

Wilderness.net's Cedar Roughs Wilderness Fact Sheet

Introduction

The United States Congress designated the Cedar Roughs Wilderness in 2006 and it now has a total of 6,287 acres. All of the wilderness is in California and is managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

Description

The Cedar Roughs Wilderness, west of Lake Berryessa in Napa County, is a large mound of "serpentine" soil. Serpentine, California's official mineral, is a bluish-green (but sometimes reddish) rock that is not only nutrient poor, but poisonous to many plants since it naturally contains mercury and other harsh elements.

Despite this, the area is bursting with plant life that has evolved to not only survive, but to thrive in the harsh soil. One of these plants is the rare Sargent cypress which can range from small shrubs kept at pygmy size by especially pure areas of serpentine soil, to handsome trees sixty feet or more in height. It is this tree-form of the cypress that convinced pioneers to erroneously call the area "Cedar" Roughs.

The area is also known to be a black bear breeding area. Indeed, Cedar Roughs supports Napa County's last wild black bear population. Deer, squirrels, coyote and other wildlife also roam the area.

Leave No Trace

How to follow the seven standard Leave No Trace principles differs in different parts of the country (desert vs. Rocky Mountains). Click on any of the principles listed below to learn more about how they apply in the Cedar Roughs Wilderness.

1. [Plan Ahead and Prepare](#)
2. [Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces](#)
3. [Dispose of Waste Properly](#)
4. [Leave What You Find](#)
5. [Minimize Campfire Impacts](#)
6. [Respect Wildlife](#)
7. [Be Considerate of Other Visitors](#)

For more information on Leave No Trace, [Visit the Leave No Trace, Inc. website.](#)

Area Management

The Cedar Roughs Wilderness is part of the 110 million acre National Wilderness Preservation System. This System of lands provides clean air, water, and habitat critical for rare and endangered

plants and animals. In wilderness, you can enjoy challenging recreational activities like hiking, backpacking, climbing, kayaking, canoeing, rafting, horse packing, bird watching, stargazing, and extraordinary opportunities for solitude. You play an important role in helping to *"secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness"* as called for by the Congress of the United States through the Wilderness Act of 1964. Please follow the requirements outlined below and use Leave No Trace techniques when visiting the Cedar Roughs Wilderness to ensure protection of this unique area.

Unless otherwise specified, no motorized equipment or mechanical transport, with the exception of wheelchairs, is allowed. This is generally true for all federal lands managed as designated wilderness.

Links to Other Websites

[Bureau of Land Management, California](#)

Links on Wilderness.net

[National, Regional and Local Wilderness Organizations \(NGOs\)](#)

A listing of societies, organizations, coalitions and other wilderness-related advocacy and stewardship groups.

[Career and Volunteer Opportunities](#)

A listing of sites providing information about wilderness- and environmentally-related career and volunteer opportunities.

Applicable Wilderness Law(s)

Law	Date	Acreage Change (in acres)
Public Law 109-362	October 17, 2006	6,350

Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Wilderness Act - Public law 109-362 (10/17/2006) To designate certain National Forest System lands in the Mendocino and Six Rivers National Forests and certain Bureau of Land Management lands in Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, and Napa Counties in the State of California as wilderness, to designate the Elkhorn Ridge Potential Wilderness Area, to designate certain segments of the Black Butte River in Mendocino County, California as a wild or scenic river, and for other purposes.

[download 109-362](#)