U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

Driving Directions

Fact Sheet-King Range National Conservation Area, California

The King Range National Conservation Area (NCA) is located about 230 miles north of San Francisco and 60 miles south of Eureka.

All roads leading to the King Range NCA are narrow, steep and winding. Allow plenty of time between destinations, have a full tank of gas, and be alert to oncoming traffic.

All main roads are normally accessible to passenger cars except during heavy winter storms. Primitive roads may be closed seasonally.

Directional signs mark all major intersections in the King Range NCA giving the road name and distances to primary recreation sites.

NORTH ACCESS: U.S. 101 to the Ferndale exit. Once in Ferndale, follow signs to Petrolia. One mile past Petrolia, turn right on Lighthouse Road; it is 5 more miles to the Mattole Recreation Site. Allow 1 1/2 hours for the 42 mile trip.

CENTRAL ACCESS: U.S. 101 to South Fork - Honeydew exit. Follow the signs to Honeydew (23 Miles). Turn left in Honeydew to Honeydew Creek Recreation Site and Smith-Etter Road. Allow 1 hour for the 24 mile trip. Turn right to Mattole Beach and Trailhead. Allow 45 minutes for the 18.5 mile trip.

SOUTH ACCESS: U.S. 101 to the Redway/Garberville exit. Follow signs to Shelter Cove/King Range NCA. Allow 45 minutes for the 22 mile trip to Shelter Cove.

TRAVEL TIMES BETWEEN SELECTED DESTINATIONS

Black Sands Beach to Mattole Recreation Site, 2 hours

Honeydew to:

- A.W. Way Park, 8 miles, 20 minutes
- Mattole Recreation Site, 18.5 miles, 45 minutes

Smith-Etter Rd./Wilder Ridge Rd. Intersection to:

- (Four -Wheel Drive Recommended on this road.)
 - North Slide Peak Trailhead, 7.5 miles, 1 hour
 - Kinsey Ridge Trailhead, 10 miles, 1 hour 15 minutes
 - Spanish Ridge Trailhead, 12.3 miles, 1 hour 30 minutes

King Peak Rd./Shelter Cove Rd. Intersection to:

- Tolkan Campground, 3.5 miles, 15 minutes
- Horse Mountain Campground, 6.5 miles, 25 minutes
- Lightning Trailhead, 16 miles, 1 hour
- Saddle Mountain Trailhead, 10.5 miles, 45 minutes
- Horse Mountain Creek Trailhead, 4.5 miles, 20 minutes

Shelter Cove Rd./Chemise Mountain Rd. Intersection to:

- Hidden Valley Trailhead, 1/4 mile, 1 minute
- Wailaki/Nadelos Campgrounds, 1/2 mile, 5 minutes
- Sinkyone State Park (Needle Rock), 10 miles, 45 minutes