

NEWS



Forest Service

*United States
Department of
Agriculture*

Lassen National Forest

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Almanor Ranger District to Offer Walking and Driving Tours

The Lassen National Forest will be conducting an interpretive walk and two driving tours of the Almanor Ranger Districts scenic areas. Tours will be held Wednesday, September 17; Wednesday, October 1; and Friday, October 17; these tours will begin at 8.a.m. at the Almanor Ranger Station in Chester.



The walk on September 17 will be in search of birds. As autumn approaches, many birds will begin migrating and will be passing through this area. It is a perfect time to get out those binoculars, field guides and identify a variety of bird species including osprey. This easy walking tour will be on fairly level ground with short walking distances through various areas. Binoculars will be provided by the Almanor Ranger District. This tour will end around 1 p.m.

The driving tour on October 1 will be dedicated in memory of Almanor Ranger District Employee Marylou Mini who passed away recently. The tour will explore her favorite areas that show the beautiful fall colors as well pleasant scenery on a crisp fall day. Some of the areas to see and learn about will be the Humbug Valley and Humboldt areas. There will be plenty of opportunities for short walks and taking scenic photos. This tour will return at approximately 1 p.m.

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On the October 17 driving tour, participants will view fall colors of the scenic front country and the Ishi Wilderness and visit locations such as: historic McCarthy Point Lookout, and Bruff's Camp a major stop along the Lassen Emigrant Trail; lunch will be at the Black Rock Campground followed by a short walk to the popular Mill Creek Trailhead which accesses the Ishi Wilderness, California's only low elevation Wilderness. To find out more about Ishi and the front country before the tour, here are suggested books to read: *Ishi in Two Worlds*, Theodora Kroeber, 1961; and *The Yana and Yahi*, in Handbook of the Indians of California, 1953. This tour will conclude around 4 p.m. in Chester.

For each tour, participants will meet at the Almanor Ranger District office located across from the airport in Chester at 8 a.m. and return around 1 p.m. for the September 17 and October 1 tours; and the October 17 tour will return around 4 p.m. Most driving will occur on gravel roads so carpooling with SUV's will help to keep the number of vehicles to a minimum. Participants are advised to bring a lunch, warm clothing, plenty of water and a full tank of gas.

For more information about the tours contact Barbara Jackson at (530) 258-2141. Sign ups will be required as inclement weather may cause tours to be canceled.

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