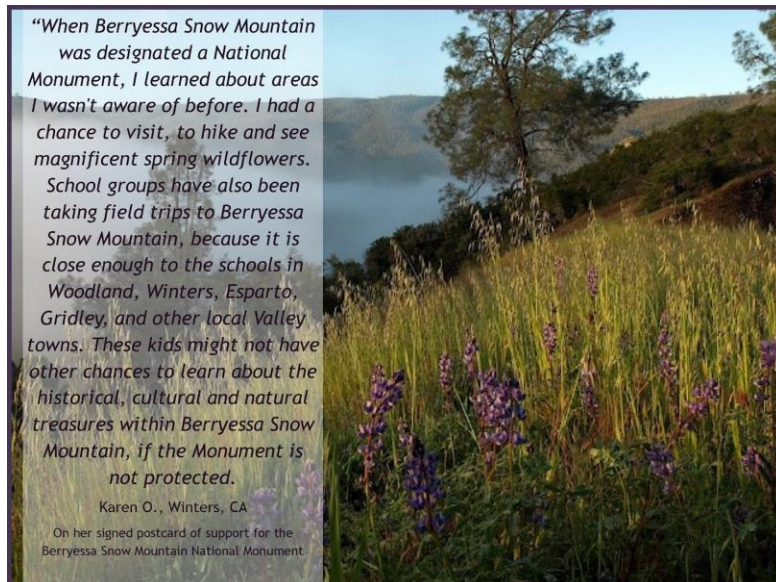


BERRYESSA SNOW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MONUMENT



The Berryessa Snow Mountain area is the heart of northern California's wild Inner Coast Range. Once covered by ocean waters, it is a landscape shaped by geologic forces of staggering power overlain with bountiful but fragile biodiversity. Anchored in the north by Snow Mountain's remote forests and in the south by scenic Berryessa Mountain, this area stretches through unbroken wildlands and important wildlife corridors, a mosaic of native grasslands, picturesque oak woodlands, rare wetlands, and wild chaparral.

Berryessa Snow Mountain's Monument Designation

In 2015, President Barack Obama permanently protected 330,780 acres of federal public land in order to preserve its prehistoric and historic legacy and maintain its diverse array of scientific resources, ensuring that the prehistoric, historic, and scientific values remain for the benefit of all Americans. Today, the area is important for ranching and also provides outdoor recreation opportunities, including hunting, fishing, hiking, mountain biking, legal OHV use, and horseback riding to a burgeoning population center.

What's Special About Berryessa Snow Mountain?

- **Geological Wonders:** The Berryessa Snow Mountain area tells a dynamic geologic story. A relic of ancient times, scientists theorize that Snow Mountain formed as an underwater mountain during the Jurassic Period, 145-199 million years ago. The seismically active Bartlett Springs fault zone has remarkable features including hot springs and geologic outliers with marine invertebrate fossils dating to the Cretaceous Period and Cenozoic Era. The area has two important tension-crack caves, likely also created by landslides. These are classified as significant under the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988 and provide habitat for the Townsend's big-eared bat.
- **Biodiversity:** This dramatic and diverse landscape is a biological hotspot providing refuge for rare plant and animal species and showcasing the human history of north-central California. It is replete with wild and unique landscapes and climatic micro-regions.

"...National monuments in California have been studied and shown to have economic benefits greater than the combined costs of maintenance and foregone benefits of private development. But their value is more than economic. Beyond the benefits to local communities, the enhancement of biodiversity and the cultural, aesthetic and even spiritual value of preserving these lands is incalculable..."

Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor, California

- **Valuable Cultural History and Native American Sites:** Native Americans have inhabited these lands for at least the last 11,000 years. Many tribes, including the Yuki, Nomlaki, Patwin, Pomo, Huchnom, Wappo, and Lake Miwok, all played a role in the history of this region, one of the most linguistically diverse in California. Dense with cultural resources, the Berryessa Snow Mountain area contains a range of ancient settlements from mineral collection sites, and seasonal hunting and gathering camps in the high country, to major villages with subterranean, earth-covered round buildings in the lowlands. In addition to trade routes winding through the hills and mountains, the area is rich with sites that tell the story of early Native peoples. The Cache Creek Archeological District, designated on the National Register of Historic Places, illustrates the area's archeological importance.



- **Water Ecology:** Home to the headwaters of the Eel River, and the Stony, Cache, and Putah creeks, the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument's waters are a crucial element of this landscape and a vital link to the water supply for millions of people.

For more information about what's at stake for the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument visit:

www.berryessasnowmountain.org

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Economic Benefits:

According to an independent study done by the city of Winters, one of the gateway cities to the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument:

- Recreation in the Berryessa Snow Mountain region currently supports over 600 jobs and \$55.3 million in economic benefits in local counties.
- Higher levels of visitation would support new jobs and increase local tax revenues between 20-30% over a five year period.
- The increase in annual visitation to the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument – estimated at 20% to 30% – would have a cumulative impact of up to \$50 million for the local economy over five years.

Widespread Public Support:

Public support continued through the previous administration's Monument Review. During the Interior Department's 60-day commentary period, 98% of the

comments were in support for maintaining and expanding national monument.

Support continues for Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument with draft legislation released by Congressman Garamendi. The *Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Expansion Act* will include the Lake County portion of Walker Ridge within the Monument and require a management plan within one year of enactment. This ridgeline is culturally significant to Native Tribes and home to a trove of rare and beautiful plant and animal species, including adobe lily (*Fritillaria pluiflora*) and tule elk (*Cervus canadensis nannodes*), and bald and golden eagles. The Act will protect these special areas while boosting local economies.