

# **Special Recreation Permit Plan**

## **Recreational Target Shooting**

**1N09**

**Lightening Gulch**

**Arrastre**

**Big Pine Flat**

**San Bernardino National Forest**

### **Background**

The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) authorizes an SRP fee for permits issued for specialized recreation uses of Federal recreational lands and waters, such as group activities, recreation events, and motorized recreational vehicle use. Special recreation permits are issued as a means to allocate capacity or disperse use, protect natural and cultural resources, provide for health and safety of visitors, and help cover the higher costs for providing specialized services.

The four recreational target shooting SRP locations: 1N09, Lightning Gulch, Arrastre, and Big Pine Flat are all found within the San Bernardino National Forest (see enclosed map). These four sites have been used exclusively for target shooting since 1999. Recreation fees have been charged at this location since 1999. The following recreation passes are accepted: the Adventure Pass (\$5 per day, \$30 annually, and \$5 for a second vehicle) or the America the Beautiful –the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Passes (Annual: \$80, Senior: \$10, and Access, Military, and Volunteer: free).

This plan describes the rationale for the special recreation permit, the locations for which the special recreation permit is required, the specialized services and enhanced management, and how the special recreation permit fees are spent.

### **Rationale**

The 1N09, Lightning Gulch, Arrastre, and Big Pine Flat SRP locations are specifically managed for recreational target shooting and are designated for this use through forest order 00-2 (attached). These four locations are very popular and used year-round, although they may be closed during periods of high fire danger or by snow. Managing public lands for recreational target shooting requires the identification of specific locations where this popular activity may take place, while protecting natural resources and minimizing social impacts such as noise, stray bullets, and focusing use to an area

where there is less potential for wildland fire. The Forest Plan designates these four locations and states that recreational target shooting is to be well-managed within the Big Bear and San Bernardino Front Country Places. The shooting areas are used by the visitors who make their homes in the local mountain communities and reside in the greater Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

## **Location**

**1N09** – The SRP location is along Forest Road 1N09 (Old City Creek Road) approximately 2 miles from the junction of Highway 330 (see enclosed map), near the communities of Running Springs and Highland.

**Arrastre** – The SRP location is along Forest Road 2N02 (Burns Canyon Road) approximately 3 miles from the junction of Highway 38 (see enclosed map), near the communities of Lucerne Valley and Baldwin Lake.

**Lightning Gulch** – The SRP location is along Forest Road 2n93 (Wildhorse Road) approximately 2 miles from the junction of Highway 38 (see enclosed map), near the communities of Big Bear and Redlands.

**Big Pine Flat** – The SRP location is along Forest Road 3N14 (Coxey Road) approximately 8 miles northwest of Big Bear, California (see enclosed map), and near the communities of Big Bear and Apple Valley.

All of these communities benefit from the diverse recreational opportunities, including recreational target shooting, on the San Bernardino National Forest.

## **Services and Management**

Specialized management actions and services include:

- 1. Target Shooting Management.** These four locations are managed specifically for recreational target shooting. The areas are identified specifically for this use through forest order and through on-site signing. Forest visitors are informed of the target shooting locations and the need to be cautious upon entering the four locations. Enforcing rules and regulations relating to target shooting support public safety, respect for private land ownership, and natural resource protection. Trash receptacles, informational signing, and safety information are provided at each of the sites. It is a continual challenge to maintain improvements in the area without them being quickly damaged by shooters.
- 2. Natural and Cultural Resource Protection.** The Forest selected specific recreational target shooting locations to avoid sensitive plant species, pebble plain habitat and culturally sensitive sites. Protecting natural resources is a critical part of providing recreational target shooting opportunities on public lands. Resource protection measures include visitor education and trash and shooting debris removal.
- 3. Other Specialized Services.** Forest Service staff, volunteers, and the Urban Conservation Corps work together to provide a clean and safe shooting opportunity.

## **Use of Special Recreation Permit Fee Revenue**

Recreation fees are used for the following:

- Forest Service staffing to provide information, education, and site clean-up.
- Coordinate volunteers to assist in providing information, education, and site clean-up.
- Coordinate clean-up events and safety training.
- Clean-up and removal of trash, discarded targets, and other shooting debris.
- Maintain existing restrooms and trash receptacles.

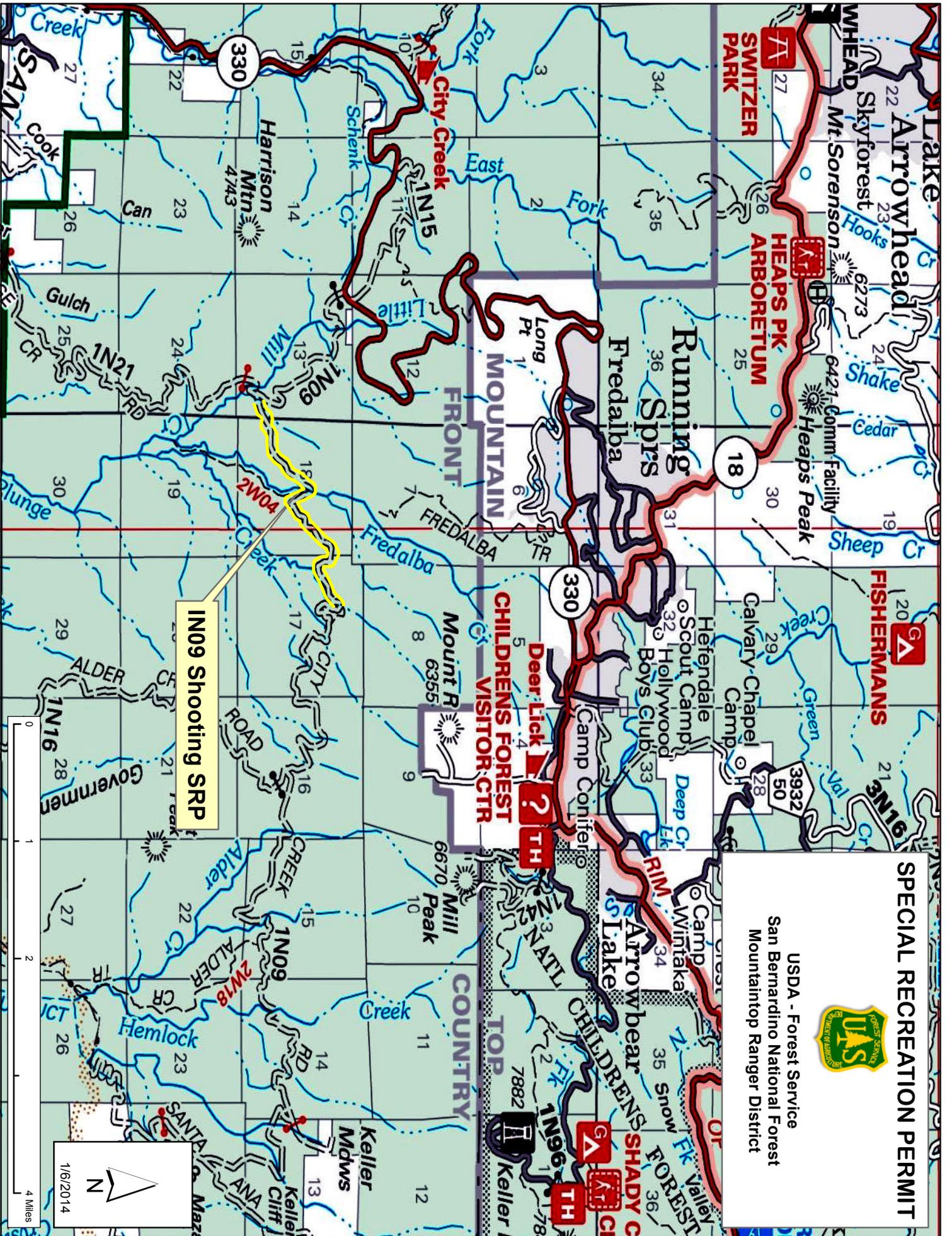
## **Partners and Cooperators**

- Inland Empire California Conservation Corps
- Urban Conservation Corp
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Southern California Mountains Foundation

**SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT**



USDA - Forest Service  
San Bernardino National Forest  
Mountaintop Ranger District



**IN09 Shooting SRP**

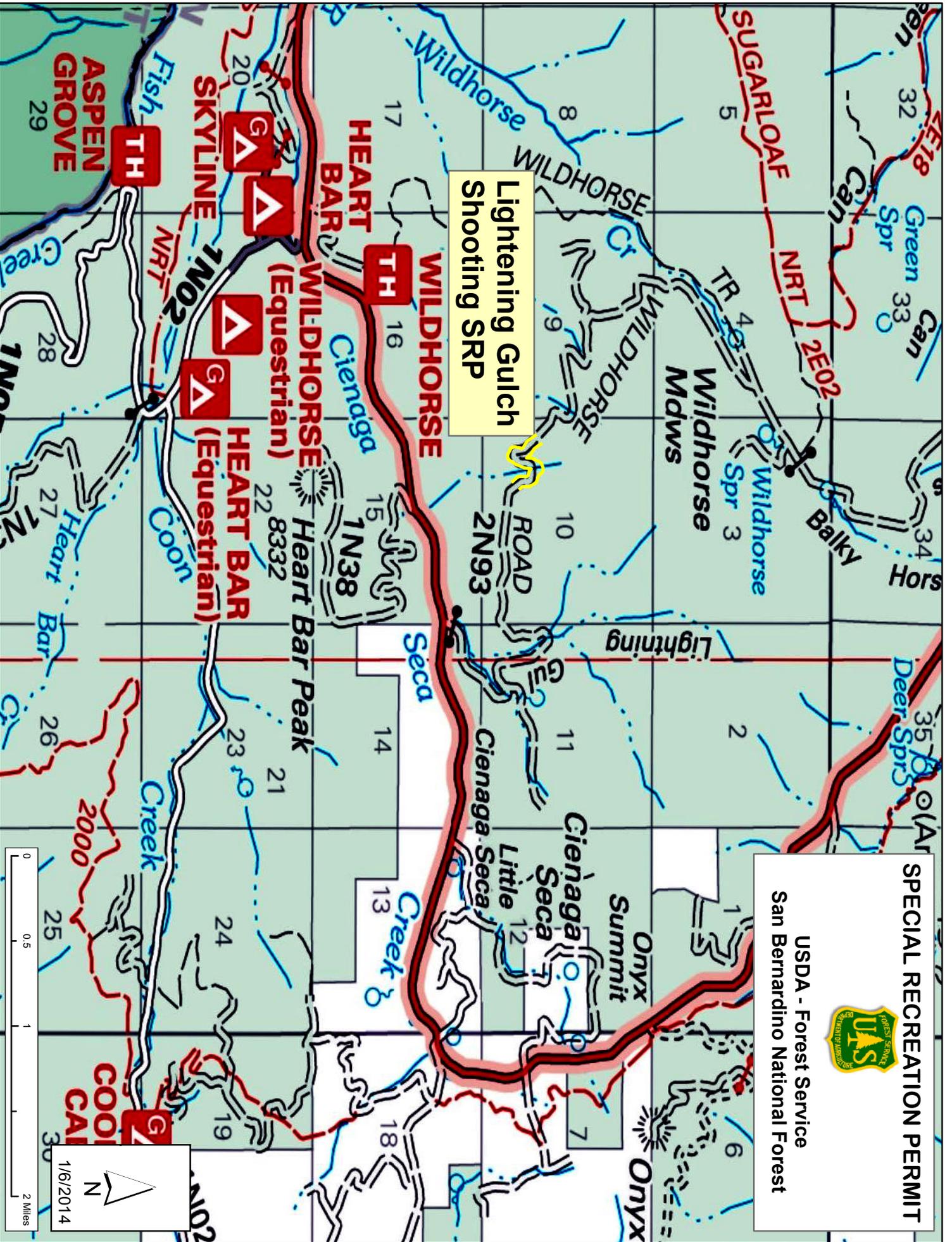


4 Miles



**SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT**  
USDA - Forest Service  
San Bernardino National Forest

Lightening Gulch Shooting SRP



1/6/2014

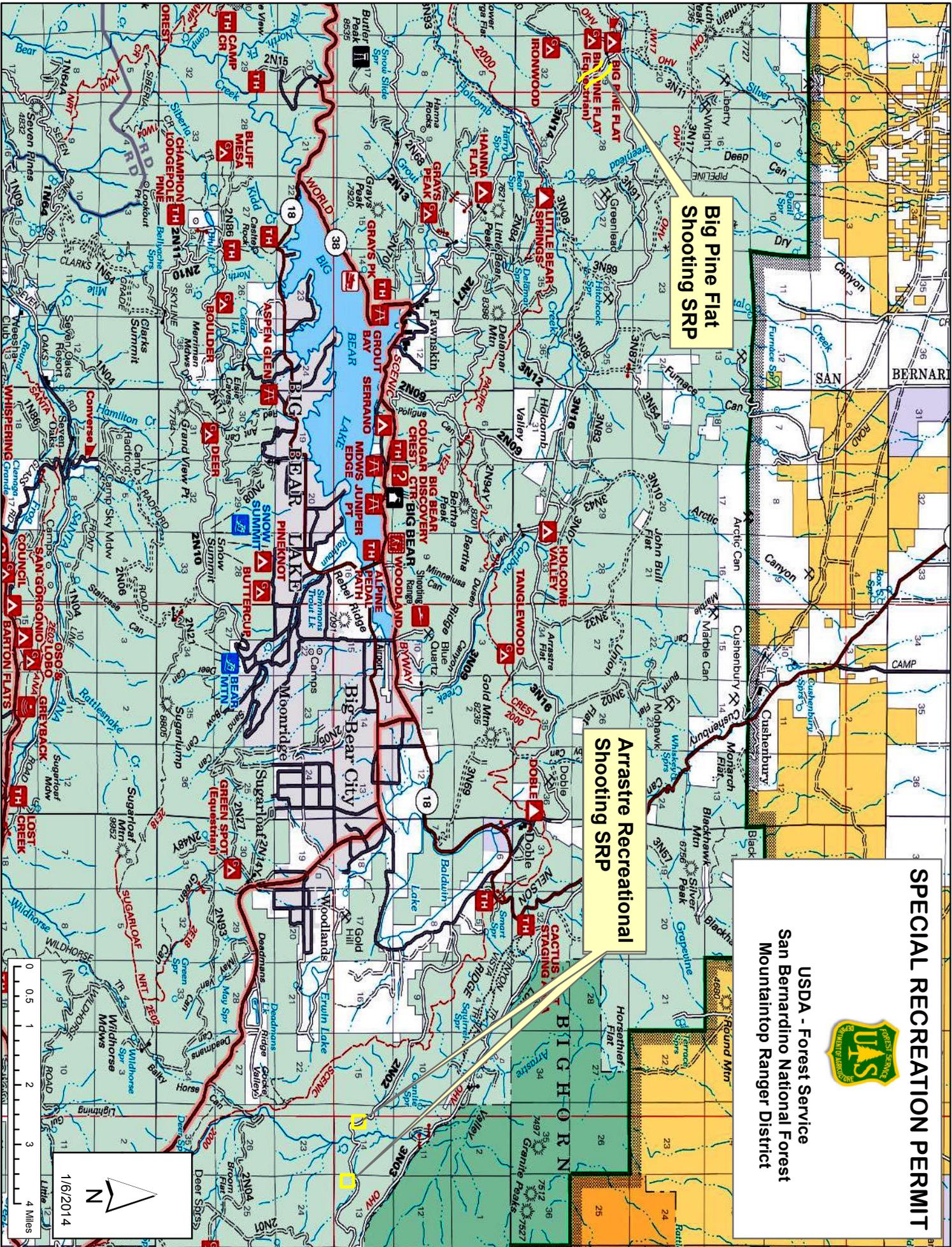


USDA - Forest Service  
San Bernardino National Forest  
Mountaintop Ranger District

# SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT

Big Pine Flat Shooting SRP

Arrastrite Recreational Shooting SRP



1/6/2014

4 Miles

ORDER NO. 00-2  
OCCUPANCY AND USE  
SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited on the San Bernardino National Forest.

1. Discharging a firearm, air rifle, or gas gun, except for the lawful hunting or in areas designated as open on the attached Forest recreational shooting maps. 36 CFR 261.58(m).
  
2. Discharging a firearm, air rifle, or gas gun in an area designated as open on the attached Forest recreational shooting maps after 1 :00 p.m. on a day in which the activity level is three. Persons engaged in lawful hunting are exempt from this prohibition. 36 CFR 261.58(m).
  
3. Discharging a firearm, air rifle, or gas gun in an area designated as open on the attached Forest recreational shooting maps on a day in which the activity level is four or five. Persons engaged in lawful hunting activities are exempt from this prohibition. 36 CFR 261.58(m).
  
4. Discharging a firearm, air rifle, or gas gun within 50 feet of any stream bottom on either side of Forest Road IN09. Persons engaged in lawful hunting are exempt from this prohibition. 36 CFR 261.58(m).
  
5. Discharging a firearm, air rifle, or gas gun within 150 yards of any stream bottom in the area shown as open on the attached recreational shooting maps, except along Forest Road IN09 Persons engaged in lawful hunting are exempt from this prohibition. 36 CFR 261.58(m).
  
6. Discharging a firearm with steel core, armor piercing or Teflon ammunition. 36 CFR 261.58(m)
  
7. Discharging a firearm, air rifle, or gas gun at a target which is other than dirt, paper, wood, clay pigeon, or a metal spinning/knockdown target. Persons engaged in lawful hunting are exempt from this prohibition. 36 CFR 261.58(m)
  
8. Discharging a firearm, air rifle, or gas gun at standing trees. 36 CFR 261.58(m)

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following are exempt from this order.

1. Any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
2. Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR 261, Subpart A.

Done at San Bernardino, California, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 1999.

Gene Zimmerman  
Forest Supervisor

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559 and 3571.

# **Special Recreation Permit Plan**

## **Winter Recreation**

**Snow Valley**

**Rim**

**Barton Flat**

**Aspen Glen**

### ***San Bernardino National Forest***

#### **Background**

The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) authorizes an SRP fee for permits issued for specialized recreation uses of Federal recreational lands and waters, such as group activities, recreation events, and motorized recreational vehicle use. Special recreation permits are issued as a means to allocate capacity or disperse use, protect natural and cultural resources, provide for health and safety of visitors, and help cover the higher costs for providing specialized services.

The four winter recreation SRP locations: Snow Valley, Rim, Barton Flats, and Aspen Glen are all found within the San Bernardino National Forest (see enclosed maps). These four sites are managed specifically for winter recreation and a SRP recreation fee is charged when snow is present. Recreation fees relating to winter recreation have been charged at this location since 1997. The following recreation passes are accepted: the Adventure Pass (\$5 per day, \$30 annually, and \$5 for a second vehicle) or the America the Beautiful –the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Passes (Annual: \$80, Senior: \$10, and Access, Military, and Volunteer: free).

This plan describes the rationale for the special recreation permit, the location for which the special recreation permit is required, the specialized services and enhanced management, and how the special recreation permit fees are spent.

#### **Rationale**

In southern California snow is an exciting and highly anticipated event which brings thousands of visitors to the national forests. For many visitors this will be the first time they have experienced driving and recreating in snow. It takes a carefully planned multi-agency approach to prepare for, and manage visitors during and after a snowfall event.

Special services and management are targeted at health, safety, and sanitation issues while protecting natural and cultural resources. SRP recreation fees are charged when snow is present to support special services and management. The Forest Land Management Plan includes a focus on improving the snowplay experience for both visitors and communities in the Arrowhead (Rim and Snow Valley), Big Bear (Aspen Glen), San Geronio (Barton Flats) Places.

## **Location**

The four winter SRPs are located within easy reach of the greater Los Angeles Basin, Inland Empire, and the Southern San Joaquin Valley areas. In southern California a snow event brings thousands of visitors to the national forests and these four locations are among the most heavily visited.

**Snow Valley** – The SRP location is along the Rim of the World Scenic Byway (Highway 18) from the community of Arrowbear east to Lakeview Point (see enclosed map).

**Barton Flats** – The SRP location is located along the Rim of the World Scenic Byway (Highway 18) from the Ponderosa Vista/ Whispering Pines Trailheads east to the Greyback Amphitheater (see enclosed map).

**Aspen Glen** – The SRP location is located in and around the Aspen Glen Picnic Area one quarter mile south of Highway 18 just outside of the community of Big Bear Lake (see attached map).

**Rim** – The SRP location is located along the Rim of the World Scenic Byway (Highway 18) from the Crest Park Picnic Area east to Running Springs (see enclosed map).

The communities of Running Springs, Lake Arrowhead, Arrowbear, Big Bear Lake, Forest Falls, and Angelus Oaks benefit from the increased visitation.

## **Services and Management**

The San Bernardino National Forest works closely with local agencies to plan ahead for snowfall events. The Forest convenes an annual pre-season meeting with the California Highway Patrol; CalTrans; local media; San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department; local fire departments; San Bernardino County Roads; Winter Information Team (WITs) Volunteers and the Mountain Top Recreation Volunteers. Specialized management actions and services include:

1. **Traffic and Visitor Management.** Snow Valley, Barton Flats, and Rim Winter Recreation SRPs are located along California State Highways and traffic congestion is a significant public safety issue. Advance coordination and planning are necessary to address the safety of pedestrians and highway travelers and provide for emergency vehicle access. All four of the SRPs are located near or adjacent to private property and the Aspen Glen Winter SRP is located within a private neighborhood. An important aspect of visitor and traffic management is keeping visitors on public lands. First time visitors to snow country are very

- excited and often inclined to pull over at the first sight of snow. On big snow events the Forest Service, CalTrans, California Highway Patrol, volunteers staff pull-over stations. Visitors are greeted, presented with important safety information, and directed to locations in an attempt to manage and disburse the congestion and crowding.
2. **Sanitation.** When snow is present, these four SRPs receive intense and concentrated visitation. The large volume of associated human waste and trash presents natural resource and public health and safety impacts. The Forest provides trash bags, dumpsters, for every major snowfall. Afterwards, the removal of snowplay related trash (sleds, plastic sheets, food, toilet paper, etc.) is an extremely heavy workload.
  3. **Public Safety and Security.** When snow is present these four SRPs receive intense concentrated use and heavy traffic volume, presenting additional public safety, security, and natural resource concerns. At these times, California Highway Patrol, Cal Trans, volunteers, and forest employees provide for public safety and security and resource protection.
  4. **Other Specialized Services.** Forest Service employees are trained as Medical First Responders and often assist with emergency services.

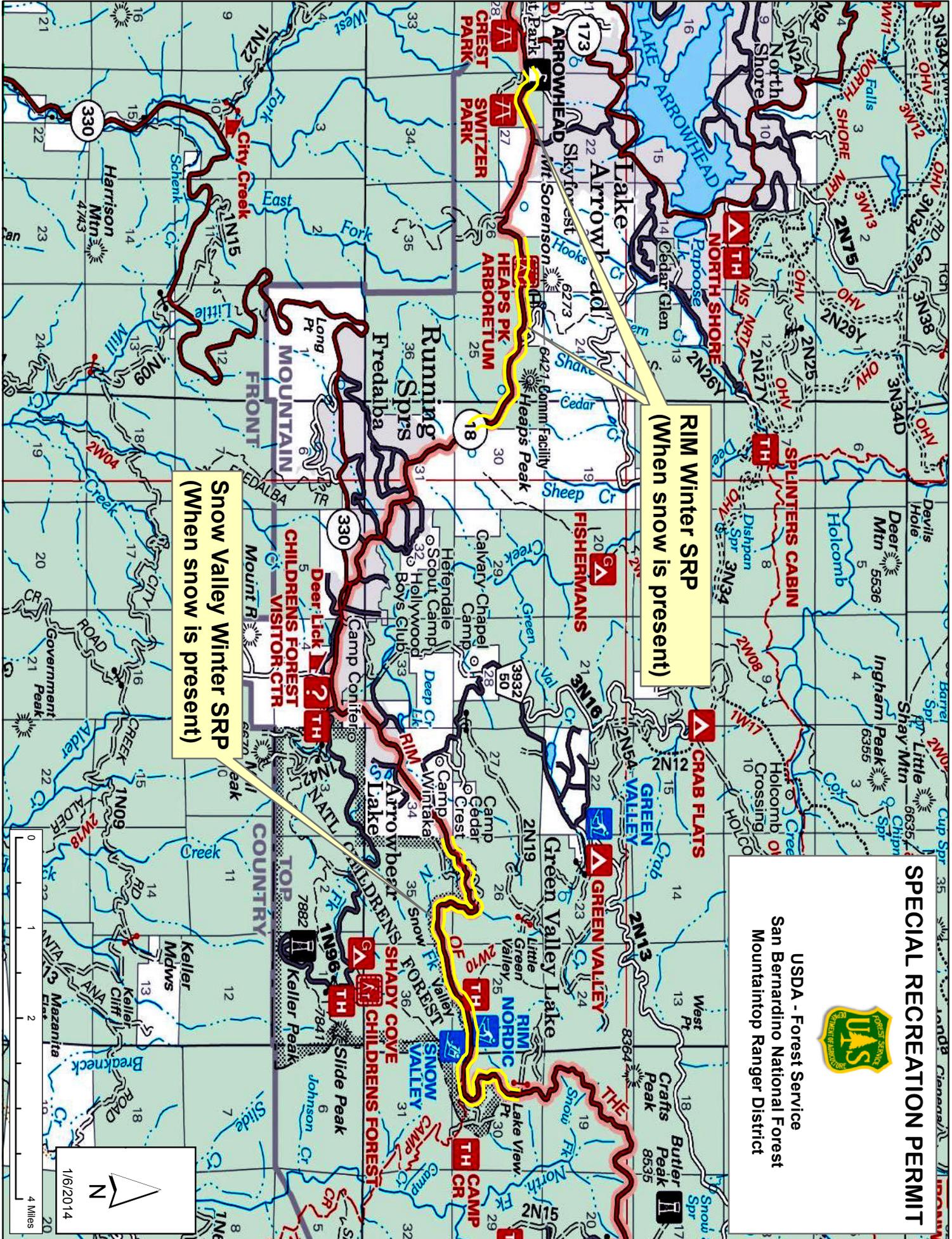
### **Use of Special Recreation Permit Fee Revenue**

Recreation fees are used for the following:

- Forest Service staffing to provide information, education, and visitor assistance.
- Coordinate volunteers to assist in providing information, education, and visitor assistance.
- Coordination with state and local agencies, volunteers, media, and search and rescue organizations.
- Clean-up and removal of trash and human waste.
- Provide portable toilets and trash receptacles.

### **Partners and Cooperators**

- California Department of Transportation
- California Highway Patrol
- San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors
- Winter Information Team
- Mountain Top Recreation Volunteer



**RIM Winter SRP**  
(When snow is present)

**Snow Valley Winter SRP**  
(When snow is present)

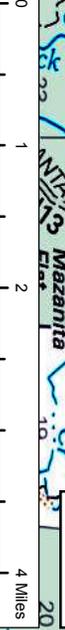
**SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT**



USDA - Forest Service  
San Bernardino National Forest  
Mountaintop Ranger District



1/6/2014



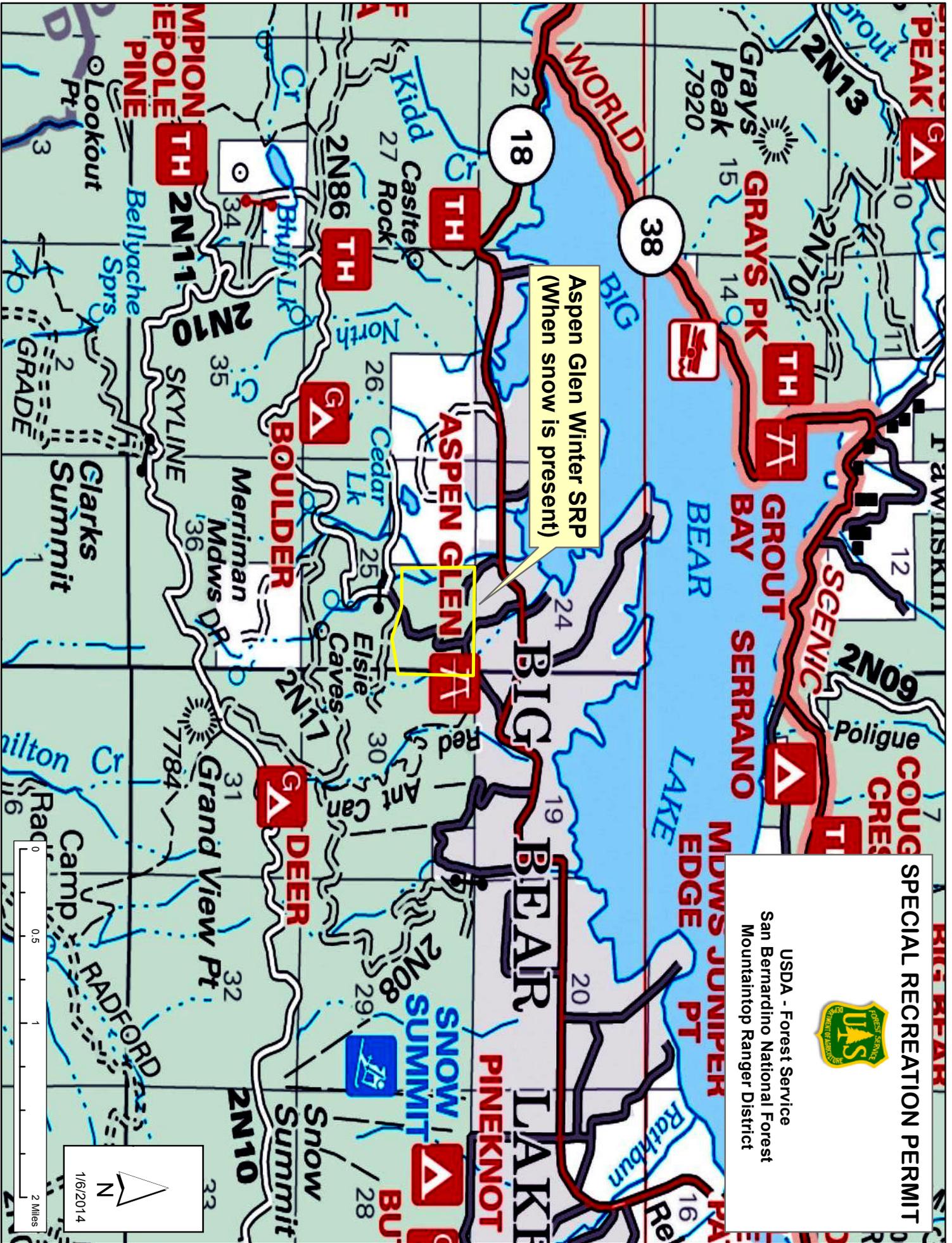


SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT



USDA - Forest Service  
San Bernardino National Forest  
Mountaintop Ranger District

Aspen Glen Winter SRP  
(When snow is present)



1/6/2014

2 Miles

San Bernardino National Forest Service

Winter Recreation

