



VOLUME XXII

# STANISLAUS TRAVELER

A VISITOR'S GUIDE  
TO THE STANISLAUS  
NATIONAL FOREST



*Emigrant Wilderness ~ Pinto Lake  
Photo by Paul Dettman*

# WELCOME TO THE FOREST



Forest Supervisor - Jason Kuiken

## Message from Forest Supervisor - Jason Kuiken

Welcome to the Stanislaus National Forest! Nestled between Yosemite to the south and Lake Tahoe to the north, you'll find a scenic location where you can connect with nature and explore the spirit of the Sierra Nevada among sparkling mountain lakes, towering forests and canyons carved by cool rushing rivers.

Since I first arrived at the Stanislaus in 2017, we have seen an increase in the number of visitors to the Forest. We are thrilled to introduce new visitors to the wonders of the forest, many of whom will, like many returning visitors, come back year after year and make forest visits part of their family traditions.

While we enjoy welcoming more visitors, we also have seen a lot more trash being left behind. Please do your part to ensure that this beautiful ecosystem stays healthy and thriving! Pick up your trash, pick up some trash you find that might not be yours ... and please take it all with you when you leave and dispose of it properly.

In this issue of the Stanislaus Traveler, you'll find maps of our ranger districts and where recreation sites can be found. There are also some useful tips from our Forest Service employees to help you and your family have a fabulous visit to the Forest. You'll learn about where you can enjoy the many recreation activities, such as swimming, camping, fishing, and winter activities. You'll also find important safety measures to keep you, your family and the forest safe. Inside you will find fun activities for kids to enjoy during and after your visit to the forest.

Enjoy your visit! Create some wonderful lifetime memories! My family and I invite your family to begin making those memories today. Stay safe, enjoy visiting and please help keep the forest healthy and clean.  
~ Jason Kuiken



Photo by Joel Silverman

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## THE WOODS ARE WILDER THAN YOU THINK!

We hope that your visit to the Forest will be safe and enjoyable. The following information can help make it so. Avoid taking unnecessary chances and always be prepared while you enjoy the adventure of a National Forest experience.

### HERE ARE A FEW SAFETY TIPS TO KEEP IN MIND:

- Before leaving, plan your trip from start to finish using a Forest map or trail guide.
- Take extra clothing, trail snacks, and be prepared for weather changes.
- Leave a full written account with a family member of where you are going, where you plan to stay each night, your exit point, and when you plan to arrive home.
- Allow plenty of time for driving mountain roads and hiking over rugged terrain. Carry a map and compass with you and stick to the planned route.
- Stay on frequently used roads and trails.

VISIT YOUR LOCAL RANGER STATION FOR MORE INFORMATION

# RECREATING IN THE FOREST

**HIKING & BACKPACKING:** Hike many trails and see spectacular vistas, unique geological formations, wildflowers, sparkling lakes, and countless miles of streams and rivers. Some of the nation's most spectacular sights await you in the backcountry.



**FISHING:** The rivers, creeks, and lakes in the Stanislaus National Forest abound with rainbow, brown, and brook trout, offering fishing enthusiasts a first-rate rod-and-reel experience, with an extraordinarily spectacular alpine setting as an additional lure. The trout fishing season begins in late April and runs through mid-November; a license is required. Several lakes in the region are open to fishing year-round.



**HORSE RIDING & CAMPING:** See the Sierra the way the settlers saw it, by horseback. Enjoy the quiet and solitude for a half-hour or a week-long packing trip. Lower elevation riding and camping is available on the Mi-Wok and Groveland Ranger Districts. Higher elevation riding and camping is available on the Summit and Calaveras Ranger Districts.



**BICYCLING:** There are excellent mountain biking opportunities on trails and roads within the Forest that will lead you on an adventure. Beginners can ride on scenic paved or gravel roads with flat to moderately steep terrain, while intermediate to advanced riders can enjoy more challenging steeper grades. Riders are welcome on most National Forest roads as well as trails outside of the Tuolumne Wild & Scenic River corridor and designated wilderness areas.



## FLAT WATER KAYAKING, CANOEING, AND SAILING:



Alpine lakes fed by melting winter snows are paradise for water sports enthusiasts. Grabbing whatever paddle rocks your boat, you will find plenty of pristine, high mountain lakes for your enjoyment.

**OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES:** Many excellent off-road opportunities exist on National Forest lands for the OHV enthusiast. Trails for motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles are available, as well as hundreds of miles of unpaved roads suitable for street-legal 4WD vehicles. Motor vehicles are allowed only on designated routes and cross-country travel is prohibited. Some routes are open year-round while other routes are open April 15 to Dec. 15. Free user guidelines and route maps are available at all Ranger Stations as well as online: [www.fs.usda.gov/stanislaus](http://www.fs.usda.gov/stanislaus)



**WHITE WATER BOATING:** White water enthusiasts might consider a trip on the North Fork of the Stanislaus River or a journey down the Tuolumne Wild & Scenic River. Both of these rivers offer an exciting adventure through enchanting forests, rich in Native American and Gold Rush history along with abundant wildlife.



**CAMPGROUNDS:** Forty-nine campgrounds provide 1,514 campsites for visitors. The number of people allowed in a single campsite is six. All campgrounds offer vault or flush toilets, tables, and grills or a fire ring. Most offer potable water, but check your destination to be sure. Most campgrounds are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.



**Reservable Campgrounds:** **Calaveras District:** Spicer Group, Big Meadow Group, Lodgepole Group, Lake Alpine, Silver Tip, Silver Valley, Pine Marten. **Summit District:** Pincrest, Pioneer Trail Group. **Groveland District:** Dimond O, Lost Claim, Cherry Valley, Pines Group. Visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) to reserve your spot. Check the highway corridor pages for information on who to call for reservations.

## DISPERSED CAMPING:

(No Facilities) To "get away from it all" try car camping in an area with no facilities and no fees. The advantages to this type of camping include solitude, quiet, and adventure. You will need to bring your own water or treat water you collect. Camp at least 100 feet from water sources. With no toilet facilities, bury human waste in a six-inch hole well away from trails, water, and other campers. Pack out used toilet paper with your garbage. If you have a campfire or use a camp stove, you'll need a free campfire permit available at any Ranger Station.



Do not burn plastics or metal. Please leave the area in as good (or better) condition than you found it. Often, locations destroyed by thoughtless campers must be closed to restore the area's natural health. Help ensure your favorite area remains open.

**CAMPFIRE WOOD:** Available free of charge in forested areas below 9,000 feet, only dead wood lying on the ground may be collected or cut for campfire wood. You can use a chainsaw if the saw has a spark arrestor with screen openings of .23 inches or less. You will need a permit to take firewood home. This program allows you to collect a maximum of 10 cords annually from April 1 until Nov. 30. Obtain a permit or information at one of the Ranger Stations. Help stop the spread of invasive pests. Leave firewood at home - do not transport it to campgrounds or parks.

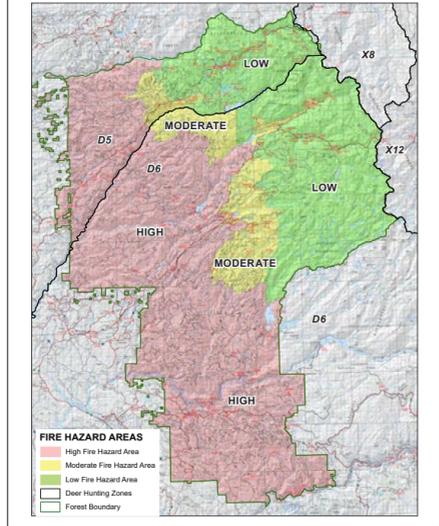


**PETS:** Your pets are welcome to accompany you during your visit. However, they MUST be leashed in Tuolumne County. In Calaveras and Alpine counties, pets must be under immediate control or on a leash. These regulations protect the health and safety of visitors and wildlife. Pick up after your pets, especially around high use areas. NO dogs are allowed in Pincrest day use area May 15 - Sept. 15.



# FIRE SAFETY

Stanislaus National Forest - Fire Hazard Areas & Deer Hunting Zones



## FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Fire Restrictions help land management agencies reduce fire risk and prevent wildfires during periods of high or extreme fire danger. There are different levels of fire restrictions based on how likely a wildfire is to start. These restrictions change throughout the year. There are **Low, Moderate, and High** hazard areas in the forest based on elevation. These areas may have differing fire restrictions.

**No Restrictions:** Please be safe with fire in the forest.

**Permit Required:** For campfires, grills, stoves, lanterns, tiki torches, candles, mosquito coils... anything with a flame spark or ember requires a campfire permit.

**Fire Restrictions:** No wood fires, no charcoal fires. Gas grills and stoves ok with permit.

**Further Restrictions by Forest Order:** No wood fires, no charcoal fires, no gas grills, no stoves, no smoking, no target shooting, no power equipment, area closures... to list a few.

**Most Restrictive:** The Forest is closed to all use. If you still want to camp, you'll have to go to a privately owned campground.

**FOR CURRENT FIRE RESTRICTIONS VISIT:**

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/stanislaus/home>



Fire Restrictions Map



Fire Restrictions



## CAMPFIRES IN THE FOREST - BE PREPARED

If you are planning to visit the Stanislaus National Forest and want to have a campfire, a barbecue or use a gas stove:

1. Find out what level of fire restrictions are in affect before your trip:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/stanislaus/home>

2. After you've checked what level of fire restrictions are in effect, and determined that campfires are currently allowed, there's a few items required to bring with you: California Campfire Permit, a shovel, and a container of water. A rake is not required but can be very helpful for making clearance.

**If you don't have water, don't light a fire!**

## ENJOY YOUR CAMPFIRE WHILE PREVENTING WILDFIRES AND ALWAYS:

- Clear all flammable material away from the fire's edge 5 feet in all directions to prevent escape of the fire.
- Have a shovel and water available at the campfire site for preparing and extinguishing campfires.
- Have a responsible adult in attendance at all times.
- Extinguish campfires with water, using the drown, stir, and feel method.

Permits are required for open fires, such as campfires, barbecues and portable stoves.

Get your California Campfire Permit at:  
<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/permits/campfire-permit/>



### CAMPFIRE SAFETY

<b>LEARN</b>	<b>DROWN</b>	<b>STIR</b>	<b>FEEL</b>
Check local offices, bulletin boards, websites and visitor centers for current fire restrictions.	Drown the campfire ashes with lots of water. Don't take chances - USE A LOT!	Stir the remains, add more water and stir again. Be sure all burned material has been put out cold.	Feel materials with your bare hand. If it is hot to touch, it's too hot to leave!

# FIRE SAFETY

## MESSAGE FROM FIRE PREVENTION TEAM:

LOOKING BACK TO FIRE SEASON 2020

Fire season 2020 was the worst recorded in modern California history. 9,639 wildfires burned 4,397,809 acres. The Stanislaus National Forest set some of its own records in 2020. When summer recreation opportunities were limited by COVID restrictions nationwide, the Stanislaus National Forest received approximately four times the visitation as usual. Throughout fire season there was a lack of locally available firefighters due to their responding to wildfires across California and other states. As weather conditions presented extreme wildfire potential, the Stanislaus National Forest moved through all levels of fire restrictions. First, open fires were restricted. Next came a ban on all fires, gas grills, target shooting and smoking. For a short period of time, the Stanislaus National Forest was closed to all use and had other camping restrictions later.

Despite the restrictions and limited resources, firefighters suppressed 5 wildfires caused by campfires, 7 wildfires caused by debris burning and 9 unknown or misc. human caused fires. The Forest Service prevented many more wildfires by extinguishing 156 illegal campfires occupied by campers and 102 abandoned campfires. An illegal campfire in the National Forest is a federal misdemeanor. The violator risks a citation of up to \$5,000, six months in jail or both. If a person is found guilty of starting a wildfire, they can be held liable for the suppression costs and face further criminal prosecution.

**Thank you to those who followed restrictions and protected the land.**



## WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS:

You may not plan on a wildfire interfering with your visit to the National Forest, but you should always be prepared. Know your way out. If a wildfire starts while you're in the forest.....

### DON'T BE L.A.T.E. TO EVACUATE!

- **L**ocate family, pets, and belongings in that order. Things are replaceable, people are not.
- **A**lert others of the danger if you can do so without further endangering yourself. Activate emergency services, call 911
- **T**ravel safely. A car accident can cause injury or death and will delay wildfire response.
- **E**vacuate before it's too late.



Labor Day Weekend 2020; fast-moving Creek Fire in the Sierra National Forest.

The National Guard rescued 214 forest visitors by helicopter when they were trapped by flames near Mammoth Pool Reservoir.



## SANITATION - FOREST VISITOR ETIQUETTE

Last summer season with more people than usual visiting the Stanislaus National Forest, came more trash. Even with trash receptacles available in places like Pinecrest Lake, litter abounded. Countless garbage bags were left on the sides of roads where bears, crows and other wild animals could get into them. Many people burned their trash in campfires. Burning trash not only pollutes the air, burnt plastic poisons the water. Broken glass left in a campfire ring can cause serious injury to the next person who camps there, or who cleans the mess. There is no garbage service in the general forest area. If you pack it in, you can pack it out to dispose of properly.

With huge crowds at places like Rainbow Pool, and limited toilet facilities available, you can imagine the odor in the summer afternoons. If a toilet facility is not available, go at least 200 feet from any water source. Dig a hole 9 inches deep, bury feces and toilet paper. Pack out wipes, and never burn toilet paper.

**Help keep your forest looking and smelling beautiful!**



Don't burn your trash in the campfire!

# WILDERNESS

## MESSAGE FROM WILDERNESS RANGER JOEL:

The Stanislaus is home to 3 wilderness areas, offering almost one quarter-million acres of granite peaks, wild rivers, and forests to explore. I love sharing what I've learned with visitors either before their trip or on the trail, helping folks to have a good time and learn about the area. I like to say I have the best "office" in the world. Each year, a few of us rangers hand-cut logs out of the trails to allow for easier hiking. We also visit the lakes on a rotation to observe the campsite conditions. We remove campsites that are too close to water and haul out hundreds of pounds of trash. We find and remove everything - even baby wipes (which are plastic and don't biodegrade)! Any time you choose a campsite far from water or haul out trash you find, you are helping us and helping the wilderness. So thank you for all you have done and all you will do to take care of this place we love.



## WHAT IS WILDERNESS?

Wilderness is special lands, designated by Congress to provide the American people opportunities to experience undeveloped lands which retain their primeval character and are mainly shaped by the forces of nature. Here, visitors can experience solitude while engaging in simple recreation that leaves the area preserved for future generations. Visiting wilderness takes effort and requires a higher level of self-reliance inherent in these remote, wild areas. The reward is that visitors are taken back to a time when transportation consisted of horses or our own two feet, when motorized equipment was absent, when natural sounds prevailed, and when the forces of nature dominated the landscape.

## HELP KEEP WILDERNESS WILD:

- Learn and practice Leave No Trace principles.
- Learn and follow wilderness regulations.
- Participate in a wilderness stewardship project with the Stanislaus Wilderness Volunteers.



For more information about this outstanding group of citizens visit: [stanislauswildernessvolunteers.org](http://stanislauswildernessvolunteers.org)

## WHY ARE THERE WILDERNESS REGULATIONS?

Regulations are in place to keep wilderness wild, focusing on preventing environmental degradation from human activities such as camping too close to water or collecting firewood in fragile alpine environments. Other regulations exist to help ensure an outstanding experience for visitors to wilderness. As a result, group size is limited to 15 people and activities such as target shooting, use of motorized equipment, or riding mountain bikes are strictly prohibited. The back of your wilderness permit includes a complete list of regulations.

## WHEN DO YOU NEED A WILDERNESS PERMIT?

Permits are required, but free for all overnight trips into wilderness on the Stanislaus National Forest. Getting a permit gives you a chance to connect with our staff about current conditions and wilderness regulations for the area you plan to visit. Your permit also plays a vital role in the Forest's ability to manage wilderness for all to enjoy.



If your wilderness plan includes leaving the Stanislaus boundaries, you'll need to call us for a permit. Otherwise, wilderness permits can be obtained online, at our ranger stations, or by calling us a day or two ahead of time. Our phone numbers and web address are listed on the back page.

## IT'S UP TO US – LEAVE NO TRACE

Following the seven principles of LEAVE NO TRACE (LNT) can guide your decision-making in the outdoors enabling you to reduce resource damage, increase your safety, and ensure other visitors will enjoy an unspoiled wilderness experience. Visit [LNT.org](http://LNT.org) for more information.

- **PLAN AHEAD** and prepare
- **TRAVEL & CAMP** on durable surfaces
- **DISPOSE** of waste properly
- **LEAVE** what you find
- **MINIMIZE** use/impact of fire
- **RESPECT** wildlife
- **BE CONSIDERATE** of other visitors



# WILDERNESS HIKES



View from Burst Rock - Emigrant Wilderness • Photo by Annie Dabberg

## FEATURED HIKE ON THE SUMMIT RANGER DISTRICT: BURST ROCK, EMIGRANT WILDERNESS

Start at the Gianelli Trailhead (at the end of the Crabtree Road at 8,600 feet in elevation.) A moderate climb of 1.2 miles tops out at the Burst Rock with fine views over a large portion of the Emigrant Wilderness. If you want a longer hike, walk another mile to Powell Lake or continue an additional 1.5 miles to Chewing Gum Lake.

## FEATURED HIKE ON THE GROVELAND RANGER DISTRICT: KIBBIE RIDGE & LOOKOUT POINT, EMIGRANT WILDERNESS

Take the Shingle Springs Trailhead that starts east of Cherry Lake. At about ½ mile, take the left fork and continue climbing a moderate slope through brush and pines. After about 2½ miles, visitors will come to Lookout Point, which offers a majestic view of the exposed granite Cherry Creek Canyon some 1600 feet below and extending for many miles upstream. Continuing the hike, the trail crosses briefly into Yosemite and back to the Emigrant, eventually leading overnight hikers to areas like Lord Meadow, Boundary Lake, and even Huckleberry Lake. This relatively low elevation ridge can be hot in summer, so is best enjoyed in spring or fall.



Cherry Creek Canyon from Kibbie Ridge - Emigrant Wilderness



Bull Run Lake - Carson Iceberg Wilderness • Photo by Steve Keagy

## FEATURED HIKE ON THE CALAVERAS RANGER DISTRICT: BULL RUN LAKE, CARSON ICEBERG WILDERNESS

From the Stanislaus Meadow trailhead past Lake Alpine, hike through open forest and granite outcroppings to a rocky bowl containing scenic Bull Run Lake. Round trip distance to Bull Run Lake: 6.8 miles. Total elevation gain: 600 feet.

### WILDERNESS PERMITS ONLINE



**ONLINE PERMITS:**  
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/attmain/stanislaus/specialplaces>

### WILDERNESS MAPS ONLINE:





**Emigrant      Carson-Iceberg      Mokelumne**

Photo by Joel Silverman

# HIGHWAY 4 ACTIVITIES

Headquartered in Hathaway Pines, the Calaveras Ranger District encompasses the Highway 4 corridor in the north-west portion of the Stanislaus National Forest. Recreation opportunities are shown on this and the facing page.

## INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

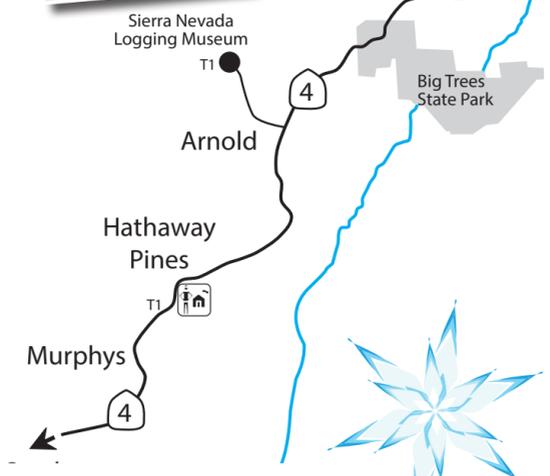
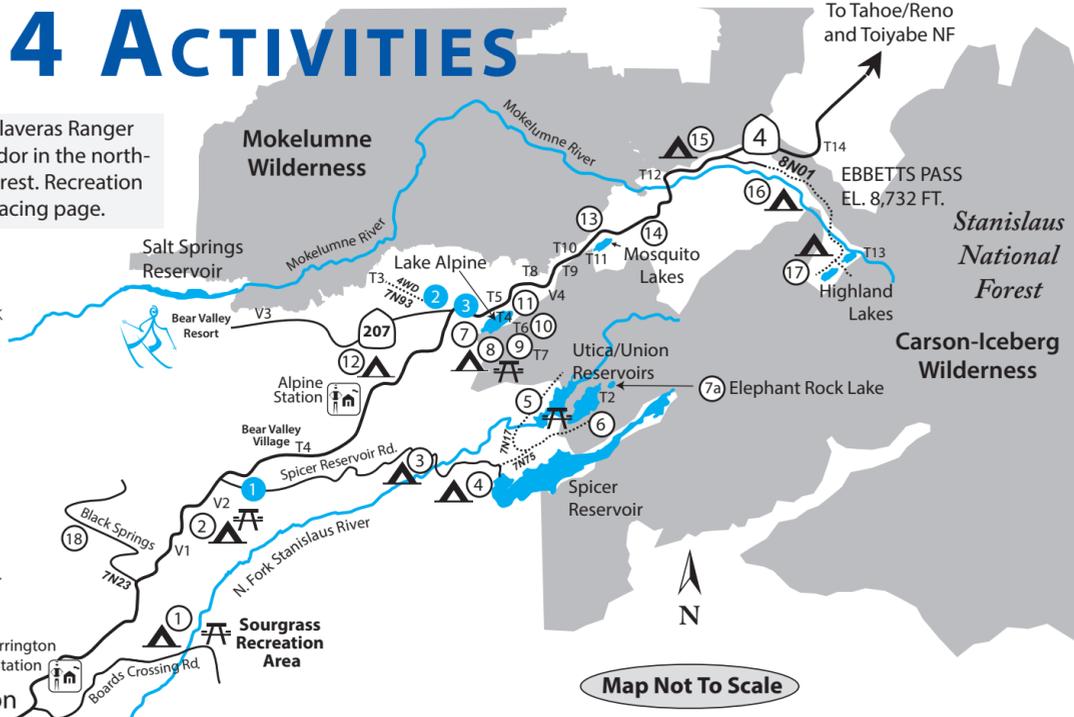
**Stanislaus National Forest**  
Calaveras Ranger District  
**Your Guide to Programs & Activities**



For program information visit: [fs.usda.gov/stanislaus](http://fs.usda.gov/stanislaus). Click on **Recreation** then Click on **Outdoor Learning** or [3forests.com/stanislaus](http://3forests.com/stanislaus)

Visit our Facebook page, and click on the "Events" tab. Here you will find a listing of programs and activities throughout the year!

Facebook: #StanislausNF



HIGHWAY 4 CAMPGROUNDS		Elevation 00'	Fee	Max Occupants	# of Sites	Seasonally Closed	Potable Water	Toilets	RV/Trailer - max length ft	ADA accessible sites	Reservations	Day Use Area	Fishing	Boating	Biking	Hiking
1	Wakalu Hep Yo	39	•	6	49	•	•	F/V	50	•	•	•	•	p		
2	Big Meadow	65	•	6	68	•	•	V	27		•					
2	Big Meadow Group CG	65	•	50	*	•	•	V	~	*						
3	Stanislaus River	62	•	6	25	•	•	V	35		•	•				
4	Spicer Reservoir	66	•	6	60	•	•	V	50		•	•	m/p	•	•	
4	Spicer Res. Group CG	66	•	40	1	•	•	V	50	*	•	•	m/p	•	•	
5	Utica-Sandy Flat**/Rocky Point	68	•	6	23	•	•	V	~		•		p			
6	Union West/East	68	•	6	29	•	•	V	27		•	•	m/p	•	•	
7	Silvertip	73	•	6	21	•	•	F	27	*	•	•	m/p	•	•	
8	Lake Alpine	73	•	6	25	•	•	F/V	50	•	*	•	m/p	•	•	
9	Silver Valley	73	•	6	21	•	•	V	20	*	•	•	m/p	•	•	
10	Pine Marten	73	•	6	32	•	•	V	27	*	•	•	m/p	•	•	
11	Backpackers Walk-In	73	•	6	8	•	•	V		*	•	•	m/p	•	•	
12	Lodgepole Group/Overflow CG	73	•	50/6	2/17	•	•	V	30/?	*	•	•	m/p	•	•	
13	Mosquito Lakes	83	•	6	11	•	•	V	~			•	p	•	•	
14	Pacific Valley	76	•	6	19	•	•	V	~			•		•	•	
15	Hermit Valley	71	•	6	5	•	•	V	~			•			•	
16	Bloomfield	78	•	6	20	•	•	V	~			•				
17	Highland Lakes	82	•	6	35	•	•	V	~			•	p		•	
18	Black Springs Off Highway Vehicle	65	D	6	8	•	•	V	60	•	•					

Day use picnic area = Single site limit - two cars, two tents; no extra vehicles  
**m** = motorized, **p** = paddle boats, **~** = RVs/trailers not advised, **V**=Vault/non-flushing pit toilet, **F** = Flush  
 \* Reservations; Spicer Group (209)296-8895; all others (877)444-6777 or [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)  
**D** = Donations requested to 3FIA for campground maintenance and interpretive programs  
 \*\*Sandy Flat includes one triple site (max occupants 18) & 11 single sites.

**SNO-Parks** provide a safe place for people to park and access the forest for sledding, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Groomed snowmobile trails are also provided during winter months. Sno-Park Permits are required Nov 1 to May 31 can be obtained at [www.ohv.parks.ca.gov/snoparks](http://www.ohv.parks.ca.gov/snoparks) and from local vendors:

- Ebbetts Pass Sporting Goods - (209) 795-1686
- Bear Valley Adventure Company - (209) 753-2834
- Sierra Nevada Adventure Co. - (209) 795-9310 (sold only at the Arnold location)

- 1** SPICER SNO-PARK
- 2** ROUND VALLEY SNO-PARK (NON-MOTORIZED)
- 3** LAKE ALPINE SNO-PARK

## EBBETTS PASS NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY VIEWPOINTS

Name	Highlights & Notes	Name	Highlights & Notes
V1 Liberty Vista	North Fork Stanislaus canyon; Dardanelles.	V3 Hwy 207	Road to Bear Valley Ski Area. Views of Mokelumne Peak, Dardanelles.
V2 Hell's Kitchen	Balancing Rock at west end of turnout.	V4 Cape Horn	Dardanelles view. Emigrant Trail / MCCT access. Parking limited.

## RIVER ACCESS

Name	Location	Highlights & Notes
1 Sourgrass Rec. Area (Stanislaus R.)	Five miles northeast of Dorrington on Boards Crossing Rd.	Boulders, rapids, cascades, pools. Raft put-in.
3 Stanislaus River Campground	On Spicer Reservoir Rd three miles east of Hwy. 4.	Granite slabs, cascades, and pools; forested.
4 Highland Creek	End of Spicer Reservoir Rd (below dam).	Fishing access.
15 Hermit Valley (Mokelumne R.)	12 miles northeast of Bear Valley along Hwy. 4.	Flat, creek-sized channel through meadow.
16 Highland Lakes Road (Mokelumne R.)	Hwy. 4 to Road 113 (1 mi paved), becomes 8N01 (4.7 mi unpaved).	Creek-sized with rocks. Rd 8N01 is rough.

## ROAD-ACCESSIBLE LAKES

Name	Acres	Highlights & Notes
5 Utica Reservoir	241	Small islands, lots of granite. Kept mostly full. Designed for hand launching of non-motorized boats.
6 Union Reservoir	218	Small islands, mountain views, granite. Kept mostly full. Dirt ramp designed for small watercraft.
7a Elephant Rock Lake	10	Natural pond with marsh/mud/grass shoreline surrounded by conifer forest. Backdrop view of elephant rock.
4 Spicer Reservoir	2,000	Great mountain views. Ramp and dock (but may be out of water due to low water levels); boat trailer parking.
11 Lake Alpine (reservoir)	173	Granite slabs on shoreline, mountain views. Kept mostly full. Ramp, dock, boat trailer parking, boat rentals, lodge.
13 Mosquito Lakes	3, 2	Two small, shallow, reflective alpine lakes. Forest, granite boulders, and picturesque summer cabins around shoreline.
17 Highland Lakes	58, 10	Two alpine lakes in an open, grassy setting within conifer forest. Views of mountains, Hiram Peak, and canyons below.

## HIGHWAY 4 RECOMMENDED HIKING TRAILS

Name	Trailhead Location	Effort	Miles (one-way)	Highlights & Notes
T1 Arnold Rim	Runs from Hathaway Pines to Arnold*		17	Views, streams, waterfall, older growth cedar, pine, fir, oak.
T2 Rock Lake	Union East CG/Elephant Rock Lake		3.2/1.9	Lakes, elephant rock. Some burned-over areas. In CIW.
T3 Camp Irene	Lake Valley TH. Access via Rd. 7N93 (4WD)		5.1	Mokelumne River access/pools. No cows. No water until river. In MW.
T4 Bear Valley to Lake Alpine	Bear Valley/East end of Lake Alpine		4	Parallels Hwy 4, paved & mostly level along Lake Alpine shoreline.
T5 Bee Gulch	Across hwy. from Chickaree Day Use		3	Forest, meadows, creek, wildflowers, panoramic views.
T6 Lakeshore	Runs from Pine Marten CG to FS Rd. 7N17		1.6	Lake & mountain views, creek. Part of Emigrant Trail/MCCT.
T6 Inspiration Point	Road on south side of Pine Marten CG		1.5	Views of Lake Alpine, Union and Utica Reservoirs, and the Dardanelles.
T7 Rock Lake	Silver Valley TH (at SVCG entrance)		4.5	Lakes, forest, some burned-over areas at Rock Lake. In CIW.
T7 Duck Lake	Silver Valley TH (at SVCG entrance)		1.2	Lake, meadow, wildflowers, fall color. Loop adds .7 mi. In CIW.
T8 Wheeler Ridge/Lake	Woodchuck Basin TH		1.75/3.1	Views, forest, meadows, wildflowers, lake, volcanic ridge. In MW.
T9 Bull Run Lake	Stanislaus Meadow TH		3.5	Alpine meadow, lake with island in middle, great views. In CIW.
T10 Sandy Meadow	Sandy Meadow TH		4.2	Sloping meadows, forests and views. Park on south side hwy. In MW.
T11 Heiser Lake	Mosquito Lakes TH		2.5	Shallow lake, mild for swimming; views from west end. In CIW.
T12 Deer Creek	Hermit Valley TH		1.6	Goes along Mokelumne River to Deer Creek. In MW.
T13 Asa Lake	Hwy 4, 113 & 8N01 to Highland Lakes		2.3	Gardner Meadow TH. Meadows, forest, spring-fed lake. In CIW.
T14 Noble Lake	Ebbetts Pass TH (Pacific Crest Trail)		4.5	Beautiful high country. Spectacular views. In HTNF.
T14 Upper Kinney Lake	Ebbetts Pass TH (Pacific Crest Trail)		1.75	Take spur trail to .2 mi to PCT & PCT north across hwy. In HTNF.

Tell what you find: email [casey.jardine@usda.gov](mailto:casey.jardine@usda.gov). \*Arnold Rim Trail has many access points; obtain a map at ranger stations (\$1) or at [arnoldrimtrail.org](http://arnoldrimtrail.org).  
**Effort:** Easy Moderate Strenuous **TH**=Trailhead, **CG**=Campground, **Rd.**=Road, **Hwy.**=Highway, **R.**=River, **mi**=mile/s. **PCT**=Pacific Crest Trail  
**MCCT** = Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail, **MW**= Mokelumne Wilderness, **CIW**=Carson-Iceberg Wilderness, **HTNF**=Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest.

# HIGHWAY 108 ACTIVITIES

## POINTS OF INTEREST:

**COLUMNS OF THE GIANTS:** Hike along an easy half-mile trail to view a striking rock formation similar to the Devils Postpile. Few people know that a similar geological wonder – stark, columnar cliffs formed of basalt lava flows – exists on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada offering hikers the amazing symmetry of this natural phenomenon. Located off Hwy 108 near Pigeon Flat Campground. Handicapped Accessible.

**DONNELL VISTA:** A ¼ mile interpretive trail leads to an overlook with sweeping views of the Middle Fork Stanislaus River Canyon and Donnell Reservoir. Handicapped Accessible.

**SONORA PASS:** Experience the grandeur of nature on this scenic drive offering magnificent vistas and recreational opportunities. From Kennedy Meadows on the west to Leavitt Meadow on the east it is NOT ADVISABLE for large RVs and trailers to travel this portion of Hwy 108. The winding road has no shoulder, narrow lanes, and grades as steep as 26 percent. Adjacent to the summit of the pass is a trailhead for the Pacific Crest Trail that also serves as a day-use picnic area. Your visit in late July and August provides spectacular alpine wild-flower displays.

**TRAIL OF THE GARGOYLES:** This moderately level 1½ mile walk has sweeping views of unique geologic features and formations that were formed by several volcanic events which shape the Sierras. Excellent wildflower viewing beginning in June. From Pinecrest drive 3.5 miles east on Hwy 108 to Herring Creek Rd. Turn right and drive 6 miles. Turn left at the Gargoyle sign into dirt parking area. Brochures are available at the Summit Ranger Station.

**SNO-Parks** provide a safe place for people to park and access the forest for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Groomed snowmobile trails are also provided during winter months. Sno-Park Permits are required Nov 1 to May 31 can be obtained at [www.ohv.parks.ca.gov/snoparks](http://www.ohv.parks.ca.gov/snoparks)

**HIGHWAY 108 SNO-PARK:** Located at the winter closure gate on Hwy 108, east of Strawberry.

## CAMPING:

### CAMPGROUND RESERVATIONS

Reservations are recommended for Pinecrest and Pioneer Trail Group Campground and can be made 6 months in advance for Pinecrest and 360 days in advance for Pioneer Trail Group. Online reservations: [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or toll free: 877-444-6777. All other campgrounds are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Length of stay is no longer than 14 consecutive days.

### PICNIC SITES • DAY USE AREAS

These sites with restrooms are available for no fee: China Flat, Beardsley, Sandbar Flat, Columns of the Giants, Cottonwood, Donnell Vista, Douglas, Lyons Reservoir, North Fork (Tuolumne River), Pinecrest, Riverside, and Sonora Pass. Fraser Flat - \$5. Pinecrest Group Day Use - \$60. Online reservations: [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or toll free: 877-444-6777. Groups larger than 75 require a non-commercial special use permit.

**CAMPING WITH HORSES** There are several horse camps in the area. Crabtree and Kennedy Meadows trailheads allow one night stays for campers and stock entering the Emigrant Wilderness. Vault toilets are available. Eagle, Kerrick, Herring, Clark Fork, Coyote and Pine Valley horse camps are rustic camps with few improvements and no fees. Plan to be self-contained.

## INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Visit our Facebook page, and click on the "Events" tab. Here you will find a listing of programs and activities throughout the year!

#StanislausNF

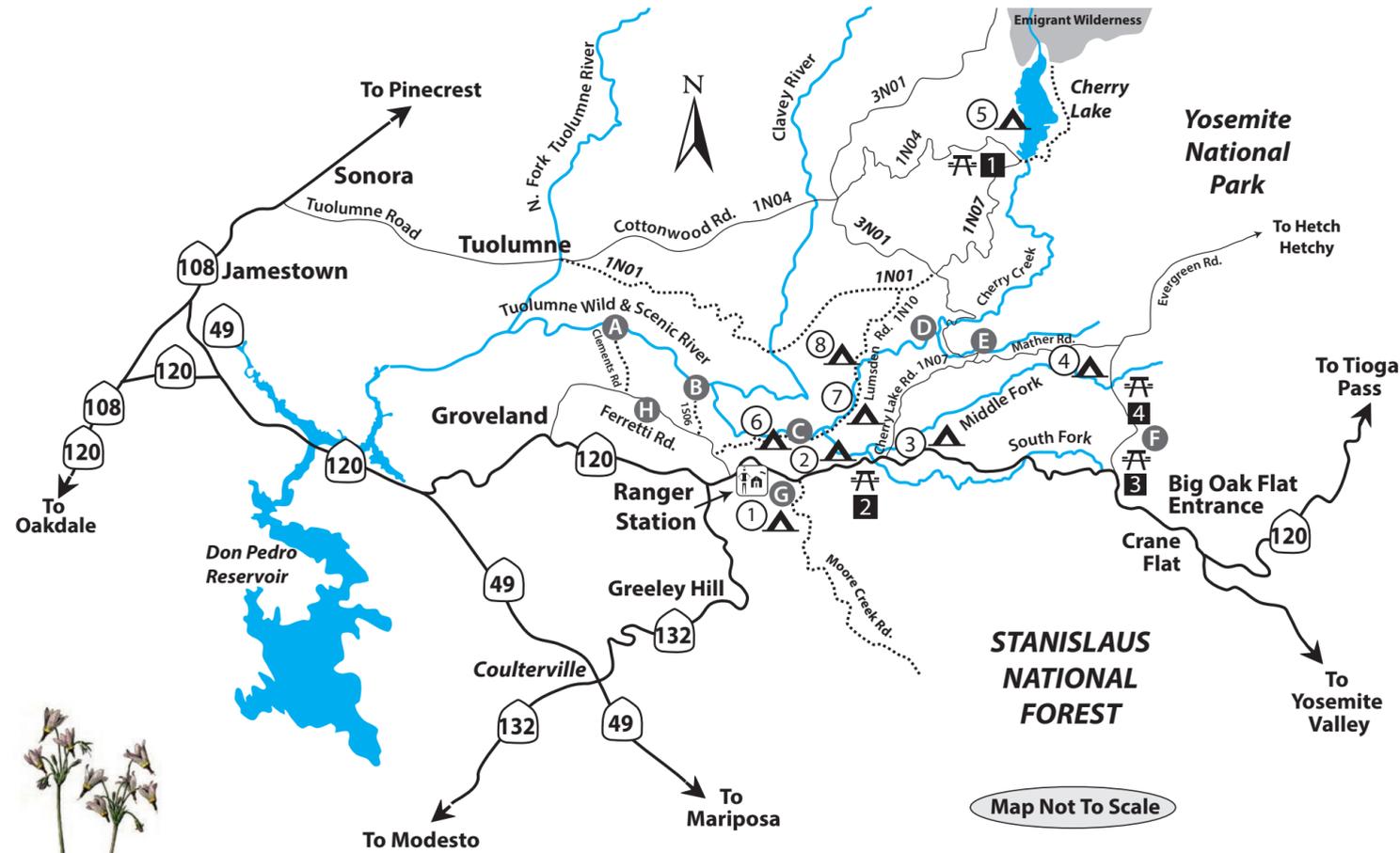


HIGHWAY 108 CAMPGROUNDS	Elevation 00'	Fee	Extra Vehicle Fee	# of Sites	Seasonally Closed	Potable Water	Toilets	RV/Trailer-max length ft	ADA Accessible sites	Reservations	Fishing	Boating	Biking	Hiking
<b>MI WOK CAMPGROUNDS</b>														
1 River Ranch	27	•	•	40	•	•	V	50		^^	•			•
2 Hull Creek	56	•		23	•	•	V	50			•	•	•	•
3 Fraser Flat	48	•	•	38	•	•	V	40	•		•	•	•	•
4 Sand Bar Flat	30	•		8/12	•	•	V	20	•		•	•	•	•
5 Crandall OHV	48			15	•	•	V	50						Campfire Permit Required
<b>PINECREST CAMPGROUNDS</b>														
6 Pinecrest	56	•		200	•	•	F	40	•	•	•	m/p	•	•
7 Meadowview	56	•		100	•	•	F		•	•	•	m/p	•	•
8 Pioneer Trail Group 1,2 & 3	58	•		#	•	•	V		•	•	•	m/p	•	•
<b>UPPER 108 CAMPGROUNDS</b>														
9 Beardsley	34	•	•	16	•	•	V	36	•	•	•	m/p	•	•
10 TeleLi puLaya ^	34	•	•	16	•	•	V		•	•	•	m/p	•	•
11 Herring Creek	74	•		7	•	•	V	~						•
12 Herring Creek Reservoir	74	•		9	•	•	V	~						•
13 Cascade Creek	60	•		14	•	•	V							•
14 Mill Creek	62	•	•	17	•	•	V							•
15 Niagara Creek	66	•	•	10	•	•	V							•
16 Niagara Creek ORV	72	•	•	10	•	•	V							•
<b>BRIGHTMAN RECREATION CAMPGROUNDS</b>														
17 Boulder Flat	56	•	•	21	•	•	V							•
18 Brightman	57	•	•	33	•	•	V							•
19 Dardanelle	58	•	•	28	•	•	V							•
20 Pigeon Flat (walk-in)	60	•	•	9	•	•	V	~						•
21 Eureka Valley	61	•	•	28	•	•	V							•
22 Baker	62	•	•	44	•	•	V	36						•
23 Deadman	62	•	•	17	•	•	V	32						•
<b>CLARK FORK AREA CAMPGROUNDS</b>														
24 Fence Creek	60	•		38	•	•	V							•
25 Clark Fork A Loop	62	•	•	28	•	•	V	32	•					•
26 Clark Fork B Loop	62	•	•	60	•	•	F	32	•					•
27 Clark Fork Horse Camp	62	•	•	12	•	•	V							•
28 Clark Fork Horse Camp Group	62	•	•	2	•	•	V							•
29 Sand Flat	62	•	•	53	•	•	V							•
30 Sand Flat (walk-in)	62	•	•	15	•	•	V	~						•

Reservations can be made at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or by calling (877)444-6777. ^^= Reservations - (209) 928-3708  
 m = motorized, p = paddle boats, ~ = RVs/trailers not advised, V = Vault/non-flushing pit toilet, F = Flushing Toilet  
 # = Pioneer Trail Group 1 & 2 - 50 people max, Group 3 - 100 people max, ^ = New Campground

STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST • MI-WOK & SUMMIT RANGER DISTRICT • HIKING TRAILS					
Hiking Trail	Trailhead Directions	Effort	Mileage	Highlights	Notes
<b>A</b> Clark Fork River Trail	Trail begins at the end of Clark Fork Road. Follow the signs to Clark Fork Trail Head. Here you will find an easy to moderate hike along Clark Fork River.	Easy to Moderate	5.2 (round trip)	Beautiful views of "The Iceberg" at Iceberg Mdw.	Bring your fishing pole.
<b>B</b> Relief Reservoir	Kennedy Meadows Trailhead: From Summit RS, drive 27 miles east on Hwy 108 to Kennedy Mdws. sign. Turn right, drive .5 mile to Trailhead Parking sign and left to parking lot.	Strenuous – 1,000' of elevation gain	6 (round trip)	Meadows, waterfalls, wildflowers, swimming	Trail begins .5 mile from the parking lot at the south end of the main road.
<b>C</b> Sand Bar Flat River Trail	Take 4N01 Fraser Flat/Spring Gap Road to 4N88 follow it to the Sand Bar Flat campground. Trail begins at the back of the campground to the right before the bridge crosses the M. Fork of the Stanislaus River.	Easy - 277' elevation gain	6 (round trip)	River, fishing, lush in spring	4N88 is steep and winding and not advisable for large RVs and trailers. Parking & vault toilets available.
<b>D</b> Stanislaus River Trail	The trail begins at the China Day Use parking area below the Beardsley Dam. Walk downriver past the After Bay Reservoir to the Spring Gap powerhouse. M. Fork Stanislaus River.	Easy	6 (round trip)	River, fishing, spring wildflowers	Vault toilets & picnic tables at Day Use. Hike to Sand Bar Flat-10 miles round trip.
<b>E</b> Sugar Pine Railway	Hwy 108 to 4N01. Trail begins 1.5 miles from 108 at the bridge on the south side of S. Fork of the Stanislaus River.	Easy – 3% grade	6 (round trip)	Spring wildflowers	An interpretive guide is available at Ranger Station.
<b>F</b> West Side Railroad Grade	Begins at intersection of Buchanan Mine & Mira Monte Roads, one mile east of Tuolumne City.	Easy - Flat	9 (round trip)	Tuolumne River canyon views, spring wildflowers	Trailhead to Hacienda Campground.

# HIGHWAY 120 CAMPING & HIKING



GROVELAND RANGER DISTRICT • HIKING TRAILS			
Hiking Trail	Distance (one-way)	Elevation Change	Destination
<b>A</b> Indian Creek	3 miles	1650 feet	Tuolumne Wild & Scenic River
<b>B</b> Hamby	3 miles	1850 feet	
<b>C</b> Tuolumne River Canyon	6 miles	150 feet	
<b>D</b> Andresen Mine	4.5 miles	200 feet	
<b>E</b> Preston Falls	4.5 miles	400 feet	Waterfalls
<b>F</b> Carlon Falls	2 miles	200 feet	
<b>G</b> Little Golden Forest	3 miles (loop)	150 feet	Self-Guided Interpretive Trail
<b>H</b> Ferretti Non-Motorized Trail System	26 miles (when complete)		Multi-Use: Emphasizing Mountain Biking

HIGHWAY 120											
CAMPGROUNDS		Elevation - 00'	Fee	Extra Vehicle Fee	# of Sites (sq/d/b)	Seasonally Closed	Potable Water	Toilets	RV/Trailer-max length ft	ADA Accessible sites	Reservations <sup>2</sup>
1	Pines & Pines Group <sup>1</sup>	32	•	•	12	•	•	v	32	•	•
2	Lost Claim	31	•	•	10	•	•	v	~	•	•
3	Sweetwater	30	•	•	14	•	•	v	32	•	•
4	Dimond O	44	•	•	38	•	•	v	36	•	•
5	Cherry Valley	46	•	•	41	•	•	v	32	•	m/p
6	Lumsden	15			10			v	•	•	p
7	South Fork	15			10			v	~	•	p
8	Lumsden Bridge *	15			11			v	•	•	p
DAY USE AREAS											
1	Cherry Lake Boat Launch	47						v			m/p
2	Rainbow Pool	30						v	•	•	
3	Carlon	43						v	•	•	
4	Middle Fork	44						v	•	•	

<sup>1</sup>Pines Group Site - 50 people max., Reservations required, (877)444-6777 or at www.recreation.gov  
<sup>2</sup>Some sites reservable, (877)444-6777 or at www.recreation.gov Double sites are available in each campground.  
**m** = motorized, **p** = paddle boats, **~** = RVs/trailers not advised, **v** = vault/non-flushing pit toilet  
 \* Closed - due to Road Wash-Out. Contact Groveland Ranger Station for latest information - (209) 962-7825

# HIGHWAY 120

## RECREATION & VISITOR ACTIVITIES

Welcome to the Groveland Ranger District!

The Groveland Ranger District encompasses the Highway 120 corridor of the Stanislaus National Forest and features developed campgrounds, picnic areas and maintained trails throughout.

A wide range of activities are offered to appeal to every interest. There are opportunities for wildlife and wildflower viewing, hiking, biking, photography, camping, picnicking, boating, fishing, and hunting.

Enjoy your visit! Create Lifetime memories! Stay safe, and please help keep the forest healthy and clean.



US Forest Service River Ranger - Patrolling the Wild & Scenic Tuolumne River

## TUOLUMNE WILD & SCENIC RIVER

Online Permits Now Available!

Grab life by the paddles and gear up for one of the most celebrated whitewater experiences in the world on the Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River!

Designated as a Wild and Scenic River in 1984, it is renowned worldwide for its remote class IV to V+ whitewater and scenery. Whether you're a highly experienced boat operator looking for a thrilling one-day class V+ run or looking to take on an 18 mile one- to three-day Class IV+ run, with careful preparation and knowledge, you'll have a wonderful river adventure and memories to last a lifetime.

Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River permits will be available for advanced reservation on Recreation.gov starting January 1st through 12 a.m. Pacific Time (midnight) the day prior to your desired launch date. Permits holders must have a front and back copy of the permit (print or digital) to show agency staff.



Don't let this wild and scenic opportunity pass you by. Paddle over to Recreation.gov to learn more about Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River permits: <https://www.recreation.gov/permits/621750>



Photo provided by Groveland Trail Heads

## FERRETTI NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL SYSTEM

Trails Being Developed

Pedal away to amazing opportunities and experiences. After 5 years of planning and one year of active volunteer work, the Ferretti Non-Motorized Trails (Ferretti NMT) - is off to a great ride. Above the Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River Canyon - the Ferretti NMT is planned to provide up to 16 miles of multi-use trails.



Groveland Trail Heads

The opportunity emphasizes a Mountain Bike experience and includes 13 miles of brand new trail, in multiple loops to provide for all experience levels. In addition, the project will restore and bring to standard existing trails.

In partnership, with local stakeholders, businesses and non-governmental organizations and under agreement with the Stanislaus National Forest; the Groveland Trailheads ([grovelandtrailheads.org](http://grovelandtrailheads.org)) completed the development of approximately 1.3 miles of new trail and cleared and restored an additional 4.7 miles of existing trail.

To learn more and to join in the development and maintenance opportunities, meet new people, and become a steward of the land contact the:

**Groveland Trail Heads**  
 Visit their Facebook Page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/GrovelandTrailHeads/>

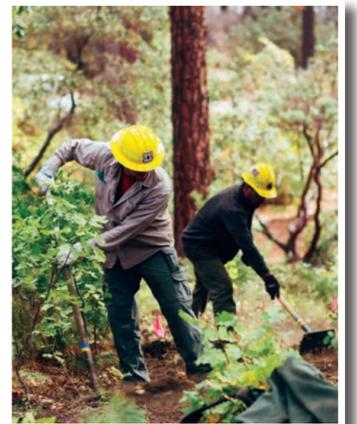


Photo provided by Groveland Trail Heads



## WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Our volunteers and partners contribute to a wide variety of tasks on the Stanislaus National Forest. Tailored around the specific talents and interest of our volunteers and partners, our volunteer and services range from a variety of opportunities. This includes managing campgrounds, trail maintenance, interacting with the public at our ranger districts, inventory on wildlife and plants, citizen science projects and much more! Fiscal Year 2021 will still continue to face the challenging effects of the current pandemic and the future wildfires later in the season. We are extremely grateful for the time, energy, patience, and understanding of all those who signed up in FY 2020. Although we are still in the current planning stages for the season, we are cautiously monitoring moving forward with volunteer engagement in 2021. This will ensure the priority of the health of our Forest Service Employees, Partners, and Volunteers as COVID-19 continues. At this time we are encouraging essential volunteer service projects to proceed in this upcoming busy season.



## JOIN ONE OF OUR VOLUNTEER PARTNERS & YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

### CALAVERAS RANGER DISTRICT:



**Arnold Rim Trail Association**  
<https://arnoldrimtrail.org/>  
 Contact: Greg Nvoacek  
 greg@arnoldrimtrail.org



**Bear Valley Trail Stewardship**  
<https://www.bearvalleytrails.org/>  
 Contact: Mike Cooke  
 mike@bearvalleytrails.org

### GROVELAND RANGER DISTRICT:



**Tuolumne River Trust**  
<https://www.tuolumne.org/>  
 Contact: Bryon Krempf  
 bryon@tuolumne.org



**Groveland Trail Heads**  
<http://grovelandtrailheads.org/>  
 Contact: Dwight Follien  
 Dwight@grovelandtrailheads.org

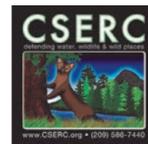
### MI WOK & SUMMIT RANGER DISTRICT:



**Stanislaus Wilderness Volunteers**  
<https://swv1.org/>  
 Contact: Jeff Hawley  
 president@swv1.org



**Pinecrest Mountain Bike Association**  
<https://sites.google.com/view/pinecrestmtb/home>  
 Contact: Dave Wetzel  
 Dave\_wetzel@pinecrestmtb.org



**Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center**  
<https://www.cserc.org/>  
 Contact: John Buckley  
 johnb@cserc.org



**3-Forests Interpretative Association**  
<https://www.3forests.com/>  
 Contact: Danny Jones  
 info@3forests.com

# WINTER WONDERLAND



Winter provides a whole new realm of recreation opportunities on the Stanislaus National Forest. Whether your idea of winter fun is downhill or cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, or snow play, the Stanislaus National Forest has many areas for winter sports.



### SNOWSHOEING, SKIING & CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Three ski areas operate under special use permits on the Forest: Bear Valley Resort and Bear Valley Adventure Company on Highway 4, and Dodge Ridge on Highway 108. Several cross-country ski trails, of varying difficulty, exist on the Summit Ranger District near Pinecrest, and on the Calaveras Ranger District, near the Bear Valley-Lake Alpine area. Snowshoes allow visitors to enjoy venturing out into the snow on or off trails.



### SNOWMOBILE RIDING ON THE STANISLAUS

There are three California SNO-PARKs on the Calaveras Ranger District - Highway 4 and one on the Summit Ranger District - Highway 108. A single day permit costs \$5.00 and is good for the date issued. A season permit costs \$25.00 and can be used at any Sno-Park on the Stanislaus National Forest during the entire winter season. Sno-Parks are administered by the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division of California State Parks.



**Calaveras Ranger District:** (see map on page 8)

- Lake Alpine Sno-Park - Located at the winter closure gate on Hwy 4.
- Spicer Sno-Park - Located on the south side of Hwy 4 at Spicer Rd.
- Round Valley Sno-Park - Left on Highway 207 (the entrance to Bear Valley Mountain).

**Summit Ranger District:** (see map on page 10-11)

- Hwy 108 Sno-Park - Located at the winter closure gate on Hwy 108.

### PLAN YOUR TRIP

Plan your winter recreation trip before you leave home. Have an idea of where you want to go, know how to get there, and carry a good map and compass. Tell someone back home of your travel plans. It's easier than you think to lose your sense of direction out in the woods. The middle of your journey isn't the best time to discover you weren't prepared. Make a checklist. Here are some items to consider.

- Weather changes can be sudden during winter. Before you leave, phone **Cal Trans 800-GAS-ROAD (427-7623)** for up-to-date road conditions.
- Carry tire chains, shovel, ice scrapers, flashlight, matches, and be sure your car has enough anti-freeze and a full tank of gas.
- Include blankets and extra warm clothes.
- Pack some high-energy non-perishable food and water.
- Have rain gear and emergency blanket or shelter just in case.
- Make sure to carry a whistle or walkie-talkie for communication.
- Don't forget first aid for you and your gear.



### SNOWPLAY

While the serious skiers and boarders in the group go off to comb the lofty heights, the less experienced frolickers can have a good time tossing snowballs or sledding down hills. Snowplay is allowed on National Forest lands anywhere along highways and roads as long as parking is not restricted and there is room to park completely out of the lane of traffic.



# HEY KIDS & PARENTS TOO!

## MESSAGE FROM WOODSY OWL: Lend A Hand – Care For The Land

Hello! I'm Woodsy Owl. I hope you will join me to learn how to "Lend a Hand – Care for the Land!" Do you know what that means? It means that if we all work together, the Earth will have clean air and water and will be a healthy place to live for trees and plants, fish, animals and birds like me! Oh, and it also means it will be clean for you, too! So, let's get started!



## It's SOMEONE'S BIRTHDAY! WHOOO? WOODSY OWL – THAT'S WHO!

### Celebrating Woodsy Owl's 50th Birthday

For the last 50 years, Woodsy Owl has been America's original and official environmental icon. Woodsy has been an anti-pollution symbol and taught us to, "Give a hoot; don't pollute!" Since his creation in 1971, Woodsy has been instrumental in helping teachers and parents inspire children to care actively for the environment.

Caring, friendly, and wise, Woodsy is a whimsical mentor to youngsters. His new message, "Lend a Hand – Care for the Land!" is positive, easily understood, and generates an interest in the stewardship of natural resources. As Woodsy flies across the land, he invites children to see the world around them and explore their surroundings. Woodsy builds on his original message of, "Give a hoot; don't pollute!" by inviting children to REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE & ROT!

**In honor of Woodsy's 50th Birthday do your part by: Picking up trash "50" times & earn a PRIZE!**

Document the Date & Place of collecting trash 50 times & send this documentation along with your Name & Address to: **Woodsy Clean-Up Crew, 1 Pinecrest Lake Road, Pinecrest CA, 95364**

# The 4 R's

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rot



Do you know what the 4R's are?  
They add up to 4 ways everyone can  
lend a hand every day.



**REDUCE:** This means to cut down on the amount of stuff you use every day to reduce your daily garbage or reduce your water and electricity use.

**REUSE:** This means to use the same thing more than once. Draw pictures on the back of printed paper. Reuse plastic bags from the grocery store.

**RECYCLE:** Recycling is a way of taking something old and turning it into something new again. Paper can be recycled into fresh, clean paper. That saves trees!

**ROT:** A natural way to turn leftover fruit and vegetables into really good plant food is called compost. A pile of old broccoli, banana peels, fall leaves and grass clippings will turn into dark, moist compost in just about a year.

**Count the ways you can use the 4R's at home and in school. I promise it will add up to a cleaner, healthier planet!**

### ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR HOME:

1. Draw a picture of ways that you can conserve water and electricity. Post it where your family will see it.
2. Decorate a cardboard box with markers, or paint. Label it "Reused Paper". Place it next to a garbage can so that your family members can place paper that has only been used on one side so that the paper can be used again.

# HEY KIDS & PARENTS TOO!

## Message from Visitor Services - Ranger Genie:

Hi Kids! Welcome to the Stanislaus National Forest! We are so glad you decided to bring your families to the mountains. The Sierra Nevada Mountains are a very special place. I have fond memories of hiking, skiing, and backpacking in the mountains with my friends and family when I was young and I am happy to continue to explore this magical place with my own children. I encourage you to learn about and experience the forest. Notice the trees, rocks, lakes, and streams that surround you! Close your eyes, and listen to the rustle of the wind as it blows through the leaves of the trees, and smell the fresh dew on the ground in the morning. Look up at the stars shining brightly above you at night, and during the day sit on a granite rock and feel the warmth of the sun! Most importantly have fun exploring this beautiful forest with your friends and family.



## SEEK BY iNATURALIST

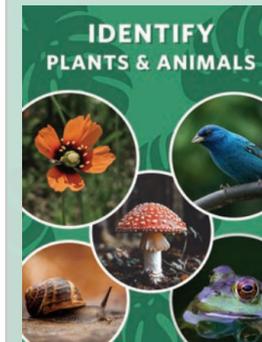
### Free App to Identify Plants & Animals

Take your nature knowledge up a notch with Seek! Seek is geared to encourage outdoor exploration of wild biodiversity. Use the power of image recognition technology to identify the plants and animals all around you. Earn badges for seeing different types of birds, amphibians, plants, and fungi and participate in monthly observation challenges.

- Get outside and point the Seek Camera at living things.
- Identify wildlife, plants, and fungi.
- Earn badges for observing different types of species and participating in challenges.



SEEK - by iNaturalist  
Download the free App  
to your Smartphone



### Open Your Camera and Start Seeking!

Scan the environment with the Seek Camera to identify organisms using the tree of life. Add different species to your observations and learn all about them in the process! The more observations you make, the more badges you'll earn!

Do you need some help in identifying every plant along the trail?

Download the FREE App to your Smart Phone: "Seek" by iNaturalist.

## WOODSY WORD SEARCH

S T Z K G Q A U U Q O W A T E R S D I Z  
T A U T S J R E C Y C L E Z J I U X O X  
A Q R U D R R N I S C L H Y M Y D O U F  
N B O F K P U Z I A U O L A K E H J E T  
I R A F U Y O T N U K H M Q W V U H N W  
S L S P O N H R O C K O V P Q J N O V Y  
L A P E L O G Q I G O R H S O I W G I Q  
A N E X E A R I X N V S E N U S U Z R H  
U R J P Y K N C X G Z H L D I S T E O I  
S N N S S E P T V V W D S D U W K G N X  
B X B L P H V Q F V W S T U N C A W M X  
B D G G E Z Z Y O C O K R R A C E I E F  
P I E C C C Z L R F O F E C X T Y L N E  
W S R J I A F A E U D O A Q U I U D T V  
Q A F D E W W S I S R M V Y P U L M H  
Q Q Y P S B U Z T U Y E U K Z E H I E N  
Y O Y E X P L O R E O S O T U X I F I S  
A S A J P J L P E F O T E T R D K E K R  
V R E U S E M Q V Q C M R G R E E B D O  
S Q Z D J D E Z S E E K D D L Z E Y T T

STANISLAUS FOREST	SPECIES EXPLORE	WILDLIFE HIKE	RECYCLE ROT
REUSE BIRD	TREE FUNGI	MARMOT WATER	STREAM PLANT
SEEK ENVIRONMENT	ROCK WOODSY	HABITAT COMPOST	LAKE REDUCE

## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE • Can you identify the magnificent forest bird, plant, insect & animals on this page? Answers found down below.



ANSWERS: 1 - Gray Fox, 2 - Bald Eagle, 3 - Snow Plant, 4 - Marmot, 5 - Monarch Butterfly

# LEAVE NO TRACE

## Leave No Trace – Enjoy the Outdoors Without Disrupting Nature

Say hello to the great outdoors! Now that you're here, you are invited to help keep these places healthy and beautiful. As people are getting outside in record numbers the need to put Leave No Trace skills and ethics into action to minimize our collective impact is more important than ever.

The idea behind the **Seven Principles of Leave No Trace** is to leave nature as unchanged by our presence as possible, so that future generations can enjoy it too. Earth is home to incredible beauty and spectacular wildlife. These natural wonders are available for everyone to enjoy, and should be cherished and protected. This is why it is vital for you to Leave No Trace behind when you are exploring the outdoors.

As you are here visiting the Stanislaus National Forest we hope you enjoy getting outdoors in nature and take care of the land by doing your part in practicing the Seven Principles of Leave No Trace.



For more detailed information on Leave No Trace: <https://lnt.org/>



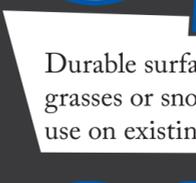
## THE LEAVE NO TRACE SEVEN PRINCIPLES



1

### PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE

Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit. Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.



2

### TRAVEL AND CAMP ON DURABLE SURFACES

Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grasses or snow. Camp at least 200 feet from lakes and streams. Concentrate use on existing trails and campsites. Good campsites are found, not made.



3

### DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY

Pack it in, pack it out. Pack out all trash, leftover food and litter. Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 6-8 inches deep, at least 200 feet from water, camp and trails.



4

### LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND

Take only pictures, leave only footprints. Preserve the past: do not touch cultural or historical artifacts. Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.



5

### MINIMIZE CAMPFIRE IMPACTS

Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings. Keep fires small. Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely with lots of water.



6

### RESPECT WILDLIFE

Observe wildlife from a distance. Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health and alters natural behaviors. Control pets at all times.

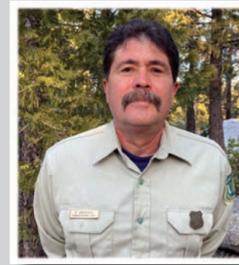


7

### BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHER VISITORS

Be courteous to other users on the trail. Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.

# CARING FOR OUR FOREST



## MESSAGE FROM RECREATION RANGER DAVE:

Welcome to the Stanislaus National Forest! Our Recreation staff works hard every day out in the field to ensure you have a safe and welcoming experience to the forest. I have been working at the Stanislaus National Forest for the past 40 years! It is not only the place that I work but it's my home too. Even though we work hard every day, with an increase in visitation, we have had an increase in trash left behind. **We need your help!** Do your part to ensure that this beautiful ecosystem stays healthy and thriving by throwing away trash in the trash can or better yet take it home with you. If you find that a trash can is full, please bag up your trash and take it home with you at the end of your visit. This will not only ensure that other visitors don't have to see ugly trash strewn about the forest, it also helps the mammals, birds, and other wildlife that can be injured or harmed by the trash. Enjoy your visit to the forest!

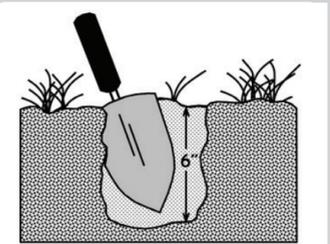
## Illegal Garbage Dumping

Littering, garbage dumping, not properly disposing of human waste, are illegal, and can carry fines and even jail time depending on the severity of the violation. Resource damage, illegal parking or camping also carry criminal penalties.



Please do your part to ensure that the forest stays healthy and thriving. Pack it in - Pack it out. Take your trash home at the end of your visit.

## Leave No Trace Dig A Cathole



### Why It Matters

Human waste can affect water quality and pose a health risk to others. Bury it 6-8 inches deep and at least 200 feet from water. Properly buried waste will decompose naturally.

**PACK OUT ALL TRASH!**

## tread lightly!

On Land and Water



- TRAVEL RESPONSIBLY
- RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS
- EDUCATE YOURSELF
- AVOID SENSITIVE AREAS
- DO YOUR PART



Free Travel Management Maps  
[www.fs.usda.gov/main/stanislaus/maps-pubs](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/stanislaus/maps-pubs)



MVUM  
Motor Vehicle Use Maps



Keep the Mountains Beautiful

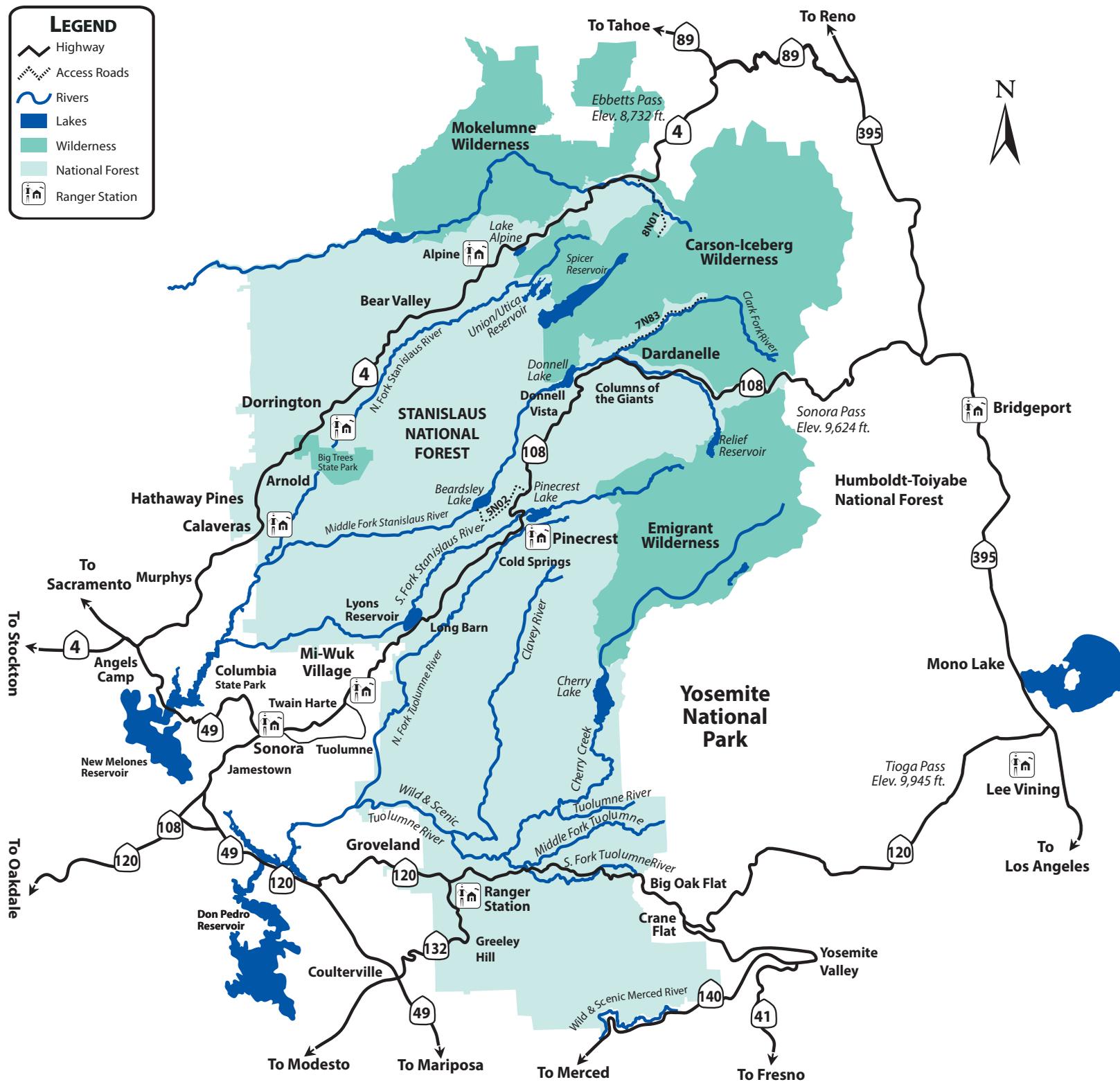
**TAKE YOUR LITTER HOME!**

# STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST

Caring for the Land and Serving People

**LEGEND**

-  Highway
-  Access Roads
-  Rivers
-  Lakes
-  Wilderness
-  National Forest
-  Ranger Station



## BECOME A MEMBER!

Support interpretive and educational programs in the Stanislaus National Forest

When you become a member of 3-FIA, Three Forests Interpretive Association, you can aid the conservation mission of the Forest Service and receive benefits too!



Join online or at one of the Ranger Stations today and receive **20% discount on 3-FIA bookstore items.**

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[www.fs.usda.gov/stanislaus](http://www.fs.usda.gov/stanislaus)

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