



Adventures



USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region

Lassen National Forest

A Peek Inside



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Gliding across the sky

Welcome

Lassen National Forest lies at the heart of a fascinating part of California, a crossroads of people and nature. This is where the Sierra Nevada granite, the volcanoes of the Cascade Range, and the lava flows and faulting of the Great Basin and Modoc Plateau meet and blend to form a variety in terrain, geology, plant and animal life and rich human history. The Forest offers many opportunities for relaxation, discovery and adventure.

I extend my personal invitation to explore and discover what this unique area has to offer. The forest staff has published this visitor guide to help you take advantage of these opportunities, and to do so safely. Whether this visit is your first or your fiftieth, you will find information here which will enrich and enhance your stay.

Inside this newsletter you will find more details, along with directions about who to contact for further information. The Forest management professionals of the Lassen National Forest are pleased to have you here, and on their behalf I wish you an enjoyable stay.

Edward C. Cole, Supervisor
Lassen National Forest

Major Recreation Areas

Lake Almanor

In a scenic mountain setting, Lake Almanor is one of the largest man-made lakes in California at 75 square miles. It offers fishing, boating, water-skiing, swimming, camping, and picnicking. The Almanor Recreation Trail winds along the west side of Almanor providing views of the lake, the mountain, wildflowers and wildlife. Family and group campgrounds, boat launch facilities, and private marinas are available. Visit Almanor Ranger Station to view the salmon and trout aquarium and learn more about local wildlife.



Biking the Almanor Trail

observation and natural history study are many. Lava tubes, dormant and extinct volcanoes, massive lava flows and fault lines reveal a fascinating volcanic past. Stop by the Old Station Visitor Center and discover hands-on exhibits exploring the Hat Creek aquatic ecosystem.

Eagle Lake

The second largest natural lake in California, Eagle Lake is framed by pine and sage. Camping, fishing, swimming, picnicking, and boating are popular activities. Family and group campgrounds, naturalist activities, marina, boat launch facilities, store, laundry and showers are available. The seven mile long South Shore Trail is ideal for bicycles or just a pleasant stroll. Eagle Lake is famed for its trophy trout averaging three to five pounds. Look for ospreys and other birds along the Osprey Overlook Trail. Enjoy the views and learn more about this large lake at the Overlook at the high point of the trail.



Eagle Lake Trout, what a catch



Entering an underground world, Subway Cave lava tube

Hat Creek

In the shadow of Lassen Peak, seven campgrounds and four picnic areas are nestled along ten miles of Hat Creek. Opportunities for fishing, hiking, camping, picnicking, wildlife

Visitor Information q

Do you have questions or just want to purchase a forest map? Along the Scenic Byway you will find several Visitor Information Centers, both staffed and unstaffed. These centers offer information on the local communities and the Forest. Visitor Centers can be found at Old Station, Bogard, Eagle Lake Ranger District Office in Susanville, Almanor Ranger District Office in Chester, Hat Creek Ranger District Office in Fall River Mills, the Loomis Museum inside Lassen Volcanic National Park, the historic Susanville Depot in Susanville, the new Lassen Crossroads Center near the north entrance to Lassen Volcanic National Park, and the Hat Creek Rim Overlook.

Lassen Crossroads Information Center is a newly completed project offering self-serve information. It's a great place to discover the many wonderful adventures awaiting your pleasure.

Hat Creek Rim Overlook also recently completed offers views of Lassen Peak and Mt. Shasta. Stop by for community area information while you stretch and rest. The area provides a great place to picnic with plenty of room for parking.



Old Station Visitor Center

Inside Old Station Visitor Center you will discover what makes Hat Creek a renowned recreation fishery, and find out the difference between technique and tackle used to catch the Creek's famous fish. Adventure is awaiting you as you peer into a belly view mirror and see the underside of a live trout.

Eagle Lake Ranger Station is located right on the way to Eagle Lake, County Road A-1 & Highway 36, near Susanville. The office offers you a chance to learn about the wildlife at Eagle Lake with exhibits and brochures. Find out what activities are happening at the lake before you get there. All current information will be posted.

Susanville Depot offers railroad history of the area. Home to Rails to Trails Festival and "Ride the Bus, Bike the Bizz shuttles".

Almanor Ranger Station located just off Highway 36 in Chester has a variety of information to take with you on your visit. Offered are many educational books and maps for sale.



Eagle Lake Ranger District Office

Community Events

Lassen National Forest is surrounded by communities with summer events enjoyable for all. Become part of the Lassen area for a day by dropping into one of these celebrations. Here are a few ideas.



Hand-car races, Susanville

In early June try out the Eagle Lake Bike Challenge in **Susanville**, on the 4th of July, celebrate with a craft fair, children's activities and great food. The third week of July is the Lassen County Fair, and toward the end of July or early August is the Main Cruise featuring a car show, street sales including handicrafts, outdoor bands, and street dances. Mid August is Wild West week ending with the Susanville Rodeo. In October, get on board the Rails-to-Trails Festival, highlighted by hand-car races—a great time to explore the Bizz Johnson Trail. The Depot will offer the "Ride the Bus, Bike the Bizz" shuttle on the first Saturday of the month. Contact the Depot for more information.

Westwood is filled with tradition and history. The Paul Bunyan Mountain Festival celebrates this heritage in early July. While in Westwood, enjoy the Westwood museum which has pictures and artifacts from this historic, turn-of-the-century logging company town.



Paul Bunyan, Westwood

The town of **Chester** has an Airport Days and T-28's Fly-In in early June as well as the Mile-High Century Bike Ride. Come July, Chester celebrates the 4th of July in traditional grand style, with a parade, craft fair, quilt show, barbecue and



Susanville Depot - Home of Rails to Trails Festival

evening fireworks and a fun run. On the first Sunday in August, Chester hosts the Almanor Arts Show where area artists show and sell beautiful handmade crafts. Mid September the Street Rod Extravaganza turns the streets into a '50s nostalgia experience.

Burney is the place to be if you want to explore their city wide yard sale held in mid-June. The 4th of July holiday is the highlight of Burney Basin Days, with a pancake breakfast, parade, deep-pit barbecue, and evening fireworks. Heritage Days in October at McArthur Burney Falls State Park, gives you the chance to join in and celebrate the rich traditions of the Intermountain Area.



Burney Falls

Take wing in early June as **Fall River Mills** hosts Airport Days, starting with a pancake breakfast and including airplane rides, an air show, and an exhibition of antique and modern aircraft. In July, try out the Century Bike Ride. The Intermountain Fair over Labor Day weekend is the highlight of the summer, bringing locals and visitors to the McArthur Fairgrounds for a week of carnival rides, exhibition and judging of livestock, gardens, crafts and skills, plus a parade and rodeo. Check local volunteer Fire Departments in surrounding communities of Day, McArthur, Glenburn, Cassel, Hat Creek and Old Station for summer events. You'll discover excellent barbecues, bake sales, and craft fairs.

Lassen's Crossroads Area Via the Scenic Byway

The Lassen Scenic Byway is a loop route on four state highways which, in total, gives the visitor a complete picture of the natural history of the Lassen Crossroads. Although it can be driven in a day, the most rewarding approach is to take in a segment each day, stopping along the way to hike and explore.

Since it is a loop, you can start anywhere and go either direction. Starting at the small town of Old Station and going counterclockwise, it follows this route: Take Highway 44/89 to the entrance of Lassen Volcanic National Park; follow Highway 89 south through the Park to Highway 36; take 36 east to Highway 44, then back to Old Station. An alternative route around beautiful Lake Almanor is also available. Start by taking State Highway 89 south from Chester, then follow route 147 along the east shore, through Westwood (where you might want to stop and take a photo of Paul Bunyan and Babe, the Blue Ox) and back to State Highway 36.



Loomis Museum, Lassen Volcanic National Park

In the Byway's total distance of 185 miles, you will encounter:

- ✓ four major geophysical regions;
- ✓ two major pioneer trails that were a highway for over 10,000 people traveling west in the mid-1800s;
- ✓ four National Recreation Trails;
- ✓ the world's largest plug dome volcano;
- ✓ a lava tube cave you can walk through;
- ✓ 4,000 years of Native American folklore and history;
- ✓ the historic old logging town of Westwood;
- ✓ habitat for over 360 species of wildlife, including bald eagle, osprey, black bear, and two kinds of deer;
- ✓ some of the best lake and stream trout fishing in California;
- ✓ the face of a 900 foot escarpment created when the earth fractured along a fault; known as Hat Creek Rim;
- ✓ expansive vistas of sage, pine, and fir; intimate views of Sierra Nevada mountain streams.



Hat Creek Rim Overlook



The Causeway, Lake Almanor

Because the Lassen Scenic Byway travels through geologic and biologic crossroads, it reveals a mosaic of changing landscapes and views. The Lassen National Forest and the Lassen Volcanic National Park, in combination with five local communities welcome visitors and offer a wide variety of recreational activities and community services. For more information contact Lassen National Forest, Lassen Volcanic National Park, or the Chambers of Commerce in Chester, Westwood, Susanville, Burney, and Fall River Mills.

Newest Hot Spot...

Along the Byway...

Lassen Crossroads Information



Located just inside the northwest entrance to Lassen Volcanic National Park off of Highway 89 (NPS1), you'll discover a wealth of information to help you plan your visit to the Crossroads.

The site is divided into four travel regions and helps you plan your visit. Large maps showcase the regions throughout Lassen Volcanic National Park and Lassen National Forest that guide you to that special spot. Suggestions include trips to explore areas such as Bumpass Hell, Manzanita Lake, Gallatin Beach or the Ishi Front Country.

Explore the Monument Trail and learn how the CCC made a difference in the Crossroads.

Restroom facilities are available as well as current information.

Firewood

There are two kinds of firewood gathering: (1) for immediate campfire use, and (2) for storage and home use. Different rules cover each.

1) Gathering firewood for campfire use does not require a permit—even if you use a chainsaw, but you should check on chainsaw restrictions. Please collect only dead wood lying on the ground. Limbs, stumps, and standing dead trees are off limits. Backcountry and wilderness campers are encouraged to cook with gas or propane stoves and keep campfires to a minimum. This will avoid stripping campsites and surrounding areas of firewood, will minimize the environmental impact of fire pits and ashes, and will reduce wildfire hazards.

2) If you plan to take firewood home with you, a "Personal Use Firewood Permit" is required. They are for sale at the Ranger District offices in Chester, Susanville at the intersection of A-1 and Highway 36, Fall River Mills,



and the Old Station Visitor Center. Mail-in requests are also available. The cost is \$20.00 for a minimum two cord permit. A maximum

of 10 cords per household may be collected per year. There are serious penalties for personal use firewood cutting without a permit.

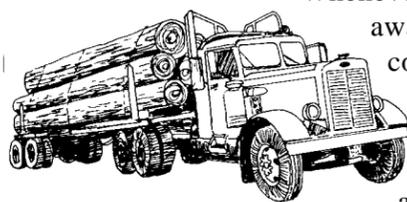
Your chainsaw must be equipped with an approved and functional spark arrestor screen. A fire extinguisher or a shovel must be immediately available to you at all times.

During periods of unusually high fire danger, special fire restrictions affecting the use of chainsaws may be enacted. Certain areas are closed to wood cutting, such as wilderness areas, developed recreational sites (such as campgrounds), private lands, and active timber sales. You will be informed about closed areas when you pick up your permit. For more information contact Forest Service Offices.



Forest Roads

In addition to the state highways and county roads, there is a network of National Forest roads in the Lassen National Forest. These roads range from high-quality gravel roads suitable for family sedans to low-standard dirt roads difficult even with high-clearance and four-wheel-drive vehicles. Forest roads are marked by brown signs with white lettering. Some vertical route markers may be missing, so take care to watch the road for changes in conditions. There might be travel restrictions on roads, so check with the local Forest Service Office.



Whenever driving in the forest, be aware that logging trucks are common. It takes these trucks longer to stop and maneuver, so give them a wide berth, and take care when driving around blind curves.

A Reminder...

While in the forest, remember wet meadows and saturated roads can quickly bog down a vehicle. Just driving across these areas can easily and quickly damage those areas. Check out forest road conditions before you drive on forest roads and prevent an unintentional night in the woods or possibly a fine for damage.

Fire Safety



In the last 10 years fires have consumed over 220,000 acres in and around the Lassen National Forest. How will fire threaten our forest this summer? As always, the threat will rise and fall daily with changes in the weather. We can't control the weather, but we can control a major cause of forest fires—people!

PLEASE BE EXTRA CAREFUL WITH FIRE. A campfire permit (free at Ranger Stations) is required for campfires, barbecues and stoves outside developed campgrounds or picnic areas. These permits are valid until December 31, and must be renewed yearly. Call the forest you are visiting for any updated information regarding restrictions or come by and visit your local district offices. The permit requires you to follow these safeguards with your campfire:

- Build your campfire (including those in stoves and barbecues) over bare earth away from trees, brush and rotten logs and/or stumps.
- Clear at least a ten-foot area around a proposed campfire site down to mineral soil (dirt).
- Never leave your campfire unattended. Keep a shovel and water available at all times. (leaving a campfire can be a fine of approximately \$270.00)
- Don't build a campfire in windy weather; be aware of the current fire danger and restrictions. Call Forest Service Offices for current information.
- When putting your fire out, use water and stir with a shovel. When you think it is out, feel the ashes with the back of your hand and make sure it is dead out—abandoned campfires cause many forest fires.
- Do not smoke in open vehicles, or while riding ATV's, motorcycles, or bicycles; never smoke while walking through the woods.
- Fireworks of any kind are illegal at all times in the forest. Explosives are illegal except when a contractor has a permit for their use.
- Local land owners and/or special use permittees **MUST** apply for a burn permit to burn on their property during the period of May 1 through the end of fire season. Call your local fire department, Forest Service Office, or California Department of Forestry for further information.

Remember, if you start a fire accidentally or otherwise, the liability for damage and the cost of putting out the fire can be yours and can total millions of dollars.



PLEASE, help us keep the forests green for the enjoyment of all. You can find more information on our website at www.r5.fs.fed.us/lassen.

Back Country Courtesy

With the increase in popularity of back country travel, it is more important than ever for everyone to follow the rules of common courtesy and good mountain manners:

- Stay on the trail in single file to protect plants and prevent soil erosion. Do not shortcut trail switchbacks. Skirt meadows and wet areas.
- Report fallen logs and other obstacles to a forest office as soon as possible. You may make minor trail repairs yourself.
- Do not cut blazes on trees, as they leave permanent scars and can injure or kill the tree.
- Picket or hobble your horse; don't tie it to a tree except for short periods.
- Stay on designated routes; ford streams at designated crossings.
- Practice low-impact camping: travel and camp in small groups; camp away from water; disperse latrine sites; disassemble fire pits and pack out all trash.

CAMPGROUND INFORMATION

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Developed Campsites

All campgrounds have fire rings, tables, and restroom facilities. Most developed campgrounds have a "host," a resident camper who can provide campsite information, monitor campground use and contact forest officers in the event of problems. Some hosts sell firewood for campfires. Several forest campgrounds and day use areas feature facilities constructed for persons with disabilities. These include specially designed campsites, picnic sites, fishing platforms, restroom facilities, nature trails, and the marina facilities at Eagle Lake. For more information on accessible facilities, contact any of the Forest's offices.

Concessionaires

If you have been camping in the National Forests in the last several years, you know that most campgrounds are now operated by private organizations called concessionaires. Most of the Lassen's developed campgrounds are operated by a private, nonprofit organization, the Chico Research Foundation, (affiliated with Chico State University) under a special use permit.

Reservations

This year, sites at almost all forest campgrounds are available on a first-come-first-served basis, plus some have a loop or group area for reservation. Reservations for these campgrounds can be made through the National Recreation Reservation Service by calling toll free: Phone 877-444-6777; TDD: 877-833-6777; On-line www.ReserveUSA.com.

Accessible Fishing and Camping

Lassen National Forest offers a number of recreational facilities designed with accessibility in mind for persons with disabilities. Accessible fishing piers are located at Hat Creek and Cave Campgrounds, and at the Old Station Day Use Area. Cave, North Almanor, Eagle, and Christie campgrounds all have specially designed campsites available. The breakwater at Eagle Lake's Gallatin Marina is fully accessible, and the South Eagle Lake Trail is a ten foot wide, five mile long paved trail winding through the pines, revealing scenic views of Eagle Lake. The Almanor Recreation Trail is an accessible trail that winds along the western edge of Lake Almanor giving the visitor glimpses of the lake, wildlife and timber. With nearby Deer Creek as a scenic backdrop, Elam Rest Area, equipped with accessible picnic tables, is a beautiful place for a picnic or just a brief rest from traveling. For more information, contact any of the Forest's three Ranger District Offices.

Dispersed camping

Camping on the Lassen is not limited to developed campgrounds. Almost all of the forest is open to those who prefer the quiet and solitude of a completely undeveloped setting-just you, your campfire, and the stars. But remember that campfire permits are required outside of developed campgrounds. The permits are available from any local Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, or California Department of Forestry offices. Be careful with fire at all times, and make sure your campfire is dead out! If you do plan to camp outside of developed areas, you may want to contact the Ranger District Office that manages the area in which you are interested. Stays in undeveloped campgrounds are limited to 14 days on any Ranger District and 30 days total each calendar year.

Leave No Trace

When camping outside developed campgrounds, help protect the environment by using minimum impact techniques:

- ✿ Camp 100 feet from lake, streams, and roadsides
- ✿ Protect water quality by burying human waste 12" deep and at least 150 feet from streams and lakes. Do not use soap in streams or lakes.
- ✿ Pack out all trash
- ✿ Use only dead and down wood for campfires
- ✿ Return your campsite to its natural undisturbed condition when you leave. If you built a campfire ring, dismantle it before you leave.



Almanor Campgrounds

Developed Campsites

Alder Creek: On Highway 32. Fee, elevation 3900', 6 sites, stream water, season Late March - Nov. 1, weather permitting.

Almanor: On Lake Almanor. Fee, elevation 4550', 103 sites, piped water. Reservations available on 19 sites, accessible - 1 site at Almanor North, accessible restroom. Season May 1 - Nov. 1, weather permitting.

Almanor Group: On Highway 89. Fee, elevation 4550'. Season May 1 - Nov. 1, weather permitting. Reservations required.

Battle Creek: On Highway 36. Fee, elevation 4800', 50 sites, piped water, season late April - November 1, weather permitting.

Benner Creek: On Highway 36. Fee, elevation 5562', 9 sites, stream water, season late May - November 1, weather permitting.

Black Rock: On Ponderosa Way. Fee, elevation 2100', 6 sites, stream water, season all year, weather permitting.

Butte Meadows: Off Highway 32. Fee, elevation 4600', 13 sites, piped water, season late April - November 1, weather permitting.

Cherry Hill: Off Highway 32. Fee, elevation 4700', 26 sites, piped water, season late April - November 1, weather permitting.

Domingo Springs: Off Highway 36. Fee, elevation 5060', 18 sites, piped water, season late May - November 1, weather permitting.

Elam: On Highway 32. Fee, elevation 4400', 15 sites, piped water, season mid April - November 1, weather permitting.

Gurnsey: On Highway 36. Fee, elevation 4700', 52 sites, piped water, season May 1 - November 1, weather permitting.

Gurnsey Group: On Highway 36, fee, elevation 4700', piped water, reservations, season May 1 - November 1, weather permitting.

High Bridge: Off Highway 36. Fee, elevation 5200', 12 sites, piped water, season late May - November 1 weather permitting.

Hole-in-the-Ground: Off Highway 36. Fee, elevation 4300', 13 spaces, piped water, season late April - November 1, weather permitting.

Potato Patch: On Highway 32. Fee, elevation 3400', 32 sites, piped water, season early April - November 1 weather permitting.

Rocky Knoll: At Silver Lake. Fee, elevation 6000', 18 sites, piped water, season late May - November 1, weather permitting.

Silver Bowl: At Silver Lake. Fee, elevation 6000', 18 sites, piped water, season late May - November 1 weather permitting.

Soldier Creek: Off Road 308, out of Butte Meadows. Fee, elevation 4890', site numbers vary, stream water, season late May - November 1, weather permitting.

South Antelope: On County Road 202, off Highway 36. No fee, elevation 2700', 4 sites, stream water, season yearlong.

Warner Creek: Off Highway 36. Fee, elevation 5040', 13 sites, stream water, season late May - November 1, weather permitting.

West Branch: Off Highway 32. Fee, elevation 5000', 15 sites, piped water, season late May - November 1, weather permitting.

Willow Springs: Off Highway 36. Fee, elevation 5100', 14 sites, stream water, season late May - November 1, weather permitting.

Maintained Dispersed sites

Echo Lake: On 10 Road, near Silver Lake. No fee, elevation 6440', site numbers vary, no tables or fire rings, lake water, season late May - November 1, weather permitting.

Willow Lake: Off the Wilson Lake Road. No fee, no tables or firerings, season late May - November 1 weather permitting.



Camping, an enjoyable experience on Lassen National Forest

Eagle Lake Campgrounds

Developed Campsites

Aspen Grove: At south end of Eagle Lake. Fee, elevation 5100', 26 sites, piped water, season May - September, tents-only campground, dump station 3.5 miles.

Bogard: Off Highway 44. Fee, elevation 5600', 11 sites, handpump water, dump station 27 miles, season May - October, maximum length 25'.

Crater Lake: Off Highway 44. Fee, elevation 6800', 17 sites, handpump water, season June - October. No motors on boats. Dump station 34 miles. Motorhomes and large trailers not recommended, 7 mile steep, rough road to campground.

Christie: At south end of Eagle Lake. Fee, elevation 5100', 69 sites, piped water, season May - September, dump station 2.5 miles, handicapped facilities, check with campground host, some pull-through sites for large equipment.

Eagle: At south end of Eagle Lake. Fee, elevation 5100', 50 sites, piped water, season May - September, dump station 1.5 miles, accessible facilities, Reservations only beginning May 15.

Butte Creek: Off Highway 44. No fee, elevation 5600', 10 sites, no drinking water available, season, May - October, dump station 10 miles, unimproved campsites.

Goumaz: Off Highway 36 or 44. Fee, elevation 5200', 5 sites, drinking water available, dump station 18 miles, season May - October, unimproved campsites for small equipment.

Merrill: At south end of Eagle Lake. Fee, elevation 5100', 181 sites, some sites available for reservation, piped water, dump station across road, season May - October, maximum equipment length 35', part of campground open until end of fishing season, weather permitting.

Roxie Peconom: Off Highway 36. No fee, elevation 4800', 10 sites, handpump water, dump station 7 miles, season May - October, park in lot, walk into camp sites.

West Eagle Group #1: At south end of Eagle Lake. Fee, elevation 5100', maximum of 100 people, parking lot available, piped water, dump station 1.5 miles, season May - October. Reservation only.

West Eagle Group #2: At south end of Eagle Lake. Fee, elevation 5100', maximum 75 people, parking lot available, piped water, dump station 1.5 miles, season May - October. Reservation only.



Many accessible fishing areas available

Hat Creek Campgrounds

Developed Campsites

Bridge: On Highway 89. Fee, elevation 4000', 25 sites, water, season late April - October.

Big Pine: On Highway 89. Fee, elevation 4500', 19 sites, handpump water, season late April - October.

Cave: On Highway 89. Fee, elevation 4300', 46 sites, water, season of use late April - October, facilities and fishing accessible.

Dusty: On Highway 89, gravel road, on Lake Britton. Fee, elevation 3000', 7 sites which consist of two groups sites 25 people and 5 family sites up to 10 people, vault toilets. Operated by PG&E, no drinking water available.

Hat Creek (Hat): On Highway 89. Fee, elevation 4300', 75 sites, water, season late April - October, facilities and fishing accessible, sites 1-9 under reservation. Sunny location.

Hat Creek Group: On Highway 89. Fee; elevation 4300'; water, season late April - October. Three group sites, reservation required.

Honn: On Highway 89. Fee, elevation 3400', 6 sites, no drinking water, season late April - October. Not recommended for trailers because of limited turnaround space.

Rocky: On Highway 89. Fee, elevation 4000', 8 sites, no drinking water available, season late April - October.

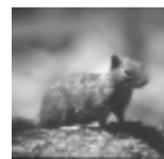
For information on the campgrounds in **Lassen Volcanic National Park**, call 530-595-4444.

For information on **Bureau of Land Management's** Campgrounds, call 530-257-5381 or 530-233-4666.

For information on **McArthur-Burney Falls State Park** camping, call 530-335-2777.

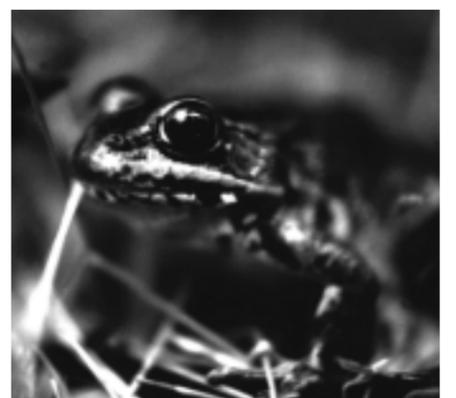
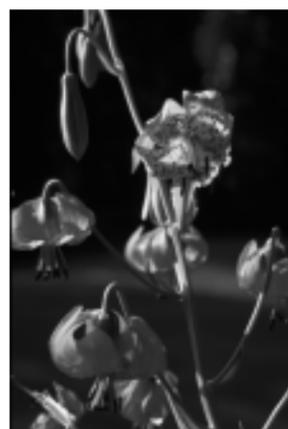


Fishing on Crater Lake



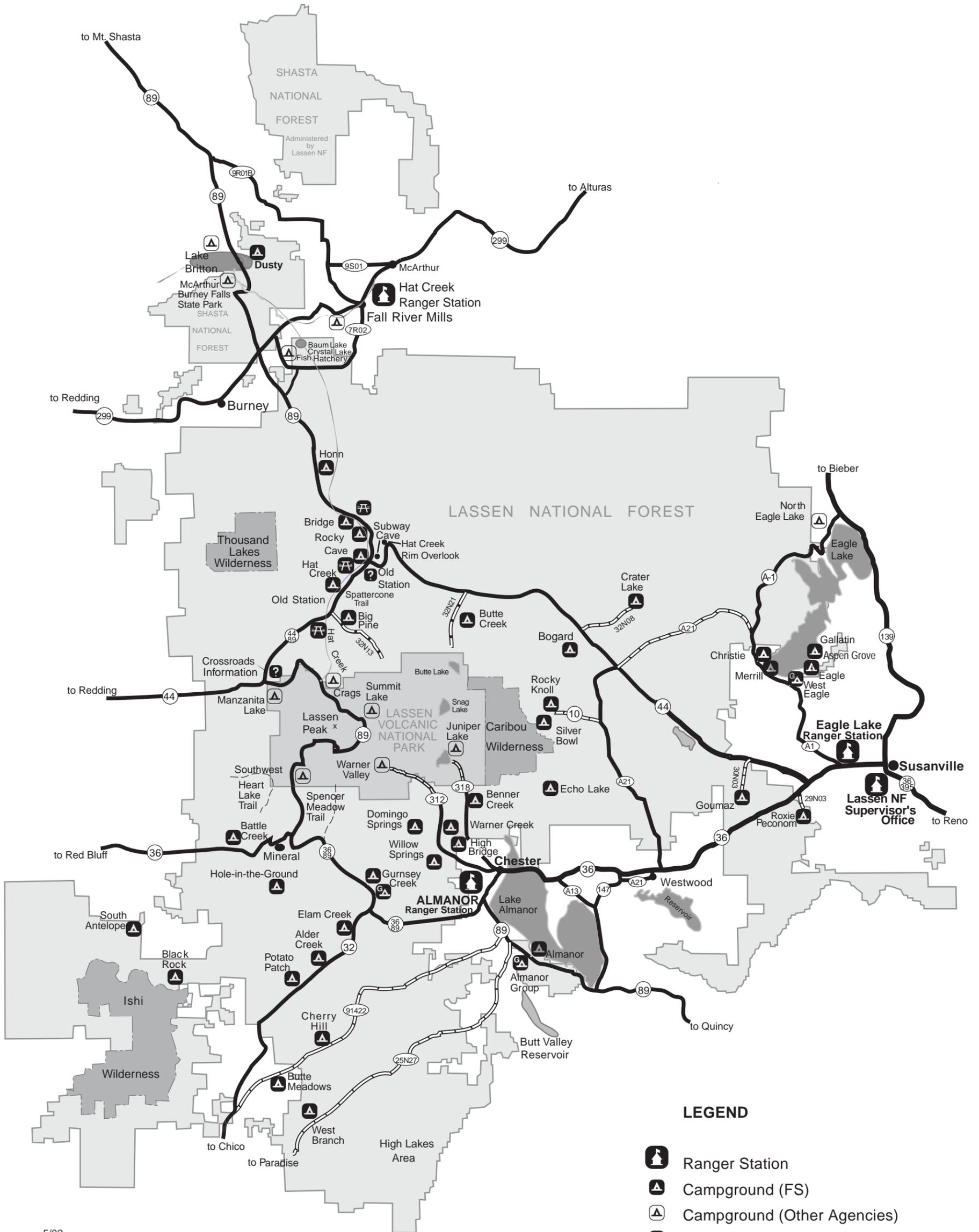
Discover great
photography
opportunities

Photos you might like to try ...



Lassen National Forest

(Campgrounds, Ranger Stations,
and Information Centers)



LEGEND

-  Ranger Station
-  Campground (FS)
-  Campground (Other Agencies)
-  Visitor Information Station
-  Paved Road
- Gravel, Dirt Road

Exploring the forest with children

Lassen National Forest offers over a million acres of land open to a variety of recreation activities. There are pine forest, oak woodland, lakes, streams, and ponds. The Forest also offers three wilderness areas. All these places provide great opportunities to explore with children. The following list are some activities you and your children might enjoy this summer.

Almanor Ranger District

- **The Almanor Recreation Trail** provides nine miles of paved trail that winds through beautiful forest, meadows, a campground and several lakeshore areas. The trail is great for the beginning naturalist, bike riders, hikers and swimmers. The trail passes through the campground near a swimming beach

that has a roped off area, just great for preschoolers and older children.

- **Locherman Canyon Trail** offers a variety of habitats. Deer may be sited in meadows, woodpeckers in dead snags, and very old volcanic rock can be seen.

- **Wilson Lake** is a nice place for a short hike.

You'll catch the shade around the west shore of the lake. A very shallow lake is home to catfish. You might even see a bald eagle fishing there. The east shore is very difficult to hike because it is covered with a large lava flow

- **Pacific Crest Trail** runs through the forest, at the intersection of the PCT and Highway 36, you can walk south for a mile for an easy hike to a lovely meadow. Stay on the trail as it goes through private land until you reach Forest Service land.

- **Hole in the Ground** campground has a great trail that follows Mill Creek to Ishi Wilderness. A nice place to explore with preschoolers or backpack with older children.

- **Canyon Dam** is a great place to fish and picnic. Watch for bald eagles and osprey. You might see them plunge into the lake to catch a fish.

- **Silver Lake**, just outside Caribou Wilderness, is nice for picnicking, camping, fishing, and hiking.

- **Caribou Wilderness** is great for summer exploration. The first part of the hike into the wilderness is steep, and then it levels off around the lakes.

- **Ishi Wilderness** is the place to be during spring. You'll see a variety of wildflowers.

Eagle Lake District

- **Osprey Trail and Overlook** provides a great opportunity to see an osprey bird nest close-up. The trail is 1/3 mile long and is full of adventures for exploring and sight-seeing. The trail has accessible parking near the overlook.

- **Eagle Lake Recreation Trail**, features an easy 5 miles of level paved trail. Great for bicycling, rollerblading, jogging or walking.

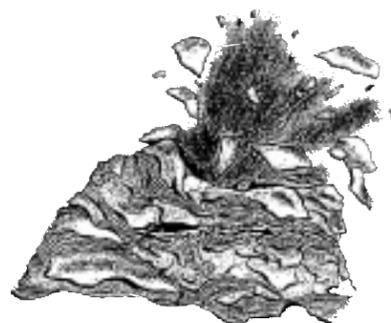
- **Gallatin Beach** is a good place for a swim. It provides 1/2 mile long swimming area with a sandy beach and is closed to boating.

- **Bizz Johnson Trail** winds 25 miles from Susanville Railroad Depot to Mason Station Trailhead, just north of Westwood. The trail provides an opportunity for horseback riding, bicycling and hiking.

- **Antelope Lookout** is a 1 1/2 mile drive off of the A-21 road. This graveled road leads you to the first solar powered fire tower in the United States. You'll see Mount Shasta, Lassen Peak and a bird's eye view of Eagle Lake. Tower is open during summer months.

- **Crater Lake** is located 7 miles off Highway 44 near Bogard. Have fun rowing a boat or take a walk and explore the shoreline. Fall is a beautiful time to view the brilliant yellow Aspen trees.

- **Goumaz** located right on the Susan River has opportunities to fish the shoreline.



Hat Creek District

- **Subway Cave** is a lava tube formed by flowing lava.

Bring a jacket, sturdy shoes, and a flashlight. The mile trail is self-guided and during the summer, guided tours are offered on Saturday & Sunday.

- **Spattercone Trail** is a 1 1/2 mile long trail traversing through the origin of the Hat

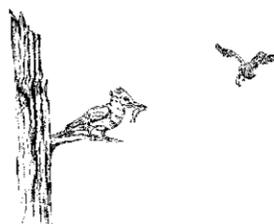
Creek Lava Flow. Best to take this hike early morning for a cool walk. Best suited for older children.

- **Thousand Lakes Wilderness** is a good place for beginning backpackers. Trails lead you to many small lakes.

- **West Prospect Peak** is a great place to see a fire lookout in operation. The views are spectacular of Lassen Peak. The 12 mile drive is a rough one as the road is not paved. Open during the summer.

- **Hat Creek Rim Overlook** gives you a chance to observe an active fault system that is still "alive and cracking", a spectacular view. A good spot to have a picnic and have fun. You can walk a portion of the PCT trail and see the Hat Creek Valley.

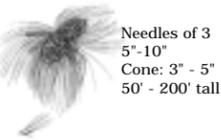
- **Old Station Visitor Center** gives kids a chance to interact with trout and discover the aquatic ecosystem of Hat Creek. Try a real fly spotter and view the bellies of trout.



GIFTS OF NATURE Trees of Lassen



Ponderosa pine
Pinus ponderosa

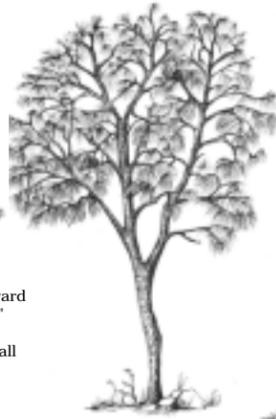


Needles of 3
5" - 10"
Cone: 3" - 5"
50' - 200' tall



California Red Fir
Abies magnifica

Needles upward
3/4" - 1 1/4"
Cone: 6" - 9"
100' - 150' tall



Grey pine
Pinus sabiniana

Needles of three,
7" - 13"
Cone: broad, 6" - 10"
40' - 70' tall



Lodgepole pine
Pinus contorta

Needles of two
1" - 2 1/2"
Cone: 3 3/4" - 2"
20' - 80' tall



Jeffrey pine
Pinus jeffreyi

Needles of 3
5" - 11"
Cone: 5" - 8"
60' - 180' tall



Douglas Fir
Pseudotsuga menziesii

Needles on all
sides, 1" long
Cone: 6" - 9"
80' - 200' tall



Sugar Pine
Pinus lambertiana

Needles of five
2" - 3 1/2"
Cone: 11" - 20"
100' - 160' tall



Western Juniper
Juniperus occidentalis

Needles scale like, flat
Cone: berry, 1/4"
15' - 60' tall



Incense Cedar
Libocedrus decurrens

Needles 1 1/2" - 1/4"
scale like
Cone 3/4" - 1"
75' - 150' tall



White Fir
Abies concolor

Needle upward
3/4" - 2 1/2"
Cone: 3" - 5"
70' - 160' tall



Watchable Wildlife

Many animal species are abundant on the Lassen National Forest, and patience and binoculars (and sometimes a little luck) can lead to some rewarding experiences. Dawn and dusk near water are the best times and places to find wildlife.

In the Hat Creek area, be prepared to see

everything from badger to bats. Osprey and bald eagles are often seen at Lake Britton. Elk, deer, snipe, swallows and bats can be sighted at Wiley Ranch. The Big Jacks/Straylor Lake area will afford you a chance to see sandhill cranes and perhaps a badger.

Lake Almanor has the largest summer population of ospreys in California, so with a pair of binoculars you may be able to see them swooping down to the lake to catch a fish. Bald eagles may also be observed around the lake, since their favorite food is also fish.

On the causeway going into Chester from the east, you will be able to see Canada geese at all times of the year. In the spring they are proudly displaying their young, and the rest of the year there is always a large flock residing in the meadows. Mixed in with the geese you will also find a variety of ducks looking for food in the shallows.

Was Eagle Lake named after eagles? You bet! Spend some time on the north shore and you should see bald eagles and osprey fishing for their meals. Near Poison Lake, you might be lucky

enough to see Canada geese nesting, and occasionally a pronghorn antelope loping across the plains.

Deer, chipmunks, golden-mantled ground squirrels and various birds are common campground visitors. Sit quietly and they might come close enough to be seen clearly but remember, **DO NOT FEED THEM!** Wild animals which grow to depend on human feeding invariably come to harm.



Litter

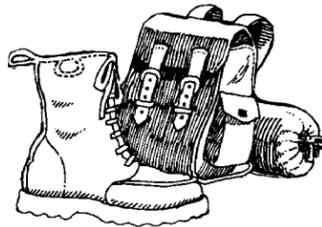
Litter is unattractive to people and dangerous to wildlife. You can help:

- Keep a litter bag in your car; use it and empty it in approved trash containers.
- Teach your children, relatives and friends the danger and cost of littering.
- Help pick up litter as you walk around.
- If you fish, don't leave your hooks, tangled line or plastic packaging behind. Don't throw trash in creeks or lakes; many animals and fish have died from eating human trash.
- Hikers, backpackers and equestrians should pack out everything they pack in, including trash.

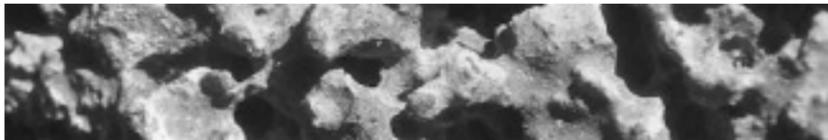
Volunteers: a Helping Hand

The Forest Volunteer program offers many opportunities to contribute time and skills to different projects on the Lassen. Throughout the years, volunteers have enriched the Forest and visitor experiences. Lassen National Forest is proud of all the contributions that volunteers have provided. Some of the many projects include; visitor information, visitor center maintenance, campground hosting and maintenance, sign making, building accessible fishing ramps, archaeological projects, to name just a few. We thank everyone for their volunteer efforts. Volunteers play an important role in helping the Forest Service "Care for the Land and Serve People," and to give back something to the land they enjoy so much. Would you like to serve as a host at one of our Concessionaire Operations Campground? Please contact Chico Research Foundation at 530-335-7499.

On Foot and on Horseback



TRAIL NAME	TRIP DISTANCE	STARTING POINT	TERRAIN	FEATURES
Almanor Trail	9.5 miles one-way (non-equestrian)	There are several starting points; off Highway 89 just opposite the Humbug/Humboldt Road, The Almanor Boat Ramp parking area, and four other parking areas along the trail.	This multi-use paved trail winds through beautiful stands of stately pines, firs, and incense cedar, as well as meadows, a campground, a summer home tract and several lakeshore areas.	There are several good fishing spots, many beaches are available, wildlife viewing, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing during the winter months.
Butte Creek Trail	3.4 miles one way	Jonesville, Butte Creek House	Gradual trail that follows the banks of Butte Creek.	Wildflowers, wildlife, fishing.
Heart Lake Trail	6 miles one way	Off Forest Service Road #17 located out of Battle Creek Campground.	2,000 feet elevation change steep section from 17 Road to Heart Lake.	Wildflowers, Glass Burner Meadows, fresh spring water at the headwaters of the creek.
Mill Creek Trail	13.5 miles one way	Hole-in-the-Ground Campground, Black Rock	2,100 feet gain or descent with Black Rock being the the lowest point.	Scenic beauty, good fishing, history, wildflowers
Pacific Crest Trail	120 Miles	Belden Town, Humbug Summit, Humboldt Summit, Highway 36 (Deer Creek Pass), Domingo Springs, Old Station, Mud Lake Trailhead on Hat Creek Rim, Burney Falls State Park.	Varies in elevation from 3,200 feet at Belden Town to 7,700 feet at the high spot located just south of Butt Mountain.	Cold Springs, Stover Springs, Domingo Springs, oak-wooded fir forest, view of coastal Almanor Basin and Lassen Volcanic National Park. Views of Hat Creek Valley, Lassen Peak, and Mt. Shasta. Water is not available for 26 miles on the Hat Creek Rim, please stock up at Old Station.
S. Eagle Lake Trail	5.2 miles one way (non-equestrian)	There are several starting points: The Marina, Group Campground, Merrill Campground.	Gradual, paved trail that winds in and around the campgrounds.	Good views of Eagle Lake, Blacktop surface for walking, bike riding, roller-blading, wheel chair access.
Soda Creek Trail	6 miles one way	Peacock Point, Sunflower Flat	Descent into Soda Creek canyon, 2000 feet elevation change.	Flowers, streams, lakes.
Spencer Meadows	11 miles round trip	Highway 36 near Childs Meadows	1,000 feet climb first 2 miles then a 500 foot gain to Spencer Meadows.	Scenic views into Mill Creek Canyon, flowers, wildlife, photographic opportunities.
Trail Lake Trail	3.8 miles one way	Echo Lake, Silver Lake	Rolling terrain between Echo Lake and Silver Lake.	MOSQUITOS, lakes, fishing
Osprey Trail	1/2 mile	Eagle Lake	Moderate uphill	Viewscopes, osprey



Wilderness Areas

Wilderness areas are special places where natural forces operate freely. National Forest wilderness areas offer the visitor excellent hiking, backpacking, and horseback riding in a primitive, completely undeveloped setting.

The Forest Service manages wilderness areas to protect their pristine natural values. Motorized vehicles (including mountain bikes) are not allowed and management activities, such as trail maintenance, are done by hand.

You can help protect the wild character of wilderness by using minimum impact camping techniques. Pack out all trash. If you are riding a horse or using pack animals, pack in their forage and picket them at least 100 feet from lakes, trails, campsites, and meadows. Overnight campsites should also be at least 100 feet from all lakes and trails. Leave only your footprints, and take only memories.

These three wilderness areas make up about 10% of the Lassen National Forest.

Caribou Wilderness

This is a gentle, rolling forested plateau dotted with blue lakes edged in pine and fir. Crater peaks and cinder cones, reminders of the area's volcanic heritage, can be seen throughout the Caribou. Hiking is generally easy, and the summer use period is from mid-June to mid-October. It is adjacent to wilderness in Lassen Volcanic National Park.



Front Country, Ishi Wilderness

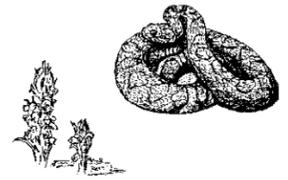
Ishi Wilderness

A unique low elevation wilderness, the Ishi is a land incised by wind and water, dotted with basaltic rock outcroppings, caves, and bizarre pillar lava formations. This is up-and-down country, a series of east-west sunburnt ridges framed by rugged river canyons lined with riverine forests. The best hiking time is in the spring and fall as midsummer temperatures often top 100 degrees F.

Thousand Lakes Wilderness

Twenty-two miles of trail reveal a wilderness valley created by volcanic action and carved by a now-vanished glacier. Against a backdrop of 8,600 foot Crater Peak, visitors can explore mountain meadows, lakes framed by pine and fir, and volcanic peaks. Hiking is generally moderate. To experience a greater challenge hikers can find their own route up the peaks. Season of use is from mid-June to mid-October.

The Woods are Wilder than You Think



Lassen National Forest is a great place to explore and enjoy. But sometimes it is easy to forget that the forest is a wildland and can be dangerous. Safety is an important part of any forest visit, and the person most responsible for your safety is YOU!

The following information is just a sample of what you might discover while visiting the forest.

FIREARMS-It is unlawful to discharge a firearm or any other implement capable of taking a human life, causing injury or damaging property under the following conditions: 1. If discharged in or within 150 yards of a residence, building, campsite, developed recreation site or occupied area. 2. If discharged across a development or body of water.

HYPOTHERMIA is a leading cause of death in outdoor recreation. It happens when the inner body temperature drops from exposure to cold, particularly when victims have become wet and are exposed to wind. Freezing temperatures are not required—it can strike in moderately cool weather. Symptoms include uncontrollable shivering, speech that is incoherent, slowed, or slurred; memory lapses, fumbling hands; stumbling; drowsiness; and exhaustion. Typically the victim is not aware he or she is in danger.

Find shelter from the wind for the victim, remove any wet clothes and replace with warm, dry clothes. Hot drinks help, but **NO** alcohol or caffeine. If the victim is semiconscious or unconscious, help raise his or her body temperature by undressing them and putting him or her in a warm sleeping bag with another unclothed person.

Proper clothing can help prevent hypothermia. Wool and some synthetic fibers provide some insulation when wet; cotton does not and should be avoided. If you are hiking or backpacking, carry cold weather clothes. Weather conditions can change rapidly, especially at higher elevations. Be aware of impending hazardous weather and find dry shelter.

POISON OAK is abundant in moist areas along streams, thickets and wood slopes below 5000 feet. As the seasons change, so does its appearance. The plant can be identified by its three leaflets with lobes shaped somewhat like oak leaves, which join at a common stem. It can grow as a shrub or vine. Poison oak is green in the summer, turns red in the fall, then loses its leaves. Learn its many faces, and remember the motto, "Leaves of three—let it be." If exposed to poison oak, wash the area with warm water and a high-alkaline soap within six hours. Toxic oils from poison oak can also be contacted from clothing and pets which have been exposed.

BEARS-Black bears usually live in remote areas of the forest. Sometimes, though, they have been seen wandering into campgrounds. Bears are strong and can do great damage in going after any food they smell. Here are some tips to avoid bear/people confrontations: 1. Store all food in an airtight container in your vehicle, although no vehicle is secure from damage by a bear

searching for food. 2. Dispose of all garbage in refuse containers. 3. Keep a clean camp. 4. Never store food in tents. 5. Never feed a bear. 6. Backpackers and hikers should hang their food in trees and pack out all garbage. 7. If a black bear approaches try to demonstrate to the bear that you may be a danger to it. "Do not run. Remain calm, continue facing the bear, and slowly back away. Do not kneel or bend over." Make yourself appear larger. Stand up, raise your arms and open your jacket. Yell at the bear, bang pots and pans and create a commotion.

**Be
Bear
Aware**

TICKS are most active from April through October and found on both vegetation and animals in grasslands, marshlands and woodland habitats. Prevention techniques include wearing light colored, long-sleeved shirts and pants. Tuck cuffs of pants into your socks and button sleeves to the wrist. When returning from your journey, do a "tick check." The ticks usually crawl for several hours before burying themselves in your skin. Lyme disease is an infection caused through the bite of the tiny western black-legged tick, and is treatable with antibiotics.

DISEASE-Many small animals, such as golden-mantled ground squirrels, can carry diseases and should never be touched or handled. All rodents are known to harbor fleas that carry a bacterium that causes Bubonic Plague. Leave all rodents alone and allow them to find all their own food. Their natural diet insures their health and survival. No matter how convincingly they beg, **please don't feed them**. If you see a rodent acting strangely, notify a campground host or forest officer.

SUNBURN can occur rapidly at these high altitudes, especially if you are on the water where the sun's rays can be reflected back to you. Even on cloudy days the sun's rays can burn you. Be sure that you put sunscreen on before embarking on your daytime activities.

BUDDY UP if you are hiking, backpacking, or exploring the forest at any time of year. Take someone with you and make sure a third party knows your travel plans and return time. **LOST?** Stay calm and look around. If you have a map and a compass, try and orient yourself to local peaks and landmarks. If you cannot find the trail, stay where you are until someone finds you.

GIARDIA-The forest's clear waters can be deceiving. They look cold and thirst-quenching on a hot day but should never be assumed safe. *Giardia*, a microscopic parasite, is the hidden hazard. The best way to protect yourself is to filter all water with an approved *Giardia*-rated filter. Boiling for three to five minutes or using chemical tablets will also destroy *Giardia*. *Giardia* can cause cramps, gas, bloating, diarrhea, and loss of appetite. It is treatable with antibiotics.

RATTLESNAKES can be found anytime, anywhere in the forest. These fascinating reptiles will make every effort to avoid humans and get out of the way, but may strike if cornered or surprised. Be on the lookout for them sunning on rocks and logs, and never put your foot or hand somewhere you can't see. Bites are painful, but lethal bites are extremely rare. Many folklore treatments are more dangerous than the bite itself. If bitten, stay calm, avoid exertion and seek immediate medical help.



California black bear *ursus americanus*

Ready To Explore ?

Join us on an Heritage Adventure to:

- **Rent an historic lookout**, relax and enjoy the view from the historic McCarthy Point Lookout. It sits on a rock outcrop overlooking Mill Creek Canyon. Contact Almanor Ranger District for more information.
- **VISIT** Bogard barn, a historic log barn constructed in 1916, or the historic Spalding Cabin, homestead in 1881. Contact Eagle Lake Ranger District for more information
- **SEE** exhibits on early historic logging, emigrant trails, and Native American lifeways?. Stop by and visit Old Station Visitor Center, Almanor Ranger District Office or the Susanville Railroad Depot. All these sites offer glimpses into the past.
- **Hike or Bike** along the Bizz Johnson National Recreation Trail and discover what once was a railway is now converted to a riding and hiking trail. Built in the early 20th century, it served the logging communities of Westwood and Susanville.

Help Protect the Past

Artifacts such as arrowheads and old bottles, tumbled-down buildings long abandoned, folk tales passed on by word of mouth for generations—these are all storehouses of information, bits of data that, when carefully brought together and interpreted, can tell stories about past peoples. Collectively we call them heritage resources.

In some cases, they represent the only opportunity we have to learn about the past. Native Americans, for example, have lived in what is now the Lassen National Forest for over 4,000 years, but they left no written records. Almost everything we know of them has been sifted from what they left behind them in the earth. Discovering and preserving this is a painstaking task. The location where objects are found in relation to one another in the soil is as important as the artifact itself.

Your aid in protecting and not disturbing these clues to the past is important. Forest Service archaeologists manage heritage resources on forest land in order to preserve that historic record. Excavating sites without a permit is illegal on National Forests and all other Federal land, as is surface collection of artifacts. Penalties include fines, seizure of property, prison terms, and civil damage assessments.

If you see individuals excavating or disturbing an archaeological or historical site, please report the activity to the nearest Forest Service office as soon as you can.

For More Information:

USDA, Lassen National Forest

Supervisor's Office: 2550 Riverside Drive, Susanville, CA 96130 (530) 257-2151 TDD: (530) 257-6244, <http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/lassen>

Almanor Ranger District: PO Box 767, Chester, CA 96020 (530) 258-2141 (voice/TDD)

Eagle Lake Ranger District: 477-050 Eagle Lake Road, Susanville, CA 96130 (530) 257-4188

Hat Creek Ranger District: PO Box 220, Fall River Mills, CA 96028 (530) 336-5521 (voice/TDD)

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs)



OHVs are allowed in the Forest, with the exception of developed recreation sites, the Pacific Crest Trail, and all wilderness areas. A California Off Highway Vehicle license (Green Sticker) or valid state registration is required. This is to show that your vehicle has been properly registered. Many of our forest back roads provide excellent OHV recreation. Check out the forest maps for detailed information on our road systems.

If you are exploring on a bicycle, remember that bicycles are not allowed in wilderness areas, on the Pacific Crest Trail and in other marked areas.

When riding, "tread lightly" on the road, and please observe these regulations:

- Make sure you have an approved spark arrester and find out if there are any fire regulations or closures in effect.
- Avoid cutting across switchbacks or through mountain meadows; stay on established routes.
- Don't spin wheels unnecessarily; avoid driving in streams or on steep hills with loose soil; ford streams only at designated crossings.
- Don't harass livestock or wildlife, especially those rearing young; if you encounter a stock drive, ask the handler how to proceed.
- Leave natural and historical features as you find them.
- Obtain landowner permission to cross or use private land; leave fences and gates as you find them; respect "no trespassing" signs and please do not enter.
- Operate your OHV safely and show courtesy and consideration to others you encounter in the forest.
- Remember, helmets are required when riding a motorcycle or an ATV. All California driving laws are enforced on the National Forest. Be responsible and follow the law: Don't drink alcohol and drive.

OHV's are not to blame for environmental damage—it is only when OHVs are operated irresponsibly that damage occurs. An OHV can be a great way to enjoy the forest. Help keep it that way by treading lightly.

Emergency Phone Numbers

To Report a Fire:

Fire Dispatcher, 5th & Spruce Streets, Susanville, CA 96130 (530) 257-5575 or 911.

In case of medical or law enforcement emergencies:

Dial 911. Listed below are emergency treatment centers:

CHESTER: Seneca Hospital, 130 Brentwood Dr., Chester, CA (530) 258-2151

CHICO: Enloe Medical Center, 5th and Esplanade, Chico, CA (530) 332-7300

FALL RIVER MILLS, MCARTHUR/BURNEY: Mayer's Memorial Hospital, 43563 Highway 299 East, Fall River Mills, CA (530) 336-5511 TDD: 336-5088

RED BLUFF: St. Elizabeth's Hospital, 2580 Sister Mary Colomba Drive, Red Bluff, CA (530) 529-8000

REDDING: Mercy Medical Center, 2175 Rosaline Ave., Redding, CA (530) 225-6000, Redding Medical Center, 1100 Butte Street, Redding, CA (530) 244-5400

SUSANVILLE: Lassen Community Hospital, 560 Hospital Lane, Susanville, CA (530) 257-5325