



The Whiskeytown Nugget

The official newspaper
of Whiskeytown National Recreation Area
Summer 2008

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Safeguarding the Old Growth Forests of Whiskeytown

by Jennifer Gibson, Ecologist

Magnificent forests of spreading oaks and giant mixed conifers that were once maintained with fire by local Native Americans . . . heavily logged areas covered with stumps, landings and deteriorating skid and haul roads . . . evidence of the exclusion of fire . . . and forest communities that are being restored with prescribed fire . . .

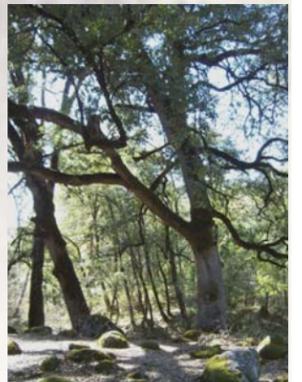
Did you know that you can find all of these within Whiskeytown National Recreation Area?

Whiskeytown's many forest types provide visitors with a snapshot of what forests used to look like before the arrival of European settlers and demonstrate the degree and extent to which they have been impacted.

OLD GROWTH CONIFEROUS FORESTS

The seven railroad sections within Whiskeytown were not logged and did not have roads put in, making most of them virtually inaccessible to this day. There is one section that you can drive to at Coggins Park, located on the western side of Whiskeytown. Giant old incense cedar, sugar pine, ponderosa pine, white fir, and Douglas fir codominate here. Some of these trees are more than 400 years old and reach up to 150 feet in height.

A fire history project near Coggins Park conducted by UC Berkeley determined that the earliest fire scar on a tree dated to 1663. The study found that fires in the old growth conifers were relatively small in size and occurred frequently, approximately every 12-15 years. These fires were probably ignited by lightning strikes and the local Native American tribe, the Wintu. Fires could have been set for a variety of reasons, such as reducing brush and encouraging the growth of food plants and basketry materials.

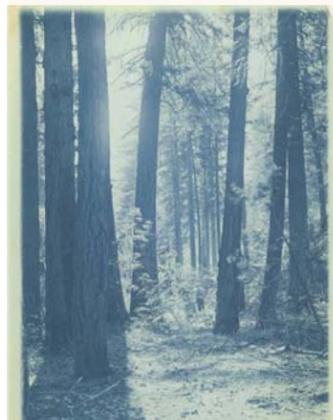


Canyon live oaks on Brandy Creek.

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HOW THEY ALL CAME TOGETHER

When Whiskeytown National Recreation Area was established by Congress in 1965, the original boundaries of the park only included the newly created Whiskeytown Lake and about 3,000 acres of land immediately surrounding the water. When the rumor got out that the park was going to increase in size to encompass the surrounding landscape, private land owners began extracting timber as quickly as possible before the 1972 boundary change was enacted.



Grove of large pines early 1900s

In addition to purchasing private lands, Whiskeytown inherited seven sections that were once owned by the railroad. In the 1870s, Central Pacific Railroad was given land grants in exchange for laying track in the West. These land grants were an incentive to expedite the settlement of this new frontier and were distributed in alternate sections, like a checkerboard, so that one section went to the railroad, and the next was given to the government or bought by private citizens.

Will Global Climate Change Affect Whiskeytown?

Global climate change is a complex and for some, a controversial topic. What scientific data clearly shows is that temperatures are rising almost everywhere on the planet. There are still many questions and many predictions about the future, some of which are contradictory, but that doesn't mean we should ignore the issue.

How will global climate change affect Whiskeytown? The short answer to that is "We don't know." Will Whiskeytown's average temperatures increase? Will that happen in both summer and winter? Will daytime or nighttime temperatures change the most? Will rainfall increase or decrease? Will the rainy season lengthen or shorten? Will there be less snow and more rain?

Models and predictions try to answer those questions and more, and they are good ways for us to prepare for the future. One of the things needed is good data. In 2001, the National Park Service, park staff and researchers at Whiskeytown began inventorying and monitoring the natural resources and conditions found within National Park sites including Whiskeytown. This "Inventorying and Monitoring" program first looked at all the plants, animals and conditions in the park. Next, some "indicator" species were picked to focus attention on, with the intention that by monitoring these, the condition of the whole could be correctly measured. Data is coming in.

Fortunately, we already have some good data that includes temperature and rainfall, tree ring studies, historic wildfire frequency studies and other research. Combined with newer data, we can start to put pieces of the puzzle together.

While it would be very helpful to have a completed puzzle with enough data to draw definitive conclusions and take decisive actions, for the most part, we aren't there yet.

So what should we do now?

No matter what the data shows, one decisive action each of us can take is to conserve. The American values that drove the creation of National Parks, and the National Park Service back in 1916 were the conservation and stewardship of resources for the benefit of all Americans.

Our conservation and stewardship values are just as important today. Reducing our personal use of resources, using less energy, and releasing less carbon will help. We can all make a difference.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Whiskeytown National
Recreation Area

Whiskeytown Dam was dedicated in 1963 by President John F. Kennedy. Whiskeytown Lake was created as part of the Central Valley Project for the purposes of flood control, irrigation, and power generation. With more than 40,000 acres in a mountain lake setting, Whiskeytown is home to a variety of wildlife.

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Publication of this paper was made possible by a donation from Western National Parks Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting interpretive efforts of the National Park Service.

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Superintendent's Corner

Jim Milestone
Park Superintendent



Welcome to Whiskeytown National Recreation Area! We have been preparing the park for months for our summer season visitors by hiring our summer seasonal staff, volunteer interns and making plans for our summer projects. Forever Resorts Concessioner is again serving the visitors at the park's two marinas and managing the Oak Bottom Campground. The National Park Service just completed installing new concrete docks at Oak Bottom Marina, replacing the old wooden docks. New docks will follow at Brandy Creek Marina as we work in partnership with Forever Resorts to bring you quality services.

This past spring, the park celebrated Waterfall Week and led over 600 children up to Whiskeytown, Brandy Creek and Boulder Creek waterfalls. Not only were we celebrating the natural beauty of the park's waterfalls, but we were showing children nature through healthy exercise by exploring the spectacular waterfalls.

The park has many challenges including a major educational effort to stop the spread of the exotic Quagga mussel from entering Northern California lakes. We are also trying to stop Mexican cartels from using some remote areas of Whiskeytown to grow illegal marijuana. Finally, we continue to educate the public on keeping the waters of Whiskeytown Lake as clean as possible, by not feeding the geese and ensuring that children wear swim diapers and life jackets when they enter the lake.

An 8-person Student Conservation Association (SCA) trail crew is working hard through the summer to construct the new Shasta Trinity Trail through the ancient forest of Whiskeytown. This is the fourth summer of SCA's working on the park's waterfall trails and their work on this trail is a major effort to link the City of Redding with the Trinity Alps Wilderness Area. Enjoy the lake and the park's backcountry trails and we hope you have a wonderful time at Whiskeytown!

Old Growth

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After 1850, these fires dropped off dramatically as the Gold Rush brought in a flood of prospectors. The displacement of the native people by the new settlers was most likely a significant factor in the decrease of fire frequency in the Whiskeytown area.

OLD GROWTH OAK WOODLANDS

As you hike through the park, look for large oak trees with spreading limbs. These oaks most likely grew in open conditions with lots of sunlight. Native Americans especially valued tan oak, black oak, and canyon live oak for their acorns, which was the main food staple of many tribes. They used fire to enhance acorn production and to maintain the sunny conditions in which the oaks grew.



Dense growth from fire suppression.

A good place to see a variety of old growth oak areas is the Brandy Creek drainage. Canyon live oak woodlands beautify the beginning of the Brandy Creek Falls Trail and tan oaks begin to dominate areas along the upper portions of the trail. Near Sheep Camp, there is an area that was once a spectacular stand of large oaks and open understory maintained by the Wintu with fire. Perhaps the area received its name from early settlers who chose to graze sheep there because the open conditions provided abundant forage for their livestock. Today, due to the almost complete lack of fire, the area is shady and many smaller trees can be found.

FIRE SUPPRESSION AND OVERCROWDED FORESTS

Aggressive fire suppression began in the early 1900s. Without frequent fire to burn out the understory, smaller trees and shrubs are now densely packed around the remaining old growth trees. In many areas, you can barely walk between them. The little trees compete with large oaks and mixed conifers for water, light and nutrients. Bigger trees need a lot more energy to support their large size; eventually they become stressed and may die from the competition. Examples of encroaching trees, mostly



Grizzly Gulch 1940's.

Douglas and white firs, can be seen along the trails to Whiskeytown Falls, Boulder Creek Falls, and Brandy Creek Falls.

LOGGING

One of the most heavily logged areas of the park is along the trail to Whiskeytown Falls. Significant portions of the trail are actually old haul roads and there are a few flat, wide spots or *landings* where logs were loaded onto trucks. . . . Many of the trees that you see now date back to the 1940s and 1950s, which is about the time the area was logged for its old growth ponderosa pines, incense cedars, Douglas firs and sugar pines. The remaining trees were probably left because they were small and not very valuable at the time. When the larger trees were cut down, sunny conditions returned and reduced the competition so that these remnant trees could grow rapidly. Without the role of frequent fire, Douglas firs have encroached in and around these residual trees. In many areas of the park, the combination of fire exclusion and past timber practices have fostered an entirely different plant community to spring up in what used to be old growth mixed conifer.

REINTRODUCTION OF FIRE

In 1985, Whiskeytown began reintroducing fire to the landscape in a series of prescribed burns. To view a recent prescribed burn in one of the park's high elevation forest types, pack some food, water and a good pair of boots, and drive up to Coggins Park. From there, hike east along the old road that skirts the north side of Shasta Bally. Along the south side of the road, stumps are evidence of sections that were logged in the late 1950's and early 1960's. As you hike farther, you will see giant mixed conifer trees that are being maintained by prescribed fire. This



Coggins IV burn unit.



Huge canyon live oak near Mill Creek Trail.

is what Whiskeytown's high elevation forests once looked like. When you get to a point where the road is washed out by a creek, you are at the end of the burn unit.

THREATS TO OLD GROWTH FORESTS

Two main factors threaten Whiskeytown's old growth forests, with the most immediate threat being catastrophic wildfire. Historically, crown fires were somewhat rare in our high elevation forests, mostly due to the scarcity of vegetation that would carry fire up into the tree canopy. But without frequent low-intensity fires to burn out the understory, vegetation beneath the trees has become densely packed. Given the right weather conditions, fires can now carry upwards into the tree canopies and race across the landscape. The second factor is that the old-growth trees are robbed of nutrients by overcrowded, shade-tolerant species. The old-growth forests provide critical information that can be used by resource managers to create conditions conducive to forest restoration.

WHY SHOULD WE SAVE OLD GROWTH?

Stands of old growth forests are becoming rare throughout the Pacific Northwest. They are critical reservoirs of information that provide resource managers with reference conditions for ecological restoration. At Whiskeytown, the driving goal for restoration is to have the "physical and biological systems of the undeveloped portions of the park approximate early 1800 conditions and processes." The park's primary restoration tool to recreate these conditions is prescribed fire.

Old growth forests are complex and worthy of conservation. They require long periods of time to develop their large dimensions and their late successional characteristics. The risk of losing old growth forests to fire or competition-induced stress, gives urgency to restoration. The protection of these forests within National Park units is crucial not only at the park-scale, but also on a much larger global scale. Threats to our local forests have implications for resources that extend far beyond the park's boundary.

UNIQUE IN THE WORLD

Whiskeytown is located on the southeastern edge of the Klamath-Siskiyou ecoregion, which has been designated as a World Heritage Site, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and an Area of Global Botanical Significance by the World Conservation Union. The Klamath Mountains are one of the richest temperate coniferous forest regions of the world and provide valuable habitat. Whiskeytown hosts three species of flowers that are endemic to the Klamath range, Canyon Creek Stonecrop, Snow Mountain Beardtongue, and Shasta County Arnica, and one species of grass that is found only in Whiskeytown and nowhere else in the world. These and many other species are dependent on intact forests and healthy watersheds for their continued existence.

It is hoped that an understanding of the uniqueness and importance of Whiskeytown's forests will inspire the public to advocate for their conservation.

Stop by the Visitor Center and pick up free guides to the park's trees and shrubs so that you, too, can appreciate the great variety of life that Whiskeytown has to offer.

**Please Help Keep Our Wildlife Wild
Do not feed bears or other park animals**

THE FRIENDS OF WHISKEYTOWN Join the Friends of Whiskeytown. The Friends of Whiskeytown is a non-profit organization dedicated

to helping the National Park Service restore and protect the magnificent resources and recreational opportunities at Whiskeytown. Your contribution of \$25.00 or more will help the park to complete projects that would be otherwise unfunded.

For further information, call 530-242-3460 or visit www.friendsofwhiskeytown.org

Artists in the Park



Olive Ayhens, Brooklyn, New York, Artist-in-Residence - 2007, painter



Marissa Carlisle, Napa, California, Artist-in-Residence - 2007, photography

Artists have been drawn to the beauty of the National Parks, creating works that have inspired many people to see and experience our shared natural heritage. Whiskeytown National Recreation Area's Artist-in-Residence program was established to generate new works of art that capture the beauty and significance of the park. Professional artists are invited to become part of the well-established tradition of artists working in the parks.

Last year, two artists were selected to participate in a two-week residency at the park. Professional juror, Hearne Pardee, a University of California - Davis Professor, recommended painter Olive Ayhens of Brooklyn, New York and photographer Marissa Carlisle from Napa, California. In addition, Lynn Cunningham from Davis, California and Debee Holland Olsen from Weaverville, California were selected to participate as "Visiting Artists" for 2007.



Debee Olson, Weaverville, California, Visiting Artist - 2007, painter



Lynn Cunningham, Davis, California, Visiting Artist - 2007, painter

At the Whiskeytown Visitor Center, you can find a changing display of art and photography exhibits by local artists. Look for public events showcasing special artist workshops, demonstrations, art exhibits and more. Visit www.nps.gov/whis for more information about Whiskeytown and the Artist-in-Residence program.

Men at Work



This rock slide occurred on January 3, 2008 on Crystal Creek Road during a storm event here at Whiskeytown. Several inches of rain fell the night before causing the hillside to slump. Although the slide completely blocked one lane of the roadway, traffic was allowed to the Crystal Creek Boys Camp as well as the Whiskeytown Falls trail head. Equipment operators Kenny Barnes and Dave Menard estimated that the roadway was blocked by 150 cubic yards of rock and dirt. A heavy duty front end loader and a 10-yard dump truck were used to remove the slide material.

Mallard versus Merganser, or Dabbling versus Diver



Common Merganser

Just about everyone can identify a mallard, but how about a merganser, one of the most frequently seen water birds of Whiskeytown? Although they are about the same size as mallards, mergansers are considerably heavier. The extra weight allows them to dive fully underwater for their prey, while the light-weight mallards simply stay on the surface and tip forward with just their heads and necks submerged, a foraging technique called "dabbling."

The merganser's extra weight does have a disadvantage — it makes it harder to become airborne. While

a mallard may be able to burst into immediate flight, a merganser has to run along the water's surface, beating its wings for a considerable distance before taking off. You won't see a merganser on a small pond — it is too heavy to manage an accurate landing in a confined area and it wouldn't have enough "runway" area. Mergansers are usually found near deep, clear lakes and rivers. Mallards can be found on all water sources where there is vegetation, and they are often known as "puddle ducks" because they can take advantage of minimal surface areas of water.

Mallards



A Perfect Summer Volunteering

by Jae Park, High School Student, Santa Barbara, CA

I must admit, when I first made the drive from Santa Barbara to Redding in order to spend several weeks of my summer vacation volunteering for the government, I was somewhat wary. However, now, at the end of summer, I am convinced that working at Whiskeytown was one of the most enriching and fun experiences I've ever had. The environment at a National Park is one in which you can both learn and help out. The list of activities I was able to complete in my time at Whiskeytown just shows the many opportunities available to volunteers. Using GPS mapping tools, I helped the exotic plant management crew eradicate invasive species. I helped the Youth Conservation Corps, a group of students that do standard maintenance work and upkeep around the park. The majority of my time was spent in the interpretation department. The interpreters are responsible for guiding all of the activities that visitors take part in at Whiskeytown. I was able to assist them in giving interpretive tours and lectures, as well as researching and compiling information to be used in future programs.

The possibilities are many and varied, and all of the volunteer work that I completed was helpful and much appreciated. Spending just a little time helping out at Whiskeytown was a lot of fun, and I learned a lot while being able to enjoy the natural beauty around the park. I encourage anyone who is looking to have a great time and help out, to volunteer at Whiskeytown for any amount of time. It is an experience that I'll be sure to remember, and I will certainly do more volunteer work in the future.



Jae Park - 2007



If you would like more information about volunteering, call the park Volunteer Manager at (530) 242-3421, or check out the park's website at www.nps.gov/whis. Applications may be obtained at the Visitor Center or by writing Volunteer Manager, Whiskeytown NRA, P.O. Box 188, Whiskeytown, CA 96095.

What Are Quagga & Zebra Mussels?



Quagga and zebra mussels are two very closely related exotic species of bivalve that has caused ecological and economic havoc in many areas of North America. The goal of the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Prevention Program is to stop these nuisance species from becoming established. Quagga and zebra mussels are inadvertently spread by boaters as they move their boats from one water body to another.

QUAGGA/ZEBRA MUSSELS COULD:
Disrupt the food chain and fishing.
Foul facilities like docks and ramps.
Encrust boats and clog engines.
Litter beaches with sharp smelly shells.



WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?
When removing watercraft from the water:

- Inspect all exposed surfaces - small mussels feel like sandpaper to the touch.
- Wash the hull of each watercraft thoroughly.
- Remove all plants and animal material.
- Drain all water and dry all areas.
- Drain and dry the lower outboard unit.
- Clean and dry all live-wells.
- Empty and dry any buckets.
- Dispose of all bait in the trash.
- Wait 5 days and keep watercraft dry between launches into different fresh waters.



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

HELP RAISE AWARENESS:

- Find out how many of your friends know about quagga & zebra mussels.
- Read this page, then give it away.
- Learn more at www.roothMeridian.org

Leave No Trace

The National Park Service promotes responsible outdoor recreation. Please take a personal role in preserving the outdoor experience for yourself and future generations while enjoying your visit at Whiskeytown.

1. Plan ahead. Know before you go.
2. Stick to trails.
3. Trash your trash, manage your dog, pick up poop.
4. Leave it as you find it.
5. Be careful with fire.
6. Keep wildlife wild - don't feed the wildlife.
7. Respect other visitors, share our trails, yield to others.

Leave No Trace is a national education program which promotes minimum-impact practices for non-motorized recreation. The goal of the Leave No Trace program is to promote responsible use of public lands through education, research and partnerships.

For more information visit the Leave No Trace program website – www.LNT.org



GENERAL INFORMATION & SERVICES

Visitor Center:

Located on Hwy 299 and Kennedy Memorial Drive, the Visitor Center is open daily during the summer from 9 am - 6 pm. All permits and passes are available here. A large selection of books and postcards is also available. (530) 246-1225

Park Headquarters:

Open Monday - Friday 8 am - 4:30 pm. Special Use Permits are available here. (530) 242-3400

Radio:

Tune to 1440 on your AM radio for information about Whiskeytown.

Launch Ramps and Fishing Piers:

There are three boat ramps on the lake located at Whiskey Creek, Oak Bottom, and Brandy Creek Marina. There are handicap accessible fishing piers at Whiskey Creek and Oak Bottom.

Marinas and Store:

Oak Bottom Marina provides gas, boat rentals, fishing supplies, souvenirs and other items for sale.

Accessibility

There are handicap accessible picnic tables and swim beach access platforms at Brandy Creek and Oak Bottom.

Phones:

A pay phone is located at the Visitor Center.

Post Offices:

French Gulch is open 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday through Friday; Saturday 8:30 am - 10:30 am.

Shasta is open 8:30 am - 5:00 pm (closed noon - 1:00 pm); Saturdays 7:00 am - 8:30 am.

Nearby Services & Attractions:

Shasta: Post Office, J's Market, Mill House Deli. Visit Shasta State Historic Park. Call (530) 243-8194 for current hours or for more information.

French Gulch: Post Office, French Gulch Hotel and Restaurant, E. Franck Bar.

Redding is 8 miles east and has all major services. Visit Turtle Bay Exploration Park, 800 Auditorium Drive. Call (530) 243-8850 for current hours or for more information.

Hospitals & Clinics:

Redding:
Sunset Urgent Care - (530) 247-4211,
Hilltop Medical Clinic West - (530) 246-4629
Shasta Regional Medical Center - (530) 244-5400,
Mercy Medical Center - (530) 225-6000.

Camping at Whiskeytown

Oak Bottom Campground offers \$18/night lakeside tent sites, \$16/night tent sites, and \$14/night RV sites. Specific sites may be reserved by calling the campground store at (530) 359-2269.

Primitive Tent Campsites are available only on a first-come-first-served basis. Permits are available at the Visitor Center. Rates are \$10 per night.

Brandy Creek RV Campground offers sites on a first-come-first-served basis. Summer rate is \$14/night and winter rate is \$7/night.

Dry Creek Group Tent Campground offers two campsites (tents only) at \$75/site/night. Each site holds a maximum of 50 people. The campground is open from April 1 to October 31. You may make reservations up to one year in advance by calling 1-877-444-6777 or by using the website www.recreation.gov.

Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area offers three group day-use picnic areas that accommodate 40 - 50 people each at a rate of \$40 or \$50 per site depending on which site is reserved. The picnic area is open from April 1 to October 31. You may make reservations up to one year in advance by calling 1-877-444-6777 or by using the website www.recreation.gov.

Note: Campers must purchase a daily, weekly, or annual pass for their vehicle in addition to their campsite fee.

TO REPORT AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

Ranger Guided Programs

Whiskeytown offers a variety of ranger-guided activities and programs for everyone. Programs will begin mid-June through the Labor Day weekend but can be subject to change. Please call the Visitor Center at 246-1225 for current information.

Kayak Tours

Daily tours. Reservations required

Hop on a kayak built for two and explore some of the quiet coves around Whiskeytown Lake while you learn about the park. Children must be 6 years of age or older. Tours leave from Brandy Creek parking lot B. Register up to two weeks in advance by calling (530)242-3462.

Junior Ranger Kayak

Sundays 10 am -12 noon Reservations required

Kids can bring an adult with them and join a ranger on tandem kayaks to discover and learn about the natural wonders of Whiskeytown Lake. Children must be 6 years of age or older and accompanied by their parent or an adult guardian. Tours leave from Brandy Creek parking lot B. Register up to two weeks in advance by calling (530)242-3462.

Junior Ranger

Saturday 10 am - 11am

Kids 7 to 12 years of age can make new friends during a special nature activity that explores the marvels of Whiskeytown. Meet at the Oak Bottom Amphitheater.

Junior Firefighter

Saturday 11 am -12noon

See how firefighters manage fire to promote forest health and protect lives and property. Learn about the important role that wildfire plays in our National Parks during this hands-on activity. Meet at the Oak Bottom Amphitheater.

Walk In Time (Includes Goldpanning!)

Friday, Saturday, Sunday 6 pm - Sunset

Discover how pioneers/prospectors Charles Camden and Levi Tower re-shaped the landscape to create a home for their family and an "oasis" for the many travelers during and after the California Gold Rush. After a tour of the 1852 home built by Charles Camden enjoy a leisurely stroll through the historic district ending with a chance to find your own treasure of gold. Suggestion: pack a healthy picnic for the family, afterwards meet the ranger across the footbridge along in the Tower House Historic District.

Evening Programs

Friday and Saturday 9 - 10 pm (8:30 - 9:30 pm beginning August 9th)

Spend the evening with a ranger and learn more about Whiskeytown through talks, slide shows, or other activities. Various topics include history, wildlife, and current issues related to protecting the park's natural and cultural resources. Meet at the Oak Bottom Amphitheater.

Water Safety Demo

Saturday, Sunday - variable as staffing allows

Saving someone from drowning, while keeping yourself at a safe distance, depends on quick thinking, common sense, and the ability to use nearby objects. Join a National Park Service ranger and lifeguards for this enlightening water-safety demonstration at Brandy Creek Beach.

Keeping Fire Safe at Whiskeytown

Whiskeytown has hot and dry summers and wildfire is always a concern. Enjoy your visit to Whiskeytown but please keep fire safety in mind.

Fires

- Fires at Whiskeytown are only allowed in fire grates in designated areas, such as picnic areas and campgrounds. This may be suspended during high fire danger.
- Check at the Visitor Center for fire restrictions or area closures.
- When building a campfire, keep it small and manageable inside the fire grates. Don't add large or green material that will take hours to burn down.
- Make sure your fire is dead out before leaving the area. It should be cold to the touch.
- Consider alternatives to campfires, such as using lanterns for light, especially during periods of high fire danger.

BBQ's

- If you are using a portable stove or BBQ, make sure the area is clear of grasses and other fine fuels. Prevent stoves from tipping and starting a fire.
- If you are using coals, make sure they are completely cool before disposing of them in the trash. Do not dump them on the ground or in the lake or creeks.
- Practice Leave No Trace Principals - pack out what you pack in, including cigarette butts.

If you see smoke, fire or suspicious activities, note the location and report it to a park ranger or call 911.

PARK PASSES

Passes may be purchased at the Whiskeytown Visitor Center or at pay-by-envelope stations located throughout the park. Place your pass on the driver's-side dashboard when you are in the park. By purchasing a pass, you are directly contributing to improvements at Whiskeytown.



Daily - \$5

Valid at Whiskeytown on date of purchase only.

Weekly- \$10

Valid at Whiskeytown for seven days from date of purchase.

Annual - \$25

Valid for one year from month of purchase. Also honored at Lassen Volcanic National Park.



America the Beautiful - \$80

Covers all National Park units and other federal recreation areas with entrance fees. Valid for one year from month of purchase.



Access Pass - Free

Lifetime pass for U.S. citizens and permanent residents who are permanently disabled.



Senior Pass - \$10

Lifetime pass for U.S. citizens and permanent residents who are 62 years or older.



Other passes accepted at Whiskeytown:

Golden Age, Access, and the Lassen Volcanic National Park Annual Pass.



Be on the lookout

We all know to be alert for wildlife and dangerous trail conditions when we're out in the park, but you should also be on the lookout for suspicious and illegal activities.

There is a strong presence of marijuana cultivation in Whiskeytown. Our ranger staff are seeking out and eradicating these illegal marijuana gardens. If you see anything that you feel is unusual, care for your own safety first, and if you can, get a good description of individuals, vehicles, and license plates and report it immediately to Whiskeytown dispatch at (530) 242-3431 or by calling 911 in an emergency.

Your safety increases when you stay on maintained, official trails and hike or ride with others.