

Bucks Lake Wilderness

Plumas National Forest

Mt. Hough Ranger District



California Wilderness Act of 1984

The Bucks Lake Wilderness was established by the California Wilderness Act of 1984. The wilderness encompasses 21,000 acres, and is located near the northern end of the Sierra Nevada mountain range.

Topography

Elevations in the Bucks Lake Wilderness range from 2,000ft. in the Feather River Canyon to 7,017ft. at Spanish Peak. The top of the escarpment which the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) crosses unfolds a spectacular view of the forest to the east and north. An impressive view of Mt. Lassen is visible on clear days.

The Bucks Lake Wilderness has a broad diversity of topography and vegetation. Ground cover varies from brush fields to conifer stands, oaks and pure red fir stands. Several small lakes are scattered across the eastern portion of the Wilderness. Along the western slope are small meadows and quaking bogs hidden among the dense stands of red fir.



For more detailed trail information Bucks Lake Wilderness maps can be purchased at any Forest Service office on the Plumas National Forest.

Wilderness permits are not required to enter the wilderness, but we do ask you to sign in at each trailhead you are hiking.

For more information contact the Mt. Hough Ranger District at **(530) 283-0555**.



Trails

There are 131 miles of trails on the Mt. Hough Ranger District. Two-thirds are within the Bucks Lake Wilderness area.

Mill Creek – Trailhead is located approximately ½ mile west of Whitehorse Campground off the Bucks Lake Road.

Gold Lake – Trailhead is located at the Silver Lake Campground.

Granite Gap – Trailhead junction is marked by a sign on Gold Lake Trail.

Right Hand Branch of Mill Creek – Trailhead is located at the Mill Creek Campground on the NE shore of Bucks Creek.

Three Lakes Trail – Trailhead is located at Lower Three Lakes.

Three Lakes PCT Tie – This trail utilizes the Three Lakes Tie



United States
Department of
Agriculture



Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region

Plumas NF, Mt Hough RD
39696 Hwy 70, Quincy, CA 95971
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*Practicing a **Leave No Trace!** ethic is very simple; make it hard for others to see and hear you, and **Leave No Trace!** of your visit.*

**Leave No Trace
Tips**

- ~ Plan for small groups.
- ~ Stay on designated trails
- ~ Select a campsite 200 ft. away from trails, lakes, streams, and wet meadows.
- ~ Do all washing away from camp and water sources.

**Pack it in!
Pack it out!**

Heads Up!

Thunderstorms are common in the mountains. When there is lightning, avoid open areas, stay away from isolated trees, and always remove metal frame backpacks and metal tent poles.

Hypothermia is the rapid loss of body heat caused by fatigue, wetness, and exposure to wind. Be prepared with extra clothing, food and water.

Dehydration is a condition where fluids and electrolytes are lost. This can happen with strenuous activity. To avoid dehydration drink liquids whenever you feel thirsty.

Water from streams, lakes and springs should be treated before drinking. One way to purify water is to boil the water for at least five minutes before drinking.

Cattle Grazing



You can expect to see cattle in the wilderness area from August 1 through September 30. The wilderness has been used for domestic livestock since the early 1900's. The California Wilderness Act of 1984 allows cattle grazing to continue as practiced before the Act.



To enhance the opportunity for solitude in a primitive experience

*bicycles and motorized bikes
are prohibited in the Wilderness
and on the Pacific Crest Trail.*



*“Take only pictures,
leave only footprints, kill only time.”*

Bucks Lake Wilderness Trails

