

1. Build no fires. Chemical stoves approved. No smoking on trails.
2. Camp only in a campsite designated by a brown 4x4 post.
3. Respect wilderness quiet and solitude.
4. Pack out all trash and garbage.
5. Dispose of waste water and wash dishes at least 100 feet from any stream, spring, or faucet.
6. Group size limited to 15 people. Each group must camp apart from other groups.
7. Horsemen must pack in their own feed. Grazing in the meadows is prohibited.
8. Dogs are not permitted in the State wilderness.
9. The use of motorized vehicles is prohibited.
10. Possession of firearms, bows, or slingshots prohibited.

#### Wilderness Rules

Snow normally covers the ground December through April, with depths over ten feet at the higher elevations; high winds and temperatures below zero are common. So if you plan to visit the wilderness during the winter, come well equipped — hikers and campers should have waterproof boots, heavy clothing, skis or snowshoes, extra food, a map, and a compass. Campers should also have a four-season tent and a sleeping bag designed for use at or below 0° F. Nearly every winter, a death occurs in the wilderness that could have been prevented with the proper equipment and knowledge. Don't become a victim!

#### The Winter Wilderness

accepted up to 8 weeks (56 days) in advance. Day hiking permits (and, if space allows, camping permits) are available on day of entry at the Long Valley Ranger Station or at park headquarters.

The growing season is short in the Mount San Jacinto high country and plant life has little opportunity to recover from heavy use during the summer months. In recognition of this fact, and in order to preserve the wildness and beauty of the back country, carrying capacities for the wilderness campgrounds have been determined, and a wilderness permit system has been established.

#### Wilderness Permits

In keeping with the park's wilderness concept, the campground with tables and stoves, piped drinking water and pit toilets are nearby. These campsites can be reserved for summer stays at Ticketron outlets throughout the state.

#### Wilderness Camping

Each individual or group must obtain a wilderness permit before entering the wilderness. Permits to camp are issued to individuals or groups of up to 15 persons according to the carrying capacities that have been established for wilderness camp areas. Camp capacity limitations do not apply to day hikers, but all groups — day-use or overnight — must conform to the 15-person limit, and youth groups must have at least one adult leader if the group is less than ten in number, two adult leaders if the group consists of ten or more individuals.

At the Idyllwild Campground each of the 33 campsites has a table, stove, and food locker. Piped drinking water and restrooms with showers are nearby. These sites are popular in the summer and remain open, though with fewer facilities, during the winter. There are 50 campsites at the Stone Creek

#### Roadside Camping

An extensive trail system has been developed over the years, much of it built by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the 1930s. The trails have been designed to minimize their impact on scenic and wilderness values. Among the most popular trails are the Deer Springs Trail and the Devil's Slide Trail, part of which lies outside the park on United States Forest Service land.

#### Hiking

The area was at one time the seasonal hunting ground for a large Indian population that lived in its wooded canyons and protected valleys, and on the nearby desert. Their trails still cross the mountain, and several village sites have been located in or near the park. Idyllwild, for instance, was a camping place long before the arrival of the Spaniards or other Europeans. Rocks with carved or painted designs that date back hundreds and perhaps thousands of years also give evidence of long-term human habitation within and outside the park. Speculation continues concerning both the origin and the possible significance of these designs.

A number of bighorn sheep live on the steeply sloped eastern side of the mountain, while in the high country there are deer, mountain lions, coyotes, gray foxes, raccoons, skunks, and other animals. During the period of severe storms in winter, the larger animals drift down to the edges of the snowline, while the smaller ones (squirrels, raccoons, skunks, etc.) either hibernate or spend considerable time in their dens waiting for spring. Birdlife is abundant because of the wide variety of habitats found in the park.

cedars, white firs, and Coulter, Jeffrey, ponderosa, and sugar pines. At higher elevations there are lodgepole and limber pines.

plunges down nine thousand feet in less than six miles, making it one of the sheerest and most spectacular escarpments in North America. Directly below the mountain is Palm Springs and the oasis of Coachella Valley. The view sweeps on to the desert beyond Palm Springs and extends southeast to the Salton Sea and on into the Imperial Valley with its flanking mountain ranges. The famous landscape architect who directed the first California State Park Survey, Frederick Law Olmsted, said the view was "unmatched in its impressiveness elsewhere in the United States." John Muir called it "the most sublime spectacle to be found anywhere on this earth."

It is the highest peak in the San Jacinto Range and rises 10,804 feet above sea level. The peak of Mount San Jacinto — a giant, often snow-capped crag marked by great upthrusts of weathered granite — rises 10,804 feet above sea level. The peak of Mount San Jacinto — a giant, often snow-capped crag marked by great upthrusts of weathered granite — rises 10,804 feet above sea level.

The major portion of the unit is wilderness, its values to be held inviolate for the use, inspiration, and enjoyment of the people. The park has roads and no motor vehicles are allowed in the back country; however, an excellent system of riding and hiking trails has been developed, and horses are available at Idyllwild. Interpretive programs are also offered to give a better understanding and appreciation of this area's natural magnificence.

Mount San Jacinto State Park — the heart of an extensive wilderness area high in the San Jacinto Mountains — is about two hours' drive from either Los Angeles or San Diego. The 13,521-acre park with its granite peaks, subalpine forests, and fern-bordered mountain meadows offers the best opportunity south of the Sierra Nevada to enjoy a primitive high-country experience.



Aerial Tramway

The Palm Springs Aerial Tramway is the largest and longest single-lift passenger tramway in the world. Built by the Mount San Jacinto Winter Park Authority, a state agency, the 4-km. (2.5-mi.) tramway took over two and a half years to construct and cost more than \$9 million. It opened to public use in 1963.

Starting in Chino Canyon near Palm Springs, the tram takes passengers from Valley Station, 2,643 feet above sea level, to elevation 8,516 at Mountain Station on the edge of the Mount San Jacinto wilderness area. The two totally enclosed, Swiss-made cars hold 80 passengers each and operate on a fifteen-minute schedule, one car going up as the other comes down. From November to June the tram operates seven days a week from 10 a.m. till 7:30 p.m. Between June and November the tram is closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. There are restaurants, coffee shops, gift shops, and lobby facilities at both stations.



Mt. San Jacinto State Park  
P. O. Box 308  
Idyllwild, California 92349  
Phone (714) 659-2607

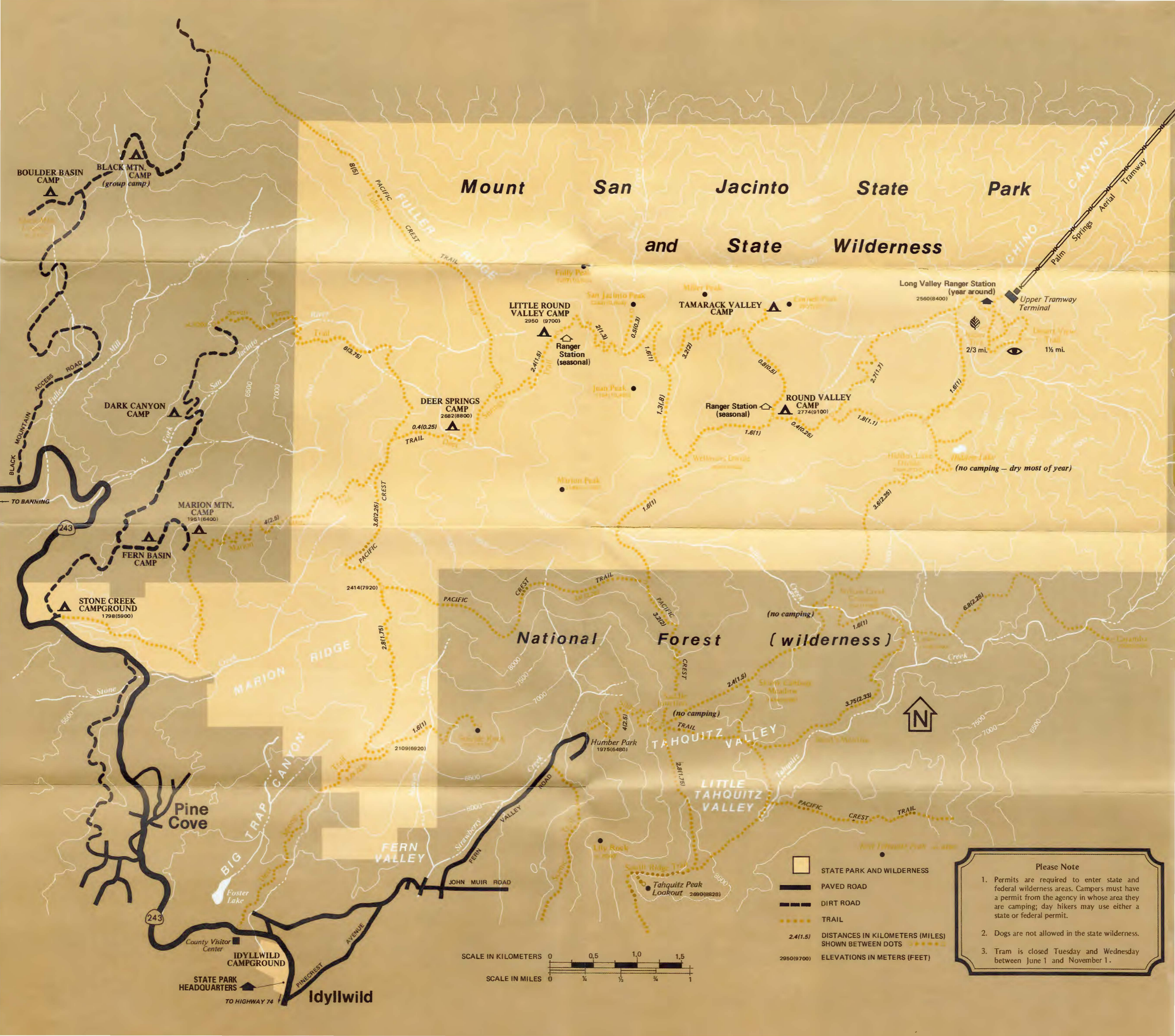


department of parks & recreation  
State of California—the Resources Agency  
P.O. Box 2390 • Sacramento, 95811



mount  
san jacinto

State Park  
State Wilderness



# Mount San Jacinto State Park and State Wilderness

**LITTLE ROUND VALLEY CAMP**  
2950 (9700)

**TAMARACK VALLEY CAMP**

**Long Valley Ranger Station**  
(year around)  
2550(8400)

**DEER SPRINGS CAMP**  
2682(8800)

**ROUND VALLEY CAMP**  
2774(9100)

**MARION MTN. CAMP**  
1951(6400)

**STONE CREEK CAMPGROUND**  
1798(5900)

## National Forest (wilderness)

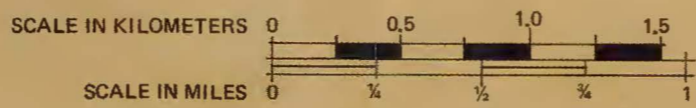
**Pine Cove**

**IDYLLWILD CAMPGROUND**

**STATE PARK HEADQUARTERS**

**Idyllwild**

- STATE PARK AND WILDERNESS
- PAVED ROAD
- DIRT ROAD
- TRAIL
- 2.4(1.5) DISTANCES IN KILOMETERS (MILES) SHOWN BETWEEN DOTS
- 2950(9700) ELEVATIONS IN METERS (FEET)



**Please Note**

- Permits are required to enter state and federal wilderness areas. Campers must have a permit from the agency in whose area they are camping; day hikers may use either a state or federal permit.
- Dogs are not allowed in the state wilderness.
- Tram is closed Tuesday and Wednesday between June 1 and November 1.