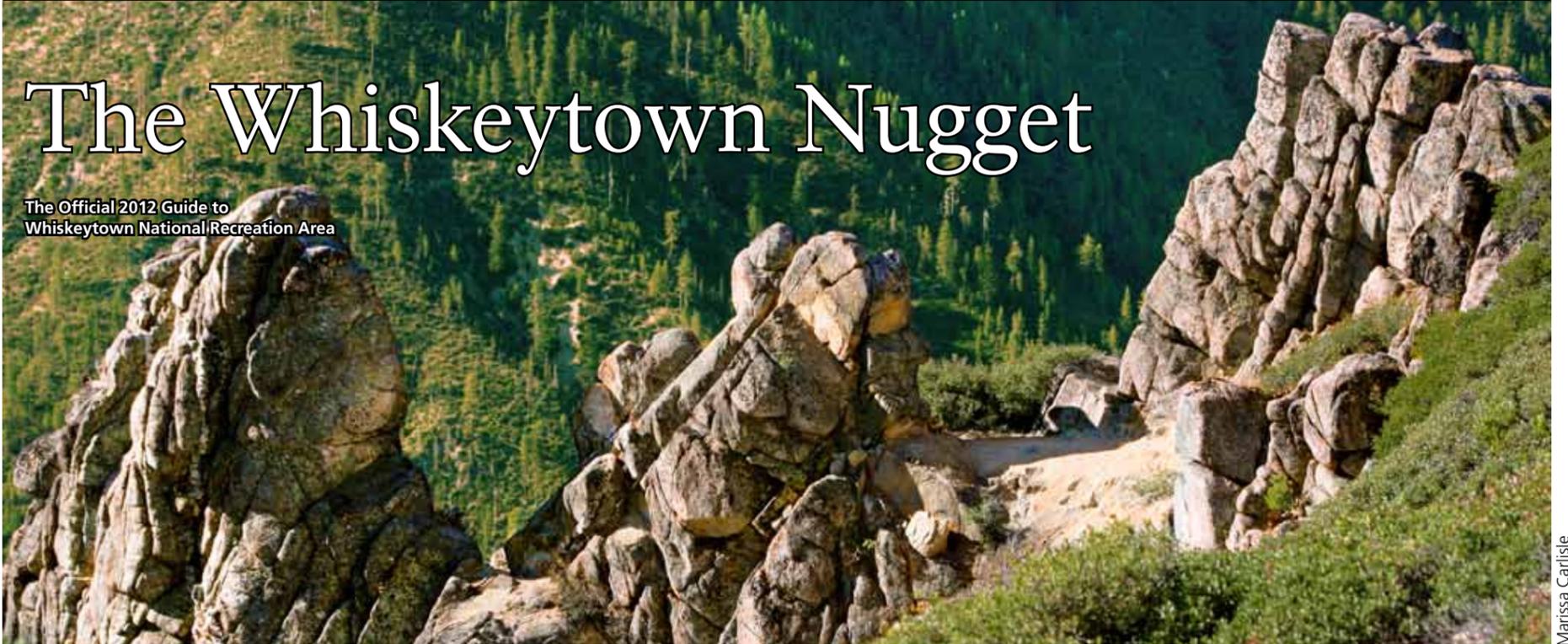




The Whiskeytown Nugget

The Official 2012 Guide to
Whiskeytown National Recreation Area



Marissa Carlisle

Welcome to Whiskeytown!



THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING TO VISIT Whiskeytown National Recreation Area! We are happy you chose to enjoy the lovely waters of Whiskeytown Lake, the shaded mountain trails, or to feast your eyes on the park's four large, refreshing waterfalls. I encourage you to take a backcountry adventure to some of the park's most scenic areas such as the geological wonderland found atop the 6,199 ft. summit of Shasta Bally Mountain (top photo). More than 70 miles of trails await your exploration! And to make the park more accessible to individuals with disabilities, this past winter park staff constructed two new trails to spectacular vista points. The construction of both trails was made possible by recreation fees collected here in the park.

The first wheelchair friendly trail is a reroute of the original Guardian Rock Trail from Horse Camp to the new Guardian Rock Vista Point. The short quarter-mile trail winds through an oak and pine forest to the rim of Lower Clear Creek Canyon. From the vista point, one

can look both up and down the canyon. Clear Creek flows into the Sacramento River, and eventually, the San Francisco Bay. Lower Clear Creek is Whiskeytown's connection to the Pacific Ocean and the pathway for two species of wild Chinook salmon that make an incredible journey of nearly 300 miles to return to the creek where they were born and spawn a new generation in the park!

The second ADA accessible trail is the Crystal Creek Falls Trail, which is located a short drive up Crystal Creek Road from Highway 299. The trail is paved and leads to Lower Crystal Creek Falls where you can linger and enjoy a picnic lunch at the provided tables and barbecue grills. A trail register box is located at the falls viewing area to record your name, hometown and any thoughts about your hiking adventure. Crystal Creek Falls is one of the park's four waterfalls and the destination for thousands of people who are drawn to their beauty and timeless grace.

The remaining three waterfall hikes are more steep and strenuous climbs. Each spring during waterfall week the park kicks off its "Whiskeytown Waterfall Challenge" (see page 5) to encourage people to hike to all four waterfalls. Those that complete the challenge can have their Waterfall Challenge Passport validated and receive an "I Hiked The Falls" bandana at our visitor center (while supplies last).

Park planners are also busy developing strategies to guide the management of the park now and into the future. Currently under way is a Backcountry Management Plan, where consideration is being

given to expanding the trail system and developing backcountry hiker's huts around the park. The park also recently completed the initial plans for redesigning the Oak Bottom Campground to improve RV access and reduce the density of tent campsites by spreading them out over a larger area. This plan also calls for adding primitive boat-in only campsites along the lake's shoreline.

In the near term, park managers are looking to enhance the visitor experience of Whiskeytown by implementing several projects funded by park fee revenue. These projects include: campground renovations at Peltier Bridge, Sheep Camp, Brandy Creek, and Crystal Creek primitive camps; improvements to several roads including Paige Bar and Peltier Valley; and re-routing and rehabilitating the Peltier and Boulder Creek Falls trails. Long-term projects that will be funded through park fees include the replacement of the Oak Bottom amphitheater restroom; renovations and ADA improvements to the restrooms at Oak Bottom and Whiskey Creek launch ramps; and the highly anticipated replacement of the aging snack bars, showers, restrooms, and mechanical shade structures at both Brandy Creek and Oak Bottom beaches.

Whiskeytown National Recreation Area is nearly 50 years old and the National Park Service will celebrate 100 years as an agency in 2016. As we prepare for the centennial, the National Park Service has developed a "Call to Action" to chart a path towards the second century of national parks. Whiskeytown plans to answer this call by developing programs to ensure children gain a deeper understanding of their park's resources

and the relevance of parks in their own lives. In addition, we hope to facilitate an increasing recognition of the strength parks have to improve our health and well-being.

The park staff and I invite you to fully and safely explore your park. Please keep a close eye on your children while swimming and hiking the trails. There is an abundance of poison oak along the trails and lake shore throughout the park. If you are unsure what it looks like, remember this old adage: "Leaves of three, leave them be!" Rattlesnakes and large wild animals, such as black bear and mountain lion, are found throughout the forest. If you see any wild animals, be sure to keep your distance. Keep safe, have fun, and enjoy this special and exciting national recreation area.

Jim F. Milestone, Superintendent



Visitors enjoying the spectacular view of Crystal Creek Falls from the newly paved ADA accessible trail

2-3 Things you need to know

This compilation of essential park information is based on questions frequently asked by visitors. The information is organized alphabetically to help you quickly find what you are looking for.

4-5 Camping and trail information

If you are planning an outdoor adventure, flip here for a complete listing of the park's extensive trail system and campgrounds that includes essential information for each. A map will orient you to the park.

6 What can I do in the time I have?

Not sure what to do during your park visit? Turn to page 6 for a helpful guide that will aid you in planning your recreational activities according to the time you have, as well as activities for the different seasons.

8 Ranger-led programs

Whiskeytown offers a variety of FREE Ranger-led Programs during the summer season. These programs are fun and family friendly. A program schedule is found on this page, as well as program descriptions.



Things you need to know



The National Park Service Mission

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

Whiskeytown National Recreation Area

Whiskeytown Lake was created as part of the Central Valley Project to provide water for agricultural, municipal, and industrial use, as well as for the maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat. In addition, Whiskeytown Lake has two hydroelectric power generation stations, and the dam provides flood control downstream of its earthen mass. The dam was completed in early February 1963, and dedicated by President John F. Kennedy on September 28, 1963.

The 3,200 acre reservoir and 39,000 acres of surrounding forests became Whiskeytown National Recreation Area in 1965. Within its boundaries, the park preserves and protects an incredible diversity of flora and fauna, as well as the cultural history of the Wintu Native Americans and the California Gold Rush. The park also provides a wide variety of year-round recreation opportunities for its nearly 800,000 annual visitors.

Park Information

Superintendent

Jim F. Milestone

Visitor Center

(530) 246-1225

Park Headquarters

(530) 242-3400 Fax (530) 246-5154

Park Ranger Dispatch Office

(530) 242-3431

Emergency Phone

911

Mailing Address

Whiskeytown National Recreation Area
P.O. Box 188
Whiskeytown, CA 96095

Website

www.nps.gov/whis

Whiskeytown Nugget

Editors, Graphics & Layout

Jeremiah Hockett and Robert Gutierrez

Park Profile

Origin of the "Whiskeytown" name

The park is named after a mining town that was removed to create the reservoir.

Highest point: 6,199 ft. Shasta Bally Mt.

Lowest point: 860 ft. on Clear Creek near the southeast park boundary

Lake elevation: 1,209 ft. at full pool and 1,198 ft. during the winter draw-down

Park acreage: 42,000 acres

Lake: 3,200 surface acres

Shoreline: 36 miles

Lake water storage capacity

241,000 acre feet when at full pool

Whiskeytown Dam

The earthen dam is 281.5 ft. high with a crest length of 4,000 ft.

Visitor Center

The visitor center is a great place to start when you arrive in the park. The knowledgeable staff and volunteers will help you maximize your visit. The visitor center is located at the intersection of John F. Kennedy Memorial Drive and CA Highway 299. The summer hours of operation are 9:00 am to 5:00 pm daily from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Winter hours are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm daily except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holidays. The visitor center provides information, a variety of use permits, natural and cultural history exhibits, an ADA accessible California native plant garden, as well as books, maps, and souvenir items for sale. In addition, accessible restrooms, first aid, an Automated External Defibrillator, and drinking water are all available here.



Accessibility

Park headquarters, restrooms, and the visitor center are ADA accessible, as well as the Native Plant Garden located directly behind the visitor center. The park has two newly constructed ADA accessible trails: the Crystal Creek Falls Trail, which is paved, and the section of the Guardian Rock Trail from Horse Camp leading to the spectacular Guardian Rock Vista Point. In addition, two accessible picnic sites are available at Oak Bottom and Brandy Creek beaches. Accessible fishing piers are located at Whiskey Creek Picnic Area and at Oak Bottom Marina near the amphitheater.

Amenities

Some food items and essential camping supplies can be purchased at the **Oak Bottom Campground Store**, which is open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm during the winter and until 6:00 pm in the summer. The store can be reached by calling (530) 359-2269. Lodging is not available in the park. The nearest hotels are in Redding, 8 miles east of the park. The **Oak Bottom Marina** is open from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm during the winter and until 8:00 pm during the summer. Fishing bait, tackle, and lifejackets are all available for purchase at the marina store. **Snack bars** are located at both Brandy Creek and Oak Bottom beaches. They are open during the summer and sell a variety of made-to-order foods, cold drinks, sun block, water toys, and swim diapers. For vehicles, the closest **fuel** is in Redding. Motorboat fuel can be purchased at the Oak Bottom Marina.

Alcohol

Alcohol is prohibited on the park's four designated public swim beaches: Brandy Creek, Oak Bottom, Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area, and East Beach. The legal blood alcohol level for the operators of vehicles and motorboats cannot exceed 0.08, but boat operators and drivers may be impaired and incapable of safe operation at lesser levels.

All-terrain vehicles

ATVs and off-road vehicle travel are prohibited in the park.

Backpacking

Backpacking permits and regulations are available at the visitor center at no cost.

Bicycling

Bicycles are permitted on all trails except the Camden Water Ditch, Shasta Divide, Davis Gulch, and Crystal Creek Water Ditch trails. Mountain biking trail information is available at the visitor center. Helmets, gloves, and glasses are recommended for all riders. Always maintain a safe speed for road and trail conditions and stay within your level of riding experience. Cyclists must obey all traffic regulations. Hikers and equestrians always have the right-of-way.

Boating

There are no boat launching fees at Whiskeytown Lake, but visitors must display a Day Use Pass or other valid entrance pass (see "Fees/passes"). There are boat launches at Brandy Creek Marina, Oak Bottom, and Whiskey Creek. A variety of boats ranging from a one-person kayak to a ten-person deck cruiser are available for rent at Oak Bottom Marina. Please call (530) 359-2671 or visit www.whiskeytownmarinas.com. Motor boats with two and four-stroke engines are allowed on Whiskeytown Lake and must observe posted no-wake areas. Engine noise cannot exceed the maximum decibel level of 75 dBA (decibel equivalent of a dishwasher or vacuum cleaner). Noise levels from other equipment or electronic devices cannot exceed 60 dBA from 50 feet (See "Noise levels"). Boats cannot exceed 36 feet in length. Occupied vessels can remain on the water overnight provided they move at least one-half linear mile each hour. Overnight camping on boats is prohibited. For your safety and the safety of others, please be aware of other lake users. **Non-motorized craft always have the right-of-way.** The use of personal watercraft is prohibited in all areas. Stay alive! Wear a life jacket!

Bookstore

The bookstore, located at the visitor center, is managed by Western National Parks Association (WNPA) whose mission is to promote the preservation of the national park system and its resources. A variety of books, maps, guides, postcards, souvenirs, and other items can be purchased here. Local products are available, as well as books written by local authors. In addition to stock on hand, WNPA has an even larger selection of items available for purchase from their online store at www.wnpa.org. WNPA members receive a 15% discount, and educators receive a 20% discount on all bookstore items. A portion of the proceeds from each sale is donated to the park to support education, interpretation, and research programs.

Camping

With the exception of backpacking, camping is permitted only in the designated campgrounds of the park. Please see pages 4 and 5 for campground locations, fees, and available services.

Fees/passes

Entrance fees for the park are \$5 per vehicle for a Day Use Pass. A weekly pass can be purchased for \$10, and the Whiskeytown annual pass costs \$25. In addition, the annual pass from Lassen Volcanic National Park, the Interagency Annual Pass, Senior Pass, Access Pass, and the Golden Age or Access Passports are all honored at Whiskeytown. All passes must be displayed on the driver's side of the dashboard whenever a vehicle is parked within the park boundary. A pass is not required while visiting the Whiskeytown Cemetery. Fee Free days in 2012 are April 21-29, June 9, September 29, and Nov. 10-12. You do not need a pass on these dates.

Firearms

Federal law permits people who can legally possess firearms under federal and State of California laws to *possess* firearms in the park. It is the visitor's responsibility to understand and comply with all applicable state and federal firearms laws. Firearms are prohibited in most federal buildings in the park including the visitor center and park headquarters. Firearms may only be *used* in the park during hunting seasons in authorized areas, and pursuant to the lawful taking of game species in compliance with California laws and regulations.

Fires

Campfires are only permitted in the established fire grates at picnic areas and campsites. Fires must never be left unattended and must be properly extinguished upon departure. Dead wood may only be collected from the ground for personal use while in the park. Collecting live vegetation or standing dead wood is prohibited. The use of self-contained barbecues, gas and charcoal, is permitted as long as they are attended at all times and properly extinguished.

Fishing

California Department of Fish and Game regulations apply at Whiskeytown. Fishing is allowed year-round in the lake; however, the streams feeding Whiskeytown can only be fished from the last Saturday in April through November 15. The nearest location to purchase a fishing license is Tops Fresh Market, six miles east of the visitor center.

Gold panning

Recreational gold panning is permitted in the park. A valid annual gold panning permit is required for all persons 17 and older. Gold panning regulations, as well as the \$1 annual permit, can be obtained at the visitor center.

Hiking

Hiking can be enjoyed year-round at Whiskeytown. With over seventy miles of trails in the park, most of which can be ridden by mountain bikers and equestrians, there is something for every ability level and interest (please see page 4 for trail information). Be prepared for changing conditions while enjoying the park's backcountry, and be sure to carry an adequate amount of water for each person. Summer daytime temperatures often exceed 100°F.

Horses & pack animals

Horses, burros, mules, and camelids may be ridden on designated multiple-use trails in the park. Horse Camp primitive campground is accessible to vehicles towing horse trailers and is the only location in the park where camping with horses is allowed. There are two sites available and a potable water spigot.

Lost and found

Lost and found items can be reported, turned in, or claimed at the visitor center.

Mines

Old mine workings in the park are dangerous and unstable. When hiking cross country, be on the lookout for uncovered mining shafts. Stay out, and stay alive!

Noise levels

In order to keep natural soundscapes free from loud human-source noises, the following regulations apply: A vessel cannot exceed 75 decibels (dB equivalence of a dishwasher or vacuum cleaner); other noise levels from motorized equipment or electronic devices cannot exceed 60 decibels (conversational level) from a distance of 50 feet. In addition, noises below these established levels are prohibited if they are deemed unreasonable. Quiet hours in the park are from 10:00 pm to 6:00 am.

Parking

A valid park pass or Day Use Pass must be displayed on the driver's side of the dashboard whenever a vehicle is parked within the park boundary. Please see the "Fees/passess" section for more information on valid passes. Visitors can park in any public parking spaces as well as along paved roadways, provided the parked vehicle is completely off the asphalt without trampling vegetation and is in compliance with all posted signage. Parking in front of gates or blocking right-of-way access is prohibited.

Pets

Pets are allowed in the park and on trails provided they are leashed at all times. Leash length is not to exceed six feet. With the exception of service animals, pets are prohibited on all of the park's designated public swim beaches: Brandy Creek, Oak Bottom, East Beach, and Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area. Pets cannot be left unattended at any time.

Picnicking

Picnic sites are available in developed areas of the park including: Brandy Creek Beach and Marina, Oak Bottom Beach, Whiskey Creek Boat Launch, Judge Francis Carr Powerhouse, Crystal Creek Falls, and the Clear Creek Picnic Area off of Trinity Mountain Road. No reservations can be made for these sites and no area can be held for the exclusive use of any group. Inquire at the visitor center for the location of ADA accessible picnic sites. For groups of 20 or more, reservations can be made for day use sites at Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area by calling 1-877-444-6777.

Sharing the park

With the exceptions of Special Use Permits and the areas of the park that can be legally reserved, no visitor or group of visitors can hold or claim exclusive use rights of any area in the park, including the islands, shoreline, and coves of the lake. Please help us to provide for the enjoyment of all visitors by sharing the park.

Showers

Hot showers are available in the restroom at Oak Bottom Beach for a small fee. Free, cold outdoor showers are available during the summer months at Oak Bottom and Brandy Creek beaches.

Smoking

To protect the health of park visitors, smoking is prohibited on the park's four designated swim beaches: Brandy Creek, Oak Bottom, East Beach, and Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area. Whiskeytown National Recreation Area is federal land; the possession and use of marijuana is prohibited, even with a valid California Prop 215 card.

Special Use Permits

Special events such as weddings, sporting events, and commercial filming are permissible by obtaining a Special Use Permit. Activities must be appropriate and have a minimal impact on other park visitors. Applications and information are available on the park website. For more information, please contact Chief Ranger Jim Richardson at (530) 242-3413.

Swimming

There are four designated public swim beaches in the park: Brandy Creek Beach, East Beach, Whiskey Creek Group Picnic Area, and Oak Bottom Beach. Brandy Creek Beach has lifeguards during the summer months. The area inside the buoyed water curtain below the visitor center can be utilized by long-distance swimmers. Swimming is prohibited inside the buoy-enclosed area around the Glory Hole and Carr Powerhouse, within 300 feet of any boat launch or mooring facility, and within 100 feet of the Whiskey Creek Bridge on CA highway 299. Open-water swimming is dangerous—swim close to shore or have a spotter when swimming in open water. Rope swings are prohibited.

Trash

Please pack out all trash when hiking and dispose of it in a responsible manner. There are recycling facilities at the visitor center, many parking areas, and the park's designated swim beaches.

Vehicles

Motorists must obey all posted speed limits. Vehicles are only allowed on designated roadways. Be alert for pedestrians, bicyclists, and wildlife on the roadways. Use special care while driving at dawn and dusk when wildlife is most active. State and federal vehicle laws apply within the park. Make sure to display a valid park pass on your vehicle's driver-side dashboard while parked.

Water

Potable water is available at the following locations: the visitor center; Brandy Creek Beach, Marina, and RV Campground; Oak Bottom Beach, Marina, Amphitheater, Tent and RV Campground; Carr Powerhouse; Horse Camp; and Whiskey Creek Boat Launch. Water from any natural source should be purified.

Wildlife

Please do your part to keep the park's wildlife wild. Do not feed or otherwise harass wildlife. Enjoy all animals from a safe distance and try not to disturb their natural behaviors. Use the bear-proof storage lockers for all scented items and never leave food unattended!

Sun and Moon

Sunrise 2012	Lunar Phase The New Moon	Sunset 2012
04/01 6:53a 04/15 6:31a	4/21, 5/20, 6/19, 7/18, 8/17, 9/15, 10/15, 11/13, 12/13, 1/11, 2/10, 3/11	04/01 7:36p 04/15 7:50p
05/01 6:08a 05/15 5:53a	Waxing Crescent	05/01 8:07p 05/15 8:21p
06/01 5:41a 06/15 5:39a	06/20 5:39a ^a	06/01 8:36p 06/15 8:44p
07/01 5:43a 07/15 5:53a	The First Quarter	07/01 8:45p 07/15 8:40p
08/01 6:08a 08/15 6:21a	4/29, 5/28, 6/26, 7/26, 8/24, 9/22, 10/21, 11/20, 12/19, 1/18, 2/17, 3/19	08/01 8:25p 08/15 8:07p
09/01 6:38a 09/15 6:52a	Waxing Gibbous	09/01 7:42p 09/15 7:18p
10/01 7:08a 10/15 7:22a	09/22 6:59a ^b	09/22 7:07p ^b
11/01 7:41a 11/15 6:58a	The Full Moon	10/01 6:51p 10/15 6:31p
12/01 7:16a 12/15 7:28a	4/6, 5/5, 6/4, 7/3, 8/1, 8/31, 9/29, 10/29, 11/28, 12/28, 1/26, 2/25, 3/27	11/01 6:06p 11/15 4:52p
01/01 7:35a 01/15 7:32a	Waning Gibbous	12/01 4:44p 12/15 4:44p
02/01 7:20a 02/15 7:04a	12/21 7:31a ^c	12/21 4:47p ^c
03/01 6:44a 03/15 7:21a	The Last Quarter	2013 01/01 4:54p 01/15 5:08p
03/19 7:15 ^d	4/13, 5/12, 6/11, 7/10, 8/9, 9/8, 10/7, 11/6, 12/6, 1/4, 2/3, 3/4	02/01 5:29p 02/15 5:46p
	Waning Crescent	03/01 6:02p 03/15 7:18p
	03/19 7:22 ^d	03/19 7:22 ^d

a. Summer Solstice
b. Fall Equinox
c. Winter Solstice
d. Spring Equinox
Total Lunar Eclipse

† The most favorable viewing conditions are during the last dark hour before dawn.
‡ New moons (day 0) are best for viewing meteor activity due to the absence of moonlight. Crescent moons (1-7 days and 22-29 days) also provide good viewing. Full moons (14 days) are the least favorable as light will wash out visible meteors. Ideal meteor viewing conditions are between the waning crescent and waxing crescent moon phases.
* The "r" value is the overall brightness of each shower. The "r" value usually ranges from 2.0 (bright) to 3.5 (faint).

Annual Meteor Showers 2012

Shower	Viewing Period	Peak	Number per hour	r*	Velocity	Best Viewing †	Moon Age ‡
Lyrids	Apr 16 - Apr 25	Apr 22	20	2.1	29.1 mi/sec	4:00 am	01
Eta Aquarids	Apr 28 - May 21	May 07	15	2.4	41.6 mi/sec	4:00 am	15
Delta Aquarids	Jul 21 - Aug 23	Jul 29	20	3.2	25.5 mi/sec	3:00 am	10
Perseids	Jul 13 - Aug 26	Aug 12	60	2.6	37.6 mi/sec	4:00 am	24
Orionids	Oct 04 - Nov 14	Oct 21	25	2.5	41.6 mi/sec	5:00 am	07
Leonids	Nov 07 - Nov 28	Nov 18	40	2.5	43.9 mi/sec	5:00 am	05
Puppil/Velids	Dec 01 - Dec 15	Dec 07	10	2.9	24.9 mi/sec	4:00 am	22
Geminids	Dec 04 - Dec 16	Dec 13	65	2.6	21.8 mi/sec	1:00 am	00
Ursids	Dec 17 - Dec 23	Dec 22	10	3.0	20.3 mi/sec	5:00 am	09
Quadrantids	Jan 01 - Jan 10	Jan 04	40	2.1	25.5 mi/sec	5:00 am	10

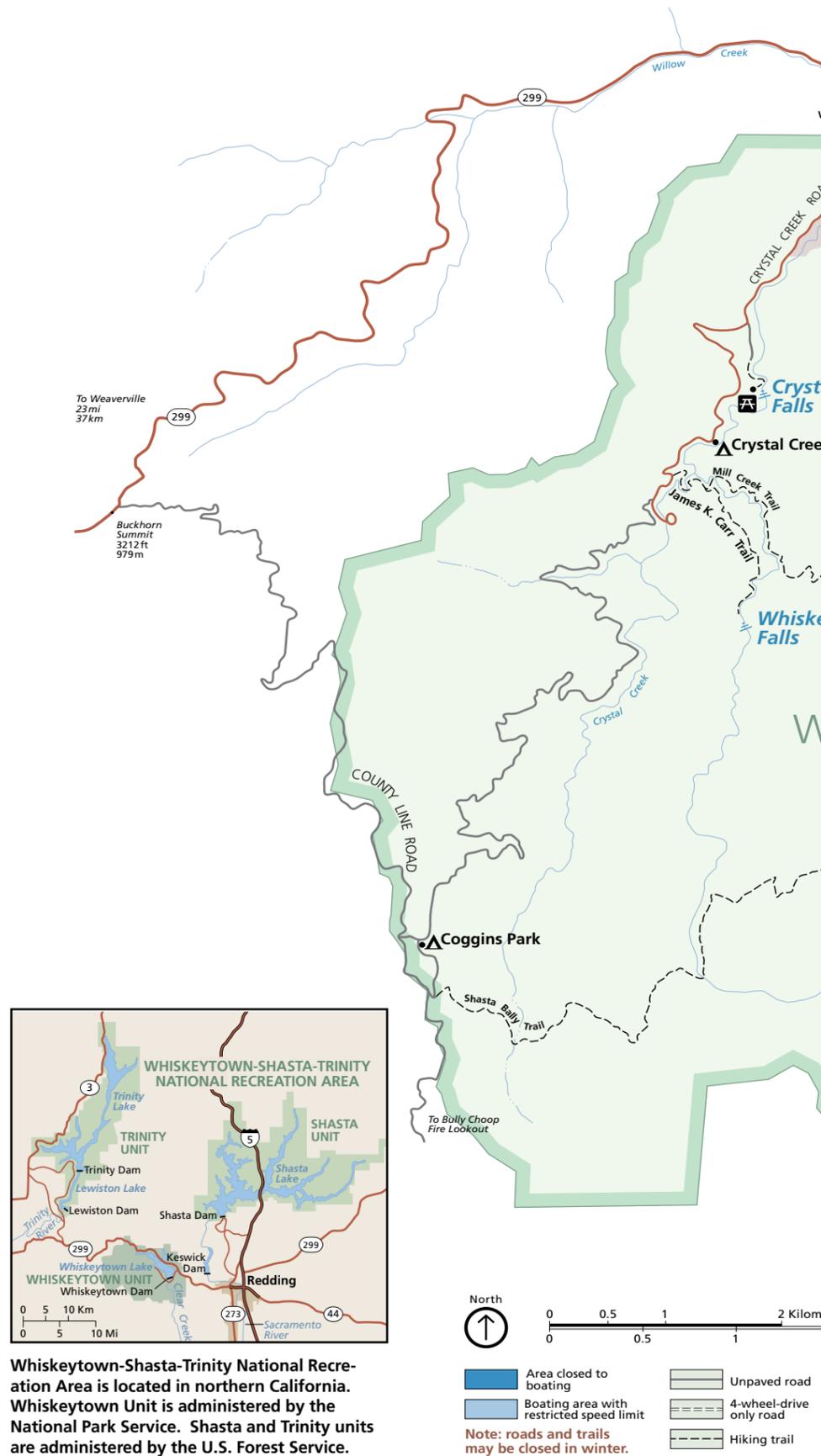
Average Temperature and Precipitation

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average High/Low °F	54/37	58/39	65/43	70/46	80/54	88/60	97/64	96/63	91/58	78/50	62/43	55/38
Record High/Low °F	78/17	82/18	92/26	94/28	103/32	110/41	112/47	115/49	114/40	104/28	93/25	80/11
Average Precipitation	11.26"	10.69"	11.14"	4.22"	2.76"	1.07"	0.41"	0.24"	1.56"	2.95"	8.15"	8.79"



Trails of Whiskeytown

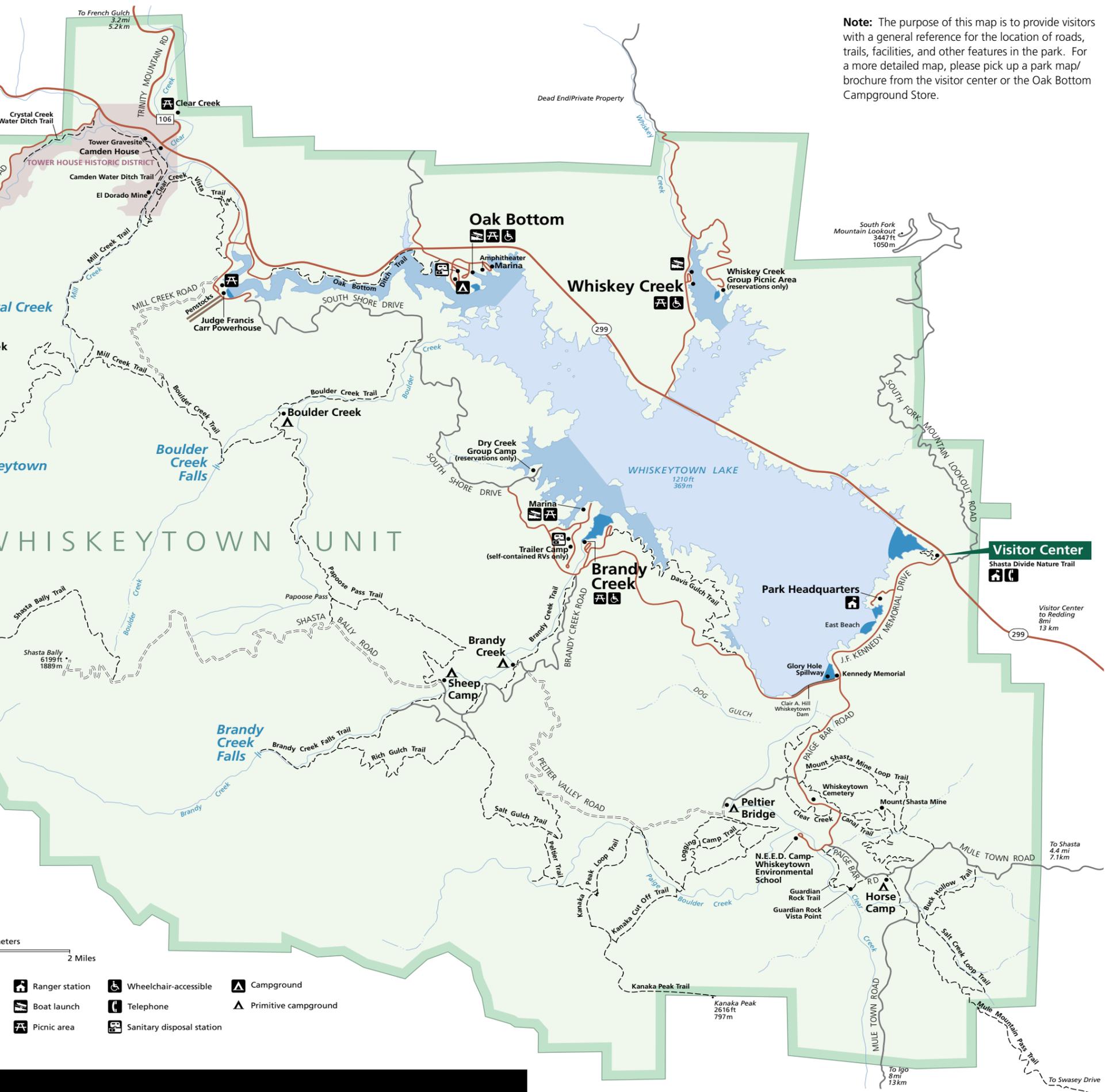
Easy Hikes	Distance One-way	Elevation Change	Trail Highlights and Notes
Buck Hollow	1.0	130 ft.	Wildflowers, seasonal streams, lots of shade, views of Shasta Bally Mtn.
Camden Water Ditch (Closed to bikes and pack animals)	1.1 Loop	Mostly level	Camden House, historic orchards, El Dorado Mine, Willow Creek
Crystal Creek Water Ditch (Closed to bikes and pack animals)	0.75	30 ft.	Shaded, historic water ditch, remnants of old dams, elevated water flume
Crystal Creek Falls	0.3	Mostly level	50 ft. falls and picnic area, ADA accessible and paved from the trailhead
Oak Bottom Ditch	2.75	20 ft.	Scenic views, swimming opportunities, lake access
Moderate Hikes			
Boulder Creek Falls (Mill Creek Road route)	1.0	80 ft.	138 ft. falls, one creek crossing with plank bridge
Brandy Creek (Brandy Creek Beach to the 2nd intersection with Brandy Creek Rd., located southeast of Sheep Camp)	1.6	400 ft.	Follows the spectacular Brandy Creek, swimming holes, ample shade. There are four small creek crossings, and you hike twice on the road (signs guide you)
Brandy Creek Falls	1.5	500 ft.	Beautiful series of cascades, views of Brandy Creek, shade
Clear Creek Canal	4.5	30 ft.	Views of Whiskeytown Dam, Shasta Bally, Kanaka Peak, crosses Orofino Creek
Clear Creek Vista	2.4	400 ft.	Historic District and scenic views of Clear Creek, east end comes out near Carr Powerhouse
Davis Gulch (Closed to bikes and pack animals)	3.3	170 ft.	Lots of shade, lake views, scenic and quiet coves, swimming, resting benches
Guardian Rock	1.0 0.25 for ADA accessible section	200 ft. Negligible for accessible section	ADA accessible section from Horse Camp to the Clear Creek Canyon Vista. Views of Clear and Orofino creeks, Remnants of historic mining
Logging Camp	1.0	415 ft.	Restored logging road and watershed
Mt. Shasta Mine Loop	3.5	540 ft.	Historic mines, Orofino Creek, and beautiful views of Shasta Bally and South Fork Mountain
Mule Mountain Pass (Salt Creek Loop to Swasey Drive)	4.4	700 ft.	Creeks, scenic views of Mt. Lassen, great for hikers, bikers, and horses
Peltier	1.75	380 ft.	Paige Boulder Creek, small waterfall, wildflowers
Salt Creek Loop	1.8	300 ft.	6 creek crossings, mountain views, shade
Shasta Divide Nature Trail (Closed to bikes and pack animals)	0.4 Loop	190 ft.	Lots of shade, access to Whiskeytown Lake, swimming, views of mountains, benches along the trail
Difficult Hikes			
Boulder Creek Falls (via South Shore Drive)	2.75	950 ft.	138 ft. falls, Boulder Creek views, 3 creek crossings with no bridges. Footbridges for the crossings will be completed late summer 2012
James K. Carr Trail (Whiskeytown Falls Trail)	1.7	520 ft.	At 220 feet, park's tallest falls, beautiful views of Crystal Creek, some shade
Kanaka Peak	3.6	1,430 ft.	Panoramic views of the Trinity Alps, Mt. Lassen, Igo and Ono, Yolla Bolly Mtns., Clear Creek Canyon, beautiful Whiskeytown Lake
Mill Creek	6.1	350 ft.	20 creek crossings, lots of shade, north end of the trail connects with the Tower House Historic District
Papoose Pass	5.5	900 ft.	Spectacular views, sections follow the East Fork of Boulder Creek
Rich Gulch	1.8	500 ft.	Shaded, creek, views of Shasta Bally
Salt Gulch	1.6	800 ft.	Views of Mt. Lassen, Whiskeytown Lake, Southern Cascade Range, Trinity Alps



Camping

Developed Camp Sites	Number of sites	Price per night	Season	Maximum	Reservable
Oak Bottom Tent Campground	98	\$20 regular* \$22 for shoreline*	year-round	6 people 2 tents	•
Oak Bottom RV	22	\$18 *	year-round	10 people no tents	
Brandy Creek RV	37	\$14 *	year-round	10 people no tents	
Dry Creek Group Camp	2	\$75	4/1 to 10/31	50 people (20 minimum)	Reservations are required
Primitive Camp Sites	Obtain permits at the visitor center. Camping trailers are permitted in primitive sites if length is 15 feet or less.				
Brandy Creek	2	\$10	closed in winter	6 people 2 tents	First-come first-served
Sheep Camp	4	\$10	year-round	6 people 2 tents	First-come first-served
Peltier Bridge	9	\$10	year-round	6 people 2 tents	First-come first-served
Horse Camp	2	\$10	year-round	6 people 2 tents	First-come first-served
Crystal Creek	2	\$10	closed in winter	6 people 2 tents	First-come first-served
Coggins Park	1	\$10	closed in winter	6 people 2 tents	First-come first-served

Note: The purpose of this map is to provide visitors with a general reference for the location of roads, trails, facilities, and other features in the park. For a more detailed map, please pick up a park map/brochure from the visitor center or the Oak Bottom Campground Store.



- Ranger station
- Wheelchair-accessible
- Campground
- Boat launch
- Telephone
- Primitive campground
- Picnic area
- Sanitary disposal station

Drinking Water	Shower	Toilet Type	Notes
●	●	Flush	* Summer rates from 4/15–10/15. During the rest of the year tent sites are 1/2 price. There are four ADA accessible sites. For reservations call (530) 359-2269.
●		Flush	* Summer rates from 4/15–10/15. During the rest of the year all RV sites are \$10. No shade.
●		no toilet	*Price from 5/15–9/15. During the rest of the year, all sites are \$7. Water and dump station may be shut off periodically during winter to prevent freezing.
●		Vault	Call 1-877-444-6777 or visit www.recreation.gov for reservations up to one year in advance. Closed from 11/1–3/31. Large groups can reserve both sites.
			*If arriving after hours, camp in an unoccupied site and pay immediately when visitor center opens.
		Vault	Steep downhill road to reach the campsites.
		Vault	Caution: Sites are near a steep drop-off to the creek.
		Vault	All of the sites are near Clear Creek.
●		Vault	Only campground where camping with horses is allowed. Call (530) 242-3412 for more information.
		Vault	Both sites are very close to Crystal Creek.
		no toilet	4WD or high-clearance vehicles are highly recommended for the unpaved road to the remote campsite.

Take the Waterfall Challenge

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SUPPORT your healthy lifestyle and enhance your park experience, we invite you to take the Whiskeytown Waterfall Challenge. To complete the challenge you must hike, bike, or ride your horse to all four of the park's waterfalls. You will want to stop by the visitor center to pick up your Waterfall Challenge Passport to take with you as you visit each waterfall and make a rubbing impression in the square provided. The rubbing plates are unique to the individual falls and are located on the trail register boxes near the base of the falls.

Please bring your completed Waterfall Challenge Passport to the visitor center to stamp it with the special "I Hiked The Falls" cancellation stamp. During Waterfall Week, Whiskeytown's celebration of National Park Week, visitors may receive a special prize for completing the challenge while supplies last. Completing the challenge is a remarkable accomplishment, but visiting the park's waterfalls does not need to be a race to the finish—it can also



Visitors well on their way to completing the Whiskeytown Waterfall Challenge

be a journey of beauty and discovery. Although the falls lie at the end of the trail, there are natural wonders that you can see, hear, feel, smell, and perhaps most importantly, be touched by, as you make your way toward these wonders of nature. Happy Trails!

What can I do in the time I have?

Hours : minutes

Walk by the wayside exhibits outside the visitor center and enjoy the scenic views

0:10

..... Take a walk along the ADA accessible trail through the California native plant garden located behind the visitor center

Come inside the visitor center and learn about Whiskeytown's Native American and California Gold Rush history through the various exhibits

0:15

0:20



Jim Duckworth



Ken DeCamp

Half an hour

From the visitor center parking lot, enjoy a leisurely stroll down the Shasta Divide Nature Trail to the shores of beautiful Whiskeytown Lake

0:30

..... Visit the President John F. Kennedy Memorial and press the button to hear his inspiring speech from the Whiskeytown Dam dedication on September 28, 1963

0:45

From Horse Camp, walk the ADA accessible portion of the Guardian Rock Trail to the beautiful vista point overlooking Lower Clear Creek Canyon

1:00

..... Choose a place in the park with an unobstructed view of the sky and enjoy stargazing under Whiskeytown's beautiful night skies. The best time to stargaze is on the new moon or anytime between the Waning Crescent and Waxing Crescent Moon Phases (see "Sun and Moon" on page 3 for more information)

1:15

Take a short walk (0.3 miles) to Crystal Creek Falls and enjoy your lunch at the picnic site

1:30

Pan for gold along Clear Creek (see "Goldpanning" on page 3 for more information)

1:45



Ken DeCamp

Two hours

Take a quiet walk on a trail and spend time familiarizing yourself with the various plants and animals you encounter. Use all of your senses—enjoying the encounters is more important than naming the species

2:00

..... Hike Crystal Creek Water Ditch Trail or hike to Boulder Creek Falls via Mill Creek Rd Trailhead

2:30

..... Hike the Peltier Trail and enjoy a beautiful unnamed waterfall on Paige Boulder Creek

3:00

..... Hike to Whiskeytown Falls or Brandy Creek Falls Hike the Mt. Shasta Mine Loop Trail

3:30

Spend the afternoon at Brandy Creek and enjoy a picnic on the beach or in one of the many shaded picnic sites under the trees and near the creek



Half a day

Explore the newly re-routed Kanaka Peak trail and enjoy the spectacular views from the summit

4:00

5:00

6:00

7:00

8:00

..... Hike the Papoose Pass Trail from Sheep Camp to Boulder Creek Falls and back

..... Rent a kayak, canoe, or motorboat at Oak Bottom Marina and enjoy the lake for the day

Whole day

For an extreme and rewarding day, you can complete the Whiskeytown Waterfall Challenge (see page 5) in one day by hiking to all four of the park's waterfalls



A park for all seasons

Spring

TAKE A HIKE TO THE PARK'S FOUR WATERFALLS to see them during their peak flow as the mountain snowpack begins to melt; use caution as the trails will be slippery. Hike any of the park trails to experience the incredible bloom of wildflowers. Great trails for spring wildflower viewing are the Mt. Shasta Mine Loop, Davis Gulch, Guardian Rock, Lower Brandy Creek, and Boulder Creek trails. Spring is great time for birding when patience, stillness, and quiet observance will allow you to see the most activity. In April, take your family and friends to the park for Waterfall Week, Whiskeytown's annual celebration of National Park Week.

Summer

JOIN A RANGER-LED PROGRAM FOR A FUN-filled and educational park experience (See page 8). Take a swim in the cool waters of the lake at Brandy Creek Beach and have a picnic while you are there. Beat the summer heat by taking a hike to the waterfalls to bask in the shade and cool mist, or swim in the pools below the cascading waters. Drive (4WD vehicles only) to the 6,199 ft. summit of Shasta Bally Mountain for panoramic views of Mt. Lassen, Mt. Shasta, the Trinity Alps, and the Central Valley. Rent a motorized or human-powered boat at Oak Bottom Marina and enjoy the cool blue waters of Whiskeytown Lake for the day.

Fall

TAKE A HIKE ALONG THE CLEAR CREEK VISTA, Mill Creek, Brandy Creek, or Boulder Creek trails to view the brilliant fall colors of Big Leaf Maple, Pacific Dogwood, Western Redbud, and California Black Oak. Hiking, horseback riding, and biking are very enjoyable during the fall as temperatures cool and the buzz of summer activity fades. Fall is also the start of hunting season, so be aware of possible hunting activity while in the park's backcountry. Support your park by joining us on Saturday, September 29, 2012 for Pick-Up Lake Litter Day, Whiskeytown's annual volunteer event celebrating National Public Lands Day. In addition, keep an eye out for the date of Whiskeytown's 2nd Annual Harvest Festival in the historic orchards.

Winter

JOIN US AT THE CAMDEN HOUSE WITHIN THE park's Tower House Historic District for the annual "Old Time Holiday" celebration and free wreath-making workshop on Saturday, December 1, 2012. Hike along the Brandy Creek, Mill Creek, or Boulder Creek trails to witness the crimson glory of massive gatherings of lady beetles numbering in the thousands as they enter a period of dormancy to conserve energy in the colder months. Bring your binoculars to the quiet coves around the lake to enjoy the beautiful waterfowl that congregate on Whiskeytown Lake during the winter migration. Species commonly seen are Canada Geese, Mallards, Buffleheads, Common and Hooded Mergansers, Ruddy Ducks, and Ring-necked Ducks. Watch for bald eagles as well!

Staying safe in the backcountry



Living quarters in an illegal marijuana cultivation site in the park's backcountry. If you encounter anything like this, leave immediately!



Illegal marijuana cultivation sites such as this one are often hidden under the tree canopy and are near roads or trails.



Poison oak is very common in the park. Leaves of three, keep away from me!

WHISKEYTOWN IS A WONDERFUL PLACE FOR families to enjoy the outdoors. In order to ensure that you have a safe time in the park's backcountry, all visitors should be aware of some potential dangers and how to avoid them. Weather conditions can change rapidly, so be adequately prepared for your backcountry adventure by bringing extra layers of clothing, food, and plenty of water for each person, especially in the summer when temperatures can exceed 100°F.

Be alert for wildlife and maintain a safe distance. If you encounter a bear or a mountain lion, try to scare it away by shouting, waving your hands, and throwing sticks or rocks. Never leave food unattended and make sure to hang your food or use a bear canister if backpacking. Poison oak is found throughout the park. Look at the photo above (top right) to identify the plant and stay on the trails to avoid it. The plant drops its oily leaves in

winter, but the dormant stems of the plant are still toxic to your skin and can cause an itchy and painful rash.

You should also be on the lookout for suspicious and illegal activities. On public lands throughout California, drug trafficking organizations are establishing illegal marijuana cultivation sites, including Whiskeytown's backcountry. Law enforcement rangers are actively pursuing and eradicating these sites. While visiting the park and especially in the backcountry, be on the lookout for the following clues:

- Vehicles carrying agricultural supplies such as irrigation hose, fertilizer and/or pesticides
- People carrying firearms outside of hunting season; illegal cultivators are often armed
- Well established campsites outside of designated campgrounds; illegal cultivators occupy these sites throughout the growing season

- Large amounts of trash in the backcountry
- Irrigation hose or PVC pipe located near streams or in the backcountry
- Strange odors that do not occur naturally

For the safety of you and your family, if you observe any of these clues, or anything else out of the ordinary, leave the area immediately! Report suspected illegal activity to Whiskeytown dispatch at (530) 242-3431 or by calling 911 in an emergency. Timely reporting of information is essential for your safety and for park investigations. *Your safety greatly increases when you stay on official trails and hike or ride with others.*



Right: A black-tailed deer feeding on an unattended picnic. Animals can become aggressive and dangerous if they are fed and become habituated to people. Above Right: Pacific rattlesnakes are common in the park and can be enjoyed at a distance.

The uninvited guests

NON-NATIVE PLANTS ARE THOSE THAT OCCUR OUTSIDE THEIR NATIVE RANGE AS A RESULT OF actions by humans. Non-native and invasive plants are those which spread rapidly into surrounding ecosystems. Since these species do not have natural competitors or predators to keep them in check, they can easily displace native species (including rare and endangered species), increase the intensity and frequency of wildfires, degrade wildlife habitat, reduce water availability, and diminish visitor experience.

Many of Whiskeytown's visitors trek through weed-infested lands on their way to the park – unintentionally bringing invasive plants in on socks, shoelaces, tires, backpacks and pet fur. Keeping Whiskeytown's backcountry free of exotic plants is a monumental challenge that requires park staff and visitors to do their best in preventing the introduction and spread of non-native and invasive plant species.

Please help!

- Inspect your clothes, gear, tent, boots, boat, and vehicle for hitch-hiking seeds and brush vegetation and seeds from your pet's fur.
- Please ensure that all seeds are safely disposed of in the trash.
- Stay on established trails.
- Learn more about invasive plants and spread the word about non-native plant invasions.



Seeds from a Sock destroyer plant (*Torilis arvensis*) adhere to a visitor's pants and shoelaces.

Preserve Whiskeytown's waters!

Quagga and zebra mussels are two exotic species of bivalve that have caused ecological and economic havoc in many areas of North America. Both mussels can be inadvertently spread by contaminated boats being moved from one water body to another. Any time you remove your vessel (motorized and non-motorized) from the water, please do the following:

- Drain all water and dry all areas including the outboard unit and all live-wells.
- Inspect all exposed surfaces using your eyes and hands—small mussels feel like sandpaper to the touch and may not be visible.
- Remove all plant and animal material.
- Wash the hull of each watercraft thoroughly.
- "Clean, drain, and dry!" to stop the spread!



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.

Please follow the seven principles of Leave No Trace:

1. Plan ahead and prepare
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces
3. Dispose of waste properly
4. Leave what you find
5. Build fires in established fire grates only
6. Respect wildlife
7. Be considerate of other visitors



For more information, visit the Leave No Trace program web site at www.LNT.org.

“The squirrel bit me twice in less than a second. It took 13 stitches.” -B.W.

Do Not Feed The Wildlife!

Feeding wildlife may result in the following:

- Fatal damage to the animal's digestive system
- The animal becoming aggressive toward people

- Possible starvation of the animal
- You receiving a \$250 citation

Ranger-led program offerings

Program	ADA Accessible	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Kayak Program		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Special Access Kayak Program	♿					•		
Junior Ranger Kayak Program		•			•			
Junior Ranger	♿						•	
Junior Firefighter	♿						•	
Evening Program	♿					•	•	
Walk In Time				•			•	•
Water Safety Demonstration							•	•

Ranger-led program descriptions



Free ranger-led programs begin in mid-June and are offered through Labor Day weekend. Please call the visitor center at (530) 246-1225, or visit the park website at www.nps.gov/whis for the latest information on park programs and special events.

Junior Ranger

Saturday at 10:00 am (1 hour)

Children and adults of all ages (geared for ages 6 to 12) can learn about preserving and protecting park resources while making new friends during a special one-hour activity that explores the wonders of Whiskeytown. Meet at the Oak Bottom Amphitheater.

Junior Firefighter

Saturday at 11:00 am (1 hour)

Join National Park Service firefighters to learn how they manage fire to promote forest health and protect lives and property. Visitors will learn about the important role that fire plays in our national parks during this hands-on activity. Meet at the Oak Bottom Amphitheater.

Junior Ranger Kayak Program

Monday and Thursday at 1:30 pm (1.5 hours)

Join us for a special program that pairs parents and their children in a kayak so they can discover and share the joy of nature with each other as they paddle and play. The Monday program is geared for children three to six years of age, and the Thursday program is geared toward children seven to twelve years old. Please call (530) 242-3462 to make a reservation.

Kayak Program

Daily tours at 9:30 am and 6 pm. An additional 12:30 pm tour is offered on Saturday and Sunday (2 ½ hours). Reservations are required; call (530) 242-3462.

Hop on a kayak with a friend and explore the quiet coves around Whiskeytown Lake while you learn more about the natural and cultural values of the park. Children must be at least six years old. For reservations up to two weeks in advance, call (530) 242-3462. Ask about arranging a group tour (minimum of 12 people).

Special Access Kayak Program

Friday evenings during July and August (2 hours)

This program has been developed for individuals with special needs so they can enjoy a kayaking adventure. Visitors who have limited mobility, disabilities, developmental issues, or restrictions due to age or illness are encouraged to give kayaking a try. Visitors with special needs are paired with an experienced volunteer. Please call (530) 242-3454 for more information.

Moonlight Kayak Program

There are several tours offered each month from July through September (2 ½ hours)

Experience dramatic changes in the landscape as you explore Whiskeytown lake under the light of the moon. Reservations are required and can be made up to two weeks in advance by calling (530) 242-3462.

Water-Safety Demonstration

Saturday and Sunday afternoons (30 minutes)

Learn how to stay safe in and around the water, as well as how to rescue someone. Join a ranger for this fun and educational demonstration at Brandy Creek Beach and Oak Bottom Beach.

Walk In Time

Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday 3:00 pm (2 hours)

Discover how pioneers/prospectors Charles Camden and Levi Tower reshaped the landscape to create a home for their families and an "oasis" for many travelers during and after the California Gold Rush. After a tour of the Camden house, built in 1852, enjoy a leisurely stroll through the area, then try your hand at finding gold the old-fashioned way—with a gold pan in the creek! Meet the ranger at the Tower House Historic District parking lot near the bulletin board.

Evening Program

Friday and Saturday at 9:00 pm (1 hour)

Beginning August 3, start time is 8:30 pm

Spend the evening with a ranger and learn more about wonders of Whiskeytown through talks, slide shows, or other activities during this one-hour program. Topics include history, wildlife, and current issues related to protecting the park's natural and cultural resources. Meet at the Oak Bottom Amphitheater.



The Friends of Whiskeytown (FOW) is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping the National Park Service restore and protect the magnificent resources and recreational opportunities at Whiskeytown. Most recently, FOW purchased and donated a new fleet of kayaks to the park for the free ranger-led kayak program. The group's generous donation has enabled the park to once again offer tours out of the facility near Oak Bottom Marina where the program began more than 10 years ago. Visitors will now be able to experience the beauty of the western end of Whiskeytown Lake by paddling to the mouth of Boulder Creek, around Star Island, along sections of old Highway 299, and exploring the lake from Oak Bottom up to the Judge Francis Carr Powerhouse.

FOW has been instrumental in providing support for park projects and programs over the years, including the hiring of a Student Conservation Association trail crew to build and maintain trails each summer, Whiskeytown's Artist-in-Residence Program, the annual Volunteer-In-Parks Program recognition event, the Old Time Holiday and wreath-making workshop at the Camden House, Pick Up Lake Litter Day, and Whiskeytown's Annual Harvest Festival.

If you would like to join and support FOW, your contribution of \$25.00 or more will help the park complete projects that would be otherwise unfunded. And don't forget to mark your calendar for the third annual Brandy Creek Beach Luau on Saturday, June 9, 2012. This fun event is a fundraiser for FOW and will feature a luau dinner, Hawaiian entertainment, and a live and silent auction. For further information, call (530) 242-3460 or visit www.friendsofwhiskeytown.org

Forever Resorts is the National Park Service's concessioner on Whiskeytown Lake operating Oak Bottom Marina and Brandy Creek Marina. Both marinas offer slip rentals, launch ramps, and seasonal snack bars. Boat rentals at Oak Bottom Marina range from single kayaks to 16' fishing boats, 20' ski boats and 26' deck cruisers. The marina takes reservations on eight hour rentals only. Two and four hour rentals are on a first-come, first-served basis. Slip rentals at both marinas are available annually or seasonally.



FOREVER RESORTS

Also operated by Forever Resorts, Oak Bottom Campground offers 98 walk-in tent sites and 22 dry-camping RV sites, all within walking distance of the lake and swim beach. The campground has a dump station, restrooms, in-season snack bar, swim beach and access to the boat ramp. A maximum of six people and two tents are allowed at each campsite, which has a fire pit, picnic table, and bear-proof storage locker. Pets are welcome at the campground for a fee of \$2.00 per pet, per day. For the safety of all campers, dogs are required to be on a leash no longer than 6 feet and cannot be left unattended (See "Pets" on page 3).

Convenience stores at Oak Bottom are located in the campground office and the marina office. Both sell snacks, ice, bait and tackle, clothing, gifts and sundries. Oak Bottom Marina provides everything you need to enjoy your favorite outdoor recreational activity, and Forever Resorts' knowledgeable and friendly staff is always ready to assist you with your boating necessities and reservations. For more information, call (530) 359-2269 for camping reservations and (530) 359-2671 for the marina store, or visit www.whiskeytownmarinas.com.