

# Auburn State Recreation Area



*California State Parks*



# Basic Park Information

The Auburn State Recreation Area (park) office is located on Hwy. 49 one mile south of Auburn, California. Park information is available at the office, however there are no public facilities available at the park headquarters. See contents for the location of public facilities.

## Mailing Address:

Auburn State Recreation Area  
501 El Dorado St.  
Auburn, CA 95603-4949  
Web site: [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)  
E-mail: [asra@parks.ca.gov](mailto:asra@parks.ca.gov)



## Office Hours of Operation:

The park office is normally staffed from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday - Friday. Rangers may be available during other hours.

## Important Phone Numbers

### EMERGENCY 911

### California State Park Numbers:

#### Auburn State Recreation Area

(including Mammoth Bar and the  
Whitewater Recreation Office) (530) 885-4527  
Gold Fields District Hdq. (916) 988-0205  
Statewide Camp Reservations (800) 444-7275

### Other Agencies:

#### Local Park Systems:

Placer County Parks  
(530) 886-4901



**Auburn Recreation District (530) 885-8461**

#### U.S. Forest Service:

Foresthill Ranger Station (530) 367-2224  
Georgetown Ranger Station (530) 333-4312

Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game (916) 358-2900  
National Park Service (209) 372-4461  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (916) 988-1707  
California Fire - Dept. of  
Forestry and Fire Protection (530) 823-4904

#### Placer County Visitor

**Information Center (530) 887-2111**  
13411 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA 95603  
(Off Hwy. 80 at the Foresthill exit, Auburn)

[Cover Picture by Sheila Toner]

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## Park Hours

### Summer Season (April 15 – Sept. 14)

(Except Mammoth Bar OHV – see below)

Robie Point	6:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Auburn Staging Area	6:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Cool Staging Area	6:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Upper Lake Clementine	8:00 AM - 9:00 PM
All other areas	6:00 AM - 9:00 PM

### Winter Season (Sept. 15 - April 14)

(Except Mammoth Bar OHV– see below)

All other areas	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM
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### Mammoth Bar OHV

Summer Season (April 1 - Sept. 30)	8:00 AM - One half hour after sunset
Winter Season (Oct. 1 - March 31)	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

The Auburn State Recreation Area is made up of the lands set aside for the Auburn Dam. California State Parks administers the area under contract with the **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.**



Produced by M.G. "Mike" Lynch  
with the assistance of the Auburn SRA staff. -

10th Edition - March 2007





## The Auburn State Recreation Area

### One of California's State Parks



Located in the heart of the gold country, the Auburn State Recreation Area (Auburn SRA) is made up of over 38,000 acres, along 40 miles of the North and Middle Forks American River. Once teeming with thousands of gold miners, the area is now a natural area offering a wide variety of recreation opportunities to nearly a million visitors a year.

Major recreational uses include hiking, swimming, boating, fishing, camping, mountain biking, gold panning and off-highway motorcycle riding. Whitewater recreation is also very popular on both forks of the river, with class II, III, and IV runs. Nearly 40 private outfitters are licensed to offer whitewater trips in Auburn SRA.

More detailed information on all aspects of Auburn SRA is available from: 501 El Dorado St., Auburn, CA 95603 or [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov) or e-mail: [asra@parks.ca.gov](mailto:asra@parks.ca.gov)



*The confluence of the North and Middle Forks of the American River is one of the most popular use areas for swimming, sunbathing and access to many of the trails in the Recreation Area.*



### Accessibility Information

To use the California Relay Service with TTY, call (888) 877-5378 or without TTY, call (888) 877-5379. Prior to arrival, visitors with disabilities who need special assistance should contact, (530) 885-4527. This publication is available in alternate formats by calling (530) 885-4527.



*Thousands of gold miners took out millions of dollars of gold from the American River, starting in 1849. After a few years, individual efforts gave way to more organized gold mining operations, like this dredge that operated on the Middle Fork.*



## Trail Riding, Hiking & Biking



Over 100 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails wind through the steep American River canyons and along the North and Middle Forks of the American River. The most famous trail is the Western States Trail, which runs 100 miles from Lake Tahoe to Auburn, with over 20 miles in the park. A map showing the trails is available from the park office.



### The major trail heads are:

- Auburn Staging Area on Pleasant Avenue in Auburn City. This trail head connects with trails going to Cool, Foresthill, and other park trails in El Dorado County. Plenty of horse trailer parking. Trail head for primarily hiking and equestrian use.
- Highway 49 at the Confluence of the North & Middle Forks of the American River. See map below. Trail head for hiking and biking.
- Quarry Trail, Highway 49, 1/4 mile south of the North Fork American River. Connects with Western States Trail and all trails in El Dorado County. Limited parking. Multi-use open to equestrian, hiking, and biking.
- Cool, El Dorado Co. Behind the Cool fire station is the trail head for the 10 mile Olmstead Loop and connector trails. Plenty of parking. Multi-use open to equestrian, hiking and biking.
- Foresthill Divide Loop Trail. Multi-use open to equestrian, hiking, and biking.



Confluence Area \*\* North Fork and Middle Fork American River

not to scale

# Camping Information

Two primitive campgrounds are available in the Auburn State Recreation Area, with a 30-day total camping limit in any calendar year.

Dogs must be on a leash or secured inside a vehicle or tent at all times. Fires are allowed in fire pits, where provided. (Must provide own firewood). Please clean your campsite and extinguish all fires when leaving the area.



Lake Clementine boat-in campsites are available on the statewide campsite reservations system (1-800-444-7275). Camping reservations can be made 6 months in advance. All other campgrounds are first come first serve, using a self-registration system at the campground entrance.

**Camping is allowed in the following designated areas only:**

## Mineral Bar Camp

(Off of Iowa Hill Road. On the east side of the North Fork of the American River, where the Colfax, Iowa Hill Road crosses the river.) There are 17 designated campsites with tables, fire pits, and toilets. No drinking water is available. A narrow paved road serves the camp.

## Ruck-a-Chucky Camp

(Drivers Flat Road off Foresthill Road.) There are five designated primitive campsites located on the Placer County side of the Middle Fork of the American River. No drinking water is available. The campground is at the end of a 2.5 mile gravel/dirt road. The road is closed during inclement weather.

## Boat-in Camping at Lake Clementine

(Lake Clementine Road off of Foresthill Road.) 15 primitive boat-in campsites, with pit toilets. There is no vehicle access to the camp areas. No drinking water available and dogs are not allowed. The boat-in camp is open from Memorial Day to mid September. Boat launch fee charged. (See page 6 for more Lake Clementine information.)

## Camping Limits

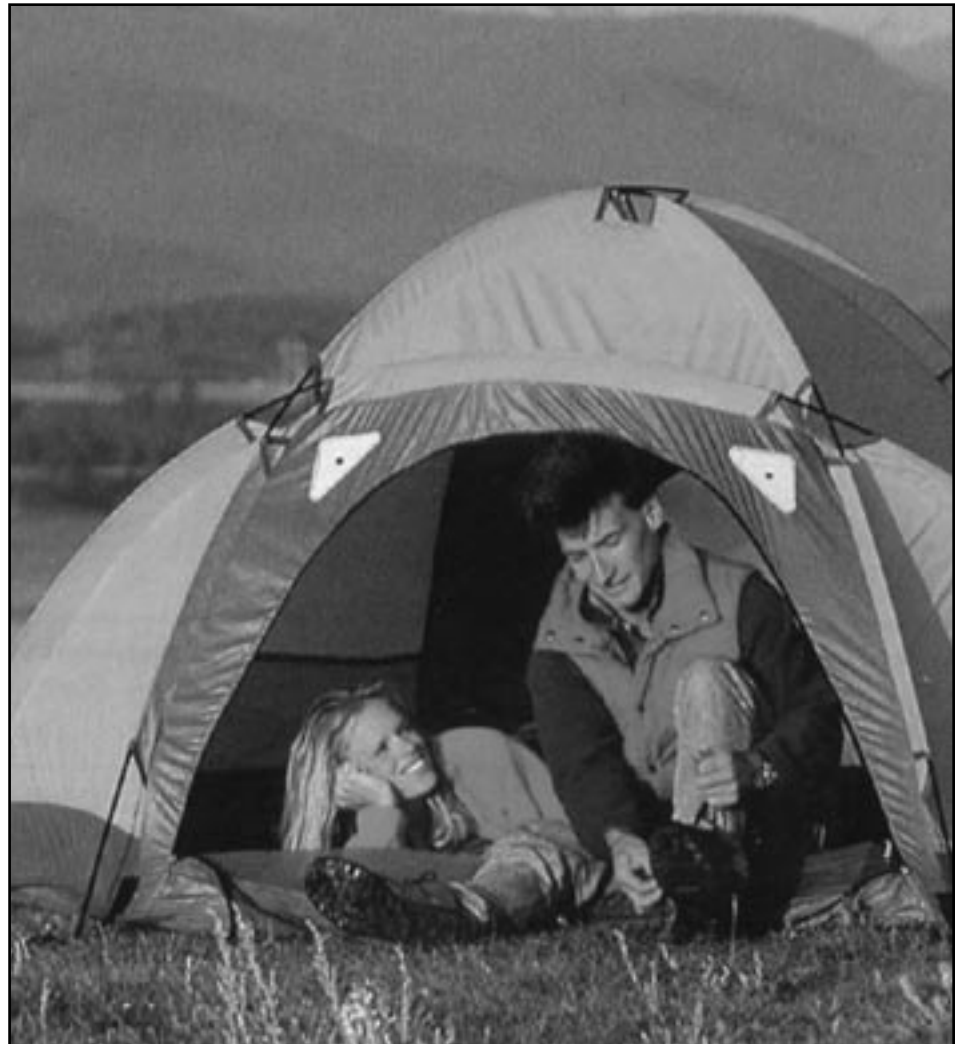
Camping at Mineral Bar, Ruck-a-Chucky and Campgrounds are limited to 14 continuous days. Camping at Lake Clementine is limited to 7 continuous days. Camping is limited to a total of 30 days in any calendar year.

## Camp Fees

Auburn SRA camp fees, on a per night basis, are as follows:

Primitive Campsites: \$15 per site  
 Clementine Boat-In : \$24 per site  
 Extra Vehicle: \$5 per vehicle

*(Fees Subject to Change)*



## Lake Clementine



### Boat-In Camps

There are 15 boat-in only campsites. Reservations are available through the statewide reservation system (800-444-7275). One boat trailer parking place will be held for each reserved campsite.

There is a limit of 8 people per campsite and a maximum length of stay of 7 continuous days. The fee for camping is \$24 per night, plus the reservation fees. The boat launch fee of \$5 payable at the park. (fees are subject to change). **NO DOGS** are permitted in the campground or on the lake. Amplified music may not be played at a volume likely to disturb others.

Lake Clementine is located off Foresthill Road, approximately two miles from Auburn. This small lake features a boat launch ramp, marina and boat-in campsites. There are no day use facilities in the Marina area.

Lake Clementine was created when the North Fork Dam was completed in 1939 by the Army Corps of Engineers. The dam rises 155 feet above the foundation and has a crest elevation of 718 feet. The reservoir has a capacity of 14,700 acre-feet, and a surface area of 280 acres. The reservoir is approximately 3.5 miles long and has very narrow steep canyon walls.



For the safety and enjoyment of the lake users your cooperation is appreciated in observing the following regulations:

- Only 25 boats are permitted on the lake at any given time.
- Boat trailers must be parked in designated trailer parking areas.
- Water-ski and boating is in a counter clockwise direction only.
- Maximum speed: 40 MPH during the day and 5 MPH at night.
- Maximum speed within buoyed areas is 5 MPH.
- No wake allowed at the ramp, marina, and camping areas.
- Swimming and water-skiing is prohibited in the Marina Area.
- Beach starts are prohibited.
- Personal flotation devices, fire extinguishers and other normal required safety equipment must be on board.
- No power chuting.
- No dogs are permitted on the lake, in the boat-in camps or day use areas.
- No power boats upstream from the last boat-in camp to Upper Lake Clementine.
- Garbage removal is not provided. Please pack it in and pack it out!
- No towing of inflatables on lake.

## General State Park Boating Laws

**4652. Floating Devices.** No person shall use, operate, or bring into an open zone, floating devices such as rubber craft, surfboards, surfmats, buoys, kites, experimental crafts, or any other floating device other than those approved boats, aquaplanes or water-skis and related equipment. The Department may permit the use of certain unauthorized floating devices in open zones on occasions when traffic is such as to render them safe during special events, games, tests, or experiments.

**4658. Boat Speed Limits.** No person shall operate a boat in a unit at speeds in excess of that authorized for the area in which the boat is operating. Boat speed limits shall be designated and posted.

**4659. Operating Boats During Nighttime.** Where night boating is authorized, no person shall operate a boat at speeds in excess of five (5) nautical miles per hour.

**4661. Disposal of Waste from Boats.** Any boat must be so constructed or equipped that all wastes, including but not limited to shower water and human waste, are discharged into a holding tank. Such wastes shall only be discharged in onshore disposal facilities.

**4662. Inspections.** (a) A state park peace officer or peace officer with concurrent jurisdiction may inspect any vessel or boat at any time for compliance with all applicable laws, rules and/or regulations. Any person who refuses to allow such inspection shall immediately remove his vessel from the water of the park system. (b) No person shall operate a boat or vessel when such boat or vessel when such boat or vessel does not comply with all applicable laws, rules and/or regulations. (c) No boat shall remain launched or in continuous use in the state park system for more than 30 days except by concession granted.

# Plants and Wildlife

Plant communities within the Auburn State Recreation Area include riparian (stream side vegetation), chaparral, foothill woodland and mixed evergreens.

Some of the most common species found within the riparian community include: White Alder, Fremont Cottonwood, Sandbar Willow, Creek Dogwood, Valley Oak, Wild Grape and Blackberry.

Chaparral, foothill woodland and mixed evergreen communities reside on the upper canyon walls. In general the canyon walls either face North or South due to the westerly flow of the river. The north-facing slopes maintain a wetter, cooler environment due to lesser amounts of direct sunlight, providing a positive habitat for the mixed evergreen community, consisting of Ponderosa Pine, Douglas Fir, White Fir, California Black Oak and Ma-



drone. The hotter, drier south-facing slopes encourage the growth of chaparral and foothill woodland communi-

ties.

The foothill woodland community consists of California Buckeye, Interior Live Oak, Manzanita, Deer Brush, Toyon and Poison Oak.

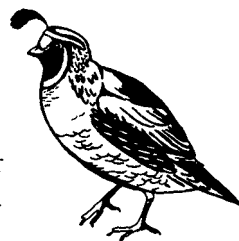
Chaparral is composed mainly of sclerophyllous plants, those small trees and shrubs which have thick, stiff, evergreen foliage, often heavily waxed or densely haired to conserve water during the hot, dry summer months. Chaparral is very common to the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. The nature of chaparral and the hot dry summers

combine to make this a very fire-prone environment.

In the Spring, there is a wonderful variety of colorful wildflowers that grow in the large grassy openings. Among these wildflowers you might find California Poppy, Monkey Flower, Indian Paintbrush, Larkspur, Lupine, Brodiaea, Fiddleneck and Dutchman's Pipe. Star Thistle, a spiny brush with yellow flowers, tends to dominate these areas as well as the roadsides.

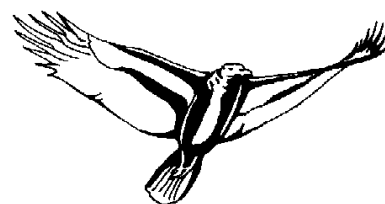
Of the many native animals found within the area, Ground Squirrels, Black-tailed Deer and Rabbits are the most commonly seen. Due to their nocturnal behavior, Raccoons, Skunks, Opossums, Gray Fox and Coyotes are more difficult to spot. On very rare occasions a Bobcat, Mountain Lion or Black Bear may be seen at a distance.

The river environment is also a great habitat for a variety of birds. Residents of the area include: the



California Quail, Blackbirds, Scrub Jays, Wrens and Swallows. Other larger species include Turkey Vultures, Red-tailed Hawks, Great Blue Herons, and the occasional Golden and Bald Eagle. The Turkey Vulture is the most commonly seen raptor, and can easily be identified while in flight.

When soaring, the vulture's wings



are held above a horizontal plane forming a flat or open "V"; the vulture also tilts quickly and frequently from side to side.

Some non-game fish found within the American River and Lake Clementine include Sacramento Squaw fish and Western Sucker. Game fish include Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout, Small Mouth Bass, Blue Gill Sunfish and Catfish.



*Black-tailed Deer are one of the more commonly seen animals.*

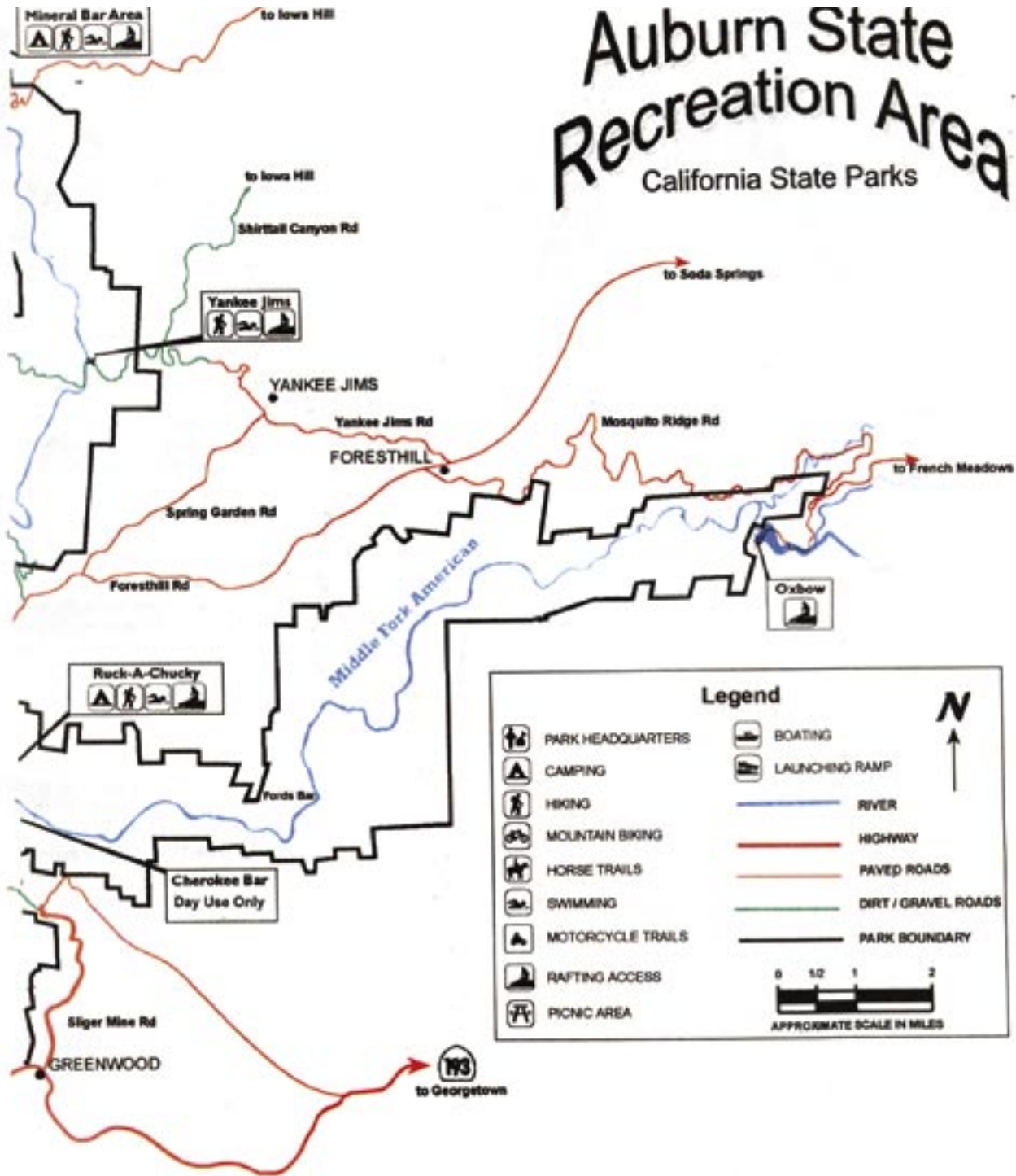




For safety reasons, all glass containers are prohibited in the Auburn State Recreation Area, except in campsites.







*Photo & Illustration Credits*

(B=Bottom, C=Center, L=Left, M=Middle, R=Right, T=Top)

Rapid Shooters: front cover, 12 (MR), 13 (T&B) back cover (TL); US Bureau of Reclamation: 3 (T), 6; M.G. Lynch: 3 (B), 5, 10 (TL); Jim Haagen-Smit 4 (T), 14; Stephen Karnatz: 4 (BL), map 8 & 9; Dave Collins: 11 (TL & TR); Greg Wells: 12 (TR); Protect the American River Canyon (PARC): 12 (BC), back cover (TR & ML); California Dept. of Fish & Game: 14 (TR); Al Phelps: back cover (MR); California State Parks: all other photos and illustrations.

# Recreational Mineral Collection



## Dredging & Motorized Sluicing

Recreational Suction Dredging and Motorized Sluicing are allowed at the Auburn State Recreation Area with the following restrictions:

1. No commercial mining is permitted.
2. Dredge intake size shall be limited to a maximum of 4", except a maximum intake size of 8" may be used between the upper boundary of Cherokee Bar and Ruck-a-Chucky Falls.
3. Dredge operation shall not obstruct any navigable waterways and any cables or ropes used to anchor dredges or other equipment shall be maintained a minimum of seven (7) feet above the water level at all times and shall be clearly flagged.
4. Material for dredges shall only come from within the existing water line. No boulders or other material shall be moved outside the water line (CCR 228). Material for sluice boxes and gold pans shall only come from beaches or gravel bars which are subject to annual flooding (CCR 4611). Gasoline powered equipment in or adjacent to developed campgrounds may only be operated between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
5. No hazardous materials associated with the processing of gold or other minerals, such as cyanide and mercury shall be permitted within the State Recreation Area.
6. The following areas are closed to suction dredging and other forms of motorized mineral collection:
  - Upstream on the North Fork of the American River from the boundary of Folsom Lake State Recreation Area to the high bridge on the Foresthill Road and on the Middle Fork of the American River from its confluence with the North Fork upstream to the east end of Louisiana Bar.
  - Lake Clementine area from 1/4 mile below the North Fork Dam to 1/2 mile upstream of the Lake Clementine Day Use Area.
  - During the whitewater boating season, at the whitewater boating put-ins/ take outs at Oxbow, Ruck-a-Chucky, Iowa Hill, and Ponderosa Way.
  - The area west of Hwy. 49 in El Dorado County is closed to all forms of mineral collection or rockhounding.
7. Dredges, sluice boxes and other private property shall not be left unattended for more than 48 hours. Property left in violation of this section shall be subject to confiscation.
8. Motorized sluicing is only allowed during the Department of Fish & Game regular dredging season.
9. All California Fish & Game laws and regulations regarding dredging and sluicing operations must be complied with (CCR 228 & 228.5).
10. Metal Detectors may be used with the following restrictions:
  - Metal detectors may only be used for recreational mineral collection and/or searching for recently lost items.
  - Metal detectors may not be used in area possessing historic or prehistoric resources.
  - No historic or prehistoric items discovered by metal detection or otherwise, may be collected or possessed.
  - The area west of Hwy. 49 in El Dorado and Placer Counties is closed to the use of metal detectors.

## Gold Panning & Rock hounding



Recreational gold panning and rock hounding is allowed only in permanent running stream beds in the Auburn State Recreation Area. The following regulations must be observed when panning for gold:

**4610.00** Rockhounding...is authorized by Section 5001.65 of the Public Resources Code and is defined as being the recreational gathering of stones and minerals found occurring naturally on the undisturbed surface of the land, including panning for gold in the natural water-washed gravel of streams.

**4610.1** Rock hounding may be practiced in the Auburn State Recreation Area - Department jurisdiction in permanent running stream beds, with the exception of the North Fork of the American River from the main dam to a point one (1) mile up- stream.

**4610.2** Commercial Use. Rocks or mineral specimens gathered within a unit may not be sold or used commercially for the production of profit.

**4610.4** Disturbing Land. Digging, excavating, or otherwise disturbing the surface of the land may not be practiced in the search for mineralogical specimens in a unit.

**4610.5** Tools, except gold pans to be used in gold panning, may not be used in rock hounding within a unit.

**4610.6** "Float" materials only occurring naturally on the surface of the land, may be gathered.

**4610.8** ...In state recreation areas rock hounding is limited to beaches which lie within the jurisdiction of the Department and to the beaches or gravel bars which are subject to annual flooding on streams.

**4610.10** Use of Tools. The gold pan is the only exception permitted to the exclusion of tools from rock hounding.

**Section 4610.5** Muddy water from panning operations must not be visible more than 20 feet from the panning operation.

## Metal Detectors

Metal Detectors may only be used at the Auburn State Recreation Area under the following restrictions:

1. Metal detectors may only be used for recreational mineral collection and/or searching for recent items.
2. Metal detectors may not be used in area possessing historic or prehistoric resources.
3. No historic or prehistoric items discovered by metal detection or otherwise, may be collected or possessed.
4. The area west of Hwy. 49 in El Dorado County is closed to the use of metal detectors.

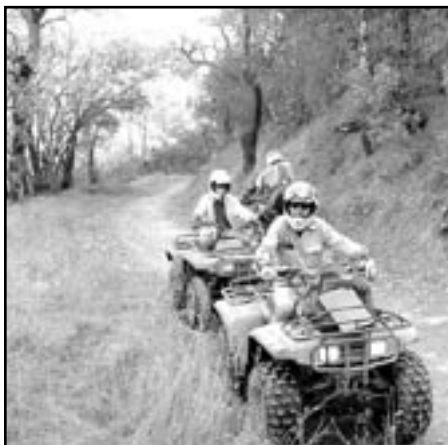
## Mammoth Bar OHV Area



### Description

Mammoth Bar OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) Area is part of the Auburn State Recreation Area. It is located in the Sierra Nevada foothills about thirty miles northeast of Sacramento. This motorcycle/ATV riding area has been used by OHV enthusiasts for nearly 25 years and offers a wide range of trails and conditions in a beautiful setting adjacent to the Middle Fork of the American River. The area is under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation and is operated by California State Parks.

Some OHV motorcycle/ATV trails are open for two-way traffic and others are one way only. OHV's are restricted to designated signed trails, to the MX tracks and the trials riding area.



### Rules & Regulations

This is a partial list of regulations that apply at the Mammoth Bar OHV area. A full list of Mammoth Bar regulations are available in a separate brochure available from the Auburn State Recreation Office. It is the rider's responsibility to know and comply with all applicable rules and regulations.

- All OHV use is regulated by both Federal and State laws.
- OHV's must have visible a Green or Red OHV registration license sticker. The Red Sticker registered vehicle riding season is October 1-May 31st.
- All OHV's must have a U.S. Forest Service approved spark arrester in working condition and meet Federal and State noise standards.

A detailed Mammoth Bar brochure is available at the Auburn park office or e-mail for a copy at [asra@parks.ca.gov](mailto:asra@parks.ca.gov)

**Due to winter storm damage, some facilities at Mammoth Bar may not be available for use.**

### Days and Hours

#### Open Days & OHV Riding Days

The Mammoth Bar area is open every day for recreational use, except during wet weather when the park areas may be temporarily closed. The park is open for OHV riding on the following schedule: October 1st to March 31st on Sundays, Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays; and April 1st to September 30th on Sun., Mon. and Thurs.

**Park Hours:** The area opens at 8 a.m. year round. April 1st to September 30th the park closes one half hour after sunset. From October 1st to March 31st the park closes at 5 PM. Tracks and trails shut down 30 minutes before the park closes.

### Directions

The entrance to Mammoth Bar is located on the Old Foresthill Road. The easiest access is off of Interstate 80 north of Auburn.

Take the Foresthill exit off I-80 and go east about 3.5 miles to the Old Foresthill Road. Turn right on Old Foresthill and the entrance is about 1.5 miles on left.

## Limited Hunting Allowed at Auburn SRA

Hunting is allowed in some areas and for some species in the Auburn State Recreation Area. In general, deer, turkey and upland game birds are open to hunting from September 1st until January 31st, and turkey hunting during the spring season. Generally, the area open to hunting is east of the junction of the old and new Auburn-Forest Hill Roads, excluding Lake Clementine, Mammoth Bar, campgrounds, trails and property under grazing lease.

For specific information on legal hunting and a map of the open areas, contact the Auburn SRA Office.

Except for shotguns and rifles used for hunting during the hunting season, all firearms, loaded or unloaded, are prohibited in the Auburn State Recreation Area (CCR 4113).

All hunting must be in compliance with the laws and regulations of the Department of Fish and Game.



*Wild Turkeys are one of the species that may be hunted at Auburn SRA. Except for rifles and shotguns used for hunting, no firearms (loaded or unloaded) are allowed in the recreation area at any time*

## Annual Special Events

There are many special events that occur annually at the Auburn State Recreation Area. These include:

- Western States 100 Mile Trail Ride “Tevis Cup”
- Western States 100 Mile Endurance Run
- American River Confluence Festival
- Cool Mt. Bike Race
- American River 50 Run & Endurance Ride events
- Various other long distance runs



*Photo: Western States Trail Foundation*



## Whitewater Recreation

The North and Middle Forks of the American River can provide boaters with a memorable wilderness experience. These two stretches of river present breathtaking scenery, great whitewater, wonderful side hikes and secluded river camping opportunities. However, the North and Middle Forks are not for beginners, as swift currents and unseen dangers can provide boaters with unwanted dangerous emergencies.

The North Fork, which has no dams or diversions upstream, offers the river boater an opportunity to experience a wide range of seasonal flows. However boaters should beware that dramatic changes in water levels can occur within just a few hours. The 13-mile run from the Iowa Hill Bridge to Upper Lake Clementine provides three different river segments. Road access at the start and end of each segment allows the boater to choose to either run one, two or all three segments. Each segment has its own level of difficulty and offers a variety of scenery and experiences.

The Middle Fork stretch starts at Oxbow Reservoir and flows 24 miles to its confluence with the North Fork American River. The river moves predominantly through a magnificent canyon and semi-wilderness area. Scattered throughout



the canyon are hints of the gold rush era including the remains of a large 1915 gold dredge. This river stretch offers the whitewater boater a variety of boating experiences in three segments. These vary from a dangerous Class VI portage to a Class II float. Camping, with a river camp permit, provides the opportunity for overnight boating.

Whitewater boating outfitters offer commercial boating trips on both rivers. These outfitters are regulated by California State Parks. They offer safe and enjoyable trips for those who wish to run the rivers but do not have the experience and/or proper equipment to do so safely.

Please take a moment to browse our WRO website for further information that includes various links and information such as; A whitewater boating trail guide, brochure and map to the North and

Middle Forks, river flow levels, list of state park permitted outfitters, boating safety equipment, whitewater class rating system, river camp permit application and other helpful items. If you don't have access to the internet, please contact us at the Whitewater Recreation Office.

### North, Middle and South Fork American River flow levels at:

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/river/americanStages.html>



# Special Groups Assisting at Auburn SRA

## Volunteer Canyon Keepers (ASRACK)

The largest volunteer group at Auburn SRA is the Canyon Keepers. These volunteers patrol trails and beaches, providing information/education on the historical, cultural, natural features and safe use of the park. See the ASRACK website at: [www.psyber.com/~asra/asrack.htm](http://www.psyber.com/~asra/asrack.htm).

## Mounted Assistance Trail Patrol



Many of the trails in the Auburn State Recreation Area (ASRA) are patrolled year-round by volunteers from the Mounted Horse Patrol. They work with ASRA management in checking trail safety, condition, and if needed, assisting hikers, bikers, and equestrians.

## ARMBA

(American River Mountain Bike Assistants)

The American River Mountain Bike Assistants (ARMBA) is a group of concerned mountain bike enthusiasts who have volunteered their time to patrol the mountain bike trails in the American River District. ARMBAs were formed in the spring of 1997, and their purpose is to provide assistance to trail users and augment park staff in managing the trail system. They have been trained in park rules, philosophy, natural and cultural interpretation, and back county bike repairs. ARMBAs members wear a distinctive yellow jersey and are ready to help if the need arises. See [www.fatrack.org](http://www.fatrack.org) for more information.



### Interested in being a park volunteer?

If you have an interest in being a horse, bike, or patrol volunteer, contact the Superintendent at the Auburn park office (530) 885-4527.



## Some State Park Laws

State Park laws were established to protect the park resources, to administer the parks and to maintain a park atmosphere. All state park laws are misdemeanors with a maximum punishment of 90 days in jail and/or \$1,000 fine. This is only a partial summarized listing of the State Park laws which apply. Other state and local laws also apply at Auburn SRA.

- 4300.** In addition to other penalties prescribed by law, violation of any law or regulation shall subject the violator to ejection from the unit in which the violation occurs.
- 4305. Animals.** No person shall molest, hunt, disturb, injure, trap, take, net, poison, harm, or kill any kind of animal or fish, or so attempt, except that fish may be taken other than for commercial purposes in accordance with the state fishing laws and regulations.
- 4311. Fire in Stoves.** No person shall light, build, use, or maintain a fire within a unit except in a camp stove or fireplace provided, maintained, or designated for such purpose...Fires shall at all times be maintained in a safe condition that does not threaten any person, natural or structural feature.
- 4312. Dog; Animals.** (a) No person shall bring a dog into, permit a dog to enter or remain, or possess a dog in units under control of the Department of Parks and Recreation unless the dog is on a leash of no more than six feet in length and under the immediate control of a person or confined in a vehicle...No person shall permit a dog or cat to remain outside a tent, camper, or enclosed vehicle during the night...No person shall keep a noisy, vicious, or dangerous dog or animal or one which is disturbing to other persons, in any unit and remain therein after he/she has been asked by a peace officer to leave...
- 4313. Weapons and Traps.** No person shall carry, possess, or discharge across, in or into any portion of any unit any weapon, firearm, box and arrow, trap, net, or device capable of injuring, or killing any person or animal, or capturing any animal, or damaging any public or private property.
- 4320. Peace and Quiet.** No person shall disturb others in sleeping quarters or in campgrounds between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. daily. No person shall, at any time, use outside electronic equipment including electrical speakers, radios, phonographs, television, or other machinery, at a volume which is likely to be disturbing to others., without specific permission of the Department. Engine driven electric generators which emit sound beyond the limits of a camp or picnic site may be operated only between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- 4355. Vehicle Operations.** No person shall operate, drive, use, leave, place, or stop a vehicle, except on a road or a parking area in any unit thereof not closed to traffic.
- 4451. Camping.** No person shall camp in any unit except in areas designated for that purpose. Camping is defined as erecting a tent or shelter or arranging bedding, or both, for purposes of, or in such a way as will permit, remaining overnight. Use of houseboats or boats, for the purpose of sleeping, during nighttime hours, parked or standing vehicles for the purpose of sleeping during nighttime hours is further defined as camping.



### Poison Oak

The shiny leaves of this shrub grow in groups of three on smooth stems. They are green until fall when they turn various shades of red and orange. Do not touch the stems or leaves, as the oil of this plant is toxic to humans and may cause a severe rash or blisters. Sometimes poison oak will grow as a vine in the trees.

### Rattlesnakes

Rattlesnakes may be found in the Auburn State Recreation Area. They are important members of the natural community. They will not attack, but if disturbed or cornered, they will defend themselves. Give them distance and respect. It is unlawful to kill or harm rattlesnakes or any other wildlife in the park.

### Lyme Disease

Lyme disease is an illness transmitted by ticks, although not all ticks carry the disease. Symptoms in advanced cases are severe, including arthritis, meningitis, neurological problems, and/or cardiac symptoms. These symptoms can occur a few weeks over a year after the tick bite. Early signs can include a rash around the infected tick bite and flu-like symptoms. Timely treatment of Lyme Disease can cure or lessen the severity of the disease. If you experience these symptoms, be certain to tell your doctor you were bitten by a tick.

Ticks feed on blood and will bite humans and animals. The bites can be irritating and sometimes transmit diseases including Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

## Avoiding Some Outdoor Hazards

### Ticks Occur in this Area

#### To avoid tick bites:

- Stay on designated pathways; avoid grassy or brushy areas.
- Wear light colored clothing and tuck trouser cuffs in socks.
- Check clothing and body frequently for ticks.
- Apply insect repellent to clothing and exposed parts of the body.
- Keep pets on a leash. Treat with insecticide powders or sprays labeled for tick control.

#### Carefully remove attached ticks immediately.



### Beware of Giardia

Giardiasis is an intestinal disease caused by Giardia Lamblia, a protozoan. Associated symptoms include chronic diarrhea, abdominal cramps, bloating, fatigue and loss of weight. Treatment by a physician is necessary to kill the organisms. Giardia is carried by humans and some domestic and wild animals may contaminate lakes and streams. Whenever possible, only tap water should be used for drinking. If drinking surface water or melted snow, treat water by boiling for at least three minutes, use an iodine-based purifier or a Giardia-rated water filter.



### Camping and Hiking in Mountain Lion Habitat

Mountain lions, also known as cougars, panthers, or pumas, are important members of the natural community. They are found in Auburn SRA.

Normally very elusive, people rarely get more than a brief glimpse of a mountain lion in the wild. They are however, unpredictable and have been known to attack people.

#### To reduce the chances of a mountain lion encounter:

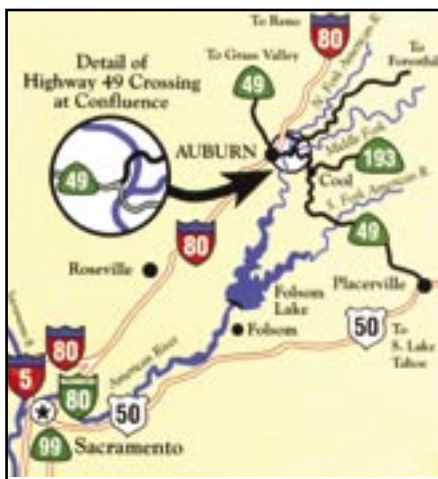
- Avoid hiking alone, especially between dusk and dawn when lions normally hunt.
- Always keep children in sight while hiking.
- Do not approach a lion, especially if it is feeding or with its' young. Most lions will avoid confrontations with people.
- If you see a lion, stay calm and face the lion. Do not run, because this may trigger the lion's instinct to attack.
- If the lion acts aggressively, throw rocks, branches or any other item, without turning your back or bending over.
- If attacked fight back. Try to remain standing and face the attacking animal. Fight back with rocks, sticks, or even your bare hands.
- Report any mountain lion sightings to park rangers.

# Auburn State Recreation Area

## *California State Parks*



*Whitewater boating and hiking, on the over 100 miles of trails in the American River Canyon, are some of the more popular recreational activities at Auburn SRA.*



*The Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge on the NF American River is a popular feature. The railroad was built in 1912 to haul limestone from the Mt. Quarry to Auburn. The railroad operated until the late 1930's.*

**Auburn State Recreation Area**  
**California State Parks**  
501 El Dorado Street  
Auburn, CA 95603-4949

