



USDA Forest Service Stanislaus NF Forest Facts

- The Stanislaus National Forest (STF) encompasses 898,099 acres on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada mountain range. It is located mostly in Tuolumne County, California, next to the northwestern border of Yosemite National Park. Smaller areas of the forest are also in southern Alpine County, northern Mariposa County and eastern Calaveras County.
- The Stanislaus NF was established in Feb. 1897 and was named after the Stanislaus River.
- Forest headquarters are located in Sonora, California. There are four ranger districts: Calaveras, Groveland, Mi-Wok and Summit.
- There are over 800 miles of rivers and streams, including: the Clavey River – the longest undammed river in the Sierras; and the Tuolumne River – the largest tributary of the San Joaquin River. There are 1,100 miles of non-motorized trails and 2,859 miles of roads of which only 188 miles are paved.
- Wilderness areas include: the Emigrant, located entirely within the Stanislaus NF, plus portions of the Carson-Iceberg (including the Dardanelles Cone) and the Mokelumne Wilderness.
- The trees on the Stanislaus NF vary from oak grasslands at lower elevations to mixed conifer at higher elevations. Some of the conifers include: sequoia, ponderosa pine, sugar pine, Douglas fir, red and white fir.
- Elevations range from 1,500 feet to over 11,000 feet above sea level.
- The area which is now the Stanislaus NF is the traditional home of the Miwok people who once traveled with the seasons from low country to high country and back for thousands of years.
- Today the forest is managed for multiple uses, which include: “traditional” uses of logging, grazing, mining, hydroelectric and water storage projects. Traditional uses have expanded to include: current popular recreational activities, such as: river rafting, boating, fishing, OHV riding, snowmobiling, horse riding, camping, backpacking, photography and skiing.
- Since it is only about three hours to San Francisco and two hours to the central valley, the Stanislaus NF is a popular weekend and vacation destination.