

Winter Recreation

Sequoia National Forest

Kern River Ranger District



Winter snow enthusiasts will find many winter recreation opportunities on the Kern River Ranger District, less than 1 hours drive from Bakersfield.

Downhill Skiing & Snowboarding: Alta Sierra at Shirley Meadows Ski Area is located on Rancheria Road, 2 miles south of Greenhorn Summit. Eight groomed runs ranging from beginner to advanced are served by two double chairlifts. Food service, ski and snowboard rentals, and lessons are available at the area's day lodge. Alta Sierra at Shirley Meadows Ski Area is open 9 am to 4 pm on weekends, Friday to Sunday, and all holiday. Call (760) 376-4186, for more information and current snow conditions. Or visit their website at www.shirleymeadows.com

Cross Country Skiing: Skiing for nordic enthusiasts can be found at Greenhorn Summit. Marked trails include Shirley Meadows Loop, Windy Gap and Unal Trail. For the more adventurous, back country skiing can be found in the Piute and Breckenridge Mountains.

Snowmobiling: Roads running north of Greenhorn Summit are popular for over-the-snow vehicles. Most closed Forest roads are available for use. State green sticker laws, as well as helmet and spark arrester laws must be followed.

Snow Play: No areas are designated for sledding, tobogganing, or tubing. Use caution to select a safe spot. Please make sure you park well off the road in a safe place. All of these activities are prohibited at the Alta Sierra at Shirley Meadows Ski Area for your safety.

Sharing the Trails: In some areas of the forest those traveling by skis, snowshoes, and snowmobiles must share the same trails. Be courteous and respectful to allow all trail users to safely enjoy their winter travel.

Trip Tips: Be advised that snow, weather and road conditions can change rapidly in the winter. Please carry adequate tire chains, food, water and extra clothing for your safety. State Highway 155 and Rancheria Road, from Greenhorn Summit to Alta Sierra at Shirley Meadows, are plowed in the winter. Call CALTRANS 24-hour number, 800-427-7623, for updated road conditions. Roads are often icy and may be closed during and after snow storms. Parking is limited and there are no cleared parking areas. Park off the road so that you don't block traffic.

The closest public telephone is located at the Kern County Maintenance Yard in Alta Sierra, 1/2 mile east of Greenhorn Summit on Highway 155. Food, gas, and lodging are available in Wofford Heights, and food and gas in Glennville. Cedar Creek Campground is open all year. Toilets are located at Greenhorn Summit in Greenhorn Mountain County Park.

For More Information:

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Kern River Ranger District
P.O. Box 3810
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Lake Isabella, CA 93240
(760) 379-5646

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