

# San Bernardino National Forest

## VISITOR GUIDE



United States Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
Pacific Southwest Region

A free guide to enhance your visit to the National Forest

2014-2015

## Welcome to Southern California's Backyard

The wild lands of the San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountain Ranges were designated a National Forest more than a hundred years ago. The Forest Reserve Act was passed in 1891, giving the president authority to “set apart and reserve, in any state or territory having public land bearing forests . . . as public reservations.”

From this act was born the San Bernardino Forest Reserve, which became the San Bernardino National Forest in 1907. The San Bernardino National Forest as public land was set aside for the conservation of natural resources such as trees, water, minerals, livestock range, recreation, and wildlife.

Originally, the forest was home to Native Americans, since long before recorded history. Mexican and European settlements occurred sporadically for the first half of the 19th century, but the chain of events that led to the creation of the National Forest in 1893 really began after California became part of the United States in 1848 (it had been part of Mexico since 1822).

In 1855, gold was discovered in the San Bernardino Mountains. Over the second half of the 19th century, mining, timber, and grazing grew quickly, taking a heavy toll on the land. By the end of the 19th century, significant sectors of the forest had been felled and overgrazed. Streams and rivers were silting in and water quality was declining. Meanwhile a growing population and a thriving citrus industry made increasing demands for clean drinking and irrigation water.

### Protecting the Resources

A pioneering populace, who had conquered what seemed like an endless frontier, began to realize that it now must manage the land much more thoughtfully. A Board of Forestry report in 1886 found that “the necessity of the hour is an intelligent supervision of the forest and brush lands of California, with a view to their preservation.” Five years later the Forest Reserve Act made this preservation possible.

Today the San Bernardino National Forest is comprised of several departments and three Ranger Districts spanning 676,666 acres in San Bernardino and Riverside counties. Our Forest has Fire, Police, Planning and Permits, Recreation, and a Roads department just like a city, county or state government. In addition we have a scientific arm that deals with issues relating to cultural, water, soil, wildlife, plants and trees.

The employees of the San Bernardino National Forest are tasked with protecting a huge area with a rich diversity of geographical features, flora and fauna. The elevations on the forest range from a few thousand feet to 11,501 feet at Mount San Gorgonio, the highest peak in Southern California. This large elevation range creates a wide variety of habitats in which plants and animals thrive. Indeed the San Bernardino National Forest is one of the most diverse in the country when it comes to types of



HOLCOMB VALLEY CABIN

PHOTO BY SERPICORABBIT

plants and animals - everything from desert cactus to evergreen forest to alpine tundra can be found here, within a very short distance of one another. Wildlife such as the black bear, mountain lion, deer, and bighorn sheep inhabit the Forest while the bald eagle, peregrine falcon, and the red-tailed hawk soar in the wind.

### An All Season Playground

Today, the San Bernardino National Forest serves as southern California's outdoor year-around recreation destination. Annually the forest receives more visitors than either Yosemite or Yellowstone National Parks! Even with high visitation, fortunately there are still many places to find solitude if that is what you seek. There are many ways to discover the Forest. Drive the scenic Rim of the World or Palms to Pines Scenic Byways which afford tremendous views. Hike a short nature trail or plan an extended backpacking trip in one of our eight wilderness areas. Camping, wildlife viewing, horseback riding, mountain biking, fishing, hunting, and OHV riding are just a sampling of the activities that the forest provides. And, remember, the fun doesn't stop in the winter! The forest is the location of three downhill ski resorts, or you can try out cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, or just having an old-fashioned snow ball fight.

For visitors who wish to learn more about their National Forest, there are seven ranger station/visitor centers and hands-on activities such as guided hikes and campfire programs throughout the forest. And there is no better place for people who would like to get involved in protecting the forest and its resources! The San Bernardino National Forest is known for its extensive volunteer and partnership programs and logs more volunteer hours than any other forest in the country. A list of our volunteer organizations and pertinent information is printed on the reverse of this guide.

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

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

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

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

**Mountaintop Ranger District  
Big Bear Discovery Center**  
P.O. Box 69  
40971 North Shore Dr., Hwy 38  
Fawnskin, CA 92333  
(909) 382-2790

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

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

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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 parquean 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 algunos sitios designados. Llame la estación de guardabosques más cercana o visite [www.fs.usda.gov/adventure-pass](http://www.fs.usda.gov/adventure-pass).

## 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.

## 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 braceros, 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 suplido 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.



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

El Tiro al Blanco es permitido 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.



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. Holiday weekend fees may be higher. There may be a charge for extra vehicles. There are some 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 stoves, tables, and parking spaces. Drinking water and showers are available if noted in the table to the right.

### Group Campgrounds

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

## 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 it in, Pack it out and dispose of trash properly.

### Remote Areas

Remote areas are areas away from highways and development where camping along backroads or trails is permitted. Because of year-round fire danger, wood fires 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.

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, trailheads, private property, or state highways.
- Camp “out of sight” of others and do not disturb them.

### Yellow Post Sites

Yellow Post Sites are 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 to the Wilderness is limited. On summer weekends some Wilderness areas may fill to capacity well in advance. Wilderness campsites are accessible by foot and/or horseback only, and require a free **Wilderness Permit**, which may be reserved up to three months in advance from the local ranger station. Permits are issued through the mail, via fax or in person. When camping in the Wilderness, lightweight stoves are recommended. Campfires are never allowed in any Wilderness Area on the San Bernardino National Forest.

## Family Campgrounds

Name	Amenities	Appr. Elev.	No. Sites	Space Size	Daily Site Fee
<b>Cajon</b> (p. 12)					
Applewhite*		3300’	44	30’	\$10

<b>Arrowhead</b> (p. 14)					
Crab Flats		6200’	27	15’	\$20-22
Dogwood		5600’	87	22’	\$30-32
Green Valley		7000’	37	22’	\$22-24
North Shore		5300’	28	22’	\$22-24

<b>Big Bear</b> (p. 15)					
Big Pine Flat		6800’	19	30’	\$22-24
Hanna Flats		7000’	85	35’	\$26-28
Holcomb Valley*		7400’	19	25’	\$20-22
Horse Springs*		5800’	11	25’	\$10
Pineknot		7000’	47	35’	\$26-28
Serrano		6800’	111	55’	\$30-32

<b>San Gorgonio</b> (p. 13)					
Barton Flats		6500’	52	55’	\$28-30
San Gorgonio		6500’	54	55’	\$26-28
Heart Bar		6900’	89	50’	\$22-24
South Fork		6400’	24	30’	\$22-24
Wildhorse Eq.		7000’	11	50’	\$28-30

<b>San Jacinto</b> (p. 16)					
Boulder Basin		7300’	34	15’	\$10
Dark Canyon		5800’	17	15’	\$12
Fern Basin		6300’	22	15’	\$10
Marion Mtn.		6400’	24	15’	\$10
Pinyon Flat*		4000’	18	15’	\$8
Ribbonwd. Eq.*		4000’	8	50’	\$15

## Group Campgrounds

Name	Amenities	No. Sites	No. People	No. Cars	Daily Site Fee
<b>Arrowhead</b> (p. 14)					
Fisherman’s*	Hike In Only	4	8	0	\$10
Shady Cove		3	30	16	\$90-100
Tent Peg			30	5	\$120-130

<b>Big Bear</b> (p. 15)					
Big Pine Flat Eq			25	8	\$100-110
Bluff Mesa			40	8	\$120-130
Boulder			40	8	\$120-130
Buttercup			40	8	\$120-130
Deer			40	8	\$120-130
Gray’s Peak	Call for Current Status	40	8		\$120-130
Green Spot Eq.			25	8	\$100-110
Ironwood			25	5	\$100-110
Juniper Spring*			40	8	\$120-130
Tanglewood			40	8	\$120-130

<b>San Gorgonio</b> (p. 13)					
Coon Ck. Cabin			25	10	\$100-110
Council			50	10	\$200-210
Heart Bar Eq.			65	21	\$260-270
Lobo			75	15	\$300-310
Oso			100	20	\$400-410
Skyline			25	9	\$100-110

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

- Drinking water on site
- RV dump
- Showers
- Hookups

- Vault Toilets
- Flush Toilets
- 1st Come/1st Served
- Reserve through recreation.gov

## Camping Regulations

- Camping is limited to 14 days per stay, with a maximum of 30 days in a calendar year
- 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 the first night of your stay.
- Store your food properly - use bear resistant containers if available, or store food in the trunk of your vehicle.
- Please keep a clean camp and dispose of trash properly..

Visiting Fire Lookouts

Lookouts are open to the public 9 am–5 pm daily 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. Special Smokey Bear fire prevention materials are available for kids.

Remember, children must be directly supervised by an adult. Five visitors are allowed in the lookout at once, and don’t climb lookouts during thunderstorms. Enjoy your visit!



Strawberry Peak  
(Arrowhead)

**Directions:** Take Highway 18 to Rim Forest (west of Skyforest). Turn north on to 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 (Arrowhead)

**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  
(San Jacinto)

**Directions:** Take Highway 243 north out of Idyllwild for 8.1 miles to the turn-off of Black Mountain Road (FR 4S01). Make a sharp left turn and drive a half mile to the end of the road (5.8 miles from the highway). Take the paved walkway to the lookout.

**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 (San Jacinto)

**Directions:** Take Hwy 243 south from Idyllwild, continue on Highway 74 (towards Palm Desert). Turn on Highway 371 toward Anza. Turn right on to 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  
(San Gorgonio)

**Directions:** Follow Hwy. 38 east from Redlands. Go past Mill Creek Work 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.

Tahquitz Peak (San Jacinto)

**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.

Butler Peak (Big Bear) Call for Current Status 909-382-2791

**Directions:** 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 2N13C, which takes you to Butler Peak.

**Elevation:** 8,535 feet

Wildfire Prevention Volunteers

There are many opportunities to support the Forest Service in its wildfire prevention efforts. If you are interested in becoming a prevention volunteer you may have the opportunity to participate in one of the following areas. You could drive the USFS Model T in one of the numerous parades or special events that it is requested at each year. Some of our volunteers are asked to respond to incidents for Logistics Support or Fire Information efforts, serve as Smokey Bear at a special event or at a local school or classroom activity. During the winter, a special Winter Sports Team is provides skiers and snow-boarders with fire prevention information as well as Forest rules and regulations. In the spring/summer months you can join our Mountain Bike Team. Team members patrol and monitor public use for fire safe behavior while providing assistance to those in need. For more information or to sign up contact:

Laura Dyberg Program Manager      909-867-5833  
dyberg4fsc@earthlink.net      www.wildfirevolunteers.com  
PO Box 2582, Running Springs, CA 92382

Personal Fuelwood Permit

Personal fuelwood permits allow you to cut firewood on National Forest land for your household. With your permit you will be given the specific rules and regulations for the San Bernardino National Forest including information about where you may cut. It is your responsibility to know where you are cutting, as well as, to know and follow the rules and regulations governing your permit.

Basic Conditions and Rules

Fuelwood permits are issued at district offices only. Call ahead for current prices, season dates, and availability. Permit issuance and use may be restricted due to conditions and fuelwood availability.

- Gathering of fuelwood must be on National Forest Land, location will be provided.
- One permit per household at one time. Limit 10 cords per year, per household.
- Permits are not refundable.
- All chainsaws must have a US Forest Service approved spark arrester.
- You must have a serviceable round point shovel no less than 46 inches in length, and an approved ABC class fire extinguisher within 25 feet of the cutting area. You must report any fire immediately – Dial 911.
- Cutting may be restricted on days posing high fire danger and current weather conditions. Permit holders are required to contact the Forest Service in advance of cutting to determine the fire restrictions in effect for that day.
- All forest products transported must have load ticket completed and attached to load. Forest products (firewood) from private property or purchased cannot be transported without a bill of sale, or written permit. (California Penal Code 384.5)

Other Forest Products

Those wishing to collect products such as seeds, pine cones, plant specimens, manzanita, mistletoe, and other forest products are required to obtain a permit before removing anything from National Forest land. Permits may not be available in all areas. The permit will tell you where you may collect and any restrictions which may apply. Contact the Ranger Station in the area you would like to visit to find out how to obtain your permit. Some permits will have an associated fee depending on type and product amount. Plan ahead, as some permits require advance notice of several weeks.

Buy it where you burn it!

The Goldspotted Oak Borer is an invasive pest transported in oak firewood, so it is critical that Californians keep firewood local and not move it out of the area. To help stop the spread of Goldspotted Oak Borer use firewood from local sources - “Buy it Where you Burn It.” Also, leave firewood at home do not transport it to recreational cabins, campgrounds or parks. Anyone planning to purchase or burn firewood is encouraged to visit the website [firewood.ca.gov](http://firewood.ca.gov) to learn how help stop the spread of Goldspotted Oak Borer and other pests through the movement of firewood.





# Fire Prescription: Just What the Forest Ordered

With the catastrophic 2007 and 2009 Southern California wildfires still fresh in our minds, the sight of smoke may still be a little scary. But it is not uncommon on the San Bernardino National Forest. It could be a wildfire or it could be an intentionally set, or “prescribed,” fire to prevent larger fires. More and more, Forest Service fire managers are using “prescribed” fire as a remedy for overgrown areas of the forest to restore them to a more natural state, when fire provide a natural cleansing element in the ecosystem.

The fall of 2009 was another extreme fire year for much of Southern California. Drought contributed to the intensity of the fire season. Ironically, part of the reason fires were so severe is because fire fighting has become so effective since the beginning of the 20th century. Wildfire disasters in the 19th and early 20th centuries, along with the dire need for timber during World War II, caused an all-out war on fire in U.S. forests. In the past, there was a mindset that all fire was destructive and bad. But with much scientific study, ecologists, fire managers, and elected officials now realize that fire is natural and essential.

## Fire is Natural

As in most western forests, fire is a natural process that existed on the San Bernardino National Forest long before the Forest Service managed these lands. Lightning sparked fires that cleaned accumulating plant materials, thinned tree stands, released nutrients back into the soil, spurred seed germination, and cleared pathways for wildlife. Native Americans used fire for similar purposes. Their fires would clear dead and dying plants, allowing fresh young shoots to sprout, which was beneficial to them and the wildlife they hunted.



MOMYER FIRE

AL KELLEY

A careful and scientific way to manage fire has been developed and is presently being applied to the wildlands of the San Bernardino National Forest. Natural and man-made features are evaluated to determine the level of fire intensity that they can withstand, if any. Landscapes then get a “prescription” based on their need for fire, much like a doctor who

evaluates a patient’s need for medicine and prescribes it if necessary.

***Recreation sites and areas may be closed for short periods of time due to fires or tree removal projects. Call a ranger station for current conditions.***

Prescribing fire helps plants and animal habitats become more productive and open. Trees have more nutrients and sunlight, and thus grow more resistant to disease, insects, and even to more intense fire. Some plant species even require fire to survive and

others to germinate. Landscapes return to the balanced, open, and healthy state of the days before all fires were put out.

## Fighting Fire with Fire

Fire managers must also take into consideration the fuel build-up, houses, and communities surrounding national forest lands. Part of the “prescription” for burning is a very detailed plan that takes all contingencies into account. Accumulated fuels are gradually and carefully removed, with safety as a primary concern. In fact, a lot of prescribed fires are conducted for community protection. The Westridge Fuelbreak is a good example. Prescribed fire combined with mechanical reduction in overgrown areas has been employed for the express purpose of protecting the community of Idyllwild from an uncontrolled fire. In other words, we are fighting fire with fire.

## Still Counting On You

Like doctors, prescriptions for fire should only be made by those with the knowledge and experience to make such a powerful decision. Treatments need to be designed carefully so that burns achieve desired results. It’s not simply a matter of letting things burn. Wildfires must still be prevented. Smokey Bear is still counting on you!

Every fire season the San Bernardino National Forest restricts fire use. These restrictions are necessary to prevent fire catastrophes. Some important fire restrictions include:

- Wood and charcoal campfires are permitted only in designated campfire rings, which are engineered to be safe. Designated campfire rings are found at developed campgrounds, picnic areas and Yellow Post sites. A ranger station can help you to find places to have a safe and legal campfire. Barbecues and charcoal BBQ’s are included in this restriction.
- A California Campfire Permit is required for stoves outside of developed campgrounds and picnic areas. Contact your nearest Ranger Station for a permit and current fire restrictions.
- Smoke cigarettes, cigars, or pipes only in cleared areas or in an enclosed vehicle.
- Additionally, fireworks are prohibited. Spark arrestors are required for off-highway vehicles (OHVs), portable generators, and other similar engines.

## Fire is Powerful

Fire can be a powerful tool or a destructive force. Fire should always be handled with care no matter its size or purpose. Carefully planning and managing fire is a lot safer than reacting to unplanned and unmanaged fire. The San Bernardino National Forest is carefully planning and managing fire. Visitors can help by taking steps to prevent wildfires. Report any smoke column you see, but be prepared for the possibility that the smoke could be coming from a fire prescribed for forest health and community protection.

Please stay on designated roadways, especially in burned areas, as soils are extremely fragile and easily damaged by any soil disturbance. Help preserve the environment by letting these areas heal.

To see the benefits and damaging effects of fire, as well as recovery after a fire, visit these areas:

**The Mountain Fire** (2013) – can be seen from Hwy 74 southeast of Mountain Center. It burned through the Bonita Vista area then along the Desert Divide and southern portion of the San Jacinto Wilderness.

**The Old and Grand Prix Fires** (2003)–were the largest fires in recorded history on the San Bernardino National Forest at more than 150,000 acres. These fires are an example of the destruction fire can cause. Originally two separate fires joined near the I-15/I-215 Junction north of the city of San Bernardino.

**The Willow Fire** (1999)–At more than 63,000 acres, it was the biggest fire to burn on the Forest until 2003. Check with the Big Bear Discovery Center for information on the best roads to take to see the burn and recovery.

**The Bear Creek Fire** (1970)–The Children’s Forest, (page 13) near Highway 18 and Running Springs, is an excellent place to see a forest’s recovery after a fire.

## To Report a Fire

The quickest way to report a fire is to dial 9-1-1. Emergency call boxes are located along most state highways. Be sure to note your location when making the report. If you don’t know where you are, use the milepost markers along the highway or give the nearest cross street.

You can also report fires or other emergencies at any of the fire stations located throughout the national forest (see maps, pages 10-17).

You may also contact a ranger station; see front page.



# 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)



## 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 is required when parked in many areas of the Forest.

*Hunting is regulated by the California Department of Fish & Wildlife ([www.dfg.ca.gov](http://www.dfg.ca.gov) or 909-484-0167) and a license is required.*

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 1-888-334-2258. 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 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.

**Prevent lead poisoning!**  
**Use lead-free bullets**

## Fishing

Public lakes and streams in the Forest are stocked regularly by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife ([www.dfg.ca.gov](http://www.dfg.ca.gov) or 909-484-0167). A state license is required for persons 16 years of age and older.

For a stocking information recording, call 562-594-7268. 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 at the 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 National Forest system unappropriated 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 requires a special use permit.

## 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.

### 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

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

## Recreational Shooting

Recreational (target) shooting is allowed only in designated shooting areas and target ranges on the San Bernardino National Forest. Please call your local ranger station for detailed maps and information. Shooters are prohibited from destroying any natural feature in the national forest, including plants and trees. A firearm may not be discharged within 150 yards of any developed area. An Adventure Pass is required at some shooting areas on the Forest. Because of the risks of starting a fire, steel core, armor piercing, or Teflon ammunition is not allowed. Air rifles, bow and arrows, gas guns, and paint ball are allowed to be discharged only within designated shooting areas or target ranges. 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.

### Target ranges operated under permit from the Forest

- Arrowhead Fish & Game at 909-337-3310; Membership required
- Big Bear Valley Sportsman’s Club at 909-585-4686.
- Lytle Creek Firing Line at 909-782-7438.

*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 42 miles of 24-inch to 50-inch wide trails, 169 miles of Forest roads for non-highway legal registered vehicles (Green Sticker or Red Sticker), 900 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 non-highway legal registration (Green Sticker or Red Sticker).

*For more information on Green and Red Sticker regulations and licensing requirements, please visit this website [www.ohv.parks.ca.gov](http://www.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). 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 at this website:

[www.fs.usda.gov/goto/sanbernardino/ohv](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/sanbernardino/ohv)

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



Please 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. Use wildlife-safe anti-freeze and clean your equipment to prevent invasive weed introduction.

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 1 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 and 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. Route information is also available in the book, *Mountain Biking in the San Bernardinos*, by Robert Shipley.



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.



ANA KAROLA RUSSELL

Avoid excessive speed because of the potential 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 Spitler Peak and Fobes trails in the San Jacinto area connect with the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) and have spectacular views of the desert below. The nearby McCall Equestrian Park and Ribbonwood Equestrian campground offer 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.

*Pack it in,  
pack it out!*

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-Free-Seed-Free feed
- Do not bathe horses in lakes or streams.
- Do not cut switchbacks.



*Why Weed-Free-Seed-Free Feed? Hay and feed can contain seeds of invasive plants. Use “Weed-Free-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 tire chains 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 drives, 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 1-800-427-7623 or visit their website [www.dot.ca.gov](http://www.dot.ca.gov) for road conditions.

**Snowplay & Sledding** are fun activities but parking can be hard to find. Be sure to park well off the road and do not block other vehicles or the snowplow. An Adventure Pass is required for some areas. Snowdrift Winter Playground (909-867-2640) and Snow Valley Ski Resort (909-867-2751), located off of Hwy 18 east of Running Springs, both offer tobogganing. Alpine Slide and Big Bear Snowplay are snowplay areas located on private land in the Big Bear area.

**Downhill Skiing and Snowboarding Areas** are centered around Arrowhead and Big Bear. Extensive snowmaking equipment allows Snow Summit (909-866-5766), Big Bear Mountain (909-866-2519), 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



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 is along streams and other areas with lots of plants and insects. Thurman Flats Picnic Area (see map, page 1) is a well known resting area. Refer to the Birds of San Bernardino National Forest for lists of commonly found species. Bird walks are given throughout the year by the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society. For more information, call the San Bernardino County Museum (909-307-2669).

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 909-866-5841 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. Two cross-country ski facilities operate under Special Use Permit from the Forest Service in the Arrowhead area: Green Valley and Rim Nordic (both at 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 Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

This 280,000-acre Monument near Palm Springs was created in 2000. It includes a unique combination of Federal, private, state and county, and Native American lands (see map, page 11). The Monument is administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service.

Information about the Monument can be obtained at each agency office. The Idyllwild Ranger Station (see map, page 16) is a good source of hiking information, the Idyllwild Nature Center offers natural and cultural history exhibits, and the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitor Center (760-862-9984) south of Palm Desert on Highway 74, has interpretive displays and information about the Monument (see maps, pages 16-17). Mt. San Jacinto State Park has a small visitor center at the top of the Palm Springs Aerial Tram.



CAHUILLA TEWANET VIEWPOINT ON HIGHWAY 74 SOUTH OF PALM DESERT

NTL SCENIC BYWAYS—MARTHA ALEJANDRE

### Picnic Areas

Use caution when recreating in or near streams and rivers. Flash flooding may occur after storms.



#### Cajon (p. 10)

Applewhite*	
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#### Arrowhead (p. 12)

Baylis Park*	
Switzer Park*	
Crest Park*	

#### Big Bear (p. 13)

Aspen Glen*	
Grout Bay	
Juniper Point	
Meadow’s Edge	

#### San Gorgonio (p. 11)

Falls	
Jenks Lake*	\$5 parking
Thurman Flats*	

#### San Jacinto (p. 14)

Fuller Mill Creek*	
Lake Fulmor*	
Lake Hemet*	

### Key

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Drinking water on site | Adventure Pass required |
| Fishing nearby         | * Open year-round       |

### Wilderness Areas

Wilderness is Federal land designated by Congress. It is a place “where the earth and its community of life are untrammled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain...which is protected and managed to preserve its natural condition.” (Wilderness Act 1964). In the Wilderness, preservation of the land, its natural processes, native vegetation and wildlife is the first priority of management. Human use is secondary. All mechanized equipment and vehicles are prohibited (including mountain bikes), except for wheelchairs.

The San Bernardino National Forest has eight designated Wildernesses: San Gorgonio, Cucamonga, San Jacinto, Santa Rosa, Bighorn Mountain, Cahuilla Mountain, South Fork San Jacinto, and part of the Sheep Mountain wilderness area (see map on pages 10-11). Detailed maps of these areas (except the Bighorn, Cahuilla Mountain and South Fork San Jacinto) are available for purchase at ranger stations. The San Gorgonio, Cucamonga, San Jacinto, and Bighorn Wilderness Areas require free permits for day hiking and camping.

Where permits are required, the number of people admitted to the Wilderness is limited. On some summer weekends, Wilderness areas fill to capacity well in advance. The best advice is to plan ahead. When camping in the Wilderness, lightweight stoves are recommended. They are more convenient and efficient than open campfires. Fires are not permitted in Wilderness areas in the San Bernardino National Forest.

### 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 permit information and to purchase Adventure Passes. The Center is also a great environmental family learning hub starting with free guided nature walks available year-round on Saturdays and Sundays to gain a basic understanding of local plant life, wildlife and interesting historical facts. Seasonally, snowshoe, canoe, kayak and Holcomb Valley Gold Rush guided tours by a naturalist are available on weekends for families to experience the sport, learn seasonal ecology, the wildlife, and more historical fun facts of the Big Bear Valley while having great family fun.

From Memorial to Labor Day Weekends, family-oriented programming is expanded on Saturdays and Sundays to include nature crafts, animal tracking, map and compass, gold panning, Junior Forest Ranger, along with special events aimed at families learning together how to become more responsible caretakers and to heighten their enjoyment of our Natural 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. 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!

The Children’s Forest was created in the wake of the 1970 Bear Fire; the designated 3,400-acre area was replanted with trees bearing the names of children. In 1993, the first trail was established by a work group of children from around the country. This ¾ -mile Interpretive Trail at the top of Keller Peak Road can still be hiked today. There is also the 4.5-mile Exploration Trail.

Along with recreation opportunities, 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, sell adventure passes, lead nature walks, give tours of the greenhouse, and lead family activities. Group events, such as school/scout programs are available year-round.

#### Visitor Center Hours

May 24 to September 1  
Saturdays and Sundays only  
9 am - 5 pm

#### Guided Tours

Saturdays & Sundays: Youth-led nature walks.

#### Location

One-half mile east of Running Springs at Deerlick Fire Station (see map, page 12).

#### Phone

909-867-5996 Weekends

For more information and events, please visit  
[www.mountainsfoundation.org](http://www.mountainsfoundation.org)



Keep Wildlife Wild

The forest is home to many types of wild animals including black bears, mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes, foxes, bighorn sheep, and mule deer. The animals in the forest are wild and are unpredictable. In order to keep both animals and humans safe, it’s important to never feed or approach wildlife

Bears

Bears have lived in these mountains for hundreds of years. Once even grizzly bears lived here—indeed it is from them that Big Bear got its name. Unfortunately grizzly bears were hunted to extinction by humans and were gone by the early 20th century. Now only black bears live in the Forest.

Black bears can be brown, blonde, or gray, as well as black. They generally do not hibernate and are active year-round on the San Bernardino National Forest. They are generally shy and will avoid people.

- Never feed a bear. Feeding bears teaches them to approach humans. These bears become accustomed to getting food at campgrounds or residences and they become unsafe. Feeding bears may ultimately lead to their death. Please help avoid that tragedy.
- Keep your site clean! Throw away garbage immediately after meals. Use bear-resistant garbage cans whenever possible.
- Never leave food out on the table or in a tent. Do not leave your ice chest out. Bears are smart. They know what is in an ice chest and they can open one easily.
- Store food in an airtight container in the trunk of your vehicle or use bear-resistant food containers if available. Portable bear-resistant canisters are available for rental or purchase at the Mill Creek Work Center. They are highly recommended for storing your food while backpacking.
- While hiking, make noise to avoid a surprise encounter with a bear.
- Keep a close watch on children, and teach them what to do if they encounter a bear.
- If you encounter a bear, do not run; instead, face the animal, make noise and try to appear as large as possible.
- If attacked, fight back. If a bear attacks a person, immediately call 911.

Mountain Lions

Mountain lions are also native to our mountains and are an important member of the ecosystem. If you ever see a lion, consider yourself lucky, because like bears, they generally avoid people. Most of the time mountain lions will not bother you, but should one get close, the same rules that apply to encountering a bear apply to a lion. Never run away, face the mountain lion and make yourself look large and make a lot of noise. If attacked, fight back.

Where to Watch for Wildlife



Wildlife Watching

Wildlife watching can be enjoyed any month of the year. Early morning and early evening are usually the best times to catch a glimpse of birds and mammals, especially on hot summer days. Watch for lizards and snakes during the heat of the day. Hawks can be seen almost anytime. The listing to the right includes some convenient roadside pull-offs and short trails where you are most likely to see animals. They are shown on the five area maps with the binocular symbol. Most are good for viewing year round, though in the higher elevations winter snow can hamper viewing of some species.



Learning About the Forest

This symbol indicates an Interpretive trailhead: a trail with printed guides or panels describing the plants, animals, and history of the area. Evening campfire programs are given during the summer months at Greyback Amphitheater, Big Bear Discovery Center, and Dogwood Campground. The visitor centers at Big Bear, Barton Flats, and Idyllwild also have interpretive programs.

Cajon Viewing

Mormon Rocks Fire Station

Take Highway 138 west exit off I-15 in Cajon Pass. Follow the signs for the Forest Service Fire Station. Walk a scenic, one-mile loop trail that runs along a ridge above the fire station. In the cliffs watch for white-throated swifts, hawks, and ravens. In the chaparral look for coast horned lizards, California thrashers, and western king birds.

Mountaintop Viewing

Silverwood Lake State Recreation Area

Call the park office at 760-389-2303 for current information. Take Hwy. 138 East exit from I-15 in Cajon Pass. In the oak woodlands surrounding the lake, look for acorn woodpeckers, western bluebirds, and ground squirrels. In the ponderosa pines high above Lake Silverwood look for juncos, mountain chickadees, and Steller’s jays.

Heaps Peak Arboretum

This nature trail is on Hwy. 18, 1.5 miles east of the village of Skyforest. A trail guide leads you through the mixed forest, where you can watch for dark-eyed juncos, songbirds, signs of bobcats, and gray foxes.

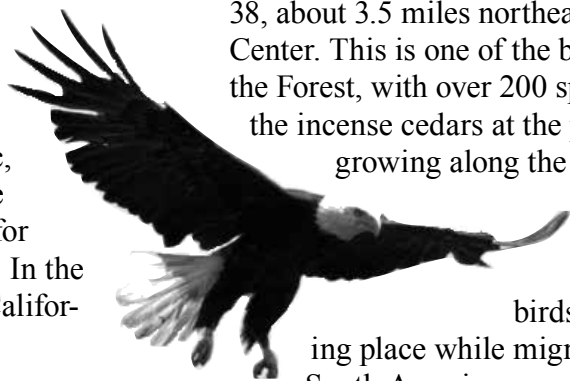
Big Bear Lake

One of the best places to view wildlife in Big Bear is at the Stanfield Cutoff, the causeway that crosses the eastern portion of Big Bear Lake. In winter watch for bald eagles or call the Big Bear Discovery Center to volunteer to help count the eagles, 909-382-2791. All year watch for white pelicans, coots, great blue herons, and mergansers.

San Gorgonio Viewing

Santa Ana River

Along the stream watch for dip-pers, yellow warblers, red-breasted sapsuckers, rac-coons, two-striped garter snakes, quail, rainbow trout, brown trout, and signs of deer.



Thurman Flats

This picnic area is on Highway 38, about 3.5 miles northeast of the Mill Creek Work Center. This is one of the best bird watching areas on the Forest, with over 200 species seen here. Look in the incense cedars at the picnic area and in the alders growing along the creek: yellow warblers, and Lawrence’s goldfinch, scrub jays, hooded orioles, and northern orioles. Many of the birds are using the trees as a resting place while migrating to and from Central and South America.

San Jacinto Viewing

Indian Vista

This scenic viewpoint is on Highway 243, 9.5 miles northwest of Idyllwild. Watch for song-birds in the chaparral and oak trees and redtailed hawks and ravens soaring above. In the warmer months a variety of lizards sun themselves on the rocks. If you are lucky (and patient) you may see deer, bobcat, gray fox, and coyote.

Lake Fulmor

Located about 10 miles north of Idyll-wild, Lake Fulmor is a delightful oasis for people and wildlife. On the trail winding around the lake look for ground squirrels, tree frogs, butterflies, and dragonflies; listen for the raucous chatter of Steller’s jays.

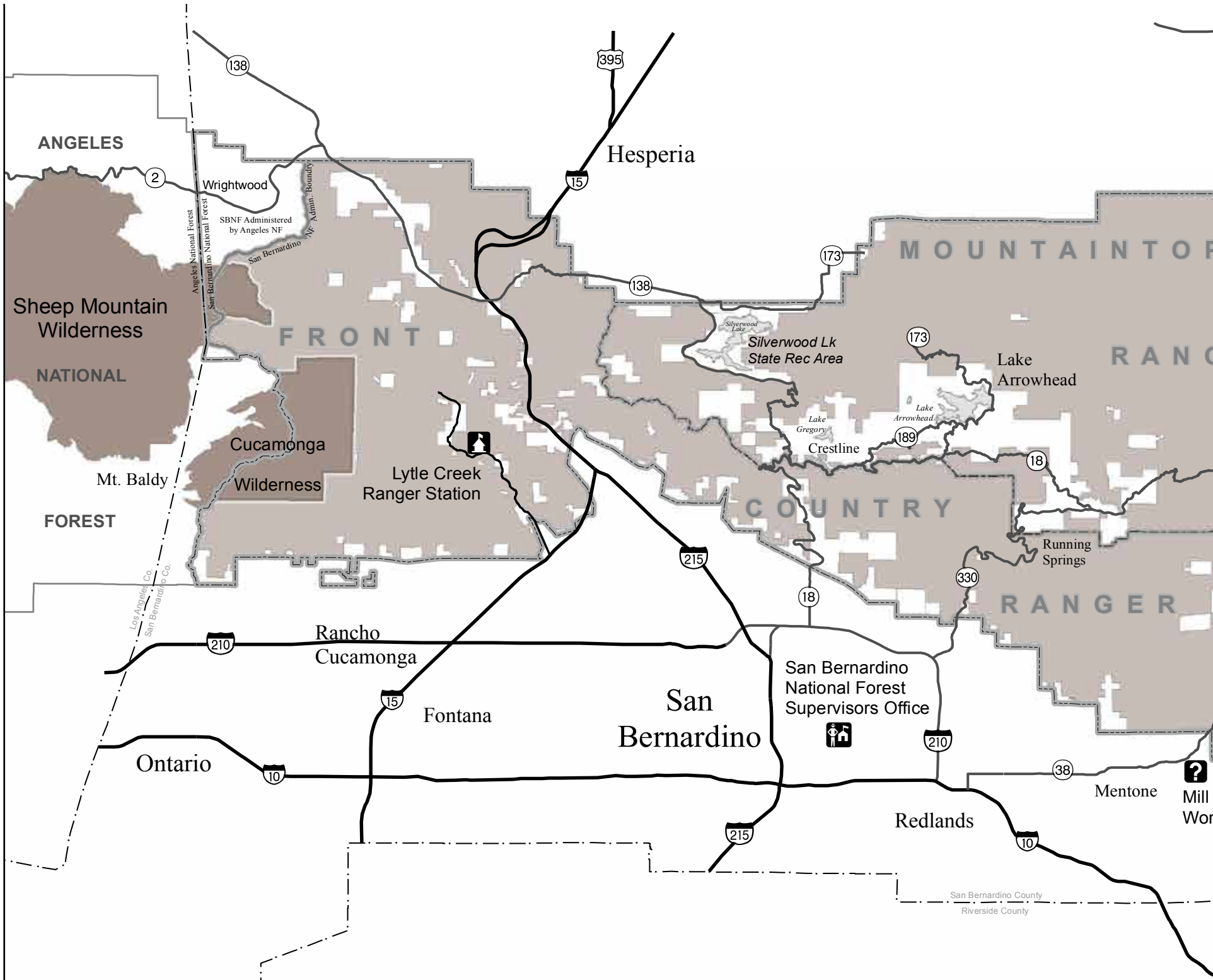
Alandale Fire Station

This site is about 5 miles north of Idyllwild, on Highway 243. Interpretive signs illustrate the wildlife of the area, including woodpeck-ers, bluebirds, jays, deer, squirrels, pack rats, hawks, and insects.

Lake Hemet










Eight miles south of Idyllwild on High-way 74 is Lake Hemet. The picnic area is the best place to view wintering bald eagles, Canada geese, white pelicans, and other waterfowl. In the summer, see great blue herons, violet green swallows, and Caspian terns. Coyotes, deer, and bobcat are sometimes seen along the shore.





Map of the  
SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST

Legend

- |  |                     |   |                         |
|--|---------------------|---|-------------------------|
|   | Supervisor's Office |  | Proclaimed Boundry      |
|   | District Office     |  | Administrative Boundary |
|   | Forest Information  |  | National Monument       |
|  | County Line         |  | District Boundary       |
|  |                     |  | Wilderness Area         |





# Know Before you GO

**SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST**

**Check The Current forest Use Guidelines**

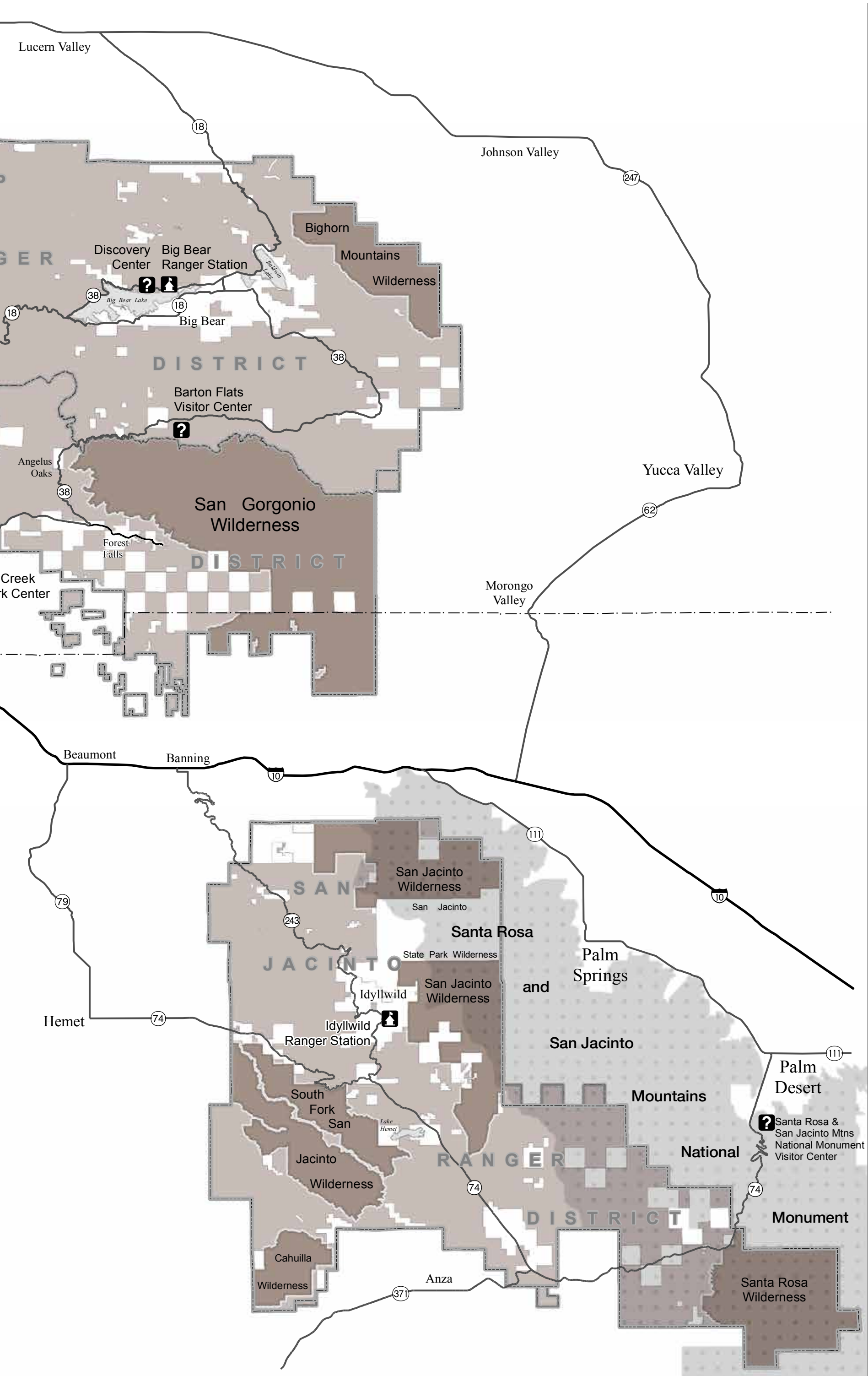
(909) 382-2600  
[www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf)

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





FOREST MAP

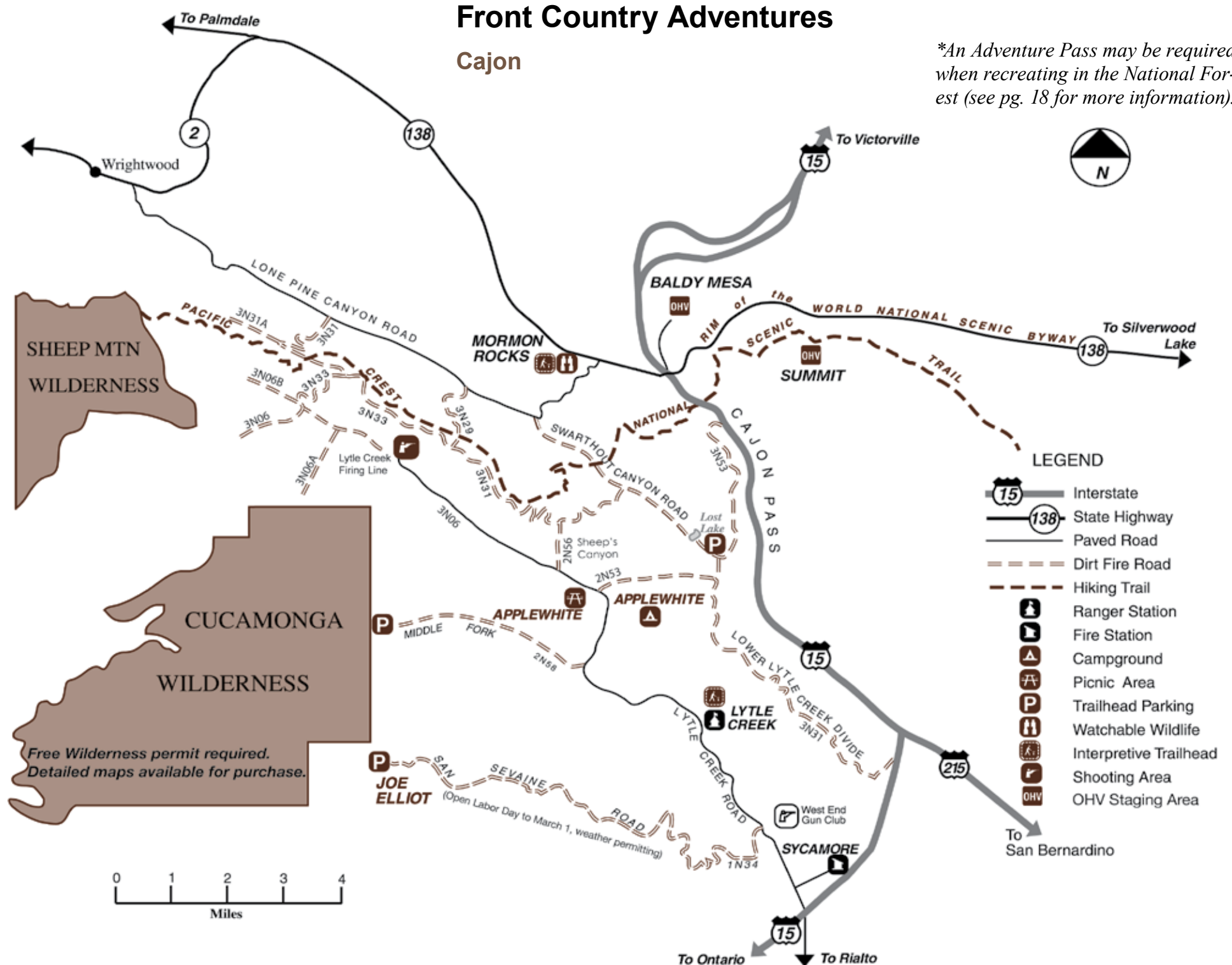




## Front Country Adventures

### Cajon

\*An Adventure Pass may be required when recreating in the National Forest (see pg. 18 for more information).



This is one of the lowest elevation areas in the Forest, so most roads and trails are open all year. Lytle Creek is the center of activities in the Cajon area with a picnic area and campground near its banks.

Summer weekends and holidays are crowded along the creek. Alternate areas for day use are Lost Lake, Swarthout Canyon, Middle Fork Road, and Cucamonga Canyon. An Adventure Pass is required when visiting many of these areas.

Bonita Falls, a 90-ft waterfall, can be seen by hiking from the Lytle Creek Road in the South Fork Area. A free map can be obtained at the Ranger Station to show hikers how to get to Bonita Falls.

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 north).



LOST LAKE

CAROL UNDERHILL

## Trail Guide

**Chaparral Neighborhoods Trail** begins next to the Lytle Creek Ranger Station and weaves through plant and animal habitats. A free self-guided trail brochure is available at the Lytle Creek Ranger Station.

## Adventure 1

### Cucamonga Wilderness Hike

The Cucamonga Wilderness provides a rugged backdrop to Lytle Creek Canyon. Hikers have the opportunity to experience a wide variety of habitats from chaparral to lush riparian to high elevation conifers.

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

**Difficulty:** Moderate.

**Permits:** Free Wilderness permit required.

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

## 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 the 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 4 passenger trains run through the pass daily.



## Adventure 3

### Mormon Rocks Nature Trail

Mormon Rocks are a series of cemented sandstone deposits. They are much more resistant to erosion than the surrounding rocks. Thus the rocks stand out in relief called “hogbacks” above the alluvial fans of Cajon Canyon wash. Trail guide available at the trailhead or Lytle Creek Ranger Station.

**Directions:** Take I-15 north through Cajon Pass, exit at Highway 138 West. Follow signs for the Mormon Rocks Fire Station. Park and take the trail winding through high desert plants behind the Fire Station.

**Distance:** 16-mile drive from the Lytle Creek Ranger Station to Mormon Rocks, one mile loop walk.

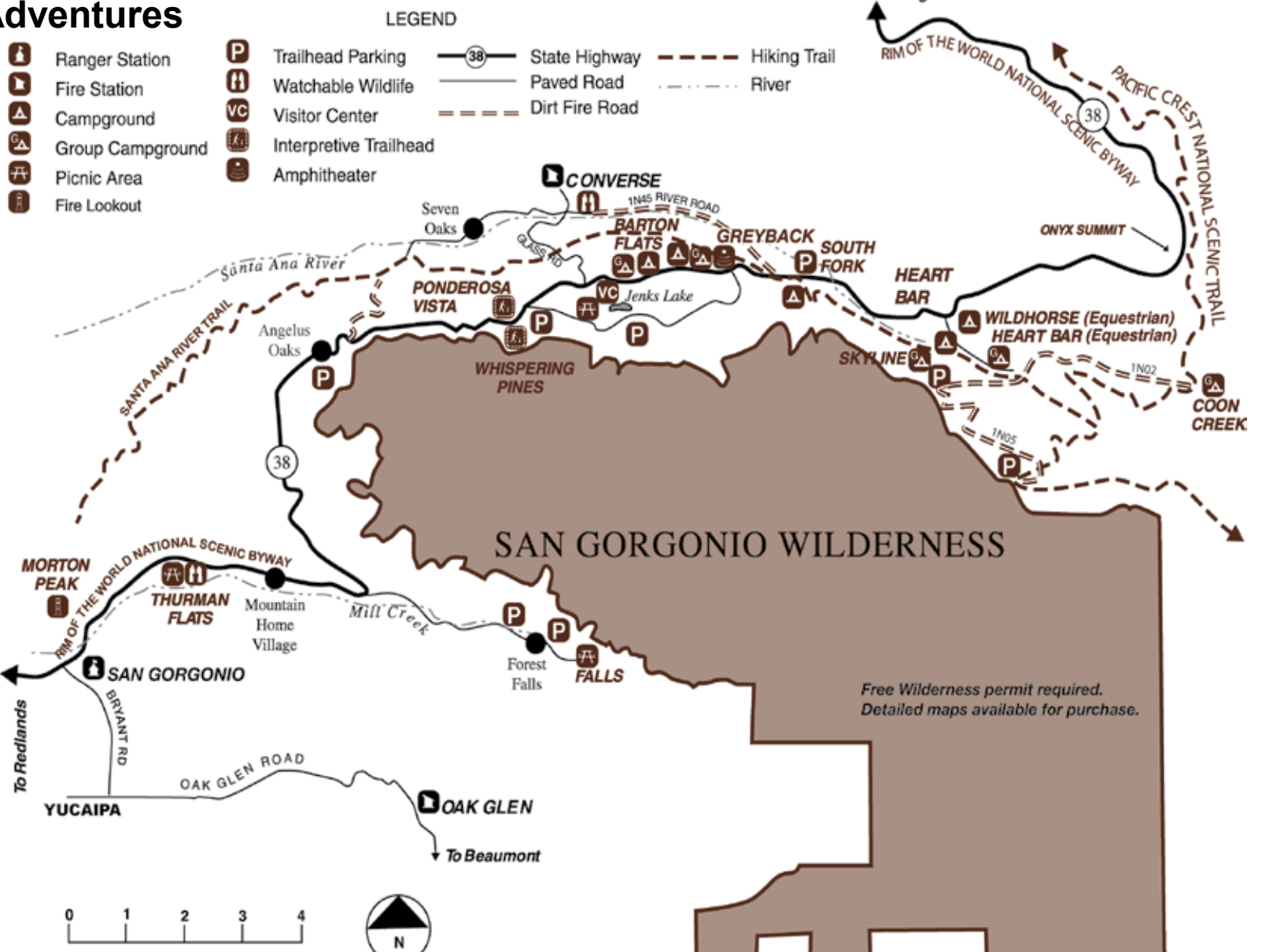
**Difficulty:** An easy drive on paved roads, easy walking.

**Points of interest:** Trains, views of Mormon Rocks and Cajon Summit Ridge, high desert plants (manzanita, yucca, and sage), views of wildlife.



## Front Country Adventures

### San Gorgonio



*\*An Adventure Pass may be required when recreating in the National Forest (see pg. 18 for more information).*

## Adventure 4

### San Gorgonio Wilderness Hike

The San Gorgonio Wilderness embraces the summit of the San Bernardino Mountain Range, 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 11,502 feet.

A free permit is required for all entry into the Wilderness. Permits can be obtained in person at the Mill Creek Work Center, Barton Flats Visitor Center (open summer only), and the Big Bear Discovery Center. You may also request a permit application by mail, fax, (or download



from [www.sgwa.org](http://www.sgwa.org)) up to 3 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 South Fork, Vivian Creek, Momyer, Aspen Grove (these three trailheads require the Adventure Pass), Fish 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, time and difficulty:** Trails in the Wilderness range from moderate to strenuous. Trail description guides with elevation information are available at the ranger station. One popular route is from South Fork Trail, climbing 4,700 feet to the top of San Gorgonio. Round trip is 21.5 miles, recommended as a 2-day (or longer) hike.

The Vivian Creek Trail is the shortest and steepest route to the top of the 11,502 ft. San Gorgonio Peak.

The trail is both challenging and dangerous, depending on the conditions, and on your skill. The trailhead is near Forest Falls: 15.6 miles round trip and 5,300 elevation gain.

**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.

**Points of Interest:** Pine and fir forests, lush subalpine meadows, sparkling streams, placid lakes, bighorn sheep, black bears and other wildlife. Look for Dollar Lake, Dry Lake, San Gorgonio Peak, San Bernardino Peak, Fish Creek, and Aspen Grove.

## 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 Work Center, or the Barton Flats Visitor Center (open summer only). Adventure Pass required ONLY during snow play/recreation.

## Points of Interest

**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. Adventure Pass required ONLY during snow play/recreation.

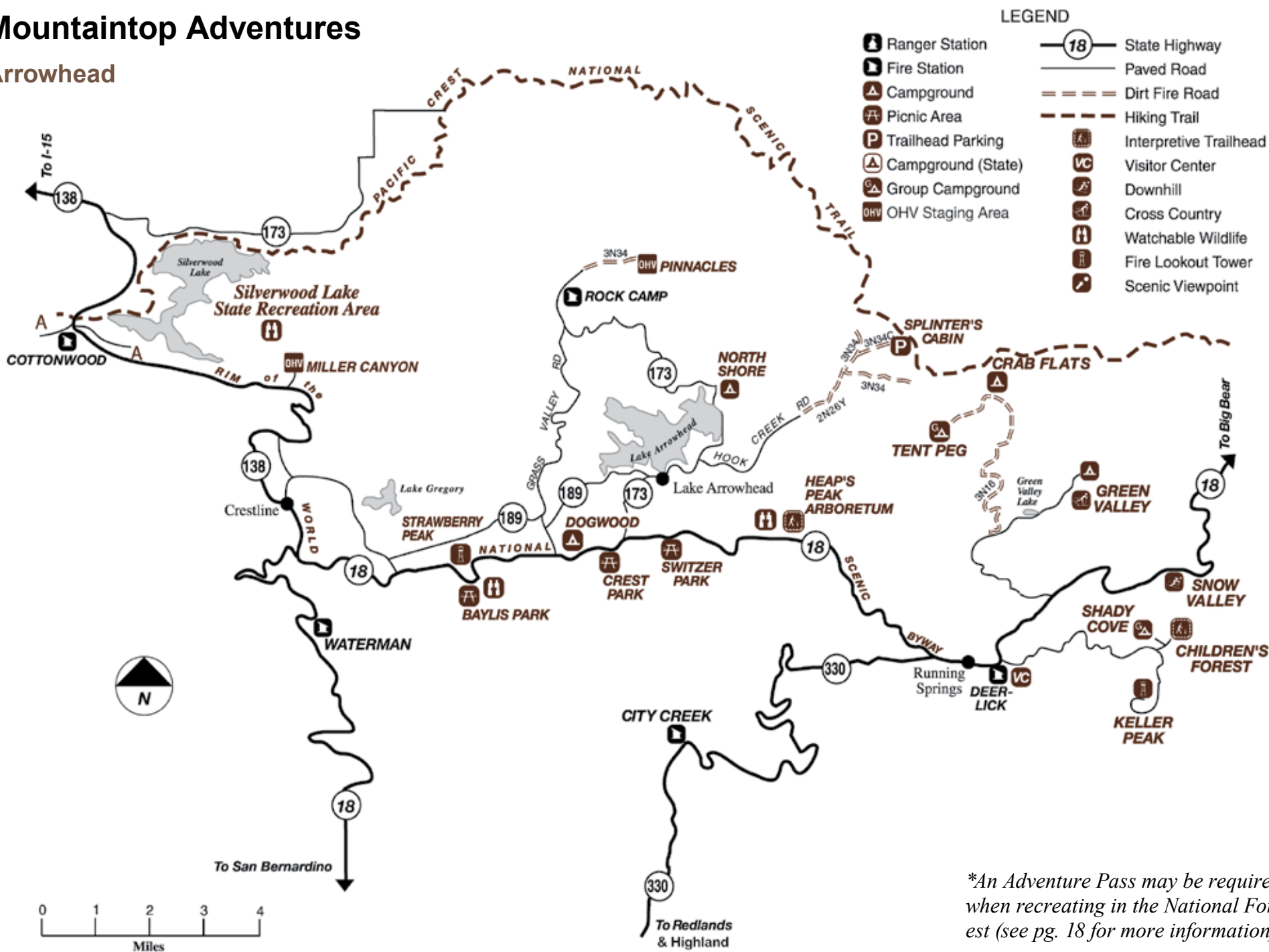
**Santa Ana River** interpretive panels along the river north of Barton Flats present the plants and animals dependent on the river, including the insects and fish that live in the water. Follow Glass Road out of Barton Flats for 2.5 miles to River Road. Turn right and go .5 mile to a sign. Park at the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

**Thurman Flats Picnic Area** panels highlight the migratory birds that visit this area along Mill Creek. See page 9. Adventure Pass required.



# Mountaintop Adventures

## Arrowhead



*\*An Adventure Pass may be required when recreating in the National Forest (see pg. 18 for more information).*

Clean air, blue skies, mountain lakes, challenging trails, and beautiful views of the valley below are some of the surprises awaiting visitors to the San Bernardino mountains. During the spring and fall, clouds cover the valley floor, and the mountains are bathed in sunlight. The lush green forest slopes are like islands rising above the sea of civilization.

Most of the mountaintop is public land. The Forest Service is the largest land manager, but there are also state and county parks. Over forty thousand people make their home here, and the resorts of Arrowhead and Big Bear attract thousands of visitors. There are also deer, bighorn sheep, mountain lions, coyotes, bald eagles and hawks. Most of the trout in the streams and lake are planted, but in a few remote areas native trout swim in the cold, fresh creeks.

Maps and guides to mountain bike trails, off-highway vehicle roads, and hiking trails are available at the Big Bear Discovery Center.

## ADVENTURE 5

### Rim of the World Scenic Byway

This 110-mile route traverses the entire mountain range, from Cajon Pass to San Geronio 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 Hwys 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 times smog in the valleys can obscure the views.

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



RIM OF THE WORLD DRIVE—LAKE ARROWHEAD VIEW.

NCB—MARTHA ALEJANDRE

## Trail Guides

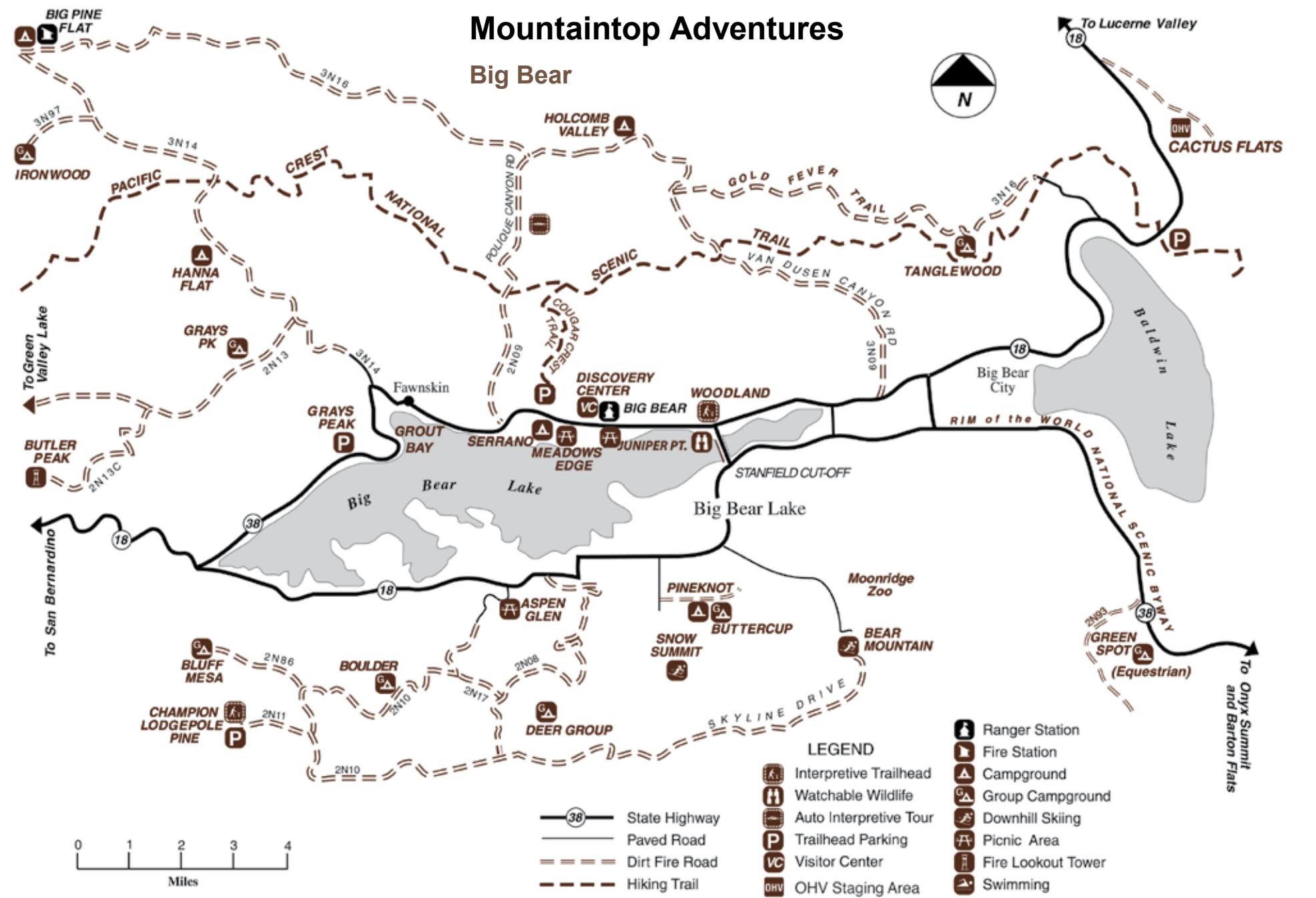
**Heaps Peak Arboretum Trail** winds through a wooded hillside for about 3/4 mile. A guide is available at the trailhead along Highway 18 near Skyforest. Donations are appreciated for the use of the guide and trail, maintained by volunteers with Rim of the World Interpretive Association. Adventure Pass required.

**Children's Forest Trail** is a 3/4-mile-long trail near Keller Peak Lookout, designed by young volunteers. The trail and activity guide is geared for family use and is available at the trailhead. Youth Naturalists are on site during the summer months to help you learn more about the area. The Children's Forest Visitor Center is .5 mile west of Running Springs, open weekends May through September (see page 8 for more information). Adventure Pass required.

## Point of Interest

**Heaps Peak Arboretum** panels describe the history of the area, including early lumbering. The panels are near the trailhead. Adventure pass required.





*\*An Adventure Pass may be required when recreating in the National Forest (see pg. 18 for more information).*

### Trail Guides

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!

### Point of Interest

**Meadow’s Edge Picnic Area** panels describe the geology of the area, mining, the history of Big Bear resorts, and wildlife on Big Bear Lake. The picnic area is on the north shore of Big Bear Lake near the Discovery Center. Adventure Pass required.

### Adventure 6

#### Gold Fever Trail

Take this scenic auto tour through Holcomb Valley north of Big Bear Lake. Named for an early prospector and miner, this remote valley makes you feel like you’re in the old west. (Many Westerns were filmed here!). Site of the biggest gold strike in southern California in 1859, you can still find a few historic buildings and cemeteries. Pick up an auto tour guide at the Discovery Center.

**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, time and difficulty:** The auto tour is 12.3 miles. Plan on 2-4 hours to enjoy all the stops. This unpaved road can be rough.

**Seasons:** Spring, summer, and fall (check for road conditions during wet seasons).

**Points of Interest:** Hangman’s Tree, Pygmy Cabin, Ross’ Grave, stamp mill, views of Baldwin Lake.

### Adventure 7

#### Cougar Crest Hike

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.



VIEW OF BIG BEAR LAKE

**Distance, time and difficulty:** Two miles to the junction 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.

**Points of Interest:** Views of Big Bear Lake

### Adventure 8

#### Alpine Pedal Path

For a quick introduction to the lake environment, walk the paved Alpine Pedal Path on the north shore of Big Bear Lake. Stroll through pine trees and open meadows close to the water’s edge. This popular path is also open to bike riders, joggers, and rollerbladers.

**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, time and difficulty:** 3.2 miles, 1 to 2 hours, easy, paved path.

**Season:** All year, but in winter Juniper Point and Meadow’s Edge Picnic Areas are closed to protect eagle roosting areas.

**Points of Interest:** Wildlife and wildflowers



## San Jacinto Adventures

### San Jacinto

\*An Adventure Pass may be required when recreating in the National Forest (see pg. 18 for more information).



The San Jacinto and Santa Rosa area is best known for its contrast of landscapes. The sub-alpine 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 rockribbed 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. Call the Chamber of Commerce (951-659-3259) for lodging information. 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 on Highway 74 just south of Palm Desert. This Bureau of Land Management facility has exhibits about desert wildlife, history, and a short nature trail.

## Adventure 9

### 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 Geronio 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, views of San Jacinto peaks, Idyllwild, County Visitor Center, Lake Fulmor, Indian Vista interpretive panels, views of Banning Pass, the San Andreas Fault, and San Geronio Wilderness.

## Adventure 10

### Deer Springs Trail to Suicide Rock

This trail provides dramatic views of Strawberry Valley and Lily Rock. After about 2.3 miles the trail forks - the Deer Springs Trail continues north to Mount San Jacinto and the trail to Suicide Rock branches off to the right. The one-mile trail to Suicide Rock crosses Marion Creek at the base of a small waterfall. A free day-use permit is required for hiking in the Wilderness. Stop at the Idyllwild Ranger Station for the permit and trail information. Dogs are not allowed on this trail as much of the trail is in the Mount San Jacinto State Wilderness.

**Directions:** From the Idyllwild Ranger Station, turn right on Hwy 243 towards Pine Cove. Look for a dirt parking area on your right just after the Idyllwild Nature Center. An Adventure Pass is not required. You can also park in the paved parking lot in front of the gate to the Nature Center (Fee charged).

**Distance, Time and Difficulty:** It's about 3.3 miles mostly uphill to Suicide Rock. Plan on at least 4 hours for the round trip. If you want a shorter hike turn around at the Suicide Rock cutoff. This moderate hike is a little steeper at the beginning than the Devil's Slide Trail, but levels out before the first mile. The trail gains about 1300 feet to the Suicide Rock junction and gains another 600 feet at the end of the trail (elevation 7528'). Bring plenty of water. Do not drink water from springs and streams in the National Forest.

**Seasons:** Spring, summer, and fall are the best seasons to hike this trail. You may need crampons or snowshoes during the winter. Points of Interest: Views of Strawberry Valley and Lily Rock, a waterfall, creeks, tall pines, cedars, oaks, manzanita, bracken ferns, flowers, birds, and mammals.



A VIEW OF TAHQUITZ PEAK AND LILY ROCK FROM SUICIDE ROCK

BRAD ELLIS





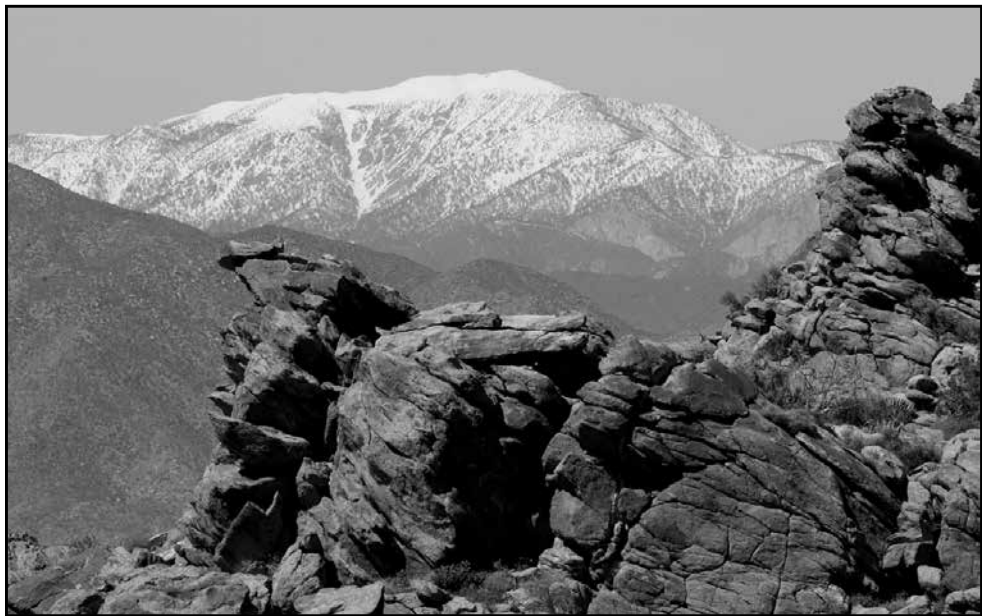


## Points of Interest

**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 11

### Fishing Fun

Some mountain lakes and streams are stocked regularly. Lake Hemet, south of Idyllwild, is owned and operated by the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District. The water district (951-659-2680) operates a campground and boat launching site, and the Forest Service operates a picnic and fishing area. Lake Fulmor, to the north of Idyllwild, has a fully accessible pier, picnic tables, and toilets. Boats are not permitted.

A state fishing license is required for persons 16 years and older. Call 562-594-7268 for a recording with stocking information (updated weekly).

**Directions:** Lake Hemet is on Highway 74, 8 miles south of Idyllwild. Lake Fulmor is 10 miles northeast of Idyllwild on Highway 243. Adventure Pass required.

**Season:** All year, depending on weather and road conditions.

**Fish:** Lake Hemet is frequently stocked with rainbow trout but also contains channel catfish, black and brown bullheads, green sunfish, bluegill, carp, and largemouth bass. Lake Fulmor has rainbow trout and bluegill.



LAKE FULMOR

## Adventure 12

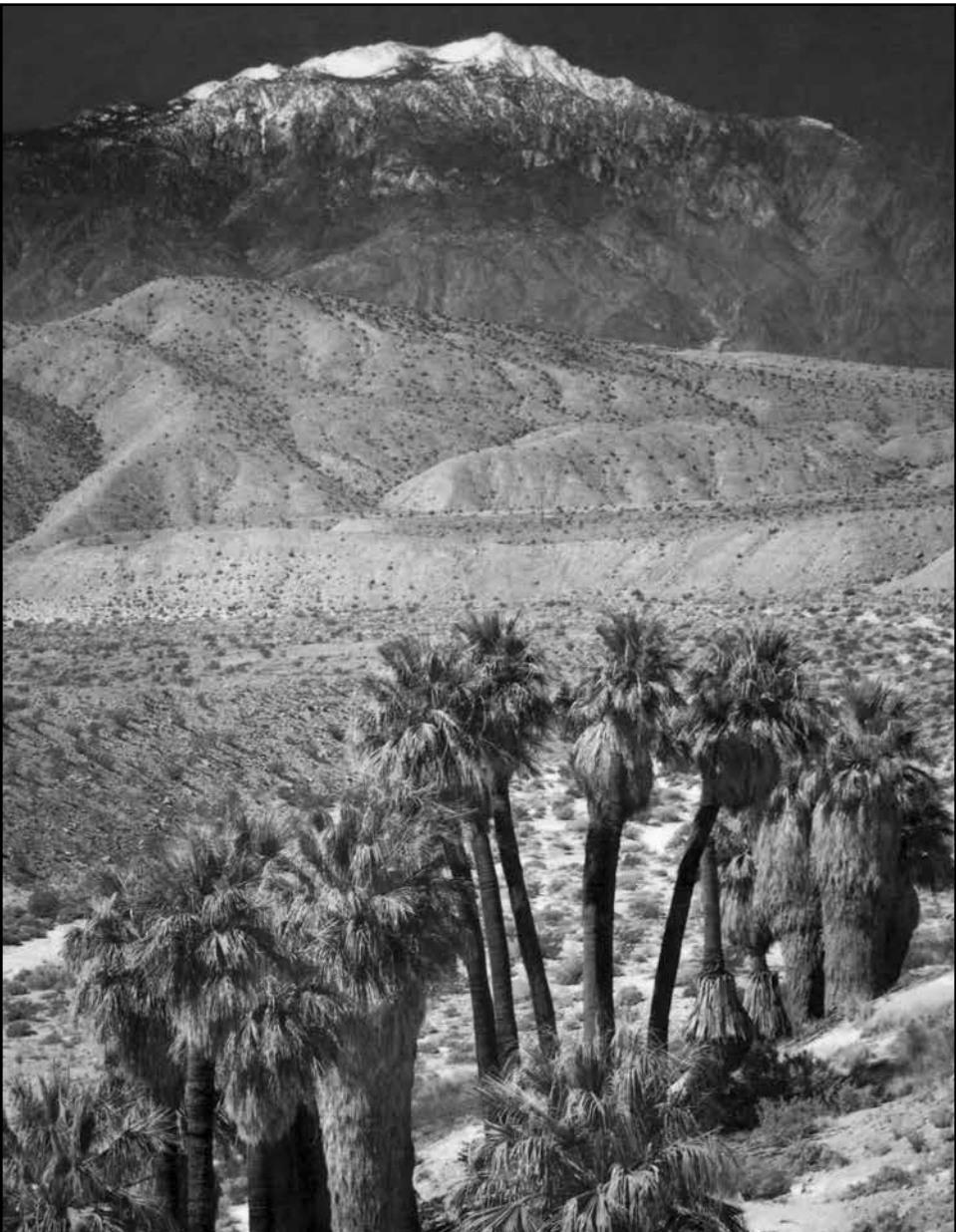
### Thomas Mountain Backroad Drive

If you want to get off the main roads, try a drive up Thomas Mountain 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 8 miles to the top. From the Thomas Mountain Campground, climb on foot for 15 minutes to the summit. To return, you can continue southeast on the road downhill. After 10 miles you rejoin Hwy 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



## Forest Adventure Pass Program



The Adventure Pass Program is now in its 18th 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 their vehicle. The pass can be purchased for a day (\$5) or for a year (\$30).

### 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.

### Where is the Adventure Pass required?

The Adventure Pass is required when your vehicle is parked in certain Designated Sites. A list of sites is included below for your convenience. *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. 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 this QR code with your mobile device to visit [www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass](http://www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass)

### Fee Sites

Lytle Creek Standard Amenity Area, Applewhite Picnic Area, Big Falls Trailhead (TH), Aspen Glen Picnic, Baylis Park Picnic, Children’s Forest Trailhead, Falls Picnic, Crest Park Picnic, Vivian TH, Heaps Peak Arboretum, Momyer TH, Miller Canyon OHV Staging Area, Cactus Flats OHV Staging, Pinnacles OHV Staging, Cougar Crest TH, Lake Fulmor Picnic, Gray’s Peak TH, Switzer Park Picnic, Grout Bay Picnic, South Fork TH, Juniper Point Picnic, Fuller Mill Creek Picnic, Meadows Edge Picnic, Woodland TH, Splinters Cabin TH/Picnic, recreational target shooting Special Recreation Permit (SRP) locations (Arrastre, Big Pine Flat, 1N09, and Lightning Gulch), and winter recreation SRP locations (Aspen Glen, Rim, Snow Valley, and Barton Flats).



ADVENTURE PASS FUNDS ARE USED TO REPAIR AND MAINTAIN MANY TRAILS THROUGHOUT THE SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST (DIAMONDBACK CREW)

### Interagency Passes

The Interagency Recreation Pass Program is comprised of five distinct passes: the Interagency Annual, Senior, Access, Military, and Volunteer. The Golden Age and Access passes never expire and do not need to be exchanged.

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 boat launches and swimming sites and for specialized interpretive services. Cost \$10

**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 active military personnel and dependents with proper identification - for more information, please visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/passespermits/military.shtml>

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

### How Do I Pay a Notice of Required Fee (NRF)?

**There are 3 options to remedy your \$5.00 fee**

- 1) Visit our website: [www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass](http://www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass)
- 2) Mail your NRF with a check or money order in the envelope provided
- 3) Pay by phone with a credit card by calling 909-382-2622

### Adventure Pass Free Days!

**January 20, 2014** Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**February 15-17, 2014** President’s Day Weekend

**Saturday, June 14, 2014** National Get Outdoors Day

**Saturday, September 27, 2014** National Public Lands Day

**November 8-11, 2014** Veterans Day Weekend



What's Been Accomplished

Making improvements for Forest visitors is the reason for the Forest Recreation Fee Program. The San Bernardino, Angeles, Cleveland and Los Padres National Forests have worked hard to provide the services that visitors have said they want most; cleaner restrooms and more frequent trash removal, better maintained trails, more information, better protection of the environment, and less crowded places to recreate.



ABOVE: INCREASED VISITOR SERVICES



ABOVE: EVERYBODY APPRECIATES A CLEAN RESTROOM! ADVENTURE PASS FUNDS HAVE ALLOWED FOR MORE FREQUENT CLEANING.



LEFT: ADVENTURE PASS PROVIDED FUNDING FOR A PARTNERSHIP WITH SAN BERNARDINO CO. SCHOOLS (DIAMONDBACK CREW SHOWN HERE) AND THE SAN BERNARDINO CO. YOUTH PROBATION DEPARTMENT.



ABOVE: PAINTING



ABOVE AND RIGHT: BEFORE AND AFTER GRAFITTI CLEANUP



RIGHT: DIAMONDBACK CREW HELPS CLEAN CAMP SITE



ABOVE: REPAIRING A PICNIC TABLE



ABOVE AND RIGHT: BEFORE AND AFTER TRASH CLEANUP



ABOVE: REMOVING TIRES DUMPED IN THE FOREST



Volunteer Program

Part of the Forest Service mission is to “Inspire and engage volunteers and service participants to conserve our nation’s natural and cultural resources and ensure the sustainability of the public lands legacy”. With this in mind, each year volunteers contribute sev-eral million hours of service on national forests throughout the U.S. Here on the San Bernardino National Forest volunteers make significant contributions every year in nearly every program area.

Volunteering in a National Forest can be a rewarding and educational experience. Individuals with and without professional skills are equally welcome since many tasks may be acquired via on-the-job training. Many volunteers work fulltime 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 administra-tion. Make a difference on the San Bernardino National Forest by joining one of the existing organizations or volunteering on your own. For more infor-mation, regarding volunteer opportunities, please contact the Forest Volunteer Coordinator, at the Supervisor's Office. Thank you for your commitment to help protect and restore your public lands!

Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps

Tom Walsh, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 1102  
Azusa, CA 91702  
562-596-9261  
www.frvco.org  
Established in 1994 to monitor and patrol wild trout streams in the Angeles and San Bernardino Forests.

Greenthumbs Volunteer Program

P.O. Box 290  
Fawnskin, CA 92333  
Juli Goss 909-382-2826  
Volunteers will learn seed collection, germination, native plant propagation, noxious weed removal and out-planting on the forest.

Heritage Stewardship Program

Gina Griffith 909-382-2661  
Travis Mason 909-382-2716  
Help find, study, preserve or promote archaeology sites and historical buildings.

San Gorgonio Wilderness Association

c/o Mill Creek Work Center  
Val Silva, Volunteer Coordinator  
909-382-2906 • www.sgwa.org  
sgwa@earthlink.net  
Alfredo Zarate, FS Liaison  
Provide information to visitors, support the wilder-ness permit program, lead nature walks, present programs, construct displays, patrol the San Gorgo-nio Wilderness, and operate the Barton Flats Visitor Center and Big Falls Information Center.

Forest Service Volunteer Association

P.O. Box 394  
Idyllwild, CA 92549  
Bob Romano, Volunteer Coordinator  
www.FSVA.org  
Patrol the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Wildernesses and San Jacinto RD trails, and provide visitor infor-mation at the Idyllwild Forest Service office.

Lytle Creek Forest Volunteer Asso-ciation

c/o Lytle Creek Ranger Station  
Jennifer Jenkins, FS Liaison  
909-382-2763  
Provide information to the public, Adventure Pass en-forcement, repair and maintain trails, pick up litter, and monitor resources.

Rim of the World Interpretive Association

P.O. Box 1958  
Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352  
Gloria Anderson, President  
909-338-4163  
www.heapspeakarboretum.com  
Maintain and staff the Heap's Peak Arboretum and operate a retail outlet. Present interpretive events and tours.

Forest Service Adopt-A-Trail

Greg Hoffman • 909-382-2811  
c/o San Bernardino NF Supervisor’s Office  
www.sbnf-adopt-a-trail.com  
Maintain backcountry Four Wheel Drive roads, Off Highway Vehicle trails, Off Highway Vehicle Staging Areas and Trailheads.

Pacific Crest Trail Association

5325 Elkhorn Blvd., PMB #256  
Sacramento, CA 95842  
www.pcta.org  
916-349-2109, info@pcta.org  
Anitra Kass, PCTA Regional Rep.  
909-492-9836  
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).

Mountaintop Recreation Volunteers

c/o Big Bear Ranger Station  
Bob Poole, FS Liaison  
909-382-2768  
Volunteers provide information to the public, repair and maintain recreation facilities and trails, provide site restoration and resource monitoring.

Friends of the Desert Mountains

P.O Box 1281  
Palm Desert, CA 92261  
760-568-9918  
www.friendsofthedesertmountains.org  
James Foote, BLM Liaison  
(760) 833-7136  
Volunteers provide many services including com-munity outreach and educational programs, visitor services, scientific research, and cultural preservation.

Big Bear Valley Trails Foundation

P.O. Box 4008  
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315  
www.bigbearvalleytrailsfoundation.org  
Organize, sponsor and supervise trail mainte-nance and building days on Big Bear area trails.

*The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communi-cation of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

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Southern California Mountains Foundation

Formerly known as the “San Bernardi-no National Forest Association”  
602 South Tippecanoe Ave  
San Bernardino, CA 92408  
Sarah Miggins, Executive Director  
909-382-2796  
www.mountainsfoundation.org

Children’s Forest Volunteers

Meredith Brandon, Youth & Interpre-tive Services Manager 909-382-2842  
Youths from 11 to 17 serve as natural-ists and assist with interpretive pro-grams, forest restoration, and green-house work. Adults assist visitors and mentor youth volunteers.

Discovery Center Volunteers

Wendy Craig, Volunteer Coordinator  
909-382-2843

Greet visitors at the Big Bear Discov-ery Center, provide information, pres-ent interpretive programs, use skills to educate visitors on forest stewardship, and enjoy the outdoors while giving back to the community. Required train-ing offered year round.

Fire Lookout Hosts

George Morey, Coordinator  
909-225-1025  
Kelli Haggerty, FS Liason  
909-382-2747  
Volunteers watch for fire and provide interpretation and visitor information at lookout towers on Butler Peak, Keller Peak, Strawberry Peak, Black Moun-tain, Tahquitz Peak, Morton Peak, and Red Mountain.

Off-Highway Vehicle Volunteers

Rick Lavello, Program Director  
909-382-2600 ext. 4007  
Greg Hoffman, FS Liaison  
909-382-2811  
Ride the roads and trails, provide visi-tors with safety messages, maintain roads and trails, and monitor resource conditions.

The Forest Explorer

Pam Morey, Program Coordinator  
909-261-2767  
The Forest Explorer is a rolling forest field trip that comes to your event or school. Specially outfitted with interac-tive exhibits and activities for all ages, experience the sights, sounds, and smells of the forest while guided by interpretive specialists that covers the basics of forest ecosystem.

For more information, please visit the  
San Bernardino National Forest Website  
www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf

Scan this QR code with  
your mobile device to visit  
www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf





# San Bernardino National Forest

## VISITOR GUIDE



United States Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
Pacific Southwest Region

A free guide to enhance your visit to the National Forest

2016-2017

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

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

**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

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

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

## Sand to Snow National Monument

The wild lands of the San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountain Ranges were designated a National Forest more than a hundred years ago. The Forest Reserve Act was passed in 1891, giving the president authority to “set apart and reserve, in any state or territory having public land bearing forests... as public reservations.” The president used this authority to designate three new National Monuments in early 1906. Welcome to your new National Monument: The Sand to Snow.

President Obama signed a proclamation creating the Sand to Snow National Monument in Southern California. This new 154,000 acre monument includes 71,000 acres of the San Bernardino National Forest and 83,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land. On the Forest the Sand to Snow National Monument includes all of the San Gorgonio Wilderness, and a small portion of Forest Service land around the Coon Creek area. The BLM Palm Springs District contains the eastern portion of the monument, from the Forest boundary of the San Gorgonio Wilderness to Joshua Tree National Park.

The San Gorgonio Wilderness contains large un-fragmented habitat areas that serve as important habitat linkages between the San Bernardino and San Jacinto mountain ranges. The area has a remarkable species richness that makes it one of the most biodiverse areas in Southern California.



TRAVIS MASON

boundaries, and the designation could provide additional protections for these critical water sources. The area has a rich cultural history. Several Indian tribes of Southern California, including the Serrano and Cahuilla Indian people, considered San Gorgonio Mountain one of their sacred places. They came to the mountains to gather food, medicinal plants, basket making material and to hunt deer and

other animals. The San Gorgonio Pass served as a major trade route that led from Arizona to the California coast.

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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.

## Protecting Your Monument

Twelve federally listed threatened and endangered animal species live in this dramatic landscape, which is also famous for its oases frequented by over 240 species of birds. There are two research natural areas in the monument, one with relatively undisturbed vegetation that provides excellent wildlife habitat including one of the highest densities of black bear habitats in Southern California.

The Sand to Snow area has been important to biological and ecological research, as well as studies of climate and land use change, and the impact of fire and invasive species management. The headwaters of the Whitewater and Santa Ana rivers are Located within the Monument

## An All Season Playground

The San Bernardino National Forest is an important recreation hub for nearly 24 million people living within a two-hour drive of the area. This popular urban forest has some of the most rugged and steep topography in Southern California, with stunning mountains rising from the desert floor to over 11,000 feet. The focal point of the San to Snow National Monument is the 11,500-foot San Gorgonio Mountain, which is the highest peak in California south of the Sierra Nevada. This mountain is one of eleven peaks that are over 10,000 feet in elevation in the southeast portion of the San Bernardino Mountains.



¡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 parquean 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/adventure-pass](http://www.fs.usda.gov/adventure-pass).

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.

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 braceros, 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 suplido de peces llame al 562-594-7268. Para obtener más informacion 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 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.



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

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.



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



Scan this QR code with your mobile device to visit 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. Holiday weekend fees may be higher. There may be a charge for extra vehicles. There are some 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 stoves, tables, and parking spaces. Drinking water and showers are available if noted in the table to the right.

#### Group Campgrounds

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

### 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 it in, Pack it out and dispose of trash properly.

#### Remote Areas

Remote areas are areas away from highways and development where camping along backroads or trails is permitted. Because of year-round fire danger, wood fires 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.

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, trailheads, private property, or state highways.
- Camp “out of sight” of others and do not disturb them.

#### Yellow Post Sites

Yellow Post Sites are 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 to the Wilderness is limited. On summer weekends some Wilderness areas may fill to capacity well in advance. Wilderness campsites are accessible by foot and/or horseback only, and require a free **Wilderness Permit**, which may be reserved up to three months in advance from the local ranger station. Permits are issued through the mail, via fax or in person. When camping in the Wilderness, lightweight stoves are recommended. Campfires are never allowed in any Wilderness Area on the San Bernardino National Forest.

### Family Campgrounds

Name	Amenities	Appr. Elev.	No. Sites	Space Size	Daily Site Fee
<b>Cajon</b> (p. 12)					
Applewhite*	!Y	3300’	44	30’	\$10

<b>Arrowhead</b> (p. 14)					
Crab Flats	!T	6200’	27	15’	\$21
Dogwood	!TBα	5600’	87	22’	\$31–66
Green Valley	!T	7000’	37	22’	\$23
North Shore	!T	5300’	28	22’	\$23

<b>Big Bear</b> (p. 15)					
Big Pine Flat	!	6800’	19	30’	\$23
Hanna Flats	!T	7000’	85	35’	\$27
Holcomb Valley*		7400’	19	25’	\$21
Horse Springs*		5800’	11	25’	\$10
Pineknot	!T	7000’	47	35’	\$27
Serrano	!TBα	6800’	111	55’	\$31–66

<b>San Gorgonio</b> (p. 13)					
Barton Flats	!TB	6500’	52	55’	\$29
San Gorgonio	!TB	6500’	54	55’	\$27
Heart Bar	!T	6900’	89	50’	\$23
South Fork	!	6400’	24	30’	\$23
Wildhorse Eq.	!T	7000’	11	50’	\$29

<b>San Jacinto</b> (p. 16)					
Boulder Basin	T	7300’	34	15’	\$10
Dark Canyon	!	5800’	15	15’	\$12
Fern Basin	!T	6300’	21	15’	\$10
Marion Mtn.	!T	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> (p. 14)					
Fisherman’s*	Tke In Only	4	8	0	\$10
Shady Cove	!T	3	30	16	\$90
Tent Peg	T		30	5	\$120

<b>Big Bear</b> (p. 15)					
Big Pine Flat Eq	!T		25	8	\$100
Bluff Mesa	T		40	8	\$120
Boulder	T		40	8	\$120
Buttercup	!T		40	8	\$120
Deer	T		40	8	\$120
Gray’s Peak	Tosed for 2016 Season	40	8		\$120
Green Spot Eq.	T		25	8	\$100
Ironwood	T		25	5	\$100
Juniper Spring*	T		40	8	\$120
Tanglewood	T		40	8	\$120

<b>San Gorgonio</b> (p. 13)					
Coon Ck. Cabin	T		25	10	\$100
Council	!T		50	10	\$200
Heart Bar Eq.	!TB		65	21	\$260
Lobo	!T		75	15	\$300
Oso	!T		100	20	\$400
Skyline	!T		25	9	\$100

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

! Drinking water on site  
\_ RV dump  
B Showers  
α Hookups

Vault Toilets  
 Flush Toilets  
 1st Come/1st Served  
T Reserve through recreation.gov

### Camping Regulations

- Camping is limited to 14 days per stay, with a maximum of 30 days in a calendar year
- 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 the first night of your stay.
- Store your food properly - use bear resistant containers if available, or store food in the trunk of your vehicle.
- Please keep a clean camp and dispose of trash properly..



Visiting Fire Lookouts

Lookouts are open to the public daily, subject to staffing, 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. Special Smokey Bear fire prevention materials are available for kids.

Remember, children must be directly supervised by an adult. Five visitors are allowed in the lookout at once, and don’t climb lookouts during thunderstorms. Enjoy your visit!



Strawberry Peak  
(Arrowhead)

**Directions:** Take Highway 18 to Rim Forest (west of Skyforest). Turn north on to 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 (Arrowhead)

**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  
(San Jacinto)

**Directions:** Take Highway 243 north out of Idyllwild for 8.1 miles to the turn-off of Black Mountain Road (FR 4S01). Make a sharp left turn and drive a half mile to the end of the road (5.8 miles from the highway). Take the paved walkway to the lookout.

**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 (San Jacinto)

**Directions:** Take Hwy 243 south from Idyllwild, continue on Highway 74 (towards Palm Desert). Turn on Highway 371 toward Anza. Turn right on to 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  
(San Gorgonio)

**Directions:** Follow Hwy. 38 east from Redlands. Go past Mill Creek Work 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.

Tahquitz Peak (San Jacinto)

**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.

Butler Peak (Big Bear) Call for Current Status 909-382-2791

**Directions:** 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 2N13C, which takes you to Butler Peak.

Elevation: 8,535 feet

Cultural Patrimony of San Bernardino National Forest

The San Bernardino National Forest is composed of two mountain ranges: the San Bernardino Mountains and the San Jacinto Mountains. It has had a long history of human use beginning with prehistoric cultures and Native Americans, who exploited the mountains for fish, game, and plants as part of their subsistence system. Since California became part of the United States in 1848, the mountains have been used for logging, a source of water for the citrus orchards of Redlands and San Bernardino, recreation of all sorts, and the site of Southern California’s biggest gold rush. Today the San Bernardino National Forest employs archaeologists and anthropologists whose job is to find, record, and protect all of the prehistoric and historic sites that help tell the story of the mountains.

Prehistoric Past

The mountains of the San Bernardino National Forest were used by Indian peoples for thousands of years before the arrival of Euroamericans. The use of the mountains by Indian peoples began as long as 8,000 years ago. Tha evidence of their presence is indicated by artifacts and features that have survived over time. These include stone tools, bedrock milling features and metates (used to process various seeds), and scatters of stone chips and broken pottery.

These early people were displaced by new arrivals from the Great Basin between 1500 and 2000 years ago. They were the ancestors of the Serrano and Cahuilla peoples, the Native American groups that occupied the land when Euroamericans arrived in the early 1600s. The San Bernardino Mountains were the home of the Serrano, and the San Jacinto Mountains were home to the Cahuilla. The two groups were related by language and shared a common set of customs. They often intermarried.

When the Euroamericans arrived, the Indian peoples occupied permanent villages which were located at the base of the mountains at the mouths of canyons that were supplied with year-round water. As plants began to ripen in the spring, groups of Indians would leave the village and travel up into the mountains to gather and hunt. Staples of the Serrano and Cahuilla diet included Pinyon Pine nuts and acorns, particularly acorns from the Black Oaks that line many of the creek bottoms and canyons. The mountains are filled with archaeological sites that indicate where these groups of Indians gathered and processed food resources. These sites are often identified by mortars located in bedrock outcrops. There are many on the Forest and you may well come across some of them. There are also quarry sites where the local people found a supply of native stone used to make tools. After gathering and storing the plant and animal resources, the Indian people returned to their permanent villages to spend the winter living on food that they gathered during the spring and summer. Today the Serrano and Cahuilla live on eleven different reservations that surround the San Bernardino National Forest.

Gold Rush

In 1860 Billy Holcomb was hunting for grizzly bears when he chanced upon a gold bearing quartz deposit in the valley that now bears his name. Within weeks, hundreds of miners were living in newly constructed mining camps in Holcomb Valley. They first panned for gold in the stream bottoms and alluvial deposits on the valley floor, Mining tools of these early days were simpleand included pans, rockers, and sluice boxes. The remains of this type of mining are identified by round pits, many of which can be seen along Polique Canyon road and eastward across the valley. These so called placer workings were soon exhausted and the miners’ efforts turned to the gold-bearing quartz ore that lines the northern side of Holcomb Valley. Huge boilers were laboriously brought up to the valley in order to run stamp mills, which ground up the ore so that it could be processed by panning and in sluice boxes. In some places the concrete foundations of the stamp mills and steam boilers still remain. Gold continued to be mined until the early part of the 1900s, not only in Holcomb Valley, but in Bairdstown (now called Doble, on the north side of Baldwin Lake) and in Rattlesnake Canyon at the Rose Mine. These early mining camps are now identified only by the deposits of old cans, broken ceramics and glass bottles, which represent the trash thrown away by the miners. These can deposits can help archaeologists determine things like the gender and social class of the people living at the mining camps.

Caring For Our Cultural Resources

Cultural resources such as archaeological sites, building remains, and refuse deposits are protected by federal law. Removing or vandalizing cultural resources can and may result in a fine, jail time or both. Please enjoy the Forest and our cultural resources, but treat them respectfully.



# SANTA ROSA AND SAN JACINTO MOUNTAINS NATIONAL MONUMENT



## A Land of Extremes

Rising abruptly from the desert floor, the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument reaches an elevation of 10,834 feet. Providing a picturesque backdrop to local communities, visitors can enjoy magnificent palm oases, snow-capped mountains, a national scenic trail, and vast wilderness areas. Its extensive backcountry can be accessed via trails from both the Coachella Valley and the alpine village of Idyllwild. Jointly managed by the BLM and the U.S. Forest Service, the Monument's boundary encompasses about 280,000 acres, including public lands within the BLM's California Desert Conservation Area and the San Jacinto Ranger District of the San Bernardino National Forest. The Monument also includes two Federal Wilderness areas - the Santa Rosa and the San Jacinto.

**The Mount San Jacinto** escarpment above Palm Springs is one of the steepest in the United States, rising from near sea level to a towering 10,834 feet. At Mount San Jacinto State Park hikers can experience winter snow while inhaling the scent of Jeffery Pine and return to the desert floor for an evening under the stars, beside the pool.

The Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, the Living Desert and Indian Canyons Agua Caliente Reservation offers easy access to some of the Monument's spectacular landscapes, natural

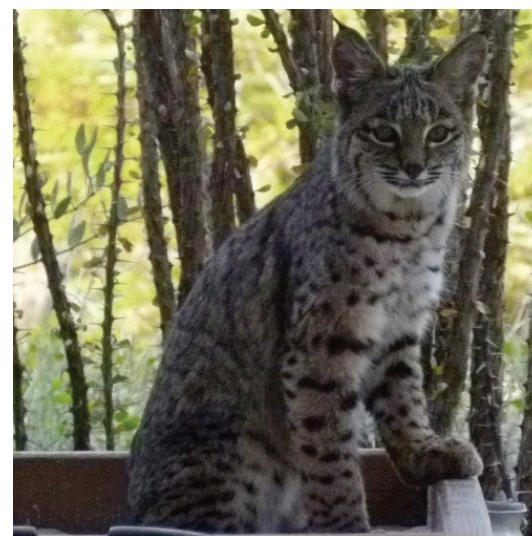


wonders and cultural treasures. Highway 74, also known as the "Palms to Pines Scenic Byway" is a 67 mile serpentine mountain drive (the only paved road that bisects the Monument) that has appeared in movies and commercial ads, including the madcap chase scenes in the 1963 film *It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World*. (see Forest Adventure #9 pg 16)

The Pacific Crest Trail on its 2,600 mile journey from Mexico to Canada, passes through the southern edge of the Monument at Highway 74, traverses the western boundary and exits to the north at Snow Creek in the north.

**A good Starting point** for your exploration of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument is the Visitor Center, located at 51-500 Highway 74 in Palm Desert, where you will find information about recreation opportunities, hiking trails, maps, field guides, guided hikes, bus tours, lectures, interpretive exhibits and a native plant garden. The Visitor Center also hosts the annual Coachella Valley Wildflower Festival in March and monthly Desert Mountains Art Faires from November through April. The Center is open seven days a week between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm from October 1 through April 30, and from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm from May 1 through September 30. Call (760)862-9984 for more information.

**Wildlife Viewing** areas, including the Monument Visitor Center in Palm Desert, Cahuilla Tewanet Interpretive Overlook and Santa Rosa Mountain Wilderness, offer the opportunity to glimpse a Peninsular bighornsheep, bobcat, gray fox, coyote, mule deer, mountain lion desert tortoise, chuckwalla lizard, phainopepla, bald eagle, migrating American pelican and countless other species of mammals, reptiles and birds that inhabit the five life zones of the National Monument.



From the ocotillo, agave, smoke tree, various species of cactus, and fleeting blooms of the upper and lower Sonoran Desert regions; ribbonwood, manzanita, live oak, pinion and juniper of the Transition Zone; to the fragrant and towering pines of the Boreal and Alpine Zones, the Monument is home to a vast variety of species of plants and animals, some of which are found nowhere else in the world. The Monument is one of the most diverse biological hotspots in the Western Hemisphere.

## Still Counting On You

Like doctors, prescriptions for fire should only be made by those with the knowledge and experience to make such a powerful decision. Treatments need to be designed carefully so that burns achieve desired results. It's not simply a matter of letting things burn. Wildfires must still be prevented. Smokey Bear is still counting on you!

Every fire season the San Bernardino National Forest restricts fire use. These restrictions are necessary to prevent fire catastrophes. Some important fire restrictions include:

- Wood and charcoal campfires are permitted only in designated campfire rings, which are engineered to be safe. Designated campfire rings are found at developed campgrounds, picnic areas and Yellow Post sites. A ranger station can help you to find places to have a safe and legal campfire. Barbecues and charcoal BBQ's are included in this restriction.
- A California Campfire Permit is required for stoves outside of developed campgrounds and picnic areas. Contact your nearest Ranger Station for a permit and current fire restrictions.
- Smoke cigarettes, cigars, or pipes only in cleared areas or in an enclosed vehicle.
- Additionally, fireworks are prohibited. Spark arrestors are required for off-highway vehicles (OHVs), portable generators, and other similar engines.
- Recreation sites and areas may be closed for short periods of time due to fires or tree removal projects. Call the local ranger station for current conditions.



# 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)



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 is required when parked in many areas of the Forest.

*Hunting and fishing are regulated by the California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (www.dfg.ca.gov or 909-484-0167) and a license is required.*

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 1-888-334-2258. 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 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 are stocked regularly by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (www.dfg.ca.gov or 909-484-0167). A state license is required for persons 16 years of age and older. For a stocking information recording, 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 at the 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 National Forest system unappropriated land. Check with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM 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.

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

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

Recreational Shooting

Recreational (target) shooting is allowed only in designated shooting areas and target ranges on the San Bernardino National Forest. Please call your local ranger station for detailed maps and information. Shooters are prohibited from destroying any natural feature in the national forest, including plants and trees. A firearm may not be discharged within 150 yards of any developed area. An Adventure Pass is required at some shooting areas on the Forest. Because of the risks of starting a fire, steel core, armor piercing, or Teflon ammunition is not allowed. Air rifles, bow and arrows, gas guns, and paint ball are allowed to be discharged only within designated shooting areas or target ranges. 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.

Target ranges under National Forest permit

- Arrowhead Fish & Game at 909-337-3310; Membership required
- Big Bear Valley Sportsman’s Club at 909-585-4686.
- Lytle Creek Firing Line at 909-782-7438.

*For more information on firearms regulations, please visit the California Dept of Justice Bureau of Firearms website 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 52 miles of 24-inch to 50-inch wide trails, 169 miles of Forest roads for non-highway legal registered vehicles (Green Sticker or Red Sticker), 900 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 non-highway legal registration (Green Sticker or Red Sticker).

*For more information on Green and Red Sticker regulations and licensing requirements, please visit this website www.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). 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 at this website:

[www.fs.usda.gov/goto/sanbernardino/ohv](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/sanbernardino/ohv)



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

Please 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.



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 and 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.



ANA KAROLA RUSSELL

Avoid excessive speed because of the potential 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 Spitler Peak and Fobes trails in the San Jacinto area connect with the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) and have spectacular views of the desert below.

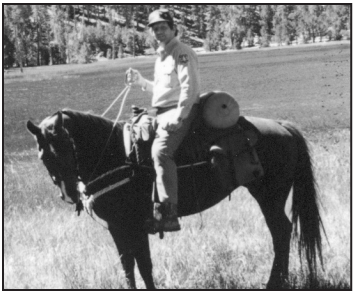
**Pack it in, pack it out!**

The nearby McCall Equestrian Park and Ribbonwood Equestrian campground offer 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-Free-Seed-Free feed
- Do not bathe horses in lakes or streams.
- Do not cut switchbacks.



**Why Weed-Free-Seed-Free Feed? Hay and feed can contain seeds of invasive plants. Use “Weed-Free-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 tire chains 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 drives, 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 1-800-427-7623 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 from 12/1 to 4/1 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 snowmaking equipment allows Snow Summit (844-462-2327), Big Bear Mountain (909-866-2519), 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



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 is 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.

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

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 909-866-5841 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. Two cross-country ski facilities operate under Special Use Permit from the Forest Service in the Arrowhead area: Green Valley and Rim Nordic (both at 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.



## San Jacinto Ranger District

### Peaks, Valleys and Vistas!

The San Jacinto Mountains rise from the desert floor to form a sky island range. San Jacino Peak is among the highest peaks in Southern California (10,804) 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. The San Jacinto Ranger District, in the town of Idyllwild, has a Visitor Information Center to provide visitors information on hiking, camping, fishing and other outdoor and local activities. Necessary hiking permits, Fee Area Passes:Adventure Pass, Access Pass, and Inter-Agency America the Beautiful Passes are available here. The Forest Service Volunteer Association has a bookstore which sells Smokey Bear collectibles, t-shirts, maps and guide books.

### Visitor Center Hours

**Closed Wednesday & Thursday**  
8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Closed for lunch 12:00 - 12:30 daily

### Phone

909-382-2921

### Fax

951-659-2107

### Location

54270 Pine Crest Ave.  
Idyllwild, CA 92549  
Intersection of Highway 243 and Pine Crest Ave.

## Picnic Areas

*Use caution when recreating in or near streams and rivers. Flash flooding may occur after storms.*

### Cajon (p. 10)

Applewhite	!*Y
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### Arrowhead (p. 12)

Bayliss Park	Y
Switzer Park	!Y
Crest Park	!Y

### Big Bear (p. 13)

Aspen Glen	Y
Grout Bay*	!*Y
Juniper Point*	*Y
Meadow’s Edge*	!*Y

### San Gorgonio (p. 11)

Falls*	!*Y
Jenks Lake*	* \$5 parking
Thurman Flats*	Y

### San Jacinto (p. 14)

Fuller Mill Creek	Y
Lake Fulmor	!*Y
Lake Hemet	!*Y

## Key

- ! Drinking water on site
- \* Fishing nearby
- Y Adventure Pass required
- \* Closed in Winter

## Wilderness Areas

Wilderness is Federal land designated by Congress. It is a place “where the earth and its community of life are untrammled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain...which is protected and managed to preserve its natural condition.” (Wilderness Act 1964). In the Wilderness, preservation of the land, its natural processes, native vegetation and wildlife is the first priority of management. Human use is secondary. All mechanized equipment and vehicles are prohibited (including mountain bikes), except for wheelchairs.

The San Bernardino National Forest has eight designated Wildernesses: San Gorgonio, Cucamonga, San Jacinto, Santa Rosa, Bighorn Mountain, Cahuilla Mountain, South Fork San Jacinto, and part of the Sheep Mountain wilderness area (see map on pages 10-11). Detailed maps of these areas (except the Bighorn, Cahuilla Mountain and South Fork San Jacinto) are available for purchase at ranger stations. The San Gorgonio, Cucamonga, San Jacinto, and Bighorn Wilderness Areas require free permits for day hiking and camping.

Where permits are required, the number of people admitted to the Wilderness is limited. On some summer weekends, Wilderness areas fill to capacity well in advance. The best advice is to plan ahead. When camping in the Wilderness, lightweight stoves are recommended and a California Campfire Permit is required. They are more convenient and efficient than open campfires. Wood or charcoal fires are not permitted in Wilderness areas on the San Bernardino National Forest.

## 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 permit information and to purchase Adventure Passes. The Center is also a great environmental family learning hub starting with free guided nature walks available year-round on Saturdays and Sundays to gain a basic understanding of local plant life, wildlife and interesting historical facts. Seasonally, snowshoe, canoe, kayak and Holcomb Valley Gold Rush guided tours by a naturalist are available on weekends for families to experience the sport, learn seasonal ecology, the wildlife, and more historical fun facts of the Big Bear Valley while having great family fun.

From Memorial to Labor Day Weekends, family-oriented programming is expanded on Saturdays and Sundays to include nature crafts, animal tracking, map and compass, gold panning, Junior Forest Ranger, along with special events aimed at families learning together how to become more responsible caretakers and to heighten their enjoyment of our Natural 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. 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!

The Children’s Forest was created in the wake of the 1970 Bear Fire; the designated 3,400-acre area was replanted with trees bearing the names of children. In 1993, the first trail was established by a work group of children from around the country. This ¾ -mile Interpretive Trail at the top of Keller Peak Road can still be hiked today. There is also the 4.5-mile Exploration Trail.

Along with recreation opportunities, 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, sell adventure passes, lead nature walks, give tours of the greenhouse, and lead family activities. Group events, such as school/scout programs are available year-round.

### Visitor Center Hours

May 28 to September 4  
Saturdays and Sundays only  
9 am - 5 pm

### Guided Tours

Saturdays & Sundays: Youth-led nature walks.

### Location

One-half mile east of Running Springs at Deerlick Fire Station (see map, page 12).

For more information and events, please visit  
**[www.mountainsfoundation.org](http://www.mountainsfoundation.org)**



## Keep Wildlife Wild

The forest is home to many types of wild animals including black bears, mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes, foxes, bighorn sheep, and mule deer. The animals in the forest are wild and are unpredictable. In order to keep both animals and humans safe, it’s important to never feed, approach or handle wildlife leave as you found them.

### Bears

Bears have lived in these mountains for hundreds of years. Once even grizzly bears lived here—indeed it is from them that Big Bear got its name. Unfortunately grizzly bears were hunted to extinction by humans and were gone by the early 20th century. Now only black bears live in the Forest.

Black bears can be brown, blonde, or gray, as well as black. They generally do not hibernate and are active year-round on the San Bernardino National Forest. They are generally shy and will avoid people.

- Never feed a bear. Feeding bears teaches them to approach humans. These bears become accustomed to getting food at campgrounds or residences and they become unsafe. Feeding bears may ultimately lead to their death. Please help avoid that tragedy.
- Keep your site clean! Throw away garbage immediately after meals. Use bear-resistant garbage cans whenever possible.
- Never leave food out on the table or in a tent. Do not leave your ice chest out. Bears are smart. They know what is in an ice chest and they can open one easily.
- Store food in an airtight container in the trunk of your vehicle or use bear-resistant food containers if available. Portable bear-resistant canisters are available for rental or purchase at the Mill Creek Work Center. They are highly recommended for storing your food while backpacking.
- While hiking, make noise to avoid a surprise encounter with a bear.
- Keep a close watch on children, and teach them what to do if they encounter a bear.
- If you encounter a bear, do not run; instead, face the animal, make noise and try to appear as large as possible.
- If attacked, fight back. If a bear attacks a person, immediately call 911.

### Mountain Lions

Mountain lions are also native to our mountains and are an important member of the ecosystem. If you ever see a lion, consider yourself lucky, because like bears, they generally avoid people. Most of the time mountain lions will not bother you, but should one get close, the same rules that apply to encountering a bear apply to a lion. Never run away, face the mountain lion and make yourself look large and make a lot of noise. If attacked, fight back.

Wildlife Watching

Wildlife watching can be enjoyed any month of the year. Early morning and early evening are usually the best times to catch a glimpse of birds and mammals, especially on hot summer days. Watch for lizards and snakes during the heat of the day. Hawks can be seen almost anytime. The listing to the right includes some convenient roadside pull-offs and short trails where you are most likely to see animals. They are shown on the five area maps with the binocular symbol. Most are good for viewing year round, though in the higher elevations winter snow can hamper viewing of some species.

Learning About the Forest

This symbol indicates an Interpretive trailhead: a trail with printed guides or panels describing the plants, animals, and history of the area. Evening campfire programs are given during the summer months at Greyback Amphitheater, Big Bear Discovery Center, and Dogwood Campground.

The visitor centers at Big Bear, Barton Flats, and Idyllwild also have interpretive programs.

Where to Watch for Wildlife

Cajon Viewing

Mormon Rocks Fire Station

Take Highway 138 west exit off I-15 in Cajon Pass. Follow the signs for the Forest Service Fire Station. Walk a scenic, one-mile loop trail that runs along a ridge above the fire station. In the cliffs watch for white-throated swifts, hawks, and ravens. In the chaparral look for coast horned lizards, California thrashers, and western king birds.

Mountaintop Viewing

Big Bear Discovery Center

The short nature trail behind the Discovery Center allows you to explore a forest of pinyon pines, junipers, and Jeffrey pin trees. Forest critters like the mountain chickadee, pygmy nut-hatch, Steller’s Jay, chipmunk and gray squirrel are there year-round. Look for western fence lizards on logs and rocks along the trail!

Heaps Peak Arboretum

This nature trail is on Hwy. 18, 1.5 miles east of the village of Skyforest. A trail guide leads you through the mixed forest, where you can watch for dark-eyed juncos, songbirds, signs of bobcats, and gray foxes.

Big Bear Lake

One of the best places to view wildlife in Big Bear is at the Stanfield Cutoff, the causeway that crosses the eastern portion of Big Bear Lake. In winter watch for bald eagles or call the Big Bear Discovery Center to volunteer to help count the eagles, 909-382-2790. All year watch for white pelicans, coots, great blue herons, and mergansers.

San Gorgonio Viewing

Santa Ana River

Along the stream watch for dip-pers, yellow warblers, red-breasted sapsuckers, rac-coons, two-striped garter snakes, quail, rainbow trout, brown trout, and signs of deer.

Thurman Flats

This picnic area is on Highway 38, about 3.5 miles northeast of the Mill Creek Work Cen-

San Jacinto Viewing

ter. This is one of the best bird watching areas on the Forest, with over 200 species seen here. Look in the in-cense cedars at the picnic area and in the alders growing along the creek: yellow warblers, and Lawrence’s gold-finch, scrub jays, hooded orioles, and northern orioles. Many of the birds are using the trees as a resting place while migrating to and from Central and South America.

Indian Vista

This scenic viewpoint is on Highway 243, 9.5 miles northwest of Idyllwild. Watch for songbirds in the chaparral and oak trees and red-tailed hawks and ravens soaring above. In the warmer months a variety of lizards sun themselves on the rocks. If you are lucky (and patient) you may see deer, bobcat, gray fox, and coyote.

Lake Fulmor

Located about 10 miles north of Idyll-wild, Lake Fulmor is a delightful oasis for people and wildlife. On the trail winding around the lake look for ground squirrels, tree frogs, butterflies, and dragonflies; listen for the raucous chatter of Steller’s jays.

Santa Rosa San Jacinto Mountains Na-tional Monument Visitor Center

Located at 51500 Highway 74 in Palm Desert. Birds found here include the Greater roadrunner, Gambel’s quail, Cactus wren, hummingbirds, hainopepla and goldfinch. Hike the nearby Randall Henderson and Art Smith trails and you might see bighorn sheep, bobcats, coyotes, gray fox, black-tailed jackrabbits or desert cottontails. The Desert tortoise, whiptail lizards and desert iguanas are just a few of the many reptiles found around the visitor center.

Lake Hemet

Eight miles south of Idyllwild on High-way 74 is Lake Hemet. The picnic area is the best place to view wintering bald eagles, Canada geese, white pelicans, and other waterfowl. In the summer, see great blue herons, violet green swallows, and Caspian terns. Coyotes, deer, and bobcat are sometimes seen along the shore.

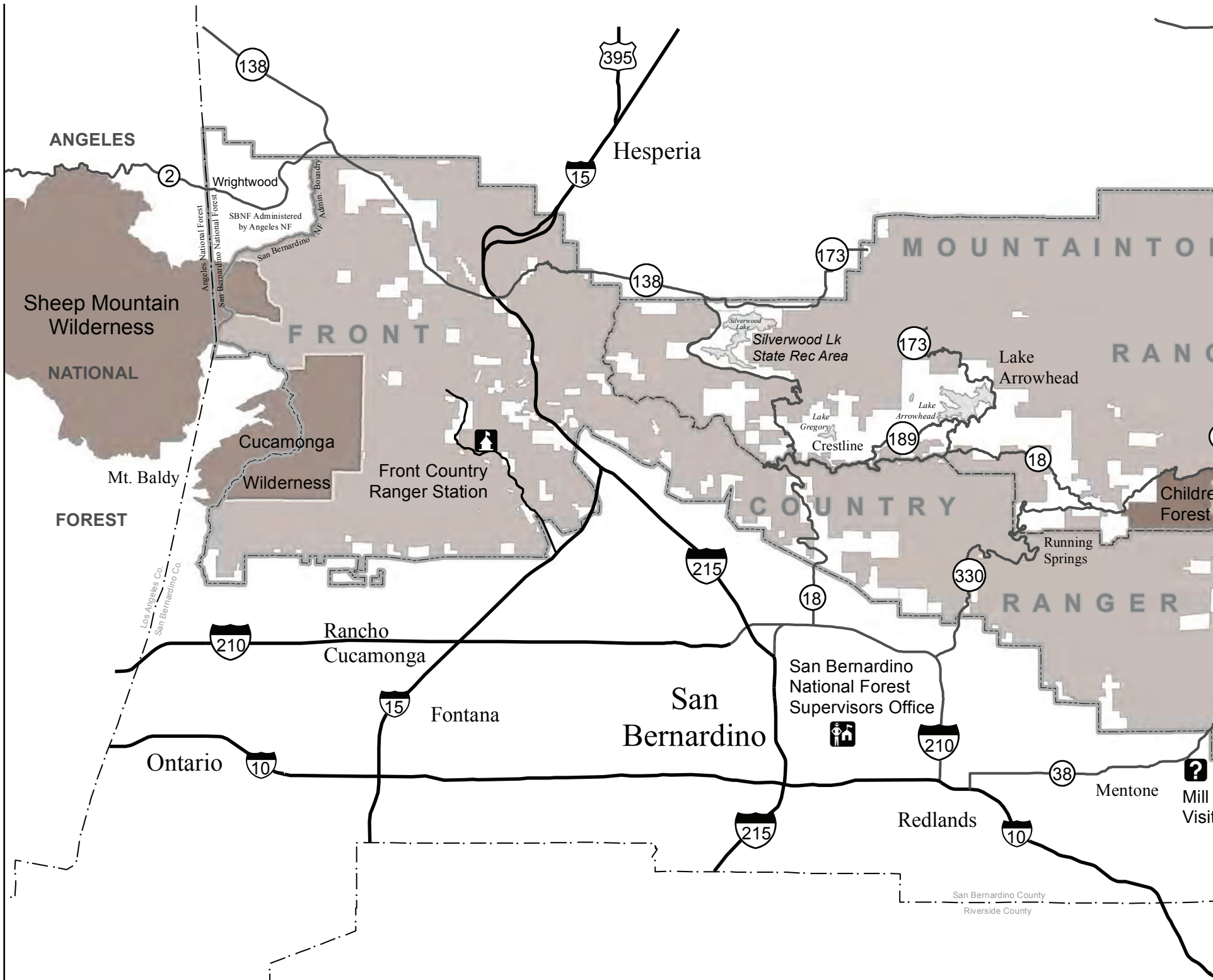
San Bernardino National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf

2016-2017 Visitor Guide

9

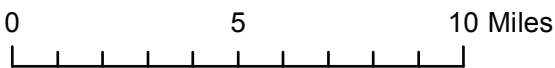




Map of the  
SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST

Legend

- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Supervisor's Office | Proclaimed Boundry      |
| District Office     | Administrative Boundary |
| Forest Information  | National Monument       |
| County Line         | District Boundary       |
|                     | Wilderness Area         |





# Know

## Before you GO

**SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST**

**Check The Current forest Use Guidelines**

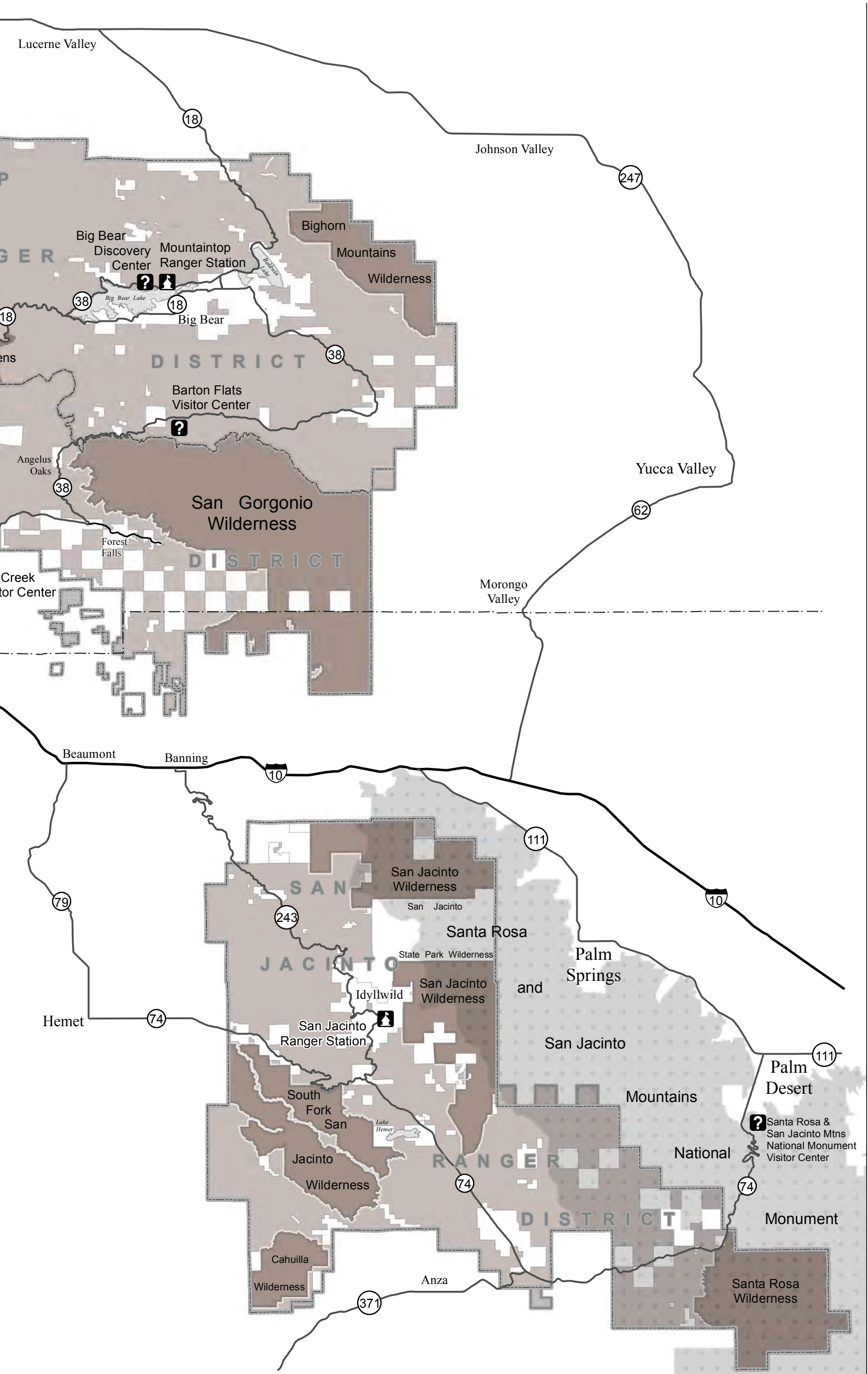
(909) 382-2600  
[www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf)

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



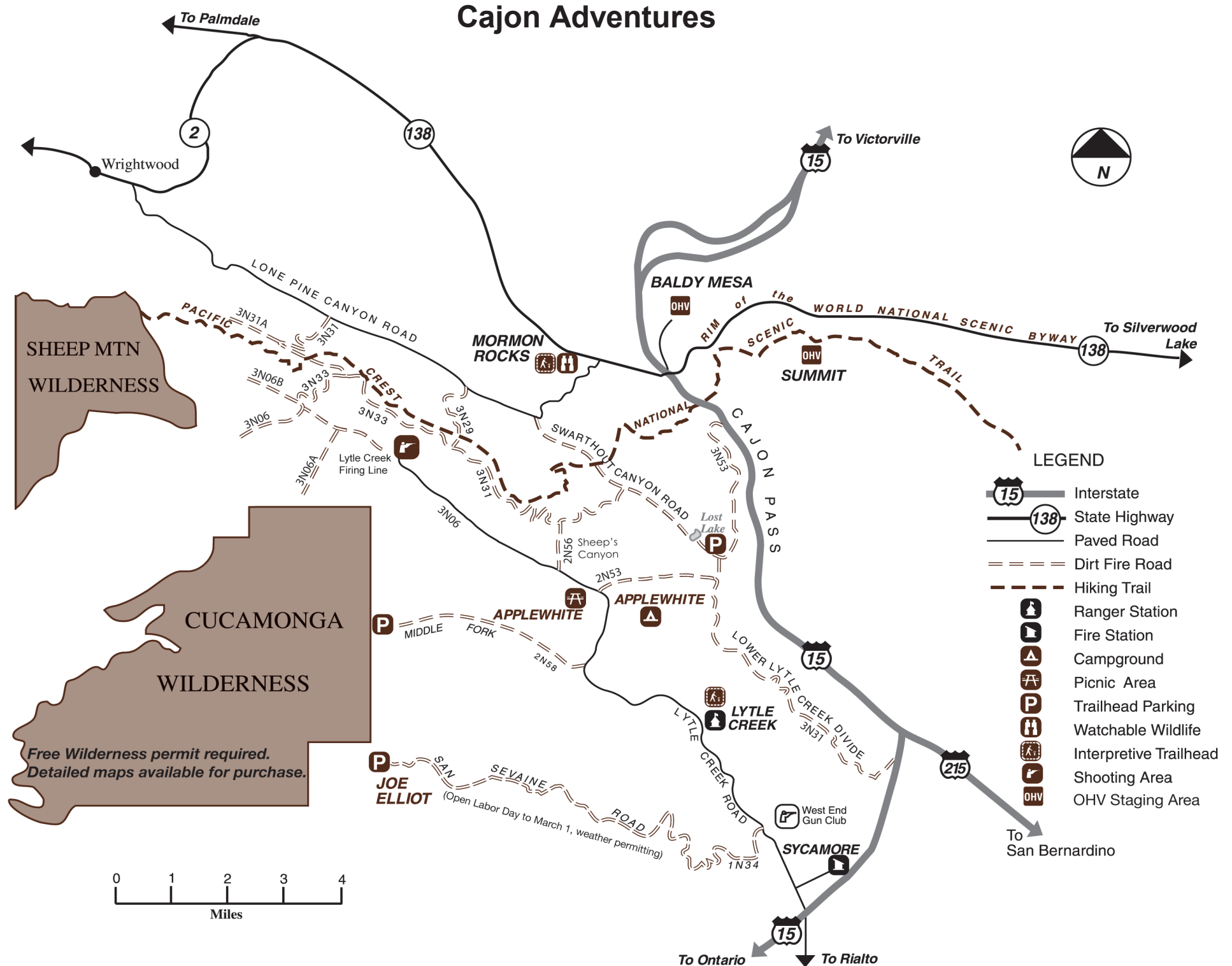


FOREST MAP





## Cajon Adventures



This is one of the lowest elevation areas in the Forest, so most roads and trails are open all year. Lytle Creek is the center of activities in the Cajon area with a picnic area and campground near its banks.

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

Bonita Falls, a 90-ft waterfall, can be seen by hiking from the Lytle Creek Road in the South Fork of Lytle Creek. A free map can be obtained at the Ranger Station to show hikers how to get to Bonita Falls.

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 north).



LOST LAKE

CAROL UNDERHILL

## Adventure 1

### Cucamonga Wilderness Hike

With trails reaching elevations of nearly 9,000 feet, the Cucamonga Wilderness offers hikers rugged vistas of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. Eighteen miles of trails traverse this subalpine wilderness that features diverse habitats from chaparral to lush riparian to conifers.

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

**Difficulty:** Moderate.

**Permits:** Free Wilderness permit required.

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

## 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 2 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:** Adventure Pass required

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

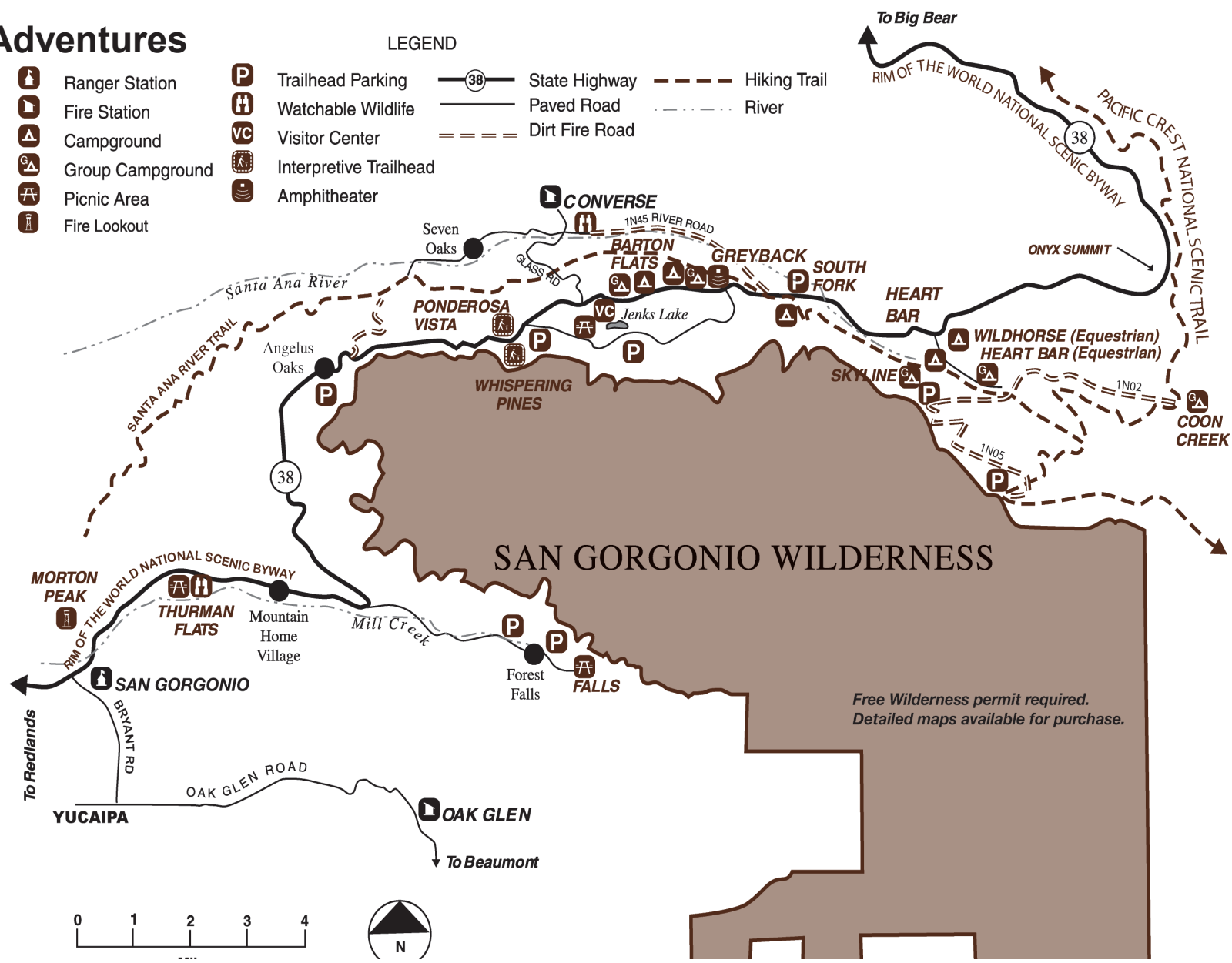
**Bonita Falls Trail** is a 1.4-mile round trip trail along a rocky, dry creek bed to a 90 foot waterfall. Adventure Pass required

## Point of Interest

**Mormon Rocks** are a series of cemented sandstone deposits located in the Cajon Pass near the intersection of the historic Mormon Trail, BNSF Railway and Union Pacific Railroad tracks.



San Gorgonio Adventures



Adventure 3

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 San 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 sum-



mer only), and the Big Bear Discovery Center. You may also request a permit application by mail, fax, or download from [www.sgwa.org](http://www.sgwa.org) up to 3 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, time 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. **\*Trails in the northern half of the wilderness remain closed due to damage from the 2015 Lake Fire.**

**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. Adventure 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. See page 9. Adventure Pass required.



## Arrowhead Adventures



Clean air, blue skies, mountain lakes, challenging trails, and beautiful views of the valley below are some of the surprises awaiting visitors to the San Bernardino mountains. During the spring and fall, clouds cover the valley floor, and the mountains are bathed in sunlight. The lush green forest slopes are like islands rising above the sea of civilization.

Most of the mountaintop is public land. The Forest Service is the largest land manager, but there are also state and county parks. Over forty thousand people make their home here, and the resorts of Arrowhead and Big Bear attract thousands of visitors. There are also deer, bighorn sheep, mountain lions, coyotes, bald eagles and hawks. Most of the trout in the streams and lake are planted, but in a few remote areas native trout swim in the cold, fresh creeks.

Maps and guides to mountain bike trails, off-highway vehicle roads, and hiking trails are available at the Big Bear Discovery Center.

## ADVENTURE 5

### Rim of the World Scenic Byway

This 110-mile route traverses the entire mountain range, from Cajon Pass to San Geronio 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 Hwys 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 times smog in the valleys can obscure the views.

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



RIM OF THE WORLD DRIVE—LAKE ARROWHEAD VIEW.

NCB—MARTHA LEJANDRE

## Trail Guides

**Heaps Peak Arboretum Trail** winds through a wooded hillside for about 3/4 mile. A guide is available at the trailhead along Highway 18 near Skyforest. Donations are appreciated for the use of the guide and trail, maintained by volunteers with Rim of the World Interpretive Association. Adventure Pass required.

**Children's Forest Trail** is a 3/4-mile-long trail near Keller Peak Lookout, designed by young volunteers. The trail and activity guide is geared for family use and is available at the trailhead. Youth Naturalists are on site during the summer months to help you learn more about the area. The Children's Forest Visitor Center is .5 mile west of Running Springs, open weekends May through September (see page 8 for more information). Adventure Pass required.

## Point of Interest

**Heap's Peak Arboretum** panels describe the history of the area, including early lumbering. The panels are near the trailhead. Adventure pass required.





Trail Guides

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!

Point of Interest

**Meadow’s Edge Picnic Area** panels describe the geology of the area, mining, the history of Big Bear resorts, and wildlife on Big Bear Lake. The picnic area is on the north shore of Big Bear Lake near the Discovery Center. Adventure Pass required.

Adventure 6

Gold Fever Trail

Take this scenic auto tour through Holcomb Valley north of Big Bear Lake. Named for an early prospector and miner, this remote valley makes you feel like you’re in the old west. (Many Westerns were filmed here!). Site of the biggest gold strike in southern California in 1859, you can still find a few historic buildings and cemeteries. Pick up an auto tour guide at the Discovery Center.

**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, time and difficulty:** The auto tour is 12.3 miles. Plan on 2-4 hours to enjoy all the stops. This unpaved road can be rough.

**Seasons:** Spring, summer, and fall (check for road conditions during wet seasons).

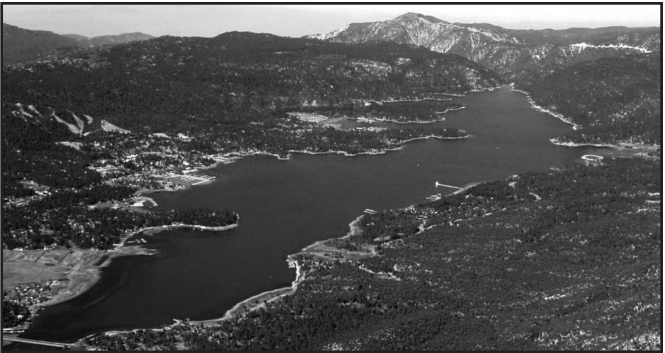
**Points of Interest:** Hangman’s Tree, Pygmy Cabin, Ross’ Grave, stamp mill, views of Baldwin Lake.

Adventure 7

Cougar Crest Hike

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.



VIEW OF BIG BEAR LAKE

**Distance, time and difficulty:** Two miles to the junction 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.

**Points of Interest:** Views of Big Bear Lake

Adventure 8

Alpine Pedal Path

For a quick introduction to the lake environment, walk the paved Alpine Pedal Path on the north shore of Big Bear Lake. Stroll through pine trees and open meadows close to the water’s edge. This popular path is also open to bike riders, joggers, and rollerbladers.

**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, time and difficulty:** 3.2 miles, 1 to 2 hours, easy, paved path.

**Season:** All year, but in winter Juniper Point and Meadow’s Edge Picnic Areas are closed to protect eagle roosting areas.

**Points of Interest:** Wildlife and wildflowers



## San Jacinto Adventures



The San Jacinto and Santa Rosa area is best known for its contrast of landscapes. The sub-alpine 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 rockribbed 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. Call the Chamber of Commerce (951-659-3259) for lodging information. 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 51500 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 9

#### 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 Geronio 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 Geronio Wilderness, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto National Monument.

## Adventure 10

### Humber Park

#### Devils Slide Trail and Ernie Maxwell Trail

These 2 trails begin at the Humber Park trailhead. **Ernie Maxwell Scenic Trail** is located at the bottom of Humber Park. Parking is available here. This is an easy 2.6 mile trail beginning at 6100 feet. While crossing streams along the way you will descend 600 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 6280 feet as you hike along the many switchbacks you will enjoy the far off views making the 1700 foot elevation gain less noticeable. From Saddle Junction connecting trails lead to San Jacinto Peak (10,804 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 on any Wilderness 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



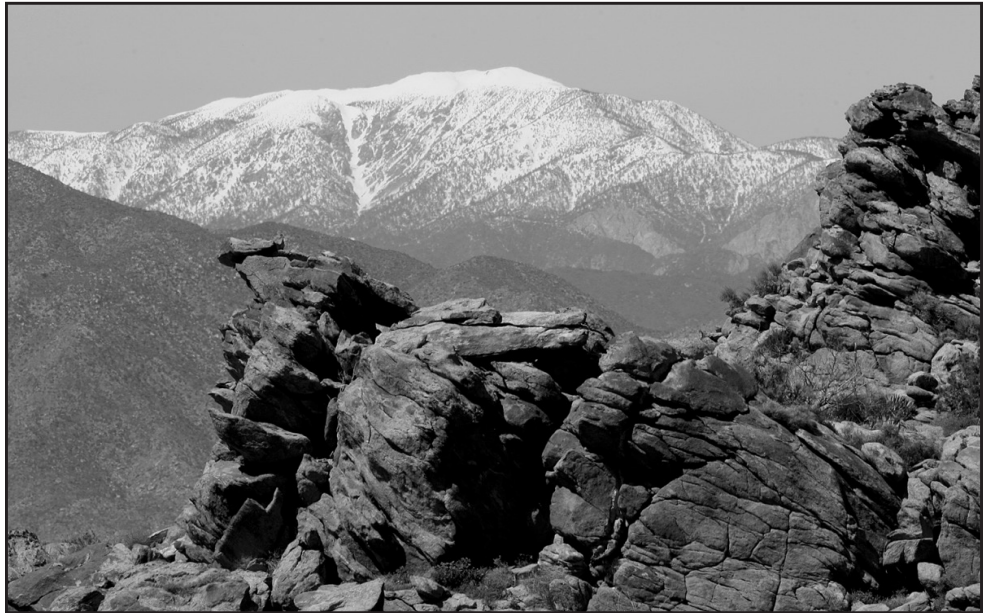


### Points of Interest

**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 11

### Santa Rosa Mountain

For a real backcountry adventure, hike along the sometimes rocky Santa Rosa Mountain Road to reach the beauty and solitude of the highest elevations of the Santa Rosa Mountains. Here you will find several Yellow Post campsites, hiking opportunities and spectacular views of the Coachella and Anza Valleys. You can identify more than seven varieties of pine trees spread throughout the coniferous forest. Mule deer, mountain lions, bobcats, ringtail cats, Stellar’s jay, pinyon jay and chickadees are some of the many types of wildlife that can be found here.

**Directions:** Take Highway 74 approximately 20 miles south of Highway 111 in Palm Desert- or five miles north of the Highway 371 junction with Highway 74 to Santa Rosa Mountain Road (Forest road 7S02).

**Distance and Time:** Santa Rosa Mountain Road (7S02) is an unpaved Forest System road that is not frequently graded and has no outlet.it is slow going for 10 miles to Santa Rosa Peak. Allow 4 - 6 hours for your trip. Four-wheel drive, high clearance vehicles are recommended. Call for current road closures and conditions before your trip.



LAKE FULMOR

## Adventure 12

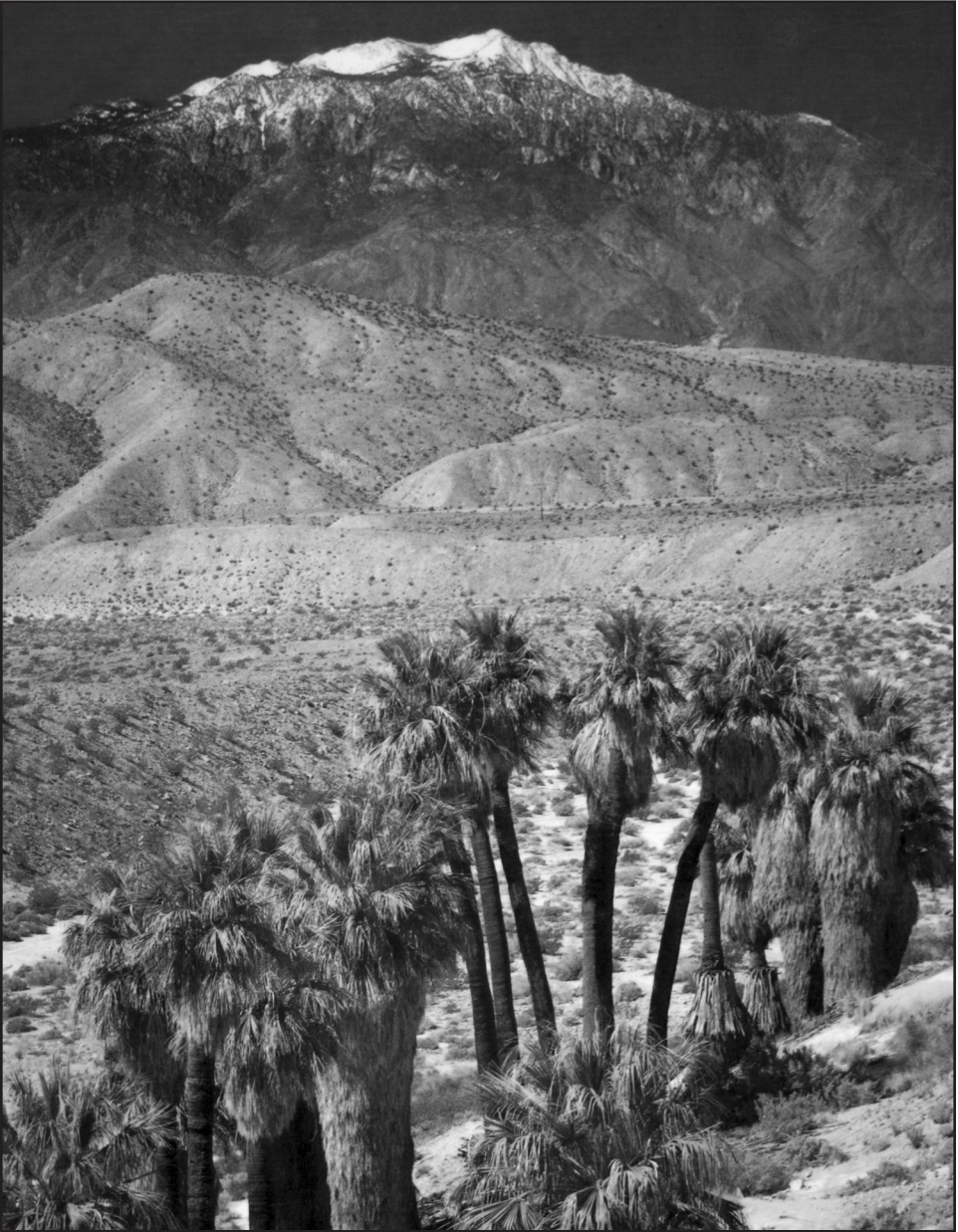
### Thomas Mountain Backroad Drive

If you want to get off the main roads, try a drive up Thomas Mountain 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 8 miles to the top. From the Thomas Mountain Campground, climb on foot for 15 minutes to the summit. To return, you can continue southeast on the road downhill. After 10 miles you rejoin Hwy 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



## Forest Adventure Pass Program



The Adventure Pass Program is now in its 19th 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 their vehicle. The pass can be purchased for a day (\$5) or for a year (\$30).

### What is an Adventure Pass?

The San Bernardino National Forest is one of four heavily visited forests in outhern 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.

### 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 web sites for a list of current fee areas and sites. A partial list of sites is included below for your convenience. *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. 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 this QR code with your mobile device to visit [www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass](http://www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass)

### Fee Sites (Partial List)

Applewhite Picnic Area  
Aspen Glen Picnic Area  
Baylis Park Picnic Area  
Crest Park Picnic Area  
Falls Picnic Area  
Fuller Mill Creek Picnic Area  
Grout Bay Picnic Area  
Juniper Point Picnic Area  
Lake Fulmor Picnic Area  
Lake Hemet Picnic Area  
Lost Lake Day Use Area  
Meadows Edge Picnic Area  
Switzer Park Picnic Area  
Thurman Flats Picnic Area



ADVENTURE PASS FUNDS ARE USED TO REPAIR AND MAINTAIN MANY TRAILS THROUGHOUT THE SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST (DIAMONDBACK CREW)

### Interagency Passes

The Interagency Recreation Pass Program is comprised of five distinct passes: the Interagency Annual, Senior, Access, Military, and Volunteer. The Golden Age and Access passes never expire and do not need to be exchanged.

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).

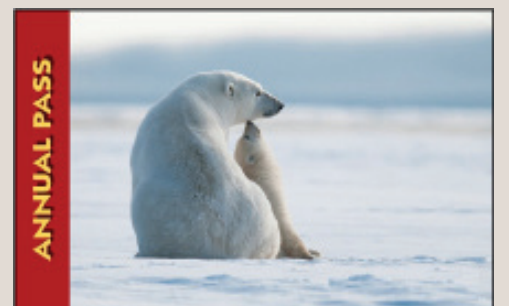
**Interagency Annual Pass** is valid for one year from date of issue for entrance or standard amenity fees (such as the Adventure Pass). No other discounts are provided. Cost \$80

**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 boat launches and swimming sites and for specialized interpretive services. Cost \$10

**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 active military personnel and dependents with proper identification - for more information, please visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/passespermits/military.shtml>

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



### How Do I Pay a Notice of Required Fee (NRF)?

**There are 3 options to remedy your \$5.00 fee**

- 1) Visit our website: [www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass](http://www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass)
- 2) Mail your NRF with a check or money order in the envelope provided
- 3) Pay by phone with a credit card by calling 909-382-2622

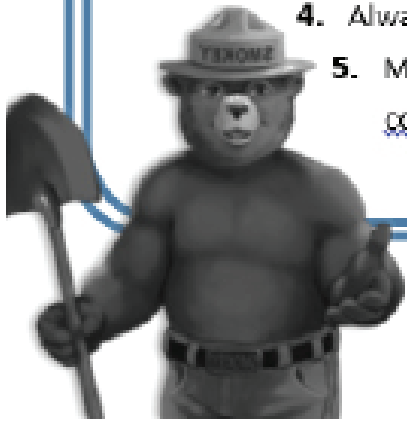
### Adventure Pass Free Days!

**January 18, 2016** Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
**February 15, 2016** President's Day  
**June 11, 2016** National Get Outdoors Day  
**September 24, 2016** National Public Lands Day  
**November 11, 2016** Veterans Day



# SMOKEY BEAR'S FIVE RULES FOR FIRE PREVENTION

1. Only you can prevent wildfires.
2. Always be careful with fire.
3. Never play with matches or lighters.
4. Always watch your campfire.
5. Make sure 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

## Something you can use as a tool

A feather

## A prickly pinecone

A bird nest (Do Not Touch)

## Animal tracks

Something a squirrel eats

## A colorful flower

## Something not natural

An ant carring something

## A sharp leaf

An insect with wings



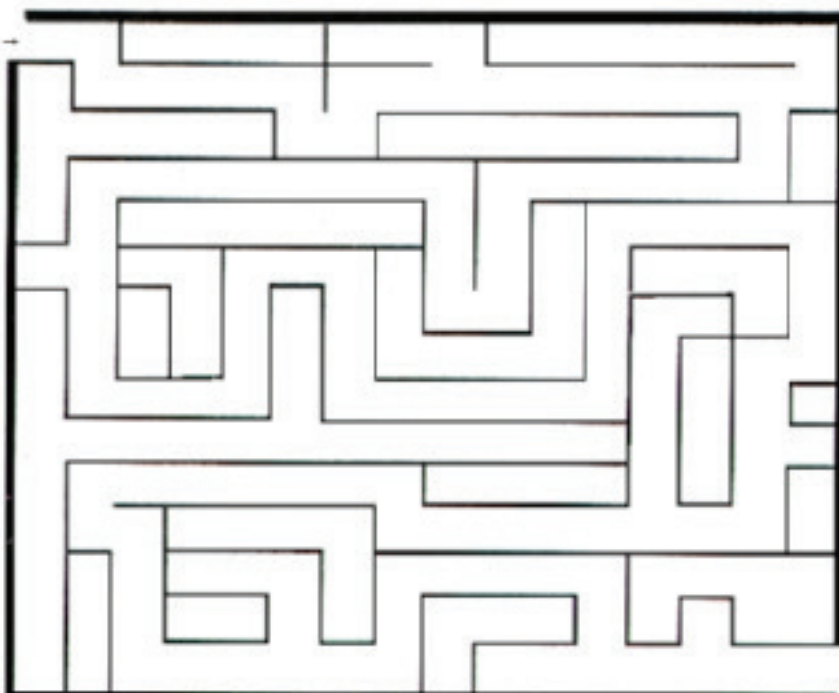
# TIC

# TAC

# TOE



Help Smokey get through the maze



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

ex: EAR                      SNAIL

[illegible]



Volunteer Program

Part of the Forest Service mission is to “Inspire and engage volunteers and service participants to conserve our nation’s natural and cultural resources and ensure the sustainability of the public lands legacy”. With this in mind, each year volunteers contribute sev- eral million hours of service on national forests throughout the U.S. Here on the San Bernardino National Forest volunteers make significant contributions every year in nearly every program area.

Volunteering in a National Forest can be a rewarding and educational experience. Individuals with and without professional skills are equally welcome since many tasks may be acquired via on-the-job training. Many volunteers work fulltime 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 administra- tion. Make a difference on the San Bernardino National Forest by joining one of the existing organizations or volunteering on your own. For more infor- mation, regarding volunteer opportunities, please contact the Forest Volunteer Coordinator, at the Supervisor's Office. Thank you for your commitment to help protect and restore your public lands!

Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps

Tom Walsh, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 1102  
Azusa, CA 91702  
562-596-9261  
www.frvco.org  
Established in 1994 to monitor and patrol wild trout streams in the Angeles and San Bernardino Forests.

Greenthumbs Volunteer Program

P.O. Box 290  
Fawnskin, CA 92333  
Dani Ortiz 909-382-2826  
Volunteers will learn seed collection, germination, native plant propagation, noxious weed removal and out-planting on the forest.

Heritage Stewardship Program

Gina Griffith 909-382-2661  
Help find, study, preserve or promote archaeology sites and historical buildings.

San Gorgonio Wilderness Association

c/o Mill Creek Work Center  
Val Silva, Volunteer Coordinator  
909-382-2906 • www.sgwa.org  
sgwa@earthlink.net  
Travis Mason, FS Liaison  
Provide information to visitors, support the wilder- ness permit program, lead nature walks, present programs, construct displays, patrol the San Gorgo- nio Wilderness, and operate the Barton Flats Visitor Center and Big Falls Information Center.

Forest Service Volunteer Association

P.O. Box 394  
Idyllwild, CA 92549  
Andy Smith, FS Liaison 909-382-2937  
www.FSVA.org  
Patrol the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Wildernesses and San Jacinto RD trails, and provide visitor infor- mation at the Idyllwild Forest Service office.

Lytle Creek Forest Volunteer Asso- ciation

c/o Lytle Creek Ranger Station  
Jennifer Jenkins, FS Liaison  
909-382-2763  
Provide information to the public, Adventure Pass en- forcement, repair and maintain trails, pick up litter, and monitor resources.

Rim of the World Interpretive Association

P.O. Box 1958  
Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352  
Gloria Anderson, President  
909-338-4163  
www.heapspeakarboretum.com  
Maintain and staff the Heap's Peak Arboretum and operate a retail outlet. Present interpretive events and tours.

Forest Service Adopt-A-Trail

Greg Hoffman • 909-382-2811  
c/o San Bernardino NF Supervisor’s Office  
www.sbnf-adopt-a-trail.com  
Maintain backcountry Four Wheel Drive roads, Off Highway Vehicle trails, Off Highway Vehicle Staging Areas and Trailheads.

Pacific Crest Trail Association

1331 Garden Hwy  
Sacramento, CA 95833  
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).

Mountaintop Recreation Volunteers

c/o Big Bear Ranger Station  
Bob Poole, FS Liaison  
909-382-2768  
Volunteers provide information to the public, repair and maintain recreation facilities and trails, provide site restoration and resource monitoring.

Friends of the Desert Mountains

P.O Box 1281  
Palm Desert, CA 92261  
Tami Martin, 760-568-9918  
www.desertmountains.org  
Volunteers provide many services including com- munity outreach and educational programs, visitor services, scientific research, and cultural preservation.

Big Bear Valley Trails Foundation

P.O. Box 4008  
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315  
www.bigbearvalleytrailsfoundation.org  
Organize, sponsor and supervise trail mainte- nance and building days on Big Bear area trails.

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Southern California Mountains Foundation

Stacy Gorin, Executive Officer  
909-382-2794  
602 South Tippecanoe Ave  
San Bernardino, CA 92408  
www.mountainsfoundation.org

**Children’s Forest Volunteers**  
Megan Oberdoerster, Youth & Interpre- tive Services Coordinator 909-382-2842  
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.

**Discovery Center Volunteers**  
Wendy Craig, Discovery Center Manager 909-382-2843  
Greet visitors at the Big Bear Discov- ery Center, provide information, pres- ent interpretive programs, use skills to educate visitors on forest stewardship, and enjoy the outdoors while giving back to the community. Required train- ing offered year round.

**Fire Lookout Hosts**  
Pam Morey, Coordinator  
909-225-1025  
Jaime Gamboa, FS Liason  
909-382-2747  
Volunteers watch for fire and provide interpretation and visitor information at lookout towers on Butler Peak, Keller Peak, Strawberry Peak, Black Moun- tain, Tahquitz Peak, Morton Peak, and Red Mountain.

**Off-Highway Vehicle Volunteers**  
Rick Lavello, Program Director  
909-382-2606  
Greg Hoffman, FS Liaison  
909-382-2811

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

**Off-Highway Vehicle Education Trailer**  
Rick Lavello, Program Director  
909-382-2606  
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.

For more information, please visit the San Bernardino National Forest Website  
www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf

Scan this QR code with your mobile device to visit www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf







# San Bernardino National Forest

## Visitor Guide

A free guide to enhance your visit to the National Forest

2017-2018

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

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

**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

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

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

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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.

### Fire Prescription: Just What the Forest Ordered

With the catastrophic 2007 and 2016 Southern California wildfires still fresh in our minds, the sight of smoke may still be a little scary, but it is not uncommon on the San Bernardino National Forest. It could be a wildfire or it could be intentionally set, or a “prescribed” fire that could prevent larger fires. Forest Service fire managers have been using prescribed fires as a tool for creating and maintaining areas of resiliency on our national forests since the early 1970’s. Prescription fire can be designed to mimic natural fire effects on the landscape, objectives typically include reducing forest canopy density and seedling competition, and pushing back encroachment from meadows in the backcountry. Fire modeling and historical weather data is used to identify conditions where fire behavior will be low to moderate, utilizing natural and man-made barriers to limit fire growth and spread potential.



A PRESCRIBED BURN

Kyle R. T. Silva

The summer of 2016 was another extreme fire year for much of Southern California. Drought contributed to the intensity of the fire season. Ironically, part of the reason fires were so severe is because firefighting has become so effective since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Wildlife disasters in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, along with the dire need for timber during World War II, caused an all out war on fire in U.S. forests. In the past, there was a mindset that all fire was destructive and bad. But with much scientific study, ecologists, fire managers, and elected officials now realize that fire is natural and essential.

### Fighting Fire with Fire

Fire managers must also take into consideration the fuel build-up, houses, and communities surrounding national forest lands. Part of the “prescription” for burning is a very detailed plan that takes all contingencies into account. Accumulated fuels are gradually and carefully removed, with safety as a primary concern. In fact, a lot of prescribed fires are conducted for community protection. The Westridge Fuelbreak is a good example. Prescribed fire combined with mechanical reduction in overgrown areas has been employed for the express purpose of protecting the community of Idyllwild from an uncontrolled fire. In other words, we are fighting fire with fire.

### Fire is Natural

As in most western forests, fire is a natural process that existed on the San Bernardino National Forest long before the Forest Service managed these lands. Lightning sparked fires that cleaned accumulating plant materials, thinned tree stands, released nutrients back into the soil, spurred seed germination, and cleared pathways for wildlife. Native Americans used fire for similar purposes. Their fires would clear dead and dying plants, allowing fresh young shoots to sprout, which was beneficial to them and the wildlife they hunted.

A careful scientific way to manage fire has been developed and is presently being applied to the wild lands of the San Bernardino National Forest. Natural and man-made features are evaluated to determine the level of fire intensity that they can withstand, if any. Landscapes then get a “prescription” based on their need for fire, much like a doctor who evaluates a patient’s need for medicine and prescribes it if necessary.

Prescribing fire helps plants and animal habitats become more productive and open. Trees have more nutrients and sunlight, and thus grow more resistant to disease, insects and even to more intense fire. Some plant species even require fire to survive and others to germinate. Landscapes return to the balanced, open, and healthy state-of the days where all fires were put out.

### Still Counting on You

Like doctors, prescriptions for fire should only be made by those with the knowledge and experience to make such a powerful decision. Treatments need to be designed carefully so that burns achieve desired results. It’s not simply a matter of letting things burn. Wildfires must still be prevented. Smokey Bear is still counting on you!

Every fire season the San Bernardino National Forest restricts fire use. These restrictions are necessary to prevent fire catastrophes. Some important fire restrictions include:

- Wood and charcoal campfires are permitted only in designated campfire rings, which are engineered to be safe.
- Designated campfire rings are found at developed campgrounds, picnic areas, and Yellow Post sites. A ranger station can help you to find places to have a safe and legal campfire. Barbecues and charcoal BBQ’s are included in this restriction.
- A California Campfire Permit is required for stoves outside of developed campgrounds and picnic areas.
- Contact your nearest Ranger Station for a permit and current fire restrictions.
- Smoke cigarettes, cigars, or pipes only in cleared areas or in an enclosed vehicle.
- Additionally, fireworks are prohibited. Spark arrestors are required for off-highway vehicles (OHVs), portable generators, and other similar engines.






## ¡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 parquean 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.



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 braceros, 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 suplido 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 pezca. 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.



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

MANDY BUYAK

El Tiro al Blanco es permitido 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 teñón 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 periodos 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

2017-2018

## 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 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 germanización 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 arboles tiene 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.



RECREATION

Special Uses

The Special Uses Permit 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 2 dozen Organizational Camps dedicated to sharing our beautiful Forest resources with underprivileged or at risk children and adults, and folks with special needs. The program also administers the permits for over 700

Recreation Residence cabins, historic structures (some well over 100 years old!) that are privately owned but reside on Forest Lands. In addition, the program oversees all the utility corridors used by multiple entities 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). 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. The San Jacinto Ranger District, in the town of Idyllwild, has a Visitor Information Center to provide visitors information on hiking, camping, fishing and other outdoor and local activities. Necessary hiking permits and Fee Area Passes are available here. The Forest Service Volunteer Association has a bookstore which sells Smokey Bear collectibles, t-shirts, maps and guide books.

Visitor Center Hours

Closed Wednesday & Thursday

8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Closed for lunch 12:00 - 12:30 daily

Phone

909-382-2921

Location

54270 Pine Crest Ave.  
Idyllwild, CA 92549  
Intersection of Highway 243 and Pine Crest Ave.

Fax

951-659-2107

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 picninc area, campground and river banks.

Visitor Center Hours

Closed Wednesday & Thursday

8:00 am - 4:30 pm  
Closed for lunch 12:00 - 1:00 daily

Phone

909-382-2851

Location

1209 Lytle Creek Road  
Lytle Creek, CA 92358

Fax

909-887-8197

Mill Creek Work Center

The Forest Oasis

The San Gregormio 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 Wednesday & Thursday

8:00 am - 4:30 pm  
Closed for lunch 12:00 - 1:00 daily

Phone

909-382-2882

Location

34701 Mill Creek Rd.  
Mentone, CA 92359

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 permit information and to purchase Adventure Passes. The Center is also a great environmental family learning hub starting with free guided nature walks available year-round on Saturdays and Sundays to gain a basic understanding of local plant life, wildlife and interesting historical facts. Seasonally, guided tours by a naturalist are available on weekends for families to experience the sport, learn seasonal ecology, the wildlife, and more historical fun facts of the Big Bear Valley while having great family fun .

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 Natural 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!

The Children’s Forest was created in the wake of the 1970 Bear Fire; the designated 3,400-acre area was replanted with trees bearing the names of children. In 1993, the first trail was established by a work group of children from around the country. This 3/4 -mile Interpretive Trail at the top of Keller Peak Road can still be hiked today. There is also the 4.5-mile Exploration Trail.

Along with recreation opportunities, 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.

Visitor Center Hours

May 29 to September 4  
Saturdays and Sundays only  
9 am - 5 pm

Phone

909-867-5996 Weekends

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.

Holiday weekend fees may be higher. There may be a charge for extra vehicles. There are some 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.

Group Campgrounds

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

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 it in, Pack it 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, wildfires 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 [www.preventwildfireca.org](http://www.preventwildfireca.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.

Yellow Post Sites

Yellow Post Sites are 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 to the Wilderness is limited. On summer weekends some Wilderness areas may fill to capacity well in advance. Wilderness campsites are accessible by foot and/or horseback only, and require a free Wilderness Permit, which may be reserved up to three months in advance from the local ranger station. Permits are issued through the mail, via fax or in person. When camping in the Wilderness, lightweight stoves are recommended. Campfires are never allowed in any Wilderness Area on the San Bernardino National Forest.

Camping Regulations

- Camping is limited to 14 days per stay, with a maximum of 30 days in a calendar year
- 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 the first night of your stay.
- Store your food properly - use bear resistant containers if available, or store food in the trunk of your vehicle.
- Please keep a clean camp and dispose of trash properly.

Family Campgrounds

Name	Amenities	Appr. Elev.	No. Sites	Space Size	Daily Site Fee
<b>Cajon</b> (Pg. 12)					
Applewhite*		3300’	44	30’	\$10

**Arrowhead** (Pg. 13)

Crab Flats		6200’	27	15’	\$21
Dogwood		5600’	87	22’	\$31-66
Green Valley		7000’	37	22’	\$23
North Shore		5300’	28	22’	\$23

**Big Bear** (Pg. 14)

Big Pine Flat		6800’	19	30’	\$23
Hanna Flats		7000’	85	35’	\$27
Holcomb Valley*		7400’	19	25’	\$21
Horse Springs*		5800’	11	25’	\$10
Pineknot		7000’	47	35’	\$27
Serrano		6800’	111	55’	\$31-66

**San Gorgonio** (Pg. 15)

Barton Flats		6500’	52	55’	\$29
San Gorgonio		6500’	54	55’	\$27
Heart Bar		6900’	89	50’	\$23
South Fork		6400’	24	30’	\$23
Wildhorse Eq.		7000’	11	50’	\$29

**San Jacinto** (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	\$90
Tent Peg			30	5	\$120

**Big Bear** (Pg. 14)

Big Pine Flat Eq.			25	8	\$100
Bluff Mesa			40	8	\$120
Boulder			40	8	\$120
Buttercup			40	8	\$120
Deer			40	8	\$120
Gray’s Peak			40	8	\$120
Green Spot Eq.			25	8	\$100
Ironwood			25	5	\$100
Juniper Spring			40	8	\$120
Tanglewood			40	8	\$120

**San Gorgonio** (Pg. 15)

Coon Ck. Cabin			25	10	\$100
Council			50	10	\$200
Heart Bar Eq.			65	21	\$260
Lobo			75	15	\$300
Oso			100	20	\$400
Skyline			25	9	\$100

**San Jacinto** (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)



## RECREATION

*Hunting and fishing are regulated by the California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (www.dfg.ca.gov or 909-484-0167) and a license is required.*

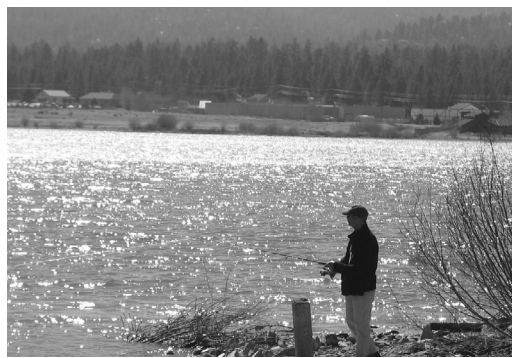
### Hunting

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 1-888-334-2258. 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 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 are stocked regularly by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (www.dfg.ca.gov or 909-484-0167). A state license is required for persons 16 years of age and older. For a stocking information recording, 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 at the 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 National Forest system unappropriated land. Check with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM 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.

#### 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 treatment. Either boil water for 15

### Recreational Shooting

Recreational (target) shooting is allowed only in designated shooting areas and target ranges on the San Bernardino National Forest. Please call your local ranger station for detailed maps and information. 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 within 150 yards of any developed area. An Adventure Pass is required at some shooting areas on the Forest. Because of the risks of starting a fire, steel core, armor piercing, or Teflon ammunition is not allowed. Air rifles, bow and arrows, gas guns, and paint ball guns are allowed to be discharged only within designated shooting areas or target ranges. 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 52 miles of 24-inch to 50-inch wide trails, 169 miles of Forest roads for non-highway legal registered vehicles (Green Sticker or Red Sticker), 900 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 non-highway legal registration (Green Sticker or Red Sticker).

*For more information on Green and Red Sticker regulations and licensing requirements, please visit this website [www.ohv.parks.ca.gov](http://www.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 at this website:

**[www.fs.usda.gov/goto/sanbernardino/ohv](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/sanbernardino/ohv)**



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

Please 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.

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 1 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.

## RECREATION

### 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 and 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

### 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.

### 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 tire chains 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 1-800-427-7623 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 from 12/1 to 4/1 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 (909-866-2519), 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



ANA KAPOLA 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.

#### Leave No Trace Ethics

- Pack out all your trash.

- Do not tie horses to trees except while packing or unpacking.

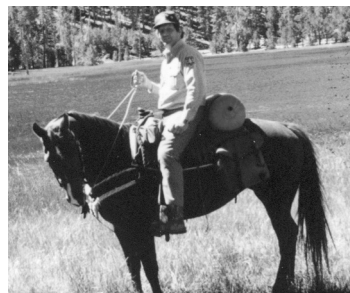
- Tie horses away from camps, water, and trails.

- 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-Free-Seed-Free” feed at least 2 days before your trip.***



### 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 is a big year for the PCT: it’s the trail’s 50th birthday, marking its official designation as a National Scenic Trail in 1968. 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, 7 National Parks, 5 State Parks, 4 National Monuments, and 48 Wilderness Areas. It also passes through 6 of North America’s 7 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)*

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 909-866-5841 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. Two cross-country ski facilities operate under Special Use Permit from the Forest Service in the Arrowhead area: Green Valley and Rim Nordic (both at 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.



## 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 the 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 and 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

Rick Lavello, Program Director  
909-382-2606

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 Mountain Top 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

Rick Lavello, Program Director  
909-382-2606

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.

### 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 Jenk’s Lake near Barton Flat, 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 Flat. 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 Jenk’s 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 Flat Visitor Center provide information on recreation opportunities near these two lakes.

#### Lytle Creek Forest Volunteer Association

SBNF 909-382-2851

Provide information to the public, Adventure Pass enforcement, repair and maintain trails, pick up litter, and monitor resources.

#### 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.

#### Rim of the World Interpretive Association

Gloria Anderson, President  
909-338-4163 • gloriand@juno.com

www.heapspeakarboretum.com

Maintain and staff the Heap’s Peak Arboretum and operate a retail outlet. Present interpretive events and tours.

#### Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps

Tom Walsh, Executive Director

562-596-9261 www.frvc.org

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; and respond 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

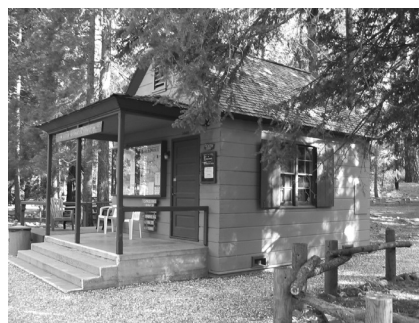
Provide information to visitors, support the wilderness permit program, lead nature walks, present programs, construct displays, patrol the San Gorgonio Wilderness, and operate the Mill Creek Visitor Center, the Barton Flats Visitor Center and Big Falls Information Center.

## Volunteer Program

Here on the San Bernardino National Forest volunteers make significant contributions every year in nearly every program. Volunteer 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 fire fighting, 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

#### 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 desert palms 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 tribes trails into the mountains to collect and roast agave hearts, pinyon and other foods. The Cahuilla are still here. The Cahuilla still visit the mountains but share their care with the SBNF and their 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 the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Wildernesses and San Jacinto RD trails, and provide visitor information at the Idyllwild Forest Service office.

#### Friends of the Desert Mountains

PO Box 1281

Palm Desert, CA 92261

Colin Barrows, Conservation

Coordinator 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, 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.

Remember, children must be directly supervised by an adult. Five visitors are allowed in the lookout at once, and don’t 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 Chinguapin 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.

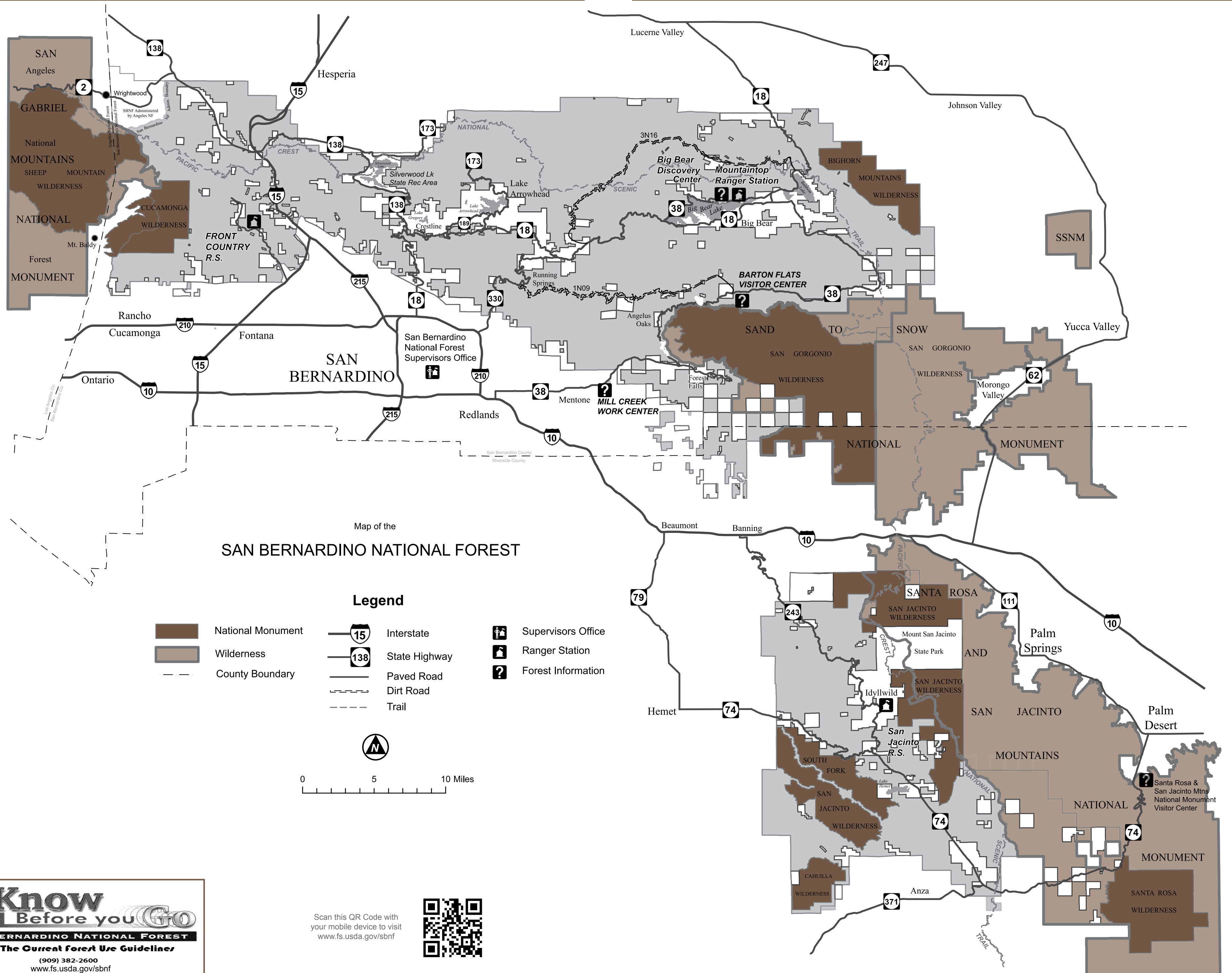
#### Morton Peak

**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

**Directions:** 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.



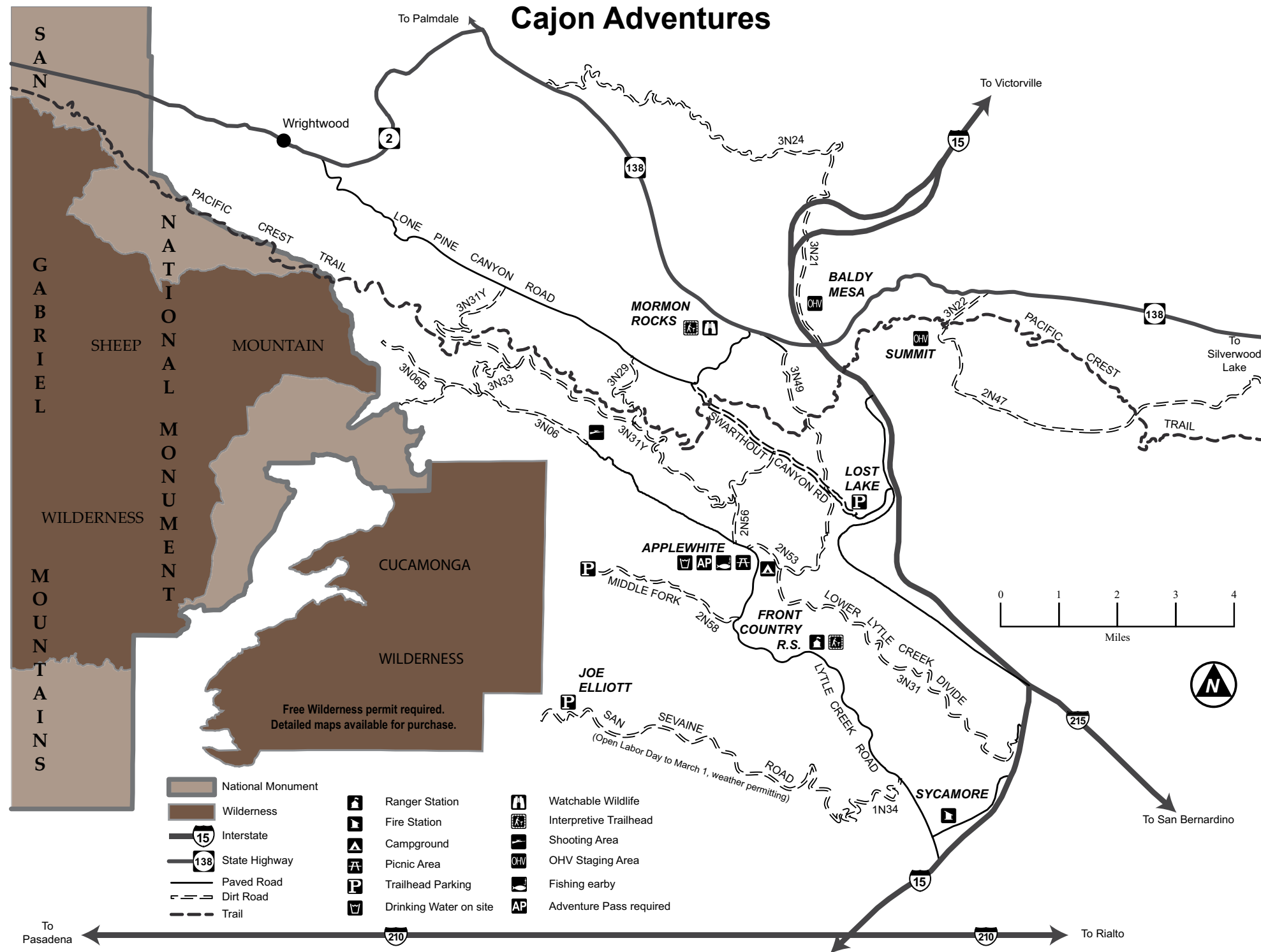


**Know Before you Go**  
**SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST**  
 Check The Current Forest Use Guidelines  
 (909) 382-2600  
[www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf)



## ADVENTURES

### Cajon Adventures



This is one of the lowest elevation areas in the Forest, so most roads and trails are open all year. Lytle Creek is the center of activities in the Cajon area with a picnic area and campground near its banks.

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

Bonita Falls, a 90-ft waterfall, can be seen by hiking from the Lytle Creek Road in the South Fork of Lytle Creek. A free map can be obtained at the Ranger Station to show hikers how to get to Bonita Falls.

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 north).



MORMON ROCKS

### Adventure 1

#### Cucamonga Wilderness Hike

With trails reaching elevations of nearly 9,000 feet, the Cucamonga Wilderness offers hikers rugged vistas of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. Eighteen miles of trails traverse this subalpine wilderness that features diverse habitats from chaparral to lush riparian to conifers.

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

**Difficulty:** Moderate.

**Permits:** Free Wilderness permit required.

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

### 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 2 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:** Adventure Pass required

**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)

is 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)

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

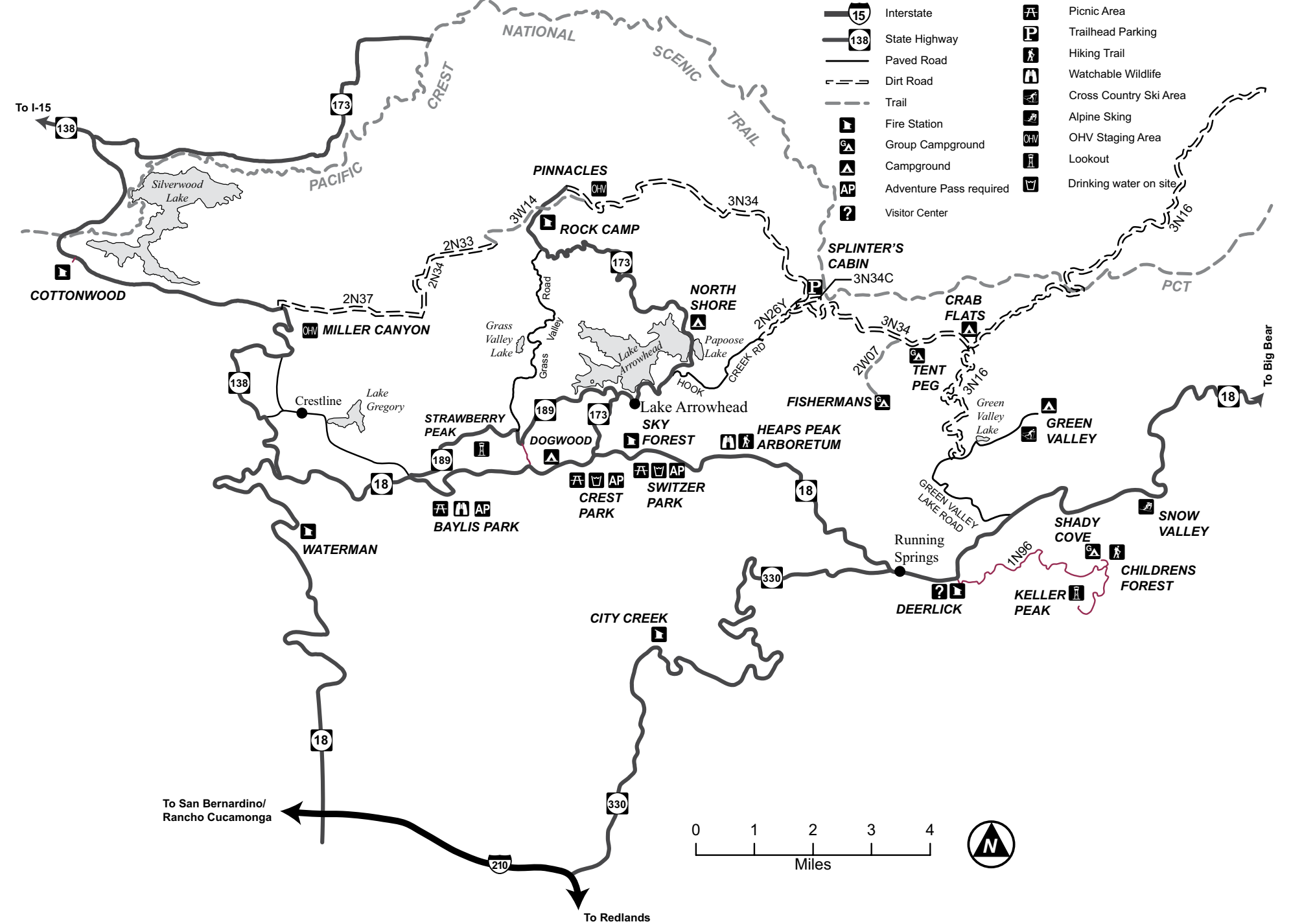
**Bonita Falls Trail** is a 1.4-mile round trip trail along a rocky, dry creek bed to a 90 foot waterfall. Adventure Pass required.

#### 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

### Arrowhead Adventures



### ADVENTURE 3

#### Rim of the World Scenic Byway

This 110-mile route traverses the entire mountain range, from Cajon Pass to San Geronio 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 Hwys 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 times smog in the valleys can obscure the views.



RIM OF THE WORLD DRIVE—LAKE ARROWHEAD VIEW.

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

#### Arrowhead Adventures Recreation Fee Sites

##### Picnic Areas:

- Baylis Park
- Crest Park
- National Children’s Forest
- Splinter’s Cabin
- Switzer Park

##### Hiking Trailheads:

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

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

- Miller Canyon
- Pinnacles

#### Heaps Peak Arboretum (Interpretive)

Heaps Peak Arboretum is a unique oasis located at 6,000 feet on forty acres in the San Bernardino Mountains. Experience the botanical garden’s diversity of native plants and trees. 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.

There is a Forest Information Booth that is open Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., weather permitting. Open 365 days a year. Entrance is free. An Adventure Pass or Interagency Pass is required on your vehicle for parking. A \$5.00 daily pass can be purchased at the Arboretum when the Information Booth is open on weekends.

**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.

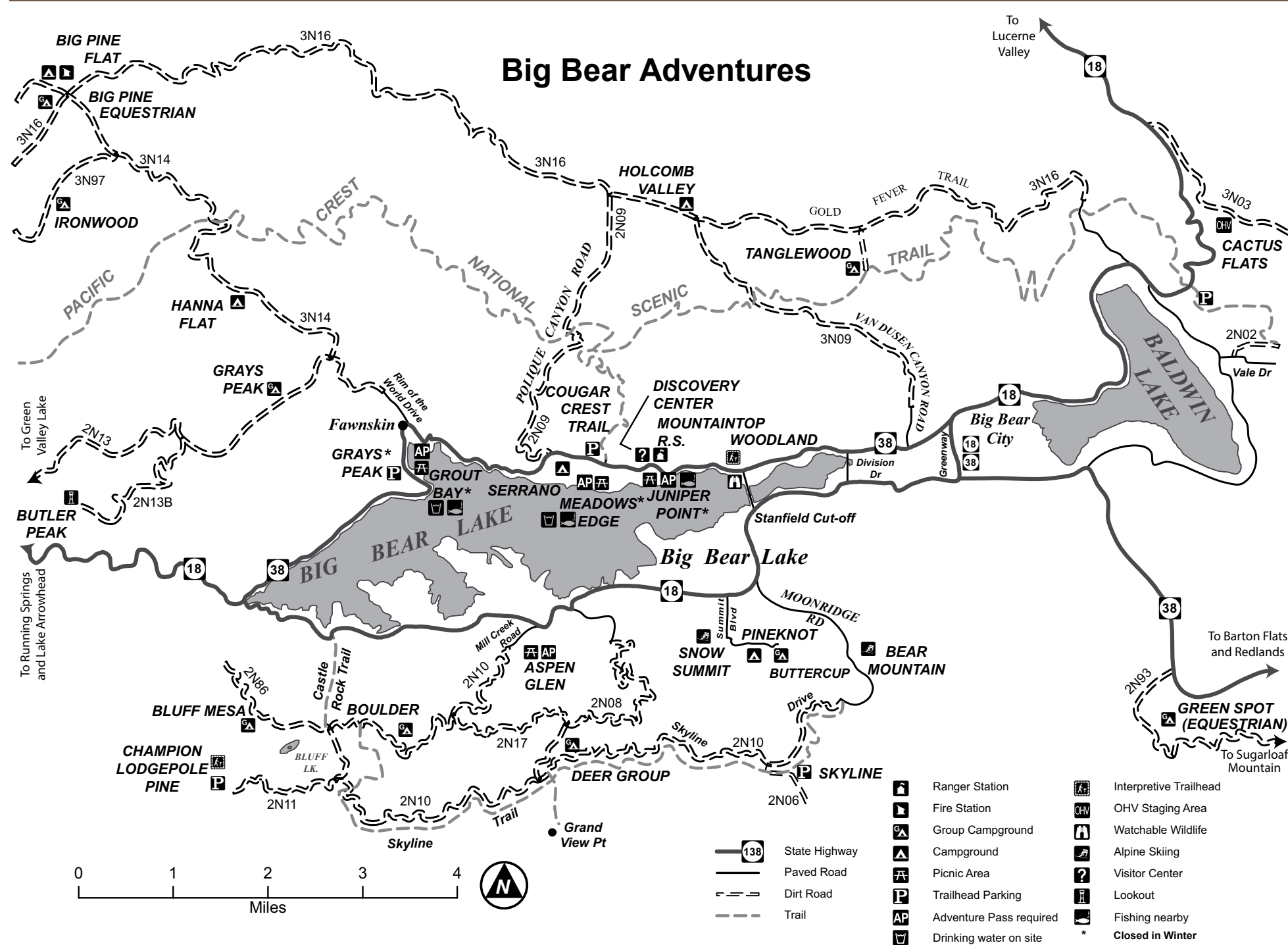
Sequoia Trail 1 mile loop, Easy.

**Seasons:** Spring, Summer, and Fall (check for trail conditions during wet seasons).

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



## ADVENTURES



### 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

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Picnic Areas:</b>      | <b>Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Staging Areas:</b> |
| •Aspen Glen               | •Cactus Flats                                   |
| •Grout Bay                |   |
| •Juniper Point            | <b>Target Shooting Areas:</b>                   |
| •Meadows Edge             | •Big Pine Flats(3 sites)                        |
| <b>Hiking Trailheads:</b> | •Lightning Gulch                                |
| •Cougar Crest 1E22        | •Arrastre (2sites)                              |
| •Grays Peak 1W06          |   |
| •Pineknote 1E01           |   |
| •Woodland 1E23            |   |

## Big Bear Adventures

### Adventure 4

#### Skyline

Skyline Trail is a multi-use trail designed for hikers, mountain bikers and equestrian riders. It is designed to become the backbone of a new 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. The unparalleled views that looks out towards the valley, and makes this trail a treasured outdoor experience.

Adventure Pass or Interagency Pass is not required.

**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

**Seasons:** Spring, Summer, and Fall. Winter brings snowshoeing and cross country skiing.

**Points of Interest:** Spectacular views of Mt. San Gorgonio.

### Adventure 5

#### Cougar Crest Hike

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, time and difficulty:** Two miles to the junction with the Pacific Crest Trail; 1.5 hours. The trail is moderately strenuous—bring plenty of water!



VIEW OF BIG BEAR LAKE

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

**Points of Interest:** Views of Big Bear Lake.

### 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 treed stand. This 2.5 mile path (one way) was created specifically for non-motorized use for pedestrians, bicyclists, joggers and strollers.

In 2016, a partnership consisting of the Mountaintop Ranger District, San Bernardino National Forest, the City of Big Bear Lake, the Big Bear Municipal Water District and the Southern California Mountains Foundation was able to complete the replacement of two bridges. Continued improvements will include the widening of the path.

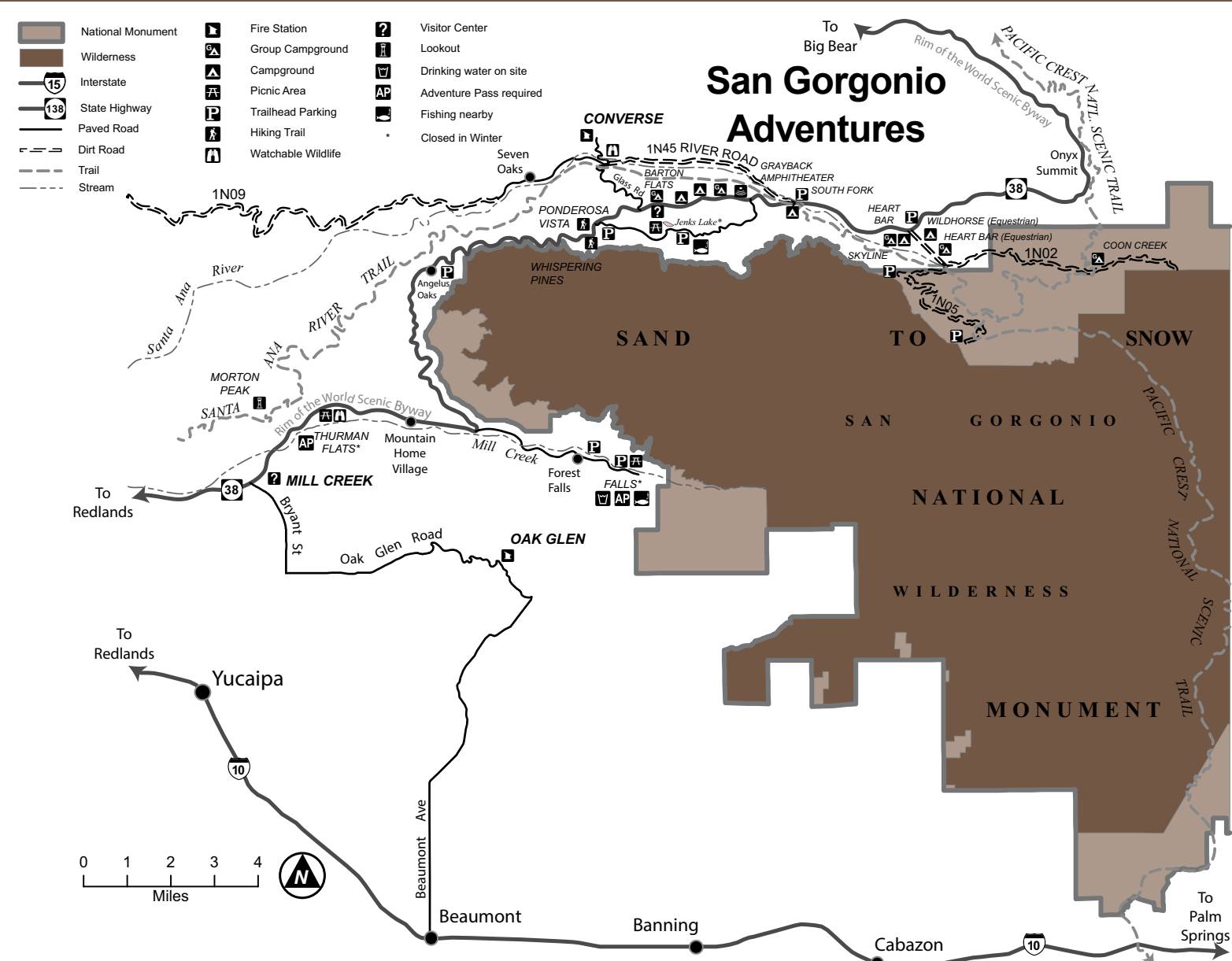
**Directions:** Park at Juniper Point or Meadow's Edge Picnic Areas (Adventure Pass required) or Stanfield Cut-off on the north shore of Big Bear Lake.

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

**Seasons:** All year, but in winter Juniper Point and Meadow's Edge Picnic Areas are closed to protect eagle roosting areas.

**Points of Interest:** Spring- wildflowers, summer waterfowl viewing, Fall- autumn leaf color, Winter- eagle watching. Leashed dogs are welcomed.

## 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-

from Forest Service staff while planning your trip.

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

#### Distance, time 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. **\*For trail closures due to the 2015 Lake Fire visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sbnf/home/?cid=fseprd510702>.**



Sunday summer only), and the Big Bear Discovery Center. You may also request a permit application by mail, fax, or download from [www.sgwa.org](http://www.sgwa.org) up to 3 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



Scan this QR Code with your mobile device to visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sbnf/home/?cid=fseprd510702>

**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.

## San Gorgonio Adventures

### 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. Adventure Pass required ONLY during snow play/recreation.

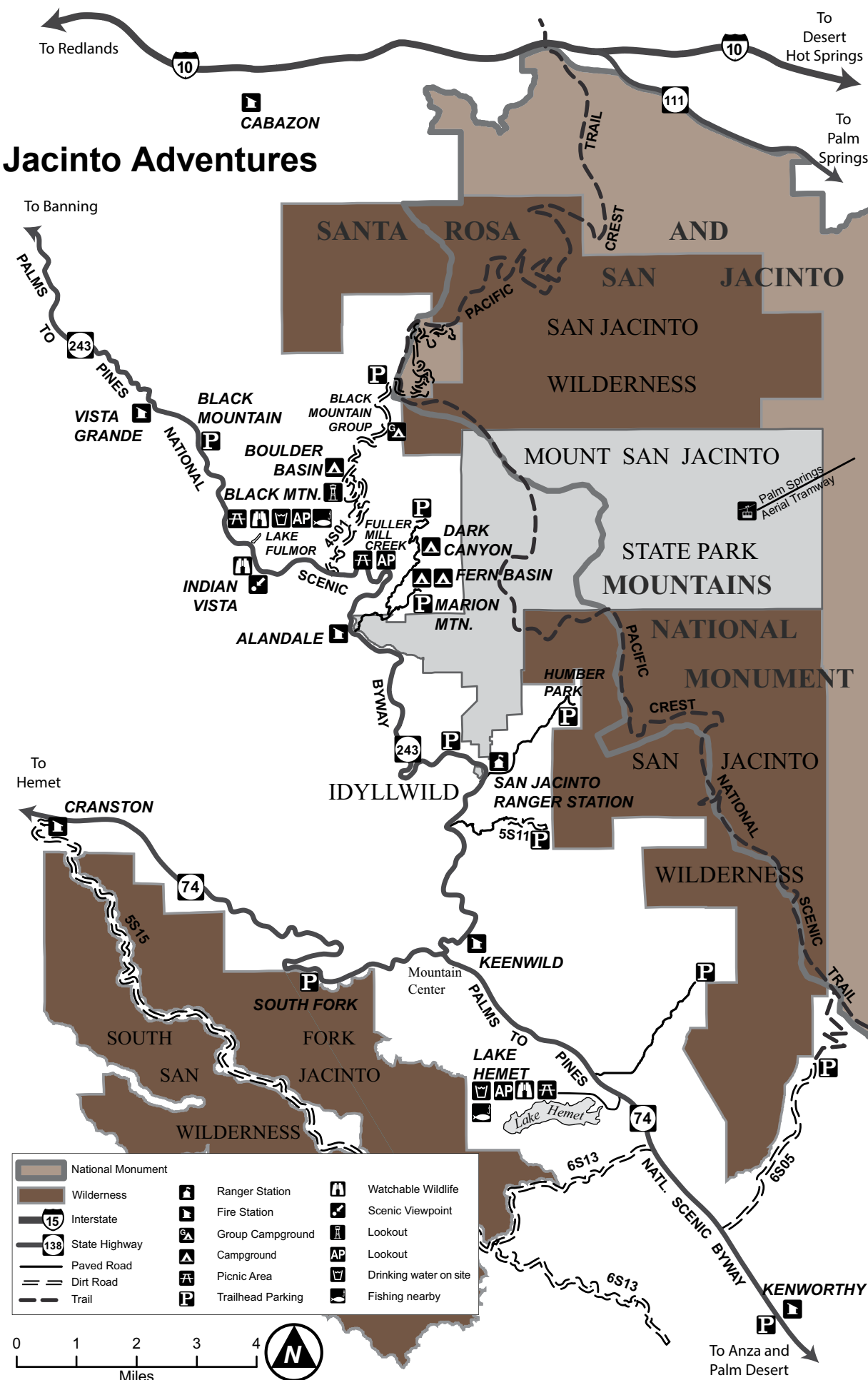
**Santa Ana River** interpretive panels along the river north of Barton Flats present the plants and animals dependent on the river, including the insects and fish that live in the water. Follow Glass Road out of Barton Flats for 2.5 miles to River Road. Turn right and go .5 mile to a sign. Park at the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

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



## ADVENTURES

### San Jacinto 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. Call the Chamber of Commerce (951-659-3259)

for lodging information. 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 51500 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 2 trails begin at the Humber Park trailhead. Ernie Maxwell Scenic Trail is located at the bottom of Humber Park. Parking is available here. 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 the far off views making the 1,700 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 on any Wilderness Trails.

**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.

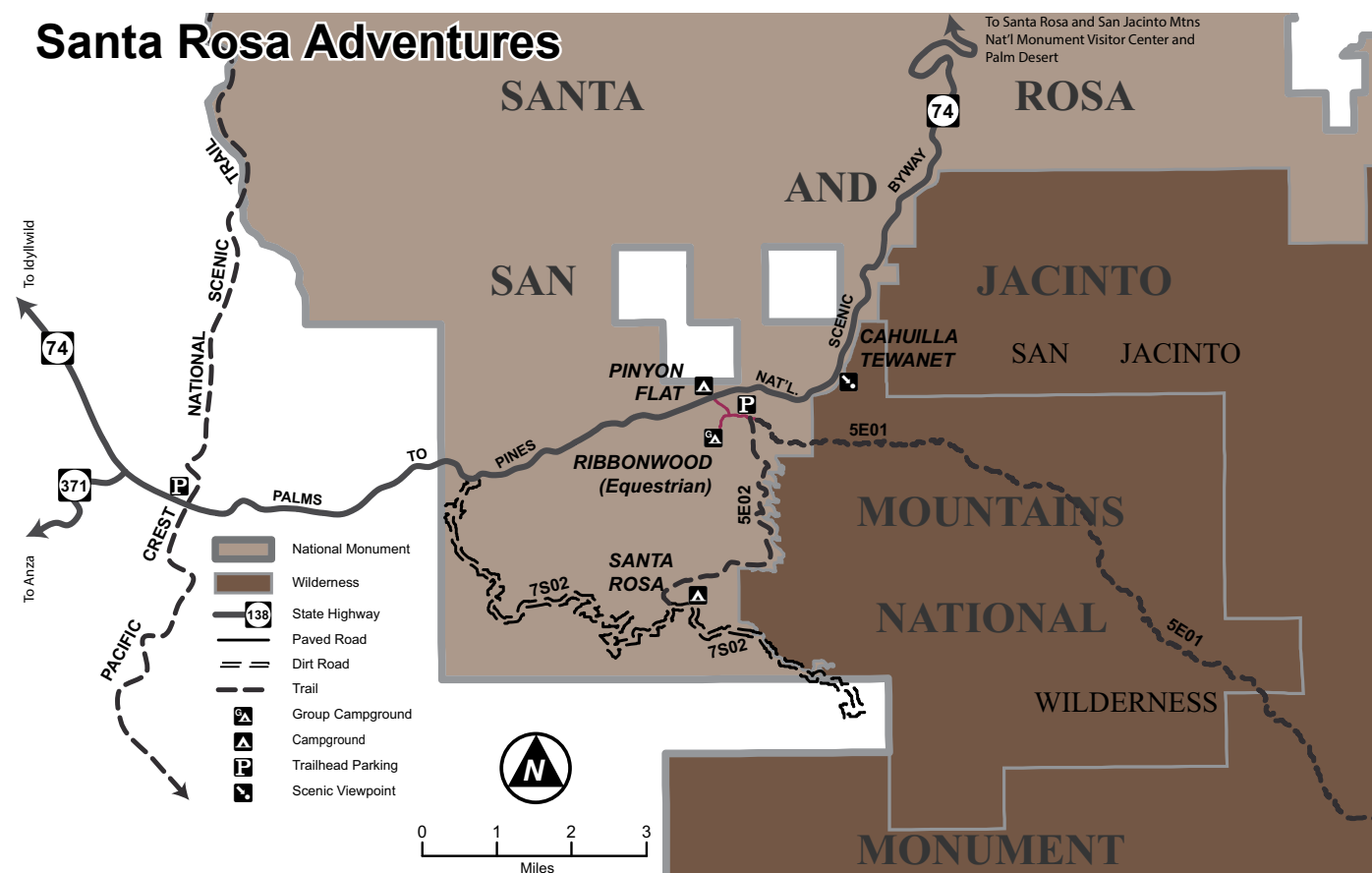


A VIEW OF TAHQUITZ PEAK AND LILY ROCK FROM SUICIDE ROCK

BRAD ELLIS

## ADVENTURES

### Santa Rosa Adventures



A VIEW OF MT. SAN GORGONIO FROM SAN JACINTO

TOM IRACI

### Adventure 10

#### Santa Rosa Mountain

For a real backcountry adventure, drive the sometimes rocky Santa Rosa Mountain 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 Mountain 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-time. Four-wheel drive, high clearance vehicles are best suited



LAKE FULMOR

### 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.

for this road. This road is often closed in the winter. Call 760-862-9984 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 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 8 miles to the top. From the Thomas Mountain Campground, climb on foot for 15 minutes to the summit. To return, you can continue southeast on the road downhill. After 10 miles you rejoin Hwy 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, and 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 so they are unavailable to bears and other animals when you are not in camp. If available, use the 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.

For more information on safe interactions with wildlife, please visit this website: <http://www.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:

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

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r5/plants-animals/> for species listed as sensitive by the USFS.

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/> for California State protected species.

Some areas of the forest are closed for the protection of animal species, please visit the quick link to the Current Forest Orders at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/sbnf/home/>.



## 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 Haven 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).

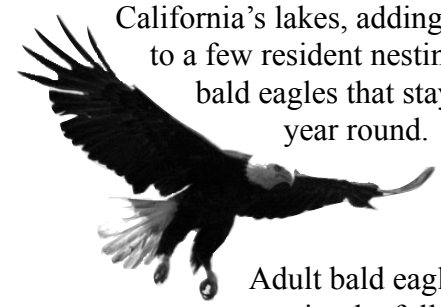
Humans are the primary way invasive species are introduced. We can help prevent the spread. Here's how to:

- 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

## Winter Bald Eagle Count - Be a Citizen Scientist!

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.

Each year the San Bernardino National Forest participates in the winter bald eagle counts, in partnership with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in the California state parks. The count occurs at Lake Hemet, Lake Perris, Lake Silverwood, Lake Arrowhead and Lake Gregory, and Big Bear Lake. These counts are open to the public and occur on the second Saturday in December, January, February and March.

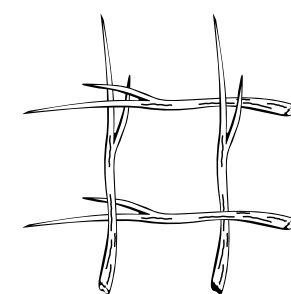
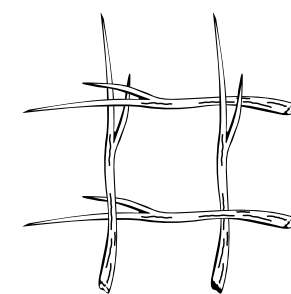
Please join us for one of the bald eagle counts during the winter months. No experience is needed. Signing up ahead of time is unnecessary - just show up at the designated time and location, dressed warmly, bring binoculars and watch. Counting Eagles is fun, easy, and only takes a couple of hours.



## 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>

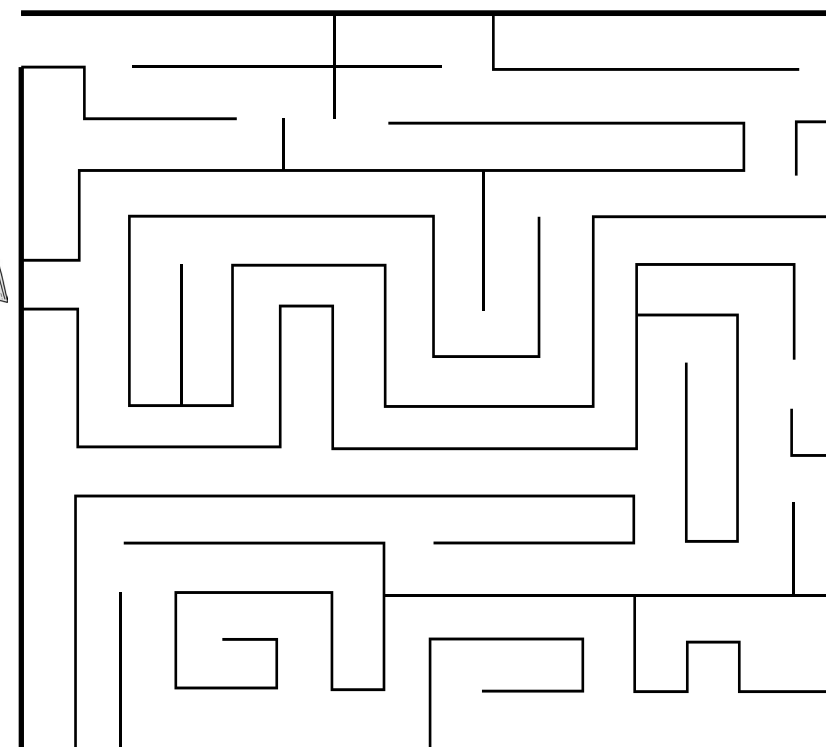


<https://www.everykidinapark.gov/>

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

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ADVENTURE PASS

## Forest Adventure Pass Program

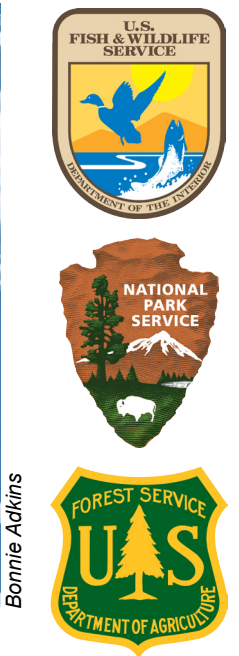
The Adventure Pass Program is now in its 20th year in the Southern California National Forests. In 1996, Congress passed legislation authorizing the Forest Service to charge fees for recreation use. People recreating in Southern California National Forests are required to purchase a pass for many popular sites in the Forest and display it on their vehicle. The pass can be purchased for \$5 a day or for \$30 a year.

## 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.



DIAMONDBACK CREW



## 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 this QR code with your mobile device to visit [www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass](http://www.fs.usda.gov/adventurepass)



## Recreation Fee Accomplishments!

Scan this QR code 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 <http://www.fs.fed.us/portal-data/r5/ap/map/>



## How Do I Pay a Notice of Required Fee (NRF)?

There are 2 options to remedy your \$5.00 fee

- 1) Mail your NRF with a check or money order in the envelope provided
- 2) Pay by phone with a credit card by calling 909-382-2623

### Adventure Pass Free Days:

June 10, 2017 National Get Outdoors Day	January 15, 2018 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
September 30, 2017 National Public Lands Day	February 19, 2018 President's Day
November 11-12, 2017 Veterans Day	

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## 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 \$10. Will change to \$20 for Annual or \$80 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 active 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 8) who track and record hours.



**Every Kid in a Park Pass (EKIP)** The 4th Grade Pass is part of the Every Kid in a Park program, an effort to introduce America's youth to the outdoors. This pass is FREE & given to every fourth grader who obtains a 'paper pass' from the Every Kid in a Park website [www.ekip.gov](http://www.ekip.gov).

