



Peak Experiences

The official newspaper
of Lassen Volcanic National Park

May-October 2003

Make Stewardship a Part of Your Plans

"The rule of no realm is mine, but all worthy things that are in peril as the world now stands, those are my care. And for my part, I shall not wholly fail in my task if anything passes through this night that can still grow fair or bear fruit and flower again in days to come. For I too am a steward. Did you not know?" —J.R.R. Tolkien

IN TROUBLED TIMES, THE NATIONAL PARKS ARE OUR havens of inspiration and solace. We go to them to recharge the wellsprings of our souls and to celebrate American heritage. Now, more than ever, these marvelous places need your care and support. This summer, why not add to your national park experience by making stewardship part of your plans?

HOW DO I BECOME A NATIONAL PARK STEWARD?

Chances are, you already are one! A steward is a caretaker who looks out for our natural and cultural environments and takes steps to ensure their health and preservation. In the simplest terms, stewards help the national parks meet their mission of "preserving and protecting" park resources for present and future generations.

By picking up this copy of *Peak Experiences* and becoming familiar with rules and regulations, safety information, and park issues, you have taken the first step toward stewardship. Being informed helps you ensure the safety of precious things: yourself and those accompanying you, and the Park's many resources.

Here are a few easy ways you can contribute to the stewardship of Lassen Volcanic National Park:

- Stay on trails and boardwalks, and pay attention to posted warning signs and special instructions
- Keep your pets on a six-foot leash while in campgrounds, parking lots, and picnic areas; for the safety of yourself and your pet and the protection of park resources, do not bring pets on trails or boardwalks (see p. 3)
- Pack out your trash and pick up litter you find along park trails; if you do not have a garbage bag to bring on the trail, you may ask for one at Park Headquarters or the Loomis Museum
- Dispose of recyclables at the locations listed on p. 5
- Keep wildlife wild: never try to feed, pet, or harass wildlife, including birds and rodents (see p. 3)
- Keep bears and other wildlife out of your camp and in the woods where they belong: store food properly and keep a clean camp (see p. 4 for information about bears and your food)

If you want to do more, here are a few ideas to step up your level of stewardship and have an unforgettable vacation at the same time!

TAKE THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED

One of the greatest threats to national parks is being "loved to death." Much of Lassen Volcanic is sparsely visited pristine wilderness but Lassen Peak, Bumpass Hell, Summit Lake, and a few other popular sites are a little TOO well-loved.

Visiting some of the less famous areas of the Park can help relieve some of the stress on over-burdened areas, without sacrificing any of the "signature" Lassen experiences.

- If you want a long hike with gorgeous panoramic views, Brokeoff Mountain offers a rigorous hike comparable to Lassen Peak but with the bonus of fewer hikers, gorgeous early summer wildflowers, and shady forests to cool your climb. The views of Lassen Peak from the top are spectacular.
- Looking for an out-of-the-way and out-of-this-world trek through a hydrothermal area? Check out Devil's Kitchen in

Warner Valley, where mudpots bubble furiously, multi-colored hydrothermal streams wind through a picturesque valley, and fumaroles hiss up unexpectedly from the forested hillsides. A short side-trip takes you to Boiling Springs Lake, a surreal, steaming body of water surrounded by hillsides painted vibrant hues by iron oxides and sulfates in the soil.

- Wake up beneath whispering pines; take your canoe for a quiet paddle in the deep blue waters of one of Lassen's largest lakes; explore a fascinating geologic landscape of lava beds, cinder cones, and multi-colored dunes; follow traces left by pioneers' covered wagons on the Nobles Emigrant Trail; and at the end of a full day, take a relaxing swim in the aptly named Bathtub Lakes while gem-colored damselflies float overhead. You can do all this and more in the Butte Lake area. Drop in for a day hike on the Cinder Cone trail (interpretive brochures are available at contact stations and the trailhead) or stay the night at the campground to continue your adventures another day.
- To really get wild, consider taking a multi-day backpacking trip through Lassen's wilderness. With over 150 miles of trails, the possibilities are practically endless. Trails connect with the Caribou Wilderness and other Lassen National Forest destinations, creating opportunities for treks ranging from one night to several weeks in the backcountry. (see p. 5)

PLAN A VOLUNTEER VACATION

Volunteering your time and talents is a fantastic way to give something back to the Park. You get a chance to do essential work for the Park, have a great time meeting other members of the park "family," and enrich your knowledge and experience. Even if you are here for just a few days, you may be able to get involved with special projects—ask for details at contact stations.

If you live nearby, consider volunteering your time to assist with visitor services, trail patrols, photography, administrative work, computer and website projects, or special projects throughout the year. Hours are flexible. For longer projects, the Park may be able to provide volunteers with free campsites.

If you have your own RV or plan to rent a place near the Park next summer, you may want to get involved in more long-term projects. Selection for the next summer's season-long positions usually takes place between January and March.

For more information on volunteer positions, see p. 5.

OBSERVE, EXPERIENCE, AND ENJOY

You can help the National Park Service protect this wonderful park by being a keen observer. You can pick up trail report and wildlife sightings forms at Park Headquarters, Loomis Museum, or the Chalet information board. Fill them out at the end of your hike and drop them off at the nearest contact station. (If you end up not using the forms, please conserve resources by returning them to any contact station.)

Park staff cannot be on all trails at all times, so your observations are vital sources of information. If you note safety hazards such as trees down across a trail, visitors engaging in dangerous or forbidden activities, or anything else unusual, please tell a ranger.

THE PARK DEPENDS ON YOU!

The national parks exist for you to enjoy and learn about America's special places. The National Park Service cannot fulfill its mission without your partnership. We invite you to become a park steward and help ensure that fair and wonderful things will indeed flourish today and again in days to come.

Welcome!

These are exciting times at Lassen Volcanic National Park. Numerous projects are underway to enhance protection of natural and cultural resources and improve visitor services. This issue of *Peak Experiences* highlights some of the many changes taking place and will give you information for a safe and enjoyable visit.

You will see your entrance and camping fees at work in a number of projects improving campground facilities, museum exhibits, wayside exhibits, and rehabilitation of disturbed natural areas.

Research, inventory, and monitoring of air quality, geothermal features, small vertebrates, bats, rare plants, vegetation in the Chaos Jumbles area, and migratory birds will help us gain a better understanding of the Park's resources and natural processes. Parkwide research and documentation of cultural resources will continue with archeological and ethnograph studies, and cultural landscapes and historic structure preservation.

One of our major projects now underway is the replacement of the Chalet with a new Southwest Visitor Services Facility. This facility will provide a year-round visitor center for Lassen Volcanic National Park for the first time. Planning and design of the new facility began in October, 2002. Construction is scheduled to begin in early summer, 2005. To view the most current information on this project's progress visit the park's webpage at www.nps.gov/lavo or the bulletin board located at the Chalet.

We hope you enjoy your visit to this unique and wonderful park. Please remember your role to protect and preserve this special place for everyone now and in the future.

Marilyn H. Parris
Superintendent

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National Park Service
U. S. Department
of the Interior



Established first as Cinder Cone and Lassen Peak National Monuments in 1907, Lassen Volcanic became a national park in 1916 because of its significance as an active volcanic landscape. Lassen Peak began erupting in 1914, had its most spectacular activity in 1915, and had minor activity until 1921. All four types of volcanoes in the world plus active geothermal areas are found in Lassen Volcanic's 106,000 acres. Lassen Peak may be the largest plug dome volcano in the world. It is considered to be dormant today.

CONTACT INFORMATION

EMERGENCIES
Dial 911

INFORMATION
Park Headquarters (year-round)
(530) 595-4444
Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD)
(530) 595-3480

Loomis Museum
(Call on weekends, summer only)
(530) 595-4444 ext. 5180

FAX NUMBER
(530) 595-3262

PARK WEBSITE
www.nps.gov/lavo/

MAILING ADDRESS
Lassen Volcanic National Park
P. O. Box 100
Mineral, CA 96063-0100

RESERVATIONS
for Group Campsites & Corrals
(Reservations are not available for regular campsites)
(530) 335-7029

**LOST & FOUND/
PROTECTION RANGER ASSISTANCE**
Park Dispatch
(530) 595-4444 ext. 5151

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

A Little of Your Time...

You may experience a few delays in the Park this summer due to a number of ongoing construction projects. These projects are necessary for a safe park visit. We apologize for the inconvenience, but hope you will enjoy the improvements.

Expect delays at the Southwest Entrance due to a Federal Highways improvement project. Road construction will be going on between the Southwest Entrance and Bumpass Hell throughout the summer and fall.

The renovation of the Bumpass Hell boardwalk will be completed this summer. Check at contact stations for information on construction schedules and sections of the boardwalk that may be closed temporarily.

...Means Big Improvements for the Park!



Visitor Services & Information

Entrance Fees

PASS TYPE	PRICE	NOTES
Vehicle	\$10	Valid for 7 days
Individual	\$5	On foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or horse Valid for 7 days
Lassen Volcanic Annual Pass	\$25	Covers entrance fee at Lassen Volcanic & day use fee at Whiskeytown NRA Valid for one year from month of purchase
National Parks Pass <small>365 days - more than 380 ways to experience your America!</small>	\$50	Covers all national parks with entrance fees (Not valid for camping, tours, or concession charges) Valid for one year from month of purchase
Golden Eagle Pass	\$65	Covers fees at all Federal Fee Areas Available as a National Parks Pass with \$15 upgrade hologram sticker Valid for one year from month of purchase
Golden Age Pass	\$10	For U. S. citizens & permanent residents who are 62 years or older; proof of age required (driver's licence, etc.) Lifetime pass
Golden Access Pass	Free	For permanently disabled U. S. citizens & permanent residents; proof of disability required (VA letter, etc.) Lifetime pass

Nonprofit organizations pay \$5 for every person over 16 years old (minimum fee of \$10). Commercial fees are based on seating capacity. For more information, contact the Fee Office at (530) 595-4444 extension 5184.

Park Partners

Lassen Volcanic National Park is fortunate to have two organizations which support the park by raising funds for programs and projects that enhance visitor services, protect its resources, and add to our knowledge about the Park's history and natural processes.

Lassen Park Foundation, a nonprofit foundation, was founded in 1984 for the purpose of providing support for projects in Lassen Volcanic National Park and Lassen National Forest.



Authorized by the National Park Service and working in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service, the Foundation is able to assist with needs such as enhanced interpretive and educational activities, trail restoration, wildlife research, and cultural resource projects. Currently the Lassen Park Foundation is raising funds to support the exhibit portion of Lassen Volcanic National Park's new Southwest Visitor Services Facility.

Enclosed is my donation in the amount of \$ _____
Please send me more information about the Foundation

Name _____
Address _____

Mail to Lassen Park Foundation, P.O. Box 3155, Chico, CA 95927-3155, or telephone (530) 898-9309. Donations are tax deductible; please make checks payable to the **Lassen Park Foundation**.

You can visit us on the Web at www.lassenparkfoundation.org and send e-mail to jane@lassenparkfoundation.org.



The **Lassen Loomis Museum Association** is dedicated to making your visit a memorable learning adventure. The Association publishes and sells books and other items on the flora, fauna, and history of the Park. Profits are used to supply books, posters, maps, and videos to the Park's libraries and visitor centers and to support the Park's mission, museum exhibits, and other special projects. *Peak Experiences* is published through LLMA donations.

I want to invest in the Lassen Loomis Museum Association. I've checked my annual membership option below and will send my check to: Lassen Loomis Museum Association, P.O. Box 220, Mineral, CA 96063.

Membership	Benefits	Investment
Manzanita Lake	10% Discount on All Merchandise	\$20
Chaos Crags	Plus a seven day Park Pass	\$50
Diamond Peak	Plus "Flowers of Lassen" Book	\$100
Emerald Lake	Plus a season Park Pass	\$250
Brokeoff Mountain	Plus "Ishi, the Last Yahi" Video	\$500
Lassen Peak	Plus a National Parks Pass	\$1,000

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

A portion of your donation may be tax deductible. Please make checks payable to the **Lassen Loomis Museum Association**. For more information about memberships and publications, please call (530) 595-3399, or visit our website www.LassenLoomis.info.

Information Stations

Park Headquarters in Mineral
Hours of Operation
Daily 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
June 15-Sep. 1
Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(closed holidays) the rest of the year

- Publications, wilderness permits, horse permits, Jr. Ranger Journals

Loomis Museum at Manzanita Lake
Hours of Operation
Friday-Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
May 23-June 28
Daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
June 29-Sep. 1
Friday-Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sep. 2-21

- Exhibits, orientation videos, publications, wilderness permits, horse permits, Jr. Ranger Journals, ranger-led programs

Lassen Chalet Information Boards, downstairs, across from restrooms
Hours of Operation
See Chalet hours below

- Park information, regulations, and free publications (Unstaffed)
- Self-registration for backcountry camping permits is available 24 hrs in the adjoining hallway

Lassen Crossroads Information, at junction of Hwy. 44 & Park Road

Hours of Operation
Daily 8 a.m. to sunset
April 26-Nov. 2

- Informational exhibits about the Park and Lassen National Forest (Unstaffed)

Food & Supplies

Lassen Chalet Hours
Daily 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
May 22-June 20 & Sept. 1-Oct. 13
Daily 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
June 21-Aug. 31

Manzanita Lake Camper Store Hours
Daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
May 22-June 20 & Sept. 1-Oct. 13
Daily 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
June 21-Aug. 31

Accessibility

(most restrooms open summer only)



- Manzanita Lake**
- Loomis Museum - information desk, exhibits, restrooms nearby
 - Camper Store - store, restrooms, showers
 - Campground - site, restrooms (with assistance)

- Summit Lake**
- Picnic Area - vault toilet
 - Campground - site

- Southwest Area**
- Chalet - restrooms, information bulletin boards
 - Campground - site, restrooms

- Mineral**
- Park Headquarters - information desk, restroom

- Bumpass Hell Parking Area**
- Vault toilet (with assistance)

- Lassen Peak Parking Area**
- Vault toilet (with assistance)

- Kings Creek Picnic Area**
- Vault toilet

- Devastated Area Trail**
- Interpretive trail, vault toilet

Disabled visitors wishing to take a wheelchair or other conveyance on trails should check in at Park Headquarters or the Loomis Ranger Station.



You Need To Know .

For A Safe Visit

BE ALERT WHEN DRIVING IN THE PARK

- Drive defensively; other drivers often make unexpected maneuvers and stops
- Use established pullouts when available
- Observe speed limits; the Park Road is 35 m.p.h. unless posted otherwise
- Remain on established roadways
- No off-road travel is permitted
- Watch for flaggers and traffic signals – road construction is going on in the Southwest Area

BE AWARE OF AND PREPARED FOR CHANGING WEATHER CONDITIONS

- Severe storms can occur suddenly
- Climb peaks and ridges early in the morning
- Head for lower elevation during lightning activity

OBSERVE WILDLIFE AT A DISTANCE

- Feeding, harassing, and hunting wildlife is illegal
- Wildlife can be dangerous
- Rodents can transmit the plague to you and your pets
- Secure all food and garbage properly at all times

STAY ON ESTABLISHED TRAILS & BOARDWALKS

- ...especially in thermal areas, where ground may be dangerously thin. Bumpass Hell was named after a man who lost a leg after falling into boiling mud!
- Do not cut switchbacks or throw rocks
- Wear sturdy boots
- Carry plenty of water and food
- Wear sunscreen

PLAN TO FINISH HIKES WELL BEFORE SUNSET

- Sunset times are earlier in areas shadowed by mountains
- Always carry a flashlight with spare batteries and warm clothing in case of unexpected delays
- Sunrise and set times for Chester:

DATE:	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP
	Rise/Set	Rise/Set	Rise/Set	Rise/Set	Rise/Set
1st	5:05/19:00	4:37/19:28	4:39/19:39	5:02/19:20	5:32/18:37
10th	4:54/19:09	4:35/19:34	4:44/19:36	5:11/19:09	5:41/18:22
20th	4:45/19:19	4:35/19:38	4:52/19:30	5:21/18:55	5:50/18:06



CONTACT PARK HEADQUARTERS FOR THE LATEST TRAIL CONDITION REPORTS

Park Regulations

PETS

- Pets must be leashed or physically restrained at all times
- Pets are not permitted on trails, including the Lassen Volcanic section of the Pacific Crest Trail, in the backcountry, or in any body of water (service dogs assisting disabled visitors are allowed on trails)
- Pets are permitted on established roadways, in campgrounds and picnic areas, and in other developed areas
- Pets may not be left unattended
- Please clean up after your pet and take responsibility for its behavior
- Ask about trails outside the Park where you can hike with your dog



is allowed if declared at entrance stations and unloaded, cased, broken down, or otherwise packed to prevent use

HIKING

- Stay on marked trails and do not take shortcuts, especially in the Lassen Peak area; hiking off-trail quickly erodes volcanic soils and damages rare and fragile alpine plants
- No one wants to hike through someone's lavatory... Please use restrooms at contact stations or parking lots – there are no toilets on park trails. If "nature calls" before the end of your hike, bury waste. Pack out toilet paper in a plastic bag.

HITCHHIKING

- Hitchhiking is not permitted; please plan ahead for travel between trailheads and other park locations

PICNIC AREAS

- Do not leave food unsupervised – bears, foxes, and other animals have been known to snatch food off picnic tables



- Store food properly, as described on page 4
- Campfires are not allowed in picnic areas; however, you are welcome to use campstoves

FISHING

- Park fishing regulations conform to California State regulations
- A California State fishing license is required for those over age 16
- Manzanita Creek and the part of Manzanita Lake within 150 feet of the inlet are closed to fishing
- Special regulations for Manzanita Lake: Catch and release only; artificial lures and single, barbless hooks can be used



BOATING

- Motorized boats are prohibited on all park waters
- Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices must be on board for all occupants and worn by children under age 12
- Lake Helen and Emerald, Reflection, and Boiling Springs Lakes are closed to boating

- Boats may not be left on lakeshores overnight
- At Manzanita Lake, boats may only be put in and taken out at the designated launch site

CYCLING & SKATING

- Bicycles are permitted on park roads and in campgrounds but prohibited elsewhere; cyclists must obey all posted speed limits and traffic laws
- Helmets must be worn by all cyclists under age 18
- There are no mountain biking trails in Lassen Volcanic; ask at contact stations for trails outside the Park
- The use of any wheeled conveyance is limited to paved areas; no off-road travel is allowed
- Rollerskating, skateboarding, and in-line skating are not permitted anywhere in the Park



COLLECTING

- No collecting or removal of any objects from the Park such as rocks, wildflowers, pine cones, or cultural artifacts is allowed; please leave all objects for other people to enjoy



WEAPONS AND FIREWORKS

- All weapons and fireworks are prohibited
- Transporting weapons through the Park

For a complete listing of park rules and regulations, please ask at contact stations

The Park has begun design and compliance work for a visitor services facility to replace the Chalet. In the summer or fall of 2005, the Park plans to begin construction on the new Southwest Visitor Services Facility and to have it open for year-round services by the fall of 2006. This facility will provide tremendous benefits to almost 400,000 visitors a year through increased accessibility and park



User Fee

We put fee dollars to work for you! 80% of your entrance and campground fees fund vital projects right here at Lassen Volcanic National Park. Projects funded with Fee Demonstration dollars provide you with enhanced visitor services, protect your health and safety while you are here, and protect natural and cultural resources for you and future visitors.

Fee Demonstration Projects in Progress

- Disturbed natural areas are being rehabilitated to preserve native plants and animals.
- New wayside exhibits are being designed and constructed and will be installed throughout the Park.
- Design is underway for a new Southwest Entrance Station
- Our park website is being enhanced for your virtual visits! Read about Fee Demo projects at www.nps.gov/lavo/feedemo.htm.

Completed Fee Demonstration Projects

- The plaza and parking lot at the Loomis Museum provides enhanced features to visitors, including a wheelchair-accessible ramp into the museum.
- A water treatment plant has been built to provide potable water to campers at Butte Lake Campground.
- New and improved trail and campground signs have been constructed and installed throughout the Park.
- Permanent museum exhibits in Loomis Museum display Native American baskets, historical objects, and geological specimens.
- Bear-proof food storage lockers and trash receptacles have been installed in all the campgrounds to ensure the health and safety of park visitors and bears and other wildlife.

Do I LOOK Like a Couch Potato?!

This fox will be, if people keep feeding it junk food. Several park foxes are notorious for begging at campgrounds and even climbing to the top of Lassen Peak for handouts. Whatever you do, DO NOT feed these foxes or any other animals or birds in the Park. This behavior is not cute – it will quite likely become a death sentence for the animal you feed. Animals that beg are more likely to be hit by cars, contract diseases, or bite humans.

Feeding any animal in the Park is illegal and potentially dangerous

Lassen Volcanic's foxes are believed to be Sierra Nevada red foxes, the only red foxes occurring naturally in California. Red foxes in the Sacramento Valley were probably introduced in the late 1800s. Sierra Nevada red foxes may be threatened with extinction and need all the protection we can give them.

How can you help? First of all, watch your food at all times and do not leave it out where a curious fox or other animal could get into it.

If you do see a red fox, gray fox, or any large carnivore, note whether the animal is wearing a radio collar or tag. Inform a ranger and fill out a wildlife observation report. These reports are entered into a database that helps us understand which animals occur in different areas of the Park. With your help and cooperation, we can learn more about how these fascinating animals live, so they will survive in the wild for future generations to see and enjoy.



Sierra Nevada red fox

Photo by Kerry Farris



"Welcome to Summit Lake!" Have a question about camping? Ask one of Lassen Volcanic's volunteer Campground Hosts.

Bears and Your Food

Would you like to wake up early in the morning with a bear in your tent or trailer? Leave or store food and toiletries where they do not belong and you may have a wildlife encounter that you did not count on.

When animals get into food, your safety and property are jeopardized. Animals (such as rodents and foxes) can transmit diseases to humans and pets. The life of the animal may also be at risk due to malnutrition - most animals cannot properly digest human food. They may even forget how to obtain food naturally. Bears become aggressive and may harm people or ruin property that gets in the way of their search for people food. These bears may have to be killed as a last resort if they become dangerous.



It is your responsibility to store food, toiletries, and other scented items properly while in Lassen Volcanic National Park. Bear-proof lockers must be used day and night in all campgrounds. Store all food, coolers, and anything else with an odor in the lockers. Even toothpaste, lotions, and chapstick smells good to a bear! Where lockers are not provided, store items in the car trunk, sealed in plastic bags or containers to reduce odors. If the car has no trunk, put everything on the floor and cover it well. Make sure that all car windows and doors are tightly closed.

Keep a clean campsite and deposit garbage in garbage cans immediately. Improper storage of sensitive items, food or garbage may result in a citation or confiscation of the items.

Don't let bears approach you or your food. Wave your arms and make noise. If that fails to make them leave, throw small rocks in their direction (avoid hitting their face or head). Keep a safe distance but be persistent.

Spring & Summer Weather

From elevations of 5650' in Warner Valley to 10,457' on top of Lassen Peak, a wide variety of weather conditions occur in Lassen Volcanic National Park. Expect a 5° temperature decrease for every 1000' increase in elevation. Be prepared for your visit by bringing layered clothing, a raincoat, and sunscreen.

MONTH	AVERAGE HIGH/LOW TEMPERATURES	AVERAGE PRECIPITATION
May	70/29	2.8"
June	79/34	1.2"
July	84/40	0.4"
August	85/40	0.5"
September	78/36	1.5"
October	69/30	3.0"

Data is for Manzanita Lake, at 5,890' elevation.

Camping

- Open and Close dates below are weather dependent. Campgrounds may open later or close earlier due to snow and freezing conditions
- Each campsite has a table and fire ring with a grill
- All campsites are first come, first served; there are no reservations (except for sites at Butte Lake and Juniper Lake for organized groups)
- Golden Age and Golden Access cardholders receive a 50% discount on camping
- Check-out time for campsites is noon

Campsite Limit

- 6 adults, or 10 people total with children allowed per site
- Camping is limited to 14 days per year, with Summit Lake limited to 7 days per year

Vehicles

- Two vehicles allowed per site
- Park only on designated parking pad

Quiet Hours

- Observed from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Food Storage

- All food must be stored throughout the day and night in bear-proof boxes

RVs & Trailers

- Hookups are not available
- Some campgrounds have a limited number of sites available to accommodate trailers to 35' (see chart)
- Dump Station near Manzanita Lake Campground (\$5 fee)

Group Camping

- Groups of 10 or more people should camp in Butte Lake, Lost Creek, or Juniper Lake Group Campgrounds
- Tents only in the group campgrounds; no RVs
- Reservations are required for group campgrounds and should be made well in advance by contacting (530) 335-7029

Fires

- Open fires are prohibited except in metal fire rings provided
- Gather only dead and down wood; do not cut tree limbs
- Use of chainsaws is prohibited

More Information

- See Park bulletin boards for more information and updates

Campgrounds in Lassen Volcanic National Park	# of Sites	Daily Fee	Open & Close Dates	Toilets	Services
Southwest Walk-In - 6700' Located on the east side of the Lassen Chalet parking area (near Southwest Entrance Station). RVs may park overnight in the Lassen Chalet parking lot for \$10 per night and should register at the campground.	21	\$14	open year-round*	Flush	
Summit Lake North - 6695' located 12 mi. south of Manzanita Lake, 17.5 mi. north of Southwest Entrance. Accommodates trailers to 35'.	46	\$16	7/3 to 9/2	Flush	
Summit Lake South - 6695' Located 12 mi. south of Manzanita Lake, 17.5 mi. north of Southwest Entrance	48	\$14	7/3 to 9/22	Vault	
Manzanita Lake - 5890' Located adjacent to and south of Manzanita Lake. Accommodates trailers to 35'.	179	\$16	5/23 until snow closure **	Flush	Boat Launch
Crags - 5700' Located 4 mi. north of Manzanita Lake. Accommodates trailers to 35'.	45	\$10	7/3 to 9/2	Vault	
Lost Creek Group Sites - 5700' Located 4.5 mi. north of Manzanita Lake.	8	\$50	7/3 to 9/22	Vault	
Butte Lake - 6100' Located 6 mi. south on dirt road via Hwy. 44 east, 17 mi. from Old Station. Accommodates trailers to 35'.	101	\$14	6/6 to 9/22	Flush & Vault	Boat Launch
Juniper Lake - 6792' Located on east shore of Juniper Lake via rough dirt road leading 13 mi. north of Chester. Not recommended for trailers.	18	\$10	7/3 to 9/29	Vault	
Juniper Lake Group Sites - 6792' (See above)	2	\$30	7/3 to 9/29	Vault	
Warner Valley - 5650' Located 1 mi. west of Warner Valley Ranger Station, via dirt road 17 mi. north of Chester. Not recommended for trailers.	18	\$14	5/24 until snow closure **	Vault	

All campgrounds have campfire rings, bear-proof lockers, and picnic tables.
 * Southwest Walk-In Campground has water and toilets available 5/23 to 9/22. Water and toilets are available nearby at the Lassen Chalet the rest of the year.
 ** Manzanita Lake will be open without water from 9/22 until snow closure; Warner Valley will be open without water from 5/24-6/12 and 9/29 until snow closure.

Ranger-Led Programs

Regularly scheduled interpretation programs will be offered at the Loomis Museum and Manzanita Lake Amphitheater. Special evening talks will be held at Warner Valley. Check park bulletin boards or ask at the Loomis Museum or Park Headquarters for schedules. Programs offered this summer will include:

Junior Ranger

Manzanita Lake Evening Program
Skins and Bones
Bear Necessities

Fault Talk

Early Birds
Warner Valley Talks

Ask at contact stations about special programs and educational activities for curious visitors of all ages! The Park offers Junior Ranger, Volcano Club, Chipmunk Club, and Jr. Scientist programs.

Into the Backcountry

Required Permits

- A free backcountry permit is required for overnight camping in Lassen Volcanic's wilderness
- Limited to a maximum of 10 people per permit and per site; up to 20 people may hike together
- Camping limited to 14 days per year

Questions about permits?

- Ask at Entrance Stations or Information Stations

Permits are available in person during operating hours at:

- Loomis Museum
- Park Headquarters

Or through the U.S. Forest Service's

- Old Station Information Center
- Almanor Ranger Station

Outside of operating hours you may self-register at the Lassen Chalet

- Follow instructions on the Backcountry Camping bulletin board. PERMITS ARE VALID ONLY IF COMPLETE!

Fires Are Prohibited

- Use only portable campstoves



Food and Clothing

- Bring extra food, clothing, and water in case of emergencies or sudden weather changes
- Hang food and garbage out of animals' reach for your safety and their health (Lassen Volcanic has black bears)

Join the Green Team - Recycle

You can help keep Lassen Volcanic National Park clean and green by participating in the Park's recycling program. This past year the Park, with help from volunteers, employees, and people like you recycled 37,916 pounds of material. That is 18.96 tons of material diverted from local landfills.

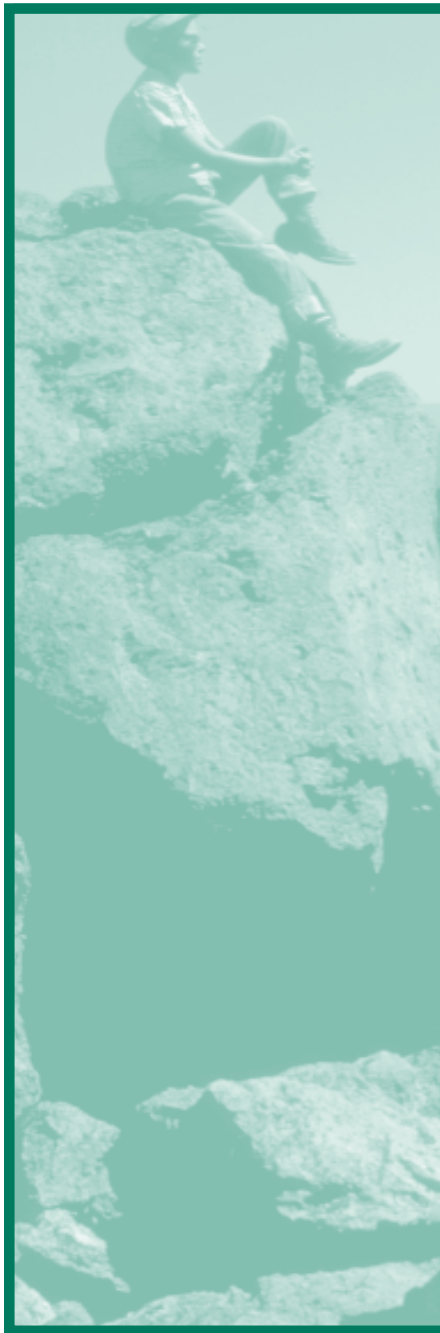
As you deposit empty containers in our green recycle bins you are not only keeping more trash out of landfills, but also are saving energy. It takes less energy to make new cans and bottles from your recycled materials than from the raw materials of the earth.

Besides recycling glass and aluminum we are also recycling plastic containers. The park has a new crusher for reducing plastic containers to a more manageable size for transporting to a regional recycling center in Redding.

With everyone's help Lassen Volcanic National Park's recycling program will continue to grow. Please join the green team and recycle. Help keep your park clean and green for present and future visitors.

Recycling bin locations:

Butte Lake Ranger Station
Bumpass Hell Parking Area
Lassen Chalet
Lassen Peak Parking Area
Loomis Museum
Manzanita Lake Campground
Southwest Campground
Sulphur Works
Summit Lake North Campground
Warner Valley Campground



Wildland Ethics

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise." – Aldo Leopold, A Sand County Almanac

Forester and philosopher Aldo Leopold expressed this sentiment in the 1930's. Today, increasing numbers of backcountry visitors are coming to the same realization as they witness their favorite wilderness haunts being loved to death by recreationists seeking adventure and solitude.

Simple living, adventure and solitude can still be part of our backcountry travels, but in order to assure their continued existence we must take the responsibility to educate ourselves and to become equipped with skills and habits that enable us to Leave No Trace.

Principles of Leave No Trace include:

- Plan ahead and prepare
- Camp and travel on durable surfaces
- Pack it in, pack it out
- Properly dispose of what you can't pack out
- Leave what you find
- Use a campstove (no fires)
- Respect wildlife
- Be considerate of other visitors

These principles are recommended as a guide to minimizing the impact of your backcountry visits. Leaving no trace depends on attitude and awareness more than on rules and regulations. Minimize your impact on the land and on other visitors. Preserve and protect your wildlands for this and future generations.

You can find more information on the Web at www.LNT.org or telephone 1-800-332-4100.

Water

- Purify park surface waters before drinking to avoid giardia and cryptosporidium. Multiple barrier technology is recommended:
 - Use a 2 micron or better filter
 - Use iodine tablets
 - Boil water for a minimum of 5 minutes
- Do not wash clothing or utensils or use any cleaning agents in park waters
- Dig latrine and bury human waste and toilet paper 6" deep, at least 100' from lakes, streams, and springs

Campsites

- Camp at least 300' from other groups
- Do not camp in meadows, or on fragile vegetation
- Camp at least 100' from high watermark of lakes, springs, and streams
- Do not construct "improvements" such as windbreaks, log bridges, etc.
- Camp at least one mile from developed areas, campgrounds, and roads
- Ask about areas closed to camping

Stock

- Permits are required for day use
- No overnight stays in the backcountry. Corral are available by reservation at Summit, Butte and Juniper Lake. Cal (530) 335-7029.

Lassen's backcountry contains 150 miles of hiking trails, including 17 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail. Trails vary in length and difficulty, winding through coniferous forest, alpine tundra, and along waterways.

Please Leave No Trace behind!

Become a National Park Volunteer!

Would you like to help this and future generations continue to enjoy Lassen Volcanic National Park? Consider becoming a volunteer. You can make a difference in your life, in the lives of others, and in the way the Park is managed and protected. You can develop new skills, gain experience that will enrich your life, and make new friends. The Park offers a variety of volunteer positions and projects. If you are not a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident, contact the Volunteer Coordinator at least two months before your trip to the U.S. to find out about required paperwork.

Campground Host: Live and work in one of seven campgrounds. Share park information with campers, check compliance of regulations, and keep statistics. A self-contained RV or motorhome is needed.

Interpretation Assistant: Learn about the Park's cultural and natural history and share this information with others. Assist with visitor activities or help staff contact stations.

Natural Resources Assistant: Collect and analyze data on water quality, vegetation, or wildlife. One drop-in invasive weed removal day is scheduled for July 19 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come for all or any part of the work day. Check at Park Headquarters or the Loomis Museum for the meeting place.

Cultural Resources/Park Collections Assistant: Assist in cataloging and caring for the Park's museum and photographic, slide, and digital image collections. Help maintain and catalog the reference books and publications of two small libraries.

Maintenance: Assist in maintaining, repairing, and upgrading trails, roads, equipment, and facilities.

Clerical Assistant: Use your organizational skills to assist park staff with general administrative duties.

Group Projects: Help with various research and backcountry projects. Crews of varying size and time commitment are needed.

For more information, please contact:

Volunteers In Parks Coordinator
Lassen Volcanic National Park
Post Office Box 100
Mineral, CA 96063-0100
(530) 595-4444 ext. 5133

Wilderness Laboratory

National parks and wilderness areas are key places to conduct scientific studies because of their relatively pristine state. National Park Service staff and independent researchers study aspects of Lassen Volcanic to better understand the geology, flora and fauna, natural processes, and human impacts on the Park. Below are some projects in progress this year.

Small Vertebrates Inventory and Monitoring:

For the past four years, small vertebrates have been monitored at 32 long-term study sites. Among the animals captured, marked, and released are salamanders, lizards, frogs and toads. Also captured in great numbers are squirrels, mice, voles, shrews and gophers.



Jumping mouse

Air Quality Monitoring: Lassen contains over 78,000 acres of wilderness. Thus, it is managed as a "Class I air shed," meaning it receives the greatest possible protection. The Park operates an air quality station in the Manzanita Lake area that is part of a nationwide monitoring system. The station checks ambient ozone levels, particulates (soot, dust, etc.), and acid deposition.

Bat Studies: Very little is known about bats in the Lassen area. This study focuses on three sensitive bat species: pallid bats, western red bats and Townsend's big-eared bats. The findings will provide park resource managers with information on the distribution, status, and roost site habitat characteristics of bats in Lassen Volcanic National Park and Lassen National Forest.

Mist Netting and Bird Banding:

There is strong concern over declining songbird populations in the U.S., particularly birds that migrate to the tropics. In 1997, a cooperative project between the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Lassen Volcanic National Park and Lassen National Forest was initiated to study songbird communities in the Lassen area.

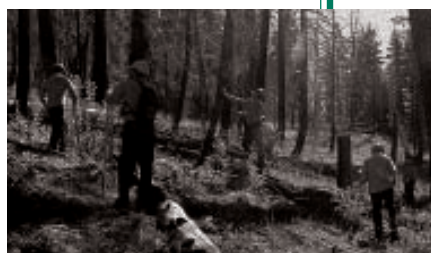
This region is a critical summer breeding ground for many neotropical migrants, including nine species identified as decreasing or likely to decrease. Ten nets used to capture birds were installed at Drakesbad. Sex, age, breeding condition, weight, wing length and molt status are recorded for each bird captured. Each bird is also given a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service band for identification before it is released. The information received from this effort will help biologists monitor the health of bird populations in the Lassen region.



Lazuli bunting, banded at Lassen Volcanic National Park

Nonnative Plant Removal: Nonnative "invaders" can push out native plant species, reduce native food for animals, and even change the properties of the soil where they grow. Park biologists have identified problem species and are working to remove invasive plants. If you would like a list of "Lassen's Most Wanted" invasive plant species, you can pick one up at Park Headquarters or the Loomis Museum. If you see any of the plants on this list, please report the species identified and its location. You can also join park staff and volunteers on weed projects.

Weed work crew



What's Happening at the Abandoned Downhill Ski Area this summer?



Erosion along the old service road where it connects with the Park Road

If your visit to Lassen Volcanic National Park takes you near the Southwest Entrance Station and Chalet, you may notice a lot of activity and heavy equipment on the slopes above and below the Park Road. The Park is beginning ecological restoration of the abandoned downhill ski area that used to exist near the Chalet. This project is necessary to enhance public health and safety, protect cultural resources and restore degraded natural resources. Current winter activities (including snow play, cross-country skiing and snowshoe walks) will not be affected by the project.

WHY IS THIS AREA IN NEED OF ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION?

The old ski runs and dirt access roads are highly visible to park visitors traveling the Park Road. The upper access road alters surface water flow and concentrates water in areas not suited for surface flow. The fine-grained volcanic soils are highly susceptible to erosion. Soil removal, soil compaction, and the over-steepened cut and fill slopes are keeping natural

vegetation from growing back. There are over 50 concrete ski-lift foundations visible. These pose a hazard to snow players in the winter. All of these human-made features need to be removed from the slope and the area returned to its natural condition.

WHAT IS ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION?

Ecological restoration seeks to restore natural processes to a site so that it can recover from past human development and activities. On the old abandoned ski area, access roads will be decompacted

and recontoured, altered drainages will be realigned, and concrete ski lift footings will be removed. All this will be accomplished with heavy equipment (track-mounted excavators, bulldozers and dump trucks). Native vegetation will be replanted following the physical restoration work, in order to restore the natural red fir forest and mountain mule's ear—mountain monardella dry meadow communities.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THE AREA IS NOT RESTORED?

Delaying restoration would result in continued and significant resource damage to the water flow and ecology of this area. Without restoration, the abandoned downhill ski area would remain in a continually declining state, thereby compromising the Park's resource protection and restoration mission and decreasing visitor enjoyment and safety.

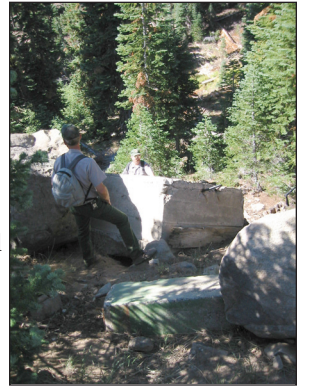
This project will restore an abandoned

developed site to a stable, functioning ecosystem by using proven, established methods of physical restoration and revegetation.

The project will take two years to complete, with the first year including concrete foundation removal, recontouring of all access roads and re-seeding. The second year will include final revegetation work.

Environmental compliance for this project was completed last winter and spring, including an Environmental Assessment and approved Finding of No Significant Impact statement, which was signed by the National Park Service Regional Director in May 2003.

For more information, please contact the Superintendent, Lassen Volcanic National Park, P.O. Box 100, Mineral, CA 96063, or call (530) 595-4444, ext. 5101 or 5170.



Upper concrete footing



Lower concrete footings

Featured Hikes

Trail guides and topographic maps are sold at contact stations. A free list of popular hiking trails is available at Park Headquarters and the Loomis Museum.



BROKEOFF MOUNTAIN

Start at the turnout .25 miles south of the Southwest Entrance. Pay your entrance fee at the self-pay station at the turnout or the Entrance Station. The round-trip distance is 7.4 miles and takes about 5 hours. The climb is a fairly steady ascent of 2600' through red fir forests, open meadows, and bare rock toward the summit. Scenery includes lush forests, wildflowers, streams, and fantastic panoramic views.

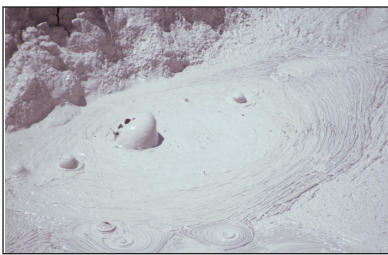
Photo: View of Lassen Peak from Brokeoff's summit



DEVIL'S KITCHEN AND BOILING SPRINGS LAKE

Start at the parking area west of Warner Valley Campground. Both hikes cover relatively easy terrain through forested areas and display unusual hydrothermal features, including some of the best mudpots in the Park. **Stay on the trail and heed warning signs.** You can take a 5.3 mile loop past Dream Lake to Devil's Kitchen or take the Devil's Kitchen trail out and back for a 4.6 mile round-trip. The trail passes through Drakesbad Meadow, a rare high-elevation fen, and goes past streams and small cascades. You can lengthen your hike by taking a side-trip to Boiling Springs Lake or take it as a separate 3 mile round-trip day hike. The full hike takes 4 hours, about 2 hours each if you do the hikes separately.

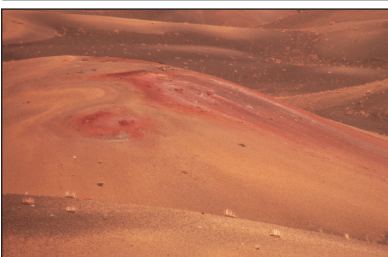
Photos: Devil's Kitchen hydrothermal area; mudpot close-up



CINDER CONE

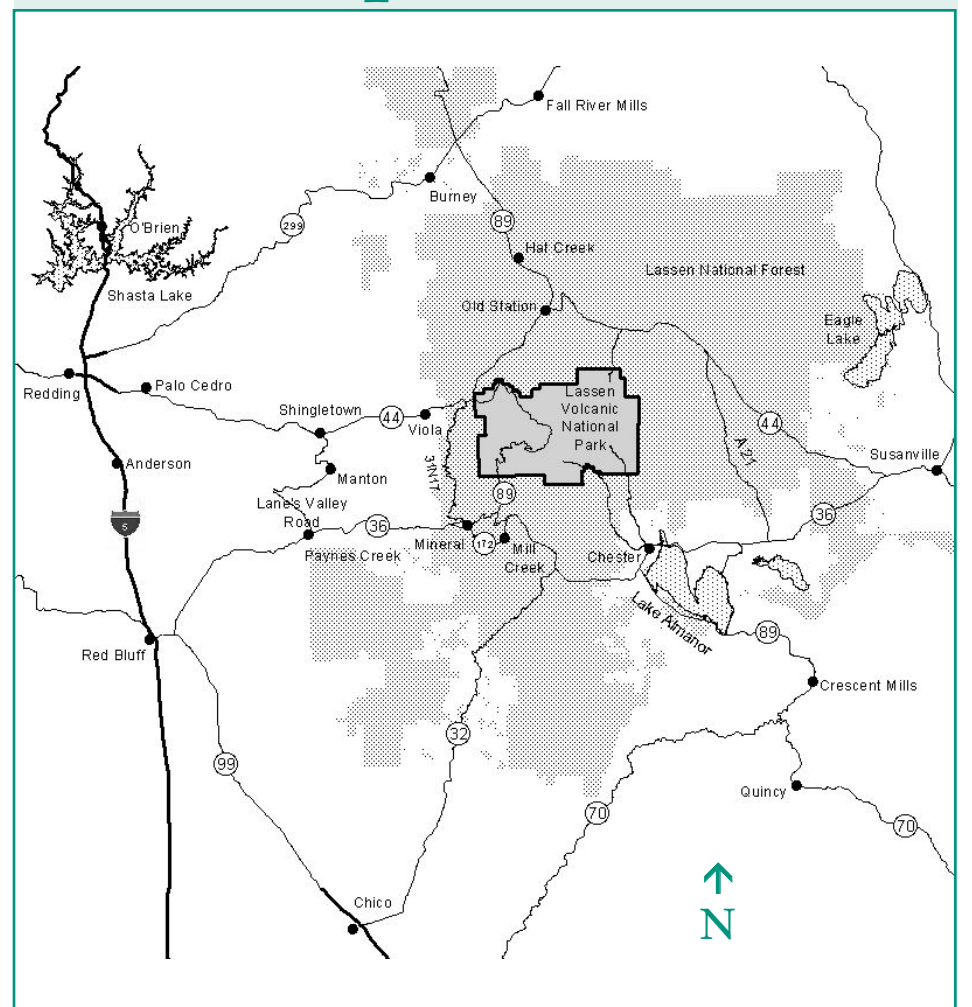
View some of the most fascinating geologic features in the Park on this 4 mile, 3 hour round-trip hike. Start at the Butte Lake boat launch. The flat, forested trail leads you along the historic Nobles Emigrant Trail and past the black bulk of the Fantastic Lava Beds. The trail then opens up for views of the colorful Painted Dunes and Cinder Cone. The hike up the cone is a strenuous 800' climb on loose cinders—hiking boots and plenty of water are a must. A trail leaflet is available.

Photo: Close-up of the Painted Dunes



Area Map

(Map not to scale)



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Lassen Volcanic National Park
P.O. Box 100
Mineral, CA 96063