



Mojave National Preserve



Issue 1

1998/1999



Welcome to Mojave

Mojave National Preserve, created on October 31, 1994, by the California Desert Protection Act, was established to preserve the outstanding natural, cultural, and scenic resources of this very special treasure while also providing for scientific, educational, and recreational interests. After visiting the Preserve, also known as "The Lonesome Triangle," between Interstate 40 and Interstate 15, you will understand and recognize the significance of this relatively undeveloped and expansive country and will better understand why this truly unique place became a unit of the National Park Service.

Mojave National Preserve is the third largest unit of the National Park Service outside of Alaska. This vast area encompasses almost 1.6 million acres and consists of a variety of landscapes, diverse ecosystems, geological phenomenon, historical sites, and recreational areas. Many visitors from all parts of the world come to the

California Desert to view the spectacular spring wildflowers and to experience the beauty of the desert, along with abundant opportunities for hiking, wildlife viewing, and limitless front and back country camping in areas largely untouched by modern-day society.

Whatever your preference may be, enjoy your visit to Mojave. If you have any feedback regarding Mojave National Preserve, please feel free to write me at Mojave National Preserve, Superintendent, 222 E. Main St., Suite 202, Barstow, CA 92311.

Mary Martin, Superintendent
Mojave National Preserve

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General Information

Mojave National Preserve Is...

...one of the newest additions to your National Parks system. Signed into law October 31, 1994 the California Desert Protection Act created the Preserve in the heart of the Mojave Desert.

...the third largest park unit outside of Alaska, comprising about 1.6 million acres.

...established to protect and preserve the outstanding natural, cultural and scenic resources of this area. The Preserve is the best place to experience the extensive variety of habitats, species and land forms unique to the Mojave Desert.

...the location of the world's largest Joshua tree forest.

...nearly half wilderness area. Wilderness designation provides areas where only foot and horse travel is permitted. These are special places where you can experience a solitude and quiet found only in wilderness.

...a vast area, encompassing a variety of landscapes, geologic features, historic sites, and recreation areas. Routes ranging from paved two-lane highways to rugged four-wheel tracks provide a network for travel throughout the Preserve. Opportunities for exploration are abundant.

Mojave National Preserve on the Web

Mojave National Preserve is on the World Wide Web at www.nps.gov/moja. Here you can find general information on visiting the Preserve, and discover many interesting things about the area. We will soon be adding a virtual field trip through Mojave geology, conducted by geologists from the United States Geologic Survey.

Emergency Phone Numbers

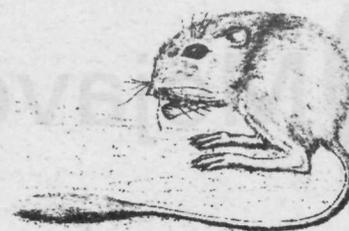
EMERGENCY	Dial 911
National Park Service Dispatch	909-383-5651

Additional Numbers

Baker Desert Information Center	760-733-4040
Needles Desert Information Center	760-326-6322
Kelso Ranger Station	760-733-4011
Hole-in-the Wall Ranger Station	760-928-2572
Mojave National Preserve Headquarters	760-255-8801
Hole-in-the-Wall Fire Center	760-928-2573
Needles Sheriff	760-326-9200
Baker Sheriff	760-256-1796
Joshua Tree National Park	760-367-5500
Death Valley National Park	760-786-2331
Lake Mead National Recreation Area	702-293-8990
Anza Borrego Desert State Park	760-767-4205



Zebra-tail Lizard



Kangaroo Rat

For More Information

Park Information Mojave National Preserve is administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. For questions on administration and management of Mojave National Preserve please contact:

Superintendent
Mojave National Preserve
222 E. Main Street, Suite 202
Barstow, CA 92311
760-255-8801

Interpretive Information You will find a park ranger, a Death Valley Natural History Association bookstore and additional information at our two Mojave National Preserve Desert Information Centers:

Mojave National Preserve Desert Information Center
72157 Baker Blvd./ PO Box 241
Baker, CA 92309
760-733-4040 (daily, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

Mojave National Preserve Desert Information Center
707 W. Broadway
Needles, CA 92363
760-326-6322 (Wed. through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

Mitchell Caverns Natural Preserve The state of California manages Mitchell Caverns located within the Providence Mountains State Recreation Area. Cavern tours are available. They also have several excellent short hiking trails. For tour times and other information contact:

Providence Mountains State Recreation Area
Mitchell Caverns Natural Preserve
PO Box 1
Essex, CA 92332
760-928-2586

Accommodations There are no motels or hotels within the Preserve. Rooms can be found in Barstow, Nipton, Needles, and Baker CA, and in Primm, NV.

Campgrounds In addition to campgrounds within the Preserve at Mid-Hills and Hole-in-the-Wall, camping facilities can be found at Providence Mountains State Recreation Area, Afton Canyon, Nipton and Park Moabi. RV campgrounds are available in Needles, CA, and in Primm, Nevada. A dump station is located at the Hole-in-the-Wall campground.

Gasoline Please plan your trip to ensure you will have enough gasoline and other supplies. There are no gas stations in the Preserve. They can be found in California along Interstate 40 at Needles, Fenner and Ludlow, along Interstate 15 at Baker, Halloran Springs and Cima Road, and in Nevada at Primm and Searchlight.

Points of Interest

Zzyzx/Soda Springs – Historically known as Soda Springs and later renamed Zzyzx (pronounced Zye-Zix), this oasis along the historic Mojave Road is today home to the California State University Desert Studies Center.

Granite Mountains - These beautiful and imposing mountains of granite are a noted area landmark.

Kelso Depot – Historic Kelso Depot was built by the Union Pacific railroad in 1924 to service the great steam locomotives that made the climb up the steep Cima grade. This Spanish mission revival style depot sits in splendid isolation along the Union Pacific Railroad, and will be restored as a visitor center.

Kelso Dunes – Forty-five square miles of sand topped by 600-foot high dunes make up the Kelso Dunes. The dunes were created by northwesterly winds blowing fine-grained sand from the Mojave River sink. A hike to the top of the dunes is a popular activity.

Cima Dome – This unusual geologic feature is an almost perfect symmetrical dome, rising 1,500 feet above the surrounding desert. The Joshua tree forest located here is the largest and densest in the world. Try the four-mile round trip hike to Teutonia Peak, which passes through a beautiful section of Joshua trees. The trailhead is located off Cima Road.

Clark Mountain – Clark Mountain is the highest point in the Preserve at 7,929 feet, and the only section of Mojave National Preserve north of Interstate 15.

Hotel Nipton – The charming Hotel Nipton, built 1904-1910, still reflects the railroad, ranching and mining history of the small community at Nipton.

Cinder Cones – This area of incredible volcanic activity has more than 30 cinder cones along with their associated lava flows. They range in age from 7 million years old to younger than 10,000 years. The Kelbaker Road passes next to one of these flows.



Kelso Depot ca. 1925

Mojave Road – This route through the desert was used by the Colorado River Mojave Indians to transport goods from the Southwest to exchange for goods from the coastal Indians such as the Chumash. Later, it served the cause of westward expansion. Forts were established, manned by US Cavalry troops, to protect key water holes and the travellers along the road. Today it is a popular four-wheel drive road through the Mojave Desert.

Rock Springs – Camp Rock Springs is perhaps best-known for being one of the most isolated and comfortless army posts in the West. In 1866 the outpost was established to provide escort riders for the US Mail and to protect travelers. This natural spring served Native Americans and later travelers crossing the Mojave Desert along the Mojave Road.

Piute Creek/Fort Piute – This free flowing stream is located on the east side of Mojave National Preserve, along the Mojave Road. A narrow ribbon of willows, cottonwoods and rushes thrive along a half-mile section of Piute creek. There are opportunities for hiking and bird watching along the stream.

Lanfair Valley – Bounded on all sides by mountains, Lanfair Valley is a uniquely high valley at about 5,000 feet. It has an outstanding Joshua tree forest and has seen much human activity including railroads, cattle ranching and homesteading. Much of the land here is private property.

New York Mountains – These rugged mountains rise above 7,500 feet and contain some of the most interesting flora in the Mojave Desert. Several good hiking areas can be found near the New York Mountains. High clearance vehicles are strongly recommended.

Hole-in-the-Wall – Two hiking trails, a campground and beautiful scenery make this a popular destination. A Ranger Station, opened seasonally, is also in the area. The ring trail is a favorite short trail.

Mid Hills – This is pinyon pine and juniper country. One of the Preserve's two campgrounds is located here, in a thick grove of trees at about 5,600 feet elevation.

Mitchell Caverns – Part of Providence Mountains State Recreation Area, these limestone caverns with many unusual formations including stalactites, stalagmites, cavern coral, cave spaghetti, flowstone, cave shields and cave ribbons. The interior cavern temperature is a constant 65 degrees. Tour times vary throughout the year, so call ahead.



Darkling Beetle - Temperature -

Mojave National Preserve

Month	Granite Mt. Elevation 4,200 feet	Zzyzx Elevation 930 feet
	Avg. Max/ Avg. Min	Avg. Max/ Avg. Min
January	50/36	61/34
February	54/38	69/40
March	59/41	74/46
April	68/48	83/53
May	75/54	93/61
June	85/63	103/70
July	90/67	109/77
August	89/66	107/75
September	83/61	100/68
October	73/52	87/55
November	59/41	73/43
December	50/34	62/34

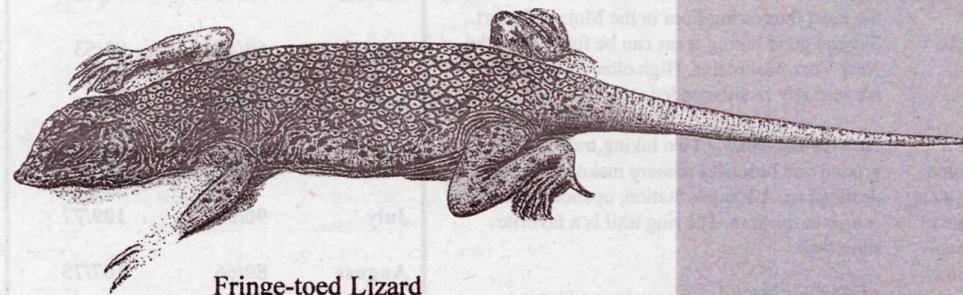
Temperatures are in farenheit. Notice how the temperatures vary greatly between the two locations at different elevations. With elevations ranging from below 1,000 feet to almost 8,000 feet, the Preserve has wide temperature variations.

Mojave National Preserve

Desert Travel Tips

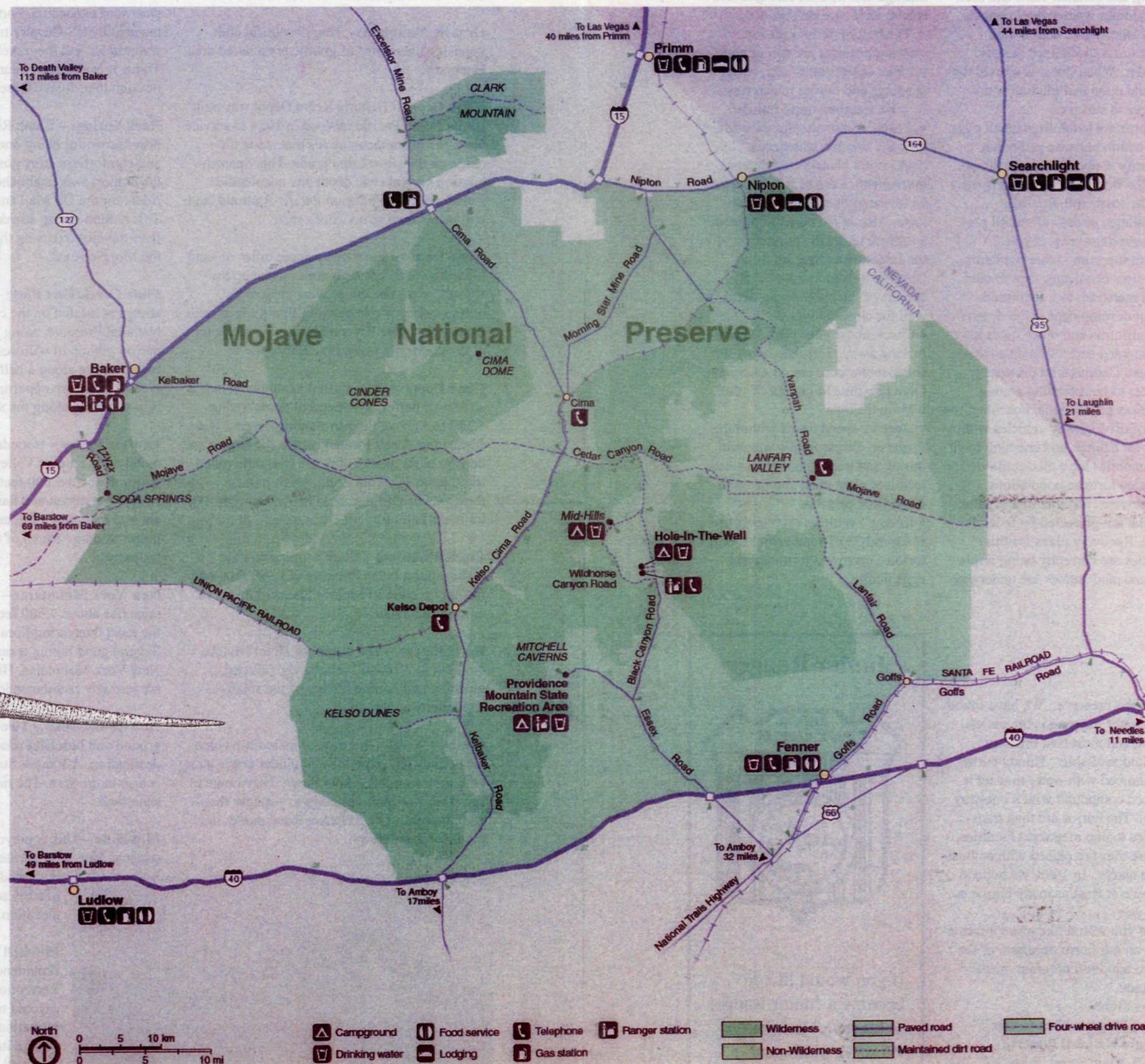
To make the most of your visit to the desert, follow these safety precautions:

- Let someone know your trip route, destination and return date.
- Be prepared. Take a minimum of one gallon of water per person per day (two gallons if you are hiking), plenty of food and sunscreen, proper clothing and a first aid kit.
- Ensure your vehicle is in good condition. Check your tires and gas gauge before your leave. Take a tire jack, tools and towrope or chain. There are no gas stations in the Preserve.
- Stay on the roads. Travel off any roads is illegal. Just a few feet in soft sand can sink a vehicle, even four-wheel drive vehicles.
- Never go alone. Always take a companion, especially if you are not familiar with the area.



Fringe-toed Lizard

Road conditions within Mojave National Preserve vary widely. Check maps or ask a park ranger to ensure that your car is appropriate for a specific road. Many high clearance/4-wheel drive roads are isolated. Prepare ahead of time. Much of the Preserve is open range for cattle and burros. You may see them walking on or near roads, and a collision between cars and animals can be deadly to all concerned. **Reduce speeds in these areas.**



Do's And Don'ts

- **Private property and cattle grazing** are found throughout Mojave National Preserve. Respect the rights of our neighbors: receive permission before hunting, hiking or entering private property. Most grazing allotments are on public land. This land is open to the public, but please don't disturb cattle or any improvements associated with the ranching industry. Please do close cattle gates on area roads.

- The Preserve contains hundreds of miles of established dirt roads, perfect for motorists and mountain bikes. **Vehicles, including motorcycles and bicycles, are permitted on open roads only.** Respect all wilderness boundary markers while driving. All motorized vehicles must be 'street legal' having valid license plates, insurance and highway registration. Motorized/mechanized vehicles are prohibited from entering any federal wilderness area. Bikes are not allowed on any trails.

- Wood is very scarce in the desert; the **collecting or cutting of any wood is not permitted.** Campfires are allowed in fire rings in developed campgrounds and other established sites. Firewood, including kindling, must be brought in. If you are back country or roadside camping please use a camp stove or build a pan fire to avoid scarring the open desert and the potential of starting a wildfire. To build a pan fire, use wood or charcoal within a metal container such as a garbage can lid. By building a fire in such a container, the ashes and coals can be disposed of properly and safely.

- **Pets must be confined or on a leash** no longer than six feet at all times. Pets are not allowed in wilderness areas, with the exception of using dogs for hunting. Be aware of extreme heat when considering leaving pets in vehicles or trailers.

- Plan your trip ahead of time to ensure you have enough gasoline and other supplies. **There are no gas stations in the Preserve,** but in California they can be found along Interstate 40 in Needles, Fenner and Ludlow, along Interstate 15 at Baker, Halloran Springs and Cima Road, and in Nevada at Primm and Searchlight.

- There is **no target shooting** within the Preserve.

- **Nearly 50% of Mojave National Preserve is federally designated wilderness.** Wilderness areas offer an opportunity to escape the sights and sounds of civilization and experience the solitude that only the wilderness can provide. Cars, bicycles, and other mechanized vehicles are not allowed. An exception is made for non-motorized wheelchairs. Exploration by foot or on horse is encouraged to experience the scenic beauty of these special places.

Resource Management

The California Desert Tortoise

by Kelly Mee, Resource Management Specialist

The desert tortoise is well adapted to survival in the harsh environment of the Mojave desert. This long-lived reptile makes the most of limited food and water resources. Officially declared a threatened species by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the desert tortoise faces challenges to its continued survival now and

in the future. Efforts are underway to protect populations and improve habitats for this and many other species.

It's scaly reptilian skin is tough and protects against water loss. The tortoise's sharp claws and strong legs provide the tools needed to dig deep burrows in sandy soils. Tortoises depend on

water-rich grasses, plants, and flowers for food. Tortoises relish spring and summer rains and seek out puddles where water collects. They store water within their bodies in a specialized urinary bladder. When water is scarce, they depend upon this internal water reserve to survive.

Tortoises hatch from small eggs laid within burrows and reach maturity at about 15 years of age. For the first five years, life is risky for the small soft-shelled hatchlings, as they often fall prey to common ravens, coyotes, roadrunners, and other predators. Tortoises of all ages face threats from mankind, too. Increased urban development in the deserts of California and other states have fragmented and reduced suitable habitat. Certain fatal diseases appear to be spreading among tortoise populations. Poaching, the use of off-highway vehicles within tortoise habitat, and crushing by automobiles have also continued to threaten tortoise populations.

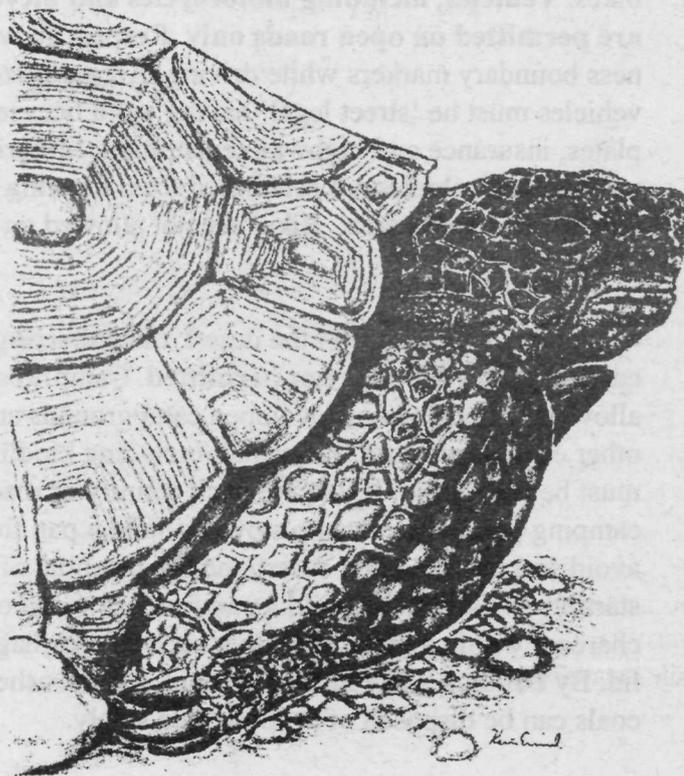
Tortoises and their designated habitat are protected by federal laws. Recovery plans for this species are currently being implemented, and studies are underway

to discover more about the tortoise's life cycle and how to best manage this wildlife resource and ensure its long-term survival.

The best opportunities for viewing tortoises are spring and summer season mornings, early evenings and during rainstorms.

Remember these points:

- Please do not attempt to handle a tortoise. When frightened, it empties its bladder as a defense mechanism. Loss of this important water can prove fatal to the tortoise. Also, it is unlawful to handle a tortoise under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act. Observe it from a distance. Binoculars or telephoto lenses work well for close-up views.
- Check under your vehicle before driving away. Tortoises enjoy the shade under your car on a hot day. Give him time to get out of your way on his own.
- Observe speed limits within the Preserve. Be especially watchful during and after rainstorms, when tortoises often enter roadways to drink from puddles.
- Keep all vehicles on established roads only. Off-road vehicles crush tortoise burrows, tortoises and eggs within.



Desert Tortoise

The Mojave National Preserve Burro Project

by Chris Stubbs, Burro Program Coordinator

Did you know that there are more than 1,000 wild burros currently living in the Preserve? Descendants of the Nubian and Somali wild ass (*equus asinus*) of northeastern Africa, burros were domesticated for use as beasts of burden. Spanish explorers introduced the domesticated burro to North America in the 16th century. Wild burro populations soon became established in the arid southwest corner of the United States, and have increased to the point they are damaging our desert ecosystems.

The 1,100 burros currently living within the Preserve consume approximately 6.8 million pounds of vegetation each year. Burros are prolific breeders; herd sizes can increase at rates ranging from 11 to 29 per cent each year. Some native

plant species are being eliminated and others reduced in their range, and the competition for food is affecting sensitive species like the bighorn sheep.

Of particular concern are the impacts the burro herds is having on the threatened desert tortoise. Approximately half of the Preserve's 1.6 million acres is listed as critical habitat for the tortoise, and burros are damaging this important tortoise range. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has developed a recovery plan for the desert tortoise that states one of its goals is the removal of all burros from critical habitat.

To address this problem we have initiated a burro capture program. During a one-month period in September 1997, 600 burros were captured and removed

from the Preserve. We have found that water trapping is the easiest, safest and most cost efficient method available. Thirsty burros are enticed with water to enter a fenced compound with a one-way gate. The burros are then transported to one of several facilities, where they are placed with enthusiastic takers. In 1998, we hope to remove at least as many burros as last year.

If you would like more information on our burro program, or the burro adoption program, please contact:

Chris Stubbs
Burro Program Coordinator
Mojave National Preserve
222 E. Main Street, Suite 202
Barstow, CA 92311
760-255-8815

Junior Ranger



If you would like to become a Junior Ranger at Mojave National Preserve please call a Park Ranger at 760-733-4040.

Camping

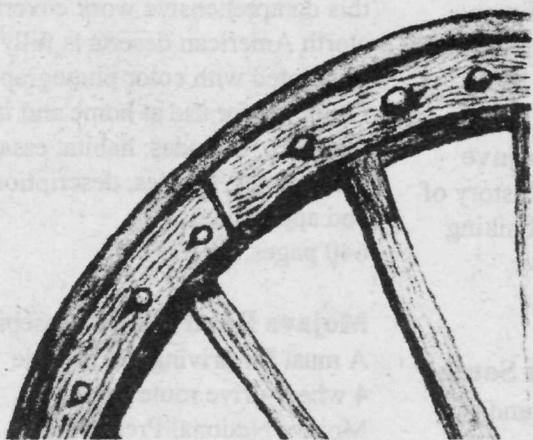
There are many opportunities for camping within Mojave National Preserve. There are two developed campgrounds, and a group campground. Each site has a picnic table and a fire ring. Spaces are available on a first come/first served basis for a \$10 per site per night fee. Fees for Golden Age/Access Passport holders are \$5 per site per night. The Black Canyon Equestrian & Group Campground, located at Hole-in-the-Wall, is available by reservation for \$20 per night. Please call (760)733-4040 for reservations.

Vegetation in the desert is sparse, so no collection of firewood or other burn material is permitted. Open fires are permitted in established campgrounds, if you bring your own firewood. Please do not leave fires smoldering or unattended. Portable stoves are permitted. For hunters, firearms must be unloaded in the campgrounds. Our water supply is seasonal, so please only use what you need. The group camp has no developed water source, so campers are advised to bring their own water or containers for transporting water from the developed campground. Always carry enough water for yourself, guests, pets and vehicles.

There is also a small campground at the Providence Mountains State Recreation Area. Camping facilities can also be found at Afton Canyon, Nipton and Park Moabi. RV campgrounds are available in Needles, CA and Primm, NV.

Hole-in-the-Wall

The Hole-in-the-Wall Campground, located at 4,400 feet elevation and surrounded by sculptured volcanic rock walls, is a wonderful spot for camping. It has 35 campsites with areas large enough for motorhomes and trailers, and two walk-in tent sites. Facilities include pit toilets, picnic tables, fire rings, trashcans, and drinkable water on a limited basis. There are no utility hookups but there is a sanitary disposal station.



Mid Hills Campground

Nestled in pinyon pine and juniper trees at 5,600 feet, Mid Hills Campground is much cooler than the desert floor below. It is well located for hiking and sightseeing. There are 26 campsites and facilities include pit toilets, picnic tables, fire rings, trashcans, and drinkable water on a limited basis. The road to the campground is not paved and is not recommended for motorhomes or trailers.

Backcountry Camping

Backpackers and hikers can camp within the Preserve by going at least half a mile from any developed area or road and a quarter of a mile from water sources. At this time we have no official registration system, so let someone know where you are. Backcountry camping is limited to a 14-day stay. Few trail signs exist, so take a good map and become familiar with the area you are about to camp in. Do not set up in a drainage or dry wash as flash floods can develop quickly in the desert.

Roadside Camping

Roadside or car camping is permitted within Mojave National Preserve in areas that have been traditionally used for this purpose. Camping tramples vegetation, and by picking sites that have been already been used for camping you help protect the desert from further damage. Do not camp along paved roads or day use areas, and stay at least a quarter mile away from all water sources. Please respect the rights of private property owners.

Directions to some of Mojave National Preserve's Roadside Camping Areas:

- Rainy Day Mine Site (3-4 sites) – 15.2 miles south of Baker on Kelbaker Road. Go 0.3 miles north of Kelbaker Road on the road leading to the Rainy Day Mine. 4x4 vehicles only. No RVs.
- Black Canyon Road (3-4 sites) – 5.2 miles south of Hole-in-the-Wall Ranger Station on the east side of Black Canyon Road.
- Granite Pass – 6.1 miles north of I-40 on Kelbaker Road. Just north of Granite Pass you will find the access roads on the west side of the road. Sites are located just north of the granite spires.
- Caruthers Canyon (4-6 sites) – 5.5 miles west of Ivanpah Road on New York Mountains Road. 1.5 to 2.7 miles north of New York Mountains Road to campsites. RVs not recommended.
- Sunrise Rock – 10.4 miles south of I-15 on east side of Cima Road. Trail head for Teutonia Peak trail is nearby on opposite side of Cima Road.



Chuckwalla

Hiking

Hiking is encouraged on all public lands within Mojave National Preserve. Among the best hikes is the Mid Hills to Hole-in-the-Wall Trail. This eight-mile trail (one-way) will take you through beautiful scenery, with numerous spectacular views of the mountains that surround the area. Among the plant communities you will walk through are pinyon pine and juniper woodlands, Great Basin sagebrush, blackbrush scrub and several cactus gardens. The trail has a 1,200-foot elevation loss from the Mid Hills trailhead to Hole-in-the-Wall Visitor Center, so if you like hiking downhill start at Mid Hills. The trail is signed, but it requires a good eye to stay on course as it enters and leaves washes. Shuttle vehicles can be parked at the Hole-in-the-Wall Visitor Center or Wild Horse Canyon Trailhead. Another favorite trail is the Teutonia Peak Trail, on Cima Dome. The trail is about 4 miles round trip, and wanders through a wonderful Joshua tree forest.

Hiking Tips

When hiking, be sure to carry plenty of water and drink it freely, especially in hot weather. There is no water available on the trails. Adequate clothing, including a broad-brimmed hat and sunglasses, should be worn for protection from the sun. Apply sunscreen liberally and wear sturdy shoes. Be careful where you step and place your hands: poisonous snakes live in the area. Let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return. Non-road portions of trails are closed to bicycles, motorcycles and motorized vehicles. Former roads in wilderness provide many outstanding trails.

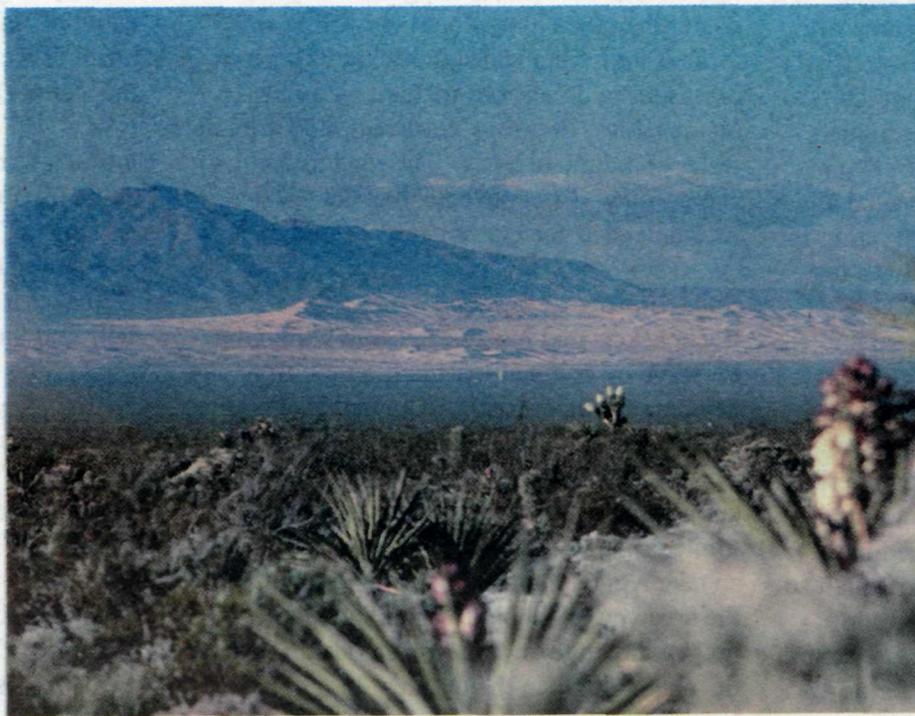
Ancient Mojave landscapes

David M. Miller, Geologist, U.S. Geological Survey

Outstanding examples of desert landscapes in Mojave National Preserve tell a story of slow wearing-away of rock and of ancient rivers, lakes, and blowing sand. Although some rocks in the Preserve are nearly two billion years old - nearly half the age of the Earth - its scenic land surfaces formed quite recently. This article is about this recent history (at least, 20 million years is recent in geologic time!).

The Mid Hills area around Hole-in-the-Wall and Pinto Mountain displays some of the oldest landscapes of the desert-about 20 million years old. Layered volcanic rocks flowed across an old, nearly flat, eroded surface. Afterward, streams eroded away most of the volcanic rocks, cutting down to the original flat surface. We now see remnants of volcanic rocks on this re-exposed surface. For example, strikingly layered rocks of Pinto Mountain lie on the flat erosional surface of Round Valley.

Younger eroded land surfaces stretch through the Cima to Baker area. Broad, gentle dome shaped surfaces such as Cima Dome stand alone, or are capped by volcanic cinder cones and lava flows. These impressive domes formed from stacks of rock that once were tilted up along faults like giant dominoes several miles wide. Streams slowly wore away rock and gravel deposits to form the domes. The domes had been sculpted to shapes



Kelso Dunes:

much like those of today by 7 million years ago. At that time, lavas slowly coursed down the gentle side slopes to preserve the original shapes. Try exploring the dozens of cinder cones and lava flows in this area!

Old flat and domed land surfaces developed when the weather was wetter than today's, and the land looked more like the broad, grassy savannas of Africa. About 4 million years ago the weather changed to drier conditions. As the San Andreas fault behind Los Angeles compressed the earth, the massive Transverse Ranges were

Photo by Lance Shows

pushed high in the air. The mountains blocked much of the incoming moisture, transforming the lands behind this rain shadow to deserts. Other than the old examples of land surfaces described above, most of the canyons, mountains, and alluvial fans of the Preserve developed behind this newly formed rain shadow.

Valleys formed in the desert rain shadow from about 5 million to 500 thousand years ago by uplift of mountains along faults and by streams wearing away the land. These valleys include Ivanpah Valley and the Kelso and Soda

Lake areas. Although it was now a dry desert, the area experiences very active erosion. Despite the unchanging appearance of the desert, it has the most active land surfaces on earth! Following long winter rainfalls and brief summer thunderstorms, water flows as sheets across entire alluvial fans, fills "dry" washes to the brim, and fills mountain gullies and washes with destructive cascades of muddy rock mixtures the consistency of cement.

Although the Preserve is exceedingly dry, a river sometimes flows through it. The Mojave River starts in the Transverse Ranges, where unusually wet winters provide rushing water all the way to Soda Lake. The river expands across Soda Lake's dry bed as a huge, shallow lake. As a result, wet weather hundreds of miles away can fill a lake in this part of the desert! As the lake dries out, sand and dust dumped there by the river is carried by winds to replenish Kelso Dunes. During wetter periods (10,000 to 30,000 years ago) the river flowed continuously to form a lake 30 feet deep. That lake overflowed all the way to Death Valley.

Dunes, rivers, and lakes all result from intense storm events like the El Nino event of 1997-98, and have shaped the desert land over the past 20 million years.

Natural History Association Publications

The Death Valley Natural History Association (DVNHA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing visitors to Death Valley National Park and Mojave National Preserve with a quality educational experience. On this page you will find suggested offerings from our publications, chosen to help you plan your visit to Mojave National Preserve.

You can find these books at the Mojave National Preserve Desert Information Centers in Needles and Baker, or you can phone in orders to (760)786-3285.

Hiking California's Desert Parks (Cunningham and Burke) Contains 111 of the best hikes and backpacking trips in Mojave National Preserve, Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Parks, and Anza Borrego Desert State Park. Includes day hikes, extended backpack trip and off-trail exploration information, descriptions, maps and elevation charts. 374 pages. \$16.95

Mojave Desert Wildflowers (Stewart) Beautiful photographs and excellent descriptions make this a must for the wildflower and plant enthusiast. 210 pages. \$14.95

Map: Recreation Map of the Mojave National Preserve (Harrison) Shaded relief map includes campgrounds, roads, trails and historic landmarks. \$6.95

Walking The East Mojave (McKinney and Rae) A history of the area, and driving and hiking suggestions in the Mojave. 224 pages. \$12.00

Geology Underfoot in Southern California (Sharp and Glazner) An inside view of the southland's often active, sometimes enigmatic, and always interesting landscapes. 224 pages. \$12.00

Deserts (MacMahon) A National Audubon Society Nature Guide, this comprehensive work covering North American deserts is fully illustrated with color photographs. Designed for use at home and in the field. Includes: habitat essays, color plates, species, descriptions, and appendices. 640 pages. \$19.95

Mojave Road Guide (Casebier) A must for driving the historic 4 wheel-drive route through Mojave National Preserve. 232 pages. \$18.50

Artwork courtesy of
Kevin Emmerich