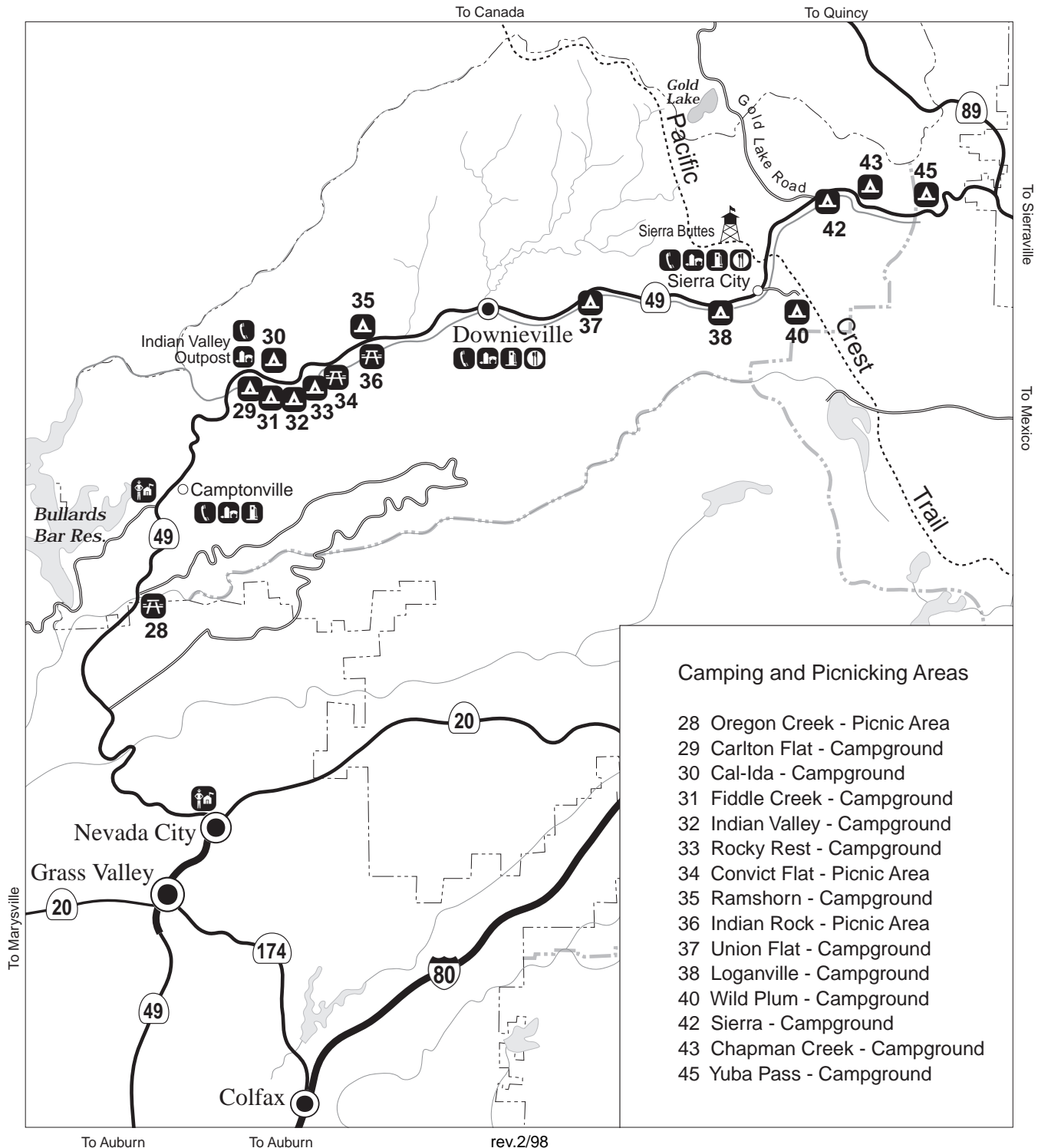
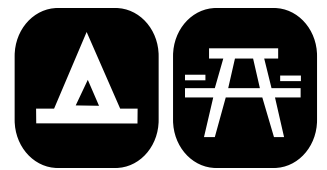


Camping & Picnicking

Highway 49 (Middle/North Yuba)

Downieville Ranger District
Tahoe National Forest



Camping & Picnicking in the Tahoe National Forest

Sierra Buttes - Gold Lake Highway

Sierra Buttes - Gold Lake Highway

This area of high mountain lakes and streams is dominated by the massive and spectacular Sierra Buttes. It may be reached by following Highway 49 north and east from Sierra City, 4 1/2 miles to the Gold Lake Highway junction at Bassetts. It may also be reached from the Sierra Valley by following Highway 49 westward approximately 13 miles from its junction with Highway 89 at Sattley to the Gold Lake Highway. Activities include fishing, swimming, boating, camping, picnicking, hiking, and hunting in season. Supplies are available at Sierra City and Bassetts. Season is June through October. Camping is not permitted within 1/4 mile of Gold Lake Highway (from Highway 49 to Sardine Lake Road), Sardine Lake Road (from Gold Lake Highway to Sardine Lake), Packer Lake Road (from Sardine Lake Road to Packer Lake), and around Salmon Lake because of heavy visitor use.

46 Sardine Campground

Located one and one-half mile north of Bassetts on the Gold Lake Highway and 1/2 mile southwest on the Sardine Lake Road.

Elevation: 5,800 feet

Facilities:

- 29 campsites (15 have space for trailers)
- Piped water
- Vault toilets
- Limited supplies are available at Bassetts

Attractions:

- Swimming at nearby Sand Pond
- Boat rentals available at Sardine Lake Lodge

47 Salmon Creek Campground

Located two miles north of Bassetts on the Gold Lake Highway near Salmon Creek.

Elevation: 5,800 feet

Facilities:

- 31 campsites (seven have space for trailers)
- Piped water
- Vault toilets

48 Snag Lake Campground

Located 5 miles north of Bassetts on the Gold Lake Road adjacent to Snag Lake.

Elevation: 6,600 feet

Facilities:

- 16 undesignated campsites
- Space for small trailer use
- Lake water source - purify before drinking
- Vault toilets

Attractions:

- Fishing is fair to good at Snag and other nearby lakes.
- Hand-off boat launching only

49 Packer Lake Picnic Ground - Day Use Only

Located 3 miles west of the Gold Lake highway on the Packer Lake Road.

Elevation: 6,200 feet

Facilities:

- 3 picnic sites with tables and stoves
- Lake water source - purify before drinking
- Vault toilets

50 Sand Pond Picnic Ground - Day Use Only

Located just off the Gold Lake Highway on the Sardine Lake Road near the Sardine Campground.

Elevation: 5,800 feet

Facilities:

- 16 picnic sites with tables and stoves
- Piped water
- Vault toilets
- Dressing rooms
- Limited supplies are available at Bassetts

Attractions:

- Sand Pond Interpretive Trail, 1 mile loop, Wheelchair accessible
- Sand Pond is developed for swimming.
- No pets permitted in swimming area for sanitary reasons
- Boat rentals available at Sardine Lake Lodge

51 Berger Campground

Located 2 miles west of the Gold Lake Highway on the Packer Lake Road.

Elevation: 5,900 feet

Facilities:

- 10 undesignated campsites
- Stream water source - purify before drinking
- Space for small trailers only
- Vault toilets

52 Diablo Camping Area

Located 1 1/2 miles west of Gold Lake Highway on Packer Lake Road.

Elevation: 5,800 feet

Facilities:

- Undesignated campsites
- Room for trailer and tent camping
- Stream water source - purify before drinking
- Vault toilets

53 Packsaddle Camping Area

Located 2 1/2 miles west of Gold Lake Highway on Packer Lake Road.

Elevation: 6,000 feet

Facilities:

- Developed campsites
- Room for trailer and tent camping
- Nearby stream water source - purify before drinking
- Pack and saddle stock are permitted
- Vault toilets
- Corrals for Livestock

Drinking Water

Only water from developed systems at recreation sites is maintained safe to drink. Open water sources are easily contaminated by human or animal waste. Water from springs, lakes, ponds, and streams should be properly treated before drinking. One recommended method of treatment is to bring clear water to a rolling boil for five minutes.

All Are Welcome

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