

2010

Northern California



Chaos Crags (left) and Lassen Peak (R) reflected in Manzanita Lake. Prior to Mt. St. Helens,
Lassen Peak was the last volcano to erupt in the continental United States
9/10/2009, Lassen Volcanic National Park

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Sierra Hillside

Colorful rocks mixed into a green hillside. This view is at over 8500' elevation near Carson Pass on highway 88.
7/3/2009, Meiss Trail, El Dorado National Forest

January 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	February S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28				New Year's Day	
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	Martin Luther King Day	19	20	21	22	23
24						
31	25	26	27	28	29	30



White-faced Ibis

Although best known for the Sandhill Cranes it is named after, the Isenberg Sandhill Crane Reserve (near Lodi) has many other birds as well. These are White-faced Ibis--although I'm not sure how they got their name, as their faces don't look white to me.

10/4/2009, Isenberg Sandhill Crane Reserve

February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		Groundhog Day				
1	2	3	4	5	6	
					Lincoln's Birthday	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Valentine's Day	President's Day					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						March S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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Fly

Flies are normally considered a pest rather than admired for their beauty, but they do have incredible eyes. This particular fly landed on my pant leg while I was eating lunch, and stayed there for many minutes, giving me a chance to study it up close.

9/6/2009, Hat Creek Rim section of the Pacific Crest Trail, Lassen National Forest

March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Daylight Savings Starts (+1 hour)			Saint Patrick's Day			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Spring (12:42 am PDT)						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			April S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

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Turkey Vulture

Another creature not known for its beauty is the Turkey Vulture. They just don't bring out the same reaction when perched in a tree as a hawk or eagle would. However, they are a very graceful bird in the air, and are one of the most commonly seen birds soaring in our skies.

9/8/2009, Spatter Cones Nature Trail, Lassen National Forest

April 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	May S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					
				1	2	3
Easter Day						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Tax Day		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



Burney Creek

A long exposure of a flowing creek gives a very peaceful-looking image.
9/9/2009, Burney Falls Loop Trail, Burney Falls State Park

May 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	June S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Mother's Day						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24					
30	Memorial Day 31	25	26	27	28	29



White Pelican

White Pelicans spend lots of time swimming around in Baum Lake. The fact that a fish hatchery is right next door probably doesn't hurt anything.

9/12/2009, Baum Lake, Cassel, CA

June 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	July S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	Flag Day	15	16	17	18	19
Father's Day 20	Summer (6:45 pm PDT) 21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



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Sunrise

The clouds aligned just right on this morning to let the sunlight hit the low clouds, but leave the upper cloud layer dark, producing a striking sunrise sky.

7/12/2009, Shingle Springs, CA

July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	August S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					
				1	2	3
Independence Day						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Sandhill Cranes

Sandhill Cranes are very large birds, with wing spans that can reach 7'. That red patch on their heads is not made of feathers, but is bare skin, much like the head of a vulture.

10/4/2009, Isenberg Sandhill Crane Reserve

August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31			July S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	September S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30



Painted Dunes

Cinder Cone looks like a 700' tall ant hill. If you are willing to climb up its steep trail (which is like climbing a 700' high sand dune where you feel like you are sliding back nearly as much as you go forward), you will be treated to some fantastic views of the surrounding volcanic area. The Painted Dunes have amazingly rich reds, which are offset by the blacks of the Fantastic Lava Beds behind them.

9/11/2009, Lassen Volcanic National Park

September 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	October S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					
	Labor Day		1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	Fall (10:23 am PDT)	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



Osprey

I've had one good opportunity to observe an Osprey actually catch a fish. It essentially lands in the water to grab its fish, and then has to take off again. With all that heavy water on its feathers, it then shakes itself off when it gets a few feet above the water, much like a dog shaking itself off after a swim. At any rate, I'm glad I'm not a fish.

9/12/2009, Crystal Lake, Cassel, CA

October 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	November S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Columbus Day					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24						
Halloween						
31	25	26	27	28	29	30



Burney Falls

Burney Falls is one of our state's most spectacular water falls. It certainly isn't as tall as many of the well known falls in Yosemite, but its width more than makes up for that. Further, unlike many of our falls that are only spectacular during the spring runoff, Burney Falls is spring fed, so it looks like this year round.

9/9/2009, Burney Falls State Park

November 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		Election Day				
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Daylight Savings Ends (-1 hour)				Veteran's Day		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
				Thanksgiving Day		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
						December
28	29	30				S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



Sandhill Cranes

Sandhill Cranes like to roost in shallow water 2-8" deep. One reason is that if a predator tries to come towards them at night, they will hear it in the water before it reaches them. As a result, they have very specialized wintering grounds, which have become quite rare in CA. This reserve is one place that meets their needs, so you will see hundreds of them flying in around sunset.

10/4/2009, Isenberg Sandhill Crane Reserve

December 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	January S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	Winter (7:44 am PST)	23	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day
			22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	New Year's Eve	31



Sunset over Sugarloaf Peak
9/12/2009, Trail to Subway Cave, Lassen National Forest