

Tuolumne County Trails

The Sugar Pine Interpretive Trail:

Twain Harte to Lyons Reservoir

Introduction

The Sugar Pine Interpretive Trail is a family friendly 4.8 mile segment of an old railroad grade connecting Twain Harte and Lyons Reservoir. Besides the fairly flat terrain, the highlights of this trail are marvelous views of the South Fork Stanislaus River Canyon and its geology, biologically diverse habitats and historic artifacts that are links to Tuolumne County's past.

The trail predominantly passes through a mixed coniferous forest but there are sections that are primarily hardwoods, others that are chaparral-like and some that are riparian due to the presence of springs. Although the animals of the area are elusive, you can often find evidence of their activity on the trail.

Historically, this railroad grade was part of the Sugar Pine Railway used for logging. Today, much of the trail is on acreage that belongs to Sierra Pacific Industries which allows public non-motorized use of the trail.

For an interpretive trail guide to the numbered points of interest on the map, visit www.tuolumne-countytrails.com or click on the **QR code** on the reverse side.

Directions to the Trailhead

From Sonora

To the **Twain Harte Trailhead**: Go east on Highway 108 past Twain Harte. Turn left onto Con-

fidence South Fork Road and drive 1.2 miles. Turn left on Middle Camp Sugar Pine Road and go <0.1 miles before turning right onto Confidence South Fork Road. The trail is on the right-hand side ~100 yds further and is open year-round.

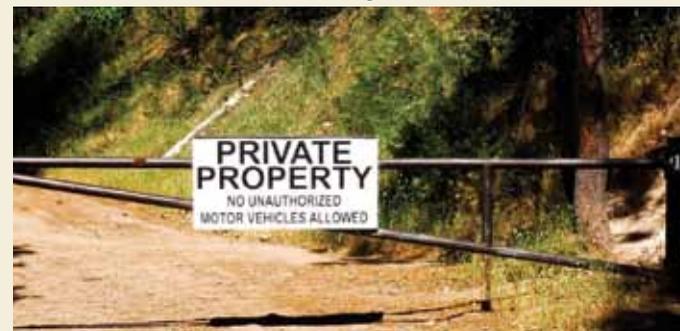
To the **Lyons Reservoir Trailhead** near Sierra Village: From Sonora, go east on Highway 108 past Sierra Village. Turn left onto Lyons Dam Road. Drive ~2 miles down a narrow dirt road to the parking area on the left. The trail begins at the gate at the far end of the parking area beyond the vault toilet. Lyons Dam Road is closed Nov 1-Apr 30.



From Twain Harte

To the **Twain Harte Trailhead** from the Twain Harte arch: Drive under the arch on Joaquin Gully Road for ~1.0 mile until it puts you onto Middle Camp Sugar Pine Road heading right. Continue on this road for 1.2 miles (go right at the 'Y') then turn left onto Confidence South Fork Road. The trail is on the right-hand side ~100 yds further and is open year-round.

This is the entry to the trail.



Features of the Sugar Pine Interpretive Trail

Views of So. Stanislaus River Canyon
Mt. Elizabeth and Dardanelles
Diverse Habitats

Historical Artifacts • Dam and Reservoir
Multi-use Trail (non-motorized)

For more information on trails in Tuolumne County or to donate to the Trails Fund, please visit www.tuolumnecountytrails.com

For information on native and non-native plants, go to www.calflora.org • www.cnps.org • www.cal-ipc.org

Photos courtesy of Kathi Joye & Elaine Gorman

TUOLUMNE COUNTY TRAILS SUGAR PINE INTERPRETIVE TRAIL Twain Harte to Lyons Reservoir



TuolumneCountyTrails.com



Trail Etiquette • Multiple Use Trail Guidelines for Trail Courtesy Hike It • Bike It • Ride It

Yield = Slow down, be prepared to stop, establish communication, pass safely. Between cyclist and hiker, "establish communication" may involve just a wave and a nod, but between cyclist/hiker and equestrian, communication should always involve voice communication because horses identify other trail users by voice, not appearance. **Please Do Not Ride** (mtn bikes/horses) after heavy rains or when soil is saturated! If you are leaving tracks on trail, it is too wet to ride.



HIKERS

Yield trail to equestrians. Allow equestrians and bicyclists to pass. Don't cut switchbacks.



BICYCLISTS

Ride on open trails only. Leave No Trace. Control your bicycle. Always yield trail. Never scare animals. Plan ahead.



EQUESTRIANS

Control your horse. Avoid cross-country riding.

DOGS

County leash laws apply while on the trail. Please keep your pet until your direct control at all times.



1



22



10



12



5



18



13



2



6

- 23: Osprey Nests
- 22: Lyons Dam
- 21: Old Growth Sugar Pine
- 20: Railroad Ties & Rock Cut
- 19: Canyon View
- 18: Flume View
- 17: Weathered Granite
- 16: Spring
- 14: Dogwood Habitat
- 13: Pond & Ferns
- 15: Chaparral & Hill Cut
- 12: Railroad Ties
- 11: Powerlines
- 10: Manzanita
- 9: Views & Granite
- 8: Mt Elizabeth
- 7: Dogwood & Big Leaf Maple
- 6: Culvert
- 5: Granite
- 4: Invasive Blackberries
- 3: Spring & Riparian Habitat
- 2: Hardwood Tunnel
- 1: View

Sugar Pine Railroad Trail

Trailhead Gate to Lyons Reservoir



Legend

- Trailhead View Points
- Sugar Pine Railroad Trail
- Sugar Pine Railroad Trail Grade



For more detail on numbered trail features, please visit:
<http://www.tuolumnecountytransportationcouncil.org/RailRdGrades.html>