

Middle Lion Campground

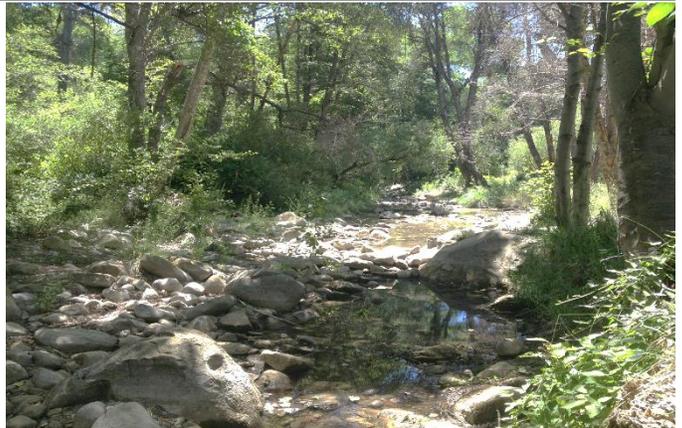
Ojai Ranger District

Los Padres National Forest



Welcome to Middle Lion Campground! Would you like to spend your day surrounded by chaparral-covered mountains or relaxing under the shade of a sycamore tree? How about spending some time by a peaceful stream? You have come to the right place!

To get here simply follow Highway 33 to the Rose Valley Road turnoff which is 16 miles from the Ojai Ranger Station. Follow the paved road about 5 miles; you will see the turn to Middle Lion on your right. Only one mile further and you will be in Middle Lion Campground; elevation is 3,250 feet. The total distance to Middle Lion Campground from Ojai is 21 miles.



Creek at Middle Lion Campground



Middle Lion Campground

Facilities

Middle Lion has eight campsites, five which are located under sycamore trees, and the following facilities: One pit toilet, tables, BBQ grills, and fire rings. There is **no drinking water** at this site. You must bring your own water, or you can filter or boil water from the creek when it is flowing.

Vegetation

Middle Lion contains a handful of sycamore and alder trees. It is also surrounded by scrub oak and chamise. Along the creek you will find alder trees, which provide shade in the warm summer months.

Wildlife

In spring and summer, you will see a variety of birds. You might see frogs and toads around the creek's edge, along with the coyotes, bears, and mountain lions that live in the area.

Fire Use

Campfires are permitted in fire rings and BBQ grills. Please make sure your fire is completely extinguished when you are not present. Observe seasonal fire restrictions.

Points of Interest

Middle Lion Campground is particularly beautiful in the fall. As the trees change color, you find yourself surrounded by vibrant yellow hues.

From the campground, the Lion Canyon Trail is six miles in length to Nordhoff Ridge. At 1.3 miles is the Rose-Lion Connector Trail. The West and East Fork trails are at 1.9 miles and both trails have camping, along with waterfalls. The East Fork is in the Sespe Wilderness, so no mountain bikes are allowed.

Just a mile away at the Piedra Blanca Trailhead, there are three trails for you to explore. The Gene Marshall-Piedra Blanca National Recreation Trail will lead you to nearby massive white rock formations and the Sespe River Trail heads east along the Sespe Creek. Both of these trails are in the Sespe Wilderness. Mountain bikes are allowed on the third trail, the Middle Sespe, which heads west for eight miles to Hwy 33.

The Los Padres National Forest Southern Recreation Map or a trail map of the Sespe Wilderness is recommended.

Campground Operations

Middle Lion Campground is operated by the Parks Management Company, under a Special Use Permit from the United States Department of Agriculture- Forest Service, Los Padres National Forest. Please contact the staff at ginaic415@gmail.com or by phone at (805) 434-1996 with any comments or concerns. You can also go to their web page <http://campone.com/> for more information.

Ojai Ranger District

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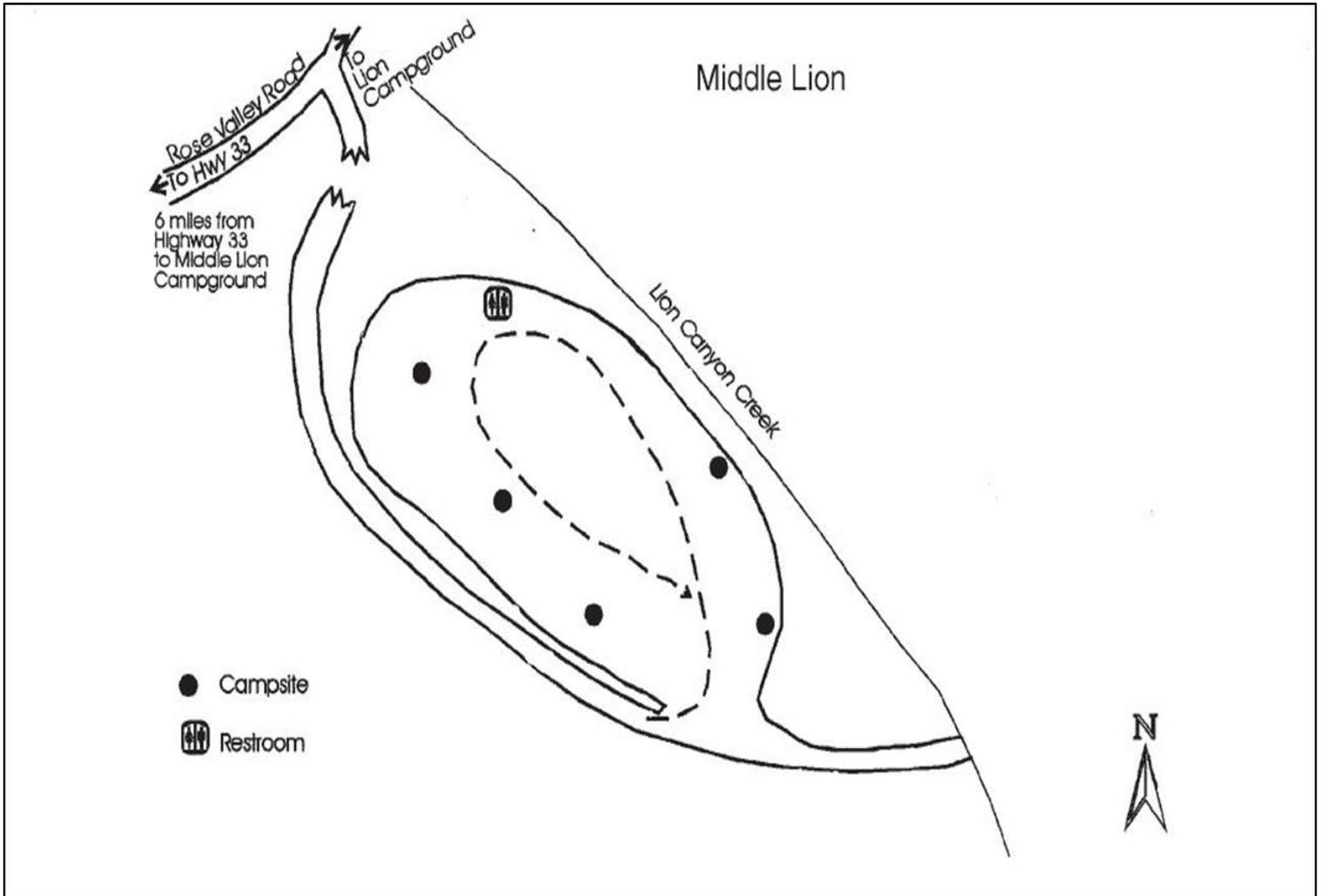
Forest website: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf>

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