92065; (619) 788-0250.

Ansel Adams

Quota: overnight Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: depends on location Pets: yes Closures: no Note: no target shooting or plinking Contact: Mono Lake RD, Inyo NF, P.O. Box 429, Lee Vining, CA 93541; (619) 647-3000 or Mammoth RD, Inyo NF, P.O. Box 148, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546; (619) 924-5500 or Minarets RD, Sierra NF, P.O. Box 10, North Fork, CA 93643; (209) 877-2218. For Inyo NF wilderness reservations, contact Wilderness Reservations, P.O. Box 430, Big Pine, CA 93513; (619) 938-1136.

Anza-Borrego

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 30 people Fires: no Pets: no Closures: no Note: carry water; no stock Contact: Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, 200 Palm Canyon Dr., Borrego Springs, CA 92004; (619) 767-5311.

Argus Range

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

Big Maria Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 63-500 Garnet Ave., North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

Bigelow Cholla Garden

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Bighorn Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed (NF only) Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: Big Bear RD, San Bernardino NF, P.O. Box 290, Fawnskin, CA 92333; (909) 866-3437 or BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

Black Mountain

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

Boney Mountain

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: no Closures: no Note: no stock Contact: Point Mugu State Park, 9000 West Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu, CA 90265; (805) 488-5223.

Bright Star

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

Bristol Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.



Ansel Adams Wilderness

Photo by Jim Eaton

Bucks Lake

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: Mt. Hough RD, Plumas NF, 39696 Highway 70, Quincy, CA 95971; (916) 283-0555.

Cadiz Dunes

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Caribou

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: regs may change in 1997 Contact: Almanor RD, Lassen NF, P.O. Box 767, Chester, CA 96020; (916) 258-2141.

Carrizo Gorge

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

Carson-Iceberg

Quota: no Permit: overnight, April 1–November 30 Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: depends on location Pets: yes Closures: no Note: no target shooting or plinking (Stanislaus NF); regs may change in 1996 Contact: Calaveras RD, Stanislaus NF, P.O. Box 500, Hathaway Pines, CA 95233; (209) 795-1381 or Summit RD, Stanislaus NF, #1 Pinecrest Lake Rd., Pinecrest, CA 95364; (209) 965-3434 or Carson RD, Toiyabe NF, 1536 South Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701; (702) 882-2766.

Castle Craggs

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: yes, but not recommended Pets: yes Closures: no Note: climbers prohibited from placing new bolts; pets not allowed on trails in Castle Craggs State Park Contact: Mount Shasta RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, 204 West Alma St., Mount Shasta, CA 96067; (916) 926-4511.

Chanchelulla

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: few trails; scarce water Contact: Yolla Bolla RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, HC01 Box 400, Platina, CA 96076; (916) 352-4211 or Big Bar RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, Star Route 1, Box 10, Big Bar, CA 96010; (916) 623-6106.

Chemehuevi Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Chimney Peak

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 3801 Pegasus Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93308; (805) 391-6120.

Chuckwalla Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 63-500 Garnet Ave., North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

Chumash

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: trailheads may be inaccessible in winter Contact: Mount Pinos RD, Los Padres NF, 34580 Lockwood Valley Rd., Frazier Park, CA 93225; (805) 245-3731.

Cleghorn Lakes

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

Clipper Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Coso Range

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

Coyote Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.



Chuckwalla Mountains Wilderness Photo by Steve Evans

Cucamonga

Quota: depends on location Permit: day and overnight Party size: 12 people, 25 stock Fires: no Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: terrain not amenable to stock use; no shooting, prospecting, or gold panning; regs may change in 1996 Contact: Cajon RD, San Bernardino NF, 1209 Lytle Creek Rd., Lytle Creek, CA 92358; (909) 887-2576 or Mt. Baldy RD, Angeles NF, 110 North Wabash Ave., Glendora, CA 91741; (818) 335-1251.

Cuyamaca Rancho

Quota: overnight Permit: overnight Party size: depends on campsite Fires: no Pets: no Closures: no Note: camping restricted to designated sites; carry water in dry season; aggressive mountain lions Contact: Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, 12551 Highway 79, Descanso, CA 91916; (619) 765-0755 or Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, 200 Palm Canyon Dr., Borrego Springs, CA 92004; (619) 767-5311.

Darwin Falls

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

Dead Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Death Valley

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 15 people, 15 stock Fires: no Pets: no Closures: some mines, caves, and archaeological and historic sites Note: carry water; avoid low desert in hot weather Contact: Death Valley National Park, Box 579, Death Valley, CA 92328; (619) 782-2331.

Desolation

Quota: overnight, June 15–Labor Day Permit: day and overnight, year-round Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: no Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: regs may change in 1997 Contact: Eldorado Visitor Center, Eldorado NF, 3070 Camino Heights Dr., Camino, CA 95709; (916) 644-6048 or Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, 870 Emerald Bay Road, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; (916) 573-2600.

Dick Smith

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: yes, in fire season Contact: Santa Barbara RD, Los Padres NF, Los Prietos Station, Star Route Paradise Rd., Santa Barbara, CA 93105; (805) 967-3481 or Mount Pinos RD, Los Padres NF, 34580 Lockwood Valley Rd., Frazier Park, CA 93225; (805) 245-3731.

Dinkey Lakes

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Note: no target shooting or plinking; no bear boxes available Contact: Pineridge RD, Sierra NF, P.O. Box 559, Prather, CA 93651; (209) 855-5360 or Kings River RD, Sierra NF, 34849 Maxon Road, Sanger, CA 93657; (209) 855-8321 or (summer only) Dinkey Ranger Station, 53800 Dinkey Creek Rd., Dinkey Creek, CA 93664; (209) 841-3404.

Dome Land

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: leashed (NF only) Closures: no Note: carry water; watch for snakes Contact: Cannell Meadow RD, Sequoia NF, P.O. Box 6, Kernville, CA 93238; (619) 376-3781 or BLM, 3801 Pegasus Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93308; (805) 391-6120 or Lake Isabella Visitor Center, Sequoia NF, P.O. Box 3810, Lake Isabella, CA 93240; (619) 379-5646.

El Paso Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

Emigrant

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: below treeline Pets: yes Closures: no Note: regs may change in 1997; bears frequent trailheads; some lakes have lower party-size limits Contact: Summit RD, Stanislaus NF, #1 Pinecrest Lake Road, Pinecrest, CA 95364; (209) 965-3434.

Fish Creek Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

Funeral Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996; see also Death Valley Wilderness listing Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

Garcia

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Santa Lucia RD, Los Padres NF, 1616 Carlotti Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93454; (805) 925-9538.

Golden Trout

Quota: overnight, for some trails Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: no target shooting or plinking (Inyo NF) Contact: Mount Whitney RD, Inyo NF, P. O. Box 8, Lone Pine, CA 93545; (619) 876-6200 or Cannell Meadow RD, Sequoia NF, P. O. Box 6, Kernville, CA 93238; (619) 376-3781. For Inyo NF wilderness reservations, contact Wilderness Reservations, P. O. Box 430, Big Pine, CA 93513; (619) 938-1136.

Golden Valley

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

Granite Chief

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 12 people, 8 stock (overnight) or 12 stock (day use) Fires: yes Pets: yes, but restricted from fawning habitat May 15-July 15 Closures: Five Lakes Basin closed to camping, fires, and stock; Little Needle and Mildred lakes closed to stock Contact: Truckee RD, Tahoe NF, 10342 Highway 89 North, Truckee, CA 96161; (916) 587-3558 or Foresthill RD, Tahoe NF, 22830 Auburn Foresthill Rd., Foresthill, CA 95631; (916) 367-2224.

Grass Valley

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

Hauser

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 8 stock Fires: no Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; no target shooting or plinking; Hauser Canyon currently is a major smuggling route and may be unsafe Contact: Descanso RD, Cleveland NF, 3348 Alpine Blvd., Alpine, CA 91901; (619) 445-6235.

Havasu

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: yes Closures: no camping Note: carry water; watch for venomous snakes and scorpions Contact: Havasu National Wildlife Refuge, P. O. Box 3009, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3853.

Henry W. Coe

Quota: overnight Permit: overnight Party size: 8 people Fires: no Pets: no Closures: no Note: commonly known as Orestimba Wilderness; carry water in summer Contact: Henry W. Coe State Park, P. O. Box 846, Morgan Hill, CA 95038; (408) 779-2728.

Hollow Hills

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

Hoover

Quota: overnight Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes, except in Twenty Lakes Basin, Sawtooth zone, and some Toiyabe NF lakes Pets: yes Closures: Hall Research Natural Area closed to camping and fires Note: no target shooting or plinking (Inyo NF) Contact: Bridgeport RD, Toiyabe NF, P. O. Box 595, Bridgeport, CA 93517; (619) 932-7070 or Lee Vining Ranger Station, Inyo NF, P. O. Box 429, Lee Vining, CA 93541; (619) 647-3000. For Inyo NF wilderness reservations, contact Wilderness Reservations, P. O. Box 430, Big Pine, CA 93513; (619) 938-1136.

Ibex

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.



Henry W. Coe State Wilderness

Imperial Refuge

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: yes Closures: no camping Note: regs may change in 1996 Contact: Imperial National Wildlife Refuge, Martinez Lake, P. O. Box 72217, Yuma, AZ 85365; (520) 783-3371.

Indian Pass

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

Inyo Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: yes, except in bristlecone pine communities Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996; see also Death Valley Wilderness listing Contact: Mt. Whitney RD, Inyo NF, P. O. Box 8, Lone Pine, CA 93545; (619) 876-6200 or BLM, 785 North Main, Suite E, Bishop, CA 93514; (619) 872-4881.

Ishi

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: regs may change in 1997 Contact: Almanor RD, Lassen NF, P.O. Box 767, Chester, CA 96020; (916) 258-2141.

Jacumba

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; Border Patrol operates in wilderness Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

Jennie Lakes

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Hume Lake RD, Sequoia NF, 35860 E. Kings Canyon Rd., Dunlap, CA 93621; (209) 338-2251.



John Muir

Quota: day (Whitney zone) and overnight Permit: day (Whitney zone) and overnight Party size: depends on location Fires: depends on location Pets: yes, except in bighorn habitat Closures: stock excluded from Mt. Whitney drainage; no camping at Trailside Meadow, Golden Trout Lake, or Mirror Lake; no stock camping east of Shepherd Pass Note: no target shooting or plinking; bear boxes not available; special permit needed for Whitney zone Contact: Pineridge RD, Sierra NF, P. O. Box 559, Prather, CA 93651; (209) 855-5360 or Mount Whitney RD, Inyo NF, P. O. Box 8, Lone Pine, CA 93545; (619) 876-6200. For Inyo NF wilderness reservations, contact Wilderness Reservations, P. O. Box 430, Big Pine, CA 93513; (619) 938-1136.

Joshua Tree

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: no Closures: some areas closed to camping Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996; no climbing bolts Contact: Visitor Center, Joshua Tree National Park, 74485 National Park Dr., Twentynine Palms, CA 92277; (619) 367-7511.

Kaiser

Quota: depends on location Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Note: no target shooting or plinking; bear boxes not available Contact: Pineridge RD, Sierra NF, P. O. Box 559, Prather, CA 93651; (209) 855-5360.

Kelso Dunes

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Kiavah

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: depends on location Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400 or Lake Isabella Visitor Center, Sequoia NF, 4875 Ponderosa Dr., Lake Isabella, CA 93240; (619) 379-5646.

Kingston Range

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: BLM at 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700 or 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Lassen Volcanic

Quota: no Permit: overnight and stock use Party size: 10 people (overnight); 20 people, 15 stock (day) Fires: no Pets: no Closures: some areas closed to camping or stock; some waters closed to fishing Note: no overnight stock use Contact: Lassen Volcanic National Park, P. O. Box 100, Mineral, CA 96063; (916) 595-4444.

Lava Beds

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 4 stock; no limit on hikers Fires: no Pets: no Closures: caves closed to camping Note: carry water; no stoves allowed Contact: Lava Beds National Monument, P. O. Box 867, Tulelake, CA 96134; (916) 667-2282; labe_administration@nps.gov

Little Chuckwalla Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM at 63-500 Garnet Ave., North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800 or 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

Little Picacho

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

Machesna Mountain

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: condor release site Contact: Santa Lucia RD, Los Padres NF, 1616 Carlotti Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93454; (805) 925-9538.

Malpais Mesa

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

Manly Peak

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

Marble Mountain

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Scott River RD, Klamath NF, 11263 Hwy 3, Fort Jones, CA 96032; (916) 468-5351 or Happy Camp RD, Klamath NF, P. O. Box 377, Happy Camp, CA 96039; (916) 493-2243 or Ukonom RD, Klamath NF, P. O. Drawer 410, Orleans, CA 95556; (916) 627-3291.

Matilija

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water in summer Contact: Ojai RD, Los Padres NF, 1190 East Ojai Ave., Ojai, CA 93023; (805) 646-4348.

Mecca Hills

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 63-500 Garnet Ave., North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

Mesquite

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Mojave

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: only in fire pans or existing rings Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water; no target shooting; regs may change in 1996 Contact: Mojave National Preserve, 222 East Main, Suite 202, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8801 or Mojave Desert Information Center, P. O. Box 241, Baker, CA 92309; (619) 733-4040.

Mokelumne

Quota: no Permit: overnight, April 1–November 30 Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes, except in Carson Pass Restricted Area Pets: leashed in Carson Pass area Closures: lower Mokelumne Canyon Note: no target shooting or plinking (Stanislaus NF); regs may change in 1996 Contact: Amador RD, Eldorado NF, 26820 Silver Drive & Hwy. 88, Pioneer, CA 95666; (209) 295-4251 or Carson RD, Toiyabe NF, 1536 South Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701; (702) 882-2766 or Calaveras RD, Stanislaus NF, P. O. Box 500, Hathaway Pines, CA 95233; (209) 795-1381.

Monarch

Quota: no Permit: overnight (Sierra NF only) Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: Hume Lake RD, Sequoia NF, 35860 E. Kings Canyon Rd., Dunlap, CA 93621; (209) 338-2251 or Kings River RD, Sierra NF, 34849 Maxon Rd., Sanger, CA 93657; (209) 855-8321 or (June–October) Dinkey Creek Information Station, Sierra NF, 53800 Dinkey Creek Rd., Dinkey Creek, CA 93664; (209) 841-3404.

Mount San Jacinto

Quota: overnight Permit: day and overnight Party size: 15 people, 15 stock Fires: no Pets: no Closures: Hidden Lake closed to stock Note: carry water; no stock off trail; weather changes rapidly Contact: Mt. San Jacinto State Park, P. O. Box 308, Idyllwild, CA 92549; (909) 659-2607.

Mount Shasta

Quota: no Permit: day and overnight Party size: 10 people, 10 stock Fires: no Pets: no Closures: no Note: no overnight stock use; no target shooting or plinking; check for current status of human waste pack-out program Contact: Mount Shasta RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, 204 West Alma Street, Mount Shasta, CA 96067; (916) 926-4511.

Newberry Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

Nopah Range

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.



Mokelumne Wilderness

Photo by Lucy Rosenau

North Algodones Dunes

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

North Fork

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Mad River RD, Six Rivers NF, Star Route, Box 300, Bridgeville, CA 95526; (707) 574-6233.

North Mesquite

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Old Woman Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Orocopia Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 63-500 Garnet Ave., North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

Owens Peak

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: depends on location Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM at 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400 or 3801 Pegasus Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93308; (805) 391-6120.

Pahrump Valley

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

Palen/McCoy

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 63-500 Garnet Ave., North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

Palo Verde

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

Phillip Burton

Quota: overnight Permit: overnight Party size: depends on campsite Fires: only with driftwood below high tide line Pets: no Closures: no Note: camping allowed only in designated sites Contact: Point Reyes National Seashore, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956; (415) 663-1092.

Picacho Peak

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

Pine Creek

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 8 stock Fires: no Pets: yes Closures: no Note: no target shooting or plinking; wilderness currently is used by smugglers and may be unsafe Contact: Descanso RD, Cleveland NF, 3348 Alpine Blvd., Alpine, CA 91901; (619) 445-6235.

Pinnacles

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: no Closures: no Note: no camping or stock use; carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: Pinnacles National Monument, 5000 Highway 146, Paicines, CA 95043; (408) 389-4485.

Piper Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

Piute Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Red Buttes

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 8 people, 12 stock Fires: yes Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water in summer Contact: Rogue River NF, P.O. Box 520, Medford, OR 97501; (503) 858-2200 or Applegate RD, 6941 Upper Applegate Rd., Jacksonville, OR 97530; (541) 899-1812.

Resting Spring Range

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

Rice Valley

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 63-500 Garnet Ave., North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

Riverside Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 63-500 Garnet Ave., North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

Rodman Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

Russian

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Scott River RD, Klamath NF, 11263 South Highway 3, Fort Jones, CA 96032; (916) 468-5351.

Sacatar Trail

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: depends on location Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM at 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400 or 3801 Pegasus Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93308; (805) 391-6120.

Saddle Peak Hills

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

San Gabriel

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: terrain not amenable to stock use; no shooting, prospecting, or gold panning Contact: Mt. Baldy RD, Angeles NF, 110 North Wabash Ave., Glendora, CA 91741; (818) 335-1251 or Arroyo Seco RD, Angeles NF, Oak Grove Park, Flintridge, CA 91011; (818) 790-1151.

San Gorgonio

Quota: day and overnight (NF only) Permit: day and overnight (NF only) Party size: 15 people, 15 stock (NF only) Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed (NF only) Closures: no Note: regs may change in 1996; shooting restricted in South Fork area; carry water Contact: Mill Creek RD, San Bernardino NF, 34701 Mill Creek Rd., Mentone, CA 92359; (909) 794-1123 or BLM, 63-500 Garnet Ave., North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

San Jacinto

Quota: day (Devil's Slide Trail in summer) and overnight Permit: day and overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: only at designated sites Pets: leashed and only in NF portion of wilderness Closures: no shooting in state game refuge Note: no grazing of stock; regs may change in 1996; see also Mt. San Jacinto Wilderness listing Contact: San Jacinto RD, San Bernardino NF, P. O. Box 518, Idyllwild, CA 92549; (909) 659-2117.

San Mateo Canyon

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 8 stock Fires: no Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: no target shooting or plinking; alcohol restriction at Tenaja Falls trailhead may be instituted in 1996 Contact: Trabuco RD, Cleveland NF, 1147 E. Sixth St., Corona, CA 91719; (909) 736-1811.

San Rafael

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: condor sanctuary and Pool Rock archaeological site Note: campers encouraged to use designated campsites Contact: Santa Lucia RD, Los Padres NF, 1616 Carlotti Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93454; (805) 925-9538.

Santa Lucia

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: campers encouraged to use designated campsites; smoking restricted Contact: Santa Lucia RD, Los Padres NF, 1616 Carlotti Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93454; (805) 925-9538.

Santa Rosa

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 15 people, 25 stock (NF only) Fires: only at designated sites (NF); seasonally restricted (BLM) Pets: leashed (NF only) Closures: no shooting in state game refuge Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: San Jacinto RD, San Bernardino NF, P. O. Box 518, Idyllwild, CA 92549; (909) 659-2117 or BLM, 63-500 Garnet Ave., North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.



Siskiyou Wilderness Photo by Pete Yamagata

Sawtooth Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

Sequoia-Kings Canyon

Quota: day (Whitney zone only) and overnight Permit: day (Whitney zone only) and overnight Party size: 15 people, 20 stock Fires: depends on location Pets: no Closures: seasonal closures to protect bighorn sheep Note: park publishes Backcountry Basics, a free trip-planning guide Contact: Wilderness Office, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, Three Rivers, CA 93271; (209) 565-3708.

Sespe

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: Sespe Condor Sanctuary; no shooting near sanctuary Note: carry water in summer Contact: Ojai RD, Los Padres NF, 1190 East Ojai Ave., Ojai, CA 93023; (805) 646-4348 or Mount Pinos RD, Los Padres NF, 34580 Lockwood Valley Rd., Frazier Park, CA 93225; (805) 245-3731.

Sheep Mountain

Quota: no Permit: only for East Fork trailhead Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: terrain not amenable to stock use; no shooting, prospecting, or gold panning Contact: Mt. Baldy RD, Angeles NF, 110 North Wabash Ave., Glendora, CA 91741; (818) 335-1251 or Valyermo RD, Angeles NF, 29835 Valyermo Rd., Valyermo, CA 93563; (805) 944-2187.

Sheephole Valley

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Silver Peak

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Monterey RD, Los Padres NF, 406 South Mildred Ave., King City, CA 93930; (408) 385-5434.

Siskiyou

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonal restrictions possible Pets: yes Closures: no Note: terrain not amenable to stock use; watch for rattlesnakes Contact: Happy Camp RD, Klamath NF, P. O. Box 377, Happy Camp, CA 96039; (916) 493-2243 or Gasquet RD, Six Rivers NF, P. O. Box 228, Gasquet, CA 95543; (707) 457-3131 or Orleans RD, Six Rivers NF, Drawer B, Orleans, CA 95556; (916) 627-3291.

Snow Mountain

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: no camping on private lands within wilderness; no shooting except in hunting season Contact: Stonyford RD, Mendocino NF, P. O. Box 160, Stonyford, CA 95979; (916) 963-3128.

South Nopah Range

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

South Sierra

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: depends on location Pets: yes Closures: no Note: no target shooting or plinking (Inyo NF) Contact: Mt. Whitney RD, Inyo NF, P. O. Box 8, Lone Pine, CA 93545; (619) 876-6200 or Cannell Meadow RD, Sequoia NF, P. O. Box 6, Kernville, CA 93238; (619) 376-3781.

South Warner

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no shooting in state game refuge Contact: Warner Mountain RD, Modoc NF, P. O. Box 220, Cedarville, CA 96104; (916) 279-6116.

Stateline

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Stepladder Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Surprise Canyon

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

Sylvania Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.



Whipple Mountains Wilderness

Photo by Jim Eaton

Thousand Lakes

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: regs may change in 1997 Contact: Hat Creek RD, Lassen NF, P.O. Box 220, Fall River Mills, CA 96028; (916) 336-5521.

Trilobite

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Trinity Alps

Quota: overnight Permit: day and overnight Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: bears frequent trailhead parking lots; regs may change in 1996 Contact: Big Bar RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, Star Route 1, Box 10, Big Bar, CA 96010; (916) 623-6106 or Weaverville RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, P. O. Box 1190, Weaverville, CA 96093; (916) 623-2121.

Turtle Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Ventana

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Monterey RD, Los Padres NF, 406 South Mildred Ave., King City, CA 93930; (408) 385-5434.

West Waddell

Quota: overnight Permit: overnight Party size: 6 people per campsite Fires: no Pets: no Closures: some trails closed to stock Contact: Big Basin Redwoods State Park, 21600 Big Basin Way, Boulder Creek, CA 95006; (408) 338-8860.

Whipple Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 101 West Spikes Rd., Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 15-25 stock (depends on location) Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Covelo RD, Mendocino NF, 78150 Covelo Rd., Covelo, CA 95428; (707) 983-6118 or Corning RD, Mendocino NF, P. O. Box 1019, Corning, CA 96021; (916) 824-5196 or Yolla Bolla RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, HC01 Box 400, Platina, CA 96076; (916) 352-4211 or Mad River RD, Six Rivers NF, Star Route Box 300, Bridgeville, CA 95526; (707) 574-6233.

Yosemite

Quota: overnight Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock on trails; 8 people, no stock cross-country Fires: only in established sites below 9,600 feet Pets: no Closures: no Note: bear-resistant food canisters now strongly recommended and may be required later this year Contact: Wilderness Center, P. O. Box 545, Yosemite, CA 95389; (209) 372-0740.

What is the California Wilderness Coalition?

The California Wilderness Coalition is an alliance of individuals, businesses, and more than 70 environmental groups committed to wilderness preservation. By joining together in a coalition, small groups like Friends of Plumas Wilderness can call on wilderness lovers around the state when local wildlands are threatened, and national organizations like The Wilderness Society can call on the perspective and experience of grassroots activists. For 20 years, the Coalition has been a unified voice on behalf of the state's wildlands.

What do we do?

The California Wilderness Coalition protects wilderness by campaigning for new wilderness areas, monitoring how existing wilderness is managed, and defending threatened wildlands until they too can be designated wilderness. Though California presently has 135 wilderness areas, most of the state's wildlands are still at risk of being developed, logged, or polluted. And California needs all the wilderness it can get: the state's biological diversity is fast disappearing as habitat is destroyed.

So we support new laws, like the California Desert Protection Act that recently designated large tracts of our fragile desert as national parks and wilderness areas. And we defend good laws, like the Endangered Species Act, from being compromised.

We also work to persuade the agencies that manage wilderness and wildlands in California—the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and Fish and Wildlife Service—to better protect the areas in their care. We do that by participating in the development of wilderness management plans and by monitoring their implementation. When all else fails, we go to court.

None of these goals is possible without the support of Californians. So we also publish a monthly newspaper about California's rich heritage of wilderness and the many threats that will diminish that heritage if our vigilance falters. The Wilderness Record and other CWC publications are designed to help Californians help wil-


How to reach us

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The Wilderness Guide

The Wilderness Guide is published each April by the California Wilderness Coalition as a service to our members and other recreationists. For more copies of the Wilderness Guide, contact the Coalition.

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by Phil Farrell

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