



Forest Service  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

# San Bernardino National Forest

## Visitor Guide



A free guide to enhance your visit to the National Forest

2021-2022

**San Bernardino National Forest Supervisor's Office**  
602 S. Tippecanoe Ave.  
San Bernardino, CA 92408  
(909) 382-2600

**Front Country Ranger District  
Lytle Creek Ranger Station**  
1209 Lytle Creek Road  
Lytle Creek, CA 92358  
(909) 382-2851

**Mill Creek Visitor Center**  
34701 Mill Creek Road  
Mentone, CA 92359  
(909) 382-2882

**Mountaintop Ranger District  
Big Bear Discovery Center**  
P.O. Box 290  
40971 North Shore Dr., Hwy 38  
Fawnskin, CA 92333  
(909) 382-2790

**San Jacinto Ranger Station**  
P.O. Box 518  
54270 Pine Crest Ave.  
Idyllwild, CA 92549  
(909) 382-2921

**Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitor Center**  
51500 Highway 74  
Palm Desert, CA 92260  
(760) 862-9984

**Please call for business hours**  
**For TDD/TTY dial 7-1-1**

## Welcome!

Welcome to the San Bernardino National Forest, home to some 675,000 acres of beautiful and diverse public land in Southern California. This forest’s pine and alpine environs are sky islands separating the Mediterranean climate of urban Southern California from the Mojave and Sonoran deserts. Elevations run between 2,000 feet in the foothills to approximately 11,500 at the peak of San Gorgonio Mountain.

Such changes in terrain and environment makes the forest home to a wide diversity of plants and animals, including many that are threatened or endangered. This wide range of environments also affords a variety of recreational opportunities, from hiking to mountain biking, snow play to skiing, and auto touring to off-road highway driving. We hope you enjoy your visit while being safe and respectful to the land.

**New Routes Opened for OHVs With More to Come**

Drivers of certain off-highway vehicles (OHVs) can now use three roads in the Big Pine Flats area between Big Bear and Apple Valley. One section and two full forest system roads in 2020 were converted for use by OHVs, such as ATVs, side-by-sides and some dirt bikes, all which require a California DMV-issued identification sticker, often referred to as a “green sticker.”

Those roads are 4.9 miles of Coxey Road (3N14) and Big Pine Flats Station and Campground Road (3N14F) and Horse Springs Road (4N16A).

“The OHV community has been asking for more access in this area and, thanks to a state grant and work with our partners, we have been able to do that” said Marc

Stamer, district ranger for the Mountaintop Ranger District. “I hope returning and new OHV visitors enjoy these new additions and the ability to stay at two campgrounds.”

The road redesignations included safety improvements for mixed-use and is the first of three phases of new recreation opportunities in the area. Planned for late 2021 are a staging or trailering area at the intersection of Coxey and Holcomb Valley (3N16) roads in addition to 6.6 miles of new OHV trails. 25 miles of illegal OHV trails will also be restored by Forest partner Southern California Mountains Foundation

**Please Watch Your Speed**

Part of the terrain—and fun—are how the roads bend and curve throughout the landscape. But these features can be dangerous. Imagine rounding a blind curve at high speed to find another vehicle around the bend. It’s happened before and we want to make sure it doesn’t anymore. It is the law operate your vehicle in a manner that regards the safety of other people. Let’s make the roads and trails safe and fun for everyone!

**Need More OHV Information?**

From where to go and how to do the safe and legal way, there’s a lot to know when visiting the forest! All vehicles with green stickers can take advantage of 175 miles of backcountry roads. An additional 62 miles of motorized trails are open to vehicles that are under 50 inches wide.

For updated information on OHV camping, staging areas, enforced laws and rider etiquette, please go to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/sbnf/recreation/ohv>.

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The information in this guide is accurate to the best of our knowledge and is subject to change at any time. Call a local ranger station for current information.





## ¡Bienvenidos!

¡Bienvenidos al Bosque Nacional San Bernardino! Con su gran variedad de plantas y animales, el Bosque le ofrece un hermoso paisaje, soledad, y una de las mejores oportunidades recreativas en el Sur de California. Estos terrenos públicos están disponibles para que los disfrute y los cuide.

### ¿Qué es un Pase de Aventura?



El Pase de Aventura es diferente de un pago de entrada, comunmente cobrado por el Estado y Parques Nacionales. Es para uso recreativo, no para entrada en el Bosque. Por lo tanto, no todas las personas que viajan a través del bosque necesitan comprar uno. A pescadores, jinetes, cazadores, excursionistas, campistas y la mayoría de otros usuarios al aire libre se les requiere comprar un pase y exhibirlo en su vehículo cuando se parquéen en el Bosque Nacional para recrearse. De no comprar un pase y exhibirlo en su vehículo, usted puede recibir una multa de \$100.

### ¿Dónde se requiere el Pase de Aventura?

El Pase de Aventura se requiere cuando el vehículo está parqueado en Áreas de Alto Impacto Recreativo (HIRAs) y algunos sitios designados. Llame la estación de guardabosques más cercana o visite [www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass](http://www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass).

### Esté Preparado

En el bosque, la altitud oscila entre 2,000 pies cerca del fondo del valle y 11,000 pies en la montaña de San Gorgonio. Las temperaturas pueden variar ampliamente—bien puede estar a 70 grados en Los Angeles y a 40 grados en Big Bear Lake. Puede nevar en casi cualquier mes del año. Se pueden acumular desde 5 hasta 20 pies de nieve en ciertas áreas. No importa cuánta experiencia tenga, siempre averigüe cómo está el clima en las montañas antes de partir.

Durante el invierno, lleve cadenas para sus llantas dentro de su vehículo y aprenda a instalarlas. Lleve ropa adicional en caso de haber cambios repentinos en el clima. Se requiere chamarra (chumpa), guantes, una gorra y calcetines secos para los paseos en coche durante el invierno. Durante el verano, lleve suficiente agua consigo, especialmente si viaja por los senderos remotos. No es seguro tomar el agua de los arroyos o del lago en ningún lugar del Bosque Nacional.

## DESCUBRE el BOSQUE



Scan this QR code  
with your mobile  
device to visit  
<http://www.descubreelbosque.org/>

### Acampar

Si lo desea, puede acampar en campamentos que han sido establecidos cerca de los senderos remotos o al lado de senderos para ciclistas. Puede acampar en el desierto, en las alturas del bosque o cerca de un lago. Existen reglamentos especiales para cada uno de estos sitios y la mayoría de los campamentos tienen sus propias cuotas (vea lista en página 3). Asegúrese de llamar o visitar una oficina de Servicios de Bosques al planear su paseo de campamento.

Los incendios de bosque son un problema mayor para el Bosque Nacional San Bernardino. Muchos de estos son causados por el descuido de las personas que van a acampar. Por tal motivo, existen reglas acerca del uso de fuego en los lugares abiertos. En general, se puede hacer una fogata en un campamento ya establecido (uno donde hay agua y se paga una cuota). En los lugares más remotos, se permiten las fogatas solamente durante ciertas épocas del año y se debe obtener un permiso. El personal de las Oficinas del Guardabosques le puede informar acerca de los reglamentos actuales en cuanto a fogatas.

### Día de Campo

Las áreas para día de campo generalmente tienen mesas, estufas o braceritos, y escusados cubiertos. Hay agua para tomar disponible en ciertas áreas (página 8). No se le permite pasar la noche en las áreas designadas como áreas para día de campo.

### La Pesca

El Departamento de Pesca y Caza del Estado de California (DFG) mantiene los lagos y arroyos públicos suplidos de peces. Se requiere una licencia estatal a las personas de 16 años de edad en adelante. Para escuchar una grabación acerca del suprido de peces llame al 562-594-7268. Para obtener más información sobre los reglamentos y las licencias llame al (Department of Fish and Wildlife) 909-484-0167 o visite la página web del (DFW) [www.dfg.ca.gov](http://www.dfg.ca.gov).

La mayoría de áreas son suplidas con trucha de arco iris durante la época de pesca. También pueden encontrarse trucha café, lobina, pez de agallas azules, y pez gato.

## El Tiro al Blanco Como Forma de Recreación

El bosque estuvo cerrado temporalmente para el tiro al blanco en 1997 y 1998 por cuestiones de seguridad pública y para la protección de los recursos. Algunas áreas se han vuelto a abrir en 1999 en tanto se finaliza un plan que abarca el bosque entero. El personal del bosque le pide a las personas que practican el tiro al blanco que respeten las reglas y ayuden en los días de limpieza voluntaria para hacer del tiro al blanco un éxito en el Bosque Nacional.

El Tiro al Blanco es permitido



MUCHAS FAMILIAS DISFRUTAN DE COMER AL AIRE LIBRE (CAMPESTRE) EN APPLEWHITE PICNIC GROUNDS Y VADEAN EN LYTLE CREEK

sólo en áreas designadas en el Bosque Nacional San Bernardino. Llame a la estación de guardabosques más cercano para mapas e información detallados sobre los niveles de actividad de incendio para esa área y día. Tiradores tienen prohibido destruir cualquier elemento natural en los bosques nacionales, incluyendo plantas y árboles. No se puede descargar un arma de fuego a 150 yardas de cualquier área desarrollada. Un Pase de Aventura es necesario para la mayoría de las zonas de tiro al blanco en el bosque. Balas con núcleo de acero, balas para perforación de armadura, o munición de teflón no son permitidos. Pistolas de aire suave y pistolas de bolas de pintura no se permiten ser descargados en el bosque. El bosque se encuentra cerrado para el tiro al blanco durante los períodos de alto riesgo de incendios.

### Aprendiendo Más Acerca del

### Bosque

Puede aprender más acerca de la vida salvaje, las plantas, y la historia del bosque visitando algunos de los muchos lugares de interpretación. Busque este símbolo en los mapas, páginas 9–15. Algunos de estos lugares tienen guías impresos de los senderos, y algunos tienen signos a color por todo el sendero. El “Chaparral Neighborhood Trail” (página 10) cuenta con una guía de un sendero natural de 1/2 milla escrita en español.

Las torres para detectar incendios están abiertas al público durante los meses de verano. Puede subir hasta el tope y disfrutar del paisaje. Usualmente, los voluntarios del bosque están disponibles para contestar sus preguntas. Busque este símbolo en sus mapas.

El “Children’s Forest Trail” (página 12) es un sendero de 3/4 de milla con una guía diseñada y escrita por y para niños. Si lo visita durante el verano, los jóvenes naturalistas le servirán de guía y le contarán más acerca del área. ¡Este es un lugar magnífico para llevar a los niños!

### Usted Puede Ayudar

¡Ayude a cuidar el bosque cada vez que lo visite! Tenga cuidado con el fuego; es algo muy importante que puede hacer. Ponga la basura en su lugar y así ayudará a mantener al bosque luciendo bien. Estacionese y acampe solamente en áreas designadas para ayudar a mantener las demás áreas en su forma silvestre y libres de obstáculos.

Sirva como voluntario en uno de los proyectos del bosque. Los voluntarios ayudan a edificar y construir senderos naturales, a trabajar en los centros para visitantes y en otras áreas públicas, y a presentar programas educativos para el público. Las personas bilingües son de valor especial en las comunicaciones. Los voluntarios también trabajan con biólogos y botanistas para inspeccionar y medir la fauna y la flora. Los voluntarios patrullan las áreas salvajes. Para mayor información acerca del trabajo de voluntario, comuníquese con la oficina general al 909-382-2600 y pregunte acerca del Programa de Voluntarios.





United States Department of Agriculture

# Bosque Nacional de San Bernardino



## Guía de visitantes

Guía para los visitantes al Bosque Nacional de San Bernardino

2021-2022

## Prescripción de Fuego: Justo lo que el bosque ordenó

Con los incendios catastróficos en el sur de California de 2007 y 2009 aún recientes en nuestras mentes, la visualización de humo puede causar un poco de miedo. Pero no es inusual en el Bosque Nacional de San Bernardino. Podría ser un incendio forestal o podría ser intencionalmente provocado, o un fuego “prescripto” que podría prevenir incendios mayores. Los administradores de incendio del Servicio Forestal han estado usando el fuego prescripto como herramienta para crear y mantener áreas de resistencia en nuestro bosque nacionales desde el comienzo del año 1970. El fuego de la prescripción puede ser diseñado para imitar efectos naturales de fuego en el paisaje, los objetivos típicamente incluyen reducir la densidad del pabellón del bosque y competición de la planta de semillero, además empuja hacia atrás la plaga de los prados adentro del bosque. El modelado de fuego y los datos climáticos históricos son utilizados para identificar las condiciones donde el comportamiento del fuego será bajo a moderado, utilizando barreras naturales y artificiales para limitar el crecimiento del fuego y la posibilidad de propagación.



A PRESCRIBED BURN

Kyle R.T. Silva

y la seguridad es la preocupación primordial. De hecho, muchos de los fuegos prescritos se llevan a cabo para la protección de la comunidad. La fuga de combustible de Westridge es un buen ejemplo. El fuego prescripto combinado con reducción mecánica en áreas crecidas ha sido empleado para el solo propósito de proteger la comunidad de Idyllwild de un fuego incontrolable. En otras palabras, estamos luchando fuego con fuego.

El verano del 2016 fue otro año de fuego extremo para gran parte del sur de California. La sequía contribuyó a la intensidad de la temporada de incendios. Irónicamente, parte de la razón por el que los incendios fueron tan severos fue porque la lucha contra los incendios ha sido tan eficaz desde los principios del siglo XX. Los desastres de la vida silvestre en los siglos XIX y XX, junto con la enorme necesidad de madera durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial, ocasionaron una guerra total contra incendios en los bosques de los Estados Unidos. En el pasado, existía una mentalidad que todo fuego era destructivo y malo. Pero con mucho estudio científico, ecologistas, administradores de fuego y funcionarios electos ahora se dan cuenta de que el fuego es natural y esencial.

## Luchando Fuego con Fuego

Los administradores de fuego también tienen que tomar en consideración la acumulación de combustible, las casas y las comunidades alrededor de las tierras forestales nacionales. Parte de la “prescripción” para la quema es un plan muy detallado que toma todas las contingencias en consideración.

Los combustibles acumulados se eliminan cuidadosamente y gradualmente,

## El Fuego es Natural

Como en la mayoría de los bosques occidentales, el fuego es un proceso natural que existía en el Bosque Nacional de San Bernardino mucho antes de que el Servicio Forestal manejara estos terrenos. Los relámpagos generaron incendios que limpiaron la acumulación de materiales de las plantas, redujeron las superficies de los árboles, liberaron nutrientes de nuevo al suelo, estimularon la germinación de las semillas y despejaron caminos para la vida silvestre. Los nativos americanos usaron fuego para propósitos similares. Sus fuegos despejaban las plantas muertas y moribundas, permitiendo el brote de nuevas, lo cual era beneficioso para ellos y la vida silvestre que cazaban.

Una manera científica y cuidadosa para administrar el fuego se ha desarrollado y se está aplicando actualmente a las tierras salvajes del Bosque Nacional de San Bernardino. Las características naturales y artificiales son evaluadas para determinar el nivel de intensidad de fuego que pueden resistir, si lo hay. Los paisajes reciben una “prescripción” basada en la necesidad de fuego, tal como un doctor que evalúa la necesidad de un paciente de medicina y le prescribe si es necesario.

Prescribir fuego ayuda a las plantas y el hábito de los animales sean más productivos y abiertos. Los árboles tienen más nutrientes y luz de sol, y crecen más resistentes a las enfermedades, insectos e incluso a un fuego más intenso. Algunas especies de plantas incluso requieren fuego para poder sobrevivir y otros para germinar. Los paisajes regresan al estado armónico, abierto, y saludable de los días antes de que hayan sido extinguidos todos los fuegos.

## Todavía contando contigo

Como los doctores, la prescripción para el fuego solo debe ser hecho por aquellos con el conocimiento y la experiencia para hacer una decisión tan importante. Los tratamientos deben ser diseñados cuidadosamente para que las quemadas logren los resultados deseados. No es simplemente la cuestión de dejar que las cosas se quemen. Los incendios forestales pueden ser prevenidos. ¡El Oso Smokey todavía sigue contando contigo!

Cada temporada de incendio el Bosque Nacional de San Bernardino restringe el uso de fuego. Estas restricciones son necesarias para prevenir catástrofes de incendios. Algunas restricciones importantes de fuego incluyen:

- Las fogatas de carbón y leña son permitidos solamente en los anillos de fuego designados, que son creados para ser seguros.
- Los anillos designados de campamento se encuentran en campamentos desarrollados, áreas de picnic y sitios con letreros amarillos. Una estación de guardabosques puede ayudarle encontrar lugares para tener una fogata de campamento legal y segura. Toda tipo de barbacoas incluyendo de carbón están incluidas en esta restricción.
- Un permiso de hoguera de California es requerida para estufas fuera de los campamentos desarrollados y áreas de picnic.
- Contacte su estación de guardabosque más cercano para obtener un permiso y las restricciones de fuego actuales.
- Fume cigarros, puros o pipas solamente en áreas despejadas o en un vehículo cerrado.
- Adicionalmente, los fuegos artificiales están prohibidos. Se requieren arrestadores de flama para vehículos fuera de carretera (OHVs), generadores portátiles y otros motores similares.

*The forest belongs to YOU!*

3



Forest Service

Pacific Southwest Region

San Bernardino National Forest

[www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf)



# GENERAL INFORMATION & PERMITS

## Special Use Permits & Forest Products

The Special Uses Permit (SUP) program on the SBNF allows visitors to utilize Forest Lands under a temporary permit for a myriad of uses, including but not limited to: filming, both commercial and noncommercial, still and motion picture, weddings, reunions, large commercial and noncommercial groups (festivals, showcases, group off road events), sporting events such as marathons, bike events, motorized off road races, etc. The SUP program also administers nearly two dozen Organizational Camps 700 Recreation Residence cabins, historic structures (some well over 100 years old!) In addition, the program oversees all the utility corridors used to provide electricity, water, sewage handling, fiber optics for information and phones, and all the cell tower sites situated on the Forest.



Scan this QR code with your mobile device to visit [www.fs.usda.gov/main/sbnf/passes-permits/event-commercial](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/sbnf/passes-permits/event-commercial)

## San Jacinto Ranger District

### Peaks, Valleys and Vistas!

The San Jacinto Mountains rise from the desert floor to form a sky island range. San Jacinto Peak is among the highest peaks in Southern California (10,834 ft.). The Palms to Pines Scenic Highway runs through the San Jacinto Ranger District, beginning in Palm Desert, winding to Idyllwild and eventually heading north to Interstate 10. Our Visitor Information Center provides information on hiking, camping, fishing and other outdoor and local activities. Necessary hiking permits and Fee Area Passes are available here.

#### Visitor Center Hours

Closed Wednesday & Thursday

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Closed for lunch daily

12:00 - 12:30

**Phone** 909-382-2921

#### Location

54270 Pine Crest Ave.

Idyllwild, CA 92549

Intersection of Highway 243 and

Pine Crest Ave.

**Fax** 951-659-2107

## Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitor Center

### Wildlife and Wildflowers

There are many different types of wildlife to be seen at the SRSJM National Monument from Bighorn Sheep and rabbits to the many varieties of birds and butterflies. In the springtime join us for the breathtaking wildflowers.

#### Visitor Center Hours

Closed Wednesday & Thursday

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Closed for lunch daily

12:00 - 12:30

#### Location

51500 Highway 74

Palm Desert, CA 92260

**Phone** 760-862-9984

**Fax** 909-382-2921

## Front Country Ranger District

### A Chaparral Neighborhood

Although this is one of the lowest elevations on the forest, Lytle Creek is the center for activities in the Cajon area. Summer weekends and holidays are bustling with activity in the picnic area, campground and river banks.

#### Visitor Center Hours

Closed Tuesday & Wednesday

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Closed for lunch daily

12:00 - 1:00

#### Location

1209 Lytle Creek Road

Lytle Creek, CA 92358

**Phone** 909-382-2851

**Fax** 909-887-8197

## Mill Creek Work Center

### The Forest Oasis

The San Gorgonio Wilderness will take you to the highest peak (11,564 ft.). Within its boundaries you will find trees small lakes, streams, and solitude.

#### Visitor Center Hours

Closed Tuesday & Wednesday

8:00 am - 4:30 pm

7:00 am - 3:30 pm Memorial day -

Labor Day

Closed for lunch daily

#### Location

34701 Mill Creek Rd.

Mentone, CA 92359

**Phone** 909-382-2882

**Fax** 909-794-1125

## Big Bear Discovery Center

### Your Gateway to Adventure!

More than 250,000 annual visitors stop in at the Big Bear Discovery Center for useful forest information, including hiking, biking, and camping, along with obtaining permits and to purchase Adventure Passes. The center is a great environmental family learning hub, starting with free guided nature walks available to gain a basic understanding of local plant life, wildlife and interesting historical facts. Seasonally, guided tours by naturalists are available on weekends for families to learn about ecology, wildlife, and the history of the Big Bear Valley.

From Memorial to Labor Day Weekends, family-oriented programming is expanded on Saturdays and Sundays to include more interpretive programs aimed at families learning together how to become more responsible caretakers and to heighten their enjoyment of our National Forest. Evening events include Music in the Mountains, a summer concert series, offering the best classic rock tribute music on the San Bernardino National Forest along with a summer campfire series offering different nature themes for families to enjoy and learn, and guided night hikes leaving from Serrano Campground. The Big Bear Discovery Center is also an outdoor classroom for school and youth groups.

#### Open all year

Closed Tues/Wed

909-382-2790

#### Location

North shore of Big Bear Lake,

3 miles east of Fawnskin

## Children's Forest Visitor Center

### A Great Stop for Families!

Created in the wake of the 1970 Bear Fire, the 3,400-acre area was replanted with trees bearing the names of children. The first trail here was established in 1993 by a work group of children from around the country. The 3/4 -mile interpretive Trail of the Phoenix, located at the top of Keller Peak Road, can still be hiked today. There is also the one-way 4.5-mile Exploration Trail. Along with recreation opportunities, the Children's Forest hosts a Visitor Center, an Environmental Education Program, a Youth Leadership Volunteer Program, and an active reforestation program. Children's Forest is a place where children learn how to become stewards of the land. Stop by during the summer to see the youth designed nature exhibits in the visitor center. Youth leaders are available to answer questions and lead interpretive programs. Group events, such as school/ scout programs are available year-round. For event details go to: [www.mountainsfoundation.org](http://www.mountainsfoundation.org)

#### Visitor Center Hours

Memorial Day - Laor Day

Saturdays and Sundays ONLY

9 am - 5 pm

#### Interpretive Programs

Saturdays & Sundays: Youth-led nature walks.

Sundays: Public greenhouse days 1-3 pm.

#### Location

One-half mile east of Running Springs at Deerlick Fire Station (see map, page 13).



# CAMPING

## Developed Camping

Developed campgrounds have various services and facilities. Most campgrounds open in May and close in October or November. Some are open all year (marked with an asterisk \* in the table to the right). All campgrounds may be closed due to wildfires, storms, or repairs. Check with the local ranger station for current conditions.

### Making a Reservation

Call toll-free: 1 (877) 444-6777

Reserve on the web:

[www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)



Scan this QR code with your mobile device to visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

### Reservation Fee Charged

The **National Recreation Reservation Service** handles reservations for most campgrounds, the remainder are on a first-come, first-served basis. Holiday weekends book early. Campground prices are subject to change.

## Undeveloped Camping

Undeveloped camping is camping outside of a developed site. Undeveloped camping provides more solitude and an opportunity to “rough it.” Camping is allowed in many Remote Areas (Dispersed) and at Yellow Post Sites. **At all sites please Pack Out and dispose of trash properly.**

### Remote Areas

Remote areas are areas away from highways and development where camping along back-roads or trails is permitted. Because of year-round fire danger, woodfires and charcoal BBQs are not allowed in remote areas. Chemical or propane stoves may be used if you have a free **California Campfire Permit**, which may be obtained at ranger stations throughout California or at <https://permit.preventwildfiresca.org/> Check at the nearest ranger station for current fire restrictions. The general rules for remote camping are:

- Camp at least 200 feet away from springs, water, meadows, trails, and Forest roads.
- Your camp should be at least a quarter mile away from designated campgrounds, picnic areas, trail-heads, private property, or state highways.
- Camp “out of sight” of others and do not disturb them.
- Take your trash with you and dispose of properly

Holiday weekend fees are slightly higher. There is a charge for extra vehicles. There are a few double sites in some campgrounds which charge a higher fee than single sites.

### Family Campgrounds

Family campgrounds generally have vault or flush toilets, fire rings and/or grills, tables, and parking spaces. Drinking water and showers are available if noted in the table to the right. All sites hold a maximum of 8 people unless otherwise stated

### Group Campgrounds

Group campgrounds can accommodate groups of 8 to 100 people. The number of people and vehicles are limited (see table).

### Yellow Post Sites




Yellow Post Sites are free campsites within remote areas on back roads or trails where campfires are allowed as long as the fire stays within the designated fire ring and fire restrictions allow. A free **California Campfire Permit** is required for any Yellow Post site in the Forest. Sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis.




















### Wilderness Campsites

























The number of visitors admitted into some wilderness areas is limited. On summer weekends, some areas may fill to capacity well in advance. Wilderness campsites are accessible by foot and/or horseback only, and many require a free permit, which may be reserved up to three months in advance from the local ranger station. When camping in the wilderness, lightweight stoves are recommended. Campfires are never allowed in any wilderness area on the San Bernardino National Forest.
























**Campfires are never allowed outside developed recreation areas on the San Bernardino National Forest.**

















## Family Campgrounds

Name	Amenities	Appr. Elev.	No. Sites	Space Size	Daily Site Fee
<b>Cajon</b> (Pg. 12)					
Applewhite*	  	3300’	44	30’	









<b>Arrowhead</b> (Pg. 13)					
Crab Flats	   	6200’	27	15’	\$24
Dogwood	      	5600’	87	22’	\$37
Green Valley	   	7000’	37	22’	\$26
North Shore	   	5300’	28	22’	\$26




























<b>Big Bear</b> (Pg. 14)					
Big Pine Flat	   	6800’	19	30’	\$26
Hanna Flats	   	7000’	85	35’	\$30
Holcomb Valley*	  	7400’	19	25’	\$24
Horse Springs*	 	5800’	11	25’	\$10
Pineknott	   	7000’	47	35’	\$31
Serrano	      	6800’	111	55’	\$37

<b>San Gorgonio</b> (Pg. 15)					
Barton Flats	      	6500’	52	55’	\$33
San Gorgonio	    	6500’	54	55’	\$31
Heart Bar	   	6900’	89	50’	\$26
South Fork	   	6400’	24	30’	\$26
Wildhorse Eq.	  	7000’	11	50’	\$32

<b>San Jacinto</b> (Pg. 16)					
Boulder Basin	 	7300’	34	15’	\$10
Dark Canyon	  	5800’	15	15’	\$12
Fern Basin	   	6300’	21	15’	\$10
Marion Mtn.	   	6400’	24	15’	\$10
Pinyon Flat*	  	4000’	18	15’	\$8

## Group Campgrounds

Name	Amenities	No. Sites	No. People	No. Cars	Daily Site Fee
<b>Arrowhead</b> (Pg. 13)					
Fisherman’s*	  Hike In Only	4	8	0	\$10
Shady Cove	   	3	30	16	\$104
Tent Peg	 		30	5	\$137

<b>Big Bear</b> (Pg. 14)					
Big Pine Flat Eq.	  		25	8	\$115
Bluff Mesa	  		40	8	\$137
Boulder	  		40	8	\$137
Buttercup	   		40	8	\$137
Deer	  		40	8	\$137
Gray’s Peak	 		40	8	\$137
Green Spot Eq.	 		25	8	\$115
Ironwood	 		25	5	\$115
Juniper Spring	 		40	8	\$137
Tanglewood	  		40	8	\$137

<b>San Gorgonio</b> (Pg. 15)					
Coon Ck. Cabin	 		25	10	\$115
Council	   		50	10	\$225
Heart Bar Eq.	   		65	21	\$291
Lobo	   		75	15	\$335
Oso	   		100	20	\$445
Skyline	  		25	9	\$115

<b>San Jacinto</b> (Pg. 16)					
Black Mountain	 		100	25	\$60-120
Ribbonwd Eq.*	   		75	30	\$120/200

-  Drinking water on site
-  RV dump
-  Showers
-  Hookups
- \* Open year-round
-  Vault Toilets
-  Flush Toilets
-  1st Come/1st Served
-  Reserve through [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)
-  Bear box available

## Camping Regulations

- Check with the local ranger station for camping stay limits.
- Dogs are allowed in campgrounds, but they must be on a leash under your control at all times.
- Horses are not allowed in developed campgrounds, with the exception of designated equestrian campgrounds.
- Campsites must be occupied on the first night of your stay.
- Store your food properly - use bear resistant containers if available.
- Please keep a clean camp and dispose of trash properly.
- <https://lnt.org/why/7-principals/>



RECREATION

*Hunting and fishing are regulated by the California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (<https://wildlife.ca.gov/> or 909-484-0167) and a license is required.*

### Hunting

Hunting is permitted during open seasons. Popular game animals are mule deer, mountain and valley quail, and turkey. Band-tailed pigeons, cottontail rabbits, jack rabbits, and black bears can also be hunted. “Predator calling” for coyote, fox, and bobcat is done in some areas. An Adventure Pass may be required subject to parking area.

Any animal not listed as a game animal in the California Hunting Regulations is protected in the national forest. Regulations are available at sporting goods stores and some ranger stations. Poaching and pollution should be reported by calling CalTip at 888-334-2258. Hunters are asked to help prevent unintended lead poisoning of wildlife scavengers. Bury gut piles to a depth that will discourage scavengers. Lead-Free bullets are required in California Condor areas—check with your ammunition supplier for the latest products. Due to the number of populated areas near the national forest, check with your local ranger station or Fish and Wildlife office for legal hunting areas. Shotgun and bow-hunting is permitted almost everywhere except near populated areas.

### Fishing

Public lakes and streams in the forest may be stocked regularly by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (<https://wildlife.ca.gov/> or 909-484-0167). A state license is required for persons 16 years of age and older. For stocking information, call 855-887-1275. Most areas are stocked with rainbow trout during fishing season and may also contain bass, bluegill, and catfish. Deep Creek and Bear Creek are wild trout streams where the trout reproduce naturally. Check with ranger stations for special regulations for these areas.



FISHING BIG BEAR LAKE

ROBIN PRINCE

### Prospecting

Prospecting, gold panning, mining, and claim staking are permitted on unappropriated National Forest system land. Check with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM [www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov)) for land status pertaining to mining claims. Also, check with the local ranger station for Forest Service use regulations before you begin prospecting. Some areas require a “Notice of Intent” to be submitted to the local ranger station for review by the district ranger before activities begin. If the District Ranger determines that the proposed activity may cause a significant surface disturbance, then the prospector will be required to submit a “Plan of Operation.”

Metal detecting to locate mineral deposits such as gold and silver on National Forest land is considered prospecting and is allowed under the provisions of the General Mining Law of 1872. Searching for coins of recent vintage (less than 50 years) and small objects having no historical value is allowed, as a recreational pursuit, using a hand-held metal detector, as long as the use of the equipment is confined to areas which do not possess historic or prehistoric resources. Exploration, excavation and removal of objects of historic or archaeological value is not permitted.

### Hiking & Backpacking

Hiking is a popular activity on the forest. There are dozens of scenic trails suited for day hiking as well as overnight trips, including the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT). The PCT is one of 11 National Scenic Trails and it links together the great mountains of the west through California, Oregon, and Washington.

### Know Before You Go

Check with the local ranger station for trail information, permit requirements, maps, and current conditions. Remember, weather may change quickly, especially at high elevations, at any time of the year. Check weather forecasts and avoid storms. Leave your itinerary with a friend.

#### Safety

Do not leave your valuables in your vehicle. Always remember to lock your car.

Open water sources are often contaminated by human and animal waste. Don’t drink water without



# Know Before you GO

**SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST**

**Check The Current forest Use Guidelines**

(909) 382-2600  
[www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf)

### Recreational Shooting

Recreational (target) shooting is only allowed in designated shooting areas and permitted target ranges. Shooters are prohibited from destroying any natural or man-made feature in the national forest, including plants and trees. A firearm may not be discharged across or on a National Forest System road or a body of water adjacent thereto, or in any manner or place whereby any person or property is exposed to injury or damage as a result in such discharge. An Adventure Pass is required at some shooting areas on the Forest. Because of the risks of starting a fire, some types of ammunition or guns may not be allowed. Shooters should call the closest ranger station for information on the fire activity level for that area and day. The Forest may be closed to all target shooting during periods of high fire danger. Check Project Activity Levels (PALS) before arriving by calling 909-382-2997.

*For more information on firearms regulations, please visit the California Dept of Justice Bureau of Firearms website [oag.ca.gov/firearms](http://oag.ca.gov/firearms)*

### Off-Highway Vehicles

The Forest’s off-highway vehicle (OHV) trail system features many miles of varied terrain for SUV/4-wheel drive vehicles, ATVs, and motorcycles. The Forest has 62 miles of 24-inch to 50-inch wide trails, 175 miles of Forest roads for non-highway legal registered vehicles (Green Sticker or Red Sticker), 753 miles of road for SUV/4x4 travel, and 104 miles of 4x4 routes. The trail system includes terrain suitable for novice, intermediate, and expert users, and the trails are signed from easy to difficult. Remember to bring your off highway legal registration (Green Sticker or Red Sticker).



*For more information on Green and Red Sticker regulations and licensing requirements, please visit this website <https://ohv.parks.ca.gov/>*

Red Sticker vehicles may only be used from October 1 to April 30 on the Front Country and Mountaintop Ranger Districts and from October 1 to May 31 on the San Jacinto Ranger District

Designated OHV routes are primarily in the Cajon, Arrowhead, and Big Bear areas. A smaller system exists in the San Jacinto area. Staging Areas are available at Cactus Flat (Big Bear), Miller Canyon and Pinnacles (Lake Arrowhead), Baldy Mesa and Summit (Cajon) and at the entrance to Bee Canyon. Check out Big Pine Flat and Crab Flats campgrounds near OHV areas.

Make sure to pick up a free Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) at a ranger station, where you can also **check current road closures and other restrictions**. This information is also available online here:  
[www.fs.usda.gov/goto/sanbernardino/ohv](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/sanbernardino/ohv)



Scan with mobile device to visit [www.fs.usda.gov/goto/sanbernardino/ohv](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/sanbernardino/ohv)

Please **STAY ON DESIGNATED**

**ROUTES**, obey all signs and respect all closures. The Forest does not have “open areas” for hill-climbing or cross-country travel, or motocross tracks for racing. Make sure you have a U.S. Forest Service-approved spark arrester on your vehicle and meet sound level requirements. Use wildlife-safe anti-freeze and clean your equipment to prevent invasive weed introduction.

treatment. Either boil water for 15 minutes, or use a filter or chemical treatment.

Natural hazards in the forest include fallen trees, falling limbs, steep dropoffs, and swift streams. Rattlesnakes, mountain lions and black bears are commonly seen. Poison oak is common in many areas. Keep dogs restrained on a leash at all times.

#### Bring these essentials

Sturdy boots, fleece or wool sweater, packable raincoat, plenty of water (at least one gallon per person per day), water filter or other treatment, food, whistle, sunglasses, sunscreen, pocket knife, waterproof matches, first aid kit, flashlight or headlamp with spare batteries, map and compass, and a trowel to bury your waste.



## Mountain Biking

Mountain biking is a growing sport in the mountains. Riding is permitted on many public roads and trails. Riding is not permitted on the Pacific Crest Trail or within designated wilderness areas.

A few mountain biking areas within the San Bernardino National Forest include:

- San Jacinto Thomas Mountain Road (6S13).
- Santa Ana River Trail between South Fork Campground and Angelus Oaks.
- Snow Summit Ski Area transports mountain bikes on their chairlift to the top of the mountain. From there, riders may access Forest system roads and trails.

Challenging routes can be found for all skill levels, but the more spectacular rides are best attempted by the experienced cyclist. Always announce your presence to others when you need to pass. Remember



to yield to both hikers and equestrians. If you follow this rule, everyone will be safe and have fun.

Avoid excessive speed because of the potential



ANA KAROLA RUSSELL

danger to yourself and others. Ride safely and responsibly.

Remember that weather conditions vary daily, even hourly, trail conditions are unpredictable, and safe drinking water is scarce.

Stay on designated roads and trails to prevent erosion and resource damage.

Leave no litter and look for opportunities to remove litter left by others.

Maintain your bike in top condition—particularly the brakes. Carry tools and know how to use them.

Clean your equipment after each ride. Dirt clods and vegetation can introduce invasive weeds.

## Horseback Riding

Horseback riding is permitted on all national forest roads and trails, except for nature trails and the Alpine Pedal Path. The Cedar Spring Trail and Fobes Trail in the San Jacinto area connect with the Pacific

### Pack it in, pack it out!

Crest Trail (PCT) and have spectacular views of the desert below. The nearby Ribbonwood Equestrian campground offers overnight camping. The San Gorgonio Wilderness trails are

very popular, and the Heart Bar Equestrian Group and Wildhorse Equestrian Campgrounds are nearby. Big Bear has a series of gentler trails that also connect with the PCT. Campers stay at Greenspot and Big Pine Flat Equestrian Campgrounds. Baldwin Lake Stables, located near Big Bear, operates on National Forest land under a Special Use Permit, and offers guided horseback rides.

### Leave No Trace Ethics

- Pack out all your trash.
- Do not tie horses to trees except while packing or unpacking.
- Tie horses away from camps, water, and trails.
- Scatter or bury all manure that accumulates in the tethering area. Use certified Weed-Seed-Free-Feed
- Do not bathe horses in lakes or streams.
- Do not cut switchbacks.

*Why Weed-Seed-Free-Feed? Hay and feed can contain seeds of invasive plants. Use “Weed-Seed-Free” feed at least 2 days before your trip.*



## Winter Recreation

Snow can fall in the mountains any time between October and June. Snow brings lots of opportunity for outdoor fun but can be treacherous for those who are unprepared or inexperienced. During some winters, snow accumulation can be 5-20 feet. No matter how experienced you may be, always check mountain weather before leaving on your trip.

Carry traction devices (ie. chains, cables, etc) in your vehicle and be able to install them. During times of heavy snow or ice, the California Highway Patrol may require all vehicles, even 4-wheel drive, to chainup. Always carry extra clothing such as jackets, gloves, warm hats, and dry socks in the car for sudden weather changes. It can be 70 degrees in Los Angeles and 40 degrees in Big Bear! Call Caltrans at 800-427-7623 or visit their website [www.dot.ca.gov](http://www.dot.ca.gov) for road conditions.

**Snowplay & Sledding** are popular winter activities, but finding legal parking areas can be difficult. Be sure not to park in private driveways, block gates or snow plow operations. An Adventure Pass is required for some areas. Gray’s Peak Trailhead and Grout Bay Picnic area are closed to all human entry each year due to Bald Eagle habitat. Do not sled or snowplay in these areas. Please do your part and clean up all picnic waste, broken sleds and other garbage.

**Downhill Skiing and Snowboarding Areas** are centered around Arrowhead and Big Bear. Extensive snow-making equipment allows Snow Summit (844-462-2327), Big Bear Mountain (844-462-2327), and Snow Valley Ski Resort (909-867-2751) to operate even in the driest winters. These resorts open as early as November and stay open

as late as April. Call ahead for snow conditions. Snow Summit and Big Bear Mountain limit the number of skiers and snowboarders on some busy days, but offer a reservation service at 844-462-2327 and [www.bigbearmountainresorts.com](http://www.bigbearmountainresorts.com).

**Cross-Country Skiing and Snowshoeing** depend on natural snow accumulation, which varies depending on elevation and type of exposure. North-facing slopes tend to have more snow. Snow conditions are so variable that most skiers prefer waxless skis. One cross-country ski area operates under Special Use Permit from the Forest Service in the Arrowhead area: Rim Nordic (909-867-2600). In the winter months you can explore the different areas of Big Bear Valley by participating in one of our guided snowshoe trips. For a listing of dates and times, or to make reservations, please contact the Big Bear Discovery Center at 909-382-2791

**Snowmobiling** is permitted only on the following designated snowmobile routes: Coon Creek Rd (1N02) near Barton Flats. Contact the Mill Creek Work Center at 909-382-2882 for current conditions and to request a permit. In Running Springs off Highway 18, Keller Peak Rd. (1N96); contact the Big Bear Discovery Center at 909-382-2791 to check conditions.



## The Pacific Crest Trail: 50 Years and 2,650 Miles

You might know of the Pacific Crest Trail (commonly called the PCT) from the movie “Wild” starring Reese Witherspoon and based on the book by Cheryl Strayed. But the trail’s origins date back to 1926, when Washington schoolteacher Catherine Montgomery had the idea of a “winding trail down the heights of our western mountains.”

2018 was a big year for the PCT when we celebrated its 50th anniversary. Often called “America’s Wilderness Trail,” the PCT is the longest continuous trail in the United States at 2,650 miles. Each year, hundreds of people successfully thru-hike the PCT from Mexico to Canada, and thousands more hike shorter sections. The trail crosses 25 National Forests, seven National Parks, five State Parks, four National Monuments, and 48 Wilderness Areas. It also passes through six of North America’s seven ecozones, from desert to forest to alpine tundra.

The trail is managed through a partnership between the U.S. Forest Service and the Pacific Crest Trail Association, a non-profit that in 2016 alone organized over 2,000 volunteers who spent over 100,000 hours doing trail maintenance and repair.

*To learn more, go to [www.pcta.org](http://www.pcta.org)*



## Telling our Story

The San Bernardino National Forest has long been a recreation forest. As industrialization transformed turn-of-the-century America, people realized their love of nature. One result of this back-to-nature sentiment was the creation of the Forest Service to conserve public resources from overexploitation. Another result was development of recreation in our mountains. Starting in the 1880s, Californians hiked, camped, picnicked, hunted, and eventually “motored” throughout the rugged San Bernardino and San Jacinto mountains in search of wilderness and fun. Sites throughout the mountains tell the story of our learning to conserve and enjoy the great outdoors. Today, as we hike, bike, ride, drive, or help conserve the forest through volunteering, commenting on upcoming projects, or suggesting new ones, we are writing new chapters in this story.

### The Rim of the World Drive

The return to the wilderness was not, however, devoid of new technology. Automobiles were factory-built by the hundreds starting in 1915. Families became car-owners and automobiles became a necessity for vacationing in nature. In 1915, a resort owner came up with the idea of a“101 mile Rim of the World Drive” connecting resorts between Lake Arrowhead and Big Bear. It was immediately a major San Bernardino Mountain attraction. The National Forest created “recreation tracts” along the road, with areas for resorts, summer homes and campgrounds by 1916. Today, the Rim of the World Drive is used by Hwy 18 in the Crestline area. Other stretches of the drive have become Forest roads such as FSR 2N13 near Fawnskin, restored by Forest Service Adopt-A-Trail volunteers. Another stretch is a mountain bike trail (1E01) that is maintained with help from the Big Bear Valley Trails Foundation volunteers.

#### Forest Service Adopt-A-Trail

SBNF 909-382-2600  
www.sbnf-adopt-a-trail.com  
Maintain backcountry four wheel drive roads, off highway vehicle trails, off highway vehicle staging areas and trailheads.

#### Heritage Volunteers

SBNF 909-382-2600  
Help tell our story: Find, study, preserve or promote archaeological sites, historical buildings, and archived materials.

#### Off-Highway Vehicle Volunteers

ohv@mountainsfoundation.org  
Ride the roads and trails, use kiosks at staging areas to provide visitors with safety and access messages, maintain and monitor resources, educate youth.

#### Big Bear Valley Trails Foundation

www.trailsfoundation.org  
hello@trailsfoundation.org  
The Big Bear Valley Trails Foundation is the non-motorized trails advocacy group located in the Mountaintop Ranger District of the San Bernardino National Forest near Big Bear Lake, California. We hold regular meetings at the Discovery Center and welcome anyone who wants to get involved.

#### Off-Highway Vehicle Education Trailer

ohv@mountainsfoundation.org  
A mobile interactive educational exhibit travels to schools, community events and industry shows. Visitors explore information on appropriate and safe OHV attire and safety gear (PPE); required exhaust, spark arrestor and noise levels; trail etiquette and the importance of staying on the right trail; reducing impacts to the forest and other public lands.

#### Rim of the World Interpretive Association

Carol Kinzel, President  
Info@hparboretum.com or hparboretum.com  
Volunteers maintain and staff the Heap’s Peak Arboretum on Highway 18 east of Lake Arrowhead. They also present interpretive events and tours

#### Mountaintop Recreation Volunteers

SBNF 909-382-2790  
Volunteers provide information to the public, repair and maintain recreation facilities and trails, provide site restoration and resource monitoring.

#### Front Country Volunteers

SBNF 909-382-2851  
Provide information to the public, Adventure Pass enforcement, repair and maintain trails, pick up litter, and monitor resources.

#### Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps

www.frvn.net/  
Established in 1994 to monitor and patrol wild trout streams in the Angeles and San Bernardino national forests. Volunteers provide information on camping, fire, fishing, pollution and safety regulations, as well as responding to emergency situations. They also assist with documenting damage to resources, invasive plant removal, stream cleanup projects, electro-fishing surveys, aquatic insect studies, fish recovery, stream surveys, bald eagle and big horn sheep surveys, and water quality sampling and testing.

### Kids Preserve the Forest

On a hiking trip to San Gorgonio Peak in 1923, an astute Trailfinders scout, Alonso Machado, came up with the idea of preserving the wild high country: declare it a monument. The Forest Service was busy laying out recreation tracts, so these scouts, the Western Rangers, took their idea to President Coolidge. It was the beginning of the wilderness protection for the San Gorgonio highlands. By the 1930s, the Great Depression made it hard for families to afford to vacation, so parents sent their kids to camp. Soon the Barton Flat Recreation Tract had the most camps grouped together in the US. Generations of scouts, YMCA kids and other campers helped build the trails in the wilderness, and, in relays, blazed the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT). Today, Pacific Crest Trail volunteers still maintain the PCT and kids are still instrumental in planning as Children’s Forest volunteers.

#### Pacific Crest Trail Association

www.pcta.org  
916-285-1846, info@pcta.org  
Anitra Kass, PCTA Regional Rep. 951-257-4100  
Work on the 2,600-mile-long Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) both as trail adopters and through regularly scheduled weekend projects (1-4 days) and service trips (5-10 days).

#### Discovery Center Volunteers

Wendy Craig, Discovery Center Manager 909-382-2843 www.mountainsfoundation.org  
Greet visitors at the Big Bear Discovery Center, provide information, present interpretive programs, use skills to educate visitors on forest stewardship, and enjoy the outdoors while giving back to the community. Required training offered year round.

#### Children’s Forest Volunteers

Youth & Interpretive Services Coordinator  
909-382-2842  
volunteer@mountainsfoundation.org  
Youth from 11 to 17 serve as naturalists and assist with interpretive programs, forest restoration, and greenhouse work. Adults assist visitors and mentor youth volunteers.

#### San Gorgonio Wilderness Association

Val Silva, Volunteer Coordinator 909-382-2906 www.sgwa.org  
sgwa@earthlink.net  
Provide information to visitors, support the wilderness permit program, trail maintenance, lead nature walks, present programs, construct displays, patrol the San Gorgonio Wilderness, and operate the Mill Creek Visitor Center, the Barton Flats Visitor Center and Big Falls Information Center.

### A Tale of Two Lakes

The 1915 road system (now part of Hwy 18 and 38) brings us to Big Bear Lake and the smaller Jenks Lake near Barton Flats, both older than the roads and the result of a race to claim water. As construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad through Banning Pass to Los Angeles was starting in 1875, a group of speculators realized that the railroad needed wood for ties and water for the steam engines. One of the collaborators, Cap’n Jenks, built a ditch to carry water to a dam for a large log pond in Barton Flats. While his associates posted water claims through mountains, Cap’n Jenks used his pond or small lake to raise fish and sold them in the new town of Redlands. But they didn’t win the race to acquire the water. The winner was Frank Brown, the engineer who constructed the Big Bear Lake Dam to impound water for agricultural use. With a steady source of water, Brown and his partner Judson were able to subdivide and sell lots in Redlands for growing citrus.

Both lakes were recreation sensations as soon as they were constructed. Resorts grew up near Big Bear Lake, and campers headed to Jenks Lake. Today both lakes, both very different, are still beloved recreation sites. Big Bear Discovery Center volunteers and San Gorgonio Wilderness Association volunteers at Barton Flats Visitor Center provide information on recreation opportunities near these two lakes.



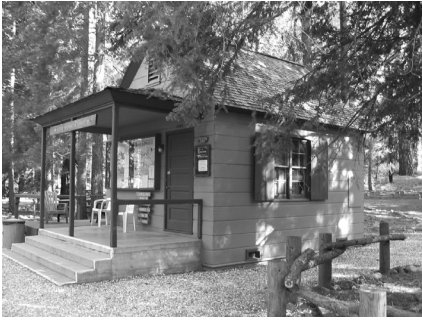
# HERITAGE & VOLUNTEER

## Volunteer Program

Here on the San Bernardino National Forest, volunteers make significant contributions every year in nearly every program. Their contributions make history: Volunteers started planting trees at the Heap Peaks Arboretum in 1928, and today, as the Rim of the World Interpretive Association, volunteers continue to maintain it. Individuals are welcome with and without professional skills since many tasks may be acquired via on-the-job training. Many volunteers work full-time for a short period of time, while others donate a few hours a day each week or for a special event. Volunteers help build and repair trails, work at visitor centers, present environmental educational programs, preserve archaeological sites, patrol wilderness areas and assist Forest staff with surveys. Office jobs include desktop publishing, public affairs, and administration. Make a difference on the San Bernardino National Forest by joining one of the existing organizations or volunteering on your own.

## The Youth Build the Forest

During the Great Depression-era, high-school aged kids came to work in the San Bernardino National Forest as part of one of the most successful New Deal Conservation programs, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC youth built roads to facilitate firefighting, fought fires, and carried out other conservation tasks. They also built campgrounds and miles of hiking trails to allow visitors to enjoy the managed forests.



They constructed the guard station at Barton Flat, with a ready-cut house, garage, woodshed and office. The tiny office, now used as the Visitor Center was constructed so that the ranger could “leave” work and go off-duty! It is still the only building there that is open to the public. Many of the lookout towers constructed in the 1930s as a key component of fire prevention system

are now open to the public: Red Mountain, Tahquitz Peak, and Butler Peak were all constructed by the CCC. Such a successful program could not be abandoned: the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) of the 1970s and today’s Urban Conservation Corps (UCC) continue the tradition.

### Greenthumbs Volunteer Program

SBNF 909-382-2790  
Volunteers will learn seed collection, germination, native plant propagation, noxious weed removal and out-planting on the forest.

### Fire Lookout Hosts

Pam Morey, Coordinator  
909-225-1025  
Volunteers watch for fire and provide interpretation and visitor information at lookout towers on Butler Peak, Keller Peak, Strawberry Peak, Black Mountain, Tahquitz Peak, Morton Peak, and Red Mountain.

## The First “Cuidaderos”

SR-74, “The Palms to Pines Highway,” was also constructed by the CCC and other New Deal “Alphabet boys” such as the WPA. On the Palm Desert side, the Cahuilla Tewanhet (meaning overlook in the Cahuilla language) was constructed in collaboration with Cahuilla elders to honor the Cahuilla people who were the first care-takers, or cuidaderos of the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains. This interpretive trail is near the crossroads of the desert Cahuilla tribe’s route into the mountains to collect and roast agave hearts, pinyon and other foods. The Cahuilla are still here. They visit the mountains and share their care with the Forest and its volunteers, such as the Friends of the Desert Mountains, Forest volunteers, and Pacific Crest Trail volunteers who now work to maintain the ancient native trails.

### Forest Service Volunteer Association

San Jacinto Ranger Station  
909-382-2921  
www.FSVA.org  
Patrol trails throughout the district, including wilderness areas, and provide visitor information at the visitor center in Idyllwild.

### Friends of the Desert Mountains

Tammy Martin Executive Director  
P.O. Box 1281  
Palm Desert, CA 92261  
760-568-9918  
www.desertmountains.org  
Volunteers help protect the open spaces of the Coachella Valley and surrounding mountains through trail maintenance, invasive weed removal, scientific research, youth education, interpretive hikes, visitor center services and more!

## Visiting Fire Lookouts

Lookouts are open to the public daily, subject to staffing, generally from Memorial Day to mid-November. Mornings are the best time to get the clearest view. You can climb up the ladder, go into the observation room, and see the equipment.

Children must be directly supervised by an adult. Five visitors are allowed in the lookout at once and do not climb lookouts during thunderstorms. Enjoy your visit!

### Tahquitz Peak

**Directions:** Hike a 4.5 mile uphill trail from Humber Park in Idyllwild (from the ranger station follow Pine Crest Ave. and turn on Fern Valley Road, follow to Humber Park). Take the Devil’s Slide Trail to Saddle Junction, then the far right trail marked Tahquitz Peak to Chinquapin Flats. Go right and follow for .5 mile to the lookout.



**Elevation:** 8,828 feet  
**Views:** San Jacinto Wilderness, Salton Sea, Coachella Valley, Santa Rosa Mountains.

### Strawberry Peak

**Directions:** Take Highway 18 to Rim Forest (west of Skyforest). Turn north onto Bear Springs Road toward Twin Peaks. The lookout is 2 miles on a paved road.  
**Elevation:** 6,143 feet.  
**Views:** Excellent views of the San Bernardino Mountains and Mt. San Diego on a clear day, views of San Bernardino and Riverside; three lakes: Arrowhead, Gregory, and Silverwood.

### Keller Peak

**Directions:** Take Highway 18 or 330 to Running Springs. Go past the village and immediately after Deerlick Fire Station turn right on Keller Peak Road (1N96). This 5-mile road is paved all the way to the lookout. At a fork in the road, turn right and drive to the lookout.  
**Elevation:** 7,882 feet.  
**Views:** San Bernardino Mountains, Seven Oaks Dam, San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Gorgonio Wilderness.

### Black Mountain

**Directions:** Take Highway 243 North out of Idyllwild for 8.1 miles to the turn-off of Black Mountain Road (FR 4S01). Park in the parking area before you get into Boulder Basin campgrounds (5.8 miles from the highway). \$5.00 Day Use Fee required. Take the dirt road to the lookout when you get to the end.  
**Elevation:** 7,772 feet.  
**Views:** San Gorgonio to the north, Banning, the San Jacinto Range, the Palomar Range, and, on a clear day, the Santa Ana and San Gabriel Mountains.

### Red Mountain

**Directions:** Take Hwy 243 south from Idyllwild, continue on Highway 74 (towards Palm Desert). Turn on Highway 371 toward Anza. Turn right onto Carey Road, go 5 miles, turn left on the dirt road toward Tripp Flats Fire Station, and follow FR 6S22 for 9 miles to the lookout.  
**Elevation:** 4,563 feet.  
**Views:** Mount Palomar and Mt. San Diego to the south; to the north San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountains.

### Morton Peak

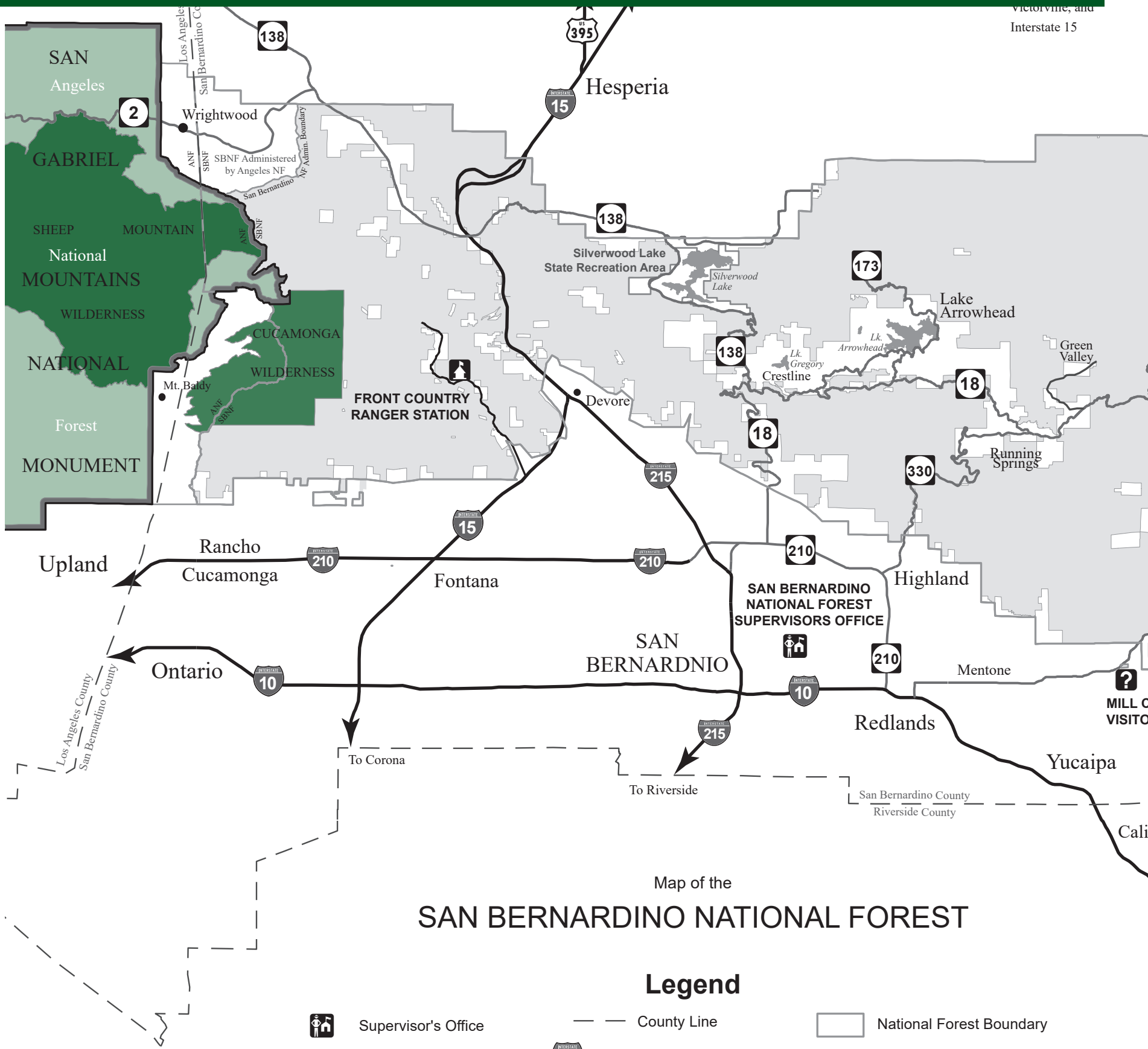
**Directions:** Follow Hwy. 38 east from Redlands. Go past Mill Creek Visitor Center 2 miles. Turn left on FR 1S12, opposite the Vista Point parking area. Follow for 1.3 miles, park, then turn left and hike on FR1S13 approximately 1 mile to the lookout.  
**Elevation:** 4,624 feet.  
**Views:** To the east Mill Creek Canyon, San Bernardino Peak, and Galena Peak. To the north Strawberry and Butler Peaks. To the west are the San Gabriels.

### Butler Peak (Hike in Only)

**Directions:** Road closed to vehicle traffic due to storm damage. On the North Shore of Big Bear Lake, take Highway 38 to Fawnskin. Watch for signs for Forest Road (FR) 3N14. Follow 3N14 to the junction with FR 2N13. The road changes to dirt and a high clearance vehicle is recommended. Turn left on 2N13 and follow until junction with 2N13B, which takes you to Butler Peak.  
**Elevation:** 8,535 feet  
**Views:** Big Bear Lake to the East, Barstow to the North, San Gorgonio to the South East, Lake Arrowhead to the West, Palomar Range.

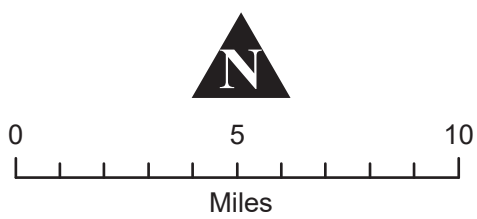


FOREST MAP



**Legend**

	Supervisor's Office		County Line		National Forest Boundary
	District Office		Interstate; US Highway		Private Land
	Forest Information		State Highway		National Forest System Land
			Major Road		Wilderness Boundary
					National Monument Boundary





# Know Before you GO

**SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST**

**Check The Current forest Use Guidelines**

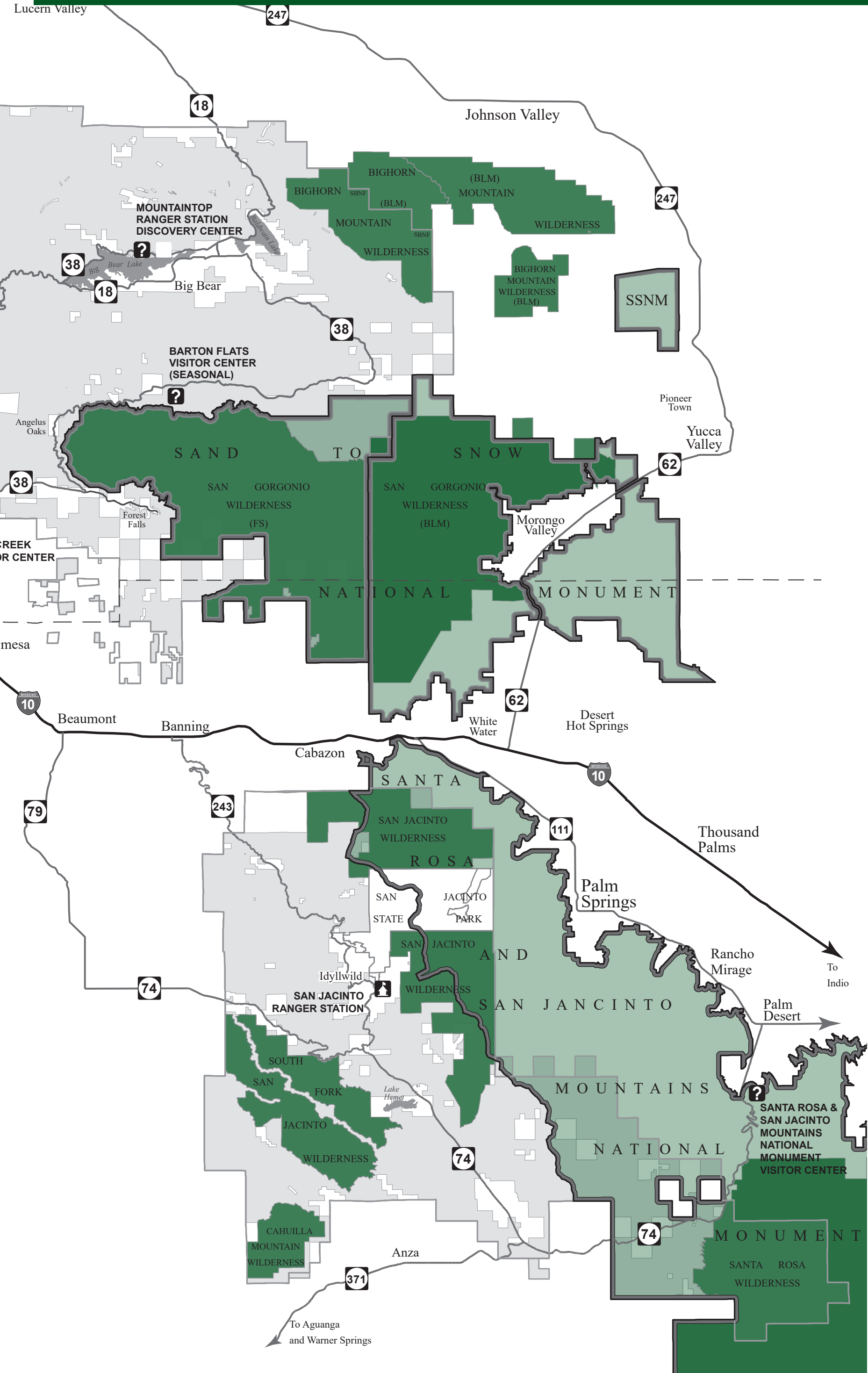
(909) 382-2600  
[www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf)

Scan this QR Code with your mobile device to visit [www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf)



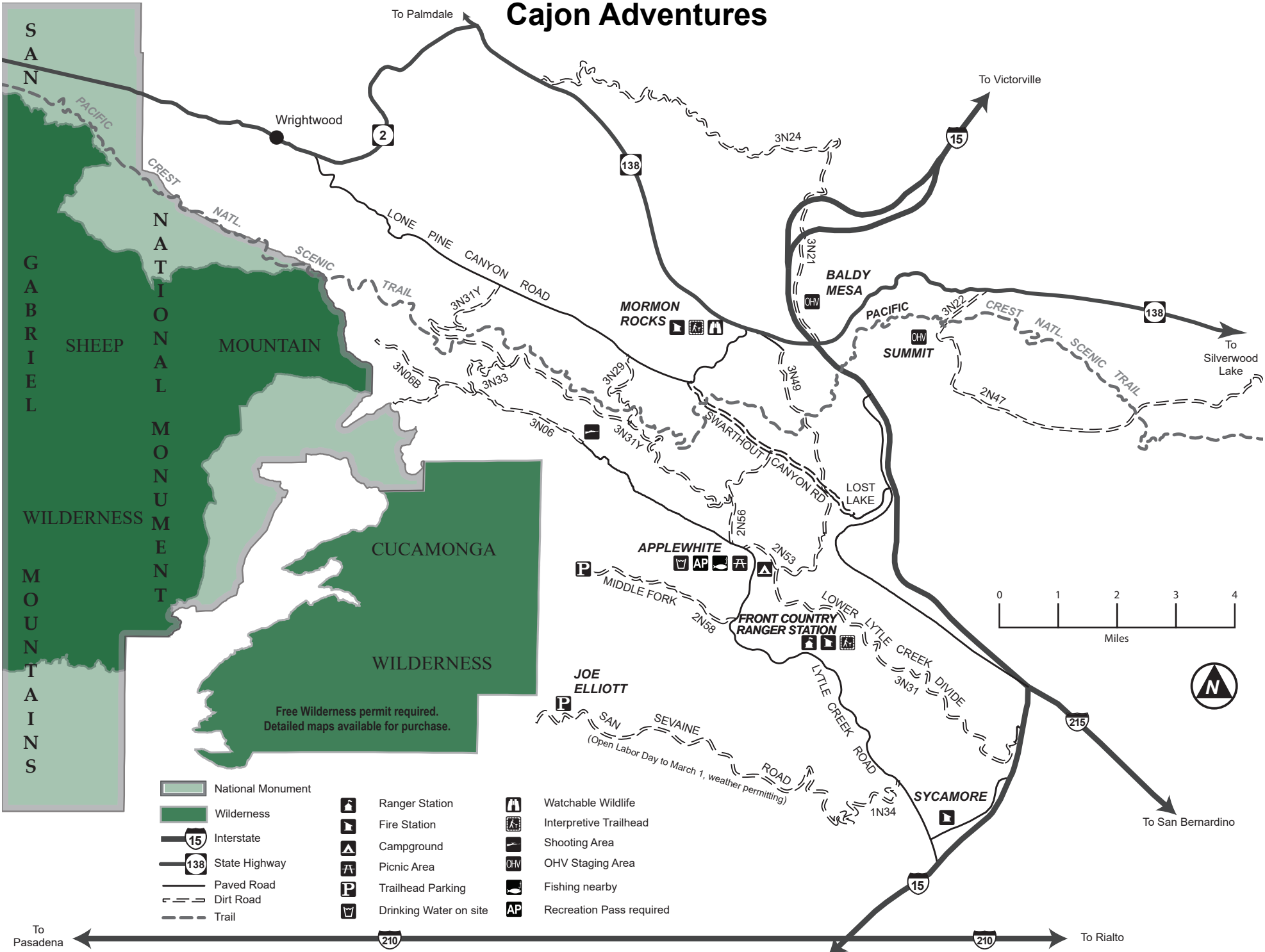


# FOREST MAP





## ADVENTURES



Summer weekends and holidays are crowded along the creek. An alternate area for day use is along Middle Fork Road. An Adventure Pass is required when visiting many of these areas.

The Lytle Creek area is easily accessible from I-15 and I-215. Lytle Creek Ranger Station (909-382-2851) is located 5 miles north of I-15 on Lytle Creek Road (take the Sierra Ave exit, and go north).

**Trailhead:** Middle Fork Parking Area, 4.5 miles (3 miles on dirt road) from the ranger station. Adventure Pass required.

**Points of interest:** Waterfall, bighorn sheep, bears, mountain lions and wildflowers.

**Permits:** Free Wilderness permit required.

**Difficulty:** Moderate.



## MORMON ROCKS

## Adventure 2

### Cajon Pass Scenic Drive

This is earthquake country! The Cajon Pass is one of the youngest and most geologically active regions in North America. Two mountain ranges, the San Gabriel and San Bernardino, overlap here, producing earthquakes and other seismic activity along the San Andreas fault line. Cajon Pass, meaning “box” pass, was used by Native Americans and later by Mormon settlers heading to San Bernardino. Today, Cajon Pass is a major transportation and utility corridor for Southern California. Fifty freight trains and two passenger



trains run through the pass daily.

**Trailhead:** Pacific Crest Trail entry point, Wagon Train Road (From I-15 take 138/Silverwood Lake east, first right, .6 miles to trailhead)

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Permits:** None

**Points of interest:** Chaparral, oaks, view of Mormon Rocks formation, wooden trestle from historic Santa Fe Railway. Turn-around point at 5.14 miles is Swarthout Canyon Road.

## Trail Guides

**Mormon Rocks Nature Trail (Interpretive)**  
A 1-mile loop with views of cemented sandstone rock formations, as well as trains in the Cajon Pass. Trail guide available at trailhead or Lytle Creek Ranger Station.

### Chaparral Neighborhood Trail (Interpretive)

Next to the Lytle Creek Ranger Station. The trail weaves through a pine plantation planted in the 1960's with native chaparral.

### Bonita Falls Trail

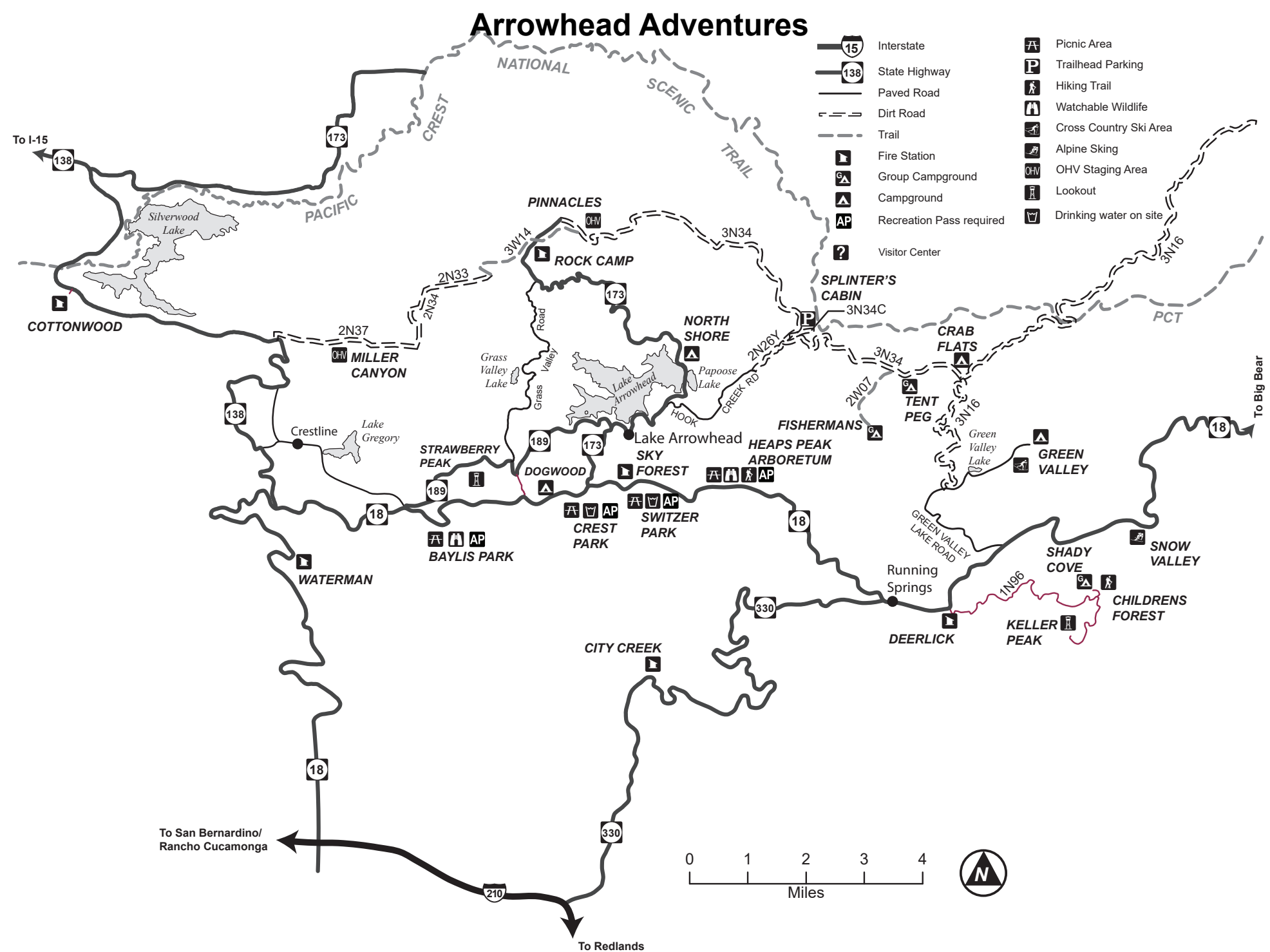
is a 1.4-mile round trip trail along a rocky, dry creek bed to a 90 foot waterfall. Adventure Pass required.

### Points of Interest:

Native Plant Garden is next to the Lytle Creek Ranger Station. It displays 38 labeled plants native to the area, includes a gazebo and is highly accessible.



# ADVENTURES



## ADVENTURE 3

### Rim of the World Scenic Byway

This 110-mile route traverses the entire mountain range, from Cajon Pass to San Gorgonio Pass. You will experience a diverse and remarkable landscape while viewing the highest mountains in Southern California. The highway is part of the National Scenic Byway System, so watch for signs along the way. Interpretive panels at Heaps Peak, Meadow's Edge Picnic Area (Big Bear) and Barton Flats Visitor Center (open Memorial Day through September) depict early inhabitants in the mountains as well as the wildlife you can find today.

**Directions:** Take Highway 138 East exit from I-15 in Cajon Pass (elevation 2,940 ft.). Follow the highway until it meets Highway 18 just past Crestline. Follow Hwy 18 along the rim of the mountains to Big Bear Lake. Begin following Highway 38 on the north side of the lake, crossing the lake at the east end. The Byway begins climbing with Hwy 38 over Onyx summit (8,443 ft.) and then drops into Barton Flats, a forested flatland above the Santa Ana River. Continue downhill through Mill Creek Canyon to the Forest boundary near Mill Creek Work Center (2,750 ft.). Access to I-10 is nearby via Yucaipa or Redlands.

**Distance and time:** The round trip from San Bernardino is about 175 miles. Plan to spend all day enjoying the sights. You can access the Byway via Highways 18 (Waterman Canyon) and 330 (City Creek) for shorter trips.

**Seasons:** The highways are open all year, but snow can fall almost any month! Be sure to check mountain weather before beginning your trip. Some of the best views are during early mornings in winter. At other



RIM OF THE WORLD DRIVE—LAKE ARROWHEAD VIEW.

NCB—MARTHA ALEJANDRE

times smog in the valleys can obscure the views.

**Points of Interest:** Heaps Peak Arboretum, Keller Peak Look-Out, Children's Forest, Big Bear Discovery Center, Big Bear Lake, Onyx Summit (with views of the San Gorgonio Wilderness), views of Santa Ana River Valley, and Mill Creek Canyon.

### Arrowhead Adventures Recreation Fee Sites

#### Picnic Areas:

- Baylis Park
- National Children's Forest
- Crest Park
- Switzer Park

#### Hiking Trailheads:

- Heaps Peak Arboretum Day Use Area
- Trail of the Phoenix 2W09

#### Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Staging Areas:

- Miller Canyon
- Pinnacles

### Heaps Peak Arboretum (Interpretive)

Heaps Peak Arboretum is a unique 40-acre oasis located at 6,000 feet in the San Bernardino Mountains. Experience the botanical garden's diversity of native plants and trees. The demonstration gardens contain over 30 species that are botanically identified with signs. Drought tolerant and non-drought tolerant plants are exhibited. The arboretum offers an ideal setting for young children to enjoy the forest and experience nature with their parents. Picnic tables and trash receptacles are available.

The arboretum is open all year long. A Forest information booth staffed by volunteers is generally open Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. during the warmer months. Entrance is free. An Adventure Pass or Interagency Pass is required. A \$5.00 daily pass can be purchased at the Arboretum when Information Booth is open.

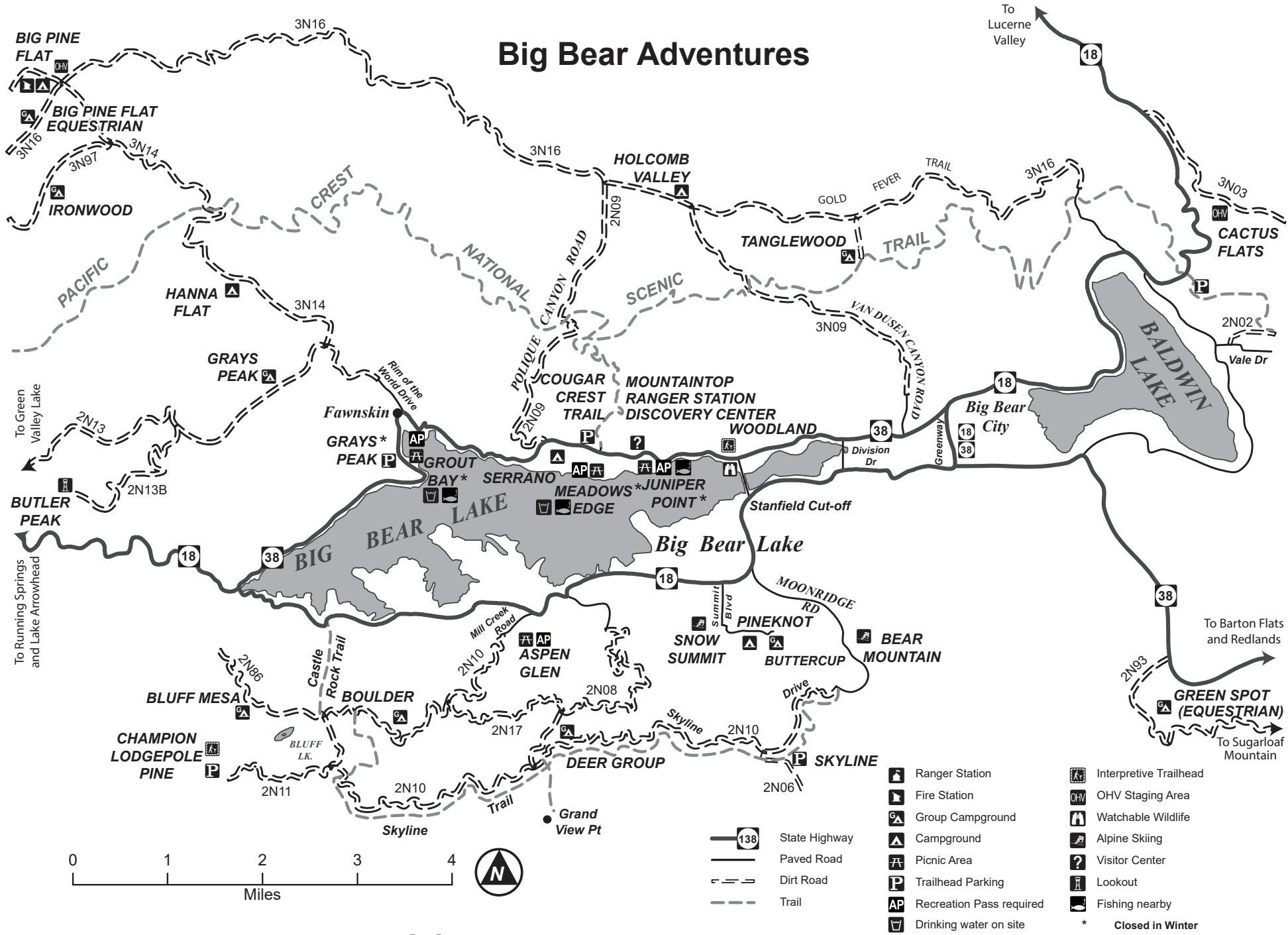
**Directions from Highland on Highway 330:** Take Highway 18 west bound towards Arrowhead for 4.5 miles. The Arboretum will be on the right side of the highway.

**Distance & Difficulty:** Heaps Peak Arboretum Trail is 3/4 mile, Easy.

Sequoia Trail 1 mile loop, Easy.

**Points of Interest:** Guided tours of the Sequoia Trail are available upon request. Leashed dogs are welcome.





### Trail Guides (Interpretive)

The **Woodland Trail** is a one and one half mile path through the woods on the north side of Big Bear Lake. The trailhead is a 5-minute drive east of the Discovery Center. A free guide written by volunteers may be picked up at the Big Bear Discovery Center. Adventure Pass required.

The **Baldwin Lake Ecological Reserve** is a 0.6-mile interpretive loop. This is a unique area known to support high concentrations of rare plant species. Trail guides are available at the Big Bear Discovery Center.

The **Champion Lodgepole Pine Trailhead** is south of Big Bear Lake, a scenic 45-minute drive from the Discovery Center (including 30 minutes on unpaved roads). The 1/2 mile trail leads to the largest lodgepole pine in the world!

- ### Big Bear Adventures Recreation Fee Sites

#### Picnic Areas

  - Aspen Glen
  - Grout Bay
  - Juniper Point
  - Meadows Edge

#### Hiking Trailheads

  - Cougar Crest 1E22
  - Grays Peak 1W06
  - Pineknott 1E01
  - Woodland 1E23

#### Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Staging Areas

  - Cactus Flats

#### Target Shooting Areas

  - Big Pine Flats(3 sites)
  - Lightning Gulch
  - Arrastre (2 sites)

### Adventure 4 Skyline

Skyline Trail is a multi-use trail designed for hikers, mountain bikers and equestrian riders. It was designed to become the backbone of a South Shore trails system with connections to both existing and future trails.

This trail begins at the intersection of Forest Service Roads (Skyline) 2N10 and (Radford Truck Trail) 2N06. This cross-country trail has a combination of long stretches, switchbacks, and descents, which all user groups can enjoy. There are unparalleled views that look out over valleys, which makes this trail a treasured outdoor experience.

**Directions:** On Highway 38 between Fawnskin and the Discovery Center, turn north on Forest Road 2N09. This becomes Polique Canyon Road and joins Forest Road 3N16, the Gold Fever Trail. The route continues east and comes out at the north end of Baldwin Lake.

**Distance:** 15.4 miles  
**Difficulty:** Intermediate

### Adventure 5 Cougar Crest

For the best views of Big Bear Lake, take this short trail along a ridge of Bertha Peak. The trail climbs gently through Pinyon Pines, Junipers, and scattered Jeffrey Pines. After two miles it meets the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT). You can continue on the PCT for almost 40 miles through the Big Bear area!

**Directions:** The Cougar Crest Trailhead is on Highway 38, 2.3 miles east of Fawnskin. Adventure Pass required.

**Distance & Difficulty:** Two miles to the junction

**VIEW OF BIG BEAR LAKE**

with the Pacific Crest Trail; 1.5 hours. The trail is moderately strenuous—bring plenty of water!

**Season:** All year. This south-facing slope is often free of snow in winter.

### Adventure 6 Alpine Pedal Path- Improvement Project

The Alpine Pedal Path is a paved path along the north shore of Big Bear Lake. Take a stroll to the water’s edge, then along the open meadow and finally through a pine and juniper tree stand. This trail was created specifically for non-motorized use for pedestrians, bicyclists, joggers and strollers.

In 2016, a partnership consisting of the Mountaintop Ranger District, City of Big Bear Lake, Big Bear Municipal Water District, and the Southern California Mountains Foundation was able to complete the replacement of two bridges.

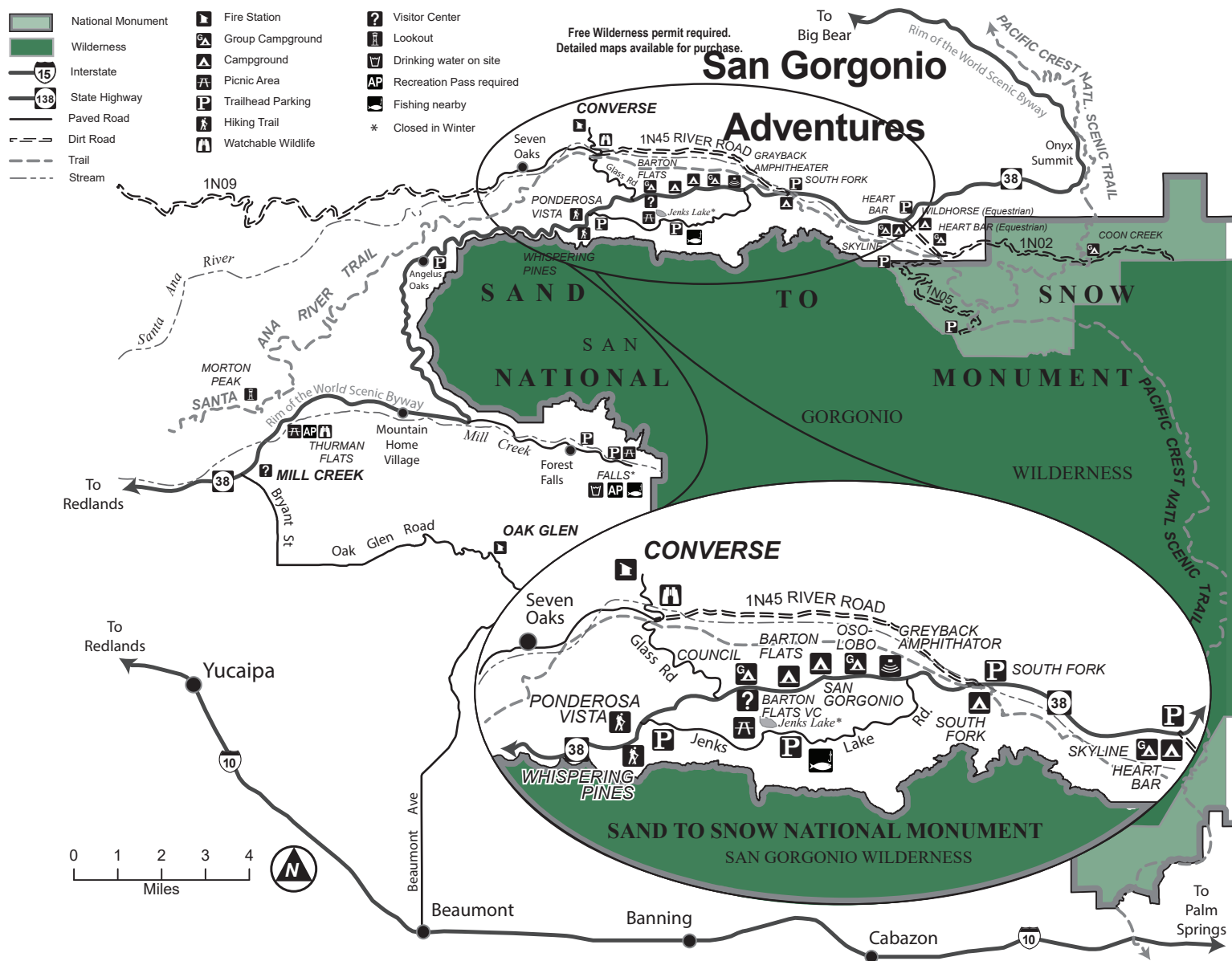
**Directions:** Park at Juniper Point or Meadow’s Edge Picnic Areas (Adventure Pass required) or Stanfield Cut-off on the north shore of Big Bear Lake.

**Distance & Difficulty:**2.5 miles, 1-2 hours, easy, minimal elevation gain.

**Season:** All year



# ADVENTURES



## Adventure 7

### San Gorgonio Wilderness Hike

An oasis in a sea of humanity, the San Gorgonio Wilderness embraces the summit of the San Bernardino Mountains, the highest in Southern California. Within its boundaries are 59,000 acres of trees, small lakes, and large barren slopes. The highest peak, San Gorgonio, rises to 11,500 feet and is the focal point of the Sand to Snow National Monument, which was created in 2016.

A free permit is required for entry into the wilderness. Permits can be obtained in person at the Mill Creek Visitor Center, Barton Flats



Visitor Center (open Thursday-Sunday summer only), and the Big Bear Discovery Center. You may also request a permit application online at [www.sgwa.org](http://www.sgwa.org) up to three months in advance. Permits are issued on a quota basis. When the daily quota for a trailhead has been filled, additional permits will not be issued for that area.

Popular wilderness trailheads are Vivian Creek, Momyer Creek, Forsee Creek and San Bernardino Peak. A wilderness map is available at ranger stations and visitor centers.

You can hike for a couple of hours or for a week. Be sure to get advice from Forest Service staff while planning your trip.

**Directions:** Most trailheads are in the Barton Flats and Forest Falls areas.

**Distance and difficulty:** Trails in the Wilderness range from moderate to strenuous. Trail description guides with elevation information are available at the Mill Creek and Barton Flats Visitor Centers. Gateways to the Sand to Snow National Monument are the Vivian Creek and Momyer Creek trails. The Vivian Creek Trail is the shortest and steepest route to the top of Mount San Gorgonio. The

trail is both challenging and dangerous, depending on the conditions, and your skill: 18.6 miles round trip and 5,300' elevation gain. The Momyer Creek Trail is a longer route to the San Gorgonio peak: 26.4 miles round trip and 6,062' elevation gain. Both trailheads are located near

Forest Falls.

Scan with your mobile device to visit our webpage



**Season:** The best hiking time is June to October. The rest of the year trails are snow covered, often icy and dangerous. Some trails on south-facing slopes may be snow-free longer. Always check at a ranger station for trail conditions.

## Trail Guides

**Whispering Pines** is a .5-mile trail designed especially for school and camp groups along Highway 38 west of Barton Flats. The trail guide follows the California science curriculum for elementary-age students. The guide includes a bird list and a key to identifying trees. The guide can be purchased at the trailhead, the Mill Creek Visitor Center, or the Barton Flats Visitor Center (open summer only). Adventure Pass required ONLY during snow play/recreation.

## Points of Interest

**Greyback Amphitheater** will have Saturday night programs hosted by the San Gorgonio Wilderness Association. Programs will run from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. For more information contact the Mill Creek Visitor Center, Thursday - Monday at 909-382-2882.

**Jenks Lake panels** present the life of Captain Jenks and his creation of the lake. Follow the paved Jenks Lake Rd. off Hwy 38 in Barton Flats. (\$5 parking fee; Adventure Passes are **not** accepted here.)

**Barton Flats Visitor Center** panels portray the Serrano Indians, early ranching, and the beginnings of recreation development in the area.

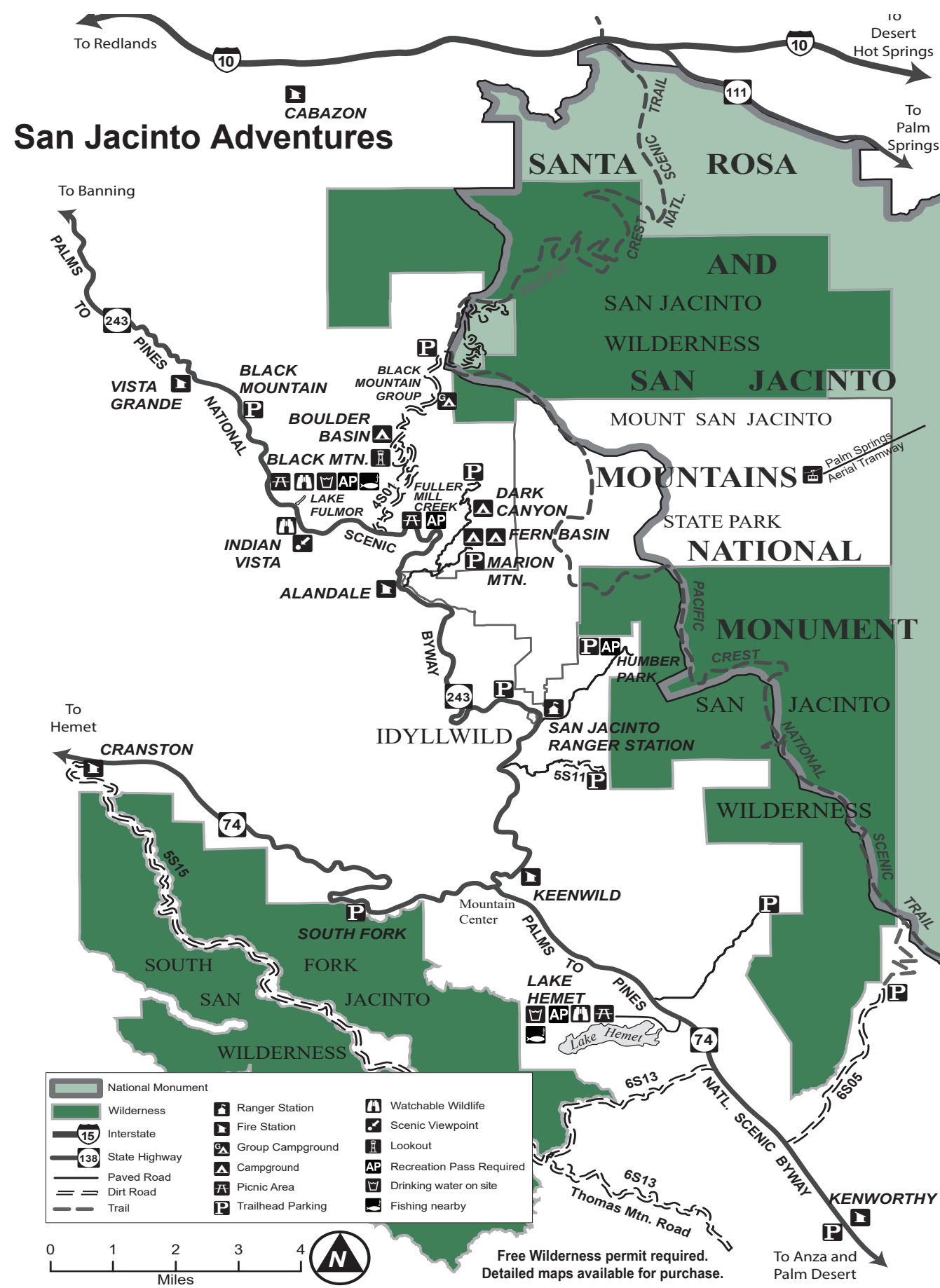
**Ponderosa Vista** is a short (1/3 mile) trail to a scenic viewpoint overlooking the Santa Ana River Valley. Panels illustrate the wildlife, trees, and history of the area. The trailhead is directly across the highway from the Whispering Pines Trail. Recreation Pass required ONLY during snow play/recreation.

**Santa Ana River** interpretive panels along the river north of Barton Flats present the plants and animals dependent on the river, including the insects and fish that live in the water. Follow Glass Road out of Barton Flats for 2.5 miles to River Road. Turn right and go .5 mile to a sign. Park at the first large turnout and walk to the river.

**Thurman Flats Picnic Area** panels highlight the migratory birds that visit this area along Mill Creek. Recreation Pass required.



ADVENTURES



The San Jacinto and Santa Rosa area is best known for its contrast of landscapes. The subalpine forest of pine and fir is not far from the barrel cactus and palm trees of the desert. Sightseers have many views of flatlands and rolling hills as well as rock-ribbed peaks that soar above the tiny village of Idyllwild.

While the San Bernardino Mountains stretch east-west, this mountain range stretches north-south. The San Jacintos are the backdrop to Palm Springs and other desert communities on the north and east, Hemet on the west, and Anza Valley to the south.

A mixture of private, county, state, and federal facilities provide services for visitors throughout the year. The County Nature Center (951-659-3850) offers information and exhibits just north of

Idyllwild. The State Park Ranger Station (951-659-2607) issues wilderness permits.

The Forest Service Ranger Station, in downtown Idyllwild at Pine Crest Avenue and Highway 243 (909-382-2921), sells books and maps and also issues Wilderness permits. The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitor Center (760-862-9984) is located at 5150 Hwy 74 in Palm Desert, 3.5 miles south of Hwy 111. This facility is co-managed by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service. It features interpretive displays and information about recreational opportunities in the National Monument, a native plant garden, guided hikes, lectures and a gift shop.

Adventure 8

Palms to Pines Scenic Drive

Follow this designated National Scenic Byway from Palm Desert to Banning Pass. The 67-mile route travels from desert oasis

to snow-peaked mountains. Many roadside pull-offs with interpretive panels illustrate the life of the early inhabitants of the mountains, wildlife, and the effect of fire on the mountain landscape.

**Directions:** Take State Highway 74 south out of Palm Desert (elevation 248 feet). Follow 74 up the desert mountainside, through Garner Valley to Mountain Center. Take State Highway 243 toward Idyllwild (elevation 5,303 ft.). The Scenic Byway continues along the edge of the mountain, through forest and chaparral and then drops to Banning in San Gorgonio Pass at 2,349 feet.

**Distance and Time:** From Palm Desert to Banning is 67 miles, but plan on at least 2 hours to enjoy all the sights. A round trip from Palm Desert is about 110 miles and 2 to 3 hours.

**Seasons:** The highways are open all year, though snow may hamper travel in the winter. Be sure to check mountain weather before beginning your trip.

**Points of Interest:** Cahuilla Tewanet interpretive site, Garner Valley, Lake Hemet, San Jacinto peak, Idyllwild, County Visitor Center, Lake Fulmor, Indian Vista interpretive panels, views of Banning Pass, the San Andreas Fault, and San Gorgonio Wilderness, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto National Monument.

Adventure 9

Humber Park Devils Slide Trail and Ernie Maxwell Trail

These two trails begin at the Humber Park trailhead. Ernie Maxwell Scenic Trail is located at the bottom of Humber Park. This is an easy 2.6 mile trail beginning at 6,400 feet. While crossing streams along the way you will descend 700 feet as you enjoy this walk through the woods with views of Suicide Rock. Devils Slide Trail is located at the top of Humber Park. This moderately strenuous trail ascends 2.5 miles from Humber Park to Saddle Junction. The trail starts at 6,400 feet. As you hike along the many switchbacks, you will enjoy far-off views, making the 1,800 foot elevation gain less noticeable. From Saddle Junction, connecting trails lead to San Jacinto Peak (10,834 ft.), the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway (8,516 ft.), and Tahquitz Peak Fire Lookout Tower (8,846 ft.). A day use wilderness permit is required and you are limited to a maximum of 12 people in your party. Only 30 permits are available on Saturdays and Sundays from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend due to high use. Humber Park is a fee area and requires an Adventure Pass or Interagency Pass. Mountain bikes are not allowed in the wilderness or on the Ernie Maxwell Trail.

**Directions:** Drive into Idyllwild on Highway 243 from Interstate 10 in Banning, or the Highway 74 up from Palm Desert. When you arrive in Idyllwild, turn east on North Circle Dr. (this is the center of town) and proceed north for one mile until you reach South Circle Dr. Here you will turn right. Take the first left on to Fern Valley Rd. Humber Park is at the end of the road. It is advised you call or stop by the San Jacinto Ranger Station to get the latest trail conditions before heading to Humber Park.

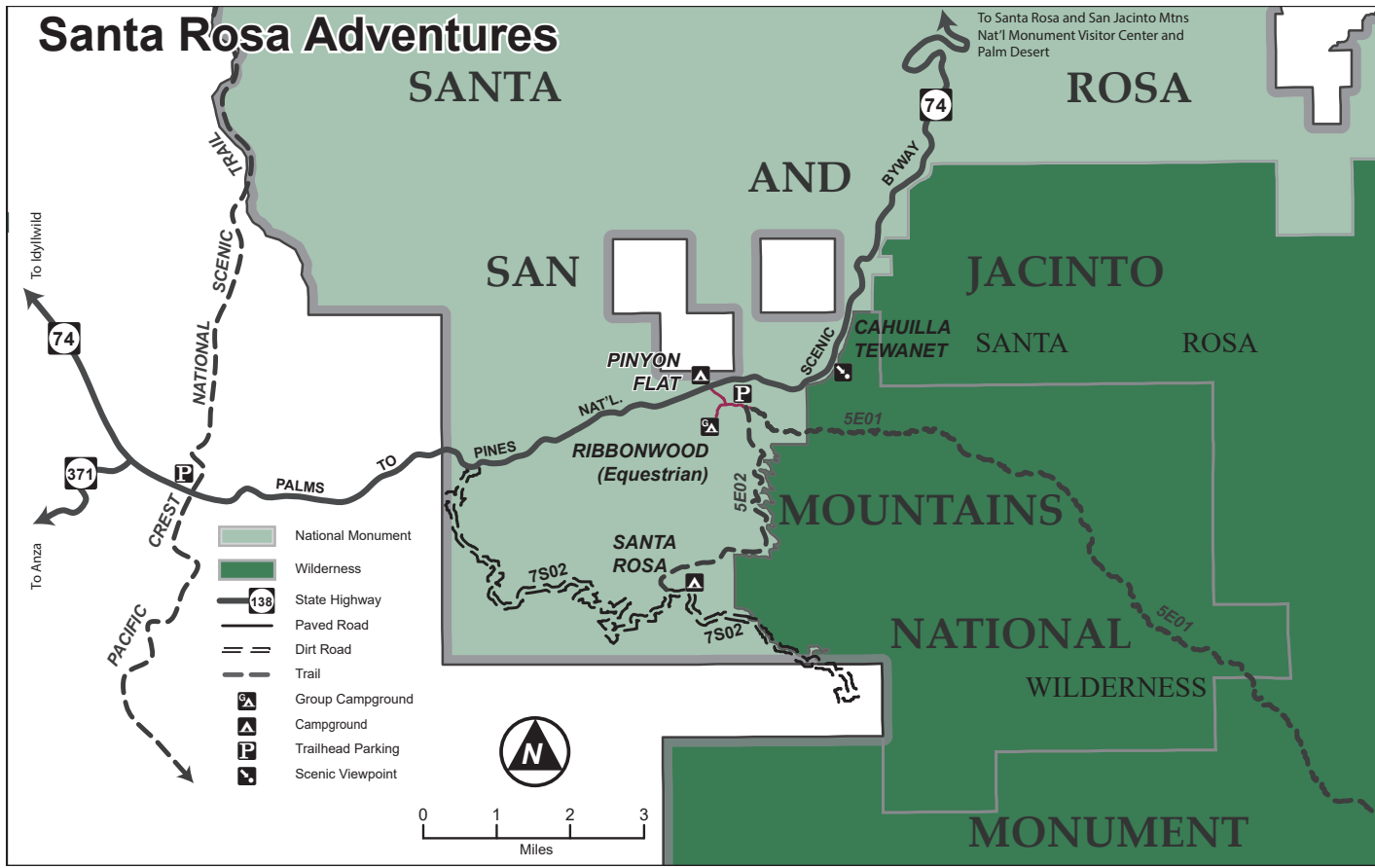


A VIEW OF TAHQUITZ PEAK AND LILY ROCK FROM SUICIDE ROCK

BRAD ELLIS



# ADVENTURES



## Points of Interest

**Indian Vista** is a Scenic Viewpoint a few hundred feet from Highway 243, 9.5 miles north of Idyllwild. Interpretive panels explain the role of fire on the landscape.

**Alandale Fire Station** is a quiet roadside pull-off on Hwy 243 with panels describing the wildlife living in the oak trees.

**Cahuilla Tewanet** is south of Idyllwild along Hwy 74. At this scenic vista, signs illustrate the culture of local Native Americans. Small signs along a path identify desert plants and how they were used by the Cahuilla.



A VIEW OF MT. SAN GORGONIO FROM SAN JACINTO

## Adventure 10

### Santa Rosa Mountain

For a real backcountry adventure, drive the sometimes rocky Santa Rosa Road to reach the beauty and solitude of the highest elevations of the Santa Rosa Mountains. You will find several yellow post campsites, hiking opportunities, and spectacular views over Palm Canyon, Coachella, and Anza valleys. You can identify six varieties of conifers, including the limber pine which is only found on the very highest peaks. Mule deer, bobcats, gray fox, tree squirrels, Stellar's jay, and Cassin's finch are some of the many species of wildlife that can be found here.

**Directions:** From Highway 111 in Palm Desert, drive South on Highway 74 approximately 20 miles, or from Highway 371 junction with Highway 74, drive East for five miles, to the Santa Rosa Mountain Road (Forest Road 7S02).

**Distance and Time:** Santa Rosa Road (7S02), is an unpaved road that is not frequently graded. It is slow going for 10 miles to Santa Rosa Peak. The road ends before Toro Peak. Allow 2 - 3 hours round-trip for drive-



LAKE FULMOR

time. Four-wheel drive, high clearance vehicles are best suited for this road. This road is often closed in the winter. Call 909-382-2921 for current road closures and conditions before your trip.

## Adventure 11

### Thomas Mountain Backroad Drive

If you want to get off the main roads, try a drive up Thomas Mountain (6S13) near Garner Valley. Charles Thomas settled in Garner Valley in the mid-1880s and raised Mexican longhorn cattle and 12 children. He bought his land from the Cahuilla Indians and later sold it to San Bernardino stockman, Robert Garner.

**Directions:** From Idyllwild, take Highway 243 south to Highway 74. Continue on 74 (toward Palm Desert). Just past Lake Hemet, turn right on the Thomas Mountain Road (Forest Road 6S13). Follow the road for eight miles to the top. To return, you can continue southeast on the road downhill. After 10 miles you rejoin Highway 74.

**Distance and Time:** Round trip from Idyllwild is about 45 miles, including 18 miles on a dirt road. Expect to take 2 to 3 hours for the drive.

**Points of Interest:** The dirt road climbs through chaparral and pine forest. The views from the road are spectacular. Below is Lake Hemet, to the east is the San Jacinto Range, and on a clear day you can see Mount Palomar.



PALMS TO PINES

Bonnie Adkins



Respect All Wildlife

All wildlife has the potential to be dangerous. Do not approach, interact with, handle, or feed wild animals. Allow them to go about their daily routine earning a living, looking for food, and watching for predators or prey, uninterrupted by visitors.

WILDLIFE + DISTANCE = SAFETY for both people and wildlife!

For your safety and that of the forest animals, please follow these simple rules:

- Children should remain near parents and should always be in sight.
- Never have a child pose for a photo with a wild animal, even if it appears tame.
- Never approach wildlife, especially seemingly abandoned baby animals.
- Never try to feed, pet, or catch/handle wild animals.
- Keep pets under control at all times.
- Always keep a clean camp. Keep your gear together, minimize the space that you occupy.
- Keep your sleeping area, tent, and sleeping bag free of food and odors.
- Clean barbecue grills and store them so they are unavailable to bears and other wildlife.
- Do not leave food, beverages, or coolers unattended.
- Store foods so they are unavailable to bears and other animals when you are not in camp.
- If available, use bear proof food storage lockers and trash containers.
- If a bear or mountain lion approaches you, back away and maintain a safe distance; do not run; instead face the animal, make noise and try to appear as large as possible.
- View or photograph wildlife from a trail or observation area.
- Use binoculars, spotting scopes, and telephoto lenses to get a closer look.

For more information on safe interactions with wildlife, please visit this website: <https://bebearaware.org/>

Species at Risk

The San Bernardino National Forest is home to several plant and animal species that are rare or uncommon and only occur in limited number due to a specific habitat type, such as meadows or streams, certain soil type, or occur within a narrow range of distribution. The forest is home to about 20 plant species and about 15 wildlife species that are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act. In addition, the forest has approximately 95 plant species and 45 species that are listed as sensitive or a species of concern by the Pacific Southwest Region of the U.S. Forest Service.

For more information on these rare and uncommon species visit the following websites:

For species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act  
<https://www.fws.gov/>

For California State protected species  
<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conseration/CESA>

Some areas of the forest are closed for the protection of animal species, please visit the quick link to the Current Forest Orders at

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sbnf/home/>



# Know Before you GO

**SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST**

**Check The Current Forest Use Guidelines**

(909) 382-2600  
[www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf)

Birdwatching



Can you imagine a concert by over a million traveling singers? Catch a performance any spring or summer morning in the San Bernardino National Forest. Migrating songbirds stop here for a rest in the trees, meadows, stream banks, and lakes. Some stay to nest and spend the summer while others continue north. These neotropical (New World) migrants return to Mexico, Central, and South America in the fall. This group includes such familiar birds as orioles, hummingbirds, swallows, thrushes, warblers, vireos, and tanagers.

Recently, spring has grown noticeably quieter. The number of migrating birds has declined, due to destruction of natural habitat in breeding grounds, along migratory routes, and in wintering areas. This national forest is just one stop on the world tour. It is important to identify and protect those areas used by birds.

The best places to watch the migrating birds are along streams and other areas with lots of plants and insects. Thurman Flats Picnic Area is a well known resting area. Refer to the Birds of San Bernardino National Forest for lists of commonly found species at the following website:

[www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/fseprd535844.pdf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd535844.pdf)

Scan this QR Code with your mobile device to visit [https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/fseprd535844.pdf](https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd535844.pdf)



Bird walks are given throughout the year by the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society. For more information, call the San Bernardino County Museum at 909-307-2669.

Native Plant or Animal - or not?

Plant and animal species are considered to be invasive when they are non-native to the area where they are found and are capable of causing environmental, economic, or human harm. Some examples of invasive plant species are: Spanish broom, English ivy, yellow star thistle, tamarisk or salt cedar, trees of Heaven, and Himalayan blackberry. A few examples of invasive animal species are: bullfrogs, goldfish, and feral domestic animals released into the wild (i.e. dogs, cats, and pigs).

Humans are the primary way invasive species are introduced. We can help prevent the spread. Here's how to:

- Be knowledgeable: Learn about invasive species in your geographic area.
- Be garden wise: plant native species to replace invasive species.
- Be on the lookout: find new infestations before they spread and become established.
- Be a snitch: report invasive species to local authorities.
- Be proactive: control and eradicate existing infestations.
- Be involved: forming a local invasive species watch group

Wintering Bald Eagles!

Several dozen bald eagles typically spend their winter vacations around Southern California's lakes, adding to a few resident nesting bald eagles that stay year round.



Adult bald eagles acquire the full white head and tail in their fifth year. Until then, they are different plumages of brown and white.

When nesting bald eagles have laid eggs, it is important to give them their space to incubate the eggs and raise their young. Some areas around nests may close if they are near popular recreation spots, such as the annual closure in Fawnskin near the Grays Peak Trailhead. Please stay out of the closure area so the eggs or eaglets are not abandoned by their parents.



Smokey Bear’s Five Rules For Fire Prevention



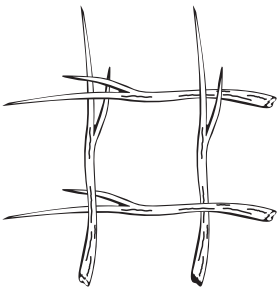
1. Only you can prevent forest fires.
2. Always be careful with fire.
3. Never play with matches or lighters.
4. Always watch your campfire.
5. Make sure that your campfire is **completely** out before leaving it.

Nature Scavenger Hunt

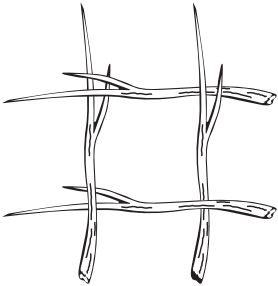
Can you find these things while you visit the forest?

- The home of an animal (Do Not Disturb)
  - A feather
  - A bird nest (Do Not Touch)
  - Something a squirrel eats
  - Something not from nature
  - A sharp leaf
- Something you can use as a tool
  - Animal tracks
  - A prickly pine cone
  - A colorful flower
  - An ant carrying something
  - An insect with wings

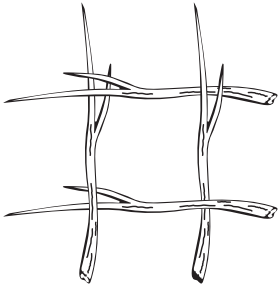
Scan this QR Code with your mobile device to visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/sbnf/learning/kids>



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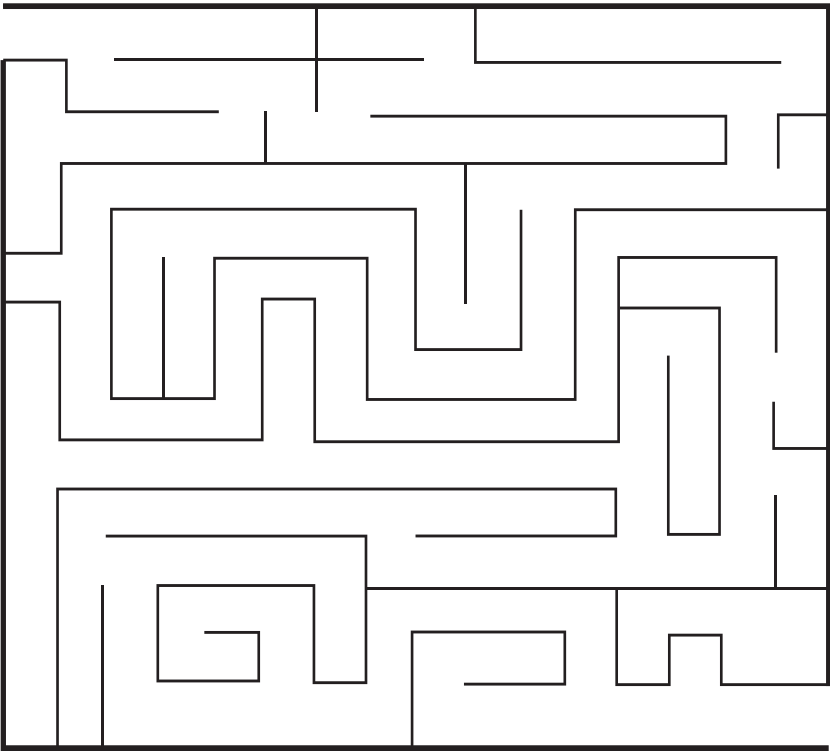


<https://everykidoutdoors.gov/>

Start Here >>>



Help Smokey get through the maze



How many words can you make using the letters from the words NATIONAL FOREST?

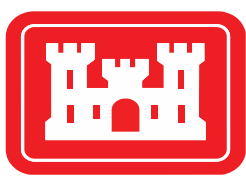
Example:   EAR               SNAIL



# ADVENTURE PASS

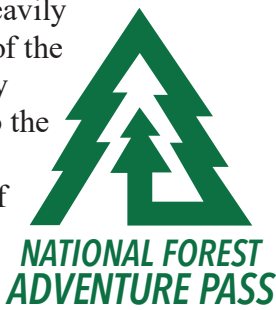
## Forest Adventure Pass Program

The Adventure Pass Program is now in its 25th year in the Southern California National Forests. In 1996, Congress passed legislation authorizing the Forest Service to charge fees for recreation use. People recreating in Southern California National Forests are required to purchase a pass for many popular sites in the Forest and display it on the rear-view mirror of their vehicle. The pass can be purchased for \$5 per day pass or \$30 per annual pass.



## What is an Adventure Pass?

The San Bernardino National Forest is one of four heavily visited forests in Southern California that are a part of the Adventure Pass program. All four forests are heavily used, requiring constant up-keep and maintenance to the designated developed sites within their borders. The Adventure Pass is a day-use fee established for use of facilities and services that support heavy visitation. Since these are recreation “use” fees and not fees for “entry” to the national forest, no pass is required for travel through the forest or for ‘incidental’ activities such as stopping to take a photograph, visiting a developed overlook, or using a restroom. Individual developed recreation sites (like campgrounds) may require a separate overnight camping fee. Funds from the Adventure Pass are used to repair and maintain the many trails throughout the San Bernardino National Forest.



## Where is the Adventure Pass required?



The Adventure Pass is required when your vehicle is parked in certain designated sites. Contact the closest Ranger Station or the Adventure Pass website for a list of current fee areas and sites. Adventure Passes are not required for the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument.

## Where can I buy an Adventure Pass?

Ranger Stations, visitor centers, and many local businesses (vendors) sell passes too. You may search for a vendor near you and also buy passes online at the Adventure Pass website: [www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass](http://www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass)



Scan code with mobile device to visit us

[www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass](http://www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass)

## Recreation Fee Accomplishments!



Scan with your mobile device to visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r5/passes-permits/recreation/?cid=STEL-PRD3791132>

## Plan Your Trip!

Find your Recreation Site on the Interactive Map



Scan this QR code with your mobile device to visit [www.fs.fed.us/portaldat/r5/ap/map/](http://www.fs.fed.us/portaldat/r5/ap/map/)

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Published May 2021, San Bernardino National Forest. This publication is provided with funds from the Adventure Pass Program. Printed on recycled paper. R5-RG-270.



DIAMONDBACK CREW

Bonnie Adkins



Scan QR Code with your mobile device to visit Recreation Fees and Passes

## Interagency Passes

The Interagency Recreation Pass Program is comprised of six distinct passes: the Interagency Annual, Senior, Access, Military, and Volunteer Pass. The Golden Age, Senior and Access passes never expire and these passes are honored nationwide at all Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service sites charging entrance or standard amenity fees (Adventure Passes, etc.).

**Interagency Annual Pass** is valid for one year from date of issue for entrance or standard amenity fees (such as the Adventure Pass). No other discounts are provided. Cost \$80.



**Interagency Senior Pass** is a lifetime pass available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents who are 62 years of age or older. In addition to the benefits provided by the Interagency Annual Pass, the Interagency Senior Pass holders may receive up to a 50% fee discount at campgrounds, highly developed sites, swimming, boat launches, and for specialized interpretive services. Current cost is \$20 for Annual or \$80 for lifetime.



**Interagency Access Pass** is a lifetime pass available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents who have a medical determination and documentation of blindness or permanent disability. This pass provides the same benefits as the Interagency Senior Pass. This is a FREE pass.



**Interagency Military Pass** provides the same benefits as the Interagency Annual Pass. This pass is free to Veterans, active duty military personnel, and dependents with proper identification – for more info, please visit [www.fs.fed.us/passespermits/military.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/passespermits/military.shtml).



**Interagency Volunteer Pass** provides the same benefits as the Interagency Annual Pass. The Volunteer pass is free for volunteers who log in 250 volunteer hours a year. This pass is available through agency volunteer program coordinators (see pg. 5) who track and record hours.



**Every Kid Outdoors Pass (EKO)** The 4th Grade Pass is part of the Every Kid Outdoors program, an effort to introduce America’s youth to the outdoors. This pass is FREE to every fourth grader who obtains a ‘paper pass’ from the Every Kid Outdoors website [www.everykidoutdoors.gov](http://www.everykidoutdoors.gov).

