

Sno-Park and OHV Recreation

Stanislaus National Forest

ROG 16-92; 03/05



California's Sno-Parks were established in 1984 and have grown in popularity and number. The program is administered and coordinated by the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division of the California Department of Parks and Recreation with the cooperation of the U.S. Forest Service, the California Department of Transportation and the California Highway Patrol.

Sno-Parks/Snowmobile Trailheads

Sno-Parks are open for cross-country skiing, family snow play and, in some locations, snowmobiling. The program is funded by participant fees, which cover the costs of snow removal and sanitation.

The California OHV Fund covers expenses associated with trail grooming at the 30 trailheads in the Central Sierra Nevada devoted exclusively to snowmobile enthusiasts. For more information on Sno-Parks or these trailheads, contact the Winter Recreation Program Manager, PO Box 942896, Sacramento, CA 94296-0001 or call (916) 324-4442.)

There are 21 Sno-Parks spread over nine California counties, most of them situated on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada. Excellent opportunities may be found in the counties of Sierra (Yuba Pass), Nevada (Yuba Gap, Donner Summit and Donner Lake), Placer (*Blackwood Canyon*) El Dorado (Taylor Creek, Echo Lake, Echo Summit and Iron Mountain) and Alpine (Lake Alpine, Meiss Meadow, Carson Pass and Hope Valley).

Sno-Parks In The Stanislaus

The **Spicer Sno-Park** is located on Spicer Road, just off Hwy 4, twenty-four miles east of Arnold. This area offers groomed snowmobile trails, cross-country skiing and family snow play. The parking capacity is limited to 15 vehicles. Contact the Calaveras Ranger District at (209) 795-1381 for more info.

The **Highway 108 Sno-Park** is located 30 miles NE of Sonora, 6 ½ miles past Strawberry. It features well-groomed snowmobile trails, cross-country skiing and family snow play in several surrounding locations. Nordic skis and snowshoes are available for rent at the nearby Dodge Ridge

Ski Resort. Parking capacity is 50 vehicles. Further questions may be directed to (530) 534-6500.

More Sno-Park Information

Sno-Parks are easy to find. Distinctive brown signs indicate them along the main highways of the Central Sierra Nevada. Sno-Park season officially lasts from November 1st to May 30th each winter, with necessary adjustments made for prevalent snow conditions.

In order to park at a Sno-Park, a vehicle must display a Sno-Park permit on the dashboard. In most Sno-Parks, overnight parking is allowed (to include camping in your vehicle). When parking overnight, you must stake your vehicle with eight-foot high poles (1"x2") at each corner to help protect it from accidental damage by snow removal equipment.

Sno-Parks are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Many parking lots fill early in the day during good weather. A **single day permit costs \$5.00** and is good for the date of issue only. A **season permit costs \$25.00** and can be used at any Sno-Park during the entire winter season.

Permits are sold at a wide variety of sporting goods outlets throughout Central California. Locally, these permits can be purchased at Tuolumne Marine and Sierra Nevada Adventure Company in Arnold; also at Food 'n' Fuel in Cold Springs, the Summit Ranger District in Pinecrest and the Strawberry Store.

Contact the Sno-Park Program by calling the **Sno-Park Hotline** at (916) 324-1222 for more information or to obtain a brochure showing all the Sno-Parks available.

Who Benefits From These Programs?

Revenues from the sale of these permits pay for snow removal, sanitation, signs and trailhead markings. Additional revenues come from the State's OHV Fund which accumulates a portion of monies generated from OHV Green Sticker registrations, fuel taxes paid by OHV users, fees collected at State-operated OHV parks, a portion of fines levied for OHV operator infractions and interest earned on undistributed money in the OHV Fund.



Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region

Stanislaus National Forest
www.fs.fed.us/r5/stanislaus

These funds help cover other costs such as trailhead grooming, paving of trailhead parking, establishment and maintenance of trailhead facilities (warming huts, restrooms, loading/unloading ramps, bulletin boards, additional signage, fire rings, tables, trashcans and so forth). In addition, agencies work together to monitor biological, habitat and soil considerations to assess potential impacts on the environment. The program also funds law enforcement, search and rescue efforts and signing of Wilderness boundaries to reduce intrusions into areas closed to motorized traffic. Each of these endeavors lends itself to the overall aim of safe and environmentally friendly recreation opportunities for visitors.



What Can You Do?

We invite you to “tread lightly”, leaving a good impression when visiting these areas by observing this winter recreation code of ethics:

- Respect the rights of all winter enthusiasts to enjoy the beauty of a winter wonderland. Respect both public and private property.
- Park considerately, taking no more space than needed, without blocking other vehicles and without impeding access to trails.
- Keep to the right when meeting others on the trail. Yield to traffic going downhill.
- Don't block the trails when stopping.
- Slow down and use caution when approaching or overtaking another.
- Respect designated areas, trail-use signs and established ski tracks.
- Do not disturb wildlife. Avoid areas posted closed to snowmobiles.
- Pack it in—pack it out. Don't litter.
- Destination, objective and travel speed are determined by your equipment, ability, the terrain, weather and the traffic on the trail.
- In the event of an emergency, please volunteer your help in any way possible.

- Don't interfere with or harass others—people may judge other skiers or snowmobilers by your actions.

For more information, contact one of these Forest Service locations:

Stanislaus National Forest

19777 Greenley Road
Sonora, CA 95370
(209) 532-3671
TDD: (209) 533-0765

Mi-Wok Ranger District

24695 Hwy 108
PO Box 100
Mi Wuk Village, CA 95346
(209) 586-3234
TDD: (209) 586-0262

Summit Ranger District

#1 Pinecrest Lake Road
Pinecrest, CA 95364
(209) 965-3434
TDD: (209) 965-0488

Calaveras Ranger District

5519 Hwy 4
PO Box 500
Hathaway Pines, CA 95233
(209) 795-1381
TDD: (209) 795-2854

Groveland Ranger District

24545 Hwy 120
Groveland, CA 95321
(209) 962-7825
TDD: (209) 962-6406
FAX: (209) 962-7412