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Wilderness Club

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Riparian forest along the north fork of the Middle Fork Tule River, Moses Roadless Area, Sequoia National Forest. Riparian areas fare best in the new plan for the California spotted owl, but roadless areas fare badly.

## Survey of grazing and fish stocking in California wilderness released

By Jim Eaton

Livestock grazing and exotic species (especially fish) in California wilderness areas are examined in a recent report from the Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security. *Non-indigenous Species in Wilderness Areas* is an overview of the extent to which these species are present in wilderness and the impacts these animals have in our "protected" wild areas.

Tom Dudley and Michael Embury conducted interviews with the managers of 63 Forest Service, National Park Service, and California State wilderness areas. They also spoke with a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) representative about the scores of new BLM wilderness areas.

Though the researchers looked at all the species that are introduced in wilderness for commercial (livestock) or recreational (hunting and fishing) purposes, they found that grazing and fish stocking were the main concerns of wilderness managers.

### Livestock grazing

Livestock grazing is no longer permitted in the national and state park wilderness areas in California. Nevertheless, managers reported that evidence remains of historic damage to streams or rangelands in these parks. Cattle trespass into Lassen Volcanic National Park is a continuing problem, and sheep invade Lava Beds National Monument.

Of California's national forest wildernesses, 34 of 50 areas are grazed. Cattle and sheep roam the South Warner, Ansel Adams, and Hoover wilderness areas, sheep graze the Granite Chief Wilderness, and the remaining wilderness areas are grazed only by cattle.

Because grazing has intense impacts on fish habitat, sophisticated monitoring programs are in place in the South Warner and Golden Trout wilderness areas. Informal monitoring is carried on in eight other wildernesses. But for 17 wilderness areas, no monitoring at all is conducted.

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## CalOwl EIS—the Option 9 for the Sierra

By Ryan Henson

The Sierra Nevada is California's largest, and certainly most popular, mountain range. As the source of most of California's fresh water, in many respects it is the key to sustaining the Golden State's agricultural and industrial economies.

The Sierra Nevada is also a vibrant, diverse assemblage of grassland, forest, alpine, and riparian ecosystems hosting a stunning variety of plants and animals. It is this diversity and scenic grandeur that inspired John Muir, Ansel Adams, and countless other conservationists to devote their lives to preserving the range.

Unfortunately, a century of logging, road construction, dam construction, and other developments are dimming the glow of Muir's "Range of Light." Today, for example, only 8 percent of Sierran old-growth forest remains, and the species dependent on this ecosystem are being pushed to the brink.

One species particularly threatened by the destruction of Sierran old-growth is the California spotted owl. In 1993, a team of scientists convened to assess the owl's decline released a study commonly known as the CASPO (for California spotted owl) report, with recommendations on how to protect the species. The CASPO report recommended preserving all trees greater than 30 inches in diameter in most forests within the range of the California spotted owl. It also recommended that 300-acre protective zones be established around owl nesting areas and that large numbers of living trees and snags be retained during logging operations. These guidelines were adopted by the Forest Service and currently are being implemented in most Sierran forests. The CASPO guidelines will remain in effect until further studies of the owl's population trends and distribution are completed and a long-term management plan for owl habitat management is prepared.

### California Owl EIS

The recently released Draft Environmental Impact Statement, *Managing California Spotted Owl Habitat in the Sierra Nevada Forests of California: An Ecosystem Approach* (familarly known as the CalOwl EIS) is the Forest Service's attempt to develop such a long-term management strategy. If approved, the plan will replace the CASPO guidelines and will apply to every Sierran national forest except the Inyo, Toiyabe, and Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (the plan also covers the Modoc National Forest, even though it is well north of the Sierra Nevada, because it hosts California owls as well).

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## Coalition news

### Monthly Report

I've been having to play the part of executive director this year. It's quite strange.

For more than a decade I've worn the title of executive director, but for half that time I was the Coalition's sole employee. A big fish in a really small pond. I worked mostly on issues, did a fair job of producing the *Wilderness Record* six times a year, and a really lousy job of membership development and fundraising.

Now in 1995, Ryan Henson works full-time on saving wildlands, Lucy Rosenau produces a high quality *Record* every month of the year, and Lora Leerskov writes grants, mails out fund appeals, and sends out renewals and thank yous promptly.

I thought that this meant that I could slip quietly into early retirement, but it hasn't worked out that way. I spend far more time than ever fundraising, but with Lora's help it's not too painful. Besides, I'm fundraising to keep this skilled and dedicated staff employed, a task I enjoy and to which others readily respond.

When the mailbox is jammed with environmental impact statements on Option 9, CASPO, SNEP, and other buzzwords, I don't despair—I just balance them atop Ryan's overflowing in-box. I pick and choose the things I want to work on, and leave everything else for him. It's not bad being the boss.

Except that in this office, the staff are all a bunch of specialists. Having no secretarial help or receptionists, the odd and mundane mail and phone calls are left for me to deal with. Inquiries about employment, salespeople, and bills are left for my response.

Unlike everyone else's tidy desks, mine resembles that of the cartoon character Shoe, with piles of paper reaching toward the sky. I usually can find things, provided that faulting hasn't jumbled the strata, but I suspect some of the ancient documents near the floor may be metamorphosing into oil.

The chore I most enjoy is keeping the Macintoshes running. We finally have all the

machines networked, not just to the printer but to each other. The fax modem hums along efficiently (thanks again, Scott!), and the scanner is starting to get more and varied uses.

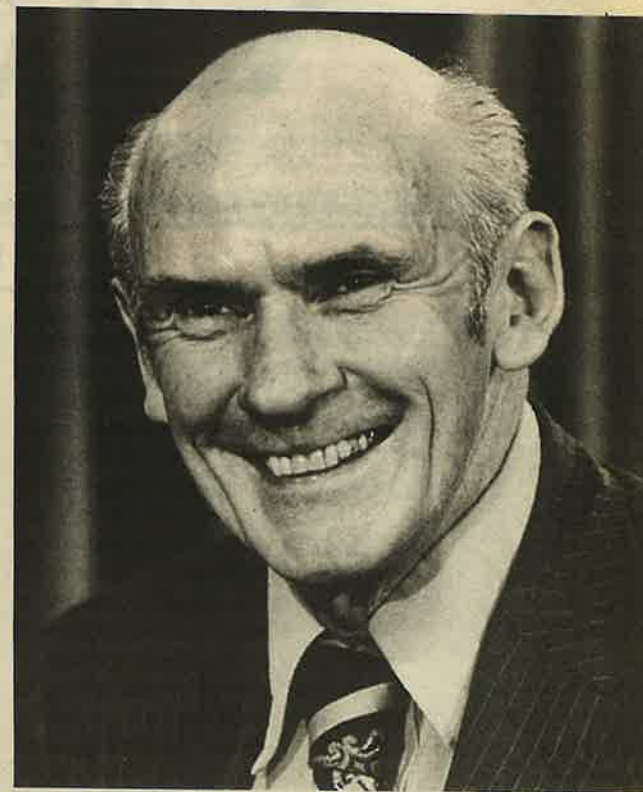
I'm the techno-junkie in the office, tweaking cables, adding utilities, and salvaging damaged disks. I also add sounds to the machines (barely tolerated and referred to as "noises" by my co-workers). When a floppy disk dies, the voice of Dr. McCoy reports to me "he's dead, Jim." The Mac LC (aka "the good Mac") brims with sounds from the movie *Aliens*, like "I may be synthetic, but I'm not stupid."

The friendliness, humor, and comradery of our staff helps a lot during these bleak times. As you can see in this issue of the *Record*, we largely are in a defensive mode protecting wild areas. Every day brings a new horror story. Those who now find themselves in charge in Washington, D.C. are trying to roll back the environmental victories of the past several decades: clean water, clean air, endangered species protection, ancient forest preservation, and wilderness designations. I'm positive the voters had no clue that wholesale slaughter of the environment was to be part of the Contract with America.

Some agency personnel are not much better. Despite their own scientists arguing for the value of roadless areas, the Forest Service frequently "forgets" about these special places—until we catch them. They insist the best way to achieve "forest health" is to cut down all the trees. And how about the audacity of the Modoc National Forest that plans to issue 41 grazing leases simultaneously while asking for our involvement, provided we don't question grazing fees, the number of cattle allowed, or the seasons of use?

We certainly have our work cut out for us. But with your support and assistance, we are up for the job.

**By Jim Eaton**



### Senator Cranston comes to Davis for CWC event

Join the California Wilderness Coalition (CWC) May 14 when we gather to honor wilderness champion Alan Cranston. During his 24 years in Congress, Senator Cranston worked on the legislation that established 126 of California's 129 federal wilderness areas.

Though Senator Cranston has retired from government and now works on other projects, his commitment to wilderness preservation remains strong enough to bring him to Davis, on Mothers Day no less, for the Coalition's annual fundraiser.

You can hear Senator Cranston speak at the Veterans Memorial Theater at 7:30 p.m. or arrive early for a patron's reception with the senator. Tickets to the main event are \$10; patrons' tickets are \$35. Tickets can be ordered from the CWC in advance and will also be sold at the door. For ticket reservations or sponsorship information, call Lora Leerskov at the CWC office, (916) 758-0380.

#### Give us a hand, get free tickets

Volunteers who can help at the reception or the theater will receive a ticket to the main event or a free CWC T-shirt (your choice). Volunteering is fun (we're a fun crowd), the food is good, and the CWC and the wilderness will thank you. If you are interested in helping out, call Lora at the number above.

#### New T-shirts debut

As if the prospect of meeting Senator Cranston weren't excitement enough, we have another inducement for Coalition members. In response to popular demand, we are re-introducing the CWC logo T-shirt, last sold in 1990, in new colors for spring. The T-shirts go on sale for the first time at the May 14 fundraiser, so bring your checkbook.

#### Last call for slides

We are still in need of slides of California wilderness areas for a special slide show in honor of Senator Cranston. If you have slides you can lend for the occasion, send them to the CWC at 2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5, Davis, CA 95616 by April 15 (an easy deadline to remember, and none of your contribution will support the Pentagon). Include a description of each slide (the name of the wilderness is adequate) and your name and address so the slides can be returned.

### Central Sierra Wilderness Watch meets in May

The Central Sierra Chapter of Wilderness Watch invites all wilderness lovers to a gathering in Sonora on Sunday, May 7, to discuss the meaning and application of the Wilderness Act of 1964 with Wilderness Watch founder Bill Worf. This is also an organizing meeting for the Central Sierra Chapter, which monitors management of the Emigrant, Carson-Iceberg, Mokelumne, Hoover, and Yosemite wildernesses.

Wilderness Watch is a national watchdog organization that monitors how wilderness areas are managed. Currently, there are two California chapters, and the May meeting is an opportunity for interested people to explore the possibility of forming more chapters.

If you have a passion for wilderness, join fellow wilderness lovers and spend a beautiful spring weekend in the Sierra Nevada foothills. The meeting takes place from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Tuolumne County Library, 480 Greenley Road, Sonora. For directions or more information, contact Peggy Dylan at P. O. Box 669, Twain Harte, CA 95383; (209) 928-4800.

### Tom Martin Roadless Area saved!

A proposal to log the Tom Martin Roadless Area near the confluence of the Scott and Klamath rivers in the Klamath National Forest has been shelved after protests by environmentalists, including the California Wilderness Coalition (see January 1995 *WR*).

The Forest Service dropped its logging plan because opponents of the timber sale insisted that the agency prepare an environmental impact statement on the effects of logging and road building in the roadless area.

The Forest Service still intends to log old-growth outside the roadless area.

### Wilderness Trivia Question

What are now the southernmost and easternmost wilderness areas in California?

Answer on page 7

# Understanding fire

## Fire behavior: the role of fuels

If you have a fireplace, you already know something about fuels: That dry wood burns more readily than wet. That small pieces burn hot and quickly; large pieces burn slower and longer. That pine cones are good fire starters. In this second installment of our series, *Understanding fire*, John Buckley explains how the type, quantity, and arrangement of fuels help determine fire behavior.

By John Buckley

Fuels are the building blocks of fire. Fuels also are the key to manipulating fire intensity, because fuel is the only ingredient of fire that we can control. What are fuels? Fuels are anything in nature that will burn.

Most fuels in the forests of the Sierra Nevada and the oak woodlands of the foothills are available for burning only during the dry weather season. For the highest mountain areas, that dry season may occur only in July, August, and perhaps September. In the foothills, fire season most years can last from March all the way until November.

Fire officials classify fuels as light, medium, or heavy. A pine needle is a light, flashy fuel with a relatively high surface-to-volume exposure to air (oxygen). Consequently, a pine needle burns hot and fast. Small trees and large brush are called medium fuels. Large standing trees or large logs, classified as heavy fuels, have relatively low surface-to-volume ratios, so they will burn much cooler and far slower than lighter fuels.

Flashy light fuels, or fine fuels, are usually the fuels that carry the fire and allow it to spread. Light fuels include pine needles, grasses, piles of oak leaves, dried ferns, bear clover, other ground covers, small twigs and branches, and other dried vegetation.

Fuels are measured by agencies as one-hour, 10-hour, 100-hour, and 1,000-hour fuels. Pine needles and grasses are one-hour fuels that can dry out in about an hour when exposed to the warmth of the sun or dry conditions. Fuels that are roughly a half inch in diameter are described as 10-hour fuels, because

there's a time lag of about 10 hours between the time that the air around them dries out and they finally dry out.

Hundred-hour fuels are a few inches in diameter (like the limb on a pine tree) and retain moisture far longer than smaller fuels. Then larger logs and other big fuels are considered 1,000-hour fuels.

In the early summertime, when 1,000-hour fuels are still wet from spring rains and winter snows, a springtime fire or prescribed burn may not consume them. (During the heat of summer, the moist inner core of large down logs provides critical moisture for fungi, salamanders, and other moisture-seeking wildlife species.) But in the fall, even after a rain or two, the 1,000-hour fuels may be moist only around their surface and may burn intensely once fire has penetrated to their dry inner core.

Some fuels are far more volatile than others:

- Chamise, a brush species found on dry, south-facing slopes in low to middle elevations, especially in the southern and western edge of the Sierra Nevada, can be one of the most explosive fuels when conditions are just right for chamise to burn.

- Bear clover, or mountain misery, is a ground cover found throughout much of the Sierra Nevada. It contains an oily residue that burns hot, often producing flames four to five feet high from a one-foot high bed of bear clover. Because it has so many sprouting roots and recovers quickly from fire, bear clover that has been burnt may grow back a thick mat of flammable vegetation within two seasons.

- Manzanita is a family of brush that can be sprouting

or non-sprouting. Manzanita burns very hot and, like bear clover, contains oils that intensify its burning. As manzanita matures (it takes 30–50 years or more), parts of the bush die back, leaving a greater and greater percentage of dead wood. Dry manzanita leaves that build up underneath the living bush also add to the flammability of manzanita.

- Gray pines, or foothill pines, are oily, sappy pines that grow at lower elevations in the range. Gray pines are liberally doused with sap that intensifies their burning. Likewise, gray pine cones are literal sap bombs that can ignite, roll downslope, and, like waxen candles, ignite new fires.

- Incense cedars are not especially volatile when mature, but when dry the young cedars, especially if they grow in thickets, are explosive, hot-burning fuels that function as "ladders" that allow the flames to move up into the canopy of the bigger trees.

- Live oaks, like cedars, burn hot when dry, especially when preheated by an approaching fire. The crackling, explosive rush of flames in live oaks often can generate flare-ups of concentrated heat in an otherwise fairly cool-burning fire.

### Snags and down logs

Dead standing trees are referred to as snags. Once they have fallen over, the snags become down logs. Since dead wood dries far faster and retains moisture for less time than green, growing wood, snags and down logs can create problems for fire fighters or managers of prescribed burns.

The biggest snags extend 150–200 feet into the air and if ignited are more likely to have the wind whip their flames and create windblown embers than fuels that are burning low to the ground. Snags can be hard or soft. Old, decomposing snags that are gradually deteriorating can be punky and easy to ignite. An ember blown in from a fire that lands on a punky snag or

down log is nearly impossible to put out without sufficient water, which is usually in short supply for fire fighters.

Snags are considered one of the worst hazards to fire fighters because limbs or broken tops can plummet suddenly out of the smoke to strike workers down below. When fire fighters are working in smoky or nighttime conditions amid the noise of chainsaws and the roar of the fire, falling snags can catch them unawares. Although not nearly the threat they have been claimed to be by lumber companies eager to log them, snags have killed fire fighters in California in the past decade.

### Arrangement

How fuels are distributed is one of the keys to fire behavior. Arrangement includes whether fuels are ground or aerial fuels, the compactness of the fuels, and their continuity.

Ground fuels are fuels like grass, stumps, logs, and roots. Aerial fuels are those up off the ground—brush and trees. Compactness determines how air circulates through the fuel. Deep duff or ground litter has no circulation, so a fire burning in such a compacted fuel smoulders. Trees with lots of needles or leaves have high circulation and little compaction, so oxygen is readily available to make a hot fire.

If fuels are spaced far apart horizontally, heat does not



Manzanita, Caples Creek Roadless Area Photo by L. Rosenau

pass directly from one burning fuel to the other. When fuels are arranged in a way that heat radiates and conducts directly from fuel to fuel, then the intensity of the fire increases.

In a brush field of chamise or manzanita, for example, bushes are so close together that they touch. When a fire burns through, the heat is spread by radiation, conduction, and convection as the fire runs up the slope through the brush. Usually, everything in that "run" of fire burns completely.

The opposite may occur on a granite-strewn ridge in the upper elevation of the mountains, where Jeffrey pines may grow amid scattered white fir trees and patches of brush and low ground covers. A fire may burn here under hot, dry summer conditions, but as the fire spreads, few places will have the continuous fuels that make fire move consistently and rapidly. Anyplace where the rock slows the fire, the fire will lose intensity. Because fuels are so patchy, the fire will remain cool or slow down. Therefore, scattered fuels slow the fire, while fuels close together increase fire intensity and the rate of spread.

In a forest, one of the keys to fire behavior is whether there is a fuel ladder. Most areas have ground fuels like pine needles or grasses that allow the fire to spread. When fires burn those ground fuels and reach the base of large conifers, fires often burn a few feet up the bark trunks, then lose heat, and snuff out. Therefore, large trees growing in the midst of only ground fuels usually survive a fire.

In the same forest, if small to medium size brush or small

trees grow underneath the larger trees, the ground fuels spread their flames to the brush or small trees. Then the burning brush and small trees spread the flames up into the medium to large trees. When there are enough fuels to carry the fire from the ground up into the canopy of the larger trees, you have a fuel ladder—and the risk that the forest canopy will burn.

A former Forest Service fire fighter and the author of *Hotshot*, John Buckley now works for the Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center in Twain Harte.

**An ember that lands on a punky snag or down log is nearly impossible to put out without sufficient water—something usually in short supply for fire fighters.**

**Because it has so many sprouting roots and recovers quickly from fire, bear clover that has been burnt may grow back a thick mat of flammable vegetation within two seasons.**

# Sierra Nevada forests

## Sierra owl plan makes Option 9 look good

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Alternative C, the agency's preferred alternative in the EIS, would preserve all trees over 40 inches in diameter throughout the range of the owl (as compared to the 30 inches recommended by the CASPO report) and protect known owl nesting areas until the year 2005, except during salvage logging operations. The plan also would establish riparian management zones around streams, lakes, wetlands, rivers, and other water sources. Ranging in width from 1,200 feet down to a mere 100 feet, these riparian management zones would be protected from conventional logging for the most part. However, the plan allows road construction, salvage logging, and other development activities in these areas under many circumstances.

Most importantly, the preferred alternative divides the eight Sierran national forests covered by the plan into three zones: a late-successional and riparian zone (occupying the lower third of all watersheds) where only salvage logging, firebreak development, and "emergency" road construction would be allowed; a mid-slope zone where, in addition to the above, clearcuts smaller than two acres and heavy thinning would be allowed; and an upper-slope/ridge zone (occupying the upper third of all watersheds) where slightly larger clearcuts, more intensive thinning, and the construction of 300- to 500-foot wide firebreaks would be allowed to "compartmentalize" watersheds in case of fire.

This three-tiered approach to forest management is driven ostensibly by a fear of fire. For example, gambling that the spotted owl can find sufficient habitat in the late-successional and riparian zone and, to a lesser extent, in the mid-slope zone where a moderate number of snags and other old-growth habitat elements will be retained, the Forest Service proposes to heavily log and thin the upper-slope/ridge zone so that it will become, in effect, a large firebreak. If approved, this proposal will affect every unprotected ridge top in the eight national forests covered by the plan.

The Forest Service contends that this three-tiered approach mimics natural Sierran vegetation patterns by creating a thick streamside zone rich in old-growth, a more open mid-slope zone, and an open ridge top with widely scattered, shade-intolerant oak and pine species predominating. The agency claims that as a result of 80 years of fire suppression, forests in the ridge top zone have become crowded with small, shade-tolerant tree species that would have been killed by fire if it had not been for human intervention. Therefore, the CalOwl EIS concludes, heavy logging and thinning is necessary to open Sierran ridge tops up again. Unfortunately, the plan proposes to create this open condition even on ridge tops that are naturally dense and heavily forested.

According to Forest Service data, the preferred alternative will allow over 19,700 acres (29 square miles) of clearcutting and over 43,000 acres (67 square miles) of selective logging in the first decade of the plan. Those figures do not include salvage logging, which last year accounted for half of all the logging conducted on the Sierran national forests covered by the draft EIS. If salvage logging is included, almost 100 additional square miles of Sierran national forest will be logged in the first 10 years following the plan's adoption. This is the price, according to the Forest Service, of restoring the upper-slope/ridge zone to its "natural" open state.

Though these numbers are staggering, the Forest Service projects a decrease in logging under the plan, as much as 60 to 64 percent below pre-CASPO levels. The Forest Service also predicts that there will be 56 percent more Sierran old-growth forest habitat in 50 years under the plan

than there is today.

### Old-growth dependent species will not be preserved

Though a reduction in logging, protection of some of the Sierra's largest trees, and increased protection for riparian areas (and lower slopes generally) is welcome news to conservationists, activists object to several potentially fatal flaws in the plan.

Sami Yassa of the Natural Resources Defense Council notes that the preferred alternative was rated as insufficient to maintain viable populations of marten, fisher, wolverine, and other small forest carnivores by 10 of the 11 scientists convened by the Forest Service to review the plan. The scientists confirmed that the only alternative capable of maintaining viable populations of these old-growth dependent species is one that sets aside large blocks of old-growth habitat in reserves.

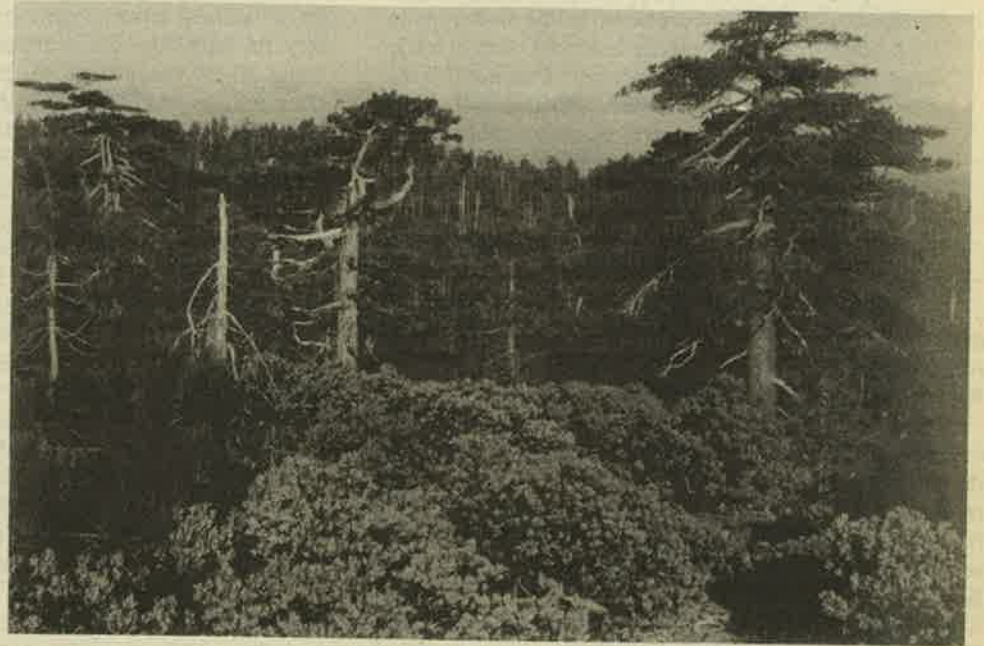
Unfortunately, the CalOwl EIS ignores this scientific consensus by maintaining only "minimal" habitat for these and other old-growth dependent species in the mid-slope zone and little, if any, habitat for these species in the upper-slope/ridge zone. Though the plan does recognize that marten and fisher in particular require ridge top corridors to travel between watersheds, it allows heavy thinning, firebreak construction, and even logging within these corridors—supposedly to reduce fire danger.

Conservationists fear that this strategy may confine spotted owls, fisher, marten, and other old-growth species to lower and, to a lesser extent, mid-slope zones. This is unfortunate since studies show that most old-growth dependent species are evenly distributed within watersheds between riparian areas, mid-slopes, and ridge tops. Under the CalOwl plan, species living on ridge tops may be considered aberrant and therefore expendable, especially since the Forest Service may eliminate protection for spotted owl nesting areas on ridge tops after 2005.

The Forest Service projects that the amount of forest suitable for spotted owl nesting, roosting, and foraging will decrease under the plan as ridge top old-growth habitat is logged. In some forests, the decline in owl habitat will be precipitous. For example, suitable spotted owl habitat will decline in the Sequoia and Plumas national forests by over 25 percent.

### Large reserves rejected

An alternative approach to preserving Sierran biological diversity advocated by conservationists and conservation biologists is the "large-block" strategy. The large-block strategy is predicated on the theory that biological diversity is best preserved by protecting large blocks of contiguous habitat in reserves and linking the reserves with habitat corridors. The large-block approach has the support of a substantial portion of the scientific community, including many of the scientists convened to assess the merits of the CalOwl EIS. Significantly, the large-block strategy forms the theoretical foundation for such ecosys-



Ridge top forests, like this one in the Stanislaus National Forest, are endangered by the CalOwl plan. Photo by Jim Eaton

tem restoration and protection plans as Option 9 (President Clinton's northwest forest plan), the Wildlands Project, and the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act.

Though it is true that the late-successional and riparian zones proposed by the CalOwl EIS may function as large blocks, they would not be physically connected. Preserving large trees over 40 inches in diameter, leaving a small number of snags and down logs in the mid-slope and upper-slope/ridge zones, and maintaining large amounts of canopy cover in the mid-slope zone will not provide migration corridors between watersheds for all species. Instead, the lower third of all watersheds will be surrounded by roads, clearcuts, firebreaks, and other disturbances that increase in size and severity from mid-slope to ridge top, effectively segregating species of wildlife that need to travel between watersheds.

### Roadless areas left unprotected

The protection of roadless areas has long been an essential element of most conservationist strategies for preserving and restoring Sierra Nevada ecosystems. However, roadless areas are completely unprotected by the Forest Service's preferred alternative in the CalOwl EIS (alternative E, on the other hand, protects roughly a third of Sierran roadless areas). These wildlands contain most of the best remaining old-growth habitat in the Sierra and comprise its only unroaded, unlogged watersheds outside of national parks and designated wilderness areas. Setting aside these areas as reserves and linking them with the best available concentrations of remaining old-growth and riparian habitat would, conservationists contend, offer a more reliable way of preserving biological diversity than the Forest Service's three-tiered approach.

Unfortunately, the CalOwl EIS, if approved, will justify the logging of ridge top roadless areas in the name of fire control even though these wildlands are known to burn less intensely than other, more developed areas. The reason for the difference is that roads increase the risk of accidental ignitions, and logging debris and plantations (dense stands of small trees planted after logging) help fires burn hotter, faster, and longer than they otherwise would. Thus, the logging and development of roadless areas will increase the danger of fire in the Sierra, not reduce it.

The Forest Service leaves little room for wild, unmanaged ecosystems in the CalOwl plan. Indeed, since these roadless wildlands do not fit easily into the plan's three-tiered management scheme and often defy the very

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## Wilderness news

### Grazing plan for Dinkey Lakes W'ness

An environmental assessment (EA) has been released analyzing the ecological impacts of authorizing cattle grazing for three years on the Dinkey grazing allotment of the Sierra National Forest. During this three-year period, evidence will be gathered to assist the Forest Service in preparing a more comprehensive environmental impact statement (EIS).

The allotment, which includes portions of the Dinkey Lakes Roadless Area and the Dinkey Lakes Wilderness, contains several important meadows, streams, lakes, and old-growth forest groves. Willow flycatchers, Lahontan cutthroat trout, California spotted owl, marten, fisher, great gray owl, northern goshawk, and Sierra Nevada red fox have been seen there. The area also is a popular destination for hiking and backpacking.

The EA reveals that grazing currently is causing erosion in several parts of the allotment and significantly damaging riparian and meadow habitats. The willow flycatcher, a sensitive species, is particularly affected by the problem because it depends on riparian shrubs and trees for nesting and foraging.

To deal with the problem until an EIS is prepared, the Forest Service proposes to issue a three-year grazing permit for 200 cow and calf pairs (a 20 percent reduction over previous levels), allow grazing from June to September every year, and increase herding and salt lick distribution to keep cattle out of sensitive areas.



Three Sisters mark the border between Dinkey Lakes Wilderness and Dinkey Lakes Roadless Area. Photo by Pete Yamagata

Despite these range management improvements, the EA fails to assess the impacts of issuing a three-year grazing permit on wilderness and roadless values, archaeological sites, water quality, recreation, and other issues the Forest Service intends to cover in the forthcoming Dinkey Allotment EIS. Conservationists feel that given the severity of the damage to meadows, riparian areas, and other sensitive habitats, as well as the high wildlife values of the area, grazing should not be allowed in the allotment until all of the negative impacts of grazing are fully analyzed and mitigated in the EIS.

#### What you can do

Write to Ray Porter, District Ranger, Sierra National  
*continued on page 6*

### Planning begins for new south Sierra wildernesses

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service soon will begin work on a joint plan for the newly designated wildernesses of the southern Sierra—Bright Star, Chimney Peak, Klavah, Owens Peak, Sacatar Trail, and the Dome Land additions. You can get the plan off to a good start by submitting your ideas about issues the agencies should address. Scoping comments will be accepted through May 8 for the draft management plan scheduled for release in June.

The joint management plan is an approach the BLM expects to use for its other clusters of wilderness areas that, like the new wildernesses of the southern Sierra, were established by the California Desert Protection Act last year. In addition to speeding up the planning process, joint management plans also have the advantage of addressing a significant portion of an ecosystem, something that rarely is accomplished with traditional individual wilderness plans.

To submit scoping comments or to request a copy of the draft plan when it is released, write to Michael Ayers, BLM, Caliente Resource Area, 3801 Pegasus Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93308-6837. For more information, call Ayers at (805) 391-6120.

## Survey

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The amount of land grazed in wilderness areas varies greatly. Only three acres of the Caribou Wilderness and 1 percent of the Ventana Wilderness is grazed, but 100 percent of the South Warner, North Fork, Carson-Iceberg, and Kaiser wilderness areas is allocated to grazing. The authors estimate that roughly a third of the acreage of forest service wilderness in the state is allotted to grazing.

In all areas currently grazed, degradation of natural ecosystems was considered to have occurred and in most areas is continuing to take place. Impacts to riparian areas are most severe, with erosion, sedimentation, and loss of vegetation and wildlife habitat cited. In 29 of 34 grazed wilderness areas, degradation was said to be continuing, although some pockets of recovery have been informally observed in most.

Seven wilderness managers expressed concern over the impacts of the recreational use of pack stock.

#### Fish Stocking

Although cattle and sheep have greatly degraded ecosystems, the authors report that the introduction of other non-native creatures has been implicated in the extinction of many native species. Non-indigenous species that have been introduced into our wildlands include bullfrogs, ptarmigan, pheasants, wild turkey, beaver, fallow deer, and European boar (feral pigs). Though some of these species cause serious problems, aquatic species seem to cause the greatest concern to wilderness managers.

Trout stocking already had occurred by the time most areas were designated as wilderness. Today, no stocking is known to occur in wilderness areas in state and national park systems. Half of the national forest wilderness areas no longer receive transplanted fish. But of the 42 wilderness areas with suitable habitat for trout, all have non-indigenous trout present today.

The major problems cited in regard to fish stocking are the loss of native wildlife through predation, competition, or disease and the loss of genetic integrity of localized endemic species through hybridization.

Monitoring programs are virtually non-existent. Only three of 23 areas subjected to fish stocking assess impacts, and the managers of these three conduct only informal documentation of their amphibian populations.

The Pacific Institute report contains detailed tables, numerous references, and forthright conclusions and recommendations. The 38-page report is available for \$3.00 from the Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security, 1204 Preservation Park Way, Oakland, CA 94612. The institute also can be reached at [pistaff@pacinst.org](mailto:pistaff@pacinst.org) or at (510) 204-9138.

## CalOwl EIS

*continued from page 4*

assumptions underlying it, activists fear that roadless areas will be logged to conform with the Forest Service's vision of what the upper elevations of the Sierra Nevada should look like.

#### CalOwl vs. Option 9

The weaknesses of the CalOwl plan are easily exposed by comparing it with Option 9, a strategy to protect old-growth habitat and healthy watersheds within the range of the northern spotted owl (a close relative of the California spotted owl). Option 9 was approved last April and currently is being implemented in the forests of the Pacific Northwest, including northwestern California.

Option 9 provides far stronger protections for the forests of northern California and the Pacific Northwest than the CalOwl plan provides for the Sierra. Option 9 protects to varying degrees 75 to 85 percent of all remaining old-growth within the range of the northern spotted owl; employs a large-block reserve and corridor strategy; provides stronger protections for streams and fisheries; considers the needs of all old-growth dependent species; makes it more difficult to log remaining unprotected old-growth groves and roadless areas; reforms grazing, mining, and recreation management; and allows far fewer loopholes for salvage logging, road construction, and other developments than the CalOwl plan. Most importantly, Option 9 is based on proven (or at least sound) scientific reasoning—not on unsupported theories about fire regimes and the condition of the landscape before European settlement. Despite the many good points of Option 9, a federal judge recently ruled that Option 9 barely complies with existing environmental law.

By contrast, the CalOwl EIS protects far less habitat than Option 9, contains far more loopholes, addresses the needs of only one species (and then only imperfectly), and employs an unproven, experimental three-tiered approach without any significant body of scientific evidence to support it. Simply put, the CalOwl EIS is markedly inferior to a plan that itself barely complies with existing environmental law. Conservationists can see no compelling reason why Sierran old-growth ecosystems deserve less protection than the forests of the Pacific Northwest.

#### What you can do

Write to Janice Gauthier, EIS Team Leader, U.S. Forest Service, 2999 Fulton Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821 by May 11 (comments must be postmarked by that date). Request that the preferred alternative in the final EIS:

- protect all roadless areas as reserves;
- take a multi-species, ecosystem approach rather than a single-species approach;
- retain the CASPO guidelines;
- employ assumptions about pre-European habitat conditions only where a substantial body of scientific evidence exists to support them;
- abandon the three-tiered approach in favor of a large-block reserve strategy that includes all roadless areas and important old-growth forest clusters;
- allow for large riparian and ridge top habitat connections between reserves; and
- consider the impacts of logging, road construction, and other development activities on fire behavior.

Ryan Henson is the California Wilderness Coalition's conservation associate.

## Wilderness news

## Devastating logging bills move through Congress

By Ryan Henson

Since the November elections, conservationists have been warning the American people that anti-environmental members of Congress are preparing to launch an all-out assault on our nation's environmental laws. That assault is now underway.

In March alone, several bills aimed at weakening the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and other major conservation statutes have been before the House and Senate, and more are proposed.

While the threats to those laws have garnered headlines, myriad bills and amendments that would allow unregulated salvage logging (the logging of supposedly unhealthy trees) in national forests and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands are being debated with less attention from the public and media. Three of the most extreme salvage logging proposals are making swift progress through Congress.

**The Taylor amendment**

The House Appropriations Recision Act (a bill designed to cut billions of dollars from programs funded by Congress last year) recently passed the House and was sent to the Senate. Attached to the bill was an amendment by Representative Charles Taylor (R-NC) requiring that logging of public lands nationwide be doubled to 3.115 billion board in fiscal year 1995 and 4.115 billion board feet in fiscal year 1996. The amendment also exempts salvage sales from environmental laws and existing court decisions, forces the sale of millions of board feet of forest at below-market values, strips citizens of their right to challenge Forest Service and BLM decisions in court, and allows logging in roadless areas, research natural areas (lands set aside for the scientific study of unique geological formations or botanical communities), and other sensitive lands not designated as wilderness or specifically protected by Congress. Most significantly, the Taylor

amendment expands the definition of salvage logging to include areas that, in the judgment of the Forest Service and BLM, may experience forest health problems in the future, even if those areas are currently healthy.

**The Gorton amendment**

Senator Slade Gorton's (R-WA) salvage logging amendment is attached to the Senate Appropriations Recision Act. The Gorton amendment would suspend environmental laws, limit judicial review, mandate the salvage logging of 1.5 billion board feet annually from the forests of the Pacific Northwest, and allow healthy trees to be salvage logged. The mandated logging would generate the same amount of wood as called for under Option 9, President Clinton's plan for the Pacific Northwest forests, but by requiring that the cut be achieved through salvage logging, the Gorton amendment effectively shifts where logging will occur. According to the Western Ancient Forest Campaign, Senator Gorton acknowledged that his amendment is a way of ensuring that there is a steady flow of logs to the timber industry until Congress can weaken the nation's environmental laws enough to allow even more unregulated logging.

The Appropriations Recision bill will be voted on by the Senate in late March or early April, and once reconciled with the House version, it will be forwarded to the White House.

Save America's Forests predicts that the bill will pass with the amendment intact.

**The Craig bill**

Although most salvage logging proposals are offered as amendments to larger bills (making them more difficult to notice, vote against, and veto), Senator Larry Craig (R-ID) took a different approach by introducing the Federal Lands Forest Health Protection and Restoration Act (S. 391). The bill requires the secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to designate areas where forest health is an "emergency" or "high risk" in Fish and Wildlife Service refuges

as well as Forest Service and BLM lands. Like the Taylor and Gorton amendments, the Craig bill redefines salvage to include areas that are currently healthy but could experience insect infestations, major fires, and other problems if they are not logged.

The bill also reduces protection for endangered species, allows agencies to log roadless areas and other sensitive lands without preparing environmental impact statements, permits agencies to log without regard to financial cost, and prohibits citizens from filing administrative appeals of an agency's salvage logging plans (activists still will be allowed to challenge salvage sales in court). Outside of "emergency" and "high risk" areas, normal regulations will apply.

To conservationists, these bills ignore the facts: that fire, insects, and disease play important roles in maintaining forest health and biological diversity; and that salvage logging has not been shown to lessen fire, insects, or disease.

Indeed, many conservationists note that by creating slash (the flammable detritus of logging) and roads, by replacing mature, fire-resistant stands of trees with highly-flammable plantations, and by disturbing ecologically sensitive areas, the salvage logging advocated in these proposals will do more harm than good. Such unregulated logging will badly degrade the water, soil, and beauty of our public lands, further imperil already threatened forest ecosystems, and cost the taxpayers millions of dollars in subsidies to the timber industry.

The most tragic result of these proposals will be the potentially catastrophic loss of roadless wildlands and old-growth forest ecosystems in our national forest and BLM lands. Even under existing environmental laws, the Forest Service and (to a far lesser extent in California) the BLM often have allowed perfectly healthy forests to be cut under the guise of salvage logging. Given the public pressure to end clearcutting and other destructive logging

practices on public lands, many conservationists charge that the Forest Service in particular is emphasizing salvage logging simply because it offers the only remaining justification for continuing the irresponsible logging practices of the past.

Unfortunately, the Forest Service and the timber industry are not alone in promoting salvage logging as a cure-all for "forest health" problems. As Save America's Forests notes, many members of Congress "have accepted the lie that forests are 'sick' and need to be cured by being cut down."

## Dinkey grazing

continued from page 5

Forest, Kings River Ranger District, 34849 Maxon Road, Sanger, CA 93657 by April 15, 1995 (letters must be postmarked by that date). Request that the Forest Service adopt alternative A (which would suspend grazing in the allotment until an EIS is completed) for the following reasons:

- Grazing impacts on riparian, wetland, and meadow habitats are so severe that grazing must be halted until adequate mitigation measures are developed;

- It is improper to authorize grazing in this allotment for any time period without first analyzing the impacts grazing may have on water quality, roadless and wilderness values, recreation, and archaeological sites; and

- Until an EIS is completed, the Forest Service will not have sufficient information to decide whether to authorize grazing in the allotment.

## Ten-year grazing plan for Klamath &amp; Siskiyou mountains

The Forest Service is seeking comment on its proposal to issue 10-year grazing permits for portions of the Trinity Alps and Marble Mountain wilderness areas and the Condrey Mountain Roadless Area in the Klamath National Forest (see chart).

The wildlands of the Klamath and Siskiyou mountains are among the most ecologically diverse regions in the world. They also form the headwaters of some of California's most important rivers, including the Scott and Klamath, and are popular with backcountry recreationists. It is critical that the Forest Service prepare adequate environmental assessments (EAs) for these allotments and develop effective mitigation measures to protect them.

**What you can do**

Write to Barbara Holder, Forest Supervisor, Klamath National Forest, 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097-9549 by April 26, 1995. Request that the EAs for these allotments consider the impacts of grazing on wildlife habitat, sensitive plants, wilderness and roadless values, archaeological sites, soil health and stability, water quality, riparian and aquatic habitat, and recreation. Also request that the EAs for these allotments fully comply with President Clinton's Northwest Forest Plan which requires that riparian and aquatic habitats be protected from overgrazing.

Allotment	Season of use	Livestock allowed	Areas of Interest
S. Fk. Saloon	July-October	65 cow-calf pairs	Trinity Alps Wilderness: Chipmunk Meadow, Saloon Creek, S. Fk. Scott River headwaters, Pacific Crest Trail (PCT)
Granite Fox	July-October	55 cow-calf pairs	Trinity Alps W'nness: PCT, Granite Lake, Doe Lake
Eagle Creek	July-October	40 cow-calf pairs	Trinity Alps Wilderness: Eagle Creek, PCT
Mill Creek	July-October	165 cow-calf pairs	Trinity Alps Wilderness: Eagle Peak, Boulder Lake, Craggy Peak, PCT
Marble Valley	July-October	50 cow-calf pairs	Marble Mountain W'nness: Box Camp Mountain, Death Valley, PCT
Red Rock Vly.	July-October	75 cow-calf pairs	Marble Mountain W'nness: Red Rock Valley, Red Rock Creek, PCT
Boulder Crk.	July-October	100 cow-calf pairs	Marble Mountain W'nness: Muse Meadow, Wright Lake, Boulder Peak
Horse Creek	April-October	91 cow-calf pairs	Condrey Mountain Roadless Area: White Mountain, PCT

## Book review

# Persuasive studies of native California

**Before the Wilderness: Environmental Management by Native Californians**  
By Thomas C. Blackburn and Kat Anderson, eds., Ballena Press, Menlo Park, 1993.

The title of this collection of 15 interesting and informative papers refers to the wilderness allegedly found by early explorers of California. The works collected here provide convincing evidence that pre-European California was anything but a wilderness: a large portion of the state was carefully managed by the native Californians who used fire and other techniques to assure productivity of plant and animal resources. As the native practices were suppressed first by the Spanish and subsequently by the horde of other immigrants, the landscape that emerged was part wild, part artificial. The suppression and ultimate loss of most native management practices, coupled with an abhorrence of fire, led to our present inability to live with practical ecosystem management in much of the state (in particular, forest, chaparral, and grassland areas—much of the state).

Native Americans used fire as a tool to keep underbrush controlled, increasing food for game and allowing easy travel; to stimulate fresh fall growth after the first rains; to enhance the yield of seed crops; to preserve meadows in densely forested areas; to stimulate desired growth from plants used for basketry; to drive animals while hunting; and for a number of other purposes. These techniques are described in detail in papers based on recollections of elderly Native Americans and the writings of anthropological researchers (in particular, the seminal paper by Lewis) and documented nicely in writings of the Spanish explorers (as summarized in an article by Timbrook, Johnson, and Earle).

The use of other management techniques is also carefully documented. A fascinating article describes the methods utilized by the Paiute of the Excelsior Mountain region east of Mono Lake to obtain straight juniper staves for making bows. The conclusions in this case are drawn almost entirely from field observations of the trees. Articles by Anderson and Ortiz focus on management practices—including clearing, pruning, tilling, and thinning, in addition to burning—used to provide materials for basketry. Elderly practitioners of the art are the primary source of information.

Another article you will find interesting, especially if you are fond of the Owens Valley, describes the extensive irrigation systems developed by the Owens Valley Paiute to cultivate plants (in particular, yellow nut grass and wild hyacinth) as food sources. Build-

ing on historical documents, including early survey records, Lawton and co-workers make a good case that agriculture independently developed here as an important practice. Several other specific studies of Native American plant and animal utilization and management practices add to the interest of *Before the Wilderness*.

The information gathered in this excellent book provides persuasive evidence that Native American management practices to a great extent controlled the ecosystems of California. The coastal areas of California, for example, only a few hundred years ago had thousands of acres of meadowy grasslands; today those areas have been overtaken by chaparral and scrub. Many of the northern chaparral areas were much more open, as was the understory of the coniferous forests. This opens an interesting dilemma for those responsible for managing large land tracts: clearly present management practices are untenable (because of their potential for devastating fires), but what should be the proper management? If, as this book indicates, California lands were intensively managed and vegetation patterns selected by humans for untold centuries, there is no "natural" target to which management may return. The choice of vegetation for much of California must then continue to be a human choice, but we do not have (and indeed to a large extent have discarded) the centuries of careful study based on subsistence and use of the natural resources to guide us in our choice. This valuable book provides documentation of a small part of that careful study.

—George M. Clark



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Ellen models our six-tone landscape shirt now available in jade and fuchsia as well as the ever-popular light blue and pale green for \$15. Jon wears a design by Bay Area cartoonist Phil Frank; it comes in beige or light gray for \$12. All shirts are 100 percent double-knit cotton. To order, use the form on the back page.

## Wilderness Trivia Answer

Jacumba (south) and Whipple Mountains (east)

from page 2

## Calendar

**April 15** COMMENTS DUE on a plan to continue grazing in the Dinkey Lakes wilderness and roadless area (article on page 5). Send to: Ray Porter, District Ranger, Sierra National Forest, Kings River Ranger District, 34849 Maxon Rd., Sanger, CA 93657.

**April 26** COMMENTS DUE on grazing plans for portions of the Trinity Alps and Marble Mountain wildernesses and Condrey Mountain Roadless Area (article on page 6). Send to: Barbara Holder, Forest Supervisor, Klamath National Forest, 1312 Fairlane Rd., Yreka, CA 96097-9549.

**April 27-30** DESERT CONFERENCE at Malheur Field Station in east central Oregon. For details, call Michael Carrigan at (503) 223-9007, ext. 206.

**May 7** WILDERNESS WATCH meeting in Sonora (article on page 2). For details, call (209) 928-4800.

**May 8** COMMENTS DUE on issues that should be addressed by the joint management plan for Bright Star, Chimney Peak, Kiavah, Owens Peak, and Sacatar Trail wildernesses and the Dome Land wilderness additions (article on page 5). Send to: Michael Ayers, BLM, Caliente Resource Area, 3801 Pegasus Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93308-6837.

**May 11** COMMENTS DUE on the environmental impact statement and management plan for the California spotted owl (article on page 1). Send to: Janice Gauthier, EIS Team Leader, U. S. Forest Service, 2999 Fulton Ave., Sacramento, CA 95821.

**May 14** CWC FUNDRAISER honoring Senator Alan Cranston, in Davis (article on page 2). For information about tickets, volunteering, or sponsorships, call the CWC office at (916) 758-0380.

**May 20-21** GRAZING WORKSHOP for activists, sponsored by the California Grazing Reform Alliance, on the east side of the Sierra. For more information, call Dano McGinn at (916) 645-3288 or 991-9570.



**California  
Wilderness  
Coalition**

### Purposes of the California Wilderness Coalition

...to promote throughout the State of California the preservation of wild lands as legally designated wilderness areas by carrying on an educational program concerning the value of wilderness and how it may best be used and preserved in the public interest, by making and encouraging scientific studies concerning wilderness, and by enlisting public interest and cooperation in protecting existing or potential wilderness areas.

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## He said it, exclamation point!

*"I oppose below-cost timber sales and uneconomic roadbuilding in our national forests, period."*

—Newt Gingrich

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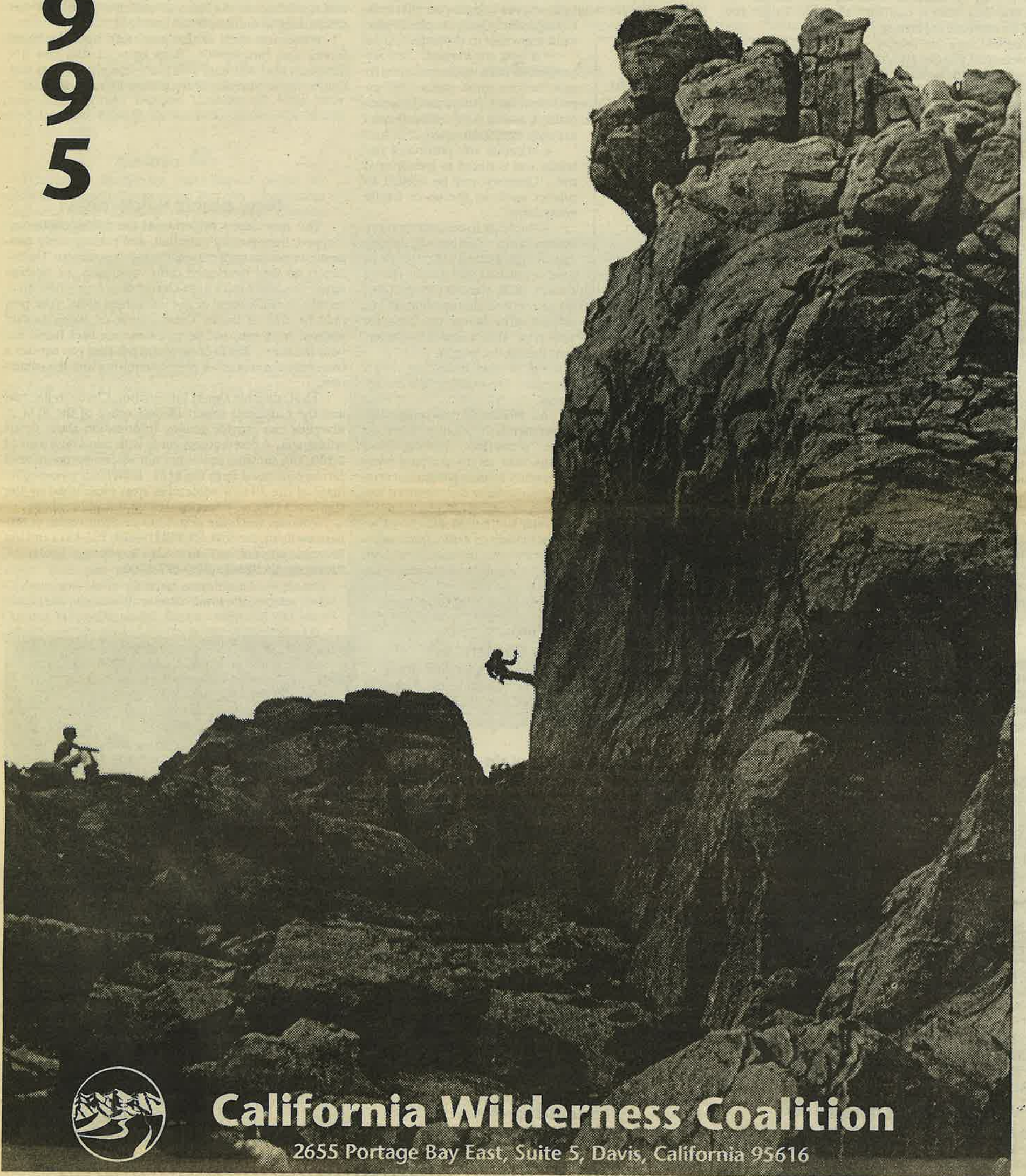
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# Wilderness Guide



**California Wilderness Coalition**

2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5, Davis, California 95616

# How to use this guide

California has a wealth of wilderness areas—so many that sometimes the most difficult part of planning a trip is narrowing down the possibilities. Whether you want to take a three-week trek or a weekend hike, planning your trip starts with the basics, and among other things, that means knowing what is and isn't allowed. To get you started, we surveyed the managers of the 134 state and federal wilderness areas you can visit in California about the regulations in effect for 1995.

Some regulations are universal and well-known. Bicycles and off-road vehicles (except wheelchairs) are prohibited from all wilderness areas, so you won't find that information listed for each entry.

What you will find is:

- Whether there's a quota on the number of people allowed into the wilderness each day. Usually, the quota is in effect only during the peak summer recreation season, but some wilderness areas have quotas year-round. The quota may be on overnight use only, or on day and overnight use. The quota may apply to the entire wilderness or to just the most popular trails.

- Whether you need a permit to enter the wilderness. Some of the most popular areas require permits for both day and overnight use. Permits are free, but there may be a charge to reserve a permit in areas that have quotas. If you are found without a permit in an area where permits are required, you can be cited.

- If there's a party size limit on how many people and pack or saddle stock can travel and camp together.

- If fires are allowed. You must have a state campfire permit, obtainable at any ranger station or park office, to have a fire on public land. Note that possession of a campfire permit does not authorize you to have a fire in an area where fires are restricted. Where the risk of wildfire is high, you may be required to have a campfire permit to use a camp stove. Campfire permits are valid anywhere in the state.

- If pets are allowed. Pets are prohibited from wilderness areas in state and national parks. Where pets are allowed, they must be under control, and in many wilderness areas dogs must be leashed.

- Whether any portion of the wilderness is closed to recreational use. Closures may be needed to protect sensitive species or fragile ecosystems.

- The office to contact for more information. Because regulations can change suddenly in response to local conditions, contact the ranger district (RD), national forest (NF), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), or park office before you leave for your trip. This is especially important during fire season.

- A symbol indicating which bioregion the wilderness is in (see map).

All wilderness managers now recommend or require "leave no trace" recreation. Among other things, that means camping away from water sources and trails, carrying weed-free feed for stock, packing out all litter, not shortcutting switchbacks, and building campfires only in existing rings or pits or, better still, not at all.

In bear country, you may want to carry your food in a bear-proof canister. Canisters come in two sizes and can be rented at Sequoia-Kings Canyon and Yosemite na-

tional parks or purchased from the manufacturer, Garcia Machine, at (209) 732-3785.

You should assume that all water sources are contaminated with giardia or other microorganisms. Either boil water for five minutes or use an approved filter. Filters, as well as guidebooks and maps, are widely available at stores specializing in outdoor recreation.

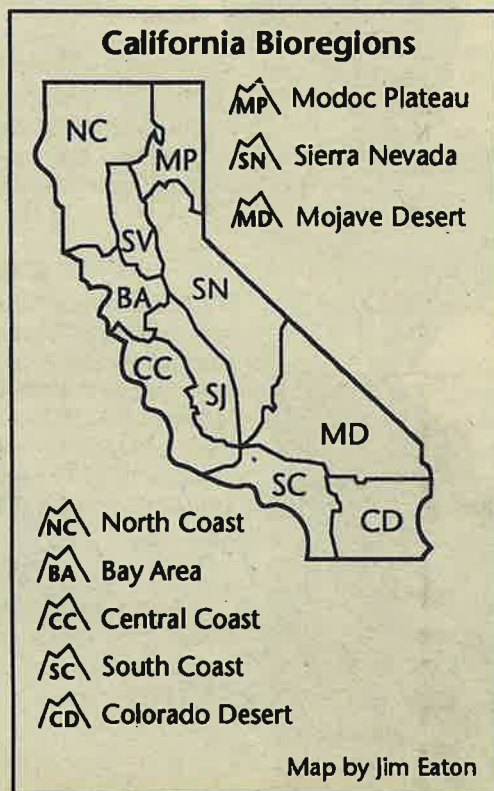
Wilderness maps can be purchased from the Forest Service and Park Service. Both agencies also have free handouts that will help you plan, and enjoy, your trip. Call, write, or visit one of the offices listed as contacts.

## New desert wilderness

The new desert wildernesses are inhospitable, unmapped, infrequently patrolled, and consequently dangerous to people unprepared for desert conditions. Do not expect to find developed trails, trailheads, or mileage signs. You will need a high-clearance or four-wheel drive vehicle to reach some of the wilderness areas. Your pets may be safer at home. Carry plenty of water, protect yourself from sun, and be sure someone back home has your itinerary. The BLM recommends that you contact a local resource area office before venturing into the wilderness.

The California Desert Information Center in Barstow and the California Desert District office of the BLM in Riverside can provide general information about desert wilderness. A desert access guide with maps (at a scale of 1:100,000) showing routes but not wilderness boundaries can be purchased from the BLM. Individual topographic maps of the 70 new wilderness areas established by the California Desert Protection Act are not yet available.

You can reach the desert information center at 831 Barstow Road, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 256-8313 and the Riverside office of the BLM at 6221 Box Springs Boulevard, Riverside, CA 92507; (909) 697-5200.



### Agua Tibia

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 8 stock Fires: no Pets: leashed Closures: no Notes: carry water; no overnight stock use; no target shooting or plinking Contact: Palomar RD, Cleveland NF, 1634 Black Canyon Road, Ramona, CA 92065; (619) 788-0250.

### Ansel Adams

Quota: overnight, late June-September 15 Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: depends on location Pets: yes Closures: some areas closed to camping or campfires Note: no target shooting or plinking Contact: Mono Lake RD, Inyo NF, P.O. Box 429, Lee Vining, CA 93541; (619) 647-3000 or Minarets RD, Sierra NF, P.O. Box 10, North Fork, CA 93643; (209) 877-2218.

### Anza-Borrego

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: no Closures: no Notes: carry water; no stock; backpackers should register at office before entering wilderness Contact: Anza-Borrego State Park, 200 Palm Canyon Dr., Borrego Springs, CA 92004; (619) 767-5311.

### Argus Range

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

### Big Maria Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 2000, North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

### Bigelow Cholla Garden

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Bighorn Mountain

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Notes: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: Big Bear RD, San Bernardino NF, P. O. Box 290, Fawnskin, CA 92333; (909) 866-3437 or BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### Black Mountain

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### Boney Mountain

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: no Closures: no Note: no overnight or stock use Contact: Point Mugu State Park, 1925 Las Virgenes Rd., Calabasas, CA 91302; (818) 880-0350.

### Bright Star

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.



Big Maria Mountains Wilderness Photo by Pete Yamagata

### Bristol Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Bucks Lake <sup>SN</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: Quincy RD, Plumas NF, 39696 Highway 70, Quincy, CA 95971; (916) 283-0555.

### Cadiz Dunes <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Caribou <sup>MP</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: Almanor RD, Lassen NF, P.O. Box 767, Chester, CA 96020; (916) 258-2141.

### Carrizo Gorge <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

### Carson-Iceberg <sup>SN</sup>

Quota: no Permit: overnight, April 1-November 30 Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Notes: no target shooting or plinking; regs may change in 1996 Contact: Calaveras RD, Stanislaus NF, P. O. Box 500, Hathaway Pines, CA 95233; (209) 795-1381 or Summit RD, Stanislaus NF, #1 Pinecrest Lake Rd., Pinecrest, CA 95364; (209) 965-3434 or Carson RD, Toiyabe NF, 1536 S. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701; (702) 882-2766.

### Castle Crags <sup>NC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: yes, but not recommended Pets: yes Closures: no Notes: climbers prohibited from placing new bolts; pets not allowed in Castle Crags State Park Contact: Mount Shasta RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, 204 West Alma Street, Mount Shasta, CA 96067; (916) 926-4511.

### Chanchelulla <sup>NC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Notes: few trails; scarce water Contact: Yolla Bolly RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, Platina, CA 96076; (916) 352-4211.

### Chemehuevi Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Chimney Peak <sup>SN</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 3801 Pegasus Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93308; (805) 391-6000.

### Chuckwalla Mountains <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Notes: carry water Contact: BLM at P. O. Box 2000, North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800 or 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

### Chumash <sup>CC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: camping restricted to designated sites Contact: Mount Pinos RD, Los Padres NF, HC1 Box 400, Frazier Park, CA 93225; (805) 245-3731.

### Cleghorn Lakes <sup>MD</sup>

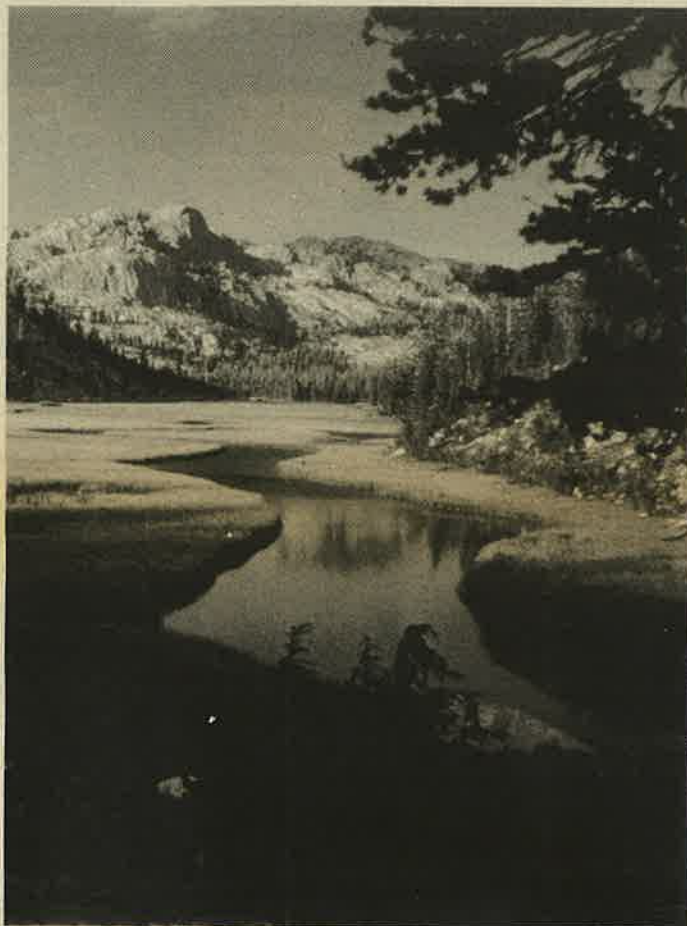
Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### Clipper Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Coso Range <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.



Emigrant Wilderness

Forest Service photo

### Coyote Mountains <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

### Cucamonga <sup>SC</sup>

Quota: depends on location Permit: day and overnight Party size: 12 people, 25 stock Fires: no Pets: leashed Closures: no Notes: stock use not advised because terrain is very steep; no shooting, prospecting, or gold panning Contact: Cajon RD, San Bernardino NF, 1209 Lytle Creek Rd., Lytle Creek, CA 92358; (909) 887-2576 or Mt. Baldy RD, Angeles NF, 110 North Wabash Ave., Glendora, CA 91741; (818) 335-1251.

### Cuyamaca Rancho <sup>SC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: depends on campsite Fires: no Pets: no Closures: no Notes: camping restricted to designated sites; carry water in dry season; aggressive mountain lions Contact: Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, 12551 Highway 79, Descanso, CA 91916; (619) 765-0755.

### Darwin Falls <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

### Dead Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Death Valley <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: no Closures: no Notes: carry water; avoid low desert in hot weather; regs may change in 1995 Contact: Superintendent, Death Valley National Park, Death Valley, CA 92328; (619) 786-2331.

### Desolation <sup>SN</sup>

Quota: overnight, June 15-Labor Day Permit: day and overnight, year-round Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: no Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: regs may change in 1996 Contact: Eldorado Visitor Center, Eldorado NF, 3070 Camino Heights Dr., Camino, CA 95709; (916) 644-6048 or Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, 870 Emerald Bay Road, Suite 1, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; (916) 573-2600.

### Dick Smith <sup>CC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: yes, in fire season Contact: Santa Barbara RD, Los Padres NF, Los Prietos Station, Star Route Paradise Rd., Santa Barbara, CA 93105; (805) 967-3481 or Mount Pinos RD, Los Padres NF, HC1 Box 400, Frazier Park, CA 93225; (805) 245-3731.

### Dinkey Lakes <sup>SN</sup>

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Notes: no target shooting or plinking; after May 1995, contact Pineridge RD at P. O. Box 559, Prather, CA 93651; (209) 855-5360 Contact: Pineridge RD, Sierra NF, P. O. Box 300, Shaver Lake, CA 93664; (209) 841-3311 or Kings River RD, Sierra NF, 34849 Maxon Road, Sanger, CA 93657; (209) 855-8321.

### Dome Land <sup>SN</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 15 people, 25 stock in Sequoia NF portion; no limit in BLM additions Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: Cannell Meadow RD, Sequoia NF, P. O. Box 6, Kernville, CA 93238; (619) 376-3781 or BLM, 4301 Rosedale Highway, Bakersfield, CA 93308; (805) 391-6000.

### El Paso Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

### Emigrant <sup>SN</sup>

Quota: no Permit: overnight, April 1-November 30 Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: below 9,000 feet; no fires at Emigrant Lake Pets: yes Closures: some lakes closed to stock Notes: no target shooting or plinking; regs may change in 1996 Contact: Summit RD, Stanislaus NF, #1 Pinecrest Lake Road, Pinecrest, CA 95364; (209) 965-3434.

### Fish Creek Mountains <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

### Funeral Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### Garcia

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 15 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Santa Lucia RD, Los Padres NF, 1616 North Carlotti Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93454; (805) 925-9538.

### Golden Trout

Quota: overnight, for some trails Permit: overnight, for some trails Party size: 15 people, 15-25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Mount Whitney RD, Inyo NF, P. O. Box 8, Lone Pine, CA 93545; (619) 876-6200 or Cannell Meadow RD, Sequoia NF, P. O. Box 6, Kernville, CA 93238; (619) 376-3781.

### Golden Valley

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

### Granite Chief

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 12 people, 8 stock (overnight) or 12 stock (day use) Fires: yes Pets: yes, but restricted from fawning habitat May 15-July 15 Closures: Five Lakes Basin closed to camping, fires, and stock; Little Needle and Mildred lakes closed to stock Contact: Truckee RD, Tahoe NF, 10342 Highway 89 North, Truckee, CA 96161; (916) 587-3558 or Foresthill RD, Tahoe NF, 22830 Auburn Foresthill Rd., Foresthill, CA 95631; (916) 367-2224.

### Grass Valley

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

### Hauser

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 8 stock Fires: no Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: Descanso RD, Cleveland NF, 3348 Alpine Blvd., Alpine, CA 91901; (619) 445-6235.

### Havasu

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: yes Closures: no camping Notes: carry water; watch out for rattlesnakes Contact: Havasu National Wildlife Refuge, P. O. Box 3009, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3853.

### Henry W. Coe

Quota: overnight Permit: overnight Party size: 8 people, no limit on stock Fires: no Pets: no Closures: possible in fire season Notes: commonly known as Orestimba Wilderness; carry water in summer Contact: Henry W. Coe State Park, P. O. Box 846, Morgan Hill, CA 95038; (408) 779-2728.

### Hollow Hills

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### Hoover

Quota: late June-September 15 Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock except in Sawtooth Zone and Saddlebag-McCabe Lake route Fires: yes, except in Sawtooth Zone and TwentyLakes Basin Pets: yes Closures: Hall Research Natural Area and some lakes closed to camping Notes: no target shooting or plinking; computer bulletin board for Toiyabe recreation, (619) 932-1234 Contact: Bridgeport RD, Toiyabe NF, P. O. Box 595, Bridgeport, CA 93517; (619) 932-7070 or Mono Lake RD, Inyo NF, P. O. Box 429, Lee Vining, CA 93541; (619) 647-3000.



Granite Chief Wilderness Photo by Tom Jopson

### Ibex

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### Imperial Refuge

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: yes Closures: no camping Note: watch out for abandoned mines and mine shafts Contact: Imperial National Wildlife Refuge, Martinez Lake, P. O. Box 72217, Yuma, AZ 85365; (520) 783-3371.

### Indian Pass

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

### Inyo Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: Inyo NF, 873 North Main St., Bishop, CA 93514; (619) 873-2400 or BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

### Ishi

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Almanor RD, Lassen NF, P.O. Box 767, Chester, CA 96020; (916) 258-2141.

### Jacumba

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

### Jennie Lakes

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: leashed Closures: no Contact: Hume Lake RD, Sequoia NF, 35860 E. Kings Canyon Rd., Dunlap, CA 93621; (209) 338-2251.

### John Muir

Quota: overnight Permit: overnight Party size: depends on location Fires: depends on location Pets: yes, except in bighorn habitat Closures: stock excluded from Mt. Whitney; no camping at Golden Trout Lake Notes: no target shooting or plinking; after May 1995, contact Pineridge RD at P. O. Box 559, Prather, CA 93651; (209) 855-5360 Contact: Pineridge RD, Sierra NF, P. O. Box 300, Shaver Lake, CA 93664; (209) 841-3311 or Mount Whitney RD, Inyo NF, P. O. Box 8, Lone Pine, CA 93545; (619) 876-6200.

### Joshua Tree

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: no Closures: some areas closed to camping Notes: carry water; regs may change in 1996; camp one mile from roads, 500 feet from trails, and one-quarter mile from water Contact: Visitor Center, Joshua Tree National Park, 74485 National Park Dr., Twentynine Palms, CA 92277; (619) 367-7511.

### Kaiser

Quota: overnight Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Notes: no target shooting or plinking; after May 1995, contact Pineridge RD at P. O. Box 559, Prather, CA 93651; (209) 855-5360 Contact: Pineridge RD, Sierra NF, P. O. Box 300, Shaver Lake, CA 93664; (209) 841-3311.

### Kelso Dunes

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Kiavah

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: Cannell Meadow RD, Sequoia NF, P. O. Box 6, Kernville, CA 93238; (619) 376-3781 or BLM, 3801 Pegasus Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93308; (805) 391-6000.

### Kingston Range

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM at 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700 or P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Lassen

Quota: no Permit: overnight and stock use Party size: 10 people (overnight), 15 stock (day) Fires: no Pets: no Closures: some areas closed to camping or stock Note: no overnight stock use Contact: Lassen Volcanic National Park, P. O. Box 100, Mineral, CA 96063; (916) 595-4444.

### Lava Beds

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 4 riders; 4 stock Fires: no Pets: no Closures: caves closed to camping Notes: carry water; no open stoves allowed Contact: Lava Beds National Monument, P. O. Box 867, Tulelake, CA 96134; (916) 667-2282.

### Little Chuckwalla

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 2000, North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

### Little Picacho

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

### Machesna Mountain

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 15 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: smoking restricted Contact: Santa Lucia RD, Los Padres NF, 1616 Carlotti Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93454; (805) 925-9538.

### Malpais Mesa <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

### Manly Peak <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

### Marble Mountain <sup>NC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes, but not recommended Closures: no Note: large bear population Contact: Happy Camp RD, Klamath NF, P. O. Box 377, Happy Camp, CA 96039; (916) 493-2243 or Salmon River RD, Klamath NF, P. O. Box 280, Etna, CA 96027; (916) 467-5757 or Scott River RD, Klamath NF, 11263 Hwy 3, Fort Jones, CA 96032; (916) 468-5351 or Ukonom RD, Klamath NF, P. O. Drawer 410, Orleans, CA 95556; (916) 627-3291.

### Matilija <sup>CC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water in summer Contact: Ojai RD, Los Padres NF, 1190 East Ojai Ave., Ojai, CA 93023; (805) 646-4348.

### Mecca Hills <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 2000, North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

### Mesquite <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Mojave <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Notes: carry water; regs may change in 1996 Contact: Mojave National Preserve, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8726.

### Mokelumne <sup>SN</sup>

Quota: no Permit: overnight, April 1-November 30 Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes, except in Carson Pass Restricted Area Pets: leashed Closures: lower Mokelumne Canyon Contact: Amador RD, Eldorado NF, 26820 Silver Drive & Hwy. 88, Pioneer, CA 95666; (209) 295-4251 or Eldorado Visitor Center, 3070 Camino Heights Dr., Camino, CA 95709; (916) 644-6048 or Calaveras RD, Stanislaus NF, P. O. Box 500, Hathaway Pines, CA 95233; (209) 795-1381.

### Monarch <sup>SN</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Hume Lake RD, Sequoia NF, 35860 E. Kings Canyon Rd., Dunlap, CA 93621; (209) 338-2251.

### Mount San Jacinto <sup>SC</sup>

Quota: overnight Permit: day and overnight Party size: 15 people, no limit on stock Fires: no Pets: no Closures: Hidden Lake closed to stock Notes: carry water; no smoking on trails Contact: Mt. San Jacinto State Park, P. O. Box 308, Idyllwild, CA 92549; (714) 659-2607.

### Mount Shasta <sup>MP</sup>

Quota: no Permit: day and overnight Party size: 10 people, 10 stock Fires: no Pets: no Closures: no Notes: no overnight stock use; regs for Lake Helen may change this year; no target shooting or plinking; check for current status of human waste pack-out program Contact: Mount Shasta RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, 204 West Alma Street, Mount Shasta, CA 96067; (916) 926-4511.

### Newberry Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### Nopah Range <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### North Algodones Dunes <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.



Phillip Burton Wilderness Photo by Phil Farrell

### North Fork <sup>NC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Mad River RD, Six Rivers NF, Star Route, Box 300, Bridgeville, CA 95526; (707) 574-6233.

### North Mesquite <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Old Woman Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Orocopia Mountains <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 2000, North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

### Owens Peak <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM at 300 South Richmond Dr., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400 or 3801 Pegasus Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93308; (805) 391-6000.

### Pahrump Valley <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### Palen/McCoy <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 2000, North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

### Palo Verde <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

### Phillip Burton <sup>BA</sup>

Quota: overnight Permit: overnight Party size: depends on campsite; 8 stock overnight; no limit on day use Fires: only below tide line with driftwood Pets: no Closures: Drakes Estero closed to watersports in seal pupping season Note: camping allowed only in designated sites Contact: Point Reyes National Seashore, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956; (415) 663-1092.

### Picacho Peak <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

### Pine Creek <sup>SC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 8 stock Fires: no Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: Descanso RD, Cleveland NF, 3348 Alpine Blvd., Alpine, CA 91901; (619) 445-6235.

### Pinnacles <sup>CC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: no Closures: climbing banned February-June near raptor nesting sites Notes: no camping or stock use; no smoking on trails during fire season; regs may change in 1995 Contact: Pinnacles National Monument, 5000 Highway 146, Paicines, CA 95043; (408) 389-4485.

### Piper Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

### Piute Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Red Buttes <sup>NC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 8 people, 12 stock Fires: yes Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: carry water in summer Contact: Rogue River NF, P. O. Box 520, Medford, OR 97501; (503) 858-2200 or Applegate RD, 6941 Upper Applegate Rd., Jacksonville, OR 97530; (503) 899-1812.

### Resting Spring Range <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### Rice Valley <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 2000, North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

### Riverside Mountains <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 2000, North Palm Springs, CA 92258; (619) 251-4800.

### Rodman Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### Russian <sup>NC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 20-25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: Taylor Lake is wheelchair-accessible with an able partner Contact: Salmon River RD, Klamath NF, P.O. Box 280, Etna, CA 96027; (916) 467-5757 or Scott River RD, Klamath NF, 11263 South Highway 3, Fort Jones, CA 96032; (916) 468-5351.

### Sacatar Trail <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM at 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400 or 3801 Pegasus Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93308; (805) 391-6000.

### Saddle Peak Hills <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### San Gabriel <sup>SC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Notes: terrain not amenable to stock use; no shooting, prospecting, or gold panning; regs may change in 1996 Contact: Mt. Baldy RD, Angeles NF, 110 North Wabash Ave., Glendora, CA 91764; (818) 335-1251.

### San Gorgonio <sup>SC</sup>

Quota: day and overnight Permit: day and overnight Party size: 15 people, 15 stock Fires: depends on location Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: regs may change in 1995 Contact: San Gorgonio RD, San Bernardino NF, 34701 Mill Creek Road, Mentone, CA 92359; (909) 794-1123.

### San Jacinto <sup>SC</sup>

Quota: Devil's Slide Trail (day) and overnight Permit: day and overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: only at designated sites Pets: leashed and only in NF portion of wilderness Closures: no Notes: no grazing of stock; regs may change in 1995 Contact: Idyllwild Ranger Station, San Bernardino NF, P. O. Box 518, Idyllwild, CA 92549; (909) 659-2117.

### San Mateo Canyon <sup>SC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 8 stock Fires: no Pets: leashed Closures: no Contact: Trabuco RD, Cleveland NF, 1147 E. Sixth St., Corona, CA 91719; (909) 736-1811.

### San Rafael <sup>CC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 15 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: condor sanctuary and one archaeological site; more closures possible in fire season Note: campers encouraged to use designated campsites Contact: Santa Lucia RD, Los Padres NF, 1616 Carlotti Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93454; (805) 925-9538.

### Santa Lucia <sup>CC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 15 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: campers encouraged to use designated campsites; smoking restricted Contact: Santa Lucia RD, Los Padres NF, 1616 Carlotti Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93454; (805) 925-9538.

### Santa Rosa <sup>SC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: only at designated sites Pets: leashed Closures: no Notes: no grazing of stock; regs may change in 1995 Contact: Idyllwild Ranger Station, San Bernardino NF, P. O. Box 518, Idyllwild, CA 92549; (909) 659-2117.

### Sawtooth Mountains <sup>CD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 1661 South Fourth St., El Centro, CA 92243; (619) 337-4400.

### Sequoia-Kings Canyon <sup>SN</sup>

Quota: yes Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: depends on location Pets: no Closures: some lakes closed to camping Note: park publishes Backcountry Basics, a free trip-planning guide Contact: Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, Wilderness Permit Office, Three Rivers, CA 93271; (209) 565-3708 for permits or (209) 565-3761.



Snow Mountain Wilderness Photo by Jim Eaton

### Sespe <sup>CC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: Sespe Condor Sanctuary Note: carry water in summer Contact: Ojai RD, Los Padres NF, 1190 East Ojai Ave., Ojai, CA 93023; (805) 646-4348 or Mount Pinos RD, Los Padres NF, HC1 Box 400, Frazier Park, CA 93225; (805) 245-3731.

### Sheep Mountain <sup>SC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: only for East Fork Trailhead Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Notes: terrain not amenable to stock use; no shooting, prospecting, or gold panning; regs may change in 1996 Contact: Mt. Baldy RD, Angeles NF, 110 North Wabash Ave., Glendora, CA 91741; (818) 335-1251.

### Sheephole Valley <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Silver Peak <sup>CC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Monterey RD, Los Padres NF, 406 South Mildred, King City, CA 93930; (408) 385-5434.

### Siskiyou <sup>NC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonal restrictions possible Pets: yes Closures: no Note: terrain not amenable to stock use Contact: Happy Camp RD, Klamath NF, P. O. Box 377, Happy Camp, CA 96039; (916) 493-2243 or Gasquet RD, Six Rivers NF, P. O. Box 228, Gasquet, CA 95543; (707) 457-3131 or Orleans RD, Six Rivers NF, Drawer B, Orleans, CA 95556; (916) 627-3291.

### Snow Mountain <sup>NC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: leashed Closures: no Note: no camping on private lands within wilderness Contact: Stonyford RD, Mendocino NF, 5080 Lodoga-Stonyford Road, Stonyford, CA 95979; (916) 963-3128 or Upper Lake RD, Mendocino NF, P. O. Box 96, Upper Lake, CA 95485; (707) 275-2361.

### South Nopah Range <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 150 Coolwater Lane, Barstow, CA 92311; (619) 255-8700.

### South Sierra <sup>SN</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 15 people, 25 stock Fires: depends on location Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Mt. Whitney RD, Inyo NF, P. O. Box 8, Lone Pine, CA 93545; (619) 876-6200 or Cannell Meadow RD, Sequoia NF, P. O. Box 6, Kernville, CA 93238; (619) 376-3781.

### South Warner <sup>MP</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Warner Mountain RD, Modoc NF, P. O. Box 220, Cedarville, CA 96104; (916) 279-6116.

### Stateline <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Stepladder Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Surprise Canyon <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

### Sylvania Mountains <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, 300 South Richmond Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555; (619) 384-5400.

### Thousand Lakes <sup>NC</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: yes Pets: leashed Closures: no Contact: Hat Creek RD, Lassen NF, P.O. Box 220, Fall River Mills, CA 96028; (916) 336-5521.

### Trilobite <sup>MD</sup>

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Trinity Alps

Quota: no Permit: day and overnight Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Notes: bears frequent trailhead parking lots; regs may change in 1995 Contact: Big Bar RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, Star Route 1, Box 10, Big Bar, CA 96010; (916) 623-6106 or Weaverville RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, P. O. Box 1190, Weaverville, CA 96093; (916) 623-2121.

### Turtle Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Ventana

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 25 stock Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Contact: Monterey RD, Los Padres NF, 406 South Mildred, King City, CA 93930; (408) 385-5434.

### West Waddell

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: no Pets: no Closures: no Note: trail brochure available for \$1.25 from Mountain Park Foundation, 525 North Big Trees Park Rd., Felton, CA 95018 Contact: Big Basin Redwoods State Park, 21600 Big Basin Way, Boulder Creek, CA 95006; (408) 338-6132.

### Whipple Mountains

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: no limit Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: BLM, P. O. Box 888, Needles, CA 92363; (619) 326-3896.

### Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel

Quota: no Permit: no Party size: 25 people, 15-25 stock (depends on location) Fires: seasonally restricted Pets: yes Closures: no Note: carry water Contact: Covelo RD, Mendocino NF, 78150 Covelo Road, Covelo, CA 95428; (707) 983-6118 or Corning RD, Mendocino NF, 1120 Solano St., Corning, CA 96021; (916) 824-5196 or Yolla Bolly RD, Shasta-Trinity NF, Platina, CA 96076; (916) 352-4211 or Mad River RD, Six Rivers NF, Star Route, Box 300, Bridgeville, CA 95526; (707) 574-6233.

### Yosemite

Quota: yes Permit: overnight Party size: 15 people, 25 stock on trails; 8 people, no stock cross-country Fires: only in established sites below 9,600 feet Pets: no Closures: no Notes: bear-resistant food canisters strongly recommended; permit reservations now available only from Yosemite Association for \$3 fee Contact: Wilderness Office, P. O. Box 577, Yosemite National Park, Yosemite, CA 95389; (209) 372-0285 (general information) or Permit Reservations, Wilderness Center, P. O. Box 545, Yosemite, CA 95389; (209) 372-0310.



Trinity Alps Wilderness

Photo by Jim Eaton



## California Wilderness Coalition

### What is the California Wilderness Coalition?

The California Wilderness Coalition is an alliance of individuals, businesses, and more than 70 environmental groups committed to wilderness preservation. By joining together in a coalition, small groups like Friends of Plumas Wilderness can call on wilderness lovers around the state when local wildlands are threatened, and national organizations like The Wilderness Society can call on the perspective and experience of grassroots activists. For 19 years, the Coalition has been a unified voice on behalf of the state's wildlands.

### What do we do?

The California Wilderness Coalition protects wilderness by campaigning for new wilderness areas, monitoring how existing wilderness is managed, and defending threatened wildlands until they too can be designated wilderness. Though California presently has 65 wilderness areas, most of the state's wildlands are still at risk of being developed, logged, or polluted. And California needs all the wilderness it can get: the state's biological diversity is fast disappearing as habitat is destroyed.

So we support new laws, like the California Desert Protection Act that recently designated large tracts of our fragile desert as national parks and wilderness areas. And we defend good laws, like the Endangered Species Act, from being compromised.

We also work to persuade the agencies that manage wilderness and wildlands in California—the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and Fish and Wildlife Service—to better protect the areas in their care. We do that by participating in the development of wilderness management plans and by monitoring their implementation. When all else fails, we go to court.

None of these goals is possible without the support of Californians. So we also publish a monthly newspaper about California's rich heritage of wilderness and the many threats that will diminish that heritage if our vigilance falters. The Wilderness Record and other CWC publications are designed to help Californians help wilderness.


### How to reach us

2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5, Davis, CA 95616  
(916) 758-0380

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The Wilderness Guide is published each April by the California Wilderness Coalition as a service to our members and other recreationists. We do our best to ensure accuracy, but conditions and regulations may change unexpectedly. For more copies of the Wilderness Guide, contact the Coalition at 2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5, Davis, CA 95616; (916) 758-0380.

Cover photo: Climbers at Walker Pass,  
by Rose Certini

 Printed on recycled paper

## Join the California Wilderness Coalition

- Yes! I wish to become a member of the California Wilderness Coalition. Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for first-year membership dues.  
 Here is a special contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help the Coalition's work.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

### Annual Dues: †

Individual	\$ 20.00
Low-income Individual	\$ 10.00
Sustaining Individual	\$ 35.00
Benefactor	\$ 100.00
Patron	\$ 500.00
Non-profit Organization	\$ 30.00
Business Sponsor	\$ 50.00

† tax deductible

Mail to:

California Wilderness Coalition  
2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5  
Davis, California 95616

## Sample the Wilderness Record

- Send me a free copy of the Wilderness Record to sample.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

California Wilderness Coalition  
2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5  
Davis, California 95616

# Wilderness Questions & Answers

## What should I do if I come face-to-face with a bear?

The answer depends on where you are. The only bears in California are black bears, so we'll restrict our answer to them. In grizzly country, you will need different advice.

Even within California, however, the answer depends on where you are. The bears of Yosemite and Sequoia-Kings Canyon national parks have learned that people carry food. Park officials say, "be aggressive from a safe distance" if a bear approaches your camp: bang pots, yell, throw stones.

To minimize the likelihood of losing your food to bears, park officials recommend that you carry your food in a bear-resistant canister. These are available for rent in Yosemite and for sale from the manufacturer, Garcia Machine, at (209) 732-3785.

Park bears sometimes engage in "bluff charging" to try to get people to drop their packs. Bob Stafford of the Department of Fish and Game says there are two reasons you should never drop your pack when a bear charges. First, you don't want to reward this behavior, and second, if a bear does attack you (and this is very unlikely in California), you should lie face down on the ground and let your pack bear the brunt of the bruin's attack.

Outside these parks, bears tend to avoid people. Stafford says if you see a bear in the backcountry, don't run because you cannot outrun it and your running may incite the bear. Move away slowly. If you unexpectedly encounter a bear up close, Stafford says stop, then move off without turning your back and without making direct eye contact, which may be interpreted by the bear as a challenge.

It is safe to observe bears from a respectful distance, but never get between a sow and her cubs.

Stafford estimates there are 17,000-24,000 bears in California. Ordinary sightings do not need to be reported, but any incidents of aggression by bears should be reported to an authority.

## You said ordinary bear sightings don't need to be reported. What wildlife sightings should be reported?

The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) is always interested in sightings of threatened or endangered wildlife species. The agency is especially interested in sightings of wolverine or Sierra Nevada red fox, two elusive and extremely rare species.

Report sightings to the DFG at (916) 653-7203 or to the agency that manages the area where you spotted the species. Be as specific as possible about the location and time of the sighting.

Obviously, the most valuable sightings are from people knowledgeable enough to distinguish between male and female, juvenile and adult, but any sighting will help scientists acquire baseline data.



Wolverine

## Why is cattle grazing allowed in some places but not in others?

Whether or not livestock grazing is allowed in wilderness depends, first, on how it was designated. Grazing is not allowed in most national parks, so grazing generally is prohibited in wilderness areas managed by the National Park Service.

For all other wilderness areas, designation in itself is not reason enough to disallow existing grazing allotments, but it does preclude the establishment of new allotments. In theory, if grazing proves injurious to the wilderness, managers may restrict or curtail it. In practice, livestock are rarely evicted outright; at best, they are restricted seasonally or permanently from the most sensitive areas.

## I keep getting different answers. What's okay to collect/remove from wilderness and what isn't?

The reason you keep getting different answers is, first, there are different rules depending on where you are and what you want to collect, and second, there are ethical as well as legal considerations.

Let's start with the law. The 1906 federal Antiquities Act made it illegal to remove (or damage) any cultural or historic artifacts or structures from public lands. That means, just for a start, that you cannot collect potsherds, basketry, petroglyphs, stone points (like arrowheads), beads, or human bones found in any wilderness.

Next, we need to distinguish wilderness portions of national parks, monuments, and seashores from other wilderness areas. Under National Park Service regulations, edible vegetation (if consumed in the wilderness), firewood (where fires are allowed), and fish are the only things that may be collected in these areas.

### Rocks and fossils

Rock collecting by hobbyists is allowed in wilderness areas managed by the Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management (BLM), provided you do not cause visual or other disturbance to the area. The Forest Service now restricts gold panning.

The BLM is rewriting its regulations regarding fossil collecting. In Forest Service wilderness areas, fossil collecting is legal but actively discouraged. That means if you ask directions to a known fossil area, the friendly ranger may point you in the wrong direction. Both agencies suggest that if you see a fossil, leave it in place and report its location to wilderness managers.

### Wildlife

Fish and wildlife are considered state, rather than federal, property, so state regulations apply. The Department of Fish and Game sets rules and issues licenses for hunting, fishing, and trapping. If the species is not threatened or endangered, you may collect reptiles and amphibians (a fishing license is required) or insects, but wilderness managers discourage the practice. No other wildlife may be removed from public lands.

### Plants

The Forest Service does not issue permits for private or commercial plant collecting in wilderness areas. (You must have a permit to collect plants or plant materials from federal lands.) Plant collecting by researchers might be allowed in wilderness areas, but only if the research could not be conducted outside the wilderness boundary. Seed collecting for private use is allowed, but again, the agency prefers that people gather seed in non-wilderness

## What waste products should be packed out, and what should be buried?

According to the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), in most environments it is appropriate to bury feces in catholes—small holes dug several inches into the organic layer of the soil—far (at least 200 feet) from water, trails, and campsites. If you are traveling on heavily-used rock faces or inland waterways, it is preferable to pack out your feces.

Catholes are not appropriate for urine, since animals will seek it out, digging up the soil. Try to urinate on rock or bare ground well away from water.

If you are having a fire anyway, toilet paper may be burned. Other hygiene products and food scraps should be packed out, since they will not burn completely without extreme, prolonged heat. Unless you used an existing fire ring, cold ashes from your fire should be scattered to obliterate evidence of your campsite.

If you fish, scatter the remains broadly, well away from campsites (to avoid attracting bears). Never toss fish remains into alpine lakes or streams.

Everything else, including "biodegradable" matter, should be packed out because it is alien to the local ecosystem.

More comprehensive information can be found in up-to-date reference books like the NOLS's *Soft Paths*, which we recommend for experienced wilderness users. Contact the school at (800) 332-4100.

areas.

As for edible vegetation, Jim Shevock, botanist for the Forest Service's Pacific Southwest region, says that though consumption is allowed in wilderness, recreationists should think before they snack. Digging up tubers is less acceptable than picking berries because when you consume a tuber, you have effectively consumed the entire plant.

Collecting wood for campfires is allowed only where campfires are allowed.

The rules for plant collecting in Bureau of Land Management wilderness areas are more complicated because the agency does not have a national wilderness policy for plants yet. These are the stricter rules for desert collecting as interpreted by the BLM's state botanist, John Willoughby. Live plants may be collected only for scientific purposes and only with a permit. Live plant parts may be collected by anyone with a permit. Dead and down plant parts (like pinyon firewood or creosote stems that are used in dried flower arrangements) may not be collected for private or commercial use, but wood can be gathered for campfires.

Exceptions to these general rules sometimes are made for Native Americans and for researchers.

California also has state wilderness. The policy for plant collecting in state wilderness areas is straightforward: Nothing may be removed from wilderness (except by scientists or Native Americans who hold permits), but moderate consumption of firewood or edible vegetation is allowed.

Individual federal or state wilderness areas may have additional prohibitions; check with a local manager or ranger to learn what rules apply.

That is the long (but still sketchy) legal answer. There is, of course, no single ethical approach to wilderness use, but we'll try to hit some of the points people should consider when deciding whether to use or remove something from a wilderness area or other wildland.

First, consider whether taking something will harm the wilderness or any of the species that depend on it. Eating a few berries from an abundant patch will do little harm; eating all of them, or any if berries are scarce, depletes an important food source for wildlife. Picking a common wildflower may be harmless in some environments; picking alpine flowers, which are scarcer and must reproduce under inclement conditions, is a different act altogether. A generally applicable test is: If something is locally rare or if it is found in a fragile or harsh environment, leave it alone.

Second, ask yourself whether what you want to collect could be gathered someplace other than wilderness. Though some kinds of collecting may not harm the wilderness itself, we still can abstain from collecting out of respect for what wilderness represents. We may differ in our perceptions of wilderness, but a convenience store it's not.

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Whether or not livestock grazing is allowed in wilderness depends, first, on how it was designated. Grazing is not allowed in most national parks, so grazing generally is prohibited in wilderness areas managed by the National Park Service.

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