

# WILDERNESS VISITOR PERMIT APPLICATION

## San Jacinto Ranger District / San Bernardino National Forest

**WILDERNESS VISITOR PERMIT** – A permit is required to enter the San Jacinto Wilderness for either day hiking or overnight backpacking. USFS permits are issued for groups up to 12 people. A separate permit is needed for each trip. Use this form if you plan to camp in USFS managed wilderness. This form is not valid for CA state wilderness permits.

**RECREATION PASS** – Visitors must display an Adventure Pass, Senior Pass, or other approved Federal Recreation Lands Pass in or on their vehicle when parked in certain areas on National Forest land. See the US Forest Service web site for details.

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf>

**SAFETY** – We suggest you tell a relative or friend details of your trip in case you do not return on schedule. You are not required to check back at the ranger station when you return from your trip.

**CAMPING JURISDICTIONS** – The San Jacinto area has adjacent wilderness areas managed by **TWO** agencies. If you plan to camp in only **ONE** agency's area, please mail the correct application to the agency with whom you will be staying. If you plan to camp in **BOTH** the U.S. Forest Service and CA State Park Wilderness areas, please mail separate applications to each agency entering only the dates you will be with that agency.

The U.S. **FOREST SERVICE** issues wilderness camping permits for the following zones: Chinquapin, Skunk Cabbage, Tahquitz, North Rim, and Desert View. Permits are available up to 90 days in advance. For information and updates, contact the Idyllwild Ranger Station at (909) 382-2921. If you wish to camp in these zones, send this application to:

US Forest Service  
P.O. Box 518  
Idyllwild, CA 92549  
Or Fax (951) 659-2107

The **MT. SAN JACINTO STATE PARK** issues wilderness camping permits for the following camps: Round Valley, Little Round Valley, Tamarack Valley, and Strawberry Junction. Permits are available up to **56** days in advance. **Dogs and campfires are NOT allowed in the State Wilderness.**

**For state wilderness information and permit application, call the San Jacinto State Park office located in Idyllwild at (951) 659-2607, or go to the CA State Parks website at:**

[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

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United States Department  
of Agriculture

Forest  
Service

San Bernardino  
National Forest

San Jacinto  
Ranger District

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### DO NOT USE THIS APPLICATION FORM TO APPLY FOR STATE WILDERNESS CAMPING PERMITS

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Start Date \_\_\_\_\_ End Date \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Nights \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Entry \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Exit \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle License \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Vehicle \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_

A limited number of Brown Post Sites are available and are suggested for larger groups. **CAMPFIRES ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE WILDERNESS.**

Brown Post Site? Y / N

1<sup>st</sup> Choice Preferred Site # \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice Preferred Site # \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Allow 7 days for your permit to be mailed back to you.  
**Please cancel your reservation if you will not use it.**

# WHY DO I NEED A WILDERNESS VISITOR PERMIT?

## PERMITS

Wilderness Visitor Permits are required for day and overnight use. The only trail limited for day use is the Devil's Slide Trail. Overnight camping areas have capacity limits and when reached, the Wilderness is considered full for camping. Fires are not allowed in the Wilderness. There is no charge for Wilderness Visitors Permits.

## PERMIT SYSTEM

The permit system is a management tool used by the San Bernardino National Forest to help protect the San Jacinto Wilderness. One of the things it does is allow us to manage the number of visitors that the wilderness is able to sustain. This number is called the "carrying capacity." It is based on two elements: (1) the sociological carrying capacity, which indicates the maximum number of people a visitor can meet and see without feeling crowded; and (2) the environmental carrying capacity, which indicates the maximum number of visitors the area can accommodate without being degraded in either its physical (water, soil, air) or biotic (wildlife, flora) components.

## SOLITUDE

While the Wilderness Act of 1964 provided for the public enjoyment of wilderness areas, it also stipulated that a Wilderness has outstanding "opportunities for solitude." Obviously, visitors cannot have an opportunity for solitude when trails are congested with hikers or when camps are crowded with tents. Dogs must be on a leash no more than 6 feet long.

## INFORMATION

The permit system provides us with valuable information, such as what parts of the Wilderness are being used, when use occurs, average group size and methods of travel.

## SAFETY

Permits can help to locate a Wilderness visitor if reported missing or in case of fire evacuation.

WILDERNESS ESSENTIALS include:

Map, compass, extra clothing, extra food and water, first aid kit, headlamp or flashlight (with extra batteries), matches, fire starter, knife, sunglasses, sunscreen, water filter and whistle. All should be protected from excess moisture.

## HOW CAN I MAKE SURE I GET TO VISIT THE PART OF THE WILDERNESS I PREFER?

You can improve your chances by submitting a Wilderness Visitor's Permit Application and requesting a Wilderness Visitor's Permit in advance of your trip.

## HOW DO I MAKE RESERVATIONS TO CAMP?

Please use the Wilderness Visitor's Permit Application on the reverse side of this handout.

## RECREATION PASSES

All vehicles parked at Humber Park, Lake Hemet, Lake Fulmor or Fuller Mill Creek are required to display one of the following: Adventure Pass (can be used in Cleveland; Angeles and Los Padres National Forests), Interagency National Parks Annual Pass, Senior Lifetime and Annual Pass (must be at least 62 year of age), Access Pass (physically disabled), Military and Veteran Pass, and Every Kid Outdoor (4<sup>th</sup> grade).

Pass or Passport must be hung from rearview mirror or placed on the dashboard where effective date can be seen.

Adventure passes are available at Forest Service offices and many vendors. Contact Forest Service office for the vendor nearest you or for information regarding Interagency Passports. There is a charge for recreation passes.