

APPENDIX F

Department of Transportation Section 4(f) Resources

This appendix contains a general description of parks, recreation areas, and wildlife and waterfowl refuges with quiet setting attributes within the Supplemental Noise Study Area (SNSA); representative Section 4(f) resource locations within these areas; and a summary of the consultation that has occurred with the resource managing agencies. [Figure 4-4](#) in the EIS depicts the location of the park resources described in this appendix.

APPENDIX F

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SECTION 4(f) RESOURCES

This appendix describes the consultation that has occurred with the managing agencies of park resources within the Supplemental Noise Study Area (SNSA). In addition, a brief description of each park resource is provided and representative Section 4(f) resource locations with quiet setting attributes are identified within the park resources. [Figure 4-4](#) in the EIS depicts the location of the park resources described in this appendix.

The representative Section 4(f) locations that have been identified within the SNSA were subject to the analysis within the EIS that utilizes the *Guidance on Procedures for Evaluating the Potential Noise Impacts of Airport Improvement Projects on National Parks and Other Sensitive Park Environments* (FAA, 2007). The FAA's Guidance Document only applies to Section 4(f) resources where a quiet setting is a generally recognized purpose and attribute. Therefore, this appendix notes the representative Section 4(f) locations with quiet setting attributes within each park resource that were included in [Sections 4.5 and 5.5](#) of the EIS.

No Section 4(f) resources associated with traditional recreational activities (where a quiet setting is not a generally recognized purpose and attribute) have been identified within the Airport Study Area, or ASA (see [Figure 4-1](#) in the EIS). Therefore, this appendix does not include a discussion of any of these types of Section 4(f) resources.

National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) manages Yosemite National Park, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park, and Devil's Postpile National Monument within the SNSA of the EIS. The Yosemite and Sequoia & Kings Canyon Wilderness Areas are managed by the NPS and located within their respective national parks.

NPS provided a Scoping period comment letter to FAA (dated August 30, 2006; see [Appendix G](#)). The NPS noted the resources previously mentioned that were in the vicinity of MMH, and that most of the resources were comprised of federally designated wilderness, which "provides for the protection of the area's primeval character and outstanding opportunities for solitude." FAA sent a letter to NPS on May 9, 2007 (see [Appendix G](#)) regarding the applicability of Section 4(f) and importance of natural quiet to the following representative locations within NPS managed lands for the purposes of the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)):

- Cargyle Meadow
- John Muir Trail – Garnet Lake
- Devil's Postpile Lookout
- John Muir Trail – San Joaquin River
- John Muir Trail – McClure Meadow
- John Muir Trail – Donohue Pass
- Washburn Lake
- John Muir Trail – Lyell Canyon
- Tioga Pass

NPS responded in a letter dated June 28, 2007 (see [Appendix G](#)) stating that each of the representative locations identified in the FAA letter are considered significant park resources for Section 4(f) purposes and that natural quiet is an important attribute of each (per the Organic Act and Wilderness Act of 1964). NPS also recommended adding the Death Valley National Park, Manzanar National Historic Site, and Chain Lakes and Olmstead Point within Yosemite National Park. Death Valley National Park, Manzanar National Historic Site, and Olmstead Point are not located within the SNSA and were not included in the NSA. However, FAA included Chain Lakes in the Noise Screening Assessment after the consultation with NPS, because it is located within the SNSA.

Yosemite National Park – H.R. 12187, “An act to set apart a certain tract of land in the State of California as forest reservations” established the foundations of Yosemite National Park (in Sections 1 and 2 of the Act). The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate, and on October 1, 1890, President Benjamin Harrison signed it into law. The park, shown in [Figure 1](#), is approximately 1,200 square miles with elevations ranging from 2,000 to 13,000 feet above sea level. The park contains numerous waterfalls, three groves of Giant Sequoia trees, meadows, and other forested areas. Facilities include campground areas, packstations, alpine skiing, trails, picnic tables, and restrooms. Yosemite National Park is approximately 22 miles northwest of MMH.

The majority of Yosemite National Park within the SNSA is designated as the Yosemite Wilderness Area, which was established by the United States Congress as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System through passage of Public Law 98-425, known as California Wilderness Act (September 28, 1984). It now has a total of 704,624 acres.

Representative Section 4(f) locations with quiet settings within or bordering the wilderness area that were included in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) include the John Muir Trail (Donohue Pass and Lyell Canyon), Washburn Lake, Tioga Pass, and Chain Lakes.

Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park – H.R. 11570, “An act to set apart a certain tract of land in the State of California as a public park” established what became Sequoia National Park. The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate, and on September 25, 1890, President Benjamin Harrison signed it into law. H.R. 12187 established the foundations of General Grant National Park (in Section 3 of the Act), and added lands to the park which became Sequoia National Park (also in Section 3 of the Act). Kings Canyon National Park was established on March 5, 1940. Kings Canyon, formerly called General Grant National Park, shares a boundary with Sequoia National Park. Both are managed as one park and are depicted in [Figure 2](#). The park covers approximately 722 square miles with elevations ranging from 1,500 to 14,500 feet above sea level. The park contains numerous waterfalls, over 200 caverns, groves of Giant Sequoia trees, meadows, other forested areas, and several deep glaciated canyons. The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, part of 2,640-mile footpath from Canada to Mexico, passes through the park near the eastern border. Facilities include campground areas, packstations, trails, picnic tables, and restrooms. Sequoia-Kings Canyon is approximately 27 miles south of MMH.

The majority of the national park (and the entire park within the SNSA) is designated as the Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness Area. The United States Congress designated the Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System through passage of Public Law 98-425, known as California Wilderness Act, on September 28, 1984. It now has a total of 723,036 acres.

Representative Section 4(f) locations with quiet settings within the wilderness area that were included in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) are located along the John Muir Trail – San Joaquin River and McClure Meadow.

Devils Postpile National Monument – The national monument was established by Presidential Proclamation of William Howard Taft on July 6, 1911, to protect the natural formations known as the Devil Postpile and Rainbow Falls, because they are of “scientific interest.” (U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol 37, Part 2, p.1715 and map preceding p. 1715) Devils Postpile National Monument, shown in [Figure 3](#), rests along the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada (elevation 7,560 feet). This 800-acre monument preserves two natural features: the columnar basalt formation known as Devils Postpile and the 101-foot Rainbow Falls. Fewer than 100,000 years ago basalt lava erupted two miles upstream from today’s postpile. As the lava cooled it contracted and cracked forming the vertical and hexagonal columns. The formation is the world’s finest example of columnar-jointed basalt. The columns, four to seven sided, display a honeycomb pattern. A glacier flowed down the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River and overrode the fractured mass of lava. The moving ice carved away one side of the postpile, exposing a sheer wall of columns 60 feet high. Later, many columns fell due to erosion and earthquakes; these lie fragmented on the talus slope below the postpile. The formation is an excellent geologic example of hexagonal columns that have been polished by glaciers. The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail passes through this area, as does the John Muir Trail. Devils Postpile is approximately 14 miles west of MMH.

Within the national monument, the Devils Postpile Lookout was included in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) as a representative Section 4(f) location with a quiet setting.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service

The USFS Forest Service manages the Inyo National Forest, Sierra National Forest, and Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area within the SNSA of the EIS. The Ansel Adams, Dinkey Lakes, John Muir, and Kaiser Wilderness Areas are all located within lands managed by the USDA Forest Service in the National Forests.

The USDA Forest Service provided a comment submittal to FAA during the EIS Scoping process (see [Appendix G](#)) that described the Management Prescriptions within the Inyo National Forest. Management it considers as Section 4(f) areas based on the primary purpose of the land management unit designation (public recreation or protection of wildlife). FAA sent a letter to the USDA Forest Service of Inyo National Forest (see [Appendix G](#)) regarding the applicability of Section 4(f) and importance of natural quiet to twelve representative locations within USDA Forest Service managed lands for the purposes of the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)).

The USDA Forest Service (Inyo National Forest) responded in a letter dated July 24, 2007 (see [Appendix G](#)) stating that the following representative locations are considered significant park resources for Section 4(f) purposes and that natural quiet is an important attribute:

- Mosquito Flats Campground
- North Lake Campground
- Devils Postpile Lookout
- Minaret Vista
- Silver Lake
- John Muir Trail – Garnet Lake

Although the twelve representative Section 4(f) locations were included in the Noise Screening Assessment, only the six representative Section 4(f) locations verified by the USDA Forest Service as having a quiet setting as a generally recognized purpose and attribute noted above were considered in the evaluation of Section 4(f) resources in [Section 5.5](#) of the EIS. No other representative Section 4(f) locations were recommended by the USDA Forest Service (Inyo National Forest) for inclusion in the Noise Screening Assessment.

FAA sent a letter to the USDA Forest Service of Sierra National Forest (see [Appendix G](#)) on May 9, 2007 regarding the applicability of Section 4(f) and importance of natural quiet to seventeen representative locations within USDA Forest Service managed lands for the purposes of the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)). No response has been received from the USDA Forest Service (Sierra National Forest) to date.

Inyo National Forest – Established by Presidential Proclamation of Theodore Roosevelt on May 25, 1907, the forest contains the Benton Range, White Mountains, and Inyo Mountains in the eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains as well as the eastern slopes of the western Sierra Nevada Mountains. The forest, shown in [Figure 4](#), is over 3,125 square miles with elevations ranging from 4,000 to 14,500 feet above sea level. The forest extends for approximately 165 miles from Mono Lake south beyond the Owens Valley. The forest also contains reservoirs, the Mammoth Mountain ski area, June Mountain ski area, Mount Whitney, the Devils Postpile National Monument, and the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest. The Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest is located in the White Mountains between 10,000 and 11,000 feet above sea level. The area contains the oldest known living trees on earth at over 4,000 years old. Facilities include numerous campground areas (Bishop Creek, Rock Creek, McGee Creek, Convict Lake, Mammoth Village Area, Mammoth Lakes Basin, Reds Meadow Area, Crestview Area, June Lake Loop, Lee Vining Area), packstations, alpine skiing, trails, picnic tables, and restrooms. Of note, the Inyo National Forest surrounds MMH and the western portion of MMH is located on land leased from the USDA Forest Service. Representative Section 4(f) locations with quiet settings that are located within the Inyo National Forest that were included in the Noise Screening Assessment and the evaluation of Section 4(f) resources ([Section 5.5](#) of the EIS) include the Minaret Vista and Silver Lake.

A portion of the John Muir Wilderness Area is located within the Inyo National Forest. The United States Congress designated the John Muir Wilderness as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System through passage of Public Law 88-577, known as The Wilderness Act, on September 3, 1964. Initially, the John Muir Wilderness encompassed 502,978 acres. The California Wilderness Act of 1984 – Public Law 98-425, which was passed on September 28, 1984, added 81,000 acres to the John Muir

Wilderness. Today the John Muir Wilderness encompasses approximately 584,000 acres, and is shown in [Figure 5](#). The area extends almost 100 miles in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Elevations range from 4,000 to 14,500 feet above sea level. Deep canyons, lofty peaks, meadows, lakes and expansive alpine terrain characterize the John Muir Wilderness. Stands of Jeffery and lodgepole pine, incense cedar, and red and white fir can be found on the lower western slopes of the Sierra Nevada. Higher up are lodgepole, whitebark, and western pine, red fir and mountain hemlock. The highest elevations are barren granite. The area is located within the Sierra and Inyo National Forests, and contains campground areas and trails. The John Muir Wilderness is heavily visited and has use limits in the form of trailhead quotas on all the trailheads accessing the wilderness from both the east and west side of the Sierra Nevada. The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail passes through this area, as does the John Muir Trail. John Muir Wilderness is approximately 4 miles south of MMH. Representative Section 4(f) locations with quiet settings within the Inyo National Forest portion of the John Muir Wilderness include Mosquito Flats Campground, North Lake Campground, and Tamarack Lakes.

A portion of the Ansel Adams Wilderness Area is also located in the Inyo National Forest. The United States Congress designated the Minarets Wilderness as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System through passage of Public Law 88-577, known as The Wilderness Act, on September 3, 1964. The area was enlarged and re-designated the Ansel Adams Wilderness in 1984. [Figure 6](#) shows Ansel Adams Wilderness; which has an area of approximately 231,000 acres with elevations ranging from 3,500 to 13,150 feet above sea level. The minarets are a jagged ridge of peaks, known as the Ritter range, and are an exposed roof pendant of metavolcanic rock. The alpine wilderness is dotted with sparkling lakes, glacially sculpted gorges and imposing peaks and spires. Vegetation is mixed coniferous and deciduous forests of pine and oak in low elevations and sub-alpine forests of lodgepole pine, mountain hemlock and red fir. Alpine meadows grace the higher elevations with wildflowers and crystal streams. The area is located within the Inyo and Sierra National Forests and contains campground areas and trails. The Ansel Adams Wilderness has good stream and lake fishing that include rainbow, golden and eastern brook trout. The Ritter Range affords challenges for experienced mountain climbers. Southern portions of the wilderness provide forests of huge pine and fir where few people visit. There are 349 miles of trail, including both the John Muir Trail and Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail that traverse portions of the wilderness. The wilderness experiences high visitor use, including day hiking, packstock and backpacking use. Overnight use is controlled by a trailhead quota system that limits the amount of use entering each day from May through October. Ansel Adams is approximately 13 miles west of MMH. The John Muir Trail at Garnet Lake was included as a representative Section 4(f) location with a quiet setting within the Inyo National Forest portion of the Ansel Adams Wilderness Area.

Sierra National Forest – The Sierra Forest Reserve was established by Presidential Proclamation of Benjamin Harrison on February 14, 1893. Established in 1983, the forest is located between Yosemite and Kings Canyon National Parks in the western Sierra Nevada Mountains. The forest, depicted in [Figure 7](#), is approximately 2,031 square miles with elevations ranging from 900 to 14,000 feet above sea level. The forest contains the National Forest Scenic Byway, numerous reservoirs, two wild and scenic rivers (on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains), oak-covered foothills, and other forested areas. Facilities include numerous campground areas, packstations, alpine skiing, trails, picnic tables,

and restrooms. Sierra National Forest is approximately 22 miles west of MMH. FAA has identified the following four representative Section 4(f) locations within the Sierra National Forest – Granite Creek Campground, Mount Tom Lookout, Badger Flat Campground, and Vermilion Campground. Due to the lack of response from the USDA Forest Service, FAA has considered these locations as representative Section 4(f) locations with quiet settings for inclusion in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) and the evaluation of Section 4(f) resources (see [Section 5.5](#) of the EIS).

The forest also contains portions of the Ansel Adams (see [Figure 6](#)) and John Muir (see [Figure 5](#)) Wilderness Areas (described previously). Within the Sierra National Forest portion of the Ansel Adams Wilderness Area, FAA has included Cargyle Meadow, Mono Hot Springs Campground, and Jackass Meadows Campground as representative Section 4(f) locations with quiet settings in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) and evaluation of Section 4(f) resources (see [Section 5.5](#) of the EIS). Within the Sierra National Forest portion of the John Muir Wilderness Area, FAA has included the John Muir Trail (at Sallie Keyes Lakes, Quail Meadows, and Lake Virginia), Rainbow Lake, Mount Abbot, Desolation Lake, and Tamarack Lakes as representative Section 4(f) locations with quiet settings in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) and evaluation of Section 4(f) resources (see [Section 5.5](#) of the EIS).

All of the Kaiser Wilderness Area is located within Sierra National Forest, and a portion of it is located within the SNSA. The United States Congress designated the Kaiser Wilderness as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System through passage of Public Law 94-557 on October 19, 1976. It covers approximately 22,700 acres on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains; see [Figure 8](#). Elevations range from 7,000 to 10,300 feet above sea level. Kaiser Ridge divides this Wilderness into two distinctly different areas. The southern portion rises gradually from near the shore of Huntington Lake under stands of Jeffery pine and red fir until it reaches the alpine zone on the ridge. The northern half is much more open, with a steep descent from the ridgeline to 18 small lakes. Most of the lakes require cross-country travel to reach. The northern portion receives heavy human use, but the steep, rugged northwest section receives far less human use. The area contains campground areas and trails. Kaiser is approximately 37 miles southwest of MMH. Within the Kaiser Wilderness Area, Upper Twin Lake has been included as a representative Section 4(f) location with a quiet setting in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) and evaluation of Section 4(f) resources (see [Section 5.5](#) of the EIS).

A portion of the Dinkey Lakes Wilderness Area within the Sierra National Forest is also included in the SNSA. The United States Congress designated the Dinkey Lakes Wilderness as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System through passage of Public Law 98-425, known as California Wilderness Act, on September 28, 1984. This small area is approximately 30,000 acres on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains; see [Figure 9](#). Elevations range from 8,000 to 10,600 feet above sea level. Most of the Dinkey Lakes Wilderness consists of timbered rolling terrain. Sixteen lakes are clustered in the west central region. Stands of white fir, red fir, and Jeffery pine are interspersed with large mountain meadows, especially in the north central region and along Helms Creek. Rocky outcroppings often break the skyline. The area contains campground areas and trails. Cattle grazing is a historical and continuing use of the Dinkey Lakes Wilderness. Human use is rated as moderate. Dinkey Lakes is approximately 38 miles southwest of MMH. Within the Dinkey Lakes Wilderness Area, the

California Riding/Hiking Trail has been included as a representative Section 4(f) location with a quiet setting in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) and evaluation of Section 4(f) resources (see [Section 5.5](#) of the EIS).

Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area – The United States Congress established the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area to preserve the geologic, ecologic, cultural, scenic, and other natural resources of the Mono Basin. On September 28, 1984, the California Wilderness Act was signed into law (Public Law 98-425), allotting the lake, the surrounding lands, and land use administration to the Forest Service. The boundary of the Scenic Area surrounds Mono Lake and includes 76,703 acres of land and approximately 41,600 acres of Mono Lake. Dozens of tufa towers are scattered on the south shore of the lake. These structures reach 15 feet or more in height, occurring where freshwater seeps flow into the lake, and the calcium precipitates due to the action of calcareous algae. The area is primarily located north and east of Lee Vining community, in the Inyo National Forest. Towering cinder cone mountains are located south of Mono Lake and east of U.S. 395. Lava and pumice floor the basin in many places, raising sections of it into tablelands often over 8,000 feet in elevation. Though the lake itself has two small island craters, the most notable remnant of volcanism is the Mono Craters. Other craters, lava flows, hot springs, steam vents, pumice flats, and cliffs of volcanic glass are indicative of activity in the last 1,000 years. Facilities include a visitor center, trails, and restrooms. Mono Basin is approximately 17 miles north of MMH. See [Figure 10](#) for a figure of the Mono Lake area.

The boundary of the Inyo National Forest includes the area within the boundary of the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area. The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, administers the Scenic Area as a separate unit within the boundary of the Inyo National Forest. All Bureau of Land Management administered lands that fall within the boundaries of the Scenic Area have been added to the Inyo National Forest. Lands within the boundary of the Scenic Area are owned by the State of California, the City of Los Angeles, Inyo National Forest, and other private owners. Indian people are guaranteed access to the Scenic Area for traditional cultural and religious purposes, including the harvest of the brine fly larvae.

The Mono Lake Lookout was included in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) as a representative Section 4(f) location, however it was not considered in the evaluation of Section 4(f) resources within the SNSA in [Section 5.5](#) of the EIS because the resource managing agency (USDA Forest Service) has not indicated that this is an area where a quiet setting is an important attribute.

Bureau of Land Management

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages land within the eastern and northern portions of the SNSA. The BLM provided comment submittals to FAA during the EIS scoping period (dated January 2, 2004 and August 28, 2006; see [Appendix G](#)). The comment submittals noted the significant watershed, wildlife, cultural and recreational resources within the Eastern Sierra. FAA sent a correspondence to BLM dated May 9, 2007 regarding the Section 4(f) applicability and whether a quiet setting is an important attribute of the following representative Section 4(f) locations:

- Horton Creek Campground
- Chalk Bluff
- Owens Valley Native Fish Sanctuary
- Chidago Canyon Petroglyph Site
- Red Rock Canyon
- Volcanic Tablelands
- Crowley Lake Campground

The BLM responded in a correspondence in [Appendix G](#) that identified the Volcanic Tablelands, the Horton Creek Campground, Crowley Lake Campground, and hot springs recreation sites as Section 4(f) resources within the SNSA where a quiet setting is an important attribute.

Crowley Lake Campground – The campground is located in Long Valley at approximately 7,000 feet above sea level, about 10 miles south of the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Facilities include 47 campsites, barbeque grills, a boat ramp, picnic tables, and vault toilets. The portion of the campground near the South Landing is leased from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). Crowley Lake is approximately 6 miles southeast of MMH. The campground attracts visitors due to its proximity to “premier bouldering and climbing areas”. This location was included in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) and considered in the evaluation of Section 4(f) resources (see [Section 5.5](#) of the EIS).

Horton Creek Campground – The campground is located in the north end of Owens Valley at approximately 4,975 feet, about 6 miles north of the City of Bishop. Facilities include 53 campsites, barbeque grills, picnic tables, and vault toilets. Horton Creek is approximately 23 miles southeast of MMH. The campground attracts visitors due to its proximity to “premier bouldering and climbing areas”. This location was included in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) and considered in the evaluation of Section 4(f) resources (see [Section 5.5](#) of the EIS).

Volcanic Tablelands – This area lies at the southern end of the Great Basin High Desert Plateau, north of the City of Bishop. The area was formed over 700,000 years ago by material from the Long Valley caldera, and is characterized by north-south trending fault scarps. No facilities area located here, but activities include trails, four-wheel driving, and wildlife viewing. Volcanic Tablelands is approximately 26 miles southeast of MMH.

The Fish Slough Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) is located within the Volcanic Tablelands approximately five miles north of the City of Bishop, and contains approximately 36,000 acres. A geologic feature that allows an underground spring to reach the surface created the slough. The slough supports a wide array of plants and animals, and was designated an ACEC in 1982. Prehistoric rock carvings are also found in this area. The slough was used as a watering hole for stagecoach travel in Owens Valley in the late 1800s. Fish Slough is approximately 26 miles southeast of MMH.

Petroglyphs within the Volcanic Tablelands date back to approximately 8,800 years ago. Some of the locations of the petroglyphs include the Fish Slough, Chidago, and Red Canyon. No facilities are located here, as these are cultural sites to be viewed but not disturbed.

Representative locations within the Volcanic Tablelands that were included in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) and considered in the evaluation of Section 4(f) resources (see [Section 5.5](#) of the EIS) include Chalk Bluff, Fish Sanctuary (within the Fish Slough ACEC), Chidago Canyon, and Red Rock Canyon.

Hot Springs Recreational Sites – The BLM noted in the correspondence contained in [Appendix G](#) that the several natural hot springs are located within the Long Valley are of the BLM lands. These sites are considered significant recreational sites where a quiet setting is an important attribute. The most popular hot spring, Wet Willy's, experienced approximately 30,000 visitors in 2006. Therefore, FAA included the Wet Willy's site as a representative Section 4(f) location with a quiet setting in the Noise Screening Assessment (see [Appendix C-2](#)) and in the evaluation of Section 4(f) resources (see [Section 5.5](#) of the EIS).

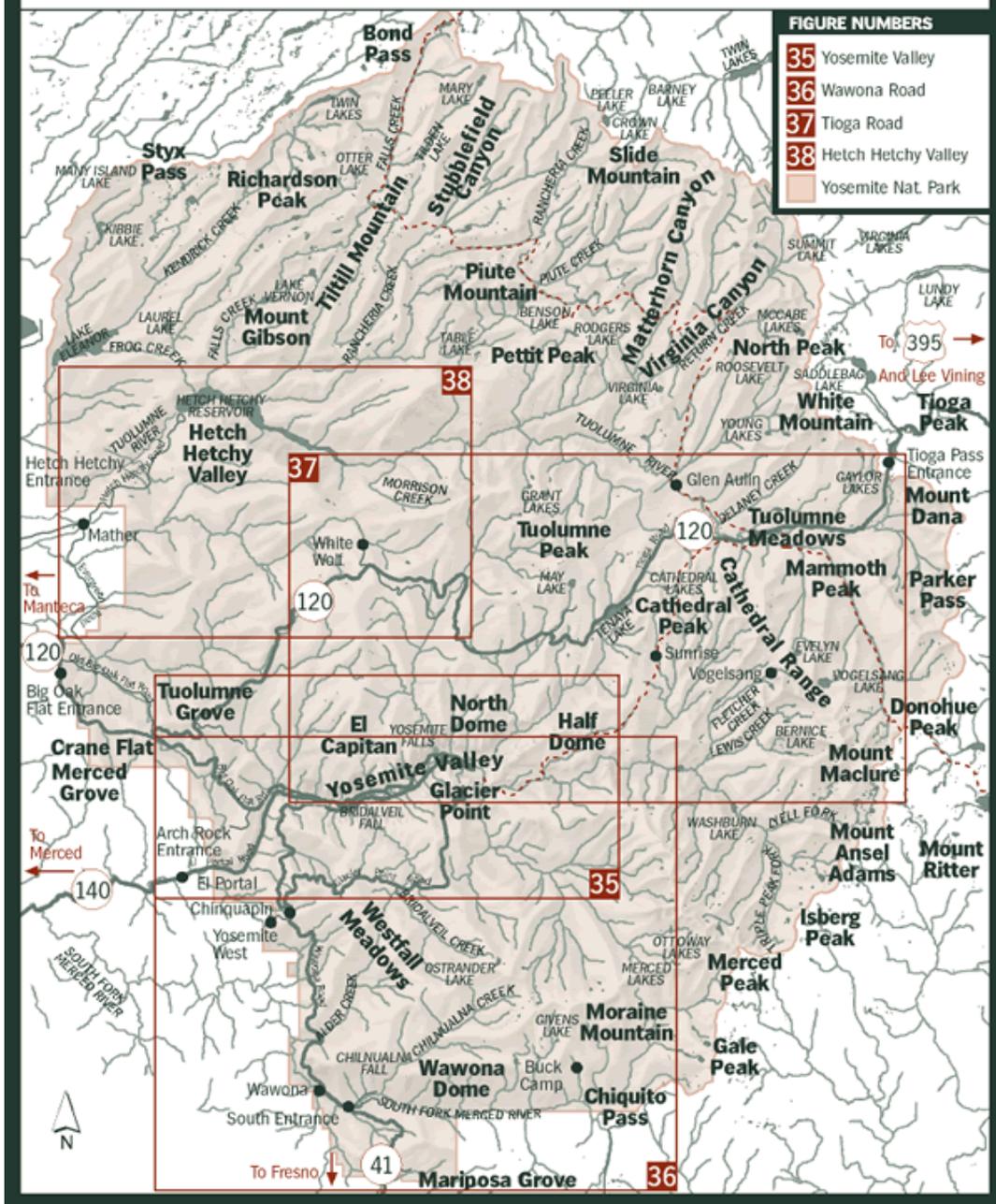
Native American Tribes

The Bishop Paiute and Benton Paiute Indian Reservations are located within the SNSA. Correspondences with these tribes (and others with potential cultural ties to the locations within the SNSA) are contained in [Appendix G](#). Section 4(f) only applies to Native American tribal lands if they are open to the public and offer significant recreational or cultural resources. The reservation lands within the SNSA are not considered Section 4(f) resources because they are used primarily for tribal member housing. Refer to [Section 5.4](#) of the EIS for further discussion of Native American coordination and cultural resources.

FIGURES

Yosemite Nat. Park

Yosemite National Park spans elevations ranging from 2,000 feet in the western foothills to more than 13,000 feet in the high Sierra.



Source: www.sherpaguides.com



Mammoth Yosemite Airport
Environmental Impact Statement

Yosemite National Park

FIGURE

1



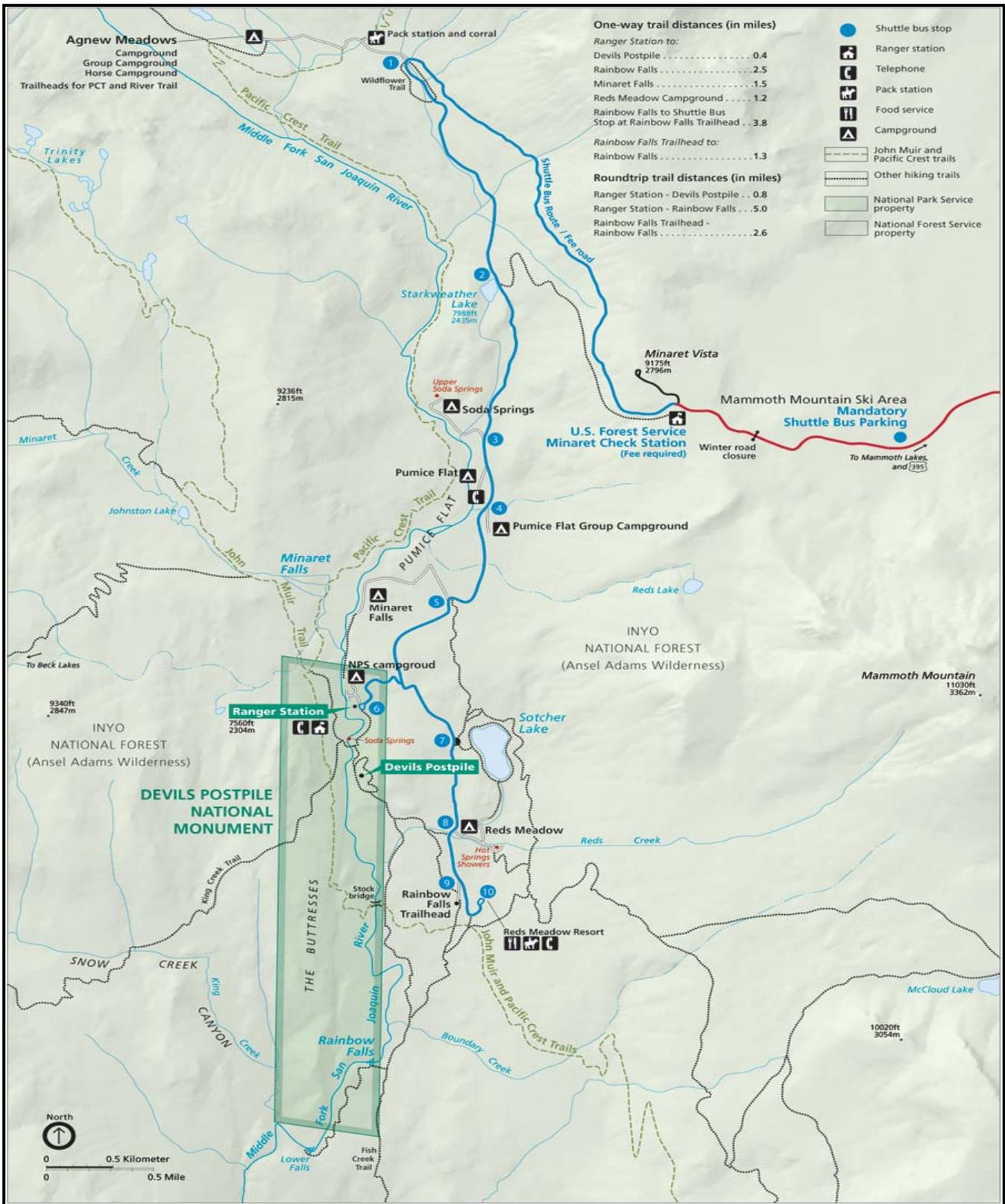
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**Mammoth Yosemite Airport
Environmental Impact Statement**

**Sequoia-Kings Canyon National
Park**

**FIGURE
2**



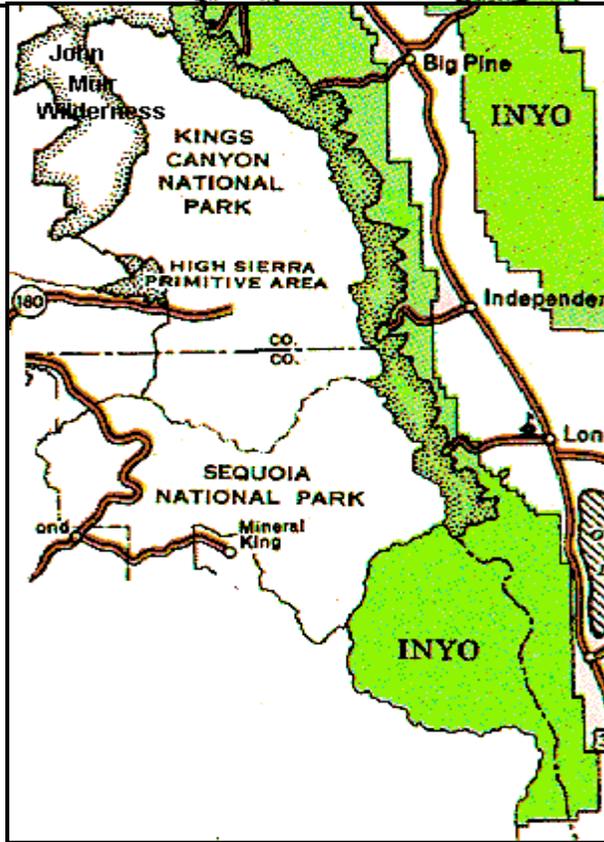
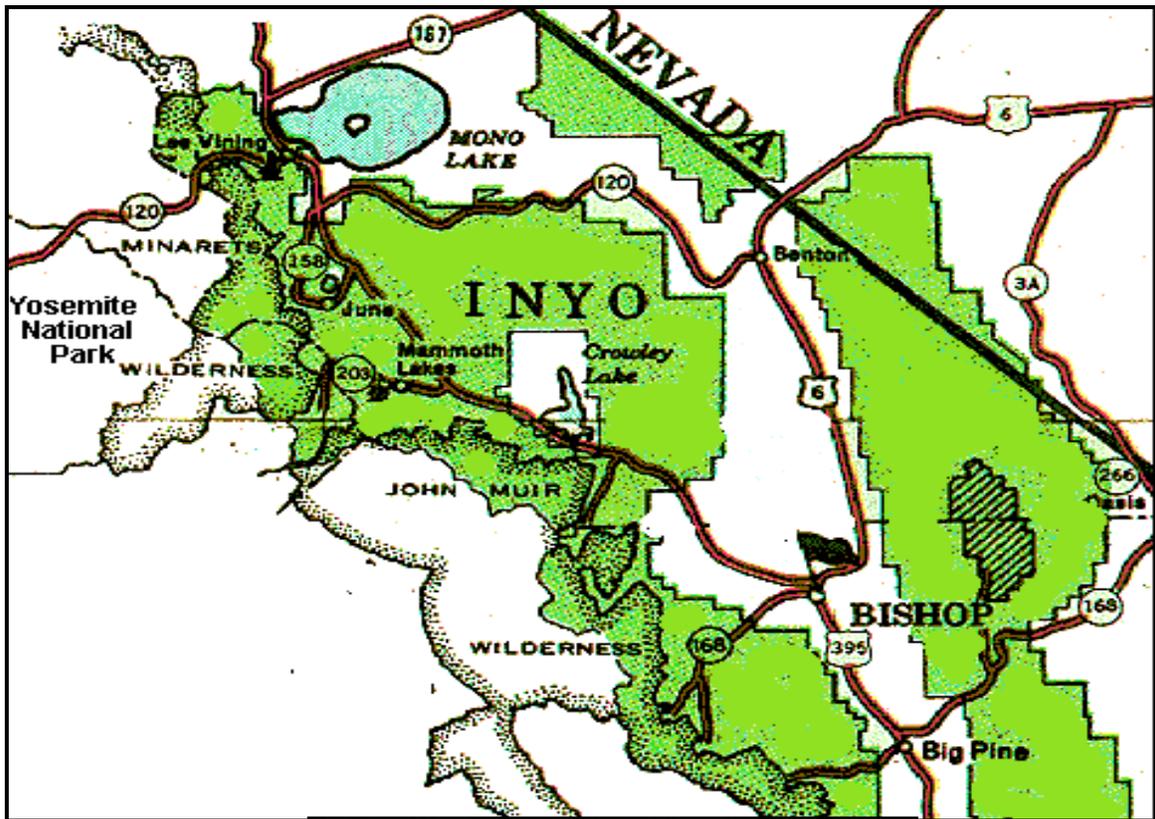
Source: www.nps.gov



Mammoth Yosemite Airport
Environmental Impact Statement

Devils Postpile National
Monument

FIGURE
3



Source: www.gorp.away.com



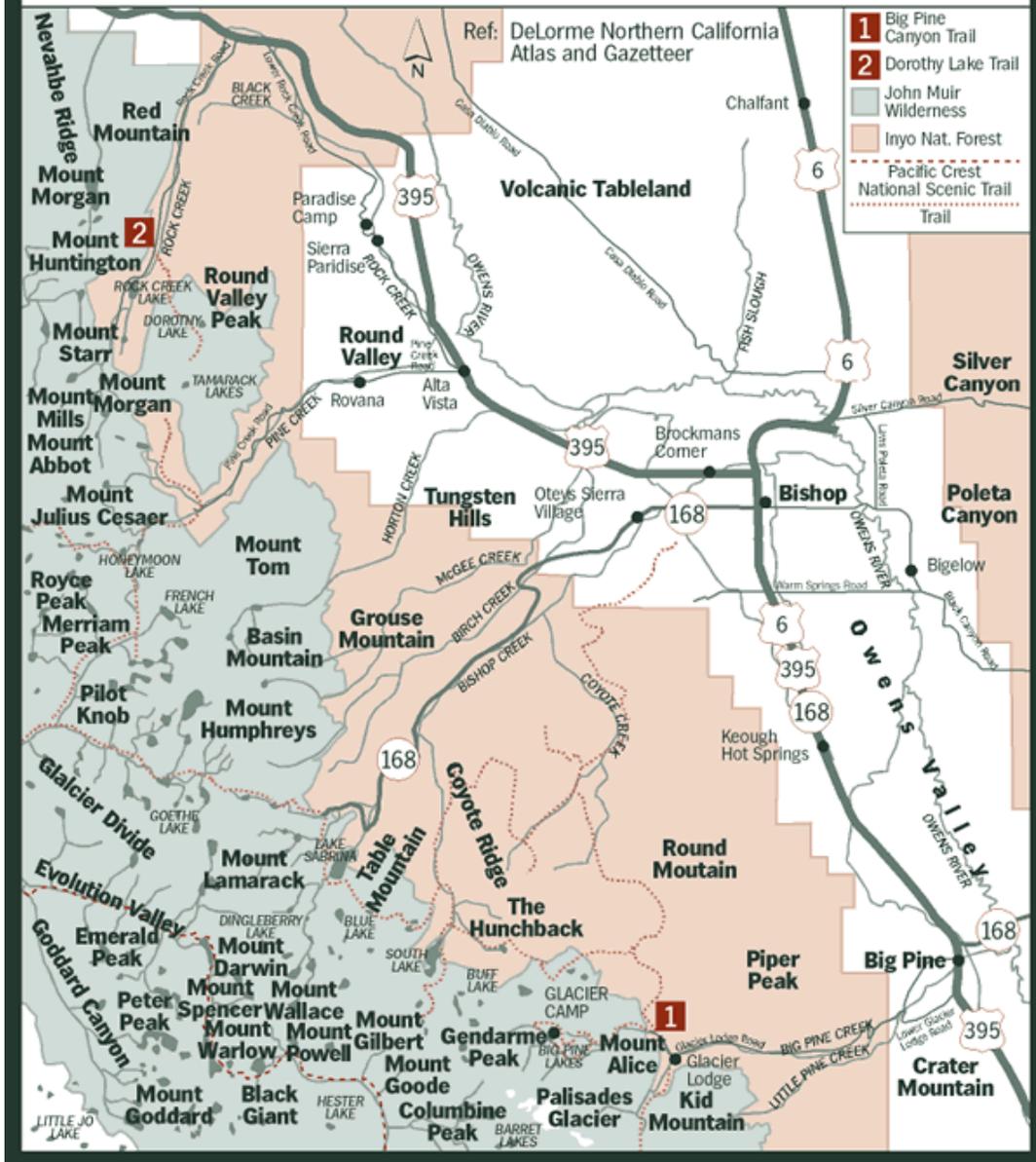
Mammoth Yosemite Airport
Environmental Impact Statement

Inyo National Forest

FIGURE
4

John Muir Wilderness Area

The John Muir Wilderness covers 581,000 acres and stretches 100 miles along the Sierra crest.



Source: www.sherpaguides.com



Mammoth Yosemite Airport
Environmental Impact Statement

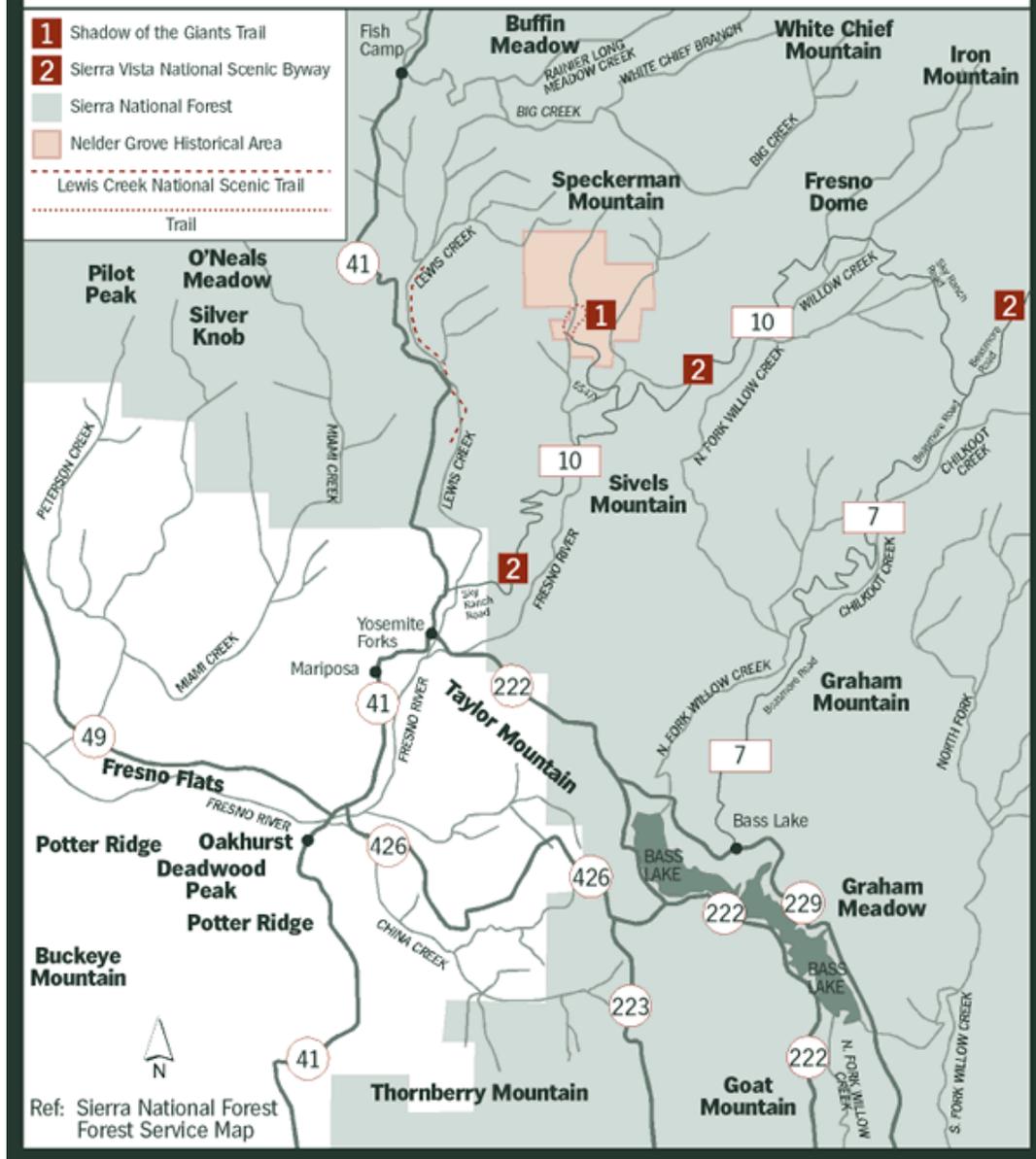
John Muir Wilderness

FIGURE

5

Sierra National Forest

The Sierra National Forest began in 1893 and encompasses the High Sierra and a connection to the Eastern Sierra.



Source: www.sherpaguides.com



Mammoth Yosemite Airport
Environmental Impact Statement

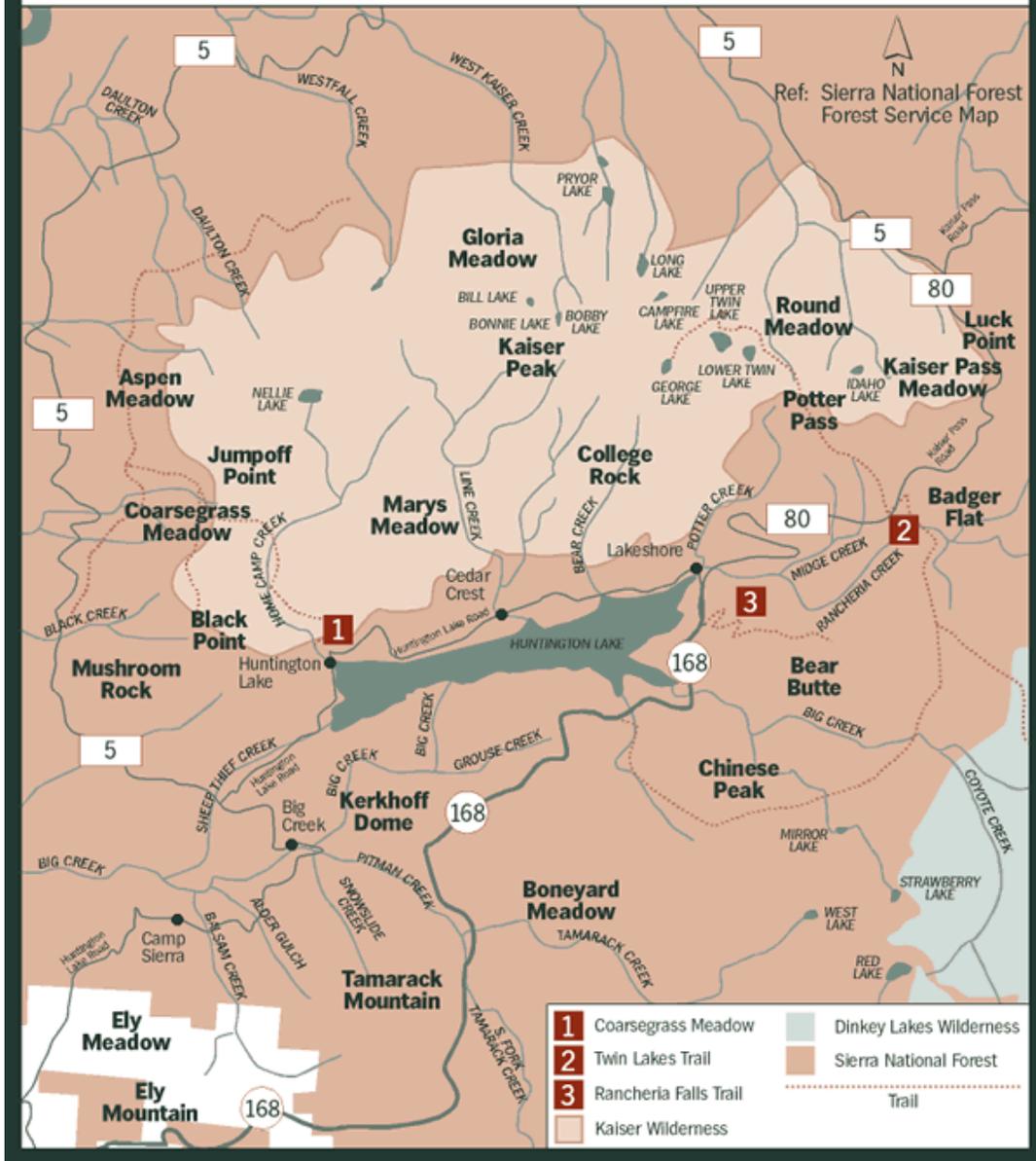
Sierra National Forest

FIGURE

7

Kaiser Wilderness Area

The 22,700-acre Kaiser Wilderness, formed in 1975, has elevations ranging from 8,000 feet to 10,320 feet.



Source: www.sherpaguides.com



Mammoth Yosemite Airport
Environmental Impact Statement

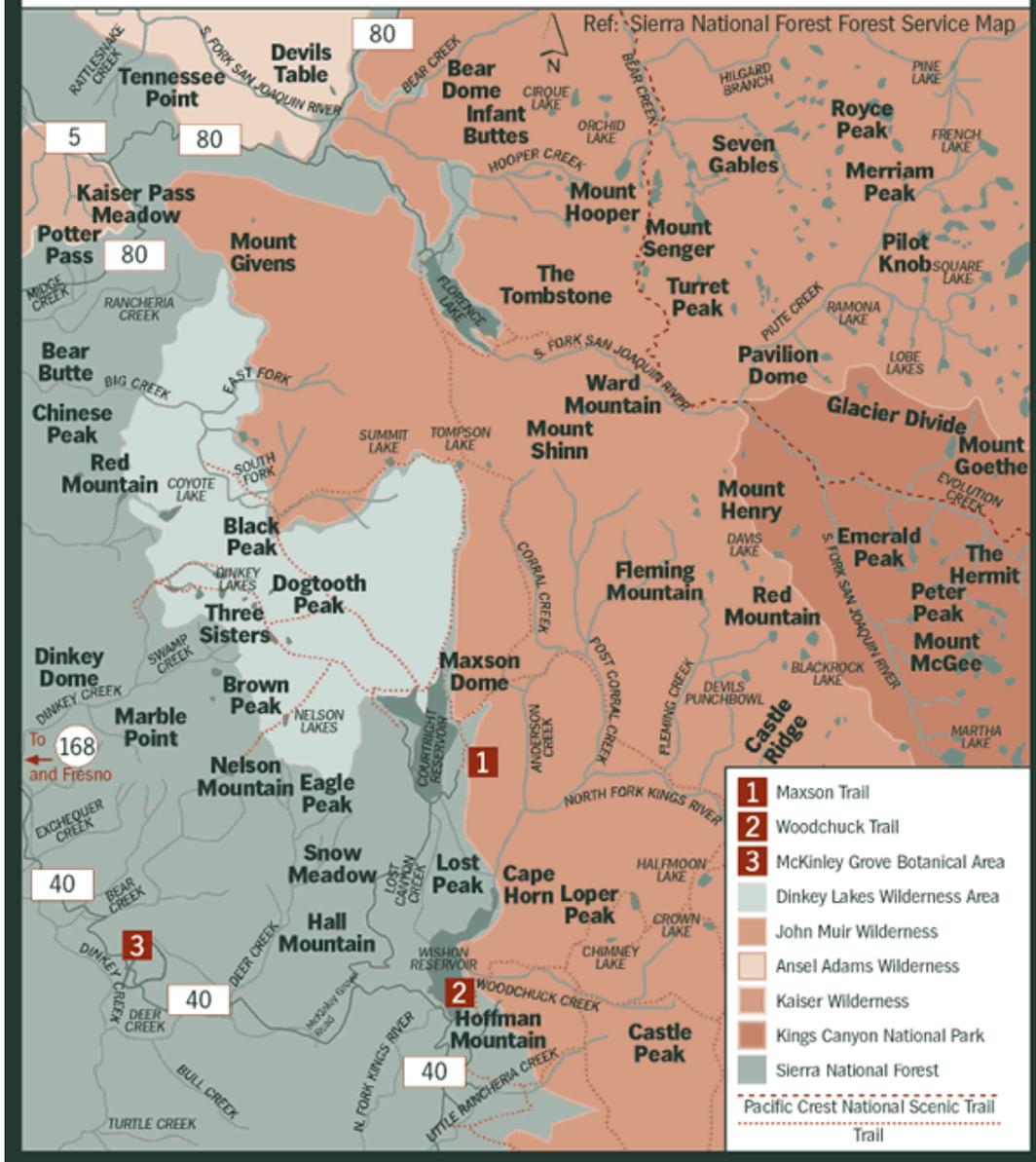
Kaiser Wilderness

FIGURE

8

Dinkey Lakes Wilderness Area

The Dinkey Lakes Wilderness is a 30,000-acre area southeast of Huntington Lake and northwest of Courtright Reservoir.



Source: www.sherpaguides.com



Mammoth Yosemite Airport
Environmental Impact Statement

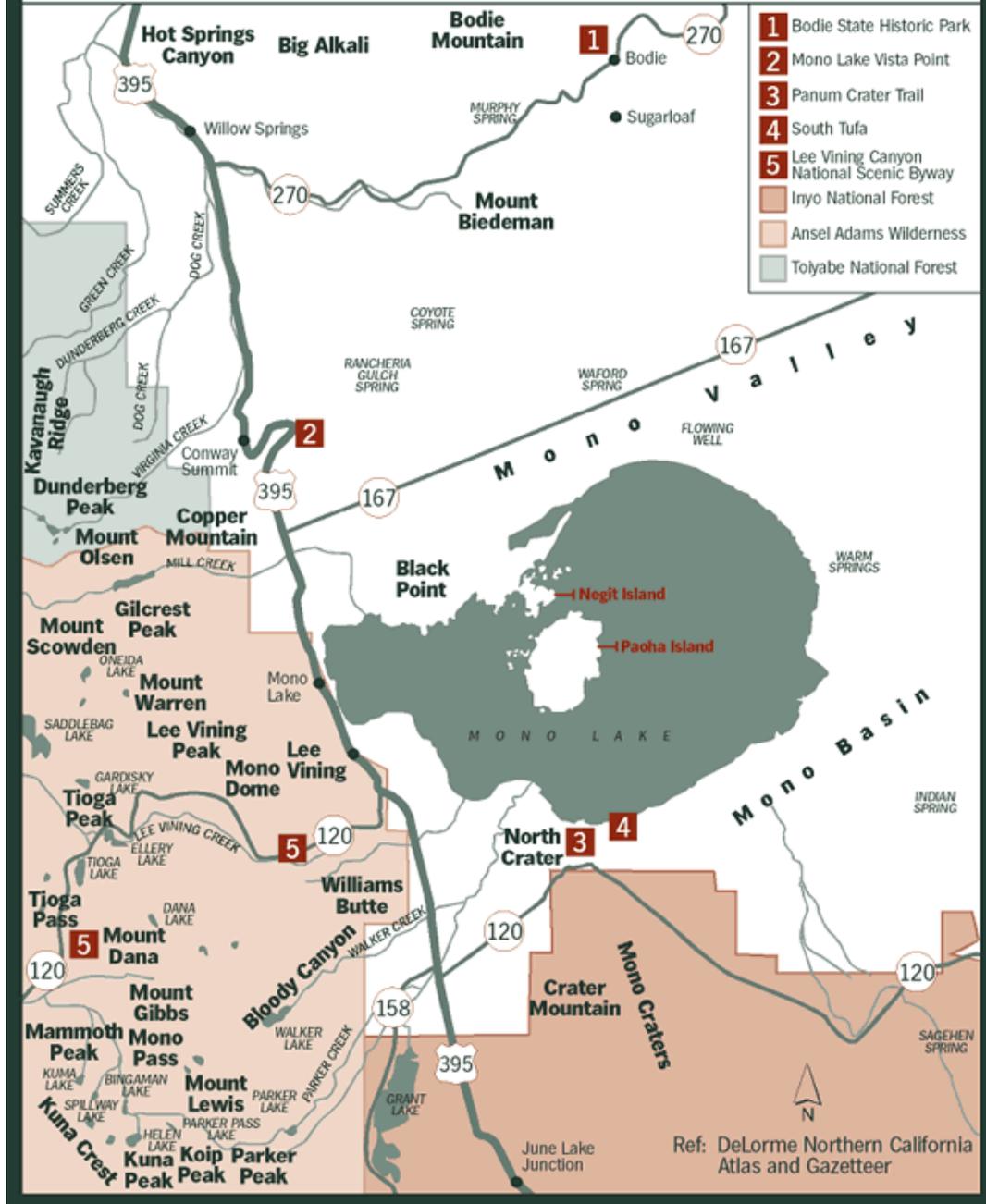
Dinkey Lakes Wilderness

FIGURE

9

Mono Lake Area

40,000-acre Mono Lake was designated a National Forest Scenic Area in 1984.



Source: www.sherpaguides.com



Mammoth Yosemite Airport
Environmental Impact Statement

Mono Basin National Forest
Scenic Area

FIGURE
10