



VOLUME XXI

STANISLAUS TRAVELER

A VISITOR'S GUIDE
TO THE STANISLAUS
NATIONAL FOREST



Deadman Creek - Blue Canyon

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RECREATION 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.

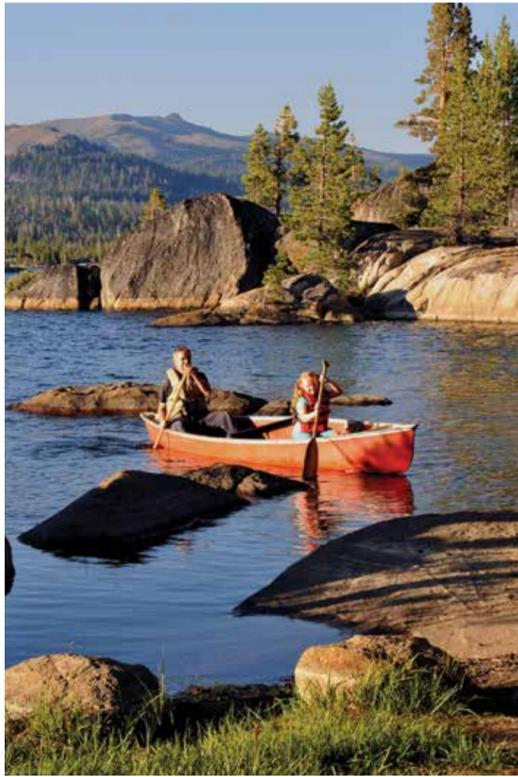
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES:

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

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:** Pinecrest, Pioneer Trail Group. **Groveland District:** Dimond O, Lost Claim, Cherry Valley, Pines Group. Visit 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 Pinecrest day use area May 15 - Sept. 15.

PROTECT YOURSELF • PROTECT THE FOREST

YOUR SAFETY

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

FIRE SAFETY

Each year campfires, cigarettes, and human carelessness cause unwanted fires. You can help prevent these fires by following a few safety tips.

CAMPFIRES

- All Forest visitors who build a campfire, use a camp stove or barbecue outside of developed campgrounds must have a campfire permit available **FREE** of charge from any Cal Fire, National Forest or Park, or BLM office.

CIGARETTES

- Never throw ignited cigarettes on the ground or out of a car window.
- Crush cigarette butts dead and out before discarding them in an ashtray or trash can.

NO FIREWORKS

- No fireworks are permitted in the Forest.

HIGH FIRE DANGER

The dry, hot California summers often bring high fire danger and the need to enact fire restrictions on National Forest land. Suspension of campfire permits and prohibition of all campfires and barbecues outside developed campgrounds may occur. These restrictions may include:

- Restricting the use of open campfires to within developed recreation sites.
- Limiting smoking to enclosed vehicles or buildings, or to developed recreational sites.
- Not allowing the operation of internal combustion engines off established roads or designated trails.
- For more information on possible restrictions, check with the nearest Forest Service or CAL FIRE office for the area you are visiting.

tread lightly! On Land and Water



TIPS FOR MOTORIZED RECREATION:

TRAVEL RESPONSIBLY

- Travel on designated routes
- Respect wilderness boundaries
- Cross streams only at designated crossings

RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS

- Yield to non-motorized recreationists
- Obtain permission to cross private land
- Be considerate of other users so that all can enjoy a quality experience

EDUCATE YOURSELF

- Know local rules and regulations
- Know which areas are open for your type of recreation
- Have the right maps and equipment for your adventure

AVOID SENSITIVE AREAS

- Leave what you find - except trash!
- Respect wildlife by keeping your distance
- Avoid sensitive habitats like meadows and lava cap environments

DO YOUR PART

- Properly dispose of waste and pack out trash
- Avoid the spread of noxious weeds by washing your equipment after every trip
- Volunteer to repair degraded areas

OFTEN LOCATIONS IMPACTED BY THOUGHTLESS RECREATIONISTS MUST BE CLOSED TO RESTORE THE AREA'S NATURAL HEALTH. HELP ENSURE YOUR FAVORITE AREAS REMAIN OPEN BY TREADING LIGHTLY.



Free Travel Management Maps: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/stanislaus/maps-pubs>

DONNELL FIRE - IMPACTS FAVORITE RECREATION SITES



Photos by Forest Service - Joshua Dewey



THE DONNELL FIRE AND THE STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST

Just before 6 p.m. on Aug 1, 2018, the Stanislaus National Forest received a report of smoke rising from the inlet near Donnell Lake on the Summit Ranger District. An engine crew and officer sent to investigate saw a 20x20-foot creeping and smoldering fire surrounded by granite, except for two timbered stringers.

Reaching the fire would require a two- to four-hour hike over difficult terrain. Given the inactive fire behavior and lack of available light, it was decided to insert firefighters at first light on August 2. By 8:30 a.m. the next morning, firefighters had reached the fire and began suppression efforts. The crew reported the fire as being about one to two acres with a slow rate of spread and began establishing a fireline.

Although helicopters were ordered and approved, smoke from the nearby Ferguson Fire had settled in the area and prevented safe air operations. By about 12:30 p.m. the crew reported that the line was nearly tied in on the northern edge of the fire, but at 12:33 the local battalion chief reported that a spot fire had established itself on a vegetated bench above the main fire and it was rapidly expanding. Additional firefighting resources were ordered, although resources were limited due to the many large fires burning throughout California and the rest of the country. The Donnell Fire continued to grow and began threatening private and Forest Service structures along Highway 108 and Clark Fork Road.

As the fire's complexity grew, a Type II Incident Management Team was established, which normally brings additional firefighting resources. The limited resources that were available struggled to protect structures and keep ahead of the many spot fires that were thrown ahead of the main fire front. Evacuations were ordered by the Tuolumne County Sheriff. Crews tried to control spot fires but were rapidly outpaced by extreme fire behavior. Driven by strong up-canyon winds, high temperatures and low humidity, the fire continued to grow and was more than 5,000 acres by the end of the day on August 4, while firefighters were hampered by poor visibility and too few resources.

The Donnell Fire burned more than 36,000 acres and destroyed 53 recreation cabins, the beloved Dardanelle Resort, and the historic 1933 Dardanelle Bridge. The fire severely impacted many people who recreate and work in this part of the Stanislaus National Forest; it also changed significantly the forested landscape.

Today, coordinated efforts are underway to rebuild and re-occupy some of the favorite recreation sites impacted by the Donnell Fire. The Dardanelle Resort is making plans to rebuild and reopen. The forest is working to mitigate hazard trees and is planning how to continue to reduce fuel loads near structures in the fire's footprint. There is still a lot of work to do, although recovery has begun - thanks to many stakeholders who love the Highway 108 Corridor.



Photo by Matthew Rhodes

A TRIBUTE TO THE HISTORIC DARDANELLE BRIDGE

The historic 1933 Dardanelle Bridge that used to be the Highway 108 crossing over the Middle Fork Stanislaus River was one of the many structures destroyed by the Donnell Fire in 2018. Located just east of the popular 1920s Dardanelle Resort which also burned in the early August fire, the Dardanelle Bridge was an engineering marvel and the last of its kind.

Looking into history long before this historic bridge was built, many of California's bridges were designed and erected in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and by the early 1930s many were becoming obsolete. Designs, which had been adequate for light, horse-drawn loads, were inadequate to meet the demands of increasing weights and volumes of motor vehicles. In 1933 the State decided to replace an early bridge on the road leading from Sonora to the east side of the Sierra Nevada by way of Sonora Pass.

The design of the new/historic bridge built in 1933 using a scissors truss main span with simple timber trestle approach spans, was ideally suited to this site where the Middle Fork Stanislaus River crashes through a deep, rocky gorge with near vertical granite walls. The unique one-of-a-kind design/engineering of this bridge permitted the erection of the bridge without placement of elaborate falsework (temporary construction to support arches and similar structures while the mortar or concrete is setting) which was nearly impossible at this location.

The bridge was built by hand labor, with only a pneumatic jackhammer used for drilling rock prior to blasting. Sand and gravel for concrete came from a sand bar about three miles east of the site and redwood timbers were imported from Fort Bragg, California. The bridge was completed on Oct. 19, 1933 at a cost of \$7,289.54.

After being the primary crossing for 56 years, Tuolumne County built a new, larger bridge in 1989. At that time, the historic Dardanelle Bridge was decommissioned as a travelway and repurposed as a visitor viewing area.

FIRE SAFETY

PREVENTION - How Tos

CAMPFIRE SAFETY - 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 person 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.

WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS:

Outside the home, wildfire safety begins by making sure you, your family and your home are ready for a wildfire. Remember three simple steps: "**Ready, Set, Go!**".

- **READY:** Being Ready for a wildfire starts by maintaining 100 feet of defensible space around your home.
- **SET:** Be Set by creating a Wildfire Action Plan with your family.
- **GO:** Finally, be prepared to Go and evacuate your home. Leave early, before it's too late.

EQUIPMENT USE: ARE YOU DOING THE RIGHT THING, THE WRONG WAY?

Whether working to create defensible space around your home, just mowing the lawn, or pulling your dirt bike over to the side of the road, if you live in a wildland area you need to use all equipment responsibly. Lawn mowers, weed eaters, chain saws, grinders, welders, tractors, and trimmers can all spark a wildland fire. Do your part, the right way, to keep your community fire safe.

- **MOWING:** Mow before 10 a.m., but never when it's windy or excessively dry. Lawn mowers are designed to mow lawns, not weeds or dry grass. Metal blades striking rocks can create sparks and start fires. Use caution.
- **SPARK ARRESTERS:** In wildland areas, spark arresters are required on all portable gasoline-powered equipment. This includes tractors, harvesters, chainsaws, weed eaters and mowers.
- **EQUIPMENT USE:** In wildland areas, grinding and welding operations require a permit and 10 feet of clearance. Keep a shovel and a fire extinguisher close by. Don't drive your vehicle onto dry grass or brush. Hot exhaust pipes and mufflers can start fires that you won't even see - until it's too late!

Happy Birthday Smokey!



Cheers to 75 years preventing wildfires!

FIRE CHANGES THE LANDSCAPE – KNOW HOW TO STAY SAFE ON THE FOREST

The forest changes considerably following a fire. Though access may be permitted in the burned areas, it is your responsibility to make wise decisions and be aware of the many new hazards in the Forest. Please keep yourself and your friends safe!

STAY SAFE WHEN HIKING IN BURNED AREAS:

- Check with any Stanislaus ranger district office for closed roads, trails, or areas.
- Check the weather forecast for rain and or high winds, and avoid burned areas during weather events. Besides an increased risk of falling limbs and trees, you may face dangerous flooding and debris flows.
- Keep an eye on dead and fire-weakened trees as you hike and choose open areas or green forest to stop and rest. Keep an eye out for large broken branches still hanging in trees. Dead trees kill people every year: please take them seriously.
- Consider trails that do not have large creek crossings or plan a loop to not cross large creeks in the afternoon when storms often form.
- Look out for stump holes. Where the fire wholly consumed trees, there may be holes in the ground from burned root systems.
- Watch for signs of recent avalanche, mudslides, or rockfall. Consider turning around and don't stop in the path of these areas. Remember that burned soils are fragile and more likely to erode and slide, particularly in drainages and steep areas.
- Cell phone access is extremely limited on much of the Forest. In case of an emergency, have a plan of action for how to get yourself help. If you do have phone access, call 911 in case of emergency. Leave your plans with a friend at home so they know where to find you if you don't return home.

It is always good practice to be aware of your surroundings, so know the rules! Check weather conditions, research where you are going, and check the forest website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/stanislaus> to read up on any forest closure orders that have been implemented on the forest.



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.

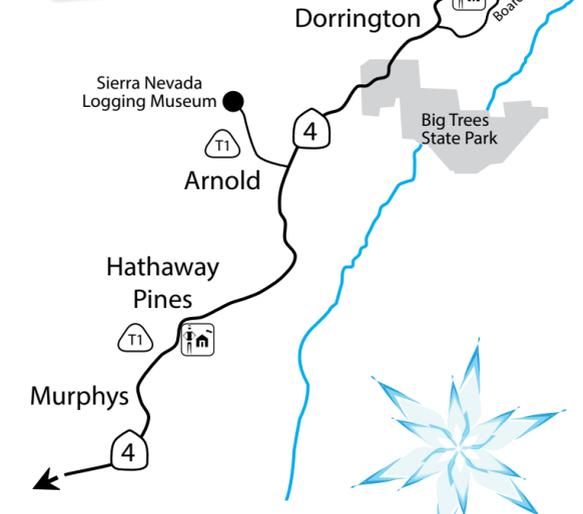
Stanislaus National Forest
Calaveras Ranger District

Your Guide to Programs & Activities



Interpretive programs and activities are offered at Lake Alpine Recreation Area, Wakalu Hep Yo Campground, and on the Arnold Rim Trail. Pick up a guide at Forest Service offices. View online at www.fs.usda.gov/stanislaus or www.3forests.us/stanislaus.

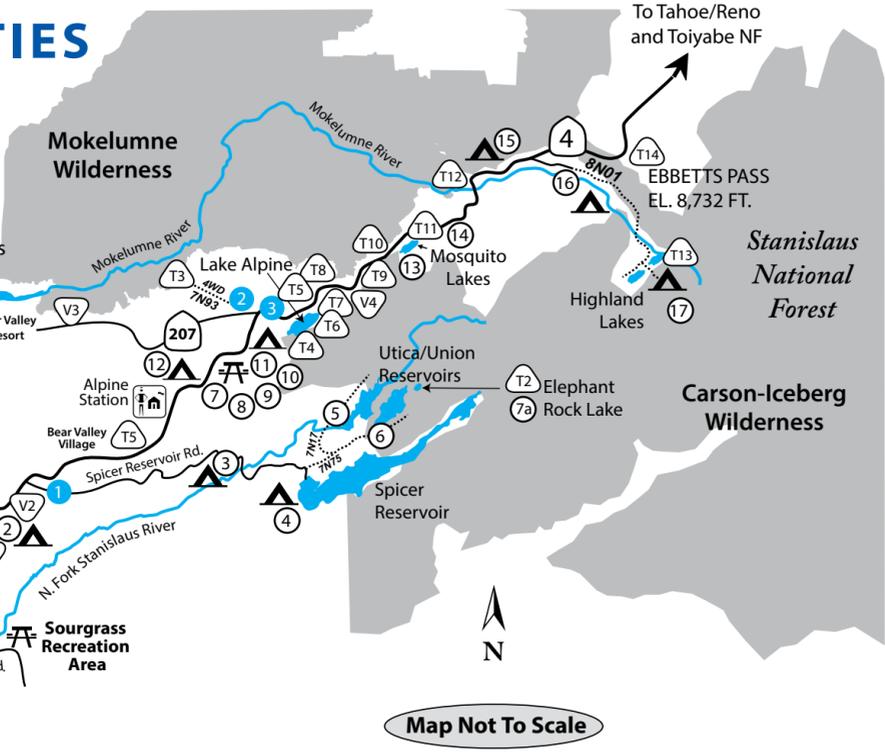
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/stanislaus>



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 and from local vendors:

- Ebbetts Pass Sporting Goods - (209) 795-1686
- Bear Valley Cross Country - (209) 753-2834
- Sierra Nevada Adventure Co. - (209) 795-9310
- Alpine Snowmobile Center - (209) 753-2323

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



HIGHWAY 4 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
1 Wakalu Hep Yo	39	•		49	• •	F/V	50	•		•	p			
2 Big Meadow	65	•		68	• •	V	27							
2 Big Meadow Group CG	65	•		10	• •	V	~		*					
3 Stanislaus River	62	•		25	• •	V	35			•				
4 Spicer Reservoir	66	•		60	• •	V	50				•	m/p	•	•
4 Spicer Res. Group CG	66	•		60 max	• •	V	50		*	•	m/p	•	•	•
5 Utica-Sandy Flat/Rocky Point	68	•		23	• •	V	~					p		
6 Union West/East	68	•		29	• •	V	27			•	m/p	•	•	•
7 Lake Alpine	73	•		25	• •	F/V	50	•	•	•	m/p	•	•	•
8 Silver Tip	73	•		27	• •	F	27			•				•
9 Pine Marten	73	•		32	• •	F	27			•	•	•	•	•
10 Silver Valley	73	•		21	• •	F				•				•
11 Backpackers Walk-In	73	•		8	• •	F				•				•
12 Lodgepole Group/Overflow CG	73	•		30	• •	V	~		*					•
13 Mosquito Lakes	83	•		11	• •	V	~			•	p	•	•	•
14 Pacific Valley	76	•		19	• •	V	~							•
15 Bloomfield	78	•		20	• •	V	~			•				•
16 Highland Lakes	82	•		35	• •	V	~			•	p			•

Free day-use sites (restrooms/water) for picnicking are located at Lake Alpine & Sourgrass
 m = motorized, p = paddle boats, ~ = RVs/trailers not advised, L = Limited, V = Vault/non-flushing pit toilet, F = Flush
 * Group Campsites: Spicer Group (209)296-8895, Big Meadow, & Lodgepole Group (877)444-6777 or www.recreation.gov
 Campfire Permits may be obtained on-line at <http://www.PreventWildfireCA.org>

EBBETTS PASS NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY VIEWPOINTS			
Name	Notes	Name	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 Tr. / MCCT access. Parking limited.

DAY USE RIVER ACCESS		
Name	Location	River Notes
1 Sourgrass Rec. Area (Stanislaus R.)	5 miles northeast of Dornington on Boards Crossing Rd.	Boulders, rapids, cascades, pools. Raft put-in.
3 Stanislaus River CG Day Use Area	On Spicer Rd 3 miles east of Hwy. 4.	Flat, creek-sized, rock slabs, forested.
8 Highland Creek	End of Spicer Rd (below dam).	Fishing access.
13 Hermit Valley (Mokelumne R.)	12 miles northeast of Bear Valley along Hwy. 4.	Flat, creek-sized channel through meadow.
14 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	Notes
4,5 Utica Reservoir	241	Small islands, lots of granite. Kept mostly full. Designed for hand launching of non-motorized boats.
6,7 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.
8 Spicer Reservoir	2,000	Great mountain views. Ramp and dock (but may be out of water due to low water levels); boat trailer parking.
9 Lake Alpine (reservoir)	173	Granite slabs on shoreline, mountain views. Kept mostly full. Ramp, dock, boat trailer parking, boat rentals, lodge.
11 Mosquito Lakes	3, 2	Two small, shallow, reflective alpine lakes. Forest, granite boulders, and picturesque summer cabins around shoreline.
15 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)	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 Lakeshore	Runs from Pine Marten CG to FS Rd. 7N17	☑	1.6	Lake & mountain views, creek. Part of Emigrant Tr./MCCT.
T5 Bee Gulch	Across hwy. from Chickaree Day Use	☑	3	Forest, meadows, creek, wildflowers, panoramic views.
T5 Bear Valley to Lake Alpine	Bear Valley/East end of Lake Alpine	☑	4	Parallels Hwy 4, paved & mostly level along Lake Alpine shoreline.
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	Easier alternate to Wheeler Lake. 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	Lower Gardner TH. Meadows, forest, spring-fed lake. In CIW.
T14 Noble Lake	Ebbetts Pass TH (Pacific Crest Tr.)	☑	4.5	Beautiful high country. Spectacular views. In HTNF.
T14 Upper Kinney Lake	Ebbetts Pass TH (Pacific Crest Tr.)	☑	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. *Arnold Rim Trail has many access points; obtain a map at ranger stations (\$1) or at arnoldrimtrail.org.
Effort: Easy ☑ Moderate ☑ Strenuous ☑ **TH**=Trailhead, **Tr.**=Trail, **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:

BENNETT JUNIPER: Visit the Bennett Juniper, the largest western juniper currently living. The tree is located approx. 12 miles (one hour drive time each way) on back roads off Hwy 108, accessible via Eagle Meadow Road (Forest Service Road 5N01). A high clearance vehicle is best as you'll encounter two creek crossings. Brochures are available at the Ranger Station.

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. Located off Hwy 108 near Pigeon Flat Campground, the Columns of the Giants offers hikers the amazing symmetry of this natural phenomenon. 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.

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 or Cold Springs Market - (209) 965-4242

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 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

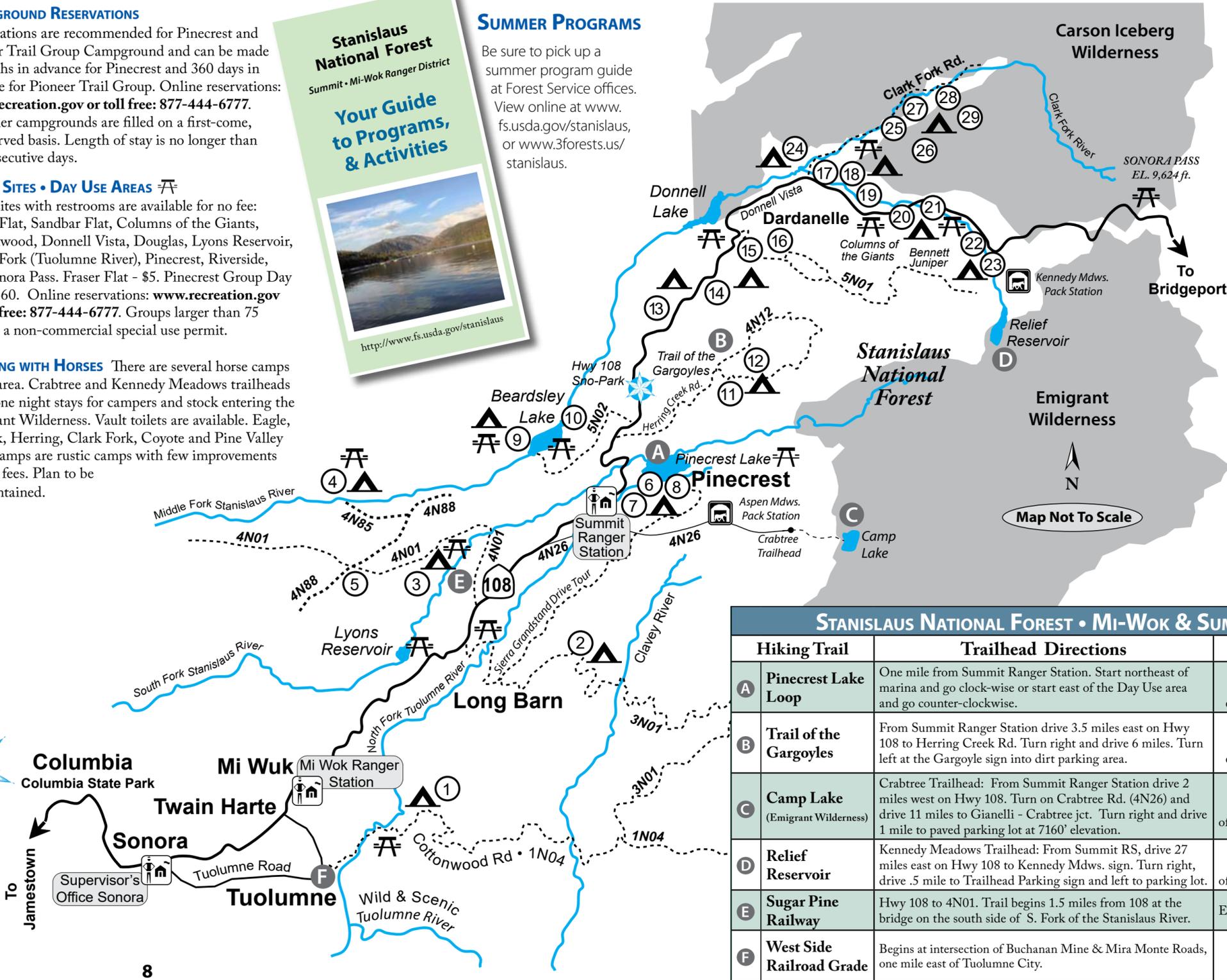
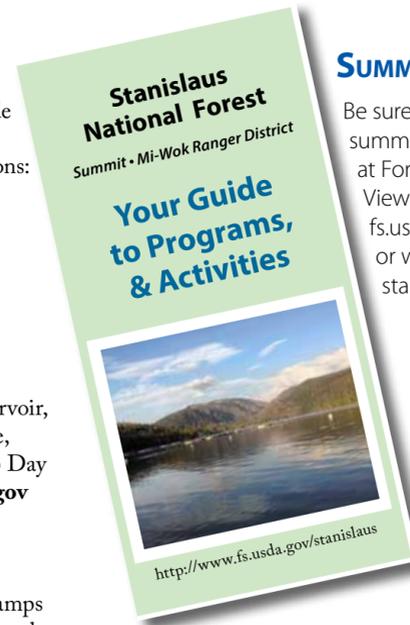
These sites with restrooms are available for no fee: China Flat, Sandbar Flat, Columns of the Giants, Cottonwood, Donnell Vista, Douglas, Lyons Reservoir, North Fork (Tuolumne River), Pinecrest, Riverside, and Sonora Pass. Fraser Flat - \$5. Pinecrest Group Day Use - \$60. Online reservations: www.recreation.gov 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.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

Be sure to pick up a summer program guide at Forest Service offices. View online at www.fs.usda.gov/stanislaus, or www.3forests.us/stanislaus.

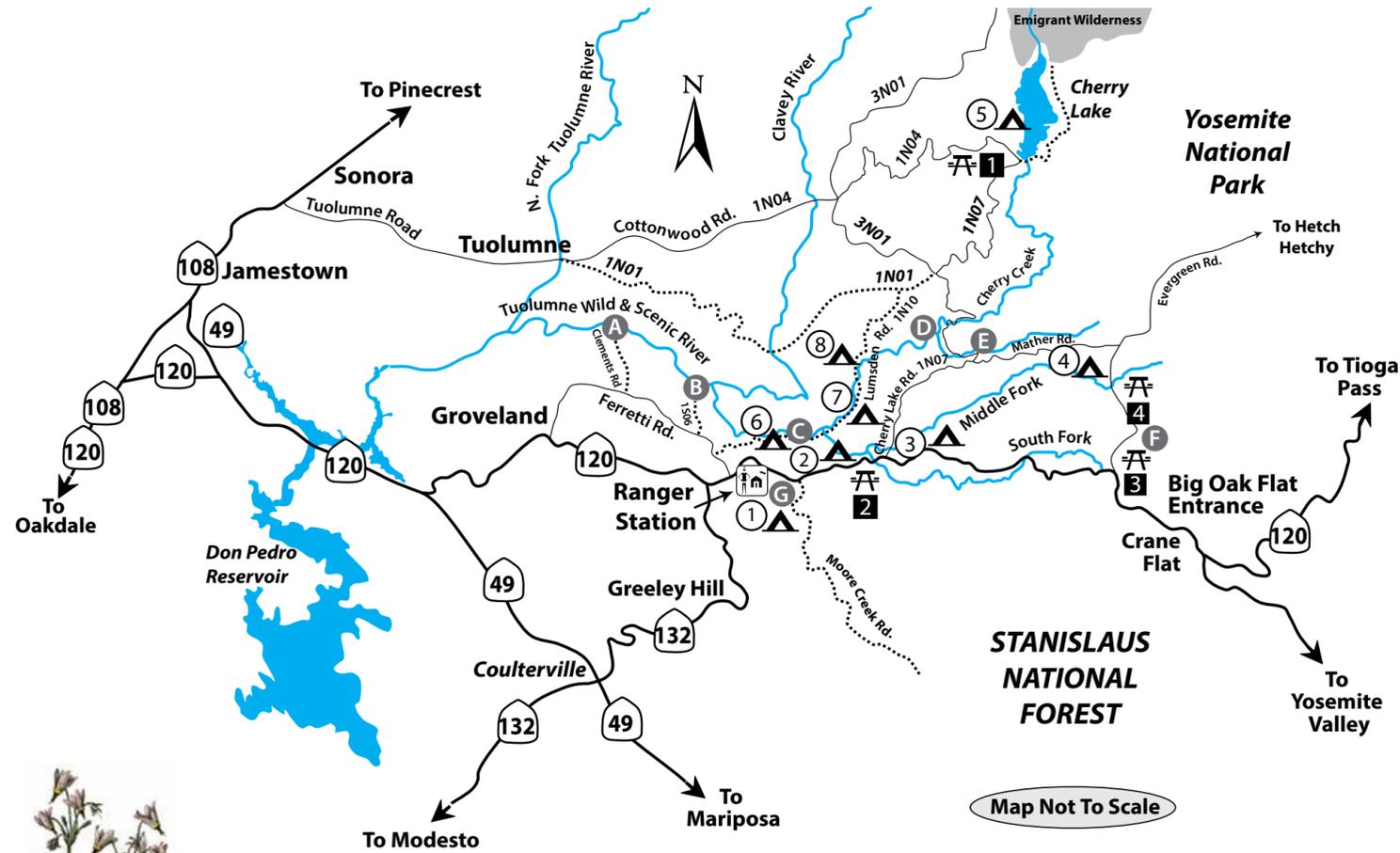


HIGHWAY 108 CAMPGROUNDS	Elevation 00'	Fee	Extra Vehicle Fee	# of Sites	Seasonally Closed	Potable Water	Toilets	RV/Trailer-max length ft	ADA Accessible sites	Reservations	Fishing	Boating	Biking	Hiking
MI WOK CAMPGROUNDS														
1 River Ranch	27	•	•	40	•	•	V	50		^^	•	•	•	•
2 Hull Creek	56	•	•	23	•	•	V	50			•	•	•	•
3 Fraser Flat	48	•	•	38	•	•	V	40			•	•	•	•
4 Sand Bar Flat	30	•	•	8/12	•	•	V	35			•	•	•	•
5 Crandall OHV	48			15	•	•	V	50			Campfire Permit Required			
PINECREST CAMPGROUNDS														
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	•	•
UPPER 108 CAMPGROUNDS														
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						•	•
BRIGHTMAN RECREATION CAMPGROUNDS														
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					•	•
CLARK FORK AREA CAMPGROUNDS														
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 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, # = 100 people max, ^ = New Campground

STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST • MI-WOK & SUMMIT RANGER DISTRICT • HIKING TRAILS					
Hiking Trail	Trailhead Directions	Effort	Mileage	Highlights	Notes
A Pinecrest Lake Loop	One mile from Summit Ranger Station. Start northeast of marina and go clock-wise or start east of the Day Use area and go counter-clockwise.	Moderate – minimal elevation gain	4.2 (loop)	Lake view, spring wildflowers	Not suitable for strollers, bikes, or wheelchairs. Leashed dogs are allowed.
B Trail of the Gargoyles	From Summit Ranger Station 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.	Easy – minimal elevation gain	North rim: 1.5 miles South Rim: 1.5 miles	Volcanic features, panoramic views to the NW	An interpretive guide is available at Ranger Station. Stay away from cliffs.
C Camp Lake (Emigrant Wilderness)	Crabtree Trailhead: From Summit Ranger Station drive 2 miles west on Hwy 108. Turn on Crabtree Rd. (4N26) and drive 11 miles to Gianelli - Crabtree jct. Turn right and drive 1 mile to paved parking lot at 7160' elevation.	Moderate – 400' of elevation gain	5.2 (round trip)	Forests, views, wildflowers, swimming	Crabtree Rd. is suitable for most cars, obstacles may be encountered. Permit required for overnight.
D 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.
E 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.
F 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
A Indian Creek	3 miles	1650 feet	Tuolumne Wild & Scenic River
B Hamby	3 miles	1850 feet	
C Tuolumne River Canyon	6 miles	150 feet	
D Andresen Mine	4.5 miles	200 feet	
E Preston Falls	4.5 miles	400 feet	Waterfalls
F Carlon Falls	2 miles	200 feet	
G Little Golden Forest	3 miles (loop)	150 feet	Self-Guided Interpretive Trail

HIGHWAY 120											
	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 ²	Hiking
CAMPGROUNDS											
① Pines & Pines Group ¹	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		•	•	•

¹Pines Group Site - 50 people max., Reservations required, (877)444-6777 or at www.recreation.gov
²Some 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 Highway 120 corridor! The Groveland Ranger District boasts a multitude of things for everyone!

Aquamarine lakes and streams, delicate wildflowers, spectacular vistas, unique geological formations, and other scenic wonders await visitors at the Groveland Ranger District.

The 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, photography, camping, picnicking, boating, fishing, and hunting.



A view of Cherry Lake looking South ~ Photo by Dusty Vaughn

Cherry Lake is the largest lake in the Stanislaus National Forest and is open all year round. This hidden jewel even has a campground available during summer months. Perfect for water sports, swimming and fishing. Cherry Lake is operated in partnership with Hetch Hetchy Water & Power.



ALL-OUTDOORS www.aorrafting.com/river/tuolumne

TUOLUMNE WILD & SCENIC RIVER

In 1984, Congress designated portions of the Tuolumne River as a "Wild and Scenic" river. The Tuolumne originates from snow melt off Mounts Dana and Lyell in Yosemite National Park, and courses 54 miles before crossing into the Stanislaus National Forest and Bureau of Land Management public land.

The river is described by river experts as one of the most challenging river runs in California. So due to the demanding and technical nature of the Tuolumne River, rafters may prefer to participate with an outfitter or guide. Commercial outfitters operate within a permit system under which the number of trips and passengers are limited. Commercial shuttles may be available for private floaters.



All floaters are required to obtain permits through the Groveland Ranger District from May 1 through October 15.

To obtain more information, call 209-962-7825 or visit the website at www.fs.usda.gov/stanislaus.

FAMILY CAMP AT YOSEMITE

There are two city-operated camps on the Groveland Ranger District, San Jose Family Camp at Yosemite and Berkeley Camp. The City of San Jose operates the Family Camp at Yosemite; providing an all-inclusive camping experience where guests of all ages can fish, hike, swim, participate in organized programs, or just sit back, relax and take it easy.

Family Camp is located in the heart of the Sierra on State Highway 120 near Yosemite National Park, just east of Groveland, California. The Stanislaus National Forest and the middle fork of the Tuolumne River serve as a scenic backdrop to this mountain playground. Situated on 47 acres of leased land from the U.S. Forest Service, there are tent cabins for campers, a dining complex, a swimming area, amphitheater, a campfire circle, and conveniently located restroom/bath units with hot showers.

During the summer season, the camp provides three meals a day to campers, along with supervised recreational activities. Groups are welcome to rent out the camp during the pre- and post seasons. For questions, please call 408-794-6208 or visit online at www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/familycamp

Berkeley Camp, operated by the City of Berkeley, was destroyed by the Rim Fire of 2013 and is in the process of rebuilding. Look for more information on this in future publications.



RIM FIRE AUDIO TOUR



The Rim Fire blazed through the Stanislaus National Forest in August of 2013 burning 257,314 acres (402 square mi/1,041 square km). The fire has had a lasting impact on many resources including vegetation, wildlife, soil, water quality, and cultural sites. Local camps, businesses, and neighboring communities were impacted as well due to evacuations, closures, and loss of structures.

This 11 stop audio tour, which begins from the Groveland Ranger Station, is marked with numbered posts which guide you through the burned area along paved roads. An interpretive flyer to guide you can be obtained online or at the Groveland Ranger Station at 24545 State Highway 120, 8 miles east of the community of Groveland.

DOWNLOAD audio tour: www.3forests.us/rimfire

WATER – THE TRANSPARENT SIDE OF NATURE

RECREATION AND WATER CONSERVATION

Welcome to the Stanislaus National Forest, where you can fish in over 800 miles of rivers, lakes, and streams. You can swim near a sandy beach, or wade into cold, clear streams to cool your feet. Enjoy boating at Cherry Lake, raft the Tuolumne “Wild & Scenic” River, or canoe one of our many gorgeous lakes, all while basking in the beauty of the transparent side of nature.

HOW MUCH WATER COMES FROM THE FOREST?

Sixty percent of fresh water in this country comes from forests. Reservoir capacity alone in the Stanislaus National Forest is 786,000 acre feet, and the major watersheds amount to 890,000 acres to include the Mokelumne, Stanislaus, Tuolumne and the Merced Rivers.

WHAT CAN EACH OF US DO TO CONSERVE?

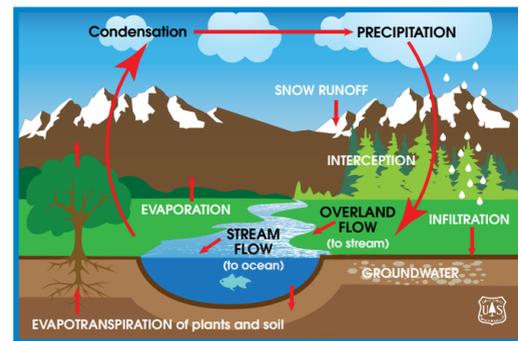
- Take shorter showers
- Only flush the toilet when necessary
- Landscape with drought tolerant plants
- Use gray water for watering plants
- Run dishwashers only when full
- Fix leaky faucets
- Invest in a low flow toilet
- Turn water off while brushing teeth
- Install a recirculation pump for hot water
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



Paradise Valley Creek in the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness. The ridge on the horizon is the Sierra Crest, with the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest on the other side. Photo by Jim Frazier.



Inspiring views of flowing water can be found at Clark Fork Falls off of the Clark Fork Road on the Summit Ranger District. Photo by Clinton Gould.

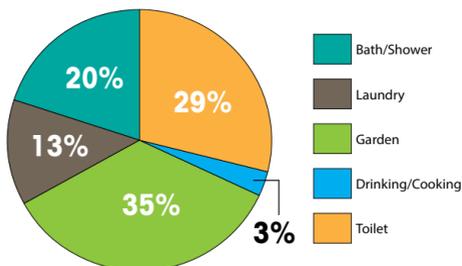


The Water Cycle - Heat from the sun causes water to evaporate and rise into the air. When it reaches the clouds it cools down and condenses, becoming water again. This water falls from the sky as rain, snow, or other forms. It collects in oceans and lakes and infiltrates the ground to become groundwater. Then the cycle starts again. Plants also sweat and lose water that evaporates into the sky as part of the cycle.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Water is probably the single most important resource that the national forests provide.
- Forest Service lands are the largest source of municipal water supply in the Nation, serving over 66 million people in 3,400 communities in 33 States.
- Major U.S. cities such as Los Angeles, Portland, Denver, and Atlanta receive a significant portion of their water supply from national forests.
- The value of the water flowing from agency lands is estimated to be \$7.2 billion a year.
- Nearly three-fourths of the Earth’s surface is covered with water.

TYPICAL HOUSEHOLD WATER USE



WINTER WONDERLAND

SNOWSHOEING, SKIING & SNOWPLAY

Three ski areas operate under special use permits on the Forest: Bear Valley Resort and Bear Valley Cross Country 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.



Photo by Vlad & Marina Butsky

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.

LEAVE NO TRACE

- Pack It In, Pack It Out. Pack out all trash: yours and others. Burying trash and litter in the snow or ground is unacceptable.
- Pack out solid human waste using re-closable bags made just for solid wastes. In lieu of packing it out, cover and disguise human waste deep in snow away from travel routes and at least 200 feet (70 adult steps) from water sources. Also, no one likes to look at “yellow snow”, so be sure to cover urine with clean snow.
- Use toilet paper or wipes sparingly. Pack them out.



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 800-427-7623 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.

SNO-PARKS:

There are three California SNO-PARKS on the Calaveras Ranger District (see page 6) and one on the Summit Ranger District (see page 8), providing groomed snowmobile routes for your use and enjoyment. SNO-PARK permits are required Nov 1 to May 31 and can be obtained at www.ohv.parks.ca.gov or local vendors. Cost: Daily (\$5), Seasonal (\$25)



SNOWMOBILE RIDING ON THE STANISLAUS

After years of planning, public engagement, and analysis, the Stanislaus National Forest (STF) is in the final stages of designating areas and trails for over-snow vehicle (OSV) use. Once designated (through a final signed Record of Decision expected to be signed in the fall of 2019) an over-snow vehicle use map (OSVUM) will be developed and made available to the public. The OSVUM will be the sole means of determining where it is permissible to ride OSVs, similar to the wheeled motor vehicle use map (MVUM).

Prior to this effort to designate areas and trails for OSV use, no analysis had occurred to determine where snowfall was adequate for OSV use to occur nor had the potential impacts of OSV use been fully considered.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Draft Record of Decision (Draft ROD) were released in late March of 2019. Specifically, the OSV use designations included in the Draft ROD allow for:

- Cross-country OSV use on 129,780 acres (or approximately 14.5 percent of STF lands)** where there is adequate snow depth to avoid damage to natural and cultural resources (see Minimum Snow Depth Requirements). Included in these acres are popular OSV use destinations including the Pacific Valley and Eagle Meadow areas.
- Continued grooming (when funding is available) on approximately 63 miles of OSV use trails.** These 63 miles includes trails that are both under Forest Service jurisdiction (24.7 miles, **designated in the Draft ROD**) and those managed by the county (5.03) or state (33.7).
- An additional 78.4 miles of non-groomed OSV use trails.** These miles, too, includes Forest Service jurisdiction (58.4 miles, **designated in the Draft ROD**) and non-jurisdiction trails (county: 10.9 miles; state 9.1 miles).

The Draft ROD also includes specific minimum snow depth and season of use designations designed to ensure adequate protection of Forest resources.

Formal opportunities for public comment and objections regarding the OSV-Use Designation project have passed. Objections received pertaining to the FEIS and Draft ROD will be reviewed by the Regional Office from mid-May through July of 2019 and resolutions to the objections will be pursued. Once the objection review process is completed, the Forest will make any necessary adjustments to the FEIS and Draft ROD prior to signing the Final ROD sometime in the fall of 2019.

All current (and future) project documents and maps are (and will be) available on the project website found at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=46311

For more information on this project please contact Katie Wilkinson at (209) 288-6321.

WILDERNESS



View north across Cooper Meadow in the Emigrant Wilderness. The historic Cooper Cabin and Barn are on the left side and the Three Chimneys are in the background.

FEATURED HIKE: COOPER CABIN

Cooper Cabin is rarely visited despite the fact it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and sits below some of the most iconic peaks in the Emigrant Wilderness. If you choose to visit the site, expect to see cows and possibly cowboys (or cowgirls), as this is an active range allotment that still uses these cabins, originally built during the 1860s and 1870s. Remember to close all gates as you pass through them and you should be set to have a great time.

From Coyote Meadows Trailhead, the footpath enters the Emigrant Wilderness, leading up a wide valley with views of the Emigrant's expansive granite ridges as well as close-ups of the dark, jagged volcanic outcrops known as The Three Chimneys, Castle Rock, and East Flange Rock. The trail undulates over moderate terrain, passing through meadows, forests, and a seasonal pond. After about 3 ¼ miles the visitor will descend a moderate to steep ¼ mile slope. At the bottom, the trail crosses a creek bed (dry in summer), but the visitor should

instead veer slightly right, following a faded track that contours the bottom of the slope. The path becomes more distinct after 100 yards and the cabin comes into view. Another 100 yards or so brings you to the edge of this historic site. Please keep a safe distance from cows, stock and the folks working as well as a respectful distance from the corral and cabins.



Directions to Coyote Meadows Trailhead: From Highway 108, turn onto Herring Creek Road (4N12). Continue on this road for about 11.3 miles total, then turn right onto 5N67. The road is unpaved after 5.5 miles. Drive one mile on 5N67 and then turn left into the parking area for Coyote Meadow.

WHEN DO YOU NEED A WILDERNESS PERMIT?

Permits are required for all overnight trips into wilderness on the Stanislaus National Forest. Getting a permit gives you a chance to talk with a Forest Service representative about current conditions and to learn about wilderness regulations for the area you plan to visit. Permits are free and can be obtained at any Ranger Station. If you won't be at a Ranger Station during business hours, call ahead to have a permit set out for you. See the back page for phone numbers.

WHAT IS WILDERNESS?

Here on the Stanislaus National Forest three wilderness areas await you: the Carson-Iceberg, Emigrant, and Mokelumne. Wilderness areas are designated by Congress and confer the highest level of legal protection of all our public lands. The original Wilderness Act of 1964 says wilderness is "an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence...which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions."

Wilderness is a place for the American public to experience the wonders of the natural world, find solitude, and escape from the stresses of daily life. Visiting wilderness takes us back to a time when transportation consisted of horses or our own two feet, when motorized equipment was absent, natural sounds prevailed, and the forces of nature dominated the landscape.

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 the LNT.org website 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



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.

Visit: swv1.org for more information about this outstanding group of citizens.

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.



WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Forest Service Ranger Dusty Vaughn assists young volunteers in replanting the forest.

Volunteers have dedicated thousands of hours of service and accomplished great feats while helping to create, improve, and restore natural history, cultural history, and recreation opportunities throughout the Stanislaus National Forest and surrounding areas. Numerous opportunities exist for volunteers, from trail work, to education, to restoration, and more! Every person who donates time and/or resources makes immeasurable contributions to the land, our visitors, and the future. Contact any local ranger district office to find out what opportunities are waiting for you.



3-FIA volunteer interpreter Railyn Stokes leads a group of Junior Rangers on a fun and engaging hike at Lake Alpine where they learn about animals, plants, bugs, fungi, and rocks.

VOLUNTEERING POSSIBILITIES:

www.fs.usda.gov/detail/stanislaus/workingtogether/volunteering

- Visitor Information
- Restore Landscapes
- Wilderness Volunteers
- Restore Recreation Sites
- Interpretive Programs
- Trail Work
- Wildlife Surveys
- Become a Campground Host

For more information on volunteer opportunities - Contact: Leah LaNier, 209-288-6265



"Summer of Success (SOS)" High School Student Volunteers learning to be future stewards of our public lands. SOS is a partnership between the Forest Service, Resource Advisory Committee and Motherlode Job Training.

THREE-FORESTS INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION (3-FIA)

Three-Forests Interpretive Association is a non-profit educational organization that helps visitors and users appreciate and understand the mission of the Sequoia, Sierra and Stanislaus National Forests. 3-FIA publishes and distributes books, brochures, maps and other materials relating to the human and natural history of the Sierra Nevada. Every year, profits from these activities help the Forest Service fund a wide range of interpretive and educational programs, thereby contributing to the public's appropriate use, understanding and enjoyment of the Forest resources.

Membership is an important way for the public to show interest and have a role in the future of these three National Forests. Membership is open to anyone.

Three-Forests Interpretive Association

30330 Watts Valley Road
Tollhouse, CA 93667
Telephone (559) 855-8419
Website: www.3forests.us/

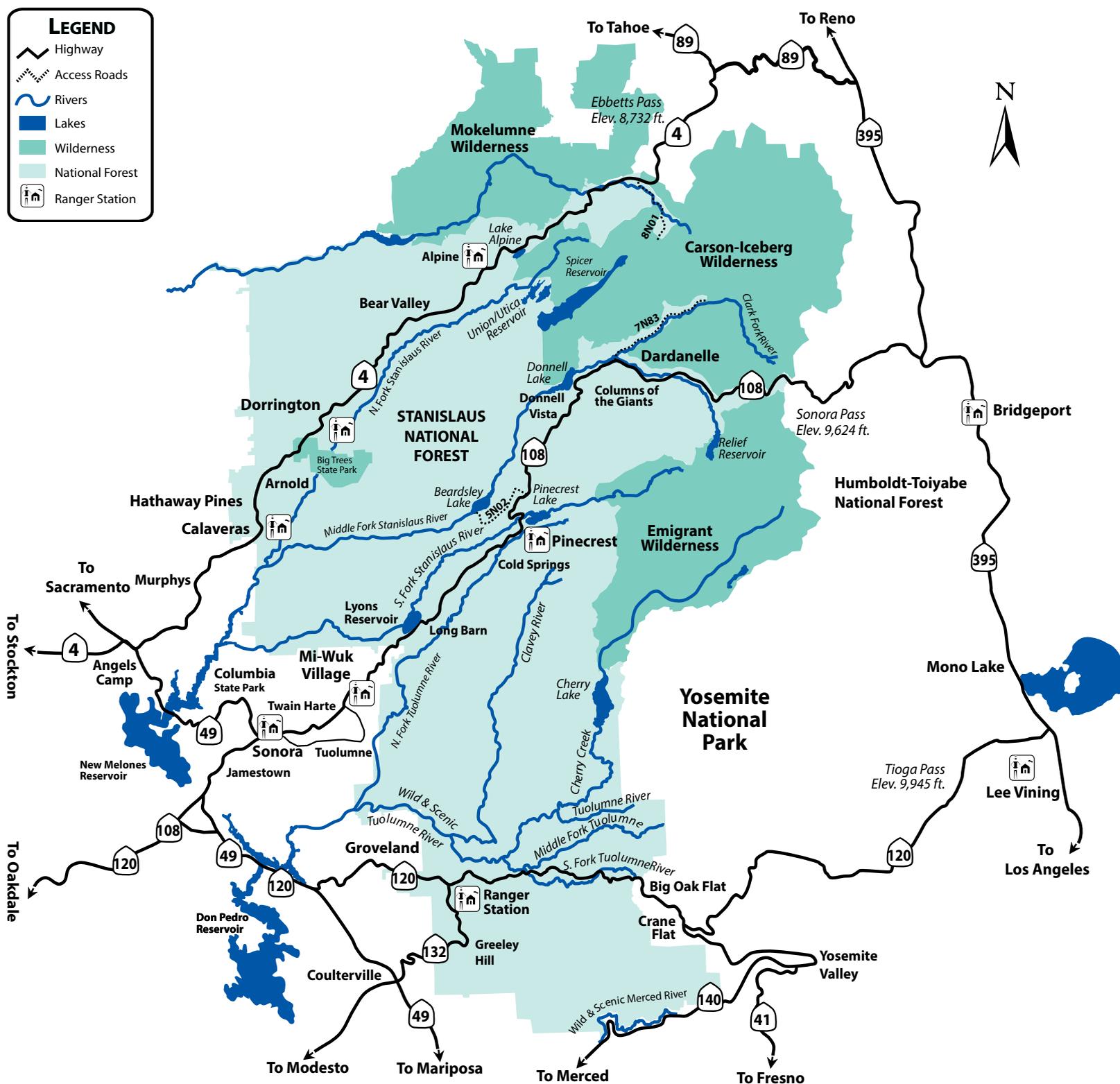


STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST

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.**

Published by 3-FIA, a non-profit educational organization.



www.3forests.us



Produced in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, which is an equal opportunity service provider and employer.



www.fs.usda.gov/stanislaus

CONTACT STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST

CALAVERAS RANGER DISTRICT

P. O. Box 500, 5519 Highway 4
Hathaway Pines, CA 95233
Phone: 209-795-1381
TDD: 209-795-2854
Alpine Station, 209-753-2811

SUMMIT RANGER DISTRICT

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

GROVELAND RANGER DISTRICT

24545 Highway 120
Groveland, CA 95321
Phone: 209-962-7825
TDD: 209-962-6406

SUPERVISORS OFFICE

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