

EASTERN SIERRA

FISHING GUIDE

- **Hot Spots**
- **Full-Color Maps**
- **Campground Guide**
- **Tips and Tricks**
- **Feature Stories**
- **Photo Galleries**

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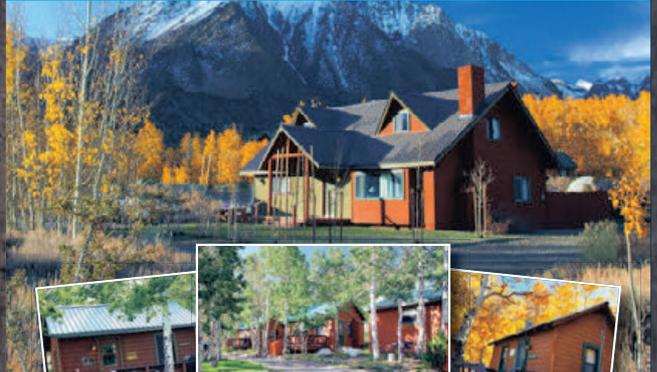
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“And while nature can help take care of the wellbeing of visitors and locals alike, we must keep in mind that we need to take care of nature as well.”

Keeping the shine on Eastern Sierra gems

With great outdoor recreation, comes great responsibility.

Now, Peter Parker, AKA, Spiderman didn't say those exact words but, if he hadn't been talking about power and had been talking about the abundance of outdoor opportunities offered in the Eastern Sierra, he should have and would have.

The Eastern Sierra draws thousands of visitors throughout the year to take advantage of fishing, hiking, camping, climbing, birding and just getting away from the busy and hectic scramble of every day life to at least catch a breath.

And while nature can help take care of the wellbeing of visitors and locals alike, we must keep in mind that we need to take care of nature as well.

In the last few years, and rightly so, there has become more of an awareness of not only the benefits of outdoor recreation, but the responsibility and basic considerations that come with enjoying the great outdoors. Most of us are aware of packing out whatever you pack in so you can leave the wilderness and waters as pristine as you found them. But there are other things to keep in mind, which can be found in the pages of this guide as well.

And while responsible recreation should be keen to those taking to the outdoors, that doesn't lessen the enjoyable, memorable experience that each and every fishing, camping, hiking, climbing, birding and other activities can generate.

In the following pages, readers will discover an overview of fishing hot spots, from Lone Pine all the way up north to the Walker River System.

You can also read about tips for beginners as well as some fun activities for the kids that can be done on the road to that favorite watering hole.

This guide also offers, for the first time in its history, a special Spanish section, thanks to a partnership with Sierra Forever and others.

So, we hope you enjoy the guide and outdoors, responsibly.

2025 Eastern Sierra Fishing Guide

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ON THE COVER:

Longtime Eastern Sierra fly-fishing guide Fred Rowe is seen doing what he loves. To read more about Fred and his fishing philosophy, see page 81.

Photo courtesy of Fred Rowe

Design by Julie Garrison

Special thanks to the veteran anglers and sporting goods stores that once again offered their expertise and advice in the production of this guide.

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2025 Eastern Sierra Fishing Guide

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2025 Eastern Sierra Fishing Guide

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Tonopah, Austin, Carson City, Humboldt-Toiyabe Supervisor's Office (Sparks), Elko, Ely, Winnemucca, Desert National Wildlife Refuge & Spring Mountains National Recreation Area (Las Vegas), and Pahrangat National Wildlife Refuge (Glendale).

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License fees in 2025

Don't forget the most important thing in your tackle box By Register Staff

Fishing licenses aren't known for being inexpensive, and generally increase in price by about 50 cents each year. But, when viewed as an investment – in hours and days of invaluable recreation, in quality time with the family, in respite outdoors in the Eastern Sierra – they're actually one of the best values around.

Revenue from California fishing licenses also helps ensure there will be trout to catch in fisheries around the state. For every sport fishing license sold, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife is required to plant at least 2.75 pounds of fish.

And, should any of us be caught fishing without a license, it's a mini-

mum \$100 fine (\$25 if that person can provide proof of a license in court) – which makes that \$54.00 sound like a pretty good deal.

Licenses are required for all anglers age 16 or older except on California's two free fishing days: Saturday, July 5 and Saturday, Aug. 30, in 2025. The general Eastern Sierra trout season runs from the last Saturday in April through mid November. Southern Inyo waters – south of Independence and west of U.S. Highway 395 – open for fishing in March. Various other fisheries in Inyo and Mono counties are open year-round, which is good because fishing licenses are valid for 365 days from the date of purchase.

ANNUAL

Resident, Sport Fishing – \$62.90

Required for a resident 16 years of age or older to take fish, mollusks, crustaceans, invertebrates, amphibians or reptile in inland or ocean waters.

Nonresident, Sport Fishing – \$169.82

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Reduced-Fee Sport Fishing License - Recovering Service Member – \$9.79*

Available for any recovering service member of the U.S. military.

Reduced-Fee Sport Fishing License - Low-Income Senior – \$9.79*

Available for low-income California residents, 65 years of age and older, who meet the specified annual income requirements.

Free Sport Fishing License - Low-Income Native American – NONE*

Available for any American Indian or lineal descendant whose household income does not exceed federal poverty guidelines.

Free Sport Fishing License - Mobility Impaired, Blind or Developmentally Disabled – NONE*

Available for a person who is blind, developmentally disabled, or mobility impaired. Your first Free Sport Fishing License must be obtained from the CDFW License and Revenue Branch. Subsequent licenses may be obtained from any license agent. See application for details.

* Must be purchased at a CDFW office

SHORT-TERM

One-day Sport Fishing License – \$20.52

Allows a resident or nonresident to fish for one specified day. One-day sport fishing licenses are exempt from the Ocean Enhancement Validation requirement.

Two-day Sport Fishing License – \$31.58

Allows a resident or nonresident to fish for two consecutive days. Two-day sport fishing licenses are exempt from the Ocean Enhancement Validation requirement.

Ten-day Nonresident Sport Fishing License – \$62.90

Allows a nonresident to fish for ten consecutive days.

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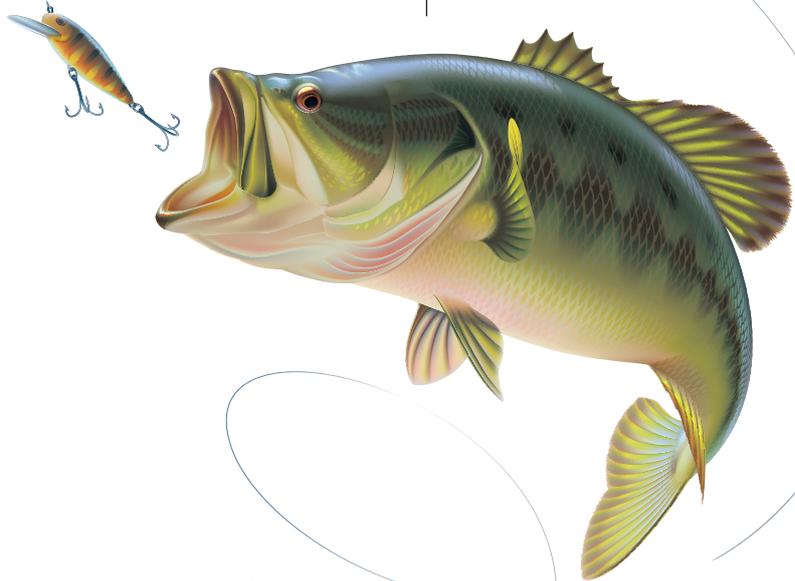
Ages 40-61 – \$1,019.50

Ages 62-plus – \$691.75

Available to residents of California. Lifetime fishing licensees receive an annual sport fishing license each year for life. Lifetime Fishing Packages must first be purchased from a CDFW License Sales Office. See Lifetime License Information for more details.

Fishing Privilege Package – \$467.25

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Next years Fishing Guide will come out in the first quarter of 2026 just in time for the early season openers and trade shows, and redistributed in April right before **"Fishmas"** here in the Eastern Sierra.

To reserve your advertising space for the 73rd edition of the Fishing Guide, Contact Ed Galanski

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SPOTLIGHT

Fish in the shadow of Mt. Whitney

Lone Pine, full of fishing enthusiasm

By Register Staff

Mt. Whitney, the iconic jagged peak tucked in the Sierra Nevada mountains west of Lone Pine, is the tallest mountain in the contiguous United States. While the peak draws mountain climbers and adventurers from around the world each summer, the territory at the mountain's foot boasts incredible fishing with a delightful dusting of wild-west culture and Hollywood legend.

Lone Pine also is widely known for the spectacular Alabama Hills National Scenic Area, which has been the backdrop to some of Hollywood's most famous western films – and Ironman. But while the scenery might appear simply desert-like from the highway, Lone Pine also is home to some lesser known and remarkably beautiful fishing spots.

Diaz Lake was formed during a massive earthquake in 1872. This small lake is heavily

stocked by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and by the Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce.

Diaz is best fished by boat but shore fishing works well, too. There is a fishing platform, which is accessible for the disabled, that also is ideal for young children who are learning how to fish.

There is a marina for boat launches, however, boats cannot be left in the water overnight.

Local bait-fishing anglers swear by rainbow power bait for Diaz, but worms, jigs and the usual trout favorites work well, too.

All of the water west of U.S. Highway 395, south of Independence, is open for fishing on the first Saturday in March, giving anglers the opportunity to enjoy the water two whole months before general fishing season opens throughout the rest of the state.



Area residents and visitors can get a jump on fishing during Lone Pine's early fishing opener, which takes place on the first Saturday in March at Diaz Lake, south of Lone Pine.

Photo by Jon Klusmire

Whitney Portal Road ends at the base of Mt. Whitney, the tallest mountain in the continental United States. Here, the parking lot gradually loops around a beautiful, easily accessed fishing pond, which is heavily planted throughout the summer months. This is another perfect option for children. The pond is perfect for young families looking for an alpine fishing experience without a backcountry hike. There is even a large waterfall just past the western end of the parking lot. The Whitney Portal store is famous for its pancakes but be sure to ask where Humphrey Bogart's famous death scene from "High Sierra" was filmed. Whitney Portal usually remains open into early November, weather permitting.

Another easily accessed fishing spot in the Lone Pine area is the "Sandtrap." The Sandtrap is located right above the spillway where Lone Pine Creek empties into the Los Angeles Aqueduct. All the fish from Lone Pine Creek end up pooling in the Sandtrap, making it an easy spot to catch a limit stringer.

Hogback Creek is accessed from Moffet Ranch Road from U.S. Highway 395. The road is a well-maintained dirt road north of Whitney Portal Road. There are areas along the creek that are nicely shaded by large cottonwood trees

Turtle Creek, south of Whitney Portal Road, is another popular fishing creek in the area, as well as the Lower Owens River.

If the fishing is slow, there are lots of unique opportunities in the Lone Pine area.

Start at the Museum of Western Film History, located on the south end of town. Here, you can learn about where film legends like John Wayne and Hopalong Cassidy made some of their movies. Scenes from movies like "The Lone Ranger," "Star Trek" and "Ironman" also were filmed in the area. Ask the museum staff how to find these filming locations.

From the museum, take Whitney Portal Road west to Movie Road and explore the Alabama Hills. The road is a well-maintained dirt road and there are several hikes, arches and rock formations to explore.

Fishing season in Lone Pine will again start with the Early Opener Trout Derby, hosted by the Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce, the first Saturday in March. This derby kicks off the Eastern Sierra early fishing season and is very family friendly, being more about fishing than winning.

The derby places emphasis on children learning to enjoy the sport of fishing and each child participant receives prizes for every fish they catch, regardless of the weight or size of the fish.

The main derby is held at Diaz Lake but once participants have registered, they can fish anywhere from Lone Pine to Independence as long as they stay west of the U.S. Highway 395.

For more information about the Early Opener trout derby in Lone Pine, contact the Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce at (760) 876-4444.



First-time young derby participants caught fish at the sandtrap near Independence, during a past Lone Pine Early Opener Trout Derby. From left are granddaughter Teagan Toy, grandmother Jaynie Brown, and grandson Revyn Toy.

File photo

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Anglers advised to stay on top of state regulations Courtesy Bishop Chamber of Commerce

This information is available to assist anglers, however fishing regulations are subject to change without notice. It is each angler's responsibility to look up and ensure they are aware of the most current fishing regulations immediately prior to fishing on the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife web page –<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Inland>

OPEN YEAR-ROUND

Inland lakes and reservoirs (i.e. Diaz Lake, Tinemaha, Pleasant Valley Reservoir, Intake II, North Lake, Topaz Lake and backcountry lakes), and ponds entirely on private lands, except those listed in Special Regs Section 7.50, are open to fishing all year with a five trout daily bag limit, and 10 trout possession limit.

This excludes the 20 resort lakes and others listed in Section 7.50b. The 20 resort lakes are listed to the right in the Winter Season section.

WHAT ABOUT THE OWENS RIVER?

The entire Owens River is open year-round but special regs and restrictions apply to the following sections based mostly on seasonality.

WINTER SEASON

From Nov. 16 to Friday preceding the last Saturday in April rivers, creeks, streams and canals are catch-and-release only. Unscented artificial lures/barbless hooks. (Unless listed in "Special Regs Section 750(b)").

Resort lakes are closed completely during the winter season. The closed resort lakes include Bridgeport Reservoir and tributaries; Convict Lake; Crowley Lake; Lake George; Grant Lake; Gull Lake; Horseshoe Lake; June Lake; Lundy Lake; Lake Mamie; Lake Mary; Rock Creek Lake; Lake Sabrina; Silver Lake; South Lake; Twin Lakes (Mammoth); Twin Lakes, Lower and Upper (Bridgeport); Virginia Lake, Lower and Upper.

TRADITIONAL SUMMER "FISHMAS" SEASON

Last Saturday in April through Nov. 15.

All lakes, streams, rivers and canals are open to catch-and-keep fishing

with 5 bag/10 in possession unless listed in Section 7.50b, the alphabetical list of trout waters, and/or geographic areas with Special Regulations.

Note that in Section 7.50b, the resort lakes listed below are open to catch-and-keep fishing with 5 bag / 5 in possession limit during the summer season. They include Bridgeport Reservoir and tributaries; Convict Lake; Crowley Lake; Lake George; Grant Lake; Gull Lake; Horseshoe Lake; June Lake; Lundy Lake; Lake Mamie; Lake Mary; Rock Creek Lake; Lake Sabrina; Silver Lake; South Lake; Twin Lakes (Mammoth); Twin Lakes, Lower and Upper (Bridgeport); Virginia Lake, Lower and Upper.



Diaz Lake is not only a favorite fishing hole for families, it's also open all year round, like many inland lakes throughout the area.

File photo



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Catch and release

Anglers can do their part to sustain regional fishing By Fred Rowe

Catch and release is a proven method of allowing fish to be caught more than one time. With state hatcheries having production problems caused by diseases and invasive species using catch and release methods will allow more anglers to enjoy the fun of trout fishing.

The proper procedure for releasing trout are:

Land trout as quickly as possible.

Leave the trout in the water.

Using barbless hooks makes it easier to remove the hook from the trout's mouth.

Handle trout with wet hands to avoid removing the trout's protective slime layer.

Cradle trout in the anglers hands or a net to allow it to recover.

Trout that are going to be released should be landed as quick as possible. Fishing equipment should be strong enough to allow anglers to land trout without a long battle that will stress out the trout. Trout are susceptible to lactic acid build up in their bodies. This is a major cause of mortality in trout that are released.

Water temperature is another factor effecting the release of trout. Anglers should not be fishing and releasing trout in waters that are 70 degrees or warmer. The mortality rate of fish released in these warm waters increases drastically.

Recent studies have shown that trout's gills exposed to the air increases the mortality rate. This is especially true when outside air temperatures drop below freezing. Anglers should not be practicing catch and release fishing when air temperatures are below freezing.

Trout that are allowed to flop around on the shore can damage internal organs that will result in their death. Trout should be left in the water or handled above the water so that if they are accidentally dropped, they will land in the water.

Once the hook is removed from a trout, the trout's first instinct will be to leave. The trout has been exercised to the point that it needs to recover. Trout should not be released the first time it tries to escape. A

good release is when the trout slowly swims out of the anglers hand or net and swims back to the safety of the stream.

A net makes it easier for anglers to handle the trout during the releasing process. Turning the trout upside down so that it's belly is up allows the fish to go dormant in the anglers hands. This little maneuver makes the hook removal much easier for the angler. Leaving a trout in the net until it has fully recovered is a good procedure for catch and release fishing.

If the angler does not have a net the angler should hold onto the trout by the tail and cradle the body in the other hand. Keeping your hand over the eyes helps settle the trout down. When I feel the trout has rested enough in my hand I slowly let go of the trout. Quite often the trout will not be aware it is free to swim away. I will slowly move my hands away from the trout. At this point the trout will slowly move back to the depths of the stream.

Using proper catch and release techniques will ensure that the trout will swim away to be caught again by another angler.

Sustainable and responsible recreating at a glance (from the Bishop Chamber)

1. Land your fish as carefully and quickly as possible. If you plan to release the fish, do not pull it up or land it on dry land—sand, rocks and vegetation damage the trout's slime covering that helps keep the fish healthy.

2. Avoid moving fish from the water—unhook and release the fish while it is still under water.

3. Only use wet hands and limit overall handling of fish. Never use a rag, and never squeeze the fish or touch its eyes or gills.

4. Gently remove hooks you can see—otherwise, clip the line near the mouth on a deep hooked fish. (The hook will rust and dissolve over time.)

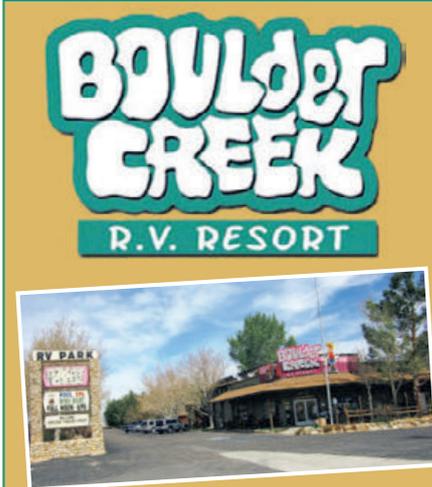
5. Use artificial lures (no bait) to minimize deep hooking. Barbless hooks or hooks with flattened barbs make unhooking easier and less stressful on the fish.

6. When cleaning your fish always dispose fish waste at a designated fish cleaning station or a bear-safe approved trash can.

7. Leave no trace. Fishing line and hooks left behind can harm pets, wildlife and other people (often children who are wading, swimming or playing on the shore). Please collect and recycle fishing line and hooks at your local tackle

shop and at fishing line disposal tubes at lakes and marinas throughout the Eastern Sierra.

8. Recreate responsibly in the "Big Backyard." When fishing and camping in the Eastern Sierra, please take all trash out with you, including pet and human waste, stay on the beaten path, and follow all wildfire safety prevention regulations to avoid causing a devastating forest fire.



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A paradise for creek fishing

Independence is the spot for warm, cold water angling *By Register Staff*

Independence, the earliest Anglo settlement in the Eastern Sierra, is one of the region's most peaceful destinations for early and late season stream fishing. Opportunities for camping, hiking, fishing and hunting accompany spectacular stargazing and remarkable historic structures.

Extensive hiking and backpacking trails go throughout the Sierra from trail heads at Onion Valley, Shephard Pass and Baxter Pass. There are several campgrounds in the vicinity of Independence and abundant trout fishing in the local creeks.

East of Independence the Owens River and off-channel lakes, ponds, and ditches offer warm water fishing opportunities for smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, bluegill and catfish.

The Independence area is known for having some of the best creek fishing east of the Sierra. This area is not nearly as frequented as some of the more popular fishing spots in Bishop or Lone Pine. That means there are a lot of fish and not as many anglers, making Independence as quiet and peaceful as it is serene.

The Onion Valley area, which is west of Independence via Onion Valley Road, offers a campground and a pack station.

There also is a trailhead access to several alpine lakes, perfect for anglers who want to go fishing in the backcountry. This is one of the highest trailheads in the Sierra. Maps and detailed lake access information is available at any local visitor center.

Onion Valley Road is a windy, paved mountain road that offers spectacular views of the entire Owens Valley.

Independence Creek is perfect for stream fishing. This creek runs roughly parallel to Onion Valley Road, and is easily accessible and excellent for fly fishing.

Shepherd's Creek has its own unique fishing his-

tory. During World War II, when Japanese Americans were interred at the nearby Manzanar relocation camp, some of the internees would sneak out of the camp just to go fishing in Shepherd's Creek, as well as some of the other creeks near the internment camp.

Manzanar is now a national historic site, and the story of the Japanese American fishermen is featured in the film "The Manzanar Fishing Club," which can be found at the museum.

The film is a must-see for anyone who loves the fishing lifestyle, as the film celebrates the spirit of those courageous fishermen.

Several of the streams in the Independence area are excellent for smallmouth bass fishing, as well as bullhead catfish and bluegill. There are several small ponds east of the town of Independence that are home to these species.

These ponds, along with the Owens River, can be accessed by Mazurka Canyon Road, then by various dirt roads. For detailed instructions, stop by one of the local visitor centers, or contact a local fishing guide service or sporting goods store.

There also are carp in the Independence area, which is the only type of fish in California that is legal to hunt with a bow and arrow.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife reminds anglers that the arrow must be attached to the bow or a fishing reel.

Independence also has a fishing derby each year, on the Saturday before Father's Day in June. This year, the derby will be held on June 20.

The Independence area has a long history and a proud fishing tradition. The Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery, now a museum, was instrumental in saving California's state fish, the golden trout. This beautiful facility still stands as a monument to the history of



Rose Bird, of Keeler, shows off her string caught during a recent Independence fishing derby.

File photo fishing in the area. The hatchery's front pond is a beautiful place to have a picnic after a morning of fishing.

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Big Pine offers it all

Area offers easy access to streams, variety of fishing opportunities

By Register Staff

Big Pine offers an almost-endless variety of opportunities for stream fishing year-round, all within easy access.

As one of the lesser-crowded fishing destinations in the region, Big Pine is the perfect spot for anglers who are looking to find a new fishing destination.

The small community of Big Pine is known as the portal to Palisade Glacier, the southernmost glacier in the northern hemisphere, and the ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest, the oldest living trees in the world.

But the fishing is just as noteworthy.

Big Pine Creek, which flows down from the glaciers and the Sierra high country, offers excellent stream fishing without the crowds.

While Big Pine Canyon is one of the few canyons in the area that does not have a paved road leading to lakes, it does offer stream access near Glacier Lodge.

There are alpine lakes, accessible by a short hike or trail ride from Glacier Pack Station.

The road to the Glacier Lodge crosses the creek at a point where the water flows rapidly, but there are many other places along the stream where the water slows.

There also are beautiful hikes along historic trails that lead to even more alpine fishing destinations along the streams and lakes of the Sierra backcountry. Big Pine Canyon is accessed by Crocker Street in downtown Big Pine. There is an excellent access point for Big Pine Creek just past the first big curve in the road, just before the road begins to gain altitude.

Baker Creek Campground, which is open year-round, is the perfect base camp for a fishing adventure, especially for families. Baker Creek pools in several places, including in and within walking distance of the campground, offering a peaceful fishing spot.

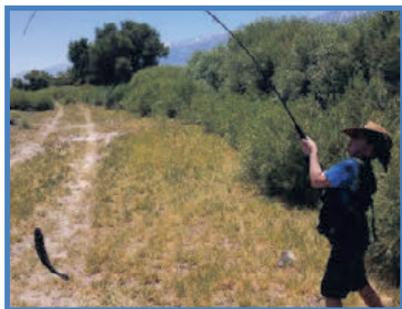
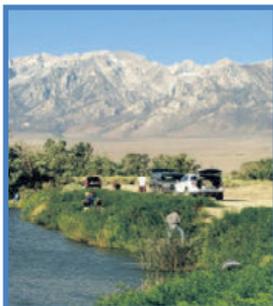
Some of the best fishing in Big Pine is along the Owens River, off U.S. Highway 168 East. The turnoff is just north of town, right next to the Glacier View Campground. There is a large

American flag and a solitary giant sequoia tree right next to the turnoff. U.S. Highway 168 crosses the Owens River, and continues up into the White Mountains towards the Bristlecone Pines. There is a well-maintained dirt road that follows the river, offering several different access points for anglers.

Tinnemaha Reservoir, located south of Big Pine, and east of U.S. Highway 395, is another great fishing spot. The reservoir can be challenging to reach, due to the brush and reeds that line the shores, but the fishing experience is worth the brush-wading. Several different species of fish inhabit the reservoir, including small-mouth bass – a fun change to the trout-fishing routine.

Little Fish Springs, which is located near Fish Springs Hatchery, is another great fishing option.

Goodale and Taboose campgrounds are located south of Fish Springs, and offer stream access for anglers.



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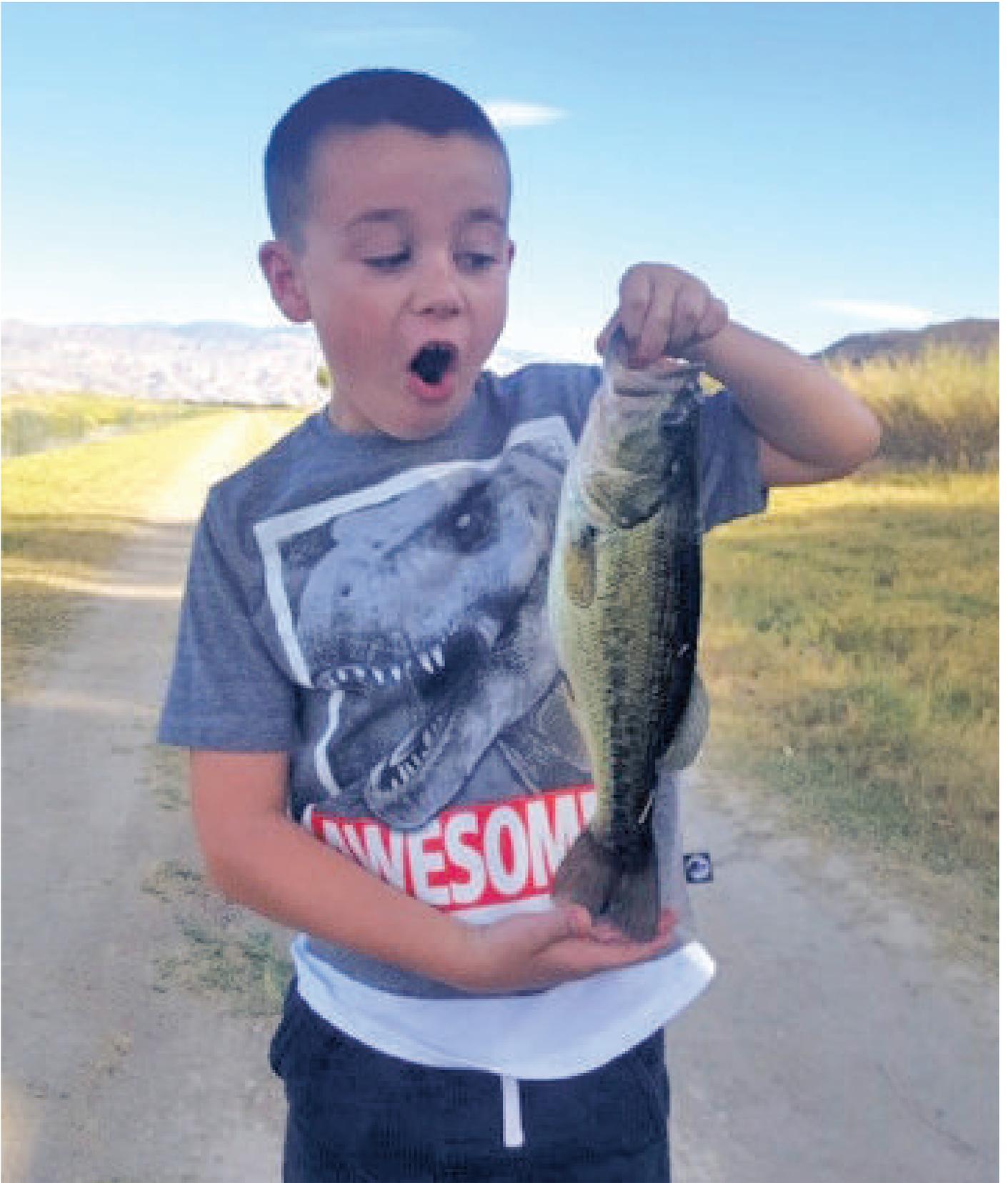
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Ryder is in awe of the bass that he caught while fishing a canal in the Big Pine area.

File photo

The basics

Try a beginner's intro to fly fishing By Jarett Coons

The fly-fishing industry is rapidly evolving, every day more and more people join this wonderful sport. Because many of these people are intelligent thinkers, they are always exploring the next frontier and tinkering with their fishing. The internet has allowed us to access any information we want, and we get to see what anglers around the world are doing. Techniques are being borrowed, altered and combined with others to find that perfect presentation.

I think therefore many people are intimidated by fly fishing, they think it is too difficult for them. When you look at it overall yes, it seems intimidating, all those flies, all those tools. But once you give it a try and understand the fundamentals, you'll see we are just slinging bugs to hungry trout.

Start with a great guide

I highly recommend going with a guide your first time out, they will strive to answer all your questions and make sure you learn as much as possible. Not just any guide, but a great guide. When you call to book your trip ask as many questions as you can and make sure to tell your guide your experience level, if they don't ask. A good guide will do the same, they will get to know you and your abilities

See BASICS, pg. 16



Learning the basics of fly fishing can help one land the lunkers.

Photo by Jarett Coons



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FOR INFO & RESERVATIONS

BASICS, from pg. 15

in order to provide you with the best day possible. They will be enthused to take you out and will make the day all about you. Good guides have endless patience and will never become frustrated with you no matter how long it takes. Their job is to keep you enthused, motivated and above all else make sure you are **HAVING FUN!** This goes beyond fishing, I often recommend food, lodging or anything else my clients are looking for! If you get the impression that your guide doesn't want to answer questions or acts like a prima donna, hang up and call someone else, after all, you are paying to have fun and learn, not to follow around a rock star.

As you are new to fly fishing your guide will most likely suggest a beginners or intro course to teach you the fundamentals and get you ready to leave the nest. This class usually starts out at a park or casting pond where we will cover the basic terms and skill sets that will get you out fishing on your own.

Rods/casting

After we break the ice, I will begin to talk about flyrods. The sizes, lengths, actions and where and why we use them. Then I'll do the same with reels and lines. I want you to understand how we balance a fly rod set up and the differences between the techniques used. Because I could spend weeks covering the many techniques we use, I have already hand selected what I will teach my client based on their needs and what they want to get out of the day.

Next, we cast! You are given a rod while your guide walks you through the mechanics of the basic fly cast. This is a great way to learn to cast as your guide will be able to instantly explain and correct any issues you might be having. I love when I get someone who says, "It seems much too difficult, I can't do it." Then five minutes later they are making beautiful casts with a huge smile on their face!

Then I will finish up by running them through a fish fighting drill showing them how to properly fight, land and safely release fish.

Knots/leaders

Probably just before we cast, we will talk about tippet, leaders and how we attach them. I'll explain the difference between all the materials we use and why. I'll explain the purpose and physics of leader construction



Casting practice can take place at lots of different locations and will lead to a better fishing experience.

Photo by Jarett Coons

from building your own, to pre-made tapered leaders.

Then I break out nylon rope and we practice tying our fundamental knots. Typically, the improved clinch, nail and blood knots, or any other knot we have confidence in. Using the rope to practice really helps you not only tie the knot but understand how it should look when properly seated. When finished with this part of the class you should have everything you need to make your major connections.

Entomology/fly selection

In order to catch trout, we must know what they eat and no they don't eat mice tails or powered bait, they eat insects!

Aquatic and terrestrial insects make up a huge portion of a trout's diet and the more we know about these insects the more fish we will catch. We will leave the pond and head out to the stream we are going to fish where you learn to take a stream sample to see what kind of insects, or trout foods are available. We take the insects to the truck and along with the help of our hatch guides we identify them. Then I explain their life cycles of how and when these insects are available to trout. We open our fly box and select a fly that is the same size, shape and color, we also want our fly to mimic the action of the naturals and look "alive." The more of these categories we can match, the better chances we have of fooling trout.

Putting it all together

Like any class there is always a test. From here you rig up and select flies (Don't worry, your guide will be there to keep you from getting into trouble.) Then, we fish! We will talk about presentation as you fish so you will see firsthand how to make a good drift and again, your guide will be there to help you make any corrections. As soon as we start making good drifts the fish will come, then you will get to see if you remember your fish fighting drill. Once the fish is in the net your guide will show you how to safely handle a trout and get a great picture of you with your catch before releasing it. The day usually concludes here, and we head back to the truck with our heads held high.

Fly fishing is like playing an instrument, you wouldn't just pick up a guitar and crank out a blistering solo that makes your ear drums bleed. It would take time and dedication, the more you practice the better you become. Every fish is a milestone as you progress and learn to become a better angler, and this is what fly fishing is about. The end result is fish, but the satisfaction comes from the journey.



Practice can bring results, such as these nice-sized stockers and a couple of lunkers caught by Jeremy Saldivar, left, and Jonathan Smiech of Corona at Pleasant Valley Reservoir.

File photo



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Blake Jones Trout Derby

Event hooks more than just anglers By Register Staff



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The Blake Jones Fishing Derby, an annual event that draws generations of families and friends to the Eastern Sierra, is headquartered at the Eastern Sierra Tri-County Fairgrounds where organizations and agencies set up educational booths, weigh-ins are held and awards are presented.

Photo by Gayla Wolf

Since 1968, the Blake Jones Trout Derby has been a cherished annual tradition, drawing families from near and far – with around 30% of participants coming from Inyo and Mono counties.

The 2025 event was another amazingly successful event and approximately 10% of attendees were first-time participants, many of whom are already looking forward to returning next year.

Approximately 600 people, including registered anglers, along with their families and friends, gathered at the Eastern Sierra Tri-County Fairgrounds on Saturday, March 22, for the prize awards ceremony. Nearly \$10,000 worth of prizes were handed out to lucky winners.

The Blind Bogey weight was 9 oz. and in the adult category, Robert Eddy of Bishop took home the grand prize – a Dave Scadden Dagger Pro Float Tube Package, along with a bag full of fishing gear.

Additionally, 14 other Blind Bogey winners received new rod-and-reel combos

and other great prizes.

In the Kids' Blind Bogey category, Trasen Chartraw, also from Bishop, claimed first prize.

Nine other young anglers took home Blind Bogey prizes as well.

The Catch & Release category saw Reese Tiffany of Bishop win first prize, and the heaviest fish of the event, weighing in at 3 lbs. 9 oz., was caught by Mark Cortez from Chino.

Participants were encouraged to help keep the river and reservoir clean by collecting discarded fishing line and other trash.

Thirty-three individuals brought in bags of garbage and were entered into a special "Talkin' Trash" drawing. Don Stevens from Temecula was the lucky winner.

But the Blake Jones Trout Derby is more than just a fishing competition – it's a full-blown celebration for anglers of all ages and skill levels!

Mark Vincent of Advantage DJ brought

2025 Eastern Sierra Fishing Guide



More sights and scenes from the 2025 Blake Jones Trout Fishing Derby.

Photo by Gayla Wolf

his “Porta Party” to provide music and assist with prize announcements.

The Bishop Lions Club served up delicious hamburgers, while Friends of the Fair sold adult beverages.

Berkley Representative Greg Mobley handed out free samples of Power Bait and helped distribute prizes. Inyo and Mono County 4-H members provided fish cleaning service. Attendees enjoyed spinning the Wanaaha Casino prize wheel and visiting booths from Sierra Bright Dot Fly Fishing and the Crowley Lake Fish Foundation. Even those who didn’t catch any fish had a chance to win fantastic raffle prizes.

Organized by the Bishop Chamber of Commerce, the event wouldn’t have been

possible without the support of more than 20 volunteers who helped with everything from set-up and clean-up to registration, raffles, and fish weighing.

The Chamber is deeply grateful for the continued support of its dozens of co-sponsors,

Next year’s Blake Jones Trout Derby is set for Saturday, March 14, 2026.

The event’s namesake, Blake Jones, invented the modern cheese bait like PowerBait back in the late 1950s.

With his charismatic personality, Jones became a spokesman for Bishop and the Eastern High Sierra, helping to turn Bishop into a year-round California fishing vacation destination

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Bishop Creek Canyon

'My favorite destination' By 'Fish Story' Lori



The Bishop Creek Canyon area not only provides some fantastic fishing opportunities but some of the most spectacular scenery in the Eastern Sierra.

Photo by Lori Carnahan

Heaven on Earth are the only words that come to mind when I describe or think about Bishop Creek Canyon. It is a paradise, a photographer's wonderland and one of the most beautiful places you can see in all of California. It's a 20-minute drive from Bishop with snow covered 13,000-foot peaks. It's absolutely breathtakingly gorgeous with magnificent indescribable beauty.

Bishop Creek was named after an Owens Valley settler, Samuel Addison Bishop.

Bishop Creek Canyon has so much to offer the outdoor adventurer. You can go hiking, boating, float tubing, kayaking, fly fishing, shore fishing, creek fishing, horseback riding or you can even try a backcountry pack train.

There are many lakes in this area. Many of these lakes you can hike to using one of the canyons five trailheads that lead hikers along some of the most scenic hiking trails in all of the Sierra.

Bishop Creek Canyon area is approximately 17 miles west on Line Street from downtown Bishop. Take State Highway 168 (West Line Street) from Bishop. Head west toward the mountains. Bishop Creek Canyon has five hydroelectric plants. It has three forks: North Fork, Middle Fork and South Fork and offers miles and miles of creek access with incredible fishing opportunities of a lifetime.

There are a wide variety of trees and wildlife, which include bears, mountain lions, deer, raccoons, squirrels, chipmunks, marmot, bald eagles,

golden eagles, osprey, stellar Js, woodpeckers, many ducks, mountain chickety with its sweet little call, migrating birds and countless beautiful wild flowers.

The creeks and lakes of the area offer several trout species – rainbow trout, brown trout, brookie trout and some golden trout.

Fish are planted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The lake resorts and lodges together with Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce get together to plant trophy trout throughout the canyon and lakes. If you have never hooked into a trophy trout it is an awesome experience and one you will never forget.

The lakes you can get to by vehicle

South Lake: Elevation 9,768' feet, 170 acres. This spectacular scenic lake is ultimately my favorite lake to fish. There really is no where else my husband and I would rather be. South Lake is well stocked weekly with rainbow trout. The lake has a variety of wild trout species. My personal best rainbow trout caught was at this lake. It was 8 pounds, caught on a small single hook with 4# test line and a nightcrawler. It required a perfect netting job by my husband, Tim. To this day it is one of the most exciting catches of my life.

South Lake Boat Landing offers fishing, kayak and pontoon boat rentals depending on the water level.

See BISHOP CREEK, pg. 22

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BISHOP CREEK, from pg. 20

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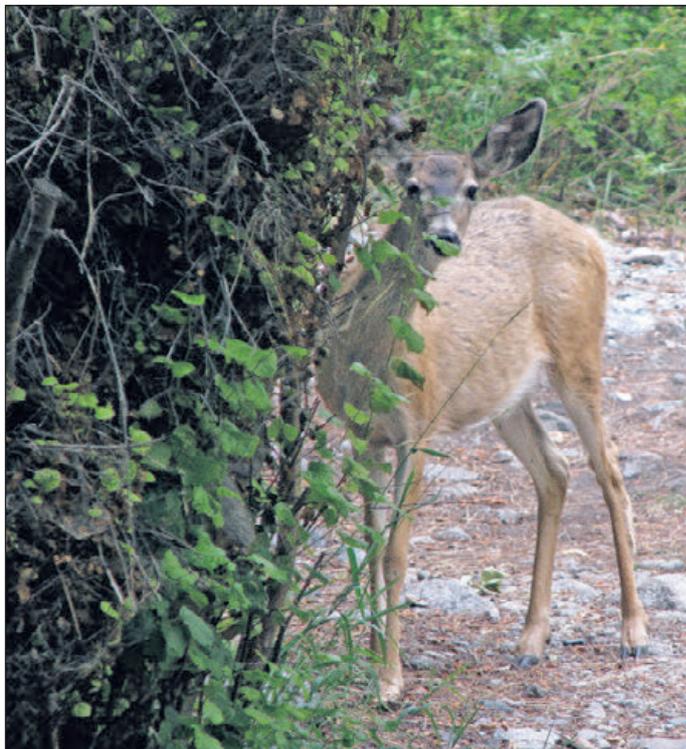
Weir Pond: Elevation 9,600 feet. Weir Pond is just below the dam at South Lake. Weir Pond is legendary for fly fishing. In the fall it becomes one of the most photographed color shots in the canyon. Aspen trees next to the pines turn bright yellow with shades of orange. On a morning when the water is glassy the high country majestic peaks are mirrored in the Weir providing incredible depth making it some of the finest scenery in the Bishop Creek Canyon.

Lake Sabrina: Elevation 9,128 feet, 180 acres; pronounced "Sah-bry-nuh."

Here you will find incredible scenery that will take your breath away. There are massive granite cliffs with magnificent views that surround it.

Lake Sabrina Boat Landing and Café offers fishing, kayak and pontoon boat rentals, free boat launching, fish cleaning facilities, tackle, bait, beer, wine, snacks, clothing and souvenirs. While eating breakfast or lunch at the café a must-have is my friend Patti's homemade, mouth-watering fruit pie topped with her homemade ice cream. Patti also makes her famous yummy castrated brownie pie. Try a piece of any of her pies or take home a whole pie for later. Store hours: 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Café hours: Breakfast, 7 a.m.-11 a.m., lunch, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.; (760) 873-7425 www.lakesabrinaboatlanding.com

North Lake: Elevation 9,350 feet. I caught a 7-pound rainbow from this lake a few years ago. It is located at the end of a steep, narrow dirt road (proceed with extreme caution). It is a very small lake with a natural beauty all its own and since there are no motor boats on this lake it is calm and peaceful, the perfect lake for float tubing. It is one of the most photographed lakes in the fall. The beauty of North Lake is so incredible that Apple used a photograph of North Lake as the default background for all Mac computers operating on the latest software called "macOS High Sierra." It was also



Beyond catching fish, anglers and visitors to the Bishop Creek Canyon area might also catch sight of the abundant wildlife in the area.

Photo by Lori Carnahan

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on the cover of "Sunset" magazine recently.

Intake II: Elevation 8,103 feet. It is heavily planted with rainbow trout during the fishing season. Southern California Edison manages this lake, which is the lowest lake in elevation in Bishop Creek Canyon. The lake is easy to fish with wheelchair access giving greater opportunity for the disabled to catch the trophy trout! It has a lot of great areas to shore fish and is the perfect lake for fly fishing, float tubes or canoes.

Resorts and Lodges in Bishop Creek Canyon

Bishop Creek Lodge: Café, bar and store. The continental breakfast is a perk for their cabin guests, but it may be purchased for a small price. It includes: cereal, bagels, cinnamon rolls, muffins, coffee, hot chocolate and juices. Dinner they serve a variety of hamburgers, steaks, shrimp, chicken, lamb shank, hearty chili, veggies, sides and salads for the hungriest of fishermen. For the kids they offer chicken tenders and grilled cheese. Their pizza has become a favorite of many. Dessert is seriously something not to be missed! The bar is fully stocked cocktail bar with a wide variety of domestic and import beers; they also serve local Mammoth brews. If you don't feel like a beer, stop by and have one of their famous Bloody Marys or the new Duck Fart! They have TV for all your sports needs including college football, baseball, professional football and any other sporting event that you

can't live without. Spring and fall hours: Monday and Tuesday café closed, store and bar open 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wednesday-Sunday café open 4 p.m.-8 p.m., dinner only. Summer hours: (Memorial Weekend - Labor Day Weekend), Monday and Tuesday café closed, store and bar open 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Wednesday-Sunday café open 4 p.m.-8 p.m., store and bar open 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; (760) 873-4484, bishopcreekresort@gmail.com

Cardinal Village Resort: Elevation 8,500 feet, 17 miles southwest of Bishop. It is located just above the community of Aspendell. Aspen groves cover the canyon. You can rent cabins here. Several cabins are historic and date back to frontier mining days. The resort maintains a pond stocked with rainbow trout and is a great place for kids to fish. Bishop Creek and its tributaries flow around the lodge giving anglers the opportunity to explore the area's waters and discover notable historic features associated with the famous Cardinal Mine operated by Gaylord Wiltshire in the early 1900s. Family dogs are welcome. Cardinal Café and General Store: Open seven days a week from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. They continue to serve one of the best hot breakfasts on the mountain and burgers that'll make you say "WOW." Not to mention the best coffee this side of Seattle! And views that can't be beat! They serve all-you-can-eat outdoor wood fired pizza in the summer - 5:30-7:30 p.m. on

See BISHOP CREEK, pg. 25

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BISHOP CREEK, from pg. 23

Thursday, Fridays and Saturdays; (760) 873-4789 - info@cardinalvillageresort.com

Creekside RV Park: Elevation 8,300 feet; free Wi-Fi is now available for park guests!

The park is open from the last Saturday in April through early November, offering full RV hook-ups. It now offers more sites for RVs over 40 feet with five sites that have True 50 amp hook-ups, as well as tent sites, rental trailers, a country store and showers. Enjoy the convenience of fishing the creek or their pond right in the RV park.

Along with the RV park and trailer rentals, they offer facilities to serve you with a country store, fishing tackle, worms, souvenirs, ice, rest-rooms, showers, groceries, beer, wine and self-serve food. Enjoy great drinking water from their artesian well.

Family dogs are welcome; (760) 873-4483,- www.bishopcreeksidervpark.com

Parchers Resort: Elevation 9,290 feet; cabin rentals, store and breakfast buffet. An easy 30-minute drive southwest from Bishop, the resort lies on a pine-sheltered bench between two beautiful mountain streams, the lively Bishop Creek and the more placid Green Creek. The resort is an ideal location for the small family or a large group. Reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis so it's always best to plan early. They have cabins that are perfect for couples, families, hiking groups or fishin' buddies.

Family dogs are welcome.

Parchers has three full-hookup RV sites available as well as a well-stocked country store carrying the basic foods, snacks, beverages, supplies and fishing tackle you will need on your vacation.

The variety of outdoor activities that bring visitors to the Bishop Creek Canyon and the scenic outdoor setting make Parchers Resort an ideal location for group events including company retreats, club events, and church groups.

Parchers Resort has a great selection of collectibles, gifts, souvenirs, professional Sierra pho-

tography, hats, books and custom clothing available; (760) 873-4177 - www.parchersresort.net

Campgrounds: There are wide ranges of campgrounds to choose from basic tent camping to RV camping with full hook-ups.

Here are few basic rules to know and follow when camping in the Bishop Creek Canyon area: Camp only in designated camping areas. Bear boxes are provided in each campsite. Use them.

Pets must be on a leash at all times. Overnight wilderness trips require a wilderness permit. Day hikes in the area do not require permits but should you need a permit for overnight wilderness trips you have to go down to the U.S. Forest Service office located on Main Street in Bishop.

In the high country be prepared for dramatic seasonal weather patterns such as warm temperatures to very cold, rainy and even snowing conditions. The weather in the Eastern Sierra can change quickly so be prepared. Be sure to bring your California State fishing license.

Things to bring with you on your fishing adventure: Lunch, snacks, drinks and lots of water to keep hydrated. It is very dry up there and especially in the higher elevations you must drink a lot more water. Good polarized sunglasses are a must. Be sure to bring a hat and sunscreen and insect repellent.

Dress in layers with comfortable clothing. A creel bag, fishing vest, or small tackle box are great ways to carry your fishing gear. My very favorite is the waist pack so you can access everything through the zipper compartments with out taking it off. Some anglers just put a few hooks and weights in their pocket with a rag, needle nose pliers and bait. You should use good shoes or hiking boots. (Some of the terrain is pretty rough.) Hip waders can come in handy. Don't forget a nice net for good luck.

IMPORTANT NOTE: There are NO gas stations in Bishop Creek Canyon.

Fill up before you drive up!



Fish Story Lori Carnahan shows off two trophy trout she caught at South Lake.

Photo courtesy Lori Carnahan



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Roots of the Gorge and the Reservoir

Classic spots for Eastern Sierra fishing By Jarett Coons

Long before we were here the Owens River was.

It began its life from the melting snow and ran unchecked to Owens Lake being joined by many streams along the way. It must have been a sight to see it during a good runoff without any dams or reservoirs to impede its rage. It flowed over the volcanic tablelands (Bishop Tuff) created by the Long Valley Caldera and over time carved the jagged canyon we call the Gorge.

Today a steady flow is maintained through the canyon by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and we are left with a great trout fishery.

It can take a little rock climbing to get to the good places but it is worth the work. The steady flow makes fishing consistently good on any given day.

The brown trout that live here average around 12 inches and will give you a good fight, often leaping like rainbows. They are opportunistic and can be drawn up by most dry flies. Some of my favorites are Royal Wulff's, Elk Hair Caddis and Stimulators. Hanging a nymph off that dry fly is a great idea here as these trout also take attractor nymphs like Copper Johns, Prince Nymphs and Bead Head Pheasant Tails. The bottom of the Gorge is thick with tules, willows and nettles so be careful when trekking upstream and be careful on those big boulders because some of them are loose.

Pleasant Valley Reservoir

At the lower end of the Gorge there is another dam sealing up the canyon and creating another fishery, Pleasant Valley Reservoir.

This place has very easy access you can park at the top or bottom of the reservoir and with a short walk down a paved road be fishing in minutes. The easy walk makes it a great place to pack in a float tube and fish more water.

This reservoir contains brown and rainbow trout as well as Sacramento perch and large-mouth bass. Stripping streamers and Midging are two productive ways to fly fish PVR. If you are going after big trout, large streamers that resemble young trout, bass, perch and crawdads fished on a sink line is a good way to go.

Hanging nymphs and baitfish patterns under an indicator is another productive method. It works well in a float tube as you can check your depth and know your flies are on the bottom. At certain times of the year the perch move in near shore to spawn and several fish can be caught. I remember early summer afternoons when I was a kid, my dad would take us and we would



If the fishing isn't that exciting, youths, such as Zenneth Coons, seen here, could always have a rock-climbing adventure at the Owens River Gorge.

Photo courtesy Jarett Coons

catch more than 100 perch in an afternoon. It was a blast!

The Gorge has more than 10 miles of stream and a reservoir at the bottom end to fish. It has something for everyone no matter what your skill level or ability. It is a great place for kids to fish and if they get bored, it is always fun to climb around on the big rocks.

If you needed more convincing it also is open to fishing all year long and the fishing in the fall

and winter is the best if you ask me.

(Jarett Coons was born in Bishop and spent the majority of his life fishing and hunting from Lone Pine to Bridgeport. When his father took him to Intake II, Coons got his first trout on a dry fly, and he, too, was hooked. In January 2010, he started Sierra Mountain Trout Guide Service with the goal of recreating that moment on Intake II for his clients all over the Eastern Sierra.)

Rockin' at Rock Creek

Canyon offers lake, stream fishing and great views

By Register Staff

Rock Creek Canyon has long been known as a hiker's paradise, with nearly countless species of wildflowers lining easy trails that lead to spectacular alpine lakes – but the canyon also is home to beautiful as well as easily accessible fishing holes.

To reach Rock Creek Lake and Rock Creek, head west at the Tom's Place turnoff on U.S. Highway 395 (at the top of Sherwin Grade). From there, the road winds to a myriad of backcountry angling opportunities.

Rock Creek Lake is one of the smaller lakes that are easily accessible in the Eastern Sierra. Due to its high elevation, if the conditions are right, Rock Creek Lake is a great place to go ice fishing early in the season. Conditions for ice fishing depend on the previous winter.

However, the benefits of the lake's elevation affords the angler more than a chance for ice fishing. Temperatures on the Owens Valley floor will almost always hit triple digits in the summer. When that happens, Rock Creek Lake and Rock Creek can be a much-needed sanctuary from the 100-plus degree heat. The odds of nabbing brooks and 'bows is said to be best during these times.

Veteran anglers swear by the fly bubble combo when it comes to fly fishing Rock Creek Lake. As for bait, many anglers swear by the traditional nightcrawler.

Rock Creek Pack Station is only a short distance from the lake. Their specialty is backcountry excursions, which will expose anglers to many lakes teeming with wild brook, rainbow and golden trout. Half, full and multiple day adventures can be arranged through the pack station.

Mosquito Flats is located just up the road from Rock Creek Lake. Despite its name, Mosquito Flats is a wonderful place to start a backcountry fishing excursion; Little Lakes Valley is among the most beloved and popular hiking trails in the region because of its spectacular scenery and gentle slope. The trailhead lies at the far end of the Mosquito Flat parking lot.

The trail is surrounded by wildflowers in the springtime. The trail forks into the Morgan Pass and Mono Pass trails not far from the trailhead. To reach the Little Lakes Valley, take the Morgan Pass trail to the left.

The Mono Pass trail ascends steeply up the western side of the canyon while the Morgan Pass trail meanders through the lush meadows of Little Lakes Valley for three miles before ascending to Morgan Pass.

In Little Lakes Valley, there is a series of small lakes and streams, including Serene, East Brook, Mack, Heart, Hidden and Gem lakes. Mostly brook trout are found here, with an occasional heavyweight brown making an appearance.

When fishing Rock Creek, black ants or green body mosquitoes are recommended, as both are natural fare for the creek's trout. Stream anglers will find the water stocked with CDW rainbows. Look for the rainbows in the open, easy-to-reach locations, especially adjacent to campgrounds. For the sneaky fisherman, wild brown trout are there for the taking in the brush-lined, hard to reach spots.

Forest Service campgrounds are located along Rock Creek and on the lakeshore.

For those looking for more refined accommodations, modern cabin rentals are available at Rock Creek Lake Resort. About a mile downstream more options are available at Rock Creek Lodge.

Rock Creek Lake Resort features a well-stocked general store, home-cookin' with a nightly dinner special as well as rental boats. Rock Creek Lake Resort also serves up smoked barbecue as well as cobbler.

Just a ways down the road is historic Tom's Place. There you'll find good hamburgers and maybe a fishy tall-tale or two around the famous horseshoe bar.

Lower Rock Creek, south of Tom's Place, is an often overlooked stretch of the creek that produces a lot of trout. Watch for the turnoff to Lower Rock Creek Road, less than a mile south of Tom's Place, on the southbound side of the U.S. Highway 395.

Anglers may want to start with the traditional PowerBait and salmon eggs when fishing this portion of the creek.

If that doesn't produce easy results, switching to the mosquitoes and ants recommended for the upper stretch of the creek may be the ticket.

A popular hiking and mountain biking trail follows the course of the creek down the canyon.



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Convict Lake

One of Mono's deepest lakes

By Register Staff

It is a place with a legendary past, set back in time when the West was wild and the land even wilder, but while time has moved on, Convict Lake's fishing remains the stuff of legends.

Tucked just off U.S. Highway 395 south of the turn-off to Mammoth, Convict Lake is considered by the locals to be one of the most beautiful destinations in the beauty-filled Eastern Sierra, and the road goes right to the shoreline. For anglers, the lake offers more than just spectacular scenery.

Convict Lake features a loop trail that provides almost 360 degrees of shore access and the Convict Lake Resort, founded in 1929, offers virtually every kind of amenity, from boat rentals to lodging to tackle and supplies and horseback rides. Convict Lake Resort also promotes a number of fishing derbies throughout the year, offering anglers ample opportunities to win prizes like tackle and gear.

Though the angling is good across the lake, experts say the best option is to hit the water on a boat. From shore or from a boat, some of the best angling action can be found at the inlet, located on the west side of the lake. Garlic-flavored PowerBait of any color is one of the recommended tools, but worms and crickets also are a favorite.

As the weather warms up in the summer, trollers tend to work well on the lake, beating out shore anglers for some of the larger catches. Seasoned anglers say the trick to netting the trophy-sized trout is to get the bait at a depth of 30-40 feet, where the trout linger to avoid the heat of the day.

As with most Eastern Sierra waters, the best bet is to hit the waters early in the day or late in the afternoon.

Stream fishermen and women also have the option of heading down to Convict Creek, located on the east side of the lake. The lower creek runs past a number of Forest Service campgrounds, giving those who have acclimated to the altitude an opportunity to walk from water to water.

For more secluded angling opportunities, hit the trail to the upper creek. The trail begins at 7,580 feet and provides access to a number of great fishing holes.

The truly hardy can keep going, hitting Mildred Lake at about 9,760 feet.

To reach Convict Lake, take the Convict turnoff from U.S. Highway 395 near the Mammoth Yosemite Airport.

For information about Convict Lake, call the resort at (800) 992-2260 or (760) 934-3800 or visit www.convict-lake.com.



A group of fishing buddies show off their catch from Convict Lake.

File photo



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Convict Lake not only offers great fishing but some of the most beautiful vistas in the Eastern Sierra.

Photo by Alicia Vennos Mono County Tourism



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The Crowley tradition

Nothing quite like it during the early season

By Register Staff



Lori Miller caught this monster trout trolling Crowley Lake with a Tasmanian Devil. Crowley Lake's history almost is as amazing as the

fish anglers continue to catch.

File photo

When it comes to lake fishing in the Eastern Sierra, Crowley Lake is king, both for its size and reputation for being home to the lunkers. Crowley has long been known as one of California's best fishing destinations and it continues to deliver on its long track record of great catches.

The massive lake, located just north of U.S. Highway 395 north of Tom's Place, is one of the region's most popular early-season destinations. It is a great place to spend Opening Day, especially for anglers who enjoy socializing with other fish enthusiasts.

Crowley features a variety of bays and inlets as well as its outlet to the Owens River on the south side. At 12 miles long and five miles across at its widest point, there's plenty of elbowroom on Crowley, and even more opportunities for a trophy-sized catch.

With so much room for the fish to swim, Crowley has a reputation as home to some truly massive fish, with the largest on record weighing

in at a whopping 26 pounds.

Experts explain that Crowley's catches grow so large thanks to a midge-fly-based food chain that provides summertime feasts for the fish. The fish also gorge themselves on Sacramento perch fry.

The lake features a boat launch and rentals, available at the Crowley Lake Store, along with information on what's biting and where anglers are having the best luck.

Access to Green Banks near the old North Landing can be reached off Benton Crossing Road (north of the Crowley Lake turnoff and identifiable by the historic Green Church at the turn-off from U.S. Highway 395). The key at Green Banks is trolling over the deeper water of the Owens River Channel where some of the lake's bigger browns will wade deep, waiting for food to flow out of the Owens and into the lake.

Those who continue past Green Banks on Benton Crossing Road

2025 Eastern Sierra Fishing Guide

will cross the Owens River and find the eastern shores of the lake's inlet, which features popular fishing holes like Layton Springs and Alligator Point. No, there are no actual alligators at Alligator point, but the fish may be just as hungry as a 'gator. Both Layton Springs and Alligator Point have a reputation for delivering early-season limits with plenty of action all summer long. They also are accessible by boat.

For those trolling the waters of Crowley, minnow imitators, Cultiva's Rip'n Minnow and Mira Shad, Rapalas and Yo Zurls are a safe bet.

Local sportsmen also recommend needlefish, Lucky Craft Pointers and other options.

Don't be afraid to ask around to find out what's working best and the folks over at the Crowley Lake Fish Camp are always ready to help.

Crowley also is a popular destination for fly fishing, with many hitting the lake in float tubes, or plying the shores. As always, fishing with flies can be a tricky business and the proper fly will change with the season, temperatures and other conditions. Anglers say midge and caddis imitators and streamers resembling perch fry are a good bet if all else fails.

Crowley Lake is named after Father John J. Crowley, who was a Catholic priest and served the Eastern California area in the 1920s and '30s.

Father Crowley was indefatigable in his efforts to attract tourists to the Owens Valley. Each year on Opening Day of trout season – which he managed to have declared a county holiday – he blessed fishing equipment. In another publicity effort, on Sept. 14, 1934, he climbed Mt. Whitney and became the first priest to celebrate Mass on the summit. Pictures of the Mass appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

See CROWLEY LAKE, pg. 32



Crowley Lake has served as one of many favorite fishing locales for anglers of all ages.

Photo submittedS



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From left, Brett Schartz, Ben Knight, Travis Weaver, Corey Schwartz and their four-legged pup Darla, show off a nice stringer recently at Crowley Lake. Groups of friends are known to come up to the lake

and make it a tradition year after year to celebrate camaraderie as well as the sport of fishing.

File photo

CROWLEY LAKE, from pg. 31

The priest's flair for publicity paid off. Tourists began to flock to the valley, and the once-hostile residents began to welcome them. Using constant media pressure, Father Crowley finally secured a hearing with commissioners of Los Angeles regarding the plight of the Owens Valley. At one point, Father Crowley actually locked Chief Water Engineer H.C. Van Norman in a meeting room until the exasperated engineer conceded to requests to build a new dam that would restore water to the impoverished desert.

While returning from a publicity trip to San Francisco in September 1940, Father Crowley struck a steer that had wandered

onto the highway. His car was forced into the path of an oncoming truck and he was killed instantly.

When the new Long Valley Dam was completed, the reservoir it created was named Crowley Lake in honor of the desert priest. It remains a popular fishing spot today, attracting thousands of people each year for trout season. It is interesting to note that 78 years after his tragic accident, Father Crowley remains a legendary figure, recognized as the visionary leader who saw the potential for the region, and as a man of faith who dedicated his life to helping its inhabitants.

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Crowley crusaders

Foundation aims to keep lake world class

By The Crowley Fish Foundation

It was Labor Day Weekend 2022 when a local paper published an article about concerns of numerous anglers and fishing guides observing a steady decline in the number of fish being caught from Crowley Lake.

Long-time fishing guides Ernie Gulley, Dave Carranza, and Chris Leonard spoke with reporters at The Sheet about the issue.

Ernie has always referred to Crowley Lake as the “Queen Jewel of the Eastern Sierra,” and there is a lot of truth to that statement. It’s historically known as one of California’s greatest trout fisheries.

But, the number of fish being caught each year was noticeably on a steady decline, and the news article got the public’s attention.

During the summer of 2023, the Department of Fish and Wildlife local regional field office began conducting daily creel count surveys on the lake, and DFW focused on the issue. They began ramping up efforts to better stock the lake.

There are challenges to stocking the lake, to the fault of no one, in particular when an epidemic like Whirling Disease sweeps through a trout population.

DFW continues to do great things, but a group of anglers figured they could also help. In May 2024, a group of guides and recreational anglers decided to create the Crowley Fish Foundation, to better help the fisheries of Crowley Lake and its tributaries.

CFF sought to immediately work with
See **CROWLEY**, pg. 34



Crowley Fish Foundation board member Jarett Coons helping Peter Charley Jr. with tying a fly during one of the organization’s outreach events

Photo courtesy Crowley Fish Foundation

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CFF board member Hodges Glass clipping the adipose fins from sedated Eagle Lake strain rainbow trout.

Photo courtesy Crowley Fish Foundation

CROWLEY, from pg. 33

numerous public and private agencies to ensure the continued legacy of maintaining the health of Crowley Lake as a world-class trout fishery.

This concept isn't new. The Bridgeport Fish Enhancement Foundation has been in operation for more than two decades, and has done wonderful things to the waters of Northern Mono County. A group of anglers simply wanted to build a similar organization for the southern part of the county.

Thus, CFF was born in May 2024.

The team behind CFF is a diverse group of professional, semi-professional, and recreational anglers, all who bring something different to the table.

The board is composed of Joe Contaldi, Danny Corral, Hodges Glass, Chris Leonard, Andre Nersesian, Matt Rodrigues, Christopher Meyers, Jarett Coons, and Ernie Gulley.

They are supported by webmaster Ryan Heavican, videographer Philip Nguyen, tax consultant Scott Luke, legal advisors Michael Tu and Roger Backlar, and advisers Michael Lueders and Tim Alpers. There are some brilliant minds building this foundation.

CFF also works with local DFW fish **See CROWLEY, pg. 69**

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Highlight:

The Blake Jones Trout Derby is the largest single day Blind Bogey fishing event in California and has been celebrated for more than 50 years. Named after the late Blake Jones, he invented the modern cheese bait like Powerbait, back in the late 1950s. With his charismatic personality, Blake Jones became a spokesman for Bishop and the Eastern High Sierra, helping to turn Bishop into a year-round California fishing vacation destination. Maybe this year it will be you, vying for a share in over ten grand in prizes?

Check out dates for these regional fish derbies on bishopvisitor.com/events.



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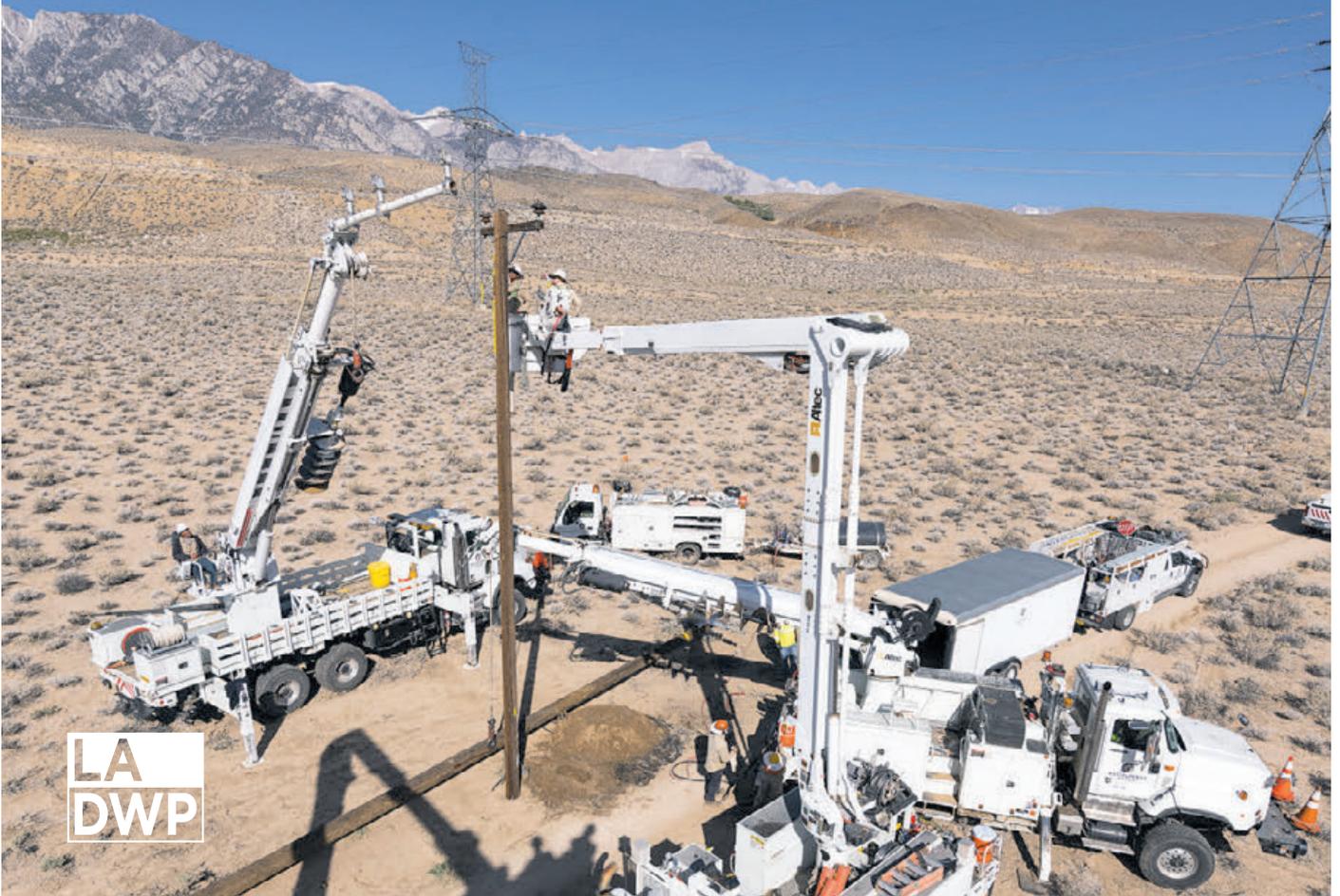
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LADWP promotes healthy fisheries

Utility leases land for hatcheries By Register Staff

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power owns approximately 315,000 acres in Inyo and Mono counties, and keeps nearly 75 percent of that private land open for public recreational uses.

This open space not only benefits the community by contributing to the beauty of the environment, but it also bolsters the local economy. Fishing, for example, is one of the Owens Valley's greatest tourist attractions and LADWP plays a vital role in ensuring fishing activity remains a healthy component of the local economy. In partnership with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife LADWP works to enhance the local economy by promoting healthy fisheries within the waterways of Inyo and Mono counties. Fish and Wildlife is in charge of stocking the fish, while LADWP maintains the stream flows when water is available to keep the fish in good condition in all streams on LADWP property.

Because of LADWP's extensive landownership and ownership of water rights, the department's ongoing operations activities in area

waterways ensure that local fish habitat is in good condition. LADWP promotes the health and vitality of Owens Valley waterways through conducting flow management and land management practices. These efforts include controlling livestock grazing patterns and timing water diversions and flows according to fish lifecycles, where possible.

In addition to watershed protection efforts, LADWP has restored approximately 10 streams to healthy fisheries in Inyo and Mono counties. The department also leases land to Fish and Wildlife for three local hatcheries – Hot Creek, Black Rock and Fish Springs hatcheries – and supports hatchery operations by providing water to the facilities.

LADWP spends millions of dollars each year to ensure the protection of the local watershed, which in turn keeps the local fishing economy afloat. While maintaining local fishing is not LADWP's primary driver, it is a good side effect of promoting healthy watershed and one the department takes seriously



A day of catch-and-release fishing at the Fish Springs Ditch is likely to land the angler everything from a beautiful, wild brown trout to a rainbow that's escaped the hatchery. LADWP leases land to the DFW for three local hatcheries, including Fish Springs Hatchery.

File photo

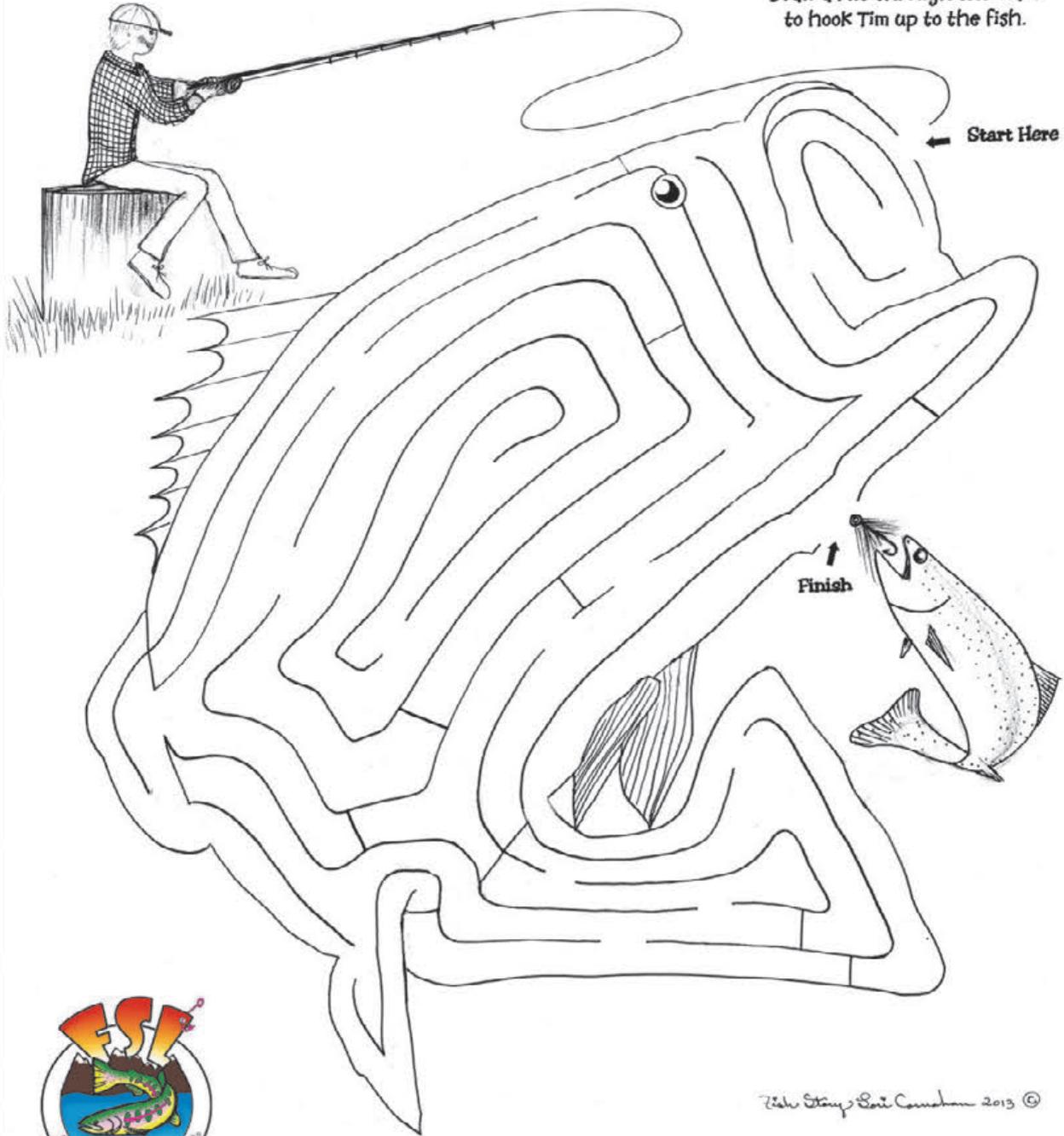
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Fish Story, Scott Cameron 2013 ©

FSL Match The Catch !

Draw a line to connect the fishing pole to the hook that matches the fish.

Trout



Bass



Catfish



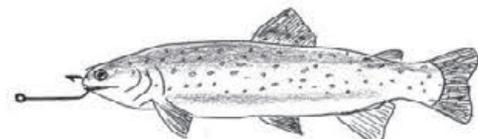
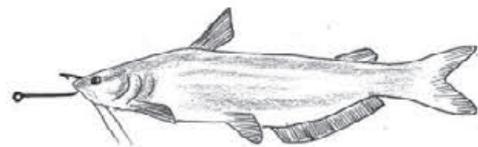
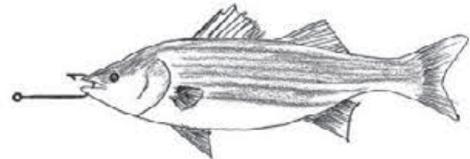
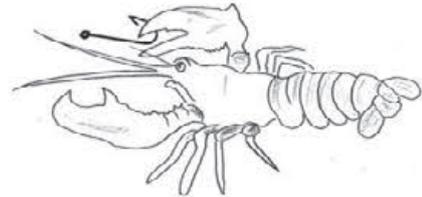
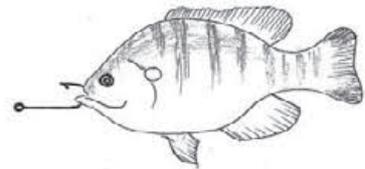
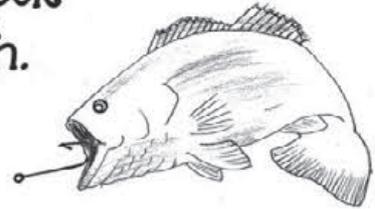
Blue Gill



Striped Bass

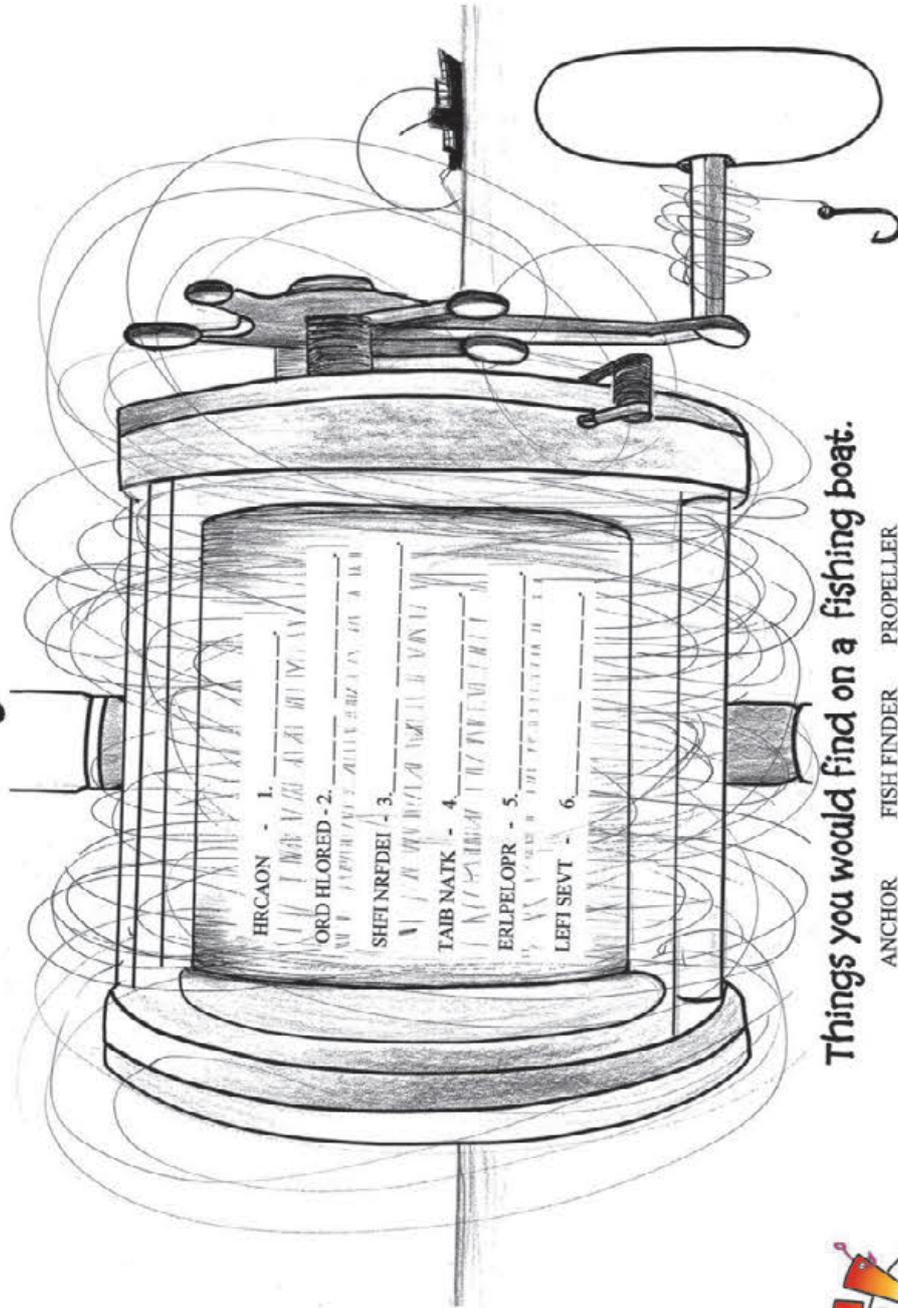


Crawfish



Fish Story: Carl Conahan 2013 ©

FSL Untangle The words.



HRCAON - 1. _____

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SHTNREDEI - 3. _____

TAIB NATK - 4. _____

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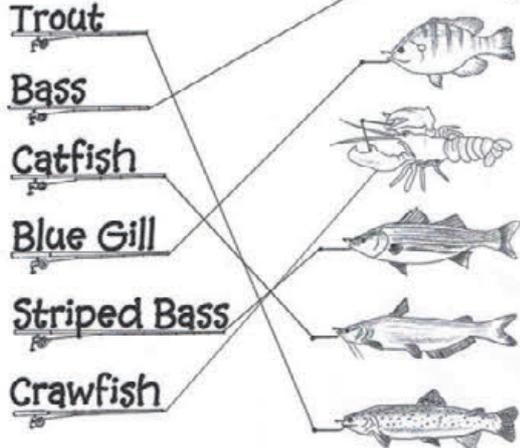


Fish Store Lake Curran 2013 ©

ANSWER SHEET

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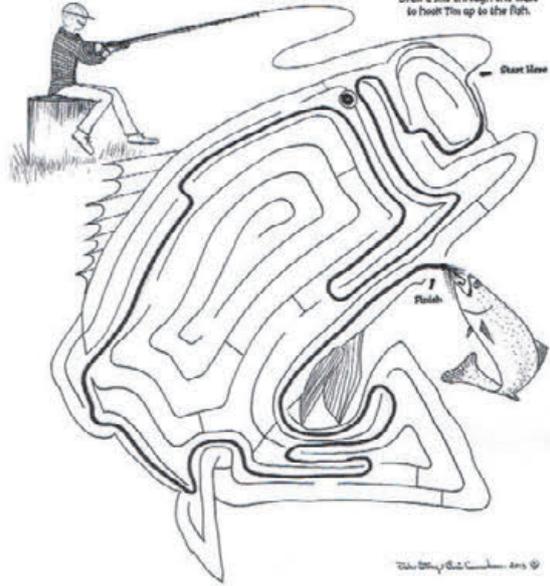
Draw a line to connect the fishing pole to the hook that matches the fish.



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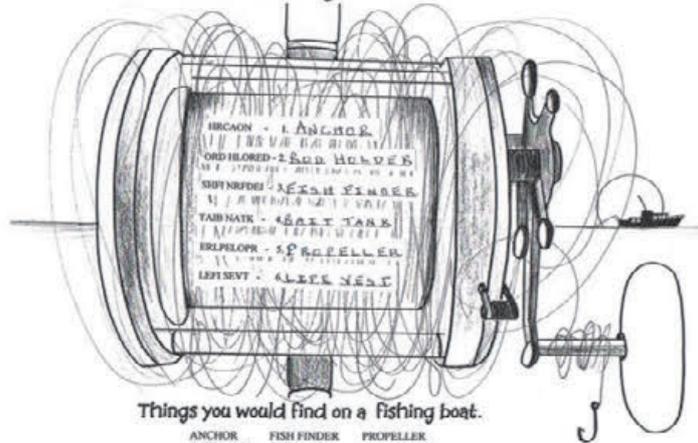
FSL Bass Maze

Tim wants to catch a big fish!
Draw a line through the maze to hook Tim up to the fish.



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FSL Untangle The Words.



2014 © Sierra Story Loom



A 'Basin' of fishing opportunities

Mammoth Lakes Basin lives up to its name By Register Staff

While Mammoth Lakes might be known for its world-class skiing and its incredible scenery, on the back side of the mountain lies Mammoth Lakes Basin. With its series of seven lakes just outside of town, the Lakes Basin area is an angler's playground.

The main lakes, which are accessible by paved roads, are home to rainbows, brooks and browns.

One of the most popular is Lake George, the third largest of the basin's great lakes, which is 38 acres in size. Local experts say that fishing the backside of the lake, where the water is deepest, is generally the best spot.

The largest of Mammoth's lakes, Lake Mary, is 140 acres, providing plenty of room for boats and shore fishing. Mary also boasts campgrounds and other facilities. The locals say the hot spots are near the outlet at the

See BASIN, pg. 59

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John Reed, of Ventura, California, enjoys another great day of fishing on Lake George, one of the lakes that make up the Mammoth Lakes Basin.

Photo by Brian Gordon

Hot Spots of Inyo County

A quick guide to popular fisheries By Register Staff

From Cottonwood Creek south of Lone Pine, to Rock Creek Lake north of Round Valley, Inyo County is home to dozens of

angling "hot spots." Here's a look at some of the most popular, and how to get there. California Department of Fish and Wildlife planting schedules, including exact locations, are subject to change.

BAKER CREEK

Take U.S. 395 to the north end of Big Pine. Turn west on Baker Creek Road just north of the ballfield in Big Pine and travel one mile to the campgrounds. Fish are planted in the campground area.

BIG PINE CREEK

Turn west off U.S. 395 on Crocker Street in Big Pine and continue to the top of the grade. The creek is planted from Sage Flat Campgrounds to Glacier Lodge.

BISHOP CREEK, LOWER

Take U.S. 395 to the town of Bishop. Turn west on W. Line Street and continue to Elks (Bulpitt) and Isaak Walton parks. Plants are made upstream from Elks Park to the Powerline Road.

BISHOP CREEK, UPPER

Turn west on W. Line Street in Bishop and continue 15 miles to Intake II. Trout are planted from Intake II to Cardinal Lodge and from Lake Sabrina downstream to the North Lake turnoff.

BISHOP CREEK, SOUTH FORK

From Bishop turn west on W. Line Street and continue to the South Lake turnoff just below Intake II, and turn at the fork. The creek is planted at access points from Creekside RV to the U.S. Forest Service Campgrounds, and from Parcher's Resort to Weir Lake.

COTTONWOOD CREEK

From U.S. 395 turn south at the Cottonwood Power House turnoff located about eight miles south of Lone Pine. Keep to the left as you cross the Los Angeles Aqueduct. The creek is planted from the campgrounds at the power house intake to the end of the road.

DIAZ LAKE

Located on the west side of U.S.

395, two miles south of Lone Pine.

GEORGES CREEK

About seven miles south of Independence on U.S. 395 turn south on the small road located one-quarter mile northwest of the Los Angeles Aqueduct crossing. The fish are planted at the sand trap.

GOODALE CREEK

Travel U.S. 395 14 miles north of Independence and turn west at the Goodale Creek campground sign, then go two miles to campground. The creek is stocked from the campground to Aberdeen.

INDEPENDENCE CREEK

Turn west off U.S. 395 on Market Street next to the Post Office in Independence. Trout are planted from Independence Campground, located one-half mile west of Independence, to where the main road crosses the creek above Seven Pines Village, a distance of about seven miles.

INTAKE II

Turn west at W. Line Street (S.R. 168) in Bishop, and go about 13 miles until you see signs for Intake II.

LONE PINE CREEK, LOWER

From U.S. 395 turn west at the traffic signal located in the center of Lone Pine (Whitney Portal Road). The creek is planted at access points from the Los Angeles Aqueduct to Lone Pine Campgrounds.

LONE PINE CREEK, UPPER

Travel U.S. 395 to Lone Pine. Turn west at the traffic signal located in the center of Lone Pine (Whitney Portal Road), and continue up the grade for 13 miles. Fish are planted at the campgrounds along the creek from this point to the pond at Whitney Portal store.

NORTH LAKE

From U.S. 395 turn west on W. Line

Street in Bishop and continue up the grade for approximately 16 miles. Turn right at North Lake sign.

OWENS RIVER, SECTION II

In the Bishop area, turn east from U.S. 395 on E. Line Street, U.S. 6, Warm Springs Road or Collins Road. Trout are planted from Laws Bridge on U.S. 6 to Collins Road. In the Big Pine area travel east from U.S. 395 on Westgard Pass Road (S.R. 168). The river is planted here.

OWENS RIVER, SECTION III

Accessed via various dirt roads east of U.S. 395 from 10 miles south of Big Pine to just south of Boulder Creek RV Park. To get to "High Banks," turn east on Mazourka Canyon Road, south of Independence. Along the way as the road parallels the river; scout out your own personal spot for future reference. To get to the pools north of the pump-back station, drive to the south end of Lone Pine to Boulder Creek RV Park, then take a left on the long, straight dirt road leading east to the terminus of the river and the pumpback station. From there, another dirt road on the east side of the river leads north to the pools.

PLEASANT VALLEY RESERVOIR

From Bishop, take U.S. 395 as it curves northwest toward Mammoth Lakes. About 10 miles later, a few miles past the Bishop city limits sign, there will be a turn-off on the right. Pass through the campground to the reservoir.

PINE CREEK

Travel U.S. 395 to approximately 10 miles north of Bishop. Turn off on Pine Creek Road and drive west to where the road crosses the creek.

ROCK CREEK LAKE

From U.S. 395, turn west at Tom's Place located 23 miles north of Bishop (Rock Creek Road) and pro-

ceed west up the canyon for about 10 miles. Just beyond Rock Creek Lake Resort, a spur to the left leads to the lake; staying on Rock Creek Road bypasses the lake.

LAKE SABRINA

Drive to Bishop on U.S. 395 and turn west on W. Line Street. Follow the signs to the lake which is located approximately 17 miles southwest of Bishop.

SHEPHERD CREEK

Turn east at the road with a cattle guard located approximately five miles south of Independence on U.S. 395. Follow this road until it ends at the Los Angeles Aqueduct. Turn right and continue to the creek. Trout are planted at the sand trap where the road meets the creek.

SOUTH LAKE

Travel to Bishop via U.S. 395 and turn west on W. Line Street (S.R. 168). Continue for approximately 13 miles to the South Lake Road turnoff. Turn left and drive for another six miles to the lake.

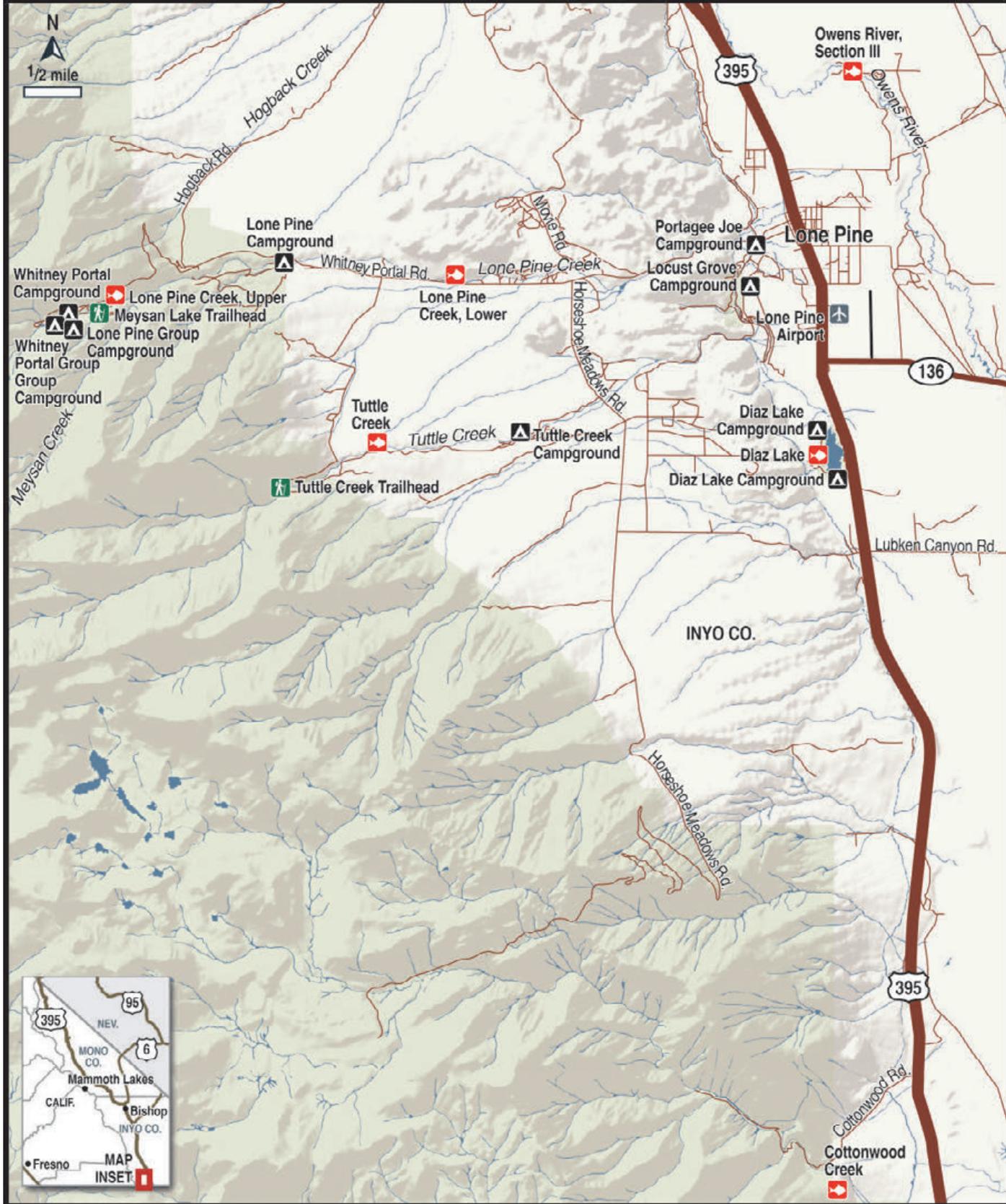
TABOOSE CREEK

Travel U.S. 395 to 14 miles north of Independence and turn west at the Taboose Creek Campgrounds sign. Turn left at the first road past Old U.S. 395 and continue to the stream. The creek is stocked in the campgrounds from Old U.S. 395 to one mile upstream.

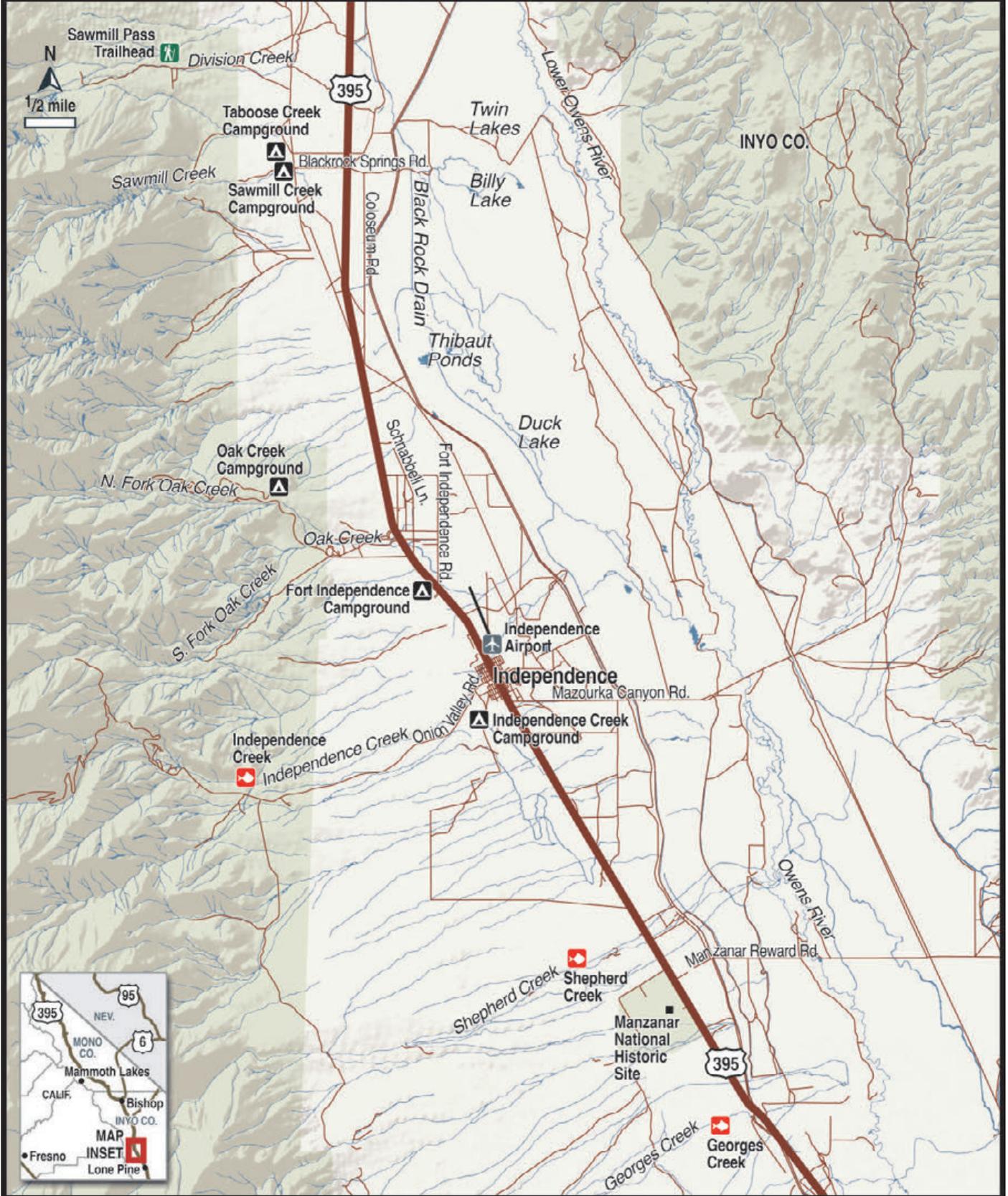
TUTTLE CREEK

Travel U.S. 395 to Lone Pine and turn west at the traffic signal in the center of town. Continue up the road (Whitney Portal Road) for three miles to Horseshoe Meadow Road and turn left. Drive for about two miles to the Tuttle Creek Campgrounds. The creek is planted at access points in the campgrounds.

LONE PINE AREA



INDEPENDENCE AREA



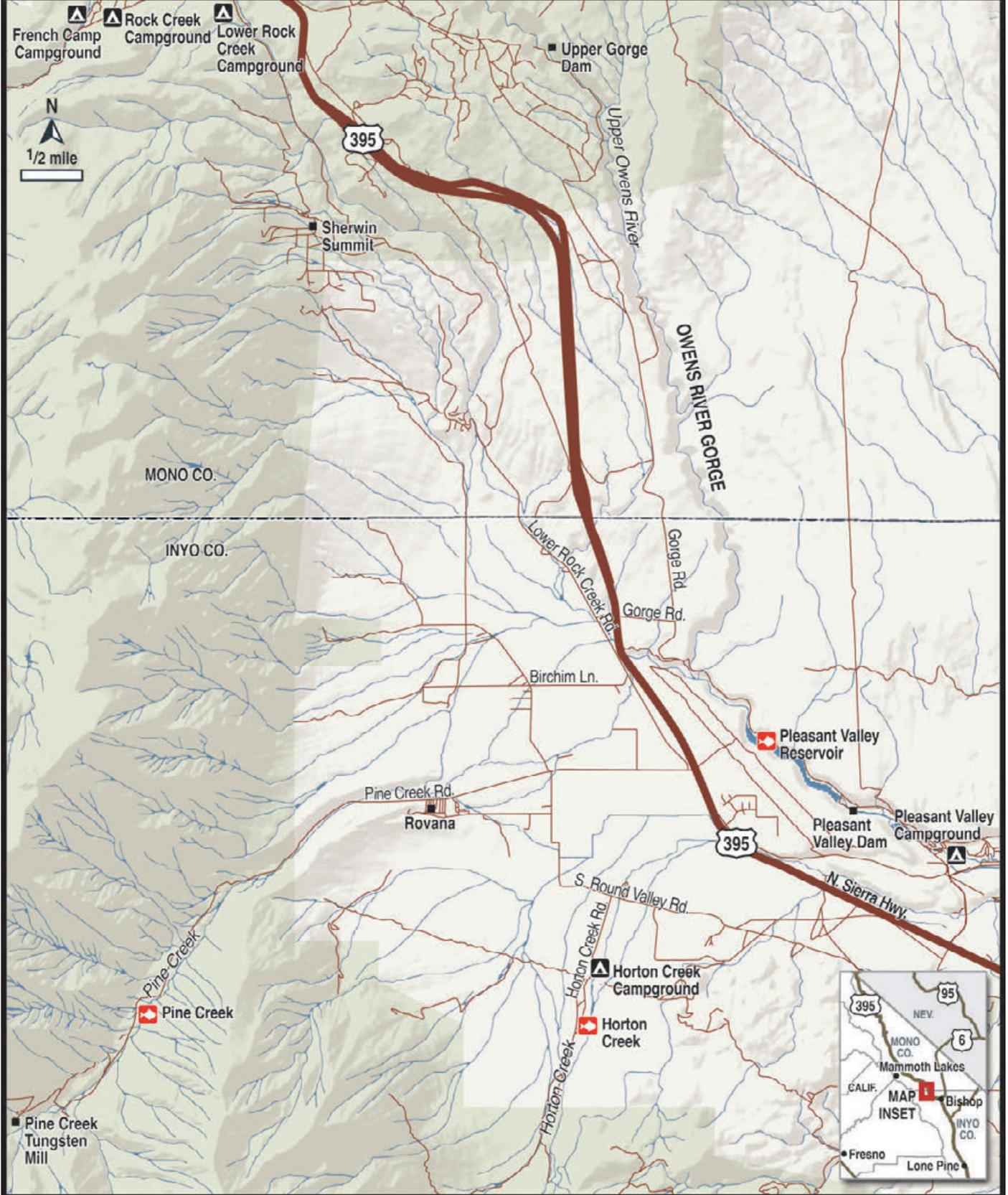
BIG PINE AREA



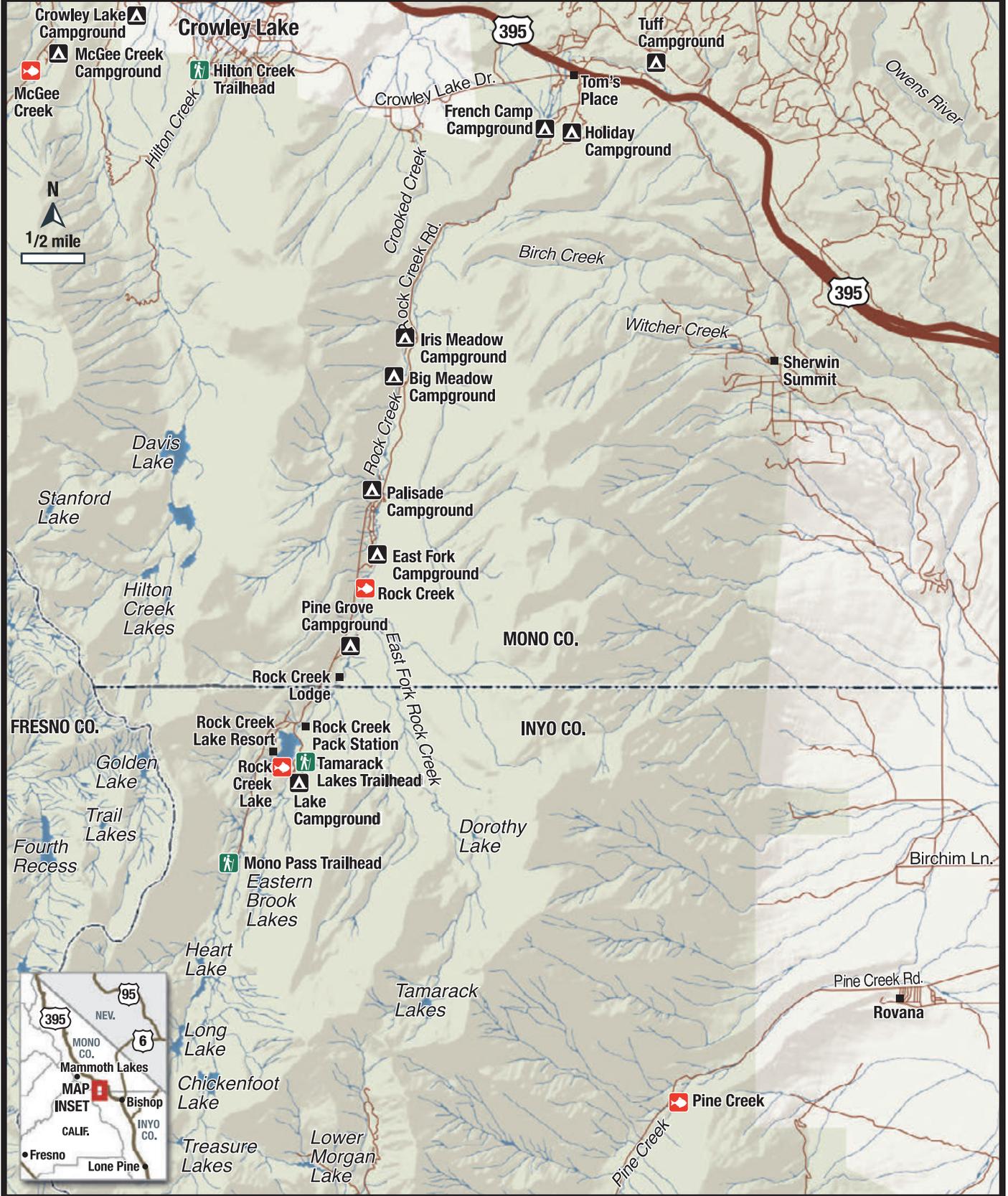
BISHOP AREA



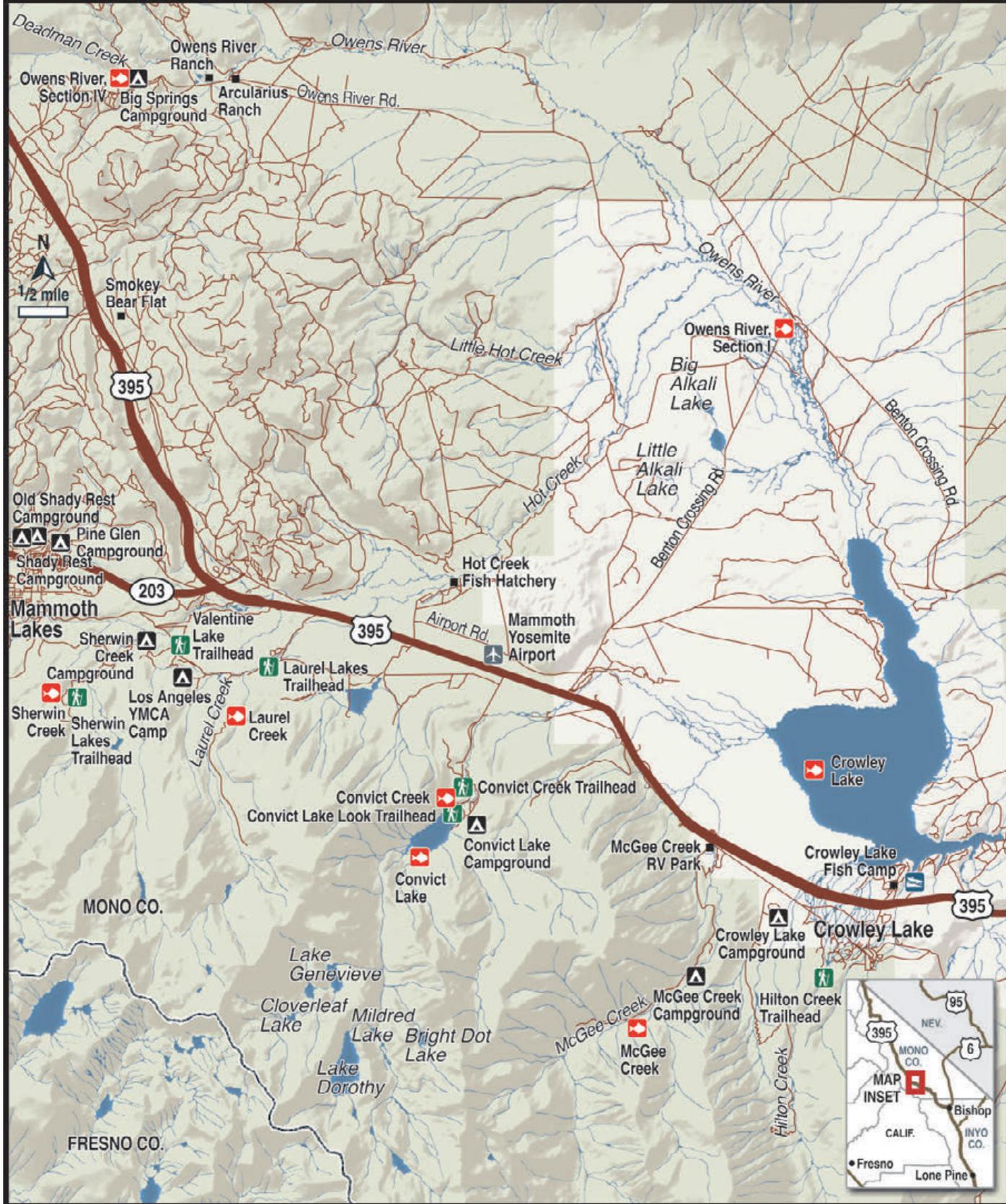
PLEASANT VALLEY RESERVOIR



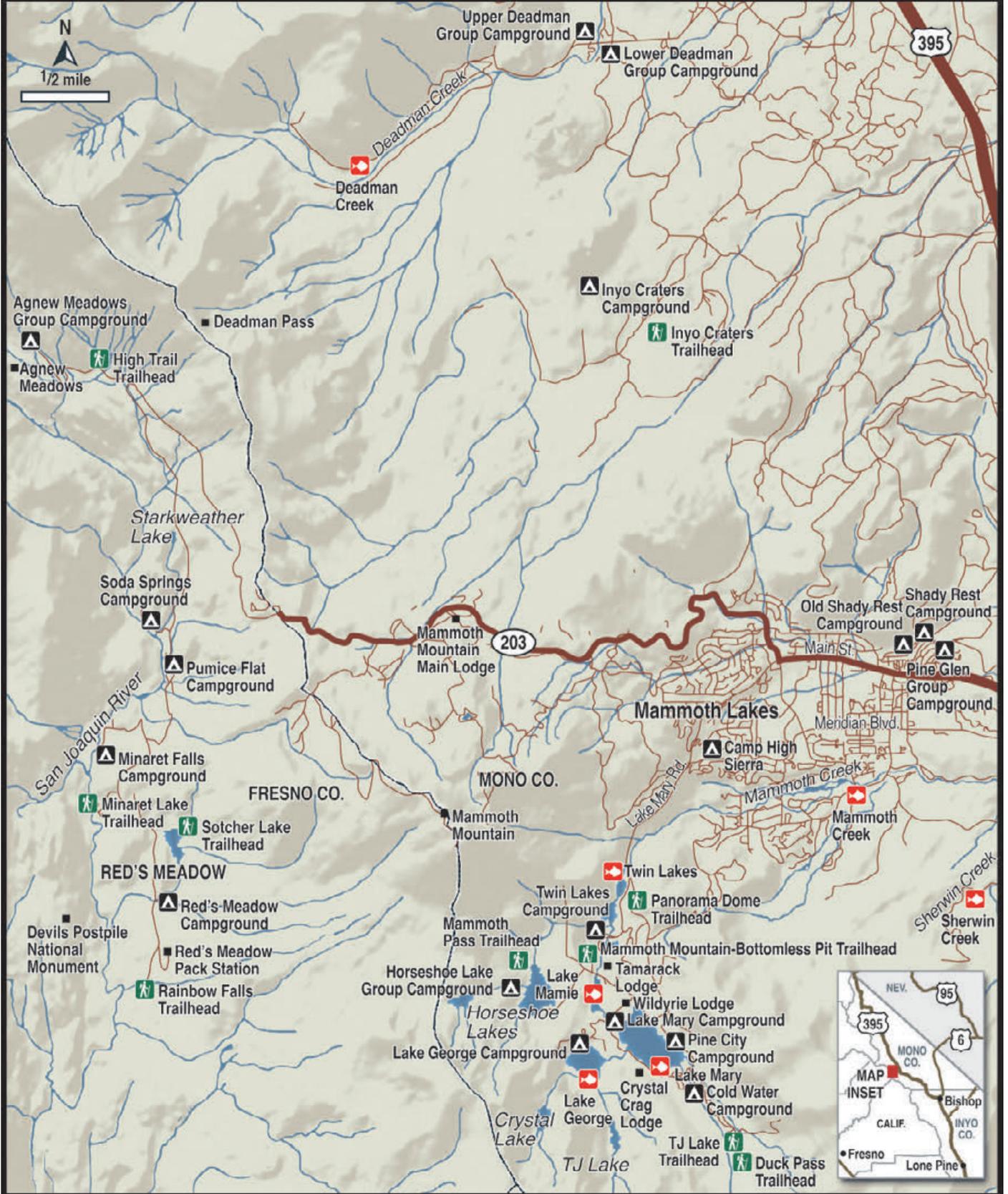
ROCK CREEK AREA



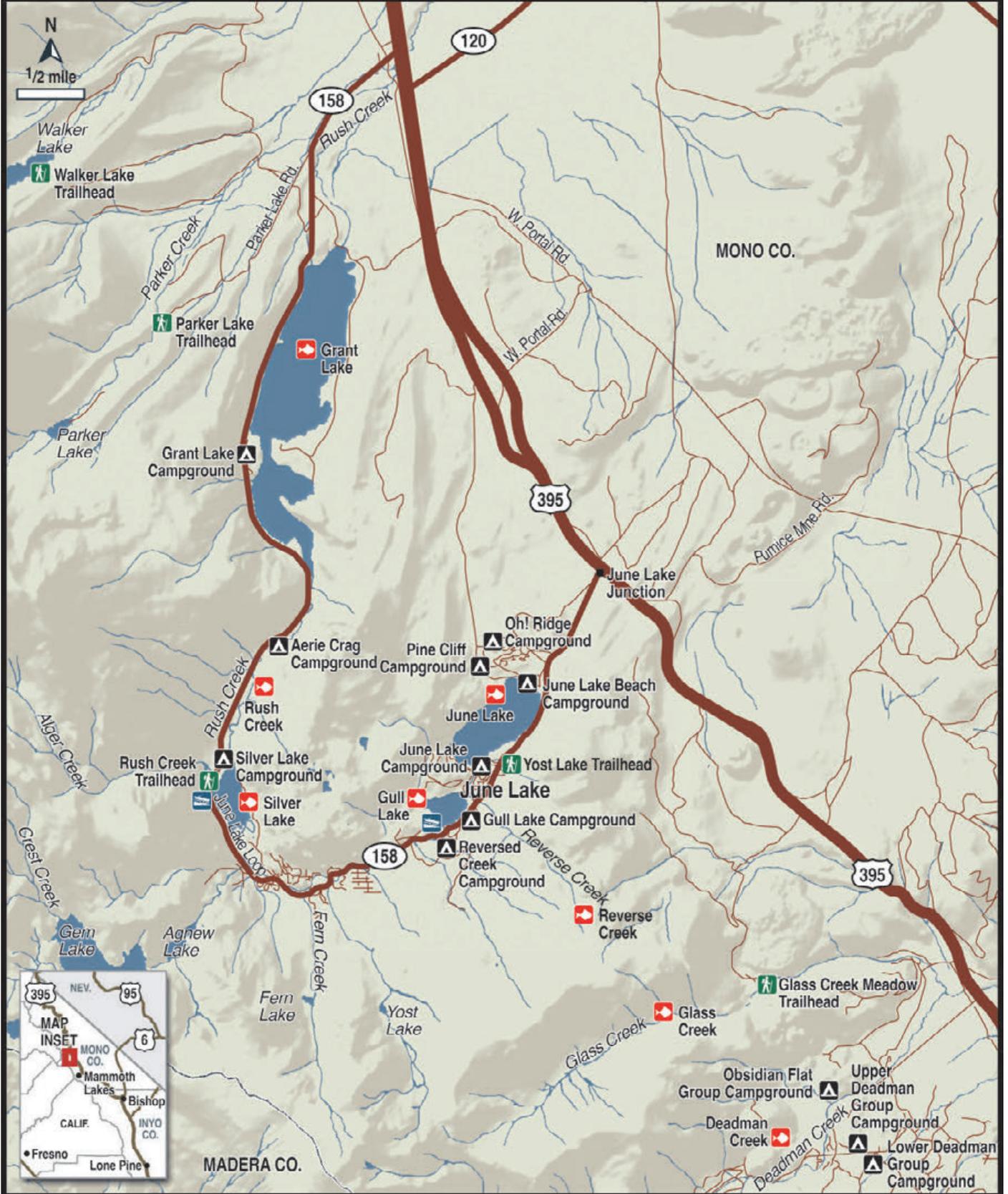
CONVICT LAKE – CROWLEY LAKE



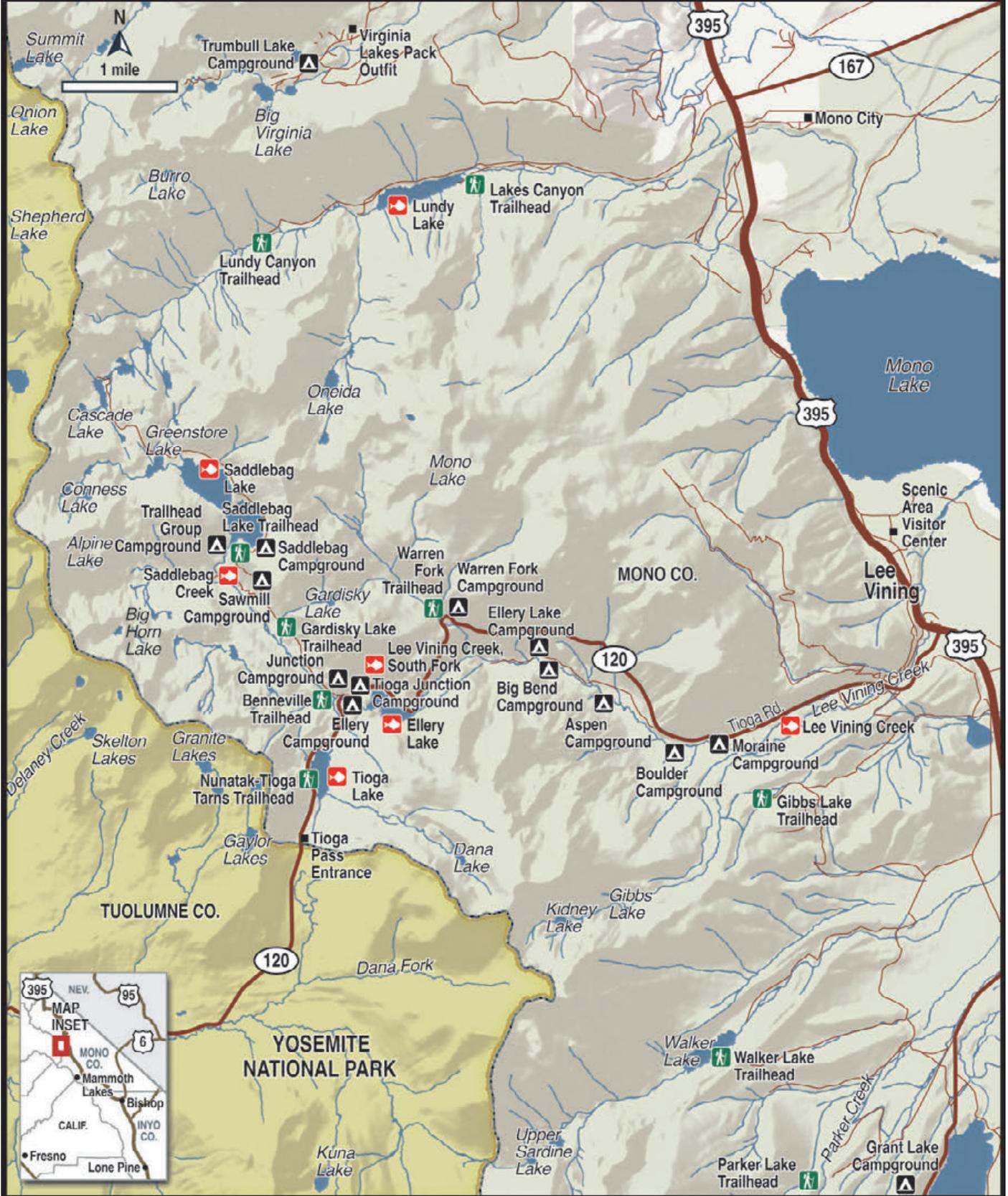
MAMMOTH LAKES AREA



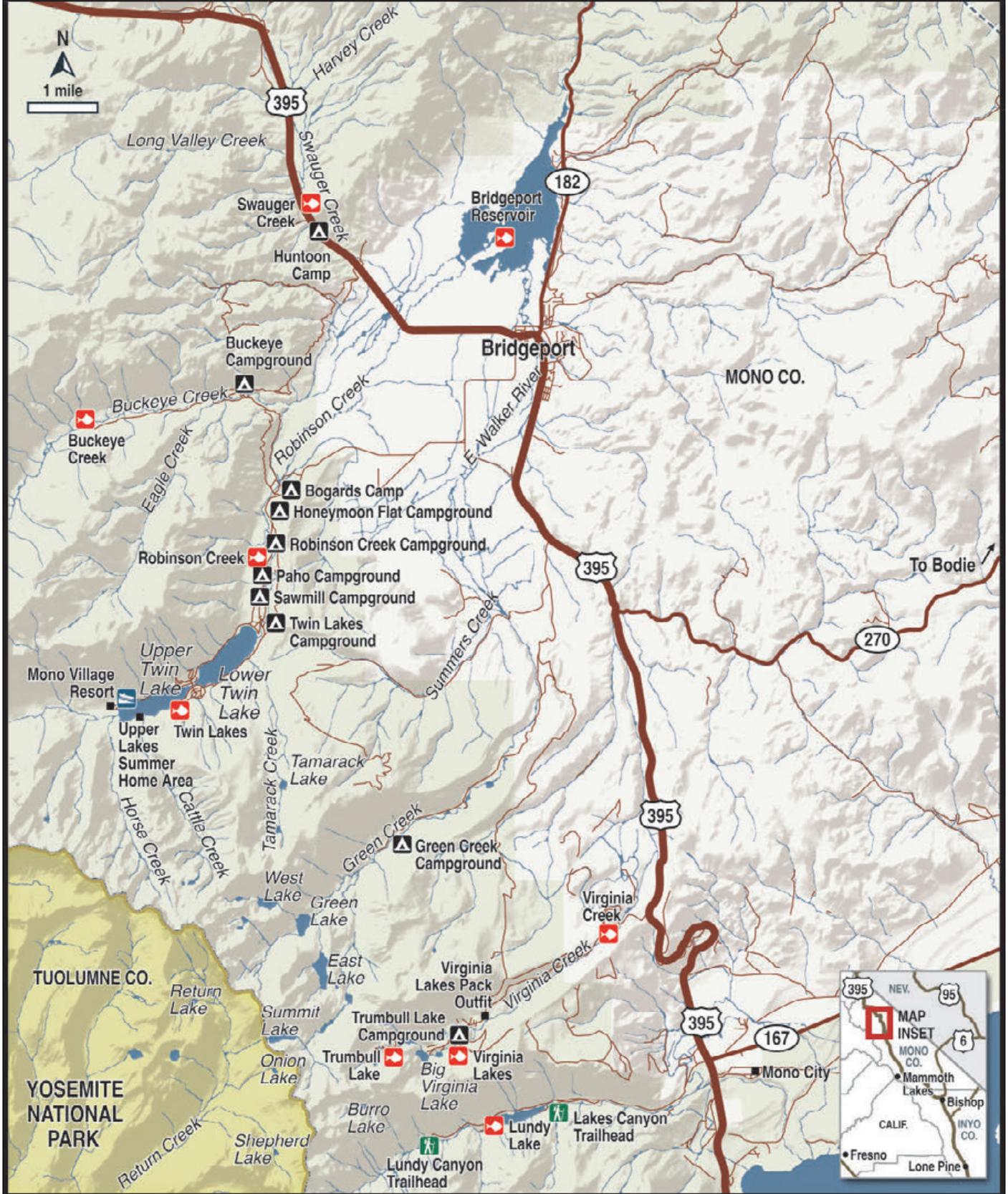
JUNE LAKE LOOP



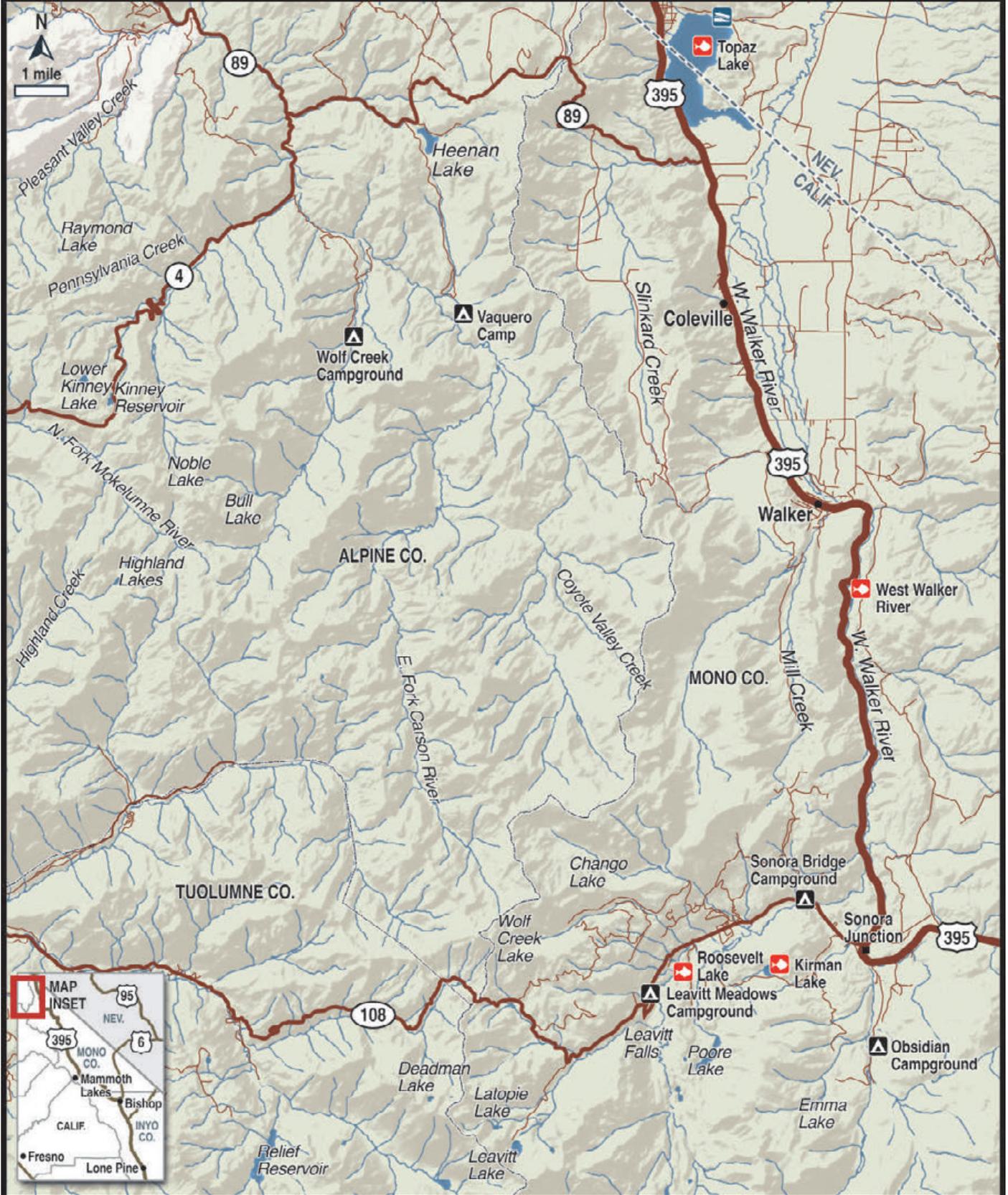
TIOGA PASS



BRIDGEPORT – TWIN LAKES – VIRGINIA LAKES



TOPAZ LAKE – WEST WALKER RIVER – SONORA PASS



Hot Spots of Mono County

A quick guide to popular fisheries By Register Staff

Mono County has no shortage of fishing “hot spots,” whether anglers are looking for calm fly fishing streams, rugged backcountry

lakes teeming with feisty fish or sprawling waters perfect for trolling. California Department of Fish and Wildlife planting schedules, including exact locations, are subject to change.

BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR

Turn north off U.S. 395 at S.R. 182 at the south city limits of Bridgeport and continue for approximately three miles to the lake.

BUCKEYE CREEK

Travel U.S. 395 to the west end of Bridgeport and turn south at Twin Lakes Road. Continue for about eight miles and turn right on Buckeye Creek Road located at Doc and Al's Resort. Proceed for another four miles to where the road crosses the creek. Trout are planted from this location upstream.

CONVICT LAKE AND CREEK

Travel U.S. 395 to 10 miles south of Mammoth Lakes and turn west on Convict Lake Road. Continue approximately two miles to the lake.

CROWLEY LAKE

The most popular Eastern Sierra fishing lake, Crowley is located 25 miles north of Bishop just off U.S. 395. Turn east at the Crowley Lake sign to enter at the south end of the lake. Drive farther north on U.S. 395 to Benton Crossing Road. Turn east and follow road to the north lake entrance.

DEADMAN CREEK

Travel U.S. 395 to nine miles north of Mammoth Lakes junction. Turn west on White Wing Camp Road and drive six miles to Deadman Campground. The creek is planted in the campground area.

ELLERY LAKE

Drive U.S. 395 to one-half mile south of the town of Lee Vining and turn west on S.R. 120, Tioga Pass Road. The lake is located about 12 miles away on the south side of the road.

GLASS CREEK

Drive 10 miles north of Mammoth Lakes on U.S. 395 and turn west on the road located across from Crestview Maintenance Station. Continue for one-half mile to the creek crossing.

GRANT LAKE

Turn west off U.S. 395 onto the June Lake Loop Road, north. Continue to the lake.

GULL LAKE

Turn west off U.S. 395 onto the June Lake Loop Road, south. Continue through June Lake Village to Gull Lake.

JUNE LAKE

Turn west off U.S. 395 onto June Lake Loop Road, south. June Lake is approximately one mile from the turnoff.

KIRMAN LAKE

From Bridgeport, head north on U.S. 395 for

about 17 miles. Turn left on S.R. 108 heading west toward Sonora Pass for about 2 miles. Off of the south shoulder and before the Sonora Bridge Campground will be a parking area leading to the Kirman Lake trailhead.

LAKE GEORGE

Drive on U.S. 395 to the Mammoth Lakes turnoff and continue on Main Street (Lake Mary Road) and continue past Twin Lakes and bear right at the fork in the road to Lake Mary and follow the Forest Service signs to Lake George.

LAKE MAMIE

Drive on U.S. 395 to the Mammoth Lakes turnoff and continue on Main Street (Lake Mary Road) past Twin Lakes, turning right where Lake Mary Road splits. Go straight.

LAKE MARY

Drive on U.S. 395 to the Mammoth Lakes turnoff and continue on Main Street (Lake Mary Road) past Twin Lakes and bear left at the fork in the road to Lake Mary.

LAUREL CREEK

Travel U.S. 395 to four miles south of the Mammoth Lakes turnoff. Turn west on Sherwin Creek Road and continue a short distance to the first stream crossing.

LEE VINING CREEK

Drive one-half mile south of the town of Lee Vining on U.S. 395 and turn west on S.R. 120. Access to the creek is available via campgrounds on the south side of the road and via Poole Power Plant Road.

LEE VINING CREEK, SOUTH FORK

Travel one-quarter mile south of Lee Vining on U.S. 395 and turn west on S.R. 120. Continue on S.R. 120 for 15 miles to just past Ellery Lake. The creek is planted from the west end of Ellery Lake to Tioga Lake.

LUNDY LAKE

Turn west off U.S. 395 at Lundy Lake Road, located seven miles north of the town of Lee Vining. Continue west on Lundy Lake Road to the lake.

MAMMOTH CREEK

Drive on U.S. 395 to S.R. 203 (the road to the town of Mammoth Lakes), and turn west. Drive to Mammoth Lakes and turn left on Old Mammoth Road. Continue to Mammoth Creek Road just before the bridge and turn left. The creek is planted at access points from the bridge downstream to Old U.S. 395.

MCGEE CREEK

Drive 28 miles north of Bishop on U.S.

395 and turn west on McGee Creek Road. Continue one-quarter mile south on Old U.S. 395 to McGee Pack Station Road. The creek is planted off access roads from Old U.S. 395 to Upper Campground.

OWENS RIVER, SECTION I

Drive 35 miles north of Bishop on U.S. 395 and turn east on Benton Crossing Road. Continue on Benton Crossing Road to the bridge.

OWENS RIVER SECTION IV

Drive U.S. 395 to approximately eight miles north of the Mammoth Lakes turnoff and turn east on Big Springs Road. Continue for five miles and then turn north at the Big Springs Campgrounds turnoff.

REVERSE CREEK

Take U.S. 395 to the June Lake Loop Road, south, and turn west. Continue past June and Gull lakes to the point where the road crosses the creek.

ROBINSON CREEK

Travel U.S. 395 to Twin Lakes Road at the north end of Bridgeport and turn south. The creek is planted at access points all along Twin Lakes Road to Lower Twin Lakes.

ROCK CREEK

From U.S. 395, turn west at Tom's Place located 23 miles north of Bishop (Rock Creek Road). The creek parallels the road – first on the south, then the north and then south again – all the way to the outlet at Rock Creek Lake, and is planted at various points along the route.

ROOSEVELT LAKE

From Bridgeport, head north on U.S. 395 for about 17 miles. Turn left on S.R. 108 heading west. Just across from the Marine Corps Training Center is the trailhead through Leavitt Meadow to both Lane and Roosevelt lakes after 3.2 miles. Check special regulations.

RUSH CREEK

Drive on U.S. 395 to the June Lake Loop Road, south and turn west. Continue to Silver Lake. The creek is planted at access points from the Southern California Edison power plant bridge, north to the lake, and in Silver Lake Campground located north of the lake, and for approximately one-quarter mile north of the campgrounds.

SADDLEBAG LAKE AND CREEK

Drive U.S. 395 to one-half mile south of the town of Lee Vining and turn west on S.R. 120. Continue for approximately 16 miles to the Saddlebag Lake turnoff and drive to the lake at the end of the dirt road.

SHERWIN CREEK

Drive on U.S. 395 to S.R. 203 (the road to the town of Mammoth Lakes), and turn west. Drive to Mammoth Lakes and turn left on Old Mammoth Road. After the bridge, take a left on Sherwin Creek Road and drive three miles to Sherwin Creek Campground. The creek is planted from access roads on both sides of Sherwin Creek Road at Sherwin Creek Campground.

SILVER LAKE

Turn west off U.S. 395 at the South June Lake Loop Road and continue past June Lake and June Lake Village to Silver Lake.

SWAUGER CREEK

Drive to the dirt road located nine miles north of Bridgeport and turn east. The creek parallels U.S. 395.

TIOGA LAKE

Travel U.S. 395 to one-half mile south of the town of Lee Vining to S.R. 120, the Tioga Pass Road. Turn west and continue for 18 miles to the lake, located just outside the entrance to Yosemite National Park.

TOPAZ LAKE

The lake is located in northern Mono County on the California-Nevada border just off U.S. 395.

TRUMBULL LAKE

Drive U.S. 395 to the top of Conway Summit, 17 miles north of the town of Lee Vining, and turn west on Virginia Lakes Road. The lake is on the right side of the road near Virginia Lakes Resort area.

TWIN LAKES BRIDGEPORT

Turn south off U.S. 395 onto Twin Lakes Road located at the north end of Bridgeport and continue to the lakes.

TWIN LAKES MAMMOTH

Drive U.S. 395 to Mammoth Lakes Road (S.R. 203), 12 miles north of Crowley Lake, and turn west. Twin Lakes are about seven miles up the road.

VIRGINIA LAKES AND CREEK

Travel U.S. 395 to the top of Conway Summit, 17 miles north of the town of Lee Vining, and turn west on Virginia Lakes Road. The lakes are at the end of the road; the creek follows the road.

WEST WALKER RIVER

Begin at Leavitt Meadow and on S.R. 108 and continue north along U.S. 395 through the canyon. Access the river from the bridges at “The Lanes”: Eastside Lane, Larson Lane, Cunningham Lane and Topaz Lane all located off U.S. 395. Please respect the ranchers and stay below the high water line along the river.



Mammoth Lakes Basin, or the “Lakes Basin,” as it is commonly referred, is just southwest of Mammoth Lakes.

File photo

BASIN, from pg. 43

northern end of the lake, and the inlet on the western side.

Next up is Twin Lakes, which is actually a set of three waters connected by Mammoth Creek. The lakes, along with the waterfall that feeds them are the first lakes that are visible from Lake Mary Road, located just across the street from the Tamarack Lodge. Locals say the hot spot is at the inlet of Upper Twin, the northern-most lake. The Twin Lakes are generally accessible on the Opening Day of the fishing season, depending on how much snow Mother Nature dumps on the region.

Lake Mamie is located just south of Twin Lakes. This water has been proven to deliver for eager anglers looking to land that trophy-sized trout. A good place to start is in the deeper waters on an early morning.

Horseshoe Lake, a 53-acre lake at the

end of the paved road, contains no fish. While Horseshoe isn't a fishing hole, it is a popular swimming hole for anglers taking a break from a day of fishing.

All the lakes, except Horseshoe, are stocked by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and receives healthy summer plants from private hatcheries.

Anglers looking to stretch their legs and take in some of Mammoth's famous mountain air and breathtaking Sierra vistas can lace up their boots and head for McLeod and Crystal lakes, located just a short hike away from the paved roads. And for the more adventurous angler, there are plenty of opportunities farther into the backcountry.

Access to all Mammoth Basin waters is available through the town of Mammoth Lakes, located just a short drive west on State Route 203 from U.S. Highway 395.

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June Lake Loop – you'll never forget

Bring rod, fishing tackle and your camera By Register Staff

You might have seen pictures of the June Lake Loop and not even known it. With its picturesque scenery, the area has starred in many a car commercial. But its crystal clear waters of its many lakes and streams, its sheer granite peaks, lush aspen and pine forests and of course, its fishing, visitors keep coming back.

The 22-mile loop begins and ends on U.S. Highway 395. The loop is home to Grant, Silver, Gull and June lakes, as well as a number of streams and tributaries that offer their own unique angling opportunities.

Grant and Silver lakes are known for legendary catches for brown trout. Fishing for these trophy browns is best in the fall, towards the end of fishing season.

The habits of the various fish found along the Loop can vary depending on the season, temperature and body of water they are swimming in; it's always a good idea to

check in at a local tackle shop to see what's biting and where. For a more localized perspective, check in with fellow anglers before hitting the water.

In general, Sierra Slammers, Berkley trout worms and Panther Martins are popular on Gull Lake, and at Silver the regulars tend to go with a bubble and flies or Woolly Buggers, trout traps, Panther Martins and Rooster Tails.

Another popular bait for big brown hunters are Tasmanian Devils. Anglers report that Rapalas, Lucky Craft Pointers and Kastmasters are smart options.

The June Lake Loop begins at the junction of U.S. Highway 395 and State Route 158, heads west to June Lake, a 160-acre spring-fed lake preferred by trollers and bait fisherman due to its deep waters. Float tubing gets good results along the western edge and northern shoreline, where anglers will find tule beds and a shelf that drops into the

depths. Fish tend to circumnavigate the lake along this shelf, making it an ideal location to drop some bait.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife stocks June, and supplemental trout are provided through a private trout farmer and rainbows reared at the marina.

Just beyond June Lake, anglers will reach Gull Lake, set among a pine forest and a serene setting. Gull is popular among fly fisherman and bait fishers alike. At 64 acres, Gull is the smallest of the June Lake Loop waters but that doesn't stop the angling action. Like June, Gull's tule beds along the northern shoreline draws float tubers who say damsel nymphs and calibaetis nymphs bring results. Others recommend tugging streamers between the big rocks and aspens along the western shoreline. Gull is generally known as a haven for rainbows in the 10- to 14-inch range, with a few odd trophy-sized Alpers trout to be found.



June Lake, part of the June Lake Loop, is sometimes referred to as the "Alps of the Sierra" for good reason.

File photo

Farther west along the loop, anglers will find June's fly fishing haven – the 80-acre Silver Lake. Boat traffic on Silver is limited to 10 mph, which makes for an awesome opportunity for kayaks and float tubes.

Silver Lake is linked to Gull by Reverse Creek and to Grant by Rush Creek. A popular spot for anglers is at the Rush Creek outlet. This area really takes off as larger rainbows begin spawning.

Another hot spot is the drop-off along the southern shoreline, which is another productive fishing hole in the early summer months.

For those of the fly fishing persuasion, note that Silver Lake often experiences chironomid hatches throughout the season, which can make for great opportunities.

The largest of the Loop's lakes is Grant Lake, reached just before the Loop reconnects with U.S. Highway 395. Grant Lake is a massive 1,100-acre body of water popular with trollers who report great action in the early mornings and late afternoons.

Experts say late fall is best for float tubing, as the big browns are coming up from the depths to feed along the shoreline before the winter freeze. During late spring spawning, those big browns can be found at the Rush

See JUNE LAKE, pg. 62



June Lake at sunrise is like walking into a postcard.

File photo

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JUNE LAKE, from pg. 61

Creek inlet.

In addition to its drive-to lakes, the Loop serves as a launching point for more secluded high-elevation lakes. A gravel road about a mile north of Grand Lakes leads to a trailhead to Parker and Little Walker lakes. Parker is known for its population of wild browns in the 5-pound range.

Another trailhead located near Silver Lake leads to Agnew and Gem lakes and a plethora of wild brooks and rainbows.

For a prolonged trip, the nearby Frontier Pack station provides trips to more distant backcountry destinations like Alpers and its golden trout.

Each lake in the Loop boasts its own Forest Service campground and there are plenty of other accommodations to be had in the area.



David Ellege came up from Riverside to stay at Silver Lake Resort, continuing a tradition that started with his dad in 1975. Windy or not, he could not have been happier on Fishing Opener, he said.

File photo

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Dennis Bowyers of Temecula pulled a 5.25-pounder out of June Lake.

Photo by Liddy Butler

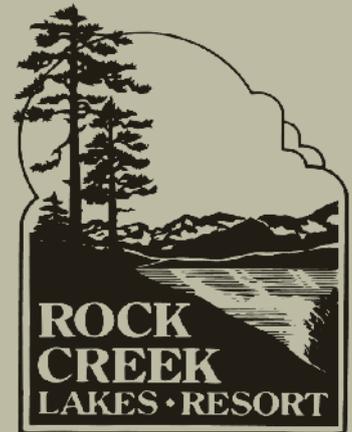


June Lake can get busy especially on Opening Day on the water and along the shore. Season-long, the Loop is a popular destination for anglers going after big fish.

Photo by Liddy Butler



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Lookout for the lunkers

Bridgeport notorious for massive fish By Register Staff

For anglers who are on the prowl for the catch of a lifetime, Bridgeport is the perfect place to drop a line. With the largest brown trout on record caught out of Bridgeport's Twin Lakes, weighing in at a massive 26 pounds, 8 ounces, there are plenty of trophy trout in northern Mono county waters.

And Twin Lakes are only one of the many fishing options. The Bridgeport area is home to the spacious Bridgeport reservoir, Virginia Lakes, Big Virginia Lake, Red Lake, Trumbull Lake and many more, and each has proven to be a productive body of water for lunkers.

Bridgeport Reservoir is a big, 2,913-acre lake, filled with upwards of 40,000 acre-feet of crisp alpine water. While there is ample room for anglers to fish from shore, many boast that boat fishing on the lake is the best way to ensure a lunker on your outing.

For those who prefer to cast from solid ground, the reservoir has 13 miles of fishable shoreline, with popular spots like Rainbow Point and Swauger and Buckley creek outlets located on the south side of the lake.

Just below the dam, anglers will find a spot the locals refer to as the "Miracle Mile," the first stretch of the Walker River, which produces great stringers year-in and year-out.

Bridgeport Reservoir proper is sometimes compared to Crowley Lake, due to its sheer size and its reputation as home of massive trout. However, there is a notable difference. Bridgeport isn't prone to the big crowds that are common on Crowley, and at 5,600 feet, it is a lower-altitude lake with shallower waters.

One reason the trout grow so big in Bridgeport is because there is a healthy population of callibaetis, hironomid and damsel flies that allow the fish to gorge during the summer.

As far as technique, still-water nymphing is a safe bet during the spring, when the trout are migrating to cooler waters flowing out of the creeks.

During the fall, streamer fishing from float tubes has been known to bring in 10-pounders for those angling for browns or rainbows.

The reservoir's marina and boat launch are located just off State Route 108, just past the airstrip. This area includes RV parks along the shoreline as well as public launch ramps. S.R. 108 exits U.S. Highway 395 south of Bridgeport, heading towards Yerington, Nev.

In addition to the popular reservoir, the Bridgeport area's other premier fishing holes



Bridgeport Reservoir's size, 2,913 acres, makes it ideal for fishing via boat.

Photo courtesy Jeff Wenger

include Twin Lakes (though, it's a different set of Twins than can be found in the Mammoth area). The Twins can be found southwest of Bridgeport by taking S.R. 182 West. The shoreline is rocky and steep, but the water is very deep and turns out some monster browns each year.

Robinson Creek flows through the Upper and Lower Twin lakes, then heads east for Bridgeport Reservoir. Below Lower Twin Lake, anglers will also find a number of creekside campsites that make for convenient angling opportunities.

But the action doesn't stop there. The mountains that rise from the valley are a tangle of streams and creeks ripe for the plucking. North of Robinson Creek, anglers will find Buckeye Creek and its two tributaries. To the south (and across S.R. 182) are Green and Virginia creeks, with access located roughly five miles south of Bridgeport.

For the latest updates on the local hot spots and recommendations on bait and techniques, check in with the folks at Ken's Sporting Goods

in Bridgeport.

The Bridgeport Valley also is home to the Virginia Lakes, a chain of 10 waters located between 9,500 and 10,200 feet of elevation, accessed just six miles east of U.S. Highway 395. All 10 waters lie within a mile and a half of the Virginia Lakes Resort. The chain of lakes was first stocked in the 1800s, and continue to be stocked with rainbows. Three of the 10 are accessible by car and most are home to native brooks and browns that are ready to feast on natural baits like nightcrawlers and crickets.

The 26-acre Big Virginia Lake is fed by underground streams and Blue and Red lakes. The north shore cove is home to small browns and rainbows, the east shore is known for its brooks and bows and the bigger trout can generally be found on the south side. However, the east shore slopes to a big drop-off, where brookies are known to feed.

The lowest of the chain of waters is the 10-acre Trumbull Lake. Little Virginia also is a small, 11-acre productive lake with a depth of about 20 feet at its deepest point.



A proud father poses with his son and his son's impressive catch at Bridgeport Reservoir, where it's not just the old hats pulling in the lunkers. At right, boaters take in fishing fun while on the water.

Photos courtesy Jeff Wenger

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A taste of paradise at Tioga Pass

Fish, hike and explore Yosemite's eastern border By Register Staff



Tioga Lake offers a slice of anglers' paradise right on the doorstep of Yosemite.

File photo

While Tioga Pass is known around the world as the eastern portal into Yosemite National Park, anglers know you don't have to go into the park to have a slice of heaven.

When it comes to the high-elevation lakes out of Tioga Pass, weather plays a huge part in the fishing action. In heavy snow years, Tioga Pass (State Route 120) may not open until May.

The highway links the east and west sides of the Sierra and provides access to the world famous Yosemite National Park. But for fishermen, the opening of the highway is the opening of Ellery and Tioga lakes, the high-country lakes with scenery that rivals the catching.

When accessing Tioga from U.S. Highway 395, be sure to stop in the community of Lee Vining to stock up on supplies.

Ellery and Tioga lakes hold a lot of put-and-take Department of Fish and Wildlife rainbows and a healthy supply of browns, many of which have been

growing, just waiting for the skilled angler.

According to the locals, a fly-and-bubble combo is a good choice. But when the bugs start buzzing and the mosquitoes come out, traditional favorites like Powerbait and worms provide promise.

For wild browns, anglers should head on to Saddlebag Lake. At about 340-acres, this high-elevation water is generally open by Memorial Day. The lake also offers a marina with boat rentals and a store with supplies and advice.

Saddlebag is also a launching point for the 20 Lakes Basin, a grouping of high country waters brimming with brooks and even the elusive golden trout, California's state fish.

However, 20 Lakes Basin does not include road access, so a short hike will be in order.

The creek flowing from Saddlebag Lake is a popular fly fishing destination, with eight- to 12-inch browns coming out regularly.

Lee Vining Creek also flows out of Ellery Lake

and offers more great fly opportunities in the warm summer months. A section of the creek is catch and release, and is heavily stocked with rainbows. Locals say the open meadows in Lee Vining Canyon are a great place to find 12- to 15-inchers.

Below the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power intake at Mono Lake, wild browns are available. However, there is a two-fish limit, and no stocking.

Ellery, Tioga and Saddlebag each have campgrounds and creek-side camping is available in Lee Vining Canyon, reachable as you begin up Tioga Pass, near the Forest Service Ranger Station.

A short, though strenuous, one-mile hike to the Gaylor Lake Basin offers outstanding fishing for wild brook trout. The four small lakes in the basin are within Yosemite National Park, with the trail located near the entrance station.

These waters are governed by CDFW regulations, and there are no special park rules.

Weigh-in on the Walker

Year-round fly fishing favorite By Register Staff



East Walker River anglers can find more than five miles of roads access waters holding a population of wild brown and rainbow trout.

File photo

The Owens River is not the only body of water in the Eastern Sierra that is open year-round; to the north, both the East and West Walker rivers are open year-round. Both offer fantastic fly-fishing and trophy sized trout.

Designated as a trophy trout water in 2007, the East Walker River, flowing east from Bridgeport Reservoir, has the reputation as being a premier fly fishing stream.

Catches of trophy class brown trout, judged by pounds not inches, make a season long showing. Anglers will find more than five miles of easy to access roadside waters.

A favored location for consistently producing heavyweights is the “miracle mile” section of water directly downstream from the dam.

The river is governed by special regulation. Angling is restricted to barbless hook lure or fly – no bait. From Opening Day to the final day of the season possession limit is one fish, minimum size 18- inches. From the close of the general season (Nov. 15) to the next season Opening Day, possession is zero.

Fifteen miles north of Bridgeport, U.S. Highway 395 crosses the West Walker River. The river was designated a year-round water in 2014. The new regulation allows for bait fishing from Opening Day to the Nov. 15 closing with no tackle restrictions along with a five fish possession limit.

From Nov. 16 to the next season opening day angling is restricted to barbless hook or fly with zero possession.

The river is on the DFW and Mono County trophy trout program during the regular season.

Historically productive locations have been a short distance up and downstream from the U.S. Highway 395 bridge crossing and the slower waters near the downstream town of Walker.

Highlighting the summer season, the Northern Mono County Chamber of Commerce hosts the “How Big is Big” month-long derby in August featuring additional plants of trophy-class rainbow trout.

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Gem of two-state fisheries

Topaz Lake shines in early season

By Register Staff

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Franchise Opportunities Available

Situated along the California-Nevada border, Topaz Lake boasts a long season that is open to anglers with either a California or Nevada state fishing license.

Anglers are likely to find rainbow and brown trout and smallmouth bass.

According to Liz Weirauch of the Angler's Edge Fly Shop in Gardnerville, Nev., Topaz's long season is a huge draw for anglers, who will flock to the shore as soon as the season opens Jan. 1.

The lake remains busy until closing in late September, but Weirauch said many anglers will seek other waters during summer holiday weekends like Independence Day, because Topaz is a popular destination for jet skiers and recreational boaters.

One of the reasons the mid-winter opening draws early anglers is that the state of Nevada launches a massive stocking effort each October, as the fishing season closes.

That makes for a lake full of hungry trout come January.

"It gets stocked very, very heavily when the season closes in October, and it's mostly the bait fishermen, but they'll go out there Jan. 1 and put their line in and sit in their cars and watch the pole," Weirauch said. "Topaz has a very good minnow population, so streamers and panther martins are also good for trolling," she added.

In the warm summer months, the trout are likely to head for deeper, cooler waters. Weirauch said that anglers should sink their bait to a depth of about 34 feet to find the fish.

Weirauch said that one of the popular trout holes on Topaz is on the north-east corner of the reservoir. "It's a good place to float to with purple or black woolly buggers or prince nymphs with an intermediate sink line."

Options for anglers

Trout fishing remains strong throughout the year, but Topaz offers a couple

options for anglers. Weirauch said that bass fishing takes off as the weather begins to warm up. "In summer, it's fun to play with the bass," Weirauch said, adding that the record smallmouth bass for the lake is in the six-plus pound range.

Weirauch advised anglers who are looking to hook a bass to try a crawdad pattern from shore.

Carp fishing

Another emerging trend on Topaz is carp fishing.

Because carp spawn twice a year, laying thousands of eggs, Weirauch said they are abundant in Topaz. They're also big and strong, and will put up a fight.

Weirauch said that carp also pose a new challenge for seasoned anglers, because they're reclusive, skittish fish.

But on the up side, she said anyone, whether fishing with a fly or bait, from the shore or the bank, can try their hand at it.

"If you've never caught a carp on a fly, you're in for a treat," Weirauch said. "Come May or June, when they spawn, they'll spool you out. It's a way big challenge, and it can be frustrating," but hooking a monster carp is a lot of fun.

With the surge in interest in carp fishing, Weirauch said the lake has seen an increase in bow fishing, with clubs making special trips to the lake during spawning season to hunt carp.

Though Topaz is open to anglers with California or Nevada licenses, Weirauch advised that fishermen and fisherwomen should use caution when navigating the lake to ensure they don't wander into the canal system that feeds the lake from the south side, which is not part of the lake, and has different regulations.

She also said the outlet canal at the north end of the lake is stocked, but again, it is not considered part of the lake, and California fishing licenses are not accepted there. She also pointed out that a short distance from the lake is a "no trespassing sign" that anglers should be aware of.



Wovoka Martinez tying a mouse pattern.

Photos courtesy of Crowley Fish Foundation

Turquoise Stone with a trout caught and released on the Upper Owens.

CROWLEY, from pg. 34

biologist Nick Buckmaster.

CFF has teamed up with Angler's Atlas to help get the word out about how every angler on Crowley Lake can participate in an electronic creel count survey.

Collecting data is an important part of ensuring the health of Crowley Lake.

Information on how you can participate in this survey is on the homepage of the CFF website. Look for "2025 Crowley Lake Challenge" - and sign up.

While CFF began with the sole objective of collecting funds to

help supplement fish stocking in Crowley Lake, it has grown immensely from there.

CFF has become a leader in all things fishing in Southern Mono County and Inyo County.

The organization hosts veterans fishing events. It has teamed up with both Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra and Two Wolf Foundation to help our nation's decorated vets.

Likewise, CFF is partnered with the Bishop Paiute Tribe in which local tribal youth have gone fishing with organization mem-

See CROWLEY, pg. 70

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CROWLEY, from pg. 69

bers, and kids are also learning to tie flies at regular fly-tying workshops.

The community of Bishop asked for fly tying clinics for anyone, and CFF responded. Along with hosting fly tying clinics for the local tribe, CFF hosts fly tying clinics regularly for anyone who wants to attend. Information about this is on the website.

The organization seeks as well to help youth who reside outside of the Eastern Sierra, hosting spin and bait trips for city youth.

CFF and DFW have established a great relationship working together in the region.

Board members have helped DFW with adipose fin clipping events, and electroshock fish survey events.

CFF also is communicating with other important groups like Trout Unlimited, Caltrout, and Valley Outdoors.

It takes a village, and strong relationships are being built. CFF is present at public events like the Blake Jones Trout Derby, Bishop Paiute Tribe's Earth Day and Spring Market, and Kern River Conservancy Trout Fest. You won't find CFF hiding.

While CFF is still applying for full 501c3 status, the organization is soliciting funds to continue its numerous volunteer projects, and also stock Crowley Lake with fish purchased from private hatcheries.

You can help CFF by making a donation.

For more information, please visit www.crowleyfishfoundation.org

The mission

Our mission is to keep Crowley Lake and its tributaries as world-class fishing destinations and to preserve them for



The Crowley Fish Foundation hope to ensure Crowley Lake continues to be the "Queen Jewel of the Eastern Sierra" as anglers Pete Hernandez of San Gabriel and Steve Underwood of Amante know it to be.

File photo

future generations.

The vision

The Crowley Fish Foundation envisions a vibrant lake filled with abundant fish, a playground for bait, spin, and fly anglers. We will achieve this by partnering

with public and private organizations to increase the number of fish planted in the lake and its tributaries, as well as by educating users on best sustainability practices. We will also introduce new groups to the lake and to fishing, in particular veterans and youths.

Remember to always think safety first!



The Mono County Sheriff's Office operates patrol boats across all major waterways throughout Mono County.

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Enjoy yourself and good luck catching "The Big One!"



Get in the know

Some vital fishing questions and answers By Jarett Coons

Fishing is not easy, it takes patience and years of practice. Sometimes we may not know where to find the info we are looking for or may be too stubborn to ask. In hopes of trying to save you a little time and energy, here are a few answers to your questions about fishing in the Eastern Sierra.

Q: Where is the best place for me to buy a fishing license?

A: You can purchase a license and print it out in your own home by going to wildlife.ca.gov/licensing. You must create an account if you don't already have one and enter your credit card info. If you have questions or concerns with that you should get one at the fly or tackle shop where you will be getting your fishing gear. They will help you get a license and answer all your questions and they cost the same no matter where you get them.

Q: I know fishing is open all year but isn't it too cold to fish in the winter?

A: Not hardly, while it is true that a trout's metabolism will slow down as the water temp

drops, they will still feed. It may not be very much or for very long and it may only be at certain times of the day but you have a great chance of catching trout in the winter. Hot Creek as well as the Upper and Lower Owens provide us with great fishing through the winter with a few good hatches. It can get cold on Hot Creek and the Upper Owens but if a person layers up it is not intolerable, those skiers seem to be OK. If the cold is too much, the Owens Valley is very mild in the winter. Sometimes a hoodie is all that is required to be comfortable. Your fishing license is good for a whole year, get the most out of it.

Q: Can I fish at night or is sundown it?

A: You can legally fish at night in Inyo County. There is NO night fishing in Mono County – one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset only.

Q: How do I decide how long my fly rod needs to be?

A: Many factors go into choosing a rod. What type of fish are you after? How big are they? Are you fishing dries, nymphs or streamers? Are you fishing from shore, boat or float tube? Do you get

fatigued easy? It's hard to say what's right for you but in most cases, fly rods are around 9 feet long for standard trout fishing. If you are fishing out of a float tube or somewhere you need to keep your backcast high, then you may want some extra length and go with a 9-foot, 6-inch or 10-foot rod. If you are a Czech nymph on the Owens, you would use an 11-foot to 12-foot rod so you can reach over nagging currents and fish the far bank without having to set your line on the water. Tenkara anglers use a 13-foot rod for their fishing style. Every rod has its place and purpose. Pick one that works for you.

Q: Do I need a fishing license when taking a class with a guide and I'm not fishing?

A: No. As long as you are not attempting to take a fish. The moment you tie a hook on the end of your line, you are fishing. Unless you are taking a casting class at the park, you should buy a license. It is the only way to be 100 percent safe. You and your guide will most likely end up fishing at some point in the day and it is better to have it and not need it than get caught without it.

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Fish of the Eastern Sierra

Try for golden trout, brookies, perch and more By Martin Strelneck

There's no shortage when it comes to variety on the Eastern Sierra fishing scene. Throughout Inyo and Mono counties, rainbow, brown, cutthroat, brook and golden trout inhabit local waters.

And for a change of pace, there are non-trout species. Bass, catfish and bluegill can be found in the warmer waters of the Owens Valley. Sacramento perch have become the target of choice for a growing clan of anglers taking to the waters of Crowley Lake and Bridgeport and Pleasant Valley reservoirs.

Habitat range covers the spectrum, from the lower elevation

waters in the Owens Valley to backcountry waters above 10,000 feet. It all depends on your choice of target.

Remember: many locations throughout the Eastern Sierra are governed by special regulations – barbless hooks, lures or flies only, limited or no fishing during certain periods and possession limits ranging from 0-15, depending on location, to mention a few. Before taking to the waters of a chosen location, check the CDFW regulation book – or else face the possibility of a confrontation with a friendly game warden.

Here's what is available in the Eastern Sierra ...

GOLDEN TROUT

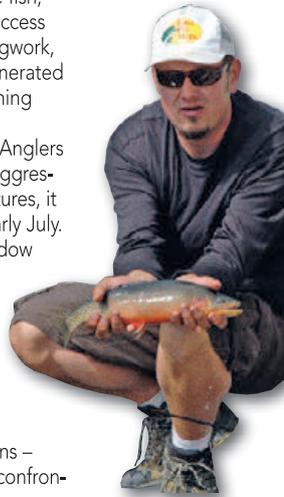
High-elevation Eastern Sierra waters are the home of California's state fish, the golden trout. You won't find "goldens" inhabiting roadside, easy-to-access waters. The majority of prime locations call for considerable, strenuous legwork, or making use of the services offered by local pack stations and horse-generated power. Golden trout can be found in countless backcountry waters stretching from Southern Inyo County to Northern Mono County.

This is a cold-water species. Golden trout are early-season spawners. Anglers in the know hit the locations shortly after ice-out when the fish are in an aggressive state of mind. However, because of the high-elevation cold temperatures, it is commonplace that many locations are ice-bound until late June and early July.

The one exception providing fairly easy access is the Horseshoe Meadow area high above Lone Pine. This is a drive-to location on the Horseshoe Meadow road, with steep grades. Look for the road to open usually around Memorial Day; earlier if it's a dry winter.

When in the spawning mode, goldens inhale just about any offering. On the bait side, worms, grubs, ant eggs and grasshoppers are good producers. Later in the season with the insect hatchings, small flies are favored, along with small red and gold lures.

The majority of golden trout waters are governed by special restrictions – check the Department of Fish and Wildlife regulation booklet to avoid a confrontation with a game warden.



BROWN TROUT

Anglers looking for a heavyweight catch suitable for hanging on the den wall target brown trout.

What defines heavyweight? The state record is 26 lbs., 8 oz. taken in 1987 from Upper Twin Lake, with a recent season trophy coming in at 20 lbs., 8 oz. from Rush Creek. In 2013, Lower Twin Lake registered 15 brown trout running from 10 to 17 lbs.

Crowley Lake has produced a handful of browns over the 10-lb. mark. June Lake has weighed in its share of brown trout over the 15-lb. mark. Pleasant Valley Reservoir has been a steady producer of catches over the 10-lb. mark. Bottom line is, just about any water has the potential for producing a trophy-class brown.

Brown trout are on the top of the list when it comes to predatory feeders. Smaller fish are a favored diet. The majority of catches are taken trolling with large minnow imitation lures. However, there's always the exception. A 20-lb. Grant Lake catch went for Sierra Gold dough bait, and back in 1986, Gull Lake kicked out a 17-lb. brown that inhaled a marshmallow dressed with a salmon egg.



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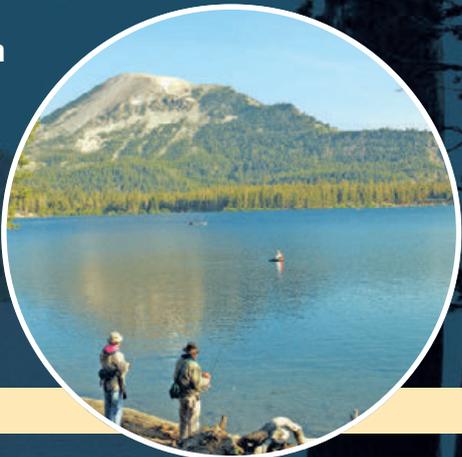
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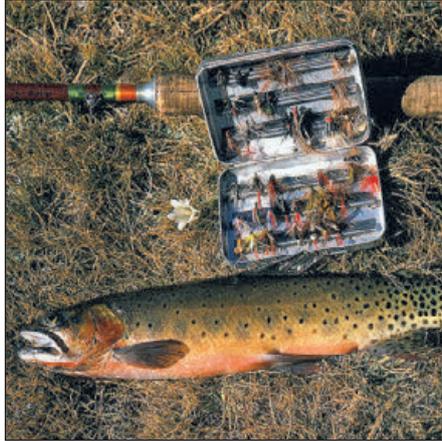
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CUTTHROAT TROUT

This is the only native species found in local trout waters. Waters from Conway Summit north were the historic habitat, however, recent years have seen the species expanding its range throughout Mono County and a few locations in Inyo County, inhabiting primarily roadside waters. Top producers are Crowley and June lakes, along with Bridgeport Reservoir and the Upper Owens River, with catches ranging to the 10-lb. class not unusual.

Trolling a variety of flashy lures produces the lion's share of catches. Fly anglers score impressive catches on Crowley Lake with the trout residing in the same habitat with rainbow and brown trout. Kirman Lake in Northern Mono County is a favored float tube cutthroat location, with catches ranging to around the 5-lb. mark.



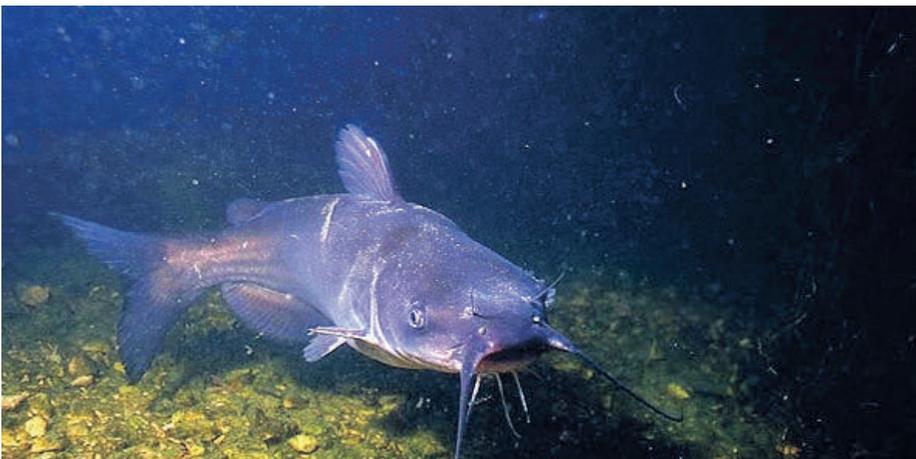
BASS, CATFISH, BLUEGILL



Warm-water species – large- and smallmouth bass, catfish and bluegill – can be found in waters from Bishop south to Owens Lake. Popular locations are the renovated Buckley Ponds near Bishop, Tinnemeha Reservoir and Twin and Goose lakes a short distance south of Big Pine and Billy Lake east of Independence. In addition, there are a good number of other small lakes and ponds throughout the Owens Valley. And the entire length of the Owens River from Bishop south to Owens Lake hosts a population of warm-water species. Good advice is to pick up a topographical map of the area.

Size-wise, bass catches range to heavier than 5-lbs. The majority of the catfish are yellow and brown bullheads up to around the 1-lb. mark and bluegill at some locations reach hand size and better. Nightcrawlers and worms are productive baits for the catfish and bluegills. On the bass scene, a variety of crank baits and spinner baits, along with imitation and live nightcrawlers, all will produce – depending on conditions. Spring months, fly anglers score respectable bass catches off the dam at Tinnemeha Reservoir working large streamers.

Many locations throughout the Eastern Sierra are governed by special regulations – barbless hooks, lures or flies only, limited or no fishing during certain periods and possession limits ranging from 0-15, depending on location, to mention a few.



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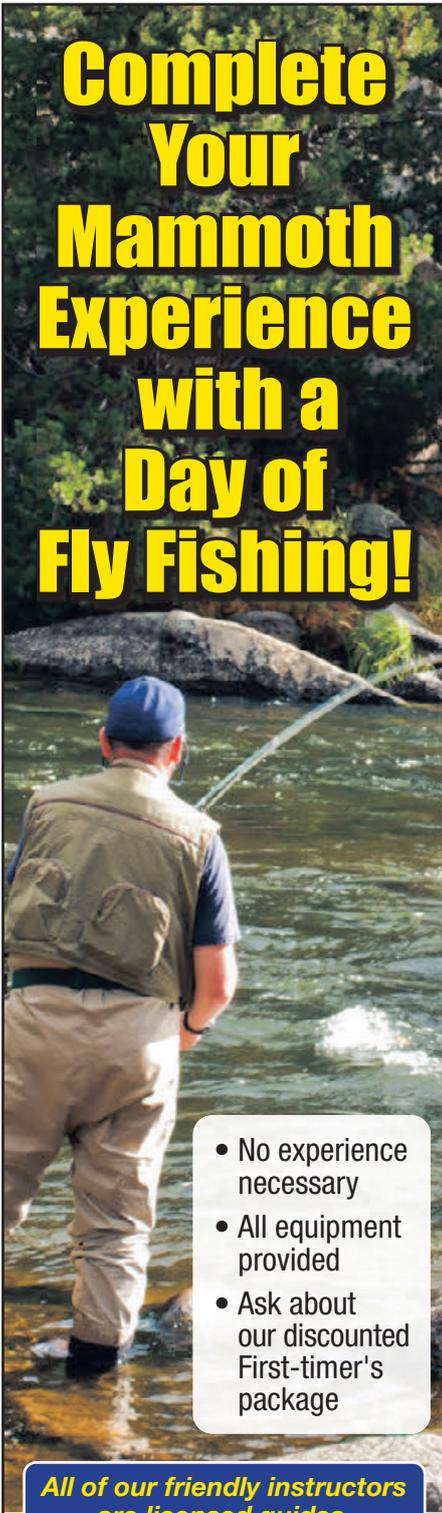
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SACRAMENTO PERCH

◀ *Fish Types, continued from pg. 73* Originally called a "trash fish," Sacramento perch are now in second place behind the trout population. Making an initial showing in Crowley Lake (source unknown) in the late '50s, the slab-sided panfish can now be found in waters of the Pleasant Valley and Bridgeport reservoirs. It has become the fish of choice for an increasing number of high-country anglers.

Perch catches weigh in from around 1 to 3 lbs., with the Crowley Lake state record coming in at 3 lbs., 10 oz. Every season there are unverified reports of larger fish making a showing, but usually ending up in the fry pan rather than on the scales.

Around mid-May the perch move into shallower waters to spawn. Small jigs, 1/16th to 1/8th ounce, are top producers, especially when dressed with a small piece of worm. Once the fish are located, the catching can be nonstop. Early July, the fish move back into deeper water with trollers scoring with small crank baits, or worms worked off the bottom. Because past years saw catches numbering more than 100, CDFW has now set the limit at 25.

When the "bite is on," it's not uncommon to see the cleaning tables at Crowley Lake elbow to toolbox, with anglers working their filet knives. The white meat filets are outstanding table fare fried, in fish tacos or as a shrimp-style cocktail.



BROOK TROUT

"Brookies" are the target for anglers favoring relatively short hikes into the back-country. They rarely show up on stringers in lower elevation, roadside waters. The colorful species inhabits countless lakes throughout the Sierra and is known for its lack of inhibition when it comes to inhaling a worm, lure or fly. With a few exceptions, they are not heavyweights. Trophy-class brook trout do make an occasional showing coming from a few waters high in the Bishop Creek drainage and Mono County's Kirman Lake.

They have a tendency to overpopulate their habitat. Because of the breeding excesses, the species is subject to a liberal limit, 10 fish under 10 inches in addition to the regular five-fish limit. During the fall spawning season, taking a limit could be classified as a "no-brainer." When it comes to table fare, brookies are at the top of the list. Dusted with flour and cornmeal and crisply fried in hot butter, over a campfire or in the kitchen, brook trout are hard to beat.

A goal for many dedicated trout anglers is scoring a "Sierra Grand Slam," catching one of each species on the same outing.

It's definitely a challenge, but possible depending on the degree of pre-fishing homework.



RAINBOW TROUT

Rainbow trout are the bread-and-butter fish of the Eastern Sierra. They inhabit virtually all roadside lakes in Inyo and Mono counties, along with more than 900 miles of roadside streams. Last season saw the State Department of Fish and Wildlife plant local waters with right around 900,000 pounds of "catchable" rainbows, along with several thousand pounds of heavyweight brood-stock running 4 lbs. and better with the same amounts on the menu for this season.

In addition, groups such as the now-defunct Inland Aquaculture have been stocking trophy-class rainbows in area lakes for years. (The torch has now been passed to Desert Springs Trout Farm out of Oregon.) These fish, better known as Alpers rainbows, are the product of former trout rancher Tim Alpers who began rearing the heavyweights back in the early '90s. Back a few years, a 13-pounder came from the Owens River with speculation it was a hold-over Alpers fish that survived a few seasons.

Rainbow trout are willing to take just about any bait, lure or fly. Over the past few years, PowerBait has been the top producer, with nightcrawlers and salmon eggs runners-up. And the new breed of imitation worms and lures are making a good showing. Gold and red is the favored lure color combination. During the warmer months, when insect hatches are prevalent, fly anglers score on a variety of patterns, dry and wet.

Rainbow trout like colder water and take to more aggressive feeding early in the season. During the summer months, the feeding pattern swings to early morning and late evening. And days with a slight breeze seem to be a better producer rather than a flat, calm, glassy surface.

Learning to Fly Fish

A balanced, holistic approach is key By Fred Rowe



The meadows of the Upper Owens River make it a great place for fly fishers to learn fly fishing techniques.

Photo by Fred Rowe

A holistic approach to trout fishing is the essence of fly fishing. Beginner fly fishers have no idea the amount of information they are about to receive when learning to fly fish. Fly fishers are aware of what the trout are feeding on and what flies are need to imitate this food form. Fly fishing gear is balanced with a rod, reel and fly line. Properly setting up your terminal tackle, how you rig your rod, is the key to successful fly fishing.

A fly is bits of fur, feather and other materials tied on to a hook to imitate the food organism the trout is feeding on. Fly fishing is fishing a fly in a matter that imitates the food organism the trout is feeding on.

The food organisms that trout feed on are aquatic insects, things that swim through the water column and terrestrial insects. Aquatic insects have three basic forms depending on the species. There is the nymph or larval form of the insect that primarily lives on the substrate (bottom) of the lake or river. The emerger is the stage of the insect that goes from an aquatic insect to becoming a terrestrial

See FLY FISH, pg. 76

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FLY FISH, from pg. 75

insect. The adult aquatic insect is sexually mature and lays its eggs on the surface of the water to begin a new generation. Fly fishers use nymphs, emerger and dry fly patterns to imitate the different stages of the aquatic insects. Streamers are the flies that fly fishers use to imitate the bait fish, trout, crayfish, frogs and tadpoles that swim through the water column offering the trout a carnivores diet. Trout are always looking for extra calories in the summer months and terrestrial insects and animals like grass hoppers, beetles, ants, crickets, mice and snakes offer the trout the calories they are looking for.

Fly fishers fish with a balance outfit. This is a rod, reel and fly line that matches each other. Fly lines come in sizes zero to 15. Sizes zero to three are the ultralight lines for trout fishing. Size four to size six are the common sizes for most trout fly fishing. In the Eastern Sierra a size four or five line will handle most fly fishing conditions. Fly rods are made out of bamboo, fiberglass and graphite materials. Fly rods come in lengths of seven feet to 11 feet. A nine foot rod that will cast a five weight line is perfect for a beginner to fly fish in the Eastern Sierra. The reel needs to be balanced to the size of the fly line being cast. Most reel are designed to handle three fly sizes. The reels primary job for most Eastern Sierra fly fishing is a storage place for the fly line. The perfect beginners fly fishing outfit in the Eastern Sierra is a nine foot rod with a five weight line and a size 4/5 reel.

Fly line is a tapered coated line over a Dacron core which is too thick to tie a fly to. Modern fly lines have a welded loop that allows the fly fisher to attach a tapered monofilament leader to. Leaders are tapered from a thick end that is attached to the fly line and a thin end that a tippet is attached to. The diameter of the ends of monofilament is measured in 1/1,000 of an inch and is referred to as the X system. The big-



A fly rod, net and a trout are basic fly fishing needs for beginner fly fishers.

Photo by Fred Rowe

ger the number the smaller the diameter of the tippet. Tippet is spools of monofilament or fluorocarbon that is attached to the small end of the tapered leader. Monofilament is used when fishing with dry flies and surface emergers. Fluorocarbon is used with nymphs and streamers.

In the Eastern Sierra the following leader systems will produce trout for the beginner fly fisher. For streamer fishing a seven and a half foot leader tapered to a size 3X with three feet of 3X fluorocarbon will fool lots of streamer eating

trout. For nymphs use a seven and a half foot leader tapered to 5X with a three foot 5X tippet of fluorocarbon. For dry fly fishing use a seven and a half foot leader tapered to 5X with a three foot monofilament leader.

Becoming a successful fly fisher requires a lot of learning from the new fly fisher. Taking a lesson from an Eastern Sierra fly fishing guide will decrease the learning curve as guides know how to teach new fly fishers the basic fly fishing techniques that will produce trout in the Eastern Sierra.

An advertisement for the Empeiria High Sierra Hotel. The central image shows a brown trout leaping out of the water, splashing. Above the trout is a green and black fly. The background is a close-up of a fish's scales. The text is arranged around the image.

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A balanced fly rod outfit is the basic piece of equipment needed to learn how to fly fish the waters of the Eastern Sierra.

Bishop Creek Canal is an open area that is a perfect place for anglers to learn the fly fishing techniques that produce trout.

Photos by Fred Rowe

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Wild trout and hatchery trout

Eastern Sierra waters offer combinations By Fred Rowe



Wild brown trout are treasured by fly fishers.

Photo by Fred Rowe

Wild trout are trout that have reproduced in a stream without any artificial help from humans. Hatchery trout are trout that are propagated by humans and raised in ponds or raceways that are found in hatcheries and trout farms.

Wild trout grow up in a stream or lake environment. Trout have a hierarchy in the wild. The biggest trout gets the space that offers protection from predators from above the water and in the water. Trout need easy access to food. They will move from protected areas to feeding areas. Trout need access to spawning areas to produce the next generation.

In the state of California a wild trout water is a stream or lake that does not get regular stockings from hatcheries. The wild trout water will get trout stockings if the trout population is so low that the trout cannot repopulate the water. The trout population is dependent on the natural reproduction of the trout. There are a number of Eastern Sierra Waters that have a combination of stocked and wild trout in the lakes or streams.

A hatchery trout is a trout that is reproduced by humans and raised in raceways or ponds and then

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stocked into waters to provide the opportunity for anglers to catch trout. Trout are stocked in waters that have low to no natural reproduction and waters whose catch rate far exceeds the natural population of the trout. A lot of Eastern Sierra waters were devoid of trout until trout were introduced to the waters of the Eastern Sierra.

Stocked trout provide anglers with an opportunity to catch and keep trout. Stocked trout are caught quickly in the waters that have high fishing pressure. Some Eastern Sierra waters get weekly stockings of trout. Most of the prior stocked trout population have been caught by the time the water gets restocked. Most anglers know to get to their favorite fishing water right after it has been stocked.

Catch-and-release fishing is a practice of letting the trout go after it has been caught by an angler. This practice allows the trout to be caught multiple times. This allows more trout to be caught by anglers than the trout population of the water being fished.

Proper catch-and-release techniques guarantee the survival of 90% of the trout released. Proper catch and release techniques include quick handling of the trout, not using ultralight gear that will increase the effort required to land a trout, keeping the trout in the water or over the water when handling the trout, give the trout plenty of recovery time, nets with a rubber net do less damage to the trout's scales and protective slim and



Kids enjoying catching hatchery trout at the Labor Day Eastern Sierra Tri-County Fair.

Photo courtesy of Fred Rowe

release the trout in a slow area of the stream so they do not have to exert any more energy than necessary.

Catching trout in the Eastern Sierra is a past time associated with camping and staying in the

Eastern Sierra. Wild trout and stocked trout offer lots of fishing opportunities for anglers fishing the waters of the Eastern Sierra. Practicing catch-and-release increases the opportunities for anglers to catch trout in the Eastern Sierra.

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Mammoth fly shops

A brief history of angling supplies Mammoth Lakes By Fred Rowe

I permanently moved to Mammoth in the spring of 1981.

The tackle shops in town were Mammoth Sporting Goods, Filsons and Kittredge's Sports.

Mammoth Sporting Goods original location was on Highway 203.

I was hired by Bill Driver to teach fly fishing, fly tying and to work in the shop. Eventually Rick Flamson took over Mammoth Sporting Goods location on Highway 203 and renamed it Rick's Sports Center in the early 1990s

In the winter time Rick's Sports Center is a ski shop with a little bit of fly fishing and fishing equipment to supply winter fishermen. In the spring the shop closes down for a couple of weeks just before the annual fishing opener, the last Saturday in April, to put the ski equipment in storage and turn the shop back into a fishing tackle shop.

Rick's Sports Center has a big fly fishing section to service the fly fisher looking for information, guides and terminal tackle. They have a huge selection of Eastern Sierra fly patterns that will catch trout.

Sierra Bright Dot started out as a guide service in 1982. It did not take long for fly fishing clients to request the needs to buy terminal tackle, flies, fly rods and reels. Sierra Bright Dot Fly Shop started out as a three by four foot section inside of Mammoth Sporting Goods.

From their Sierra Bright Dot had a few locations during the fishing season inside a climbing store, The Ski Surgeon and finally inside of the Ski Reenter.

Sierra Bright Dot would take over ¼ of the Ski Reenter the Monday before the last Saturday in April. Sierra Bright Dot would take over the front half of the shop after Memorial Day. The shop would close on Oct. 31, the last day of fishing season in the Eastern Sierra.

The shop merchandise would go into storage until the following April when the shop would open up again. I chose not to open Sierra Bright Dot for the 1992 season because my third child was born and I could not take care of three children, a wife, working at Vons Grocery store in Mammoth, guiding and run a fly shop. Sierra Bright Dot continues as a fly fishing guide service that specializes in teaching the fly fishing techniques that produce trout in Eastern Sierra waters.

Steve Kennedy took over the Ski Reenter location and opened The Trout Fitter in the spring of 1992. When the two spaces occupied by Patty Van Dolson's Gallery in the Pines became available the Trout Fitter moved into it's present location.

Across the street from the Trout Fitter in the Safeway center was Filson's Tackle and Sports. When Safeway moved into its present location Filson's Tackle and Sports moved into most of the Safeway space.

This turned out to be detrimental to Filson's Tackle and Sports as Safeway took all the walk in traffic with them when they moved to the Old Mammoth Road location they occupy today.

The Filsons took the store back and moved into a smaller space in the old Safeway shopping



The end result with the right gear.

Photo courtesy of Fred Rowe

center. The Filson's sold the shop and it became the Trout Fly. When the Trout Fly owner wanted to sell the shop he could not find a buyer.

He sold the shop to the fly fishing guides that were working out of the shop. As guides wanted to sell off their interest in the Trout Fly Kent Rianda bought them out. Eventually Kent Rianda and the Trout Fly bought out Steve Kennedy's Trout Fitter. Which the shop is now called the Trout Fitter Trout Fly.

Today the three main fly fishing shops in Mammoth are the Trout Fitter Trout Fly, Rick's Sports Center and Kittredge's Sports.

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A fly-fishing philosophy

Fishing guide Fred Rowe loves to teach people to fish for life

By Terrance Vestal

The old adage "Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime," are more than just words of wisdom for longtime Eastern Sierra fly-fishing guide Fred Rowe, but a philosophy that he applies every time he takes a client out on the water.

Rowe's love of fishing is rooted in his childhood. Rowe, who grew up in the San Fernando Valley, said he fondly recalls fishing on the Kern River with his family when he was just four or five years old.

"It was something that my family did and I picked it up and eventually put this whole fishing career together, he said. "I remember my grandfather being patient with me, taking me out and teaching me how to work a stream."

As he grew up, he would often go to fishing shows with his father who liked to look at the boats on display, which usually ended up with an opportunity for him to go fishing as well.

"That was the highlight of the show for me," he said. "And then the next night, my mom would cook it up for me for dinner."

He would often be included on trips with his father and a friend, who would go to the Eastern Sierra - considered "Mecca fishing" - to Crowley Lake on the last Saturday of April, which is the historical fishing opener.

As a teenager he attended fly-tying classes at a local bait-and-tackle shop, which further increased his enthusiasm for the sport.

During his time with the local fishing club and the fly shop, Rowe had an opportunity to meet other



Fred Rowe emphasizes learning technique.

Photo courtesy of Fred Rowe

fishing enthusiasts. One happened to be Cory Wells, the lead singer of Three Dog Night, which led to a lifetime of fishing excursions between concerts when the band was in the area.

Rowe attended Humboldt State University, where he obtained a degree in fishery biology, which led to a job teaching fly tying at a fishing shop in Mammoth Lakes.

Rowe fell in love with the Eastern Sierra and would get married on a Sunday and move to the

area that following Monday. He worked at Safeway while he primed his guide service and created Sierra Bright Dot in 1982.

He said when someone calls regarding his service, he can be rather blunt about his philosophy.

"I don't give a damn if you catch a fish or not, is what I tell a lot of people," Rowe said. "I'm here to teach you the techniques that are gonna produce fish. So, therefore, if you do the proper techniques, guess what, you end up catching fish."

He said he spends a couple of hours going over techniques before taking a client out on the water. He then watches with satisfaction as the clients realize that the lessons learned "all make sense" with a string of fish.

"I'm going to explain everything and talk about what we're going to do, and how fishy feed and how insects hatch, and what insects are hatching now, and therefore what we're going to fish with and all that kind of stuff," he said.

During his trips and lessons, Rowe also teaches the art and science of fly tying to match what insects fish might be biting on that particular day.

Rowe also participates in many outreach programs throughout the year, including youth camps, as a way to give back to the Eastern Sierra community that has and continues to support him as well.

For more information about Rowe and his guide service, including how to book a session and fishing reports, visit <https://www.sierrabrightdot.com/>

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Introducción

This short Spanish-language section of the Eastern Sierra Fishing Guide is a first-ever collaboration between The Inyo Register, the U.S. Forest Service - Inyo National Forest, Hispanic Access Foundation and Sierra Forever.

It is an attempt, through education, to increase accessibility to our beautiful public lands for local and visiting members of our growing Hispanic community.

This section includes information on The Seven Principles of Leave No Trace, popular fishing spots along Bishop Creek Canyon, and a brief description of the Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery.

Our hope is to continue to introduce other popular fishing or fishing-related locations in Spanish to the community in future issues of the



Fishing Guide.

Esta breve sección en español de la Guía de Pesca de la Sierra Oriental (Eastern Sierra Fishing Guide) es una colaboración inédita entre The

Inyo Register, el Servicio Forestal de los Estados Unidos - Bosque Nacional Inyo, Hispanic Access Foundation y Sierra Forever.

Es un intento, a través de la educación, de aumentar la accesibilidad a nuestras hermosas tierras públicas para los miembros locales y visitantes de nuestra creciente comunidad hispana. Esta sección incluye información sobre los Siete Principios de “Sin Dejar Huellas,” los lugares de pesca populares a lo largo del Cañón de Bishop Creek y una breve descripción del Criadero de Peces del Monte Whitney. Nuestra esperanza es seguir presentando a la comunidad otros lugares populares de pesca o relacionados con la pesca en español en futuras ediciones de la Guía de Pesca.



Nuestro nombre quiere decir, “La Sierra Nevada para siempre.”

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En California, estamos en:

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Sin dejar huellas: Siete principios de ética al aire libre para sitios naturales

1. Planifique con anticipación y prepárese
Conozca los reglamentos y las condiciones especiales del área que visitará.

- Prepárese para el clima extremo, los peligros y las emergencias.

- Planifique su viaje para evitar el sobreuso del área.

- Para no impactar negativamente a la naturaleza, recréese en grupos pequeños cuando sea posible. Si su grupo es grande, considere dividirlo en varios grupos más pequeños.

- Vuelva a empacar sus alimentos para minimizar los desperdicios.

- Use un mapa y una brújula para guiarse, en vez de marcar los troncos de los árboles o amontonar piedras en el camino como señales, ya que esto destruye el paisaje natural.

2. Viaje y acampe sobre superficies durables

- Algunos ejemplos de superficies durables son los senderos y los sitios de campamento establecidos, las rocas, la gravilla, los pastos secos y la nieve.

- Proteja las zonas ribereñas acampando a una distancia de por lo menos 60 m (200 pies) de los lagos y arroyos.

- Los buenos sitios de campamento se encuentran, no se hacen. No es necesario alterar la naturaleza en un sitio solamente para acampar.

En áreas populares:

- Use principalmente los senderos y sitios de campamento existentes.

- Camine en fila india por el medio del sendero, incluso cuando haya agua o lodo en su camino, ya que no es bueno salirse del camino y pisotear la vegetación.

- Mantenga su sitio de campamento pequeño. Concentre las actividades en las áreas donde no haya vegetación.

En áreas vírgenes

- Disperse el uso para evitar la creación de sitios de campamento y senderos improvisados.

- Evite los lugares donde recién se están comenzando a notar los impactos del uso repetido de los mismos.

3. Deseche los residuos de forma adecuada

- Lo que traiga consigo, lléveselo de vuelta. Revise su sitio de campamento y áreas de descanso para ver si hay basura o residuos de alimentos en el suelo. Llévase toda la basura, alimentos sobrantes y desperdicios.

- Deposite los excrementos humanos en un agujero cavado en la tierra de 15 a 20 cm (6 a 8 pulgadas) de profundidad, a una distancia de por lo menos 60 m (200 pies) del agua, el campamento y los senderos. Cubra bien el agujero, disimulándolo con tierra y hojas caídas cuando haya terminado

- Llévase el papel higiénico y otros productos

de higiene. No los entierre.

- Para lavarse o para lavar sus platos, lleve el agua en un balde o contenedor a una distancia de 60 m (200 pies) de los arroyos o lagos y use pequeñas cantidades de jabón biodegradable. Esparza el agua que haya usado para lavar los platos sin restos de alimentos.

4. Deje lo que encuentre

- Conserve el pasado: observe, pero no altere las estructuras y los artefactos culturales o históricos.

- Deje las rocas, plantas y otros objetos naturales tal como los haya encontrado.

- Evite introducir o transportar especies no autóctonas.

- No construya estructuras o muebles improvisados, ni cave trincheras.

5. Minimice los impactos de las fogatas

- Las fogatas pueden causar impactos negativos duraderos a la naturaleza. Use una cocina liviana para cocinar, y para alumbrar utilice un farol o una linterna.

- En los lugares donde estén permitidas las fogatas, use los círculos establecidos, las bandejas para fogatas o las fogatas en montículo.

- Construya fogatas pequeñas solamente. Use solamente pequeños palos caídos que puedan romperse con las manos.

- Asegúrese de quemar completamente toda

Ver Principios página 87



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Lugares de pesca a lo largo de Bishop Creek Canyon (El Cañón del Arroyo de Bishop)

Bishop Creek

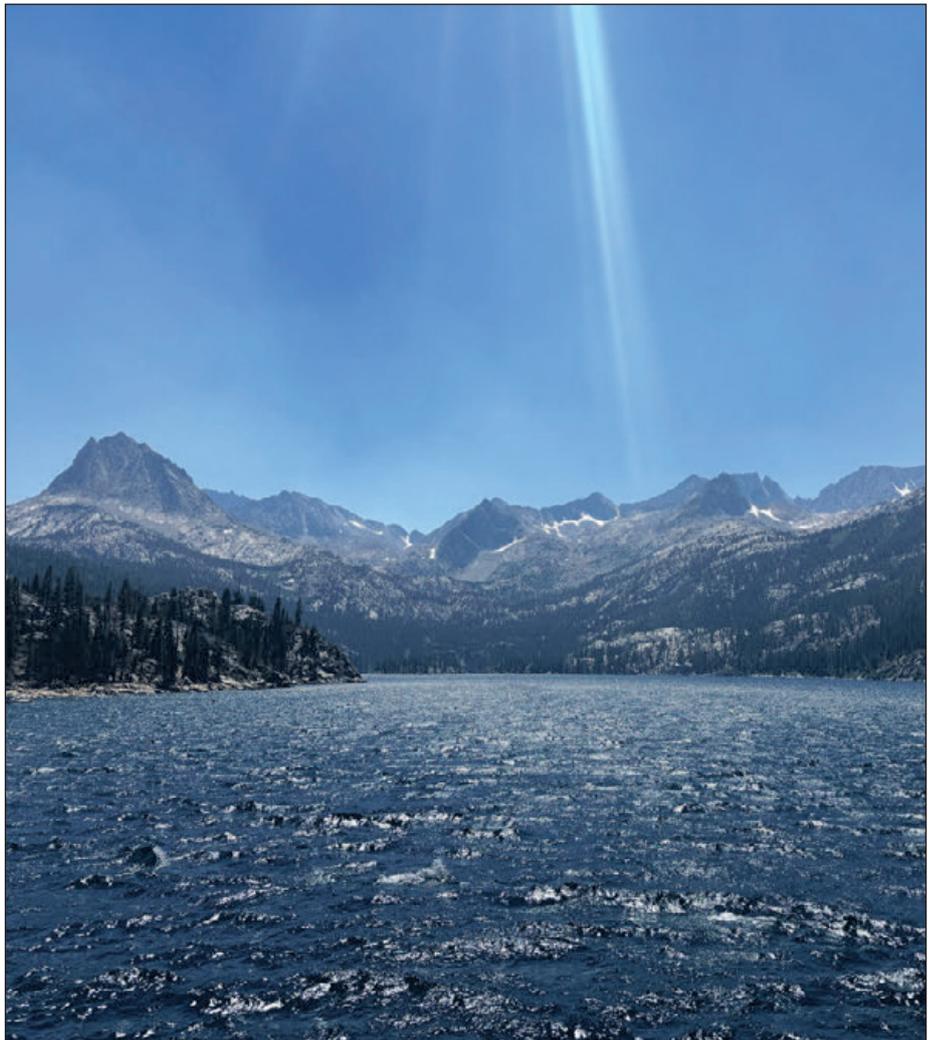
Bishop Creek tiene tres afluentes que fluyen por 25 millas desde los 10,000 pies de altura en las montañas hasta los 4,000 pies en el valle. Estos afluentes provienen de los lagos South Lake, Lake Sabrina y North Lake. Durante la temporada de pesca, estas aguas están llenas de trucha arcoiris (rainbow trout), ya que el Departamento de Pesca y Vida Silvestre de California las abastece. También hay una buena población de trucha marrón (brown trout). El programa Adopt-A-Creek ayuda con el abastecimiento de truchas de alpes para mejorar la experiencia de pesca. Todas estas aguas son de fácil acceso y cuentan con muchas pozas y rápidos para pescar. Puede acceder al Cañón de Bishop Creek por la carretera estatal 168 al oeste de Bishop. Si viaja hacia el oeste por West Line Street desde la carretera US 395, que cruza el centro de la

ciudad, West Line se convierte en CA-168.

South Lake

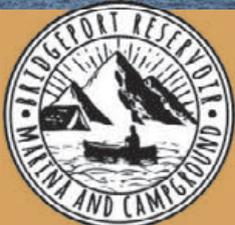
South Lake se encuentra a 19 millas al suroeste de Bishop. Conduzca por 12 millas hacia el oeste por la carretera 168 (West Line Street) hasta el desvío para South Lake y luego siga por 7 millas hasta llegar al lago. Hay una rampa para lanchas, que también se pueden alquilar. La mayor parte de la orilla del lago es inaccesible, por lo cual la pesca desde la orilla se realiza principalmente desde

las rocas junto a la presa. Otra área de pesca desde la orilla se encuentra al final del estacionamiento, donde termina South Lake Road. Aquellos que tengan embarcaciones pueden dirigirse a la parte posterior del lago y pescar en las aguas que caen en cascada desde las montañas. En estas aguas se pueden pescar peces grandes. En 1998, un residente de Bishop que pescaba desde la orilla logró pescar una trucha de más de 17 libras usando un señuelo de pesca grande. El paisaje es impresionante.



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Lake Sabrina ofrece una pesca fantástica durante la temporada con vistas magníficas en cualquier época del año.

Lake Sabrina (se pronuncia sa-brai-na)

La carretera 168 termina en Lake Sabrina a 16 millas al oeste de Bishop. Entre las comodidades hay un café y una rampa para lanchas, que también se pueden alquilar. Un sendero alrededor de la orilla norte del lago brinda muchos lugares agradables para pescar. La entrada en la parte posterior del lago es un lugar excelente para atrapar peces grandes. En estas aguas se esconden algunos peces de tamaño trofeo. También aquí el paisaje es maravilloso.

North Lake

Conduzca 16 millas hacia el oeste de Bishop por la autopista 168 hacia Lake Sabrina y gire a la derecha en North Lake Road. El camino hacia el lago es un camino de tierra estrecho, por lo que debe proceder con mucha precaución. Hay dos áreas de estacionamiento de uso diurno en este lago: una en el lado sur y otra en el lado norte. No hay alquiler de lanchas aquí, pero se permite el uso de flotadores

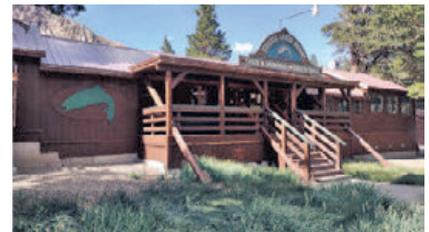
Ver Arroyo página 86



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ARROYO CONTINÚA DE PÁGINA 85

o canoas. No se permiten lanchas a motor de gasolina. La pesca desde la orilla es de fácil acceso y el lago es hogar de truchas de arroyo, truchas marrones y truchas arcoíris.

Intake II

Este pequeño lago que se puede ver desde la carretera está a 12 millas al oeste de Bishop en la carretera 168. Tampoco hay alquiler de lanchas aquí, pero se permite el uso de flotadores o canoas. No se permiten lanchas a motor de gasolina. Aquí hay muchas posibilidades de pesca desde la orilla. No deje que el tamaño del lago le desanime, ya que en él encontrará peces grandes.

En cualquiera de estas aguas se puede pescar con cebos y señuelos habituales, pero si quiere divertirse un poco por la noche, pruebe a pescar con burbuja y mosca. Los resultados pueden ser espectaculares.

Si desea adentrarse a zonas más silvestres en el bosque sin mayor dificultad, verá qué grandes oportunidades de pesca existen en varios lagos alpinos (a alta elevación). Long Lake, Green Lake, Ruwau Lake y Treasure Lakes ofrecen al pescador la oportunidad de pescar peces nativos en un entorno salvaje.

La temporada de pesca en el Cañón del Arroyo de Bishop (Bishop Creek Canyon) y



Un hermoso día de otoño en Intake II antes de que se congele en invierno.

las áreas silvestres adentrándose al bosque comienza el último fin de semana de abril y dura hasta el 31 de octubre.

Para más información puede contactar a la Oficina del Servicio Forestal en Bishop (White Mountain Public Lands Information Center) o al Departamento de Pesca y Vida Silvestre de California (California Department of Fish & Wildlife).

White Mountain Public Lands Information Center

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martes - viernes: 8:30am - 4:30pm
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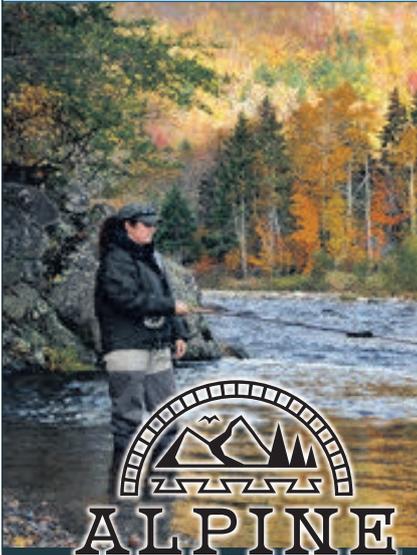
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Criadero de Peces Mount Whitney (Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery)



Fotos históricas del exterior e interior del Criadero de Peces Mount Whitney.

Cortesía de los archivos de Eastern California Museum

El Criadero de Peces Mount Whitney, fundado en 1917 por el Departamento de Pesca y Vida Silvestre de California (California Department of Fish & Wildlife o CDFW por sus siglas en inglés), alberga más de un siglo de cultura e historia de la Sierra Oriental. Su arquitectura y el hermoso paisaje de montañas a su alrededor lo convierten en un lugar muy buscado para graduaciones, bodas y muchos otros eventos.

El criadero ha proporcionado peces a la Sierra Oriental durante casi un siglo desde el año de su fundación hasta 2008. Los desastres naturales provocaron un cambio en el enfoque del criadero hacia la conservación y la educación. A principios de 2024, el CDFW transfirió 40 acres de la propiedad a la comunidad indígena de Fort Independence; 19 de los acres incluyen

las estructuras y residencias históricas del criadero y los 21 acres restantes son hábitat de plantas nativas. Los terrenos albergan un centro educativo con tienda de regalos y se ofrecen recorridos gratis por las instalaciones.

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Revise el horario en la página web.

PRINCIPIOS CONTINÚA DE PÁGINA 83

la leña y los carbones hasta que se conviertan en cenizas, y luego apague completamente los restos de la fogata, empapándola con agua o cubriéndola con arena y esparciendo las cenizas frías.

6. Respete la vida silvestre

- Observe los animales salvajes desde lejos.

No lo siga ni se aproxime a ellos.

- Nunca alimente a los animales. Alimentar a los animales salvajes daña su salud, altera su comportamiento natural y los expone a depredadores y a otros peligros.

- Guarde sus provisiones y basura de forma segura para proteger sus alimentos a la vez que ayuda a proteger la vida silvestre.

- Controle a sus mascotas en todo momento, o déjelas en casa.

- Evite molestar a los animales salvajes durante los momentos en que son más vulnerables, por ejemplo, en las épocas de apareamiento, anidación, cuidado de las crías o en invierno.

7. Sea considerado con los demás

- Respete a los demás visitantes y proteja la

calidad de su experiencia.

- Sea cortés. Ceda el paso a otros usuarios que encuentre en el sendero.

- Muévase al lado cuesta abajo del sendero cuando se encuentre con animales de carga.

- Descanse con frecuencia y acampe lejos de los senderos y de otros campistas.

- Preserve los sonidos de la naturaleza. Evite gritar y hacer ruidos fuertes.

Obtenga mas información en la página web LNT.ORG/ESPANOL

McGEE CREEK LODGE

We are excited to announce that the operators of Convict Lake Resort, have acquired the McGee Creek Lodge. McGee Creek Lodge is located 2 miles north of Crowley Lake and 6 miles south of Convict Lake. The Lodge includes eight view rooms, and two cottages with hot tubs and BBQ grills!

We look forward to everyone staying with us!

Continental Breakfast now available!

McGee Creek Lodge Store NOW OPEN!



Please Call **760-934-3800 Ext. 1** for Reservations.

1561 Crowley Lake Dr. Crowley Lake, CA
info@convictlake.com • **760-934-3800** • www.mcgeecreek.com



"Ardie" holding a rainbow on Crowley Lake.
Photo submitted by Fred Rowe



Carlos Roma shows off an 8 lb. 7 oz. rainbow caught at Convict Lake.
Photo courtesy Convict Lake



John Copus from Bakersfield holds up an 8-lb. 3-oz. rainbow he caught trolling a Rapala from the waters of Convict Lake.
Photo courtesy Convict Lake Resort



Tanya San Miguel got a thrill catching this monster carp at Tinnemah on 4-lb. line with a nightcrawler. The fish weighed in at a scale-busting 17 pounds.
Photo submitted by Tanya San Miguel



Cassie Peterson from San Diego caught an 8-lb., 3-oz. rainbow from Convict Lake that chomped on a nightcrawler.
Photo courtesy Convict Lake Fishing Resort



Hannah Yount, 3 at the time, of Hammil Valley, caught this 5-lb. 7-oz 21 inch trout during a past Children's Day in Independence.
Photo submitted



"Hidden gem on the way to Yosemite!!!"
- Rohit K.

"Hands down. THE BEST BBQ place in California. IF not period."
- Rich V.

MOUNTAIN VIEW

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"Honestly was one of the best burgers I've ever had."
- V. F.



"This place is so good! Highly recommended!"
- Jeff W.

"Amazing Food, service and prices."
- Jeff S.





Riley from Bakersfield holds out a fish caught at Lake Sabrina.

Photo submitted by Margaret Hunter



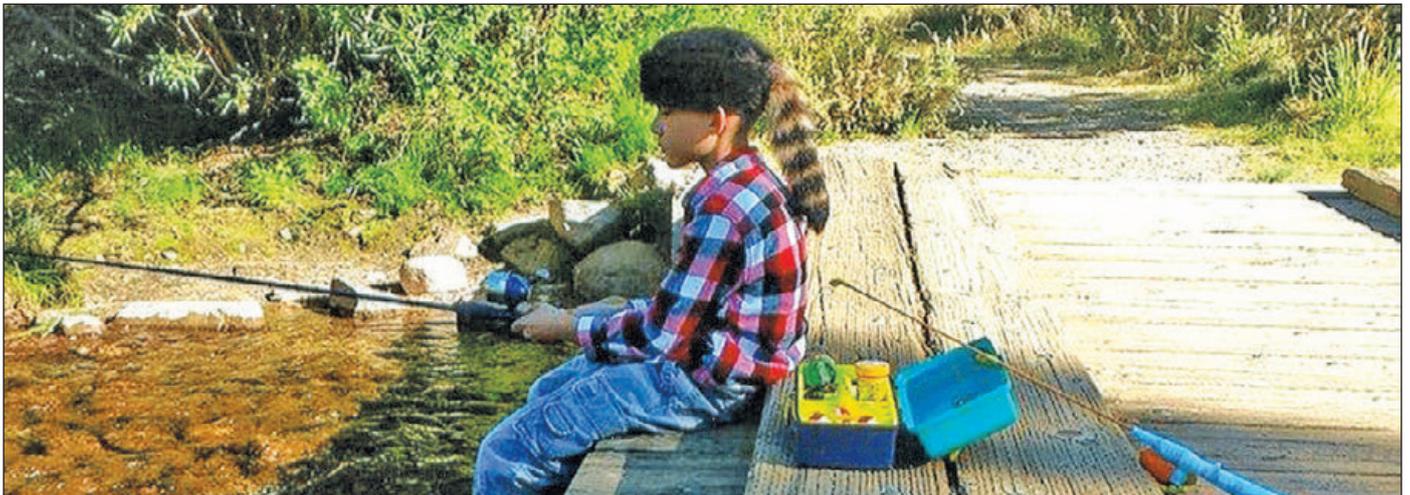
Luci caught this fish at Big Pine Glacier Lodge trout pond.

Photo submitted by Margaret Hunter



Gavin Gordon, of Ventura shows off his catch at Lake George.

Photo submitted by Gordon family



Jason tries his luck at catching the big one at Intake II.

Photo submitted by Jennifer Noye



Kade Wagoner shows off the lunker of a rainbow he caught on the Lower Owens – yet more proof there are still plenty of fish out there for the taking in year-round waters such as the Owens River, Diaz Lake and Pleasant Valley Reservoir.

Photo courtesy www.facebook.com/ReagansSportingGoods



John Flynn of Anaheim hauled in a 6 lb. 6 oz. rainbow and an 8 lb. 4 oz. rainbow using Thomas Buoyant along the North Shore of Convict Lake.

Photo courtesy Convict Lake



Kailyn Boxley smiles as she holds a 2015 Catch of the Week, a feisty looking 3-lb. cutthroat trout she caught in Crowley Lake.

Photo submitted by Dan Boxley



Cheryl Wilder from Fort Independence is holding a great looking 7-lb. cutthroat trout she fished out of Pyramid Lake.

File photo



Andy Marsh thinks this great rainbow he caught out of Valley Reservoir was around 8.5-9 lbs., but he was just estimating. It didn't make it to a scale, he released it after the photo. He figures any fish that lived long enough to get this big deserves to continue its life.

File photo



Chelsea Walsh with a 7 lb. 12 oz. rainbow she caught out of Convict Lake using a nightcrawler along the South Shore.

Photo courtesy Convict Lake



Daniel Merrero from Glendora with a 20-plus-inch brown trout that he reeled in from an Eastern Sierra lake.

Photo by Dan Lengning



Gavin Gordon, 10, from Ventura, helped his grandmother Jane Gordon land this 2.5-pound rainbow while fishing on Lake Mamie.

Photo by Brian Gordon



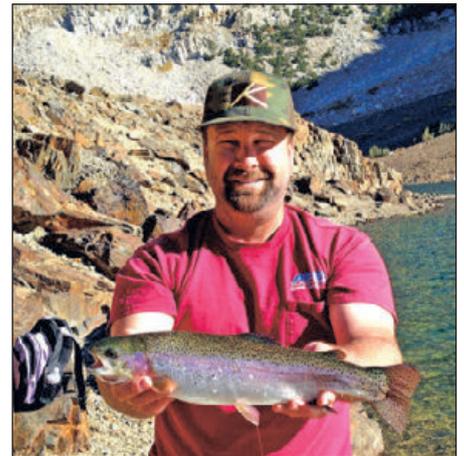
Tim Carnahan is pictured with a nice catch from Crowley Lake.

Photo by Lori Carnahan



Lori Carnahan, aka "Fish Story Lori," holds a 4.5-pound trout that she caught using a sierra slammer grasshopper mini jig while fishing South Lake.

Photo by Tim Carnahan



Darrell Gordon from Ventura shows off a fat rainbow he caught from Lake Ellery.

Photo by Brian Gordon



Frankie, left, and Sonny, right, are pictured with their dad, Dean Mele, of Wrightwood, holding a beautiful trout caught while fishing Lake Mary.

Photo by Tim Schuler



Eva Gentry holds up a 3 pound trout that she landed while fishing at Rock Creek Lake.

Photo by Stephanie DeBaptiste



Rob Miller of Bishop caught and released this nice sized Brook trout while creek fishing in the High Sierra.

File photo



A happy fisherman proudly holds a hefty trout caught while fishing Crowley Lake.

File photo



Christy Coons proudly holds a more-than-fine-size trout caught while fly fishing from from a boat on Lake Mary.

File photo

Guide to Eastern Sierra Campgrounds

The Campground Guide is intended to provide vacationers to the Eastern Sierra with a general overview of the campgrounds available in Inyo and Mono counties.

Fees for campgrounds are posted at the campsites and also can be found online at the websites of the agency that manages the campgrounds or campsites.

As a general rule, most campgrounds open with

the spring thaw and close before the first winter storm in the fall. Some of the campgrounds located at lower elevations and those privately or county-owned are open year round. Tuttle Creek Campground, managed by the BLM, is open year-round.

It is always recommended that visitors contact the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center at (760) 924-5500, or the BLM at (760) 872-5008, for the most up-to-date information as the summer camp-

ing season draws near.

Visitors may also call the ranger districts at the phone numbers provided below, or visit the following websites, for up-to-date information:

- www.fs.fed.us/r5/inyo/recreation/campgrounds.shtml
- www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/bishop/camping/index.html
- www.inyocountycamping.com

Key:

C – Concession; **R** – Reservations; **DS** – Dump Station (\$6 donation); **A** – Handicapped Accessible; **B** – Bear Boxes Available; **S** – Sewer; **E** – Electricity; **V** – Vault Toilets; **F** – Flush

Campground & Information Number	Sites	Details	Elevation	Water	Max. stay
LONE PINE AREA – (760) 876-6200					
<u>Horseshoe Meadow</u>					
Cottonwood Pass Backpacker (walk-in)	18	B/V	10,000	piped	1
Cottonwood Lakes Backpacker (walk-in)	13	B/V	10,000	piped	1
Horseshoe Meadows (equestrian)	10	B/V	10,000	piped	1
<u>Lone Pine Creek</u>					
Lone Pine	43	B/R/V	6,000	piped	14
Lone Pine (group)	1	B/R/V	6,000	piped	14
Whitney Portal	43	B/R/V	8,000	piped	7
Whitney Portal (group)	3	B/R/V	8,100	piped	7
Whitney Trailhead (walk-in)	25	B/V	8,300	piped	1
<u>Independence Creek</u>					
Lower Grays Meadow	52	B/R/V	6,000	piped	14
Upper Grays Meadow	35	B/R/V	6,200	piped	14
Onion Valley	29	B/R/V	9,200	piped	14
<u>Other Campgrounds</u>					
Diaz Lake (Inyo County)	200	C/R	3,700	piped	15
Independence Creek (Inyo County)	25		3,900	piped	15
Tuttle Creek (BLM 760-872-5008)	83	DS/A	5,120	none in winter	14
				dump station/horse corrals	
Goodale Creek (BLM)	43		4,000	none	14
Portagee Joe (Inyo County)	15		3,800	well	14
BISHOP AREA – (760) 873-2500					
<u>Big Pine Creek</u>					
Big Pine Creek	30	B/R/V	7,700	piped	14
Sage Flat	28	B/V	7,400	piped	14
Upper Sage Flat	21	B/R/V	7,600	piped	14
Palisade Glacier (group no. 518)	1	B/R/V	7,600	piped	14
Clyde Glacier (group no. 518)	1	B/R/V	7,600	piped	14
<u>White Mountains</u>					
Grandview	23	V	8,560	none	14
Ferguson (group)	3	V	7,200	none	14
<u>Bishop Creek</u>					
Big Trees	16	B/F	7,500	piped	7
Bishop Park (group)	1	B/R/V	8,200	none	14
Bitterbrush	35	B/V	7,350	piped	14
Forks	21	B/F	7,800	piped	7
Four Jeffrey	104	R/DS/F	8,100	piped	14
Intake II	13	B/F	8,200	piped	7
Mountain Glen	5	B/V	8,200	none	7

North Lake (no trailers/RVs)	11	B/V	9,500	pipied	7
Sabrina	19	B/V	9,000	pipied	7
Willow	8	B/V	9,000	none	7
Table Mountain (group)	1	B/R/V	8,500	pipied	7
<u>Rock Creek</u>					
Big Meadow	11	B/F	8,600	pipied	7
East Fork	133	B/R/F	9,000	pipied	14
French Camp	86	B/R/DS/F	7,500	pipied	21
Iris Meadow	14	B/F	8,300	pipied	7
Palisade (Group)	5	B/V	8,600	yes	7
Pine Grove	11	B/V	9,300	yes	7
Rock Creek Lake	28	B/F	9,600	yes	7
Tuff	34	B/R/V	7,000	yes	21
Upper Pine Grove	8	B/V	9,400	yes	7
Holiday	35	V	7,500	pipied	14
Aspen (group)	1	B/R	8,100	yes	14
Mosquito Flat Trailhead (walk-in)	10	B	10,100	none	1
Rock Creek Lake (group)	1	B/R	9,700	yes	14

McGee Creek

McGee Creek	28	B/R	7,600	pipied	14
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Other Campgrounds

Tri-County Fairgrounds (State of Calif.)	42	R/S/E	4, 140	yes	30
Millpond Recreation Area (private)	60	C/E	4,444	pipied	14
Brown's Town Campground (private)	100	C/E	4,147	pipied	4
Glacier View Campground (private)	40	C/E	3,985	well	15
Pleasant Valley (Inyo County)	200		4,300	yes	14
Pleasant Valley Pit – Winter (BLM)	75		4,300	none	60
Baker Creek (Inyo County)	70		4,159	none	15
Tinnemaha Creek (Inyo County)	55			well	15
Taboose Creek (Inyo County)	50		3,897	none	15
Horton Creek (BLM)	49	DS/A	4,975	yes	14

Applicable fee for dump station

MAMMOTH LAKES AREA – (760) 924-5500

<u>Convict Lake</u>					
Convict Lake	85	B/R/F/DS	7,600	pipe	7
<u>Mammoth Village Area</u>					
New Shady Rest	92	B/R/DS	7,800	pipied	14
Old Shady Rest	47	R	7,800	pipied	14
Sherwin Creek	85	B/R	7,600	pipied	21
Pine Glen (overflow)	10		7,800	pipied	14
Pine Glen (group)	7	B/R	7,800	pipied	14
<u>Mammoth Lakes Basin</u>					
Coldwater	77	B/R	8,900	pipied	14
Twin Lakes	92	B/R	8,600	pipied	7
Lake George	16	B	9,000	pipied	7
Lake Mary	46	B	8,900	pipied	14
Pine City	10	B	8,900	pipied	14
<u>Reds Meadow Area</u>					
Agnew Meadows	21	B	8,400	pipied	14
Group sites	4				
Minaret Falls	24	B	7,600	pipied	14
Red's Meadow	56	B	7,600	pipied	14
Pumice Flat	17	C	7,700	pipied	14
Upper Soda Springs	29	C/A	7,700	pipied	14
Pumice Flat (group)	4	B/R	7,700	pipied	14
<u>Other Campgrounds</u>					
Crowley Lake (BLM)	48	DS/A	9,200	yes	14
Devil's Postpile (Nat'l. Park Service)	21		7,679	pipied	14
Mammoth Mountain RV Park	179	C/DS/S/E/R	7,800	yes	n/a

LEE VINING/JUNE LAKE AREA – (760) 647-3044

Crestview Area

Big Springs	26		7,300	none	14
Deadman, Lower	15		7,800	none	14
Upper Deadman	15		7,780	none	14
Glass Creek	50		7,600	none	14
Hartley Springs	20		8,400	none	14
Obsidian Flat (group)	1	B/R/V	7,800	none	14

June Lake Loop

Aerie Crag (RVs only/overflow)	10	V	7,200	none	3
Gull Lake	11	B/F	7,600	pipied	14
June Lake	28	B/R/F	7,600	pipied	14
Oh! Ridge	144	B/R/F	7,600	pipied	14
Reversed Creek	17	B/F	7,600	pipied	14
Silver Lake	63	B/R/F	7,200	pipied	14

Lee Vining Area

Lower Lee Vining	53	B/V	7,300	none	14
Moraine	20	V	7,350	none	14
Aspen Grove	56	B/V	7,490	pipied	14
Big Bend	17	B/V	7,800	pipied	14
Ellery Lake	21	B/V	9,500	pipied	14
Junction	13	B/V	9,600	none	14
Sawmill (walk-in)	12	B/V	9,800	none	14
Tioga Lake (small trailers/RVs)	13	B/V	9,700	pipied	14
Saddlebag Lake (small trailers/RVs)	19	B/V	10,000	pipied	14
Trailhead Group (@ Saddlebag Lake)	1	B/R/V	10,000	pipied	14

Other Campgrounds

Lee Vining Canyon (Mono County)	182		6,800	none	none
Lundy Canyon (Mono County)	54		7,800	none	none

BRIDGEPORT RANGER DISTRICT – (760) 932-7070

Bridgeport Campgrounds

Honeymoon Flat	47		7,000	yes	
N. Robinson Creek	54		7,000	yes	
Paha	22		7,000	yes	
Crags	27		7,100	yes	
Lower Twin	15		7,000	yes	
Buckeye	65		7,000	yes	
Green Creek	11		7,500	yes	
Trumbull Lake	45		9,500	yes	
Obsidian	14		7,800	no	
Sonora Bridge	23		6,800	yes	
Leavitt Meadows	16		7,000	yes	
Chris Flat	15		6,600	yes	
Bootleg	63		6,600	yes	
Desert Creek	13		6,300	no	
Green Creek (group site 1)	25		7,500	yes	
Green Creek (group site 2)	30		7,500	yes	
Crags (Group)	45		7,100	yes	

CARSON RANGER DISTRICT – (775) 882-2766

Carson Campgrounds

Lookout	22		6,700	no	
Mt. Rose	24		8,900	yes	
Crystal Springs	22		6,600	yes	
Markleeville	10		5,500	yes	
Kit Carson	12		6,900	yes	
Hope Valley	20		7,300	yes	
Silver Creek	22		6,800	yes	
Hope Valley (Group)	3-16 PAOT			yes	
Lookout (Group)	1-30 PAOT			no	

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Contact **Ed Galanski**
 at (805) 739-2226
 or via email:

egalanski@inyoregister.com
 egalanski@mammothtimes.com



In-the-field guidance

Fishing guides and pack stations here to enhance your experience

Not everyone is lucky enough to live in the Eastern Sierra full-time, and for these people, it's important they make the absolute most of their time here in Inyo and Mono counties.

There are also longtime locals wanting to approach one of their favorite pastimes from a fresh perspective, or learn new and better techniques,

or explore areas of their big backyard they've only seen in photographs.

For all of these folks, the services offered by local fishing guides and pack stations are invaluable. And luckily, the Eastern Sierra is flush with both – willing, ready and eager to educate, broaden horizons and add an element of adventure to angling excursions.

Following are some of the guides and stations here to help ...

FISHING GUIDES

The Angler's Edge
1506 Hwy. 395,
Gardnerville, Nev.
www.theanglersedge.com

CPR (Catch Photograph
Release) Guide Service
(760) 784-1524

Dan's Guide Service
(661) 478-0036
facebook.com/dansguideservice

Eastern Sierra Guide Service
(760) 872-7770
www.jaeger-flyfishing.com

High Sierra Outfitters
130 S. Main St., Lone Pine
(760) 876-9994
(See ad on pg. 79)

Hot Creek Fly Fishing Ranch
Mammoth Lakes
(760) 924-5637
<http://hstrial-hotcreekranch.homestead.com>

Ken's Sporting Goods
258 Main St., Bridgeport
(760) 932-7707
www.kenssport.com
(See ad on pg. 13)

Kevin Peterson's Fly Fishing
Adventures
85 Hot Creek Hatchery
Rd.,
Mammoth Lakes
(760) 937-0519
www.kevinpetersonflyfishing.com

Kittredge Sports
Mammoth Lakes
(760) 934-7566
www.kittredgesports.com

Mammoth Flyfishing
Adventures
(760) 937-5680
www.mammothflyfishingadventures.com

Oasis Fly Fishing
P.O. Box 7765,
Alhambra, CA 91802
(626) 219-2999
www.oasisflyshop.com

Performance Anglers Guide
Service and Outfitters
P.O. Box 1688, Mammoth
Lakes
(818) 288-0584
www.performanceanglers.com

Performance Guide Service/
Rick's Sports Center
3241 Main St., Mammoth
(760) 914-0730
www.performanceguideservice.com

Sierra Bright Dot Guide
Service
Fly Fishing Specialist
1509 Lazy A Dr., Bishop
(760) 873-3948

Sierra Drifters Guide Service
Mammoth Lakes
(760) 935-4250
www.sierradrifters.com

Sierra Fly Fisher Tours
P.O. Box 631, Bass Lake, Calif.
(559) 683-7664
www.sierraflyfisher.com
Sierra Fly Guide
2806 Boulder Dr., June Lake
(760) 209-3260

Sierra Guide Group
P.O. Box 451, Bishop
(760) 872-9836
www.sierraguidegroup.com

**Sierra Mountain Trout
Guide Service**
(760) 263-5013
www.facebook.com/pages/Sierra-Mountain-Trout-Guide-Service/106914379349120
(see ad on pg. 27)

Sierra Trout Magnet Fly Shop
2272 N. Sierra Hwy., Bishop
(760) 873-0010
www.sierratroutmagnet.com

**The Troutfitter/The Trout
Fly**
2987 Main St.,
Mammoth Lakes
(760) 924-3676
www.thetroutrfly.com
(See ad on pg. 2)

The Trout Scout
(760) 872-9836
troutscout@verizon.net

Daniel Merrero
from Glendora
shows off this
20-plus-inch brown
trout caught with
the help of Dan's
Guide Service

Dan's Guide Service



PACK STATIONS

Agnew Meadows Pack
Station
P.O. Box 395, Mammoth
Lakes
(760) 934-2345
www.redsmeadow.com

Bishop Pack Outfitters
Bishop
(760) 873-4785

Cottonwood Pack Station
Lone Pine
(760) 878-2015

Frontier Pack Station
Winter: 1012 E. Line St.,
Bishop
Summer: P.O. Box 656,
June Lake
(888) 437-MULE (toll-free)
<https://sites.google.com/site/fron-tierpacktraindotcom/home/about-us>

Glacier Pack Train
Big Pine
(760) 938-2538

Kennedy Meadows Pack
Station
Sonora Pass
Summer: (209) 965-3911,
(209) 965-3900
Winter: (209) 965-3900,
(209) 928-1239
www.kennedymeadows.com

Leavitt Meadows Pack
Station
7386 S.R. Hwy. 108,
Bridgeport
(530) 495-2196
www.leavittmeadows.com

Mammoth Lakes Pack
Outfit
Lake Mary Road, Mammoth
(888) 475-8747
www.mammothpack.com

McGee Creek Pack Station
2990 McGee Creek Rd.,
Crowley Lake
(800) 854-7407
www.mcgeecreekpackstation.com

Mt. Whitney Pack Trains
Mt. Whitney
(760) 872-8331
www.rockcreekpackstation.com/goldentroutinfotop.shtml

Pine Creek Pack Station
Bishop
(800) 962-0775

Rainbow Pack Station
Bishop
(760) 873-8877
<http://rainbow.zb-net.com/>

Red's Meadow Pack Outfit
P.O. Box 395,
Mammoth Lakes
(760) 934-2345
www.redsmeadow.com

Rock Creek Pack Station
Bishop
(760) 872-8331
www.rockcreekpackstation.com

Sequoia Kings Pack Trips
Independence
(800) 962-0775

Virginia Lakes Pack Outfit
Bridgeport
Summer: (760) 937-0326
Winter: (925) 349-5074
www.virginalakes.com
(See ad on pg. 11)



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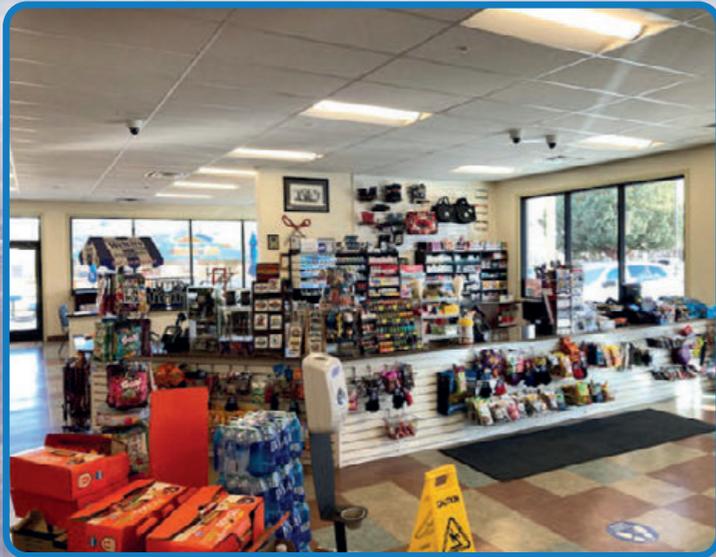
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DISCOVER

LADWP IN THE EASTERN SIERRA



Recreation

All lakes and streams on LADWP-managed land are open for trout fishing beginning the last Saturday in April through November 15. Pleasant Valley Reservoir and Owens River are stocked and open year-round, so the fishing fun never stops! Please adhere to the fishing rules, stay safe out there, and do your part to protect our public lands.

Discover more recreation information at ladwp.com/easternsierra

