

2020 Los Padres Wilderness Basics Course

WBC Backpack 1 Information

**Please Note: Backpack 1 is offered on two different dates
(Backpack 1A: Mar 21-22 and Backpack 1B: Mar 28-29).**

Trip Grading System

The grade is a 3-part code describing the difficulty of the outing. The first part, a letter, refers to the overall difficulty of the trip. The second part, a number, states the number of miles that will be traveled on the longest day. The third part, another letter, refers to the total cumulative elevation gain, or loss, for the longest day.

Difficulty	Mileage	Elevation Gain/Loss
E = Easy	This is the number	A = less than 500 ft.
M = Moderate	of miles, rounded to	B = 501 to 1000 ft.
S = Strenuous	the nearest mile,	C = 1001 to 2000 ft.
	traveled on the	D = 2001 to 3000 ft.
	longest day of the	E = over 3001 ft.
	trip.	

Example: M8C

"M8C" would be a moderately difficult trip with an 8-mile hike on the longest day and which could climb or descend up to 2000 feet in one day.

What to bring: backpack, good boots, 10 essentials, 2 quarts of water, 1-2 lunches, 1 dinner, 1 breakfast, headlamp, overnight backpack gear (tent, stove and water filter can be shared) and the other items from your backpack list.

WBC Backpack 1A: March 21-22, 2020

1. Alder Creek S9C
Outing Leader: Alisse Fisher

Grade: Strenuous
Assistant Leader: Annette Preciado

North of Fillmore, we will hike approx 8.8 miles, gain approx 1800 ft elevation and descend approx 1700 ft to a remote and beautiful rocky wilderness tributary that feeds the Sespe Creek. We will start up the last dirt section of Goodenough Rd. from the Tar Creek closure (elevation 2500 ft.) to Dough Flat trailhead (pit toilets). The trip cuts through arid backcountry scenery reminiscent of cowboy movies, peaks at 3700 ft, descends a bit to Cow Spring camp and a lovely box canyon with a seasonal waterfall. A half mile past Cow Spring is a vista of the Sespe Gorge and Devil's Heart; a heart-shaped scar on TopaTopa Mountain. We then switch back down a mile and a half and 600 ft, passing Dripping Springs, to the trail sign. Alder Creek camp is about another mile and 600 ft down, mostly along and through the rugged creek bed. We'll do navigation practice, cover geology, plant identification and lore, and Chumash culture talks along the route. For additional information, email Alisse at alissefisher@gmail.com.

2. Oak Camp E2A**Outing Leader: Heather D'Anna****Grade: Easy****Assistant Leader: Jim Duliakas**

Oak Camp sits on a creek bank under a huge canopy of mature oak trees, offering a beautiful wilderness feeling with plenty of quality campsites. Chorro Grande is a remote and beautiful canyon on the south slope of Pine Mountain nestled below Reyes Peak, 26 mi north of Ojai. We will be observing how this upper Sespe watershed area is transitioning from a recent fire back towards its original mature forest as we climb 500 feet and 1.6 miles at a moderate pace to reach our camp by noon. After lunch we will do an optional day hike further up the canyon towards or beyond Chorro Springs, gaining 2000' in 2.5 miles. Multiple day hike options offering different pace and durations may be offered. We will all return to camp by 5PM for social hour and dinner. We should be back to our cars by 1PM Sunday. For additional information, contact Heather at hdanna823@gmail.com.

3. Fish Creek Camp M3B**Outing Leader: Suzanne Tanaka****Grade: Moderate****Assistant Leader: Pete Chavez**

Backpack along Manzana Creek into the San Rafael Wilderness, 70 miles north of Santa Barbara, gaining about 500 feet over 2.6 miles to Fish Creek Camp, a nice shady spot located at the intersection of Fish Creek and Manzana Creek. We'll set up camp and hike 1.9 miles (3.8 miles round trip) to Rays Camp, gaining an additional 600 feet along the way. Bring food items to share for happy hour. A Parks Management parking pass is required to park at the trailhead. For more information, contact Suzanne at suzanne@hiplaces.org.

WBC Backpack 1b: March 28-29, 2020

4. Piedra Blanca M3B**Outing Leader: Vicki Wilson****Grade: Moderate****Assistant Leader: Annette Preciado**

Come hike the Piedra Blanca area of the Los Padres National Forest, 20 miles north of Ojai. We'll enjoy the beautiful rock formations of the "Piedra Blanca" and maybe find some Chumash pictographs along the way. Backpack 2.6 miles to Piedra Blanca camp, climbing about 600'. After we set up camp, alongside a lovely stream, we'll do an optional exploratory 4 mile round trip day hike towards Pine Mountain Lodge, climbing another 1000-1500'. Make sure you bring your compass - we will be practicing our new navigation skills along the way! An Adventure Pass is required for each car. For more information, contact Vicki at victwyh@yahoo.com.