

# United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management California

BLM

## *Federal Lands Recreation enhancement Act* **Approved Fee Sites**



## Introduction

The Federal Land Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) was passed in the 2005 Consolidated Appropriations Act (PL 108-447) signed into law by President Bush on December 8, 2004. The 10-year Act authorizes the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to establish, modify, charge and collect recreation fees at Federal recreation lands and waters as provided for in the Act.

Many recreation activities and sites are free, including: general access; traveling through areas where no facilities or services are used; access to overlooks or scenic pullouts; undesignated parking areas without facilities; solely for parking; picnicking along roads or trails; and people under the age of 16 (Standard Amenity Fees only).

The agencies authorized to charge fees under REA are:

- National Park Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Bureau of Land Management
- Forest Service

REA benefits visitors to federal public lands by:

- Reinvesting a majority of revenue back to the site of collection;
- Providing an interagency pass program that reduces confusion;
- Providing more opportunities for public involvement in determining recreation fee sites and fees;
- Providing focused criteria and limits on areas and sites where recreation fees can be charged; and
- Providing more opportunities for cooperation with gateway communities through fee management agreements for visitor and recreation services, emergency medical services and law enforcement services.

REA identifies three fee categories for the Forest Service and BLM:

Standard Amenity Fee. Day-use facilities such as trailheads and picnic areas that meet all the following criteria:

- Provide significant recreation opportunities for outdoor recreation. In evaluating the significance of a site, considerations are made for the primary use, length of stay, overall visitation levels and impacts of use;
- Have substantial federal investments. It is important to note that provision of the six required amenities (listed below) does not mean that there is substantial federal investment. The entire scope and scale of development is evaluated.
- Are where fees can be efficiently collected; and
- Contain all the following amenities,
  - designated developed parking,

- permanent toilet facility,
- permanent trash receptacle,
- interpretive sign, exhibit, or kiosk,
- picnic tables, and
- security services.

Expanded Amenity Fee. Expanded amenity fees are those that provide direct benefits to individuals or groups. They include sites like developed campgrounds, cabin rentals, equipment rentals, group day-use or overnight sites, and highly developed boat launches and swimming sites. They also include services like hookups, dump stations, special tours, transportation systems, and reservations services.

Special Recreation Permit Fees. Special Recreation Permits are issued as a means to ensure extra measures are required for natural and cultural resource protection, the health and safety of visitors, or to allocate capacity and/or disperse recreation use. Permits may be required for places like wilderness areas, shooting ranges and specialized trail systems.

REA also allows the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to charge entrance fees.

This booklet identifies the Bureau of Land Management fee sites in California that charge Standard Amenity, Expanded Amenity, and Special Recreation Permit fees. There is only one Standard Amenity site, 35 Expanded Amenity sites, and two SRP sites. One Expanded Amenity site and one SRP site are proposed for 2007.

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## Alturas Field Office – CA 320

**One fee site is authorized; the Pit River Campground was recently re-built in 2005 with expanded recreation opportunities. Fee Sites with tent and trailer spaces, access roads, reasonable visitor protection, refuse containers, SST restroom facilities, campfire rings, and on-site campground hosts. All campsites are accessible and have picnic tables, parking barricades, and campfire grills. The new accessible Day-use area has a raft and kayak launch site, an accessible fishing area, and 5 picnic tables with free standing grills.**

### Pit River Campground



Open April 15 through November 1.

- Fee: \$8.00/night/site, group site \$12/night. Maximum Stay Limit is 14 days.
- Campground host on site.
- 7 RV/ tent sites available. 2 SST restrooms.
- No potable water, No electrical hook-ups.
- Picnic tables and campfire rings.
- All sites are first come, first serve.
- Day-use area with kayak launch site and accessible fishing pier, 5 picnic sites that include; tables and standing grills.

Elevation – 2,900 ft. Campground is located on the Pit River under large expansive pine, oak, and ash trees that have an unbelievable spring population of migratory neo-tropical birds. The Campground is one mile off of State Route 299, between Fall River Mills and Burney California. Camping is great throughout the season with plenty of opportunities for exploring, hiking, fishing, and sightseeing. World Class trout fishing is located on both Hat Creek and Fall River within 5 miles of the Campground, and a championship golf course is only 4 miles away in Fall River Mills. Lassen Volcanic National Park and Burney Falls State Park are close by. History abounds in the area; with shadows of the 1820's Hudson Bay Company Fur Brigades, John



Charles Fremont's military explorations during the 1840's, Fort Crook in the 1850's, and local museums featuring Native American and pioneer artifacts and memorabilia. Other amenities (groceries, restaurants, gas, laundry, etc.) are also available in Fall River Mills.

## **Bakersfield Field Office - CA160**

**Two fee sites are authorized; an expanded amenity Recreation Fee Site at Piedras Blancas Light Station where there is a fee charged for tours and a standard amenity fee site at North Fork of the Kaweah River where there is developed parking, toilets, trash receptacles, interpretive signs, picnic table, and security.**

### **1. Piedras Blancas Light Station**



The Piedras Blancas Light Station near Hearst Castle in San Luis Obispo County may be viewed by the public through monthly tours.

Reservations are made by contacting the National Geographic Theater, located at the Hearst Castle Visitor Center, Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4 pm at (805) 927-6811.

The tours are offered once a month at 10 am and again at 1 pm and originate at the Hearst Castle State Historic Monument Visitor Center, 750 Hearst Castle Road in San Simeon, California. Visitors are transported to the Light Station via bus from the Hearst Castle Visitor Center.

Prices for the tours are: \$15.00 for Adults, age 16 and over. Children (under the age of 16) are admitted free. In the event of "no shows" on the day of the tours, vacant seats are filled on a first come, first served basis.

## **2. North Fork of the Kaweah River**

The day-use area is mostly used by people enjoying water play in the river, picnicking, and fishing. There are three locations for parking: Cherry Falls, Advance Site, and Paradise. Trails are located from the parking areas to the river and along the river's edge.



- Fee: \$5.00/vehicle/day or \$25 for annual pass.
- Area is open April 1 through September 30.
- Designated parking, toilets, trash receptacles, interpretive signs and kiosk, picnic sites, and security

The BLM sites along North Fork Drive in the town of Three Rivers are just outside the Sequoia National Park and located about 1-1/2 hours north of Bakersfield. The area displays spectacular arrays of wildflowers during the Spring.

## **Barstow Field Office – CA680**

**Three fee sites are authorized; two are standard amenity recreation fee sites and one is a special recreation permit fee area. All three fee sites are in the California Desert Conservation Area. Owl and Afton Canyon Campgrounds are standard amenity fee sites with tent and trailer spaces, designated parking, vault toilets, trash receptacles, camp fire rings, interpretive signs, picnic tables and reasonable visitor protection. Both locations have on-site campground hosts. The third authorized fee site is the Dumont Dunes OHV Recreation Area, a special recreation permit fee area. Fees will soon be collected at a fourth site, the El Mirage OHV Recreation Area.**

### **1. Owl Canyon Campground**



Open all year long, practical season runs from Fall through Spring.

- Fee: \$6.00/night/site. Maximum Stay Limit is 14 days.
- Campground host on site.
- 30 RV/ tent sites available.
- 5 vault toilets and numerous trash receptacles.
- Limited potable water (hand pump) temporarily non-functional, no electrical hook-ups.
- Picnic tables, shade ramadas, bar-b-q and campfire rings.
- Connecting 2 mile hiking trail.
- Horses are allowed, with separate group site and 2 permanent horse corrals.
- All sites are first come, first serve.

Elevation – about 3,100 ft. Campground is located some 8 miles north of Barstow in a small canyon set in an escarpment that runs east - west across the horizon. This area is an ACEC because of spectacular exposed geology and paleontological resources. Due west, and next to the campground, is fossil canyon. The campground and canyon combine to form the heart of the Rainbow Basin Natural Area ACEC. Mud hills, colorful rock formations and striking geologic formations are spread across the landscape in a mosaic pattern. This campground has been available for public use since the 1960s. Minor capital improvements were made to the road and campground facilities in the Fall of 2006.



## **2. Afton Canyon Campground**



Open all year long, however most visitation is between fall and spring.

- Fee: \$6.00/night/site. Maximum stay limit is 14 days.
- No campground host on site this year.
- 22 RV/ tent sites available.
- 2 vault toilets, numerous trash cans.
- No electrical hook-ups.
- Limited potable water from hand pump and cistern.
- Shade ramadas, picnic tables and campfire rings.
- All sites are first come, first serve.

Elevation – about 1,400 ft. Campground is located in the Afton Canyon Natural Area ACEC, adjacent to the Mojave River. The canyon is about 37 miles northeast of Barstow and a few miles south of Interstate 15, where basic amenities are available. The Mojave River is the worlds’ largest underground river, but flows all year long on the surface through the canyon. The river supports a lush riparian area, including a large population of Big Horn Sheep and badgers. The canyon is popular with bird watchers explorers and hikers.

This is a very historic stopping point along the pre-historic Mojave Trail because water is always here. Indians used this trail for thousands of years to trade. Coastal items passed east to the Colorado River and up into the four corners region. Spanish Explorer Garces came through here in 1774, fifty two years before Jedediah Smith. The National Historic Old Spanish Trail follows the river here. Antonio Armijo is believed to have pioneered the trail through here late in 1829. This branch of the OST was later known as the Government Road. and is now designated as the Mojave trail. This route is popular with 4 x 4 touring groups and history buffs.

### **3. Dumont Dunes OHV Recreation Area**



Open to public all year long. However, because of extreme intense summer heat (typical July is in 120s) the dunes normal season is from October through April, with light use in September and May. Site is used for commercial filming all year long.

- Permit fee: \$20.00 for 1 to 7 nights/visit or \$60 annual. Maximum stay limit is 14 days.
- Campground host on site fall to spring.
- Dispersed & unlimited RV and tent sites available.
- Well maintained access road, interpretive signs and 12 vault toilets.
- No potable water, no electrical hook-ups, no trash collection.
- Regular Park Ranger and L.E. patrols.
- All sites are first come, first serve.

Elevation - 800 ft. Spectacular open area with every type of dune formation found here. The dunes are popular for motorized OHV use of all types, this is a very active, loud and dusty site. Most visitors have specialized tires and equipment for the sand. Camping is dispersed across the bench in front of the dunes on the north. There are very few other recreation activities here.

The dunes are next to the Amargosa River, determined eligible for the Wild & Scenic River System in 2002. The National Historic Old Spanish Trail passes the dunes following the river. The big and little dunes wrap around the Salt Creek ACEC on the north from the west side to the east side. The historic Tonopah and Tidewater Railroad grade forms the eastern boundary up to the river. To the north and east beyond the railroad grade lays the Kingston Range Wilderness. To the west across Highway 127 is Death Valley National Park. Closest amenities are in Baker 20 miles to the south.

#### **4. El Mirare Dry Lake OHV Recreation Area**



Open all year long.

- Fee: No fee charge at this time. Probable future fee \$5.00/day. Maximum Stay Limit is 14 days.
- No campground host on site at this time.
- Temporary visitor services building and maintenance shop on site.
- Dispersed and unlimited RV/ tent sites available.
- 10 vault toilets, paved access road and 27 mile perimeter fence.
- 4 wind socks around the lakebed.
- No potable water, No electrical hook-ups.
- Shade ramadas, picnic tables and campfire rings scheduled for development.
- All sites are first come, first serve.

Elevation - 2,800 ft. This 25,000 acre fee site is located in the heart of the Antelope and Victor Valleys, in San Bernardino County due south of Edwards AFB.

The recreation area includes a dry lakebed about 5 miles long covering 5,000 acres, plus the surrounding uplands and mountains. There is a variety of terrain and a wide range of recreation activities. This recreation area is popular for OHV use plus aircraft, landsailors, and remote controlled craft. The recreation area is also heavily used by the film industry, for research and development and a variety of educational purposes. Closest amenities are nearby in El Mirage and Adelanto(5 miles).

## **Bishop Field Office - CA170**

**Five fee sites are authorized; all are expanded amenity Recreation Fee Sites with tent and trailer spaces, access roads, reasonable visitor protection, refuse containers, toilet facilities, campfire rings or stands and on-site campground hosts. All, with exception of PV Pit have picnic tables and parking barricades at each site.**

### **1. Tuttle Creek Campground**



Open first Saturday in March through November 1st

- Fee: \$5.00/night/site. Maximum Stay Limit is 14 days.
- Long Term Visitor Area (LTVA) Permits available for this campground and are sold at two interagency visitor centers, one in Lone Pine and one in Bishop.
- Campground host on site
- 85 RV/ tent sites available. 9 pit toilets.
- No potable water, No electrical hook-ups.
- Picnic tables and campfire rings.
- Horses are not prohibited, but not encouraged.
- All sites are first come, first serve.

Elevation - 5,120 ft. Campground is shadowed by some of the most impressive peaks in the Sierra Nevada Range: Mt. Whitney, Lone Pine Peak and Mt. Williamson rise to the west of the campground. To the east is the Alabama Hills with its famous movie history. Beyond the Alabama Hills is the Owens Valley and Inyo Mountains Range. Camping is good throughout the season with plenty of opportunities for exploring, hiking, sightseeing. Closest amenities (groceries, gas) are in Lone Pine (4.5 miles).

## 2. Goodale Creek Campground



Open second week of April through November 1st.

- Fee: \$5.00/night/site. Maximum Stay Limit is 14 days.
- Long Term Visitor Area (LTVA) Permits available for this campground and are sold at two interagency visitor centers, one in Lone Pine and one in Bishop.
- Campground host on site.
- 62 RV/ tent sites available. 5 pit toilets.
- No potable water, No electrical hook-ups.
- Picnic tables and campfire rings.
- All sites are first come, first serve.

Elevation - 4,000 ft. Campground is tucked into the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Range below a volcanic rock flow. Campground looks east, out to the Inyo Mountains Range and Owens Valley. Climate is high desert: Spring and fall are ideal times for camping. Summers can be very hot and dry. Some trees and willows are scattered throughout the sites. Aberdeen, nearby, has a very small store and café. Closest amenities (grocery, gas) are south in Independence (12 miles) or north, in Big Pine (15 miles).



### **3. Horton Creek Campground**



Open third week in May through November

1st, depending on weather and migrating deer herds. Day use only rest of year.

- Fee: \$5.00/night/site. Maximum Stay Limit is 14 days.
- Campground host on site.
- 53 RV/ tent sites available. 5 pit toilets.
- No potable water, No electrical hook-ups.
- Picnic tables and campfire rings.
- All sites are first come, first serve.

Elevation - 4,975 ft. Campground is located on an alluvial fan, next to Horton Creek with an outstanding view of Mt. Tom and Wheeler Crest in the Sierra Nevada Range. Nearby is the Tungsten Hills. Wintering deer herds often graze in the early spring. Plenty of opportunities for exploring, hiking, sightseeing. Closest amenities are in Bishop, 9 miles away.

#### **4. Crowley Lake Campground**



Open last Saturday in May through November 1st.

- Fee: \$5.00/night/site. Maximum Stay Limit is 14 days.
- Long Term Visitor Area (LTVA) Permits available for this campground and are sold at two interagency visitor centers, one in Lone Pine and one in Bishop.
- Campground host on site.
- 47 RV/ tent sites available. 4 pit toilets.
- No potable water, No electrical hook-ups.
- Picnic tables and campfire rings.
- All sites are first come, first serve.

Elevation - 7,000 ft. Campground is located in the open high desert country. There are no trees and winds can often be strong. The area looks out over Long Valley and Crowley Lake, a popular fishing site. Closest amenities are north, in Mammoth Lakes (10 miles) or south at Crowley Lake community (2 miles).

#### **5. Pleasant Valley Pit Campground**



Open November 1 through mid-May. The opening of this campground coincides with the closure of the other 4 campgrounds and is designed to accommodate the thousands of winter climbers that descend upon Bishop Field Office land during the winter months.

- Fee: \$2.00 per vehicle per night. Maximum Stay Limit is 60 days.
- Campground host on site.
- 76 sites available. 1 CXT Toilet with 2 units.
- No potable water, No electrical hook-ups.
- Campfire rings.
- All sites are first come, first serve.

Elevation – 5,000 ft. Campground is located in the open high desert country in a restored borrow pit, at the edge of the Volcanic Tableland. Nearby are the prime climbing areas – Happy and Sad Boulders. There are no trees, but the campground is somewhat sheltered. The area looks out at the Eastern Sierra escarpment and the Owens Valley. Closest amenities are in Bishop, 9 miles away.



## **Eagle Lake Field Office – CA350**

Two fee sites are authorized as expanded amenity Recreation Fee Sites. One is an improved campground and one is a shuttle service for the Susanville Trailhead of the Bizz Johnson Trail. There are four donation sites with two (Rocky Point East and West) having on-site hosts during the summer season.

### **North Eagle Lake Campground**



Open mid-May to early November subject to seasonal weather.

- Fee: \$8.00/night/single site or \$11/night/multiple occupancy.
- Maximum Stay Limit is 14 days.
- Campground host on site.
- 20 RV (up to 35 feet)/ tent sites available. Vault toilets.
- Potable water, No electrical hook-ups.
- Picnic tables and campfire rings.
- Lake access.
- All sites are first come, first serve.

Directions: From Susanville travel north on Highway 139 for 30 miles. Turn west (left) on County Road A-1 and travel ½ mile. Turn North (right) into the campground.



## **Rocky Point – East / Donation Site**



This is an undeveloped campground on the east shore of Rocky Point. The site is best suited for self-contained camping. There is no potable water or trash removal available but a vault toilet is provided. There is no fee for the use of the campground but a donation is requested to assist with the routine maintenance costs. The surface in the campground is packed earth, gravel or sand. It is possible to launch small boats along the shoreline in the campground area.

From Susanville travel north on Highway 139 for 30 miles. Turn west (left) on County Road A-1 and travel approximately 5 miles. Turn south (left) on Lakeside drive in the Bucks Bay subdivision. Travel south to the Rocky Point access road. Watch for signs to Rocky Point. Follow the unimproved dirt road south along the shoreline until you reach the campground area.

## **Rocky Point – West / Donation Site**





This is a small undeveloped campground on the west shore of Rocky Point. The site is best suited for self-contained camping. There is no potable water or trash removal available but a vault toilet is provided. There is no fee for the use of the campground. The surface in the campground is packed earth, gravel or sand. It is possible to launch small boats along the shoreline in the campground area.

From Susanville travel north on Highway 139 for 30 miles. Turn west (left) on County Road A-1 and travel approximately 6 miles. Turn south (left) at the bottom of a mile long grade. The town of Spalding should be visible across the bay as you come down the grade.

### **Ramhorn Springs /Donation Site**



Ramhorn Springs is a small water source located in a high desert setting that has been utilized by travelers and ranchers for many years. The spring has been developed and a 10 unit campground has been constructed adjacent to it.

The facilities include an informational kiosk, picnic tables, fire rings, a horse corral and one vault toilet. The surface in the campground is packed earth and gravel. There is no potable water. There is trash removal. There is no fee for the use of the campground but a donation is requested to assist with the routine maintenance costs. There is not much shade in the campground, therefore the most enjoyable time to visit this campground is during the cooler months of the year. Campground is open all year, however, access is limited during wet weather.

From Susanville: Travel north on U. S. Highway 395 approximately 45 miles. The access road is approximately 2.4 miles north of the California Department of Transportation Roadside Rest Area. Turn east (right) onto BLM Road 26000. Travel approximately 2.5 miles. The campground will be adjacent to the road on your left. BLM Road 26000 is an unimproved dirt road that can become impassable as a result of wet weather. The road is passable by vehicles pulling trailers but can be rough and dusty.

## **Dodge Reservoir / Donation Site**



Dodge Reservoir, located approximately 17 miles northeast of Ravendale, California, is a 480 acre water impoundment that was constructed in 1937 by the Dodge Bros. for irrigation. The United States Government and the State of California hold the title to the land under and adjacent to the reservoir and their representative agencies, the Bureau of Land Management and the California Department of Fish and Game, respectively, manage these lands. The Dodge Ranch holds the water rights to the reservoir with a minimum pool requirement.

The reservoir, located at approximately 5,600 feet in elevation, in a high desert setting of sagebrush hills with scattered junipers has traditionally been stocked with Rainbow Trout, Lahontan Cutthroat trout and brown trout by the California Department of Fish and Game. The prime time for fishing this reservoir is spring and early summer when the water levels are the highest.

Located adjacent to the reservoir is an 11 unit campground managed by the BLM Eagle Lake Field Office. Facilities include picnic tables, fire rings, one vault toilet, and a dirt boat launch ramp. There is no potable water or trash removal. There is no fee for the use of the campground but a donation is requested to assist with the routine maintenance costs. The surface in the campground is packed earth and gravel. There is not much shade in the campground, therefore the most enjoyable time to visit is during the cooler months of the year. Campground is open all year, however, access is limited during wet weather.

From Susanville: Travel 54 miles north on Highway 395 to Ravendale, turn right on Lassen County Road 502 for 12 miles, turn right on County Road 506 for 11 miles, turn left and drive one mile to the campground. County Road 506 is an unimproved dirt road that can become impassable as a result of wet weather. The roads are passable by vehicles pulling trailers but can be rough and dusty.

## **El Centro Field Office – CA670**

**Six fee sites are authorized; One site is the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA), two are Recreation Fee Sites with tent and trailer spaces, access roads, refuse containers, toilet facilities, picnic tables, campfire rings or stands and potable water.**

**Three are Long Term Visitor Areas (LTVA) and all three LTVA's have hosts on site.**

### **1. Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA)**

The Imperial Sand Dunes are the largest mass of sand dunes in California. The dune system extends for more than 40 miles along the eastern edge of the imperial valley agricultural region in a band averaging five miles in width. It is divided into three areas. The northern most area is known as Mammoth Wash which is adjoined to the south by the North Algodones Dunes Wilderness (closed to motorized use). The largest and most heavily used area is located south of Highway 78, continuing just past I-8.



The entire Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area and its 1 mile planning area boundary is operated under a permit system, including Buttercup, Gecko Rd, Glamis, Gordons Well/Dunebuggy Flats, Mammoth Wash, Ogilby, Osborne, along both sides of the Coachella Canal and Ted Kipf Rd. One individual Special Recreation Permit is needed per primary vehicle. (A primary vehicle is any street legal vehicle used for transportation to the recreation site.) A permit is required at all times while in the [fee area](#) and may be required to exit the area.

- *Season permit* - cost \$90 and is valid from October 1 to September 30.
- *Weekly permit* - cost \$25 and is valid for seven consecutive days upon entry.

### **2. CAMPGROUNDS**

1) Lark Canyon campground is located in the McCain Valley Conservation Area in Eastern San Diego County near the town of Boulevard.

Elevation is 4000 feet and there are 15 tent/RV sites.



2) Cottonwood Campground is Located in the McCain Valley Conservation Area in Eastern San Diego County near the town of Boulevard. Elevation is 4000 feet and there are 29 tent/RV sites.



### **3. Long Term Visitor Areas (LTVA)**

1) Hot springs LTVA is located 20 miles East of East of El Centro off of Interstate 8. This LTVA is 300 acres in size and is open as an LTVA from September 15 thru April 15. Trash service is provided and there are hosts on site.

2) Tamarisk LTVA is located 30 miles East of El Centro off of highway 98. This LTVA is 10 acres in size and is open from September 15 thru April 15. Trash service is provided and there are hosts on site.

3) Pilot Knob LTVA is located 50 miles East of El Centro off of Interstate 8. This LTVA is 220 acres in size and is open as a LTVA from September 15 thru April 15. Trash service is provided and there are hosts on site.



## **Folsom Field Office – CA 180**

### **Merced River Recreation Area**

**Located along the Wild and Scenic Merced River just downstream of Yosemite National Park lies the Merced River Recreation Area. Twelve miles east of the gold rush town of Mariposa California, highway 140 reaches the Merced River and the historic settlement of Briceburg, which is the entrance to the Recreation Area. Operated by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), this area serves the Mariposa locals just as well as visitors from a far.**



**Visitors have plenty to do in the Merced River Recreation Area during every season. Springtime comes early to the Merced River Canyon and by March the wildflower season is well on its way—lasting into May. Easy access, undammed flows, and excellent whitewater boating attract rafters and kayakers during the spring runoff from April through July. It is a very popular swimming area during the hot California foothill summers, and boasts some of the clearest pools around. Gold panning and dredging has never fallen out of favor since the 1850s when this canyon had a large mining population. In autumn the crowds subside and the Merced River Recreation Area provides more solitude while still offering most of the appeal and activities as earlier in the year. By winter, true solitude can be found. The weather is usually quite warm and sunny between storms. Daytime highs in the 60's and overnight lows in the 40's are common.**

**While some activities are best in specific seasons, there are many things to do all year long. Bird watching is good throughout the area most of the year. Fishing is popular for trout and bass along the entire river. Biking along the gravel roads and trails is popular with families and experienced Mountain Bikers alike. Hiking is great anytime of the year. The Merced River Trail continues on downstream from the end of the campground River Road**

**and brings hikers or bikers to the North Fork of the Merced and beyond. The Burma Grade is another popular route to explore on foot, bike, or high-clearance automobile.**

**Facilities: The Briceburg Visitor Center is located where highway 140 meets the Merced River at Briceburg. It is open seasonally from mid-April until Labor Day in September with hours of operation as follows: Friday 1-6, Saturday and Sunday 9-6.**

**Camping is popular year-round. By June the campgrounds are full on the weekends—and remain busy all summer. The campgrounds are first come, first served with no reservations accepted. Fees are \$10 per night, self pay, eight (8) people per site. Potable water is available just downstream of the Briceburg Suspension Bridge along the paved portion of the road at the information sign. All other water should be boiled if used for drinking. No RV hookups are provided. Vehicles over 27 feet are not recommended to cross the suspension Bridge (it is a very tight turn on each side).**

**Day use areas have portable toilets, trash and recycling collection, parking and river access. Whitewater raft put-in/take-out locations are at Briceburg and 4.5 miles downstream almost to the Railroad Flat Campground.**

**General info common to all campgrounds within Merced River Recreation Area:**

- The narrow gravel access road runs along the historic Yosemite Valley Railroad grade. It is rough and has many potholes, but can easily be navigated with ordinary passenger vehicles *traveling within the 15 mile per hour speed limit*. Turn-outs are located all along the road. Loop turnarounds are provided in each of the three campgrounds.
- The narrow gravel access road runs along the historic Yosemite Valley Railroad grade. It is rough and has many potholes, but can easily be navigated with ordinary passenger vehicles *traveling within the 15 mile per hour speed limit*. Turn-outs are located all along the road. Loop turnarounds are provided in each of the three campgrounds. 76 sites available. 1 CXT Toilet with 2 units.
- Vehicles longer than 27 total feet are NOT RECOMMENDED to cross the Briceburg Suspension Bridge!
- Potable water is available just downstream of the Briceburg Suspension Bridge along the paved portion of the road at the information sign. All other water should be boiled if used for drinking.
- At least 90% of all campsites are ADA accessible\*
- Each camp site has a picnic table, metal fire ring, flat sleeping area, and site post with clip for fee stub.\*
- The campgrounds are first come, first served with no reservations accepted.
- Fees are \$10 per night, self pay in each campground, eight (8) people per site, check-out time is 2:00pm
- No RV hookups are provided.
- All campsites are within 200 feet of the River.

\* Three camp sites in Willow Placer Campground are primitive beach sites and are not ADA accessible. They do not have picnic tables.

## 1. McCabe Flat Campground



The first of three BLM campgrounds in the Merced River Recreation Area is McCabe Flat. It is located 2.3 miles west (downstream) of the Briceburg Suspension Bridge along the Wild and Scenic Merced River. McCabe Flat Campground hosts one of the biggest sandy beaches in the area. It is a designated swimming area and no dogs are allowed on the beach. (All other areas of the Merced River Recreation Area allow dogs on leash).

- Fees are \$10 per night, self pay in each campground, eight (8) people per site, check-out time is 2:00pm. Self-pay fee system.
- 8 walk-in camp sites, 3 drive-up camp sites, 2 Composting toilets, 1 Port-o-let toilet (seasonal)
- Trash collection cans, recycling collection cans.
- Main parking lot, overflow parking lot, drive-thru turn-around
- Designated swimming beach.

## 2. Willow Placer Campground



The second campground along the River Road is Willow Placer; located 3.6 miles downstream from the Briceburg Suspension Bridge. With mostly walk-in sites, this campground usually offers a quieter, family atmosphere. The main beach is not nearly as large as McCabe, but good swimming can be found a short walk down stream in the late summer.

- Fees are \$10 per night, self pay in each campground, eight (8) people per site, check-out time is 2:00pm. Self-pay fee system.
- 6 walk-in camp sites, 3 primitive beach campsites which are not ADA accessible and do not have tables, 1 drive-up (group) campsite (#15), 1 vault toilet, 1 Port-o-let toilet (seasonal)
- Trash collection cans, recycling collection cans.
- Parallel parking along River Road.

\* Three camp sites in Willow Placer Campground are primitive beach sites and are not ADA accessible. They do not have picnic tables.



### **3. Railroad Flat Campground**



At the end of the River Road, 4.5 miles from the Briceburg Suspension Bridge is Railroad Flat. Popular with gold dredgers and hikers alike, there is always interesting campfire talk in this campground. It also serves as the trailhead for the Merced River Trail. This trail is a spectacular wildflower walk in spring, has great scenery, fine fishing, and amazing swimming during other times of the year.

- Fees are \$10 per night, self pay in each campground, eight (8) people per site, check-out time is 2:00pm. Self-pay fee system.
- 3 walk-in camp sites, 6 drive-up sites, 1 vault toilet, 2 Port-o-let toilets (seasonal)
- Trash collection cans, recycling collection cans.
- Main parking lot, drive-thru turn-around.
- Trailhead for Merced River Trail.

### **4. South Yuba Campground**

The South Yuba Campground is nestled in the heart of the California's Historic Gold Country, and is located one mile from the wild and scenic South Yuba River. The landscape with its steep, pine-covered canyons transition to gentle slopes and wildflower meadows offers a rich natural history and endless recreation opportunities. All tent and RV spaces are accessible by vehicle and have parking, picnic tables, and fire ring/grills. The campground has potable water, refuse containers and SST restroom facilities.





- Open: April 15 through October 15.
- Fee: \$5.00/night/site. Maximum stay 14 days.
- 16 tent/RV sites are available first come, first serve.
- 2 SST restrooms.
- Potable water, No electrical hook-ups.
- Elevation: 2500 Ft.
- The South Yuba Recreation Area offers swimming, hiking, biking, fishing, boating (River Class: IV-V), wilderness camping, horseback riding, sightseeing and recreational gold panning. Trying their luck at getting a big nugget.
- Check out neighboring Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park. The 19<sup>th</sup> century Argonauts left plenty of hydraulic mining evidence.
- **Please Note:** River conditions vary, during spring runoff. (April – June) some swimming areas maybe unsafe. **Please use caution.**

**Direction from Nevada City:** Highway 49 to North Bloomfield Road, travel 10 miles to South Yuba Recreation Area. From the one lane bridge at Edward Crossing it is approximately 1 ½ miles on a dirt/gravel road to the South Yuba Campground.

**Alternate route for RV's:** Highway 49 to Tyler Foote Road, right on Grizzly Hill Road to the intersection of North Bloomfield Road, make a left turn, proceed through a small residential area and make a right turn into the South Yuba Campground.

## **Hollister Field Office – CA190**

**Two fee sites would be authorized October, 2007 within the Clear Creek Special Recreation Management Area (CCMA). One would be for a Standard Amenity Recreation Fee, offering developed parking, toilets, trash receptacles, interpretive signs, picnic table, and security. The other would be for a Special Recreation Permit Fee for Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) recreation use. The CCMA offers significant opportunities for outdoor recreation.**

### **Clear Creek Special Recreation Management Area**



Non-OHV Use open year-round - OHV Use open October 16th through May 31st:

- SAR Fee: \$5.00 per primary vehicle. Maximum stay is 7 days from Wednesday through Tuesday.
- SRP Fee: \$10.00 per OHV. Maximum stay is 7 days from Wednesday through Tuesday.
- Season Pass: \$80.00 (valid during the open season) per primary vehicle or per OHV and primary vehicle (valid from October 16th through May 31st).
- Youth aged 16 and under will not be charged an SRP to ride OHVs.
- Two campgrounds; 5 staging/camping areas; primitive camping is available throughout the CCMA, 9 vault toilets.
- No potable water, No electrical hook-ups
- Picnic tables
- All sites are first come, first serve

The CCMA is located within San Benito and Fresno Counties and the highest elevation is at 5,500 ft. Campgrounds are designed for groups as well as individual campsites. Camping is allowed year-round; however only Oak Flat Campground is available from May 31st through October 16th. In addition to OHV use, visitors to the area enjoy hunting, target shooting, rock

hounding, hang gliding, botanizing, and hiking activities. There are no services within the CCMA. It is located in a remote area where the closest amenities (groceries, gas) are in Hollister (50 miles); Coalinga (35 miles) and King City (30 miles).

Due to the combination of serpentine soils and conditions several rare, threatened, and endangered plants are only found here. A portion of the unique plant community is preserved in the San Benito Mountain Research Natural Area, which is also a Wilderness Study Area.

The CCMA is one of the most highly mineralized areas in California. Collectible minerals include serpentine, jadeite, cinnabar, tremolite, topazite, neptunite and Benitoite. A beautiful mineral Benitoite is extremely rare and is prized almost as much as diamonds. The CCMA is the earth's only known source of this gem. Benitoite is the states official gemstone.

## **King Range Project Office – CA338**

**Six fee sites are authorized; all are expanded amenity Recreation Fee Sites with tent spaces, access roads and parking, reasonable visitor protection, refuse containers, toilet facilities, fire grills and picnic tables. All but Nadelos Tenting Area can accommodate trailers. Half of the sites have potable water and 1 site (Mattole Beach) has special provisions for horses. A maximum of 8 persons and 2 vehicles are allowed at each site. None of the sites have electrical hookups or campsite hosts or allow Long Term Visitor Area (LTVA) permits. All campgrounds are open year-round. The maximum stay for all sites is 14 days. All sites are first come first serve except for Nadelos as described below.**

### **1. Nadelos Tenting Area**



This campground has a single parking area from which campers must walk their gear a short distance to the individual campsites.

- Universally accessible.
- Fee: \$8/night/site.
- 8 tent sites available. 2 vault toilets.



- Potable water.
- Horses and other stock prohibited.

All sites are generally first come, first serve. However, the entire 8 unit campground may be reserved (at least 30 days in advance) for a use fee of \$85/night. Group size is limited to 20-60 people.

Elevation: 1820 ft. Campground is located within a half mile of Wailaki campground in a heavily shaded old growth Douglas Fir forest next to a pleasant creek. It serves as one of the trailheads for the southern portion of the Lost Coast Trail. Easily accessible from the paved Chemise Mt. road, it is strategically located close to both the King Range National Conservation Area (BLM) and the Sinkyone Wilderness State Park (both containing portions of the Lost Coast National Recreation Trail). Short wheelchair accessible interpretive trail links Wailaki and Nadelos campgrounds. Camping is available throughout the season although it can be very wet in the winter. Outstanding opportunities nearby for hiking, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, backpacking, surfing, mountain biking, and ocean fishing, boating, and beach access.

## **2. Wailaki Campground**



- Universally accessible.
- Fee: \$8/night/site.
- 13 tent and trailer sites available. 4 vault toilets.
- Potable water.
- Horses and other stock prohibited.

Elevation 1830 ft. Campground lies in a heavily shaded old growth Douglas fir dominated forest next to a pleasant creek. Easily accessible from the paved Chemise Mt. road, it is strategically located close to both the King Range National Conservation Area (BLM) and the Sinkyone Wilderness State Park (both containing portions of the Lost Coast National Recreation Trail). Wailaki Campground serves as one of the trailheads for the southern portion of the Lost Coast Trail. Short wheelchair accessible interpretive trail links Wailaki and Nadelos campgrounds. Camping is good throughout the season although it can be very wet in the winter. Outstanding opportunities nearby for hiking, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, backpacking, surfing, mountain biking, and ocean fishing, boating, and beach access.



### 3. Tolkan Campground



- Universally accessible.
- Fee: \$8/night/site.
- 9 tent and trailer sites available. 2 vault toilets.
- No water.
- Horses and other stock prohibited.

Elevation: 1814 ft. Campground is located in an open forest at the top of a ridge along King Peak road and provides close access to three major trailheads leading into the King Range Wilderness Area. In addition, Tolkan Campground will provide trailhead access for the new 12-14 mile mountain bike trail (under construction) which skirts the campground. Camping is good year round although it can be very wet in the winter. Opportunities nearby for hiking, backpacking, wildlife viewing, sightseeing, mountain biking and ocean fishing, boating, surfing and beach access.

#### **4. Horse Mountain Campground**



- Not universally accessible.
- Fee: \$5/night/site.
- 10 tent sites available. 2 vault toilets.
- No water.
- Horses and other stock prohibited.

Elevation: 1900 ft. Horse Mountain Campground lies in a heavily wooded Douglas fir dominated forest. It is the only developed campground in the King Range National Conservation Area that has not been upgraded to Universally Accessible standards. Its older, more run-down condition, greater remoteness, and no drinking water result in this campground receiving only light use. Although not a trailhead, the campground provides close access to 3 Wilderness trailheads as well as mountain bike trail access. Camping is available year-round although it can be very wet in the winter. Opportunities nearby for hiking, backpacking, wildlife viewing, sightseeing, mountain biking, and ocean fishing, boating, surfing, and beach access.

## 5. Honeydew Creek Recreation Site



- Universally accessible.
- Fee: \$8/night/site.
- 58 tent and trailer sites available. 1 vault toilet.
- No potable water. Campground adjacent to Mattole River.
- Horses and other stock prohibited.

Elevation: 380 ft. Campground is located along Wilder Ridge road which provides primary access to the northern and central portions of the King Range National Conservation Area. It is also adjacent to the Mattole River. Campground is popular with locals and provides close access to the more remote trailheads along the Smith-Etter and Telegraph ridge roads. Camping is available year-round although it can be very wet in the winter. Opportunities nearby for hiking, backpacking, wildlife viewing, and sightseeing.

## 6. Mattole Campground



- Universally accessible.
- Fee: \$8/night/site.
- 15 tent and trailer sites available. 2 vault toilets.
- Potable water.



Two of the 15 sites developed and designated for stock use. Sites contain adequate parking for horse trailers and include a stock water trough.

Elevation: 20 ft. Mattole Campground is located on the beach at the mouth of the Mattole River. It is the most popular campground in the King Range and also serves as the northern trailhead for the Lost Coast Trail. It provides popular beach access for day use. Camping is available year-round although it can be very wet in the winter and windy at any time of year. Opportunities nearby for hiking, backpacking, equestrian and other stock use, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, fishing, and beach access.

## **Palm Springs/South Coast Field Office – CA660**

### **1. Corn Springs Campground**

The Corn Springs Campground is located deep in the heart of the Chuckwalla Mountains. A county graded road leads to this unique site, of native California fan palms. Corn Springs was a major occupation site of prehistoric Native American Indian groups. The petroglyphs at Corn Springs are on of the finest examples of rock art in the Colorado Desert. They display a wide variety of elements and cover a long time span, with the earliest petroglyphs dating as far back as 10,000 years. These Native American Indians lived in harmony with the desert eco-system, utilizing many of the native plants.



Corn Springs Campground has a ½-mile interpretive trail easily hiked in tennis shoes. Visitors participate in hiking to other destinations, sightseeing, and photography; watch able wildlife, horseback riding and picnicking. The campground meets accessibility standards.

- Fee: \$6.00 per night.
- Nine campsites.
- 2 Vault toilets.
- Potable water.
- Each site with table, free standing grills and shade ramadas.
- All sites are first come, first served.



## **2. Mule Mountains Long Term Visitor Area**

Located in the lower Colorado Desert in eastern Riverside County, the Mule Mountains Long Term Visitor Area consists of the Wiley Well and Coon Hollow campgrounds and surrounding areas. These two campgrounds provide a quiet and restful camping

There is easy 4x4-vehicle access to nearby rock hounding sites such as the famous Hauser Geode Beds. Rock collecting on public lands is permitted unless otherwise posted. Only simple hand tools are to remove any rocks, minerals, gemstones and common invertebrate fossils.



Coon Hollow Campground



Hauser Geodes/Hauser Museum

The Mule Mountains LTVA is a popular retreat for campers who winter in the desert to escape the harsh winters of the north. Situated at an elevation of approximately 800 feet, this area receives most of its precipitation from December through April, with mild winter and spring temperatures. Special Recreation Permit Required September 15 – April 15.

- Short Term and Long Term rates available.
- No potable water/no electrical hook-ups.
- Each site with table, free standing grills and shade ramadas.
- All sites are first come, first served.
- Sanitary dump station available with permit.

### **3. Midland Long Term Visitor Area**



The Midland LTVA offers the experience of primitive desert living and yet is located just eight miles outside the city of Blythe. Long Term Campers experience the mild winter climate of the Colorado Desert, as well as the ability to participate in nearby activities such as fishing and boating on the Colorado River, rock hounding at Quartzite, Arizona or attending the local spring jazz Festival. Long Term Campers must be 100% self-contained in order to utilize the area. Special Recreation Permit Required September 15 – April 15.

- Short Term and Long Term rates available.
- No potable water/no electrical hook-ups.
- Garbage pick-up.
- Pay phone.
- Sanitary dump station available with permit.

## **Redding Field Office – CA360**

**Five fee sites are authorized; four are expanded amenity Recreation Fee Sites with tent and trailer spaces, access roads, reasonable visitor protection, refuse containers, toilet facilities, campfire rings and on-site campground hosts.**

### **1. Douglas City Campground**



Open May 1 through October 30

- Fee: \$10.00 per vehicle, per night. There is a \$2 fee to use the day use area if not camping in the Douglas City campground.
- This area offers tent/trailer camping, a day use area with river and beach access.
- 20 tent/trailer campsites, (MAX. trailer length is 28 feet), group picnic area, picnic tables, telephone, beach, paved loop road, flush and vault toilets, potable water, and fire rings. Permits are required for use of group picnic areas and are available from the BLM office in Redding
- Maximum stay limit is 14 days per calendar year.

Elevation: - 1,500 feet. The Campground is located along the Trinity River and is accessed by following State Highway 299 to Steiner Flat Road, one-half mile west of Douglas City.



Vegetation is Ponderosa Pine, Douglas fir, Oaks, & Madrone. Nearest services are in Douglas City and Weaverville.

## **2. Junction City Campground**



Open May 1 through November 30

- Fee: \$10.00 per vehicle, per night.
- This area offers tent/trailer camping.
- 22 tent/trailer campsites, paved loop road, vault toilets, potable water, fire rings, and picnic tables. (MAX. trailer length is 40 feet).
- Maximum stay limit is 14 days per calendar year.

Elevation: - 1,500 feet. The Campground is within easy access of State Highway 299, 1-1/2 miles west of Junction City. Vegetation is Ponderosa Pine & Madrone. Nearest services are in Junction City and Weaverville.



### 3. Steel Bridge Campground



Open year round.

- Fee: \$10.00 per vehicle, per night.
- This area offers tent/trailer camping, a day-use area, & access to the Trinity River.
- This area offers tent/trailer camping, a day-use area, & access to the Trinity River.
- 9 camping sites with picnic tables, fire rings, day-use parking, vault toilet. No potable water. (MAX. trailer length is 20 feet).
- Maximum stay limit is 14 days per calendar year.

Elevation: - 1,700 feet. The Campground is about three miles east of Douglas City off State Highway 299 and then two miles north on Steel Bridge Road. Vegetation is Ponderosa Pine, willows, and oaks. Nearest services are in Douglas City and Weaverville.

#### 4. Reading Island Group Campsite



Open year round

- Fee: \$90.00 per night.
- This area offers a group camping experience.
- Group camping with access road, toilet, over-night parking, tent pads, campfire rings, picnic tables, trails with river access, & small craft boat access.



- Maximum stay limit is 14 days per calendar year.

The area is located northeast of Chico on State Highway 32, about 32.5 miles southeast of Forest Ranch. Vegetation is Ponderosa Pine, Douglas Fir and madrone. Nearest services are at Ball's Ferry Road near Anderson.

## **5. Forks of Butte Creek**



Open from the fourth Saturday in May through October 15

- Fee: \$5.00
- This area offers recreational gold dredging.
- Access road, toilet, over night parking, designated sites, & trail with creek access.
- Maximum stay limit is 14 consecutive days and no more than 28 days per calendar year.

The area is located northeast of Chico on State Highway 32, about 3.5 miles southeast of Forest Ranch. Vegetation is Ponderosa Pine, Douglas Fir and madrone. Nearest services are at Forest Ranch.

## Ridgecrest Field Office – CA650

### Fossil Falls Campground



The Fossil Falls campground has 11 developed campsites with picnic tables and grills. The campground has a hand operated water pump and a vault toilet restroom. The campground consists of two loop roads. On campground Loop A are four campsites suitable for larger RV's and trailers, campsites 4, 5, 6, and 8. The other seven sites offer limited access and are more suited for tents and other small camping units. No trash removal services are provided.

The fee for staying at the campground overnight is \$6.00 per site per night. The use of the area for day use purposes is free. The camping fee can be paid at the self service fee drop station located at the entrance to the campground.

Camping at Fossil Falls is permitted for up to 14 days. The use of firearms or fireworks is prohibited within the recreation area. The nearest sanitary dump station is located at Coso Rest Station 6 miles north of Fossil Falls on U.S. 395.



**Fossil Falls Campground (cont)**



**Total Fee Collections at Field Offices with REA Fee Sites**

<b>Field Office</b>	<b>Project Number</b>	<b>\$ Collected FY06</b>
Alturas	CF12	3,116.15
Bakersfield	CF09	9,388.58
Bakersfield - Piedras	CF15	10,870.00
Barstow	CF16	1,780.00
Barstow - Dumont	CF03	90,500.91
Eagle Lake	CF11	9,993.43
El Centro	CF03	68,690.25
El Centro - ISDRA	CF14	2,591,846.50
Folsom	CF01	85,701.08
Hollister	CF06	25,408.32
King Range	CF04	24,242.17
Palm Springs/South Coast	CF03	10,266.57
Redding	CF05	25,478.10
Ridgecrest	CF03	20,951.40
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2,978,233.46</b>

# BLM FIELD OFFICE BOUNDARIES



Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA)