

SHASTA COUNTY 'ACCESSIBLE' RECREATION POSSIBILITIES

**THIS IS A DRAFT WORKING LIST OF POSSIBILITIES, NOT GUARANTEED TO BE ACCESSIBLE BY WHEELCHAIRS. Basically, it's a rough working list of places I'd like to go to and see just how 'accessible' they actually might be. So, if you use this list, keep in mind the location may turn out to be obstacle-filled and unsuitable.*

If you want to experience all that Shasta County, California has to offer, then Redding will have the most assortment for accommodations and is a major hub for the north state. Many people vacation using RVs or plan on camping - all of which are great options.

Since everyone can enjoy a Scenic Drive, no matter what their mobility status, I start there. If you can, stop by the Shasta Cascades Visitor Center in Anderson to pick up maps and brochures on Scenic Drives. Fortunately, many of the 'accessible recreation' opportunities occur along the Scenic Byways.

Online, there are interactive Shasta Cascades maps at: <https://shastacascade.micromaps.com/html5/> Click on Shasta County. A list of attractions will show on the left side. A number of these attractions (but not all) will be wheelchair friendly. Also, they have Lassen Volcanic National Park in the wrong place <sigh>, but hey, if you have a real paper map mark your spots and you'll be fine.

- Castle Crags State Park: <http://emerginghorizons.com/castle-crags-state-park-more-accessible-than-it-sounds/> and http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=454
- Lassen Volcanic National Park: <http://emerginghorizons.com/volcanoes-mud-pots-and-steam-vents-oh-my/> and <https://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm>
- McArthur Burney Falls State Park: https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=455
- Shasta Dam: <http://emerginghorizons.com/the-best-dam-tour-in-northern-california/>
- Shasta Lake (some locations)
- Shasta State Historic Park: https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=456
- Sundial Bridge: <https://www.turtlebay.org/sundial-bridge/>
- Turtle Bay Exploration Park: <https://www.turtlebay.org/>

LET'S START WITH REDDING

Using Google Maps, if you zoom in to the Sacramento River in Redding you'll spot the **Sun Dial Bridge (free)** which spans the Sacramento River. It is probably the best known local bridge, for its unique construction. **The McConnel Arboretum (fee)** and **Turtle Bay Exploration Park (fee)** are certainly worth visiting and have wheelchair-accessible pathways, parking and restrooms.

Up river, on the west side of Market Street there's a wonderful fish weir and a fish viewing facility on the Sacramento River. If you happen to be here during a salmon run you'll see fish leaping over the barriers. That view spot can be accessed by the Sacramento River Trail or by car through Caldwell Park off Quartz Rd. A different view of the weir would be to go to middle of the pedestrian walkway on the west side of the Market Street Bridge. You'd be able to see the whole weir span.

There is also a wonderful train trestle that borders the East Side of the Lake Redding Golf Course, which you can view by going west on Quartz Hill Rd to Benton Drive. It offers a wonderful opportunity for architectural imagery. Do a little driving around Benton Dr. and Rio Drive to find the best view. Note that

Rio Drive is unmarked so just turn east on the road before Benton crosses the river. A little further west is the **Diestelhorst Bridge**, [<http://activenorcal.net/history/diestelhorst-bridge%3A-a-piece-of-norcal-history/>] which is another well known local spot for viewing upstream in the Sacramento River.

The Redding Trails System is lacking adequate descriptions of their extensive trails. **The Redding Walks Guide** [<http://healthyshasta.org/downloads/walking/ReddingWalks.pdf>] is pretty comprehensive, but surprisingly lacking in useful detail regarding 'accessibility'.

I wrote to American Trails Council (which is based in Redding) and got these recommendations for short hikes within the Redding Trails system that should be wheelchair usable. All of these are on printable maps from the Redding Walks Guide.

Recommended short segments of the Redding Trails system

1. Sacramento River Trail at the Sundial Bridge.
2. Sacramento River Trail Through Caldwell and Lake Redding Parks
3. South Sacramento River Trail Head, off North Court Street.
4. Sacramento River Trail (north section) Behind the Elks and Lake Redding Estates
5. Turtle Bay East Open Space; at the north end of North Bechelli Lane
6. Clover Creek Preserve. Off Shasta View Drive south of Highway 44
7. Lema Ranch Trail System off Shasta View Drive
8. Sacramento River Rail Trail off Iron Mt. Road
9. Palisades Trail at the end of Palisades Avenue off Hilltop Drive

John Reginato River Access: <http://healthyshasta.org/maps/ReginatoRiverAccess.pdf>

Part of the Redding Trails system, it's ¾ mile one way. ADA fishing platform, restrooms, picnic tables. Canoe, raft, kayak access under bridge. Just west across the bridge at Bechelli/South Bonnyview. There is a natural trail along the river to the north from the boat access area. Condition of trail is unknown after the 2017 spring flooding of the Sacramento River.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS NEAR REDDING:

Lema Ranch trails: [link] Headquarters for the McConnel Foundation, Lema Ranch is 200-acres with four ponds in an oak savannah landscape. There is a 2¼-mile paved trail (which in theory should be wheelchair suitable) and a similar length of mixed surface trails. The 'Churn Creek Trails' are apparently NOT suitable for wheelchairs due to the type of surface materials used according to the local Volswalkers group. The Lema Ranch Trails do NOT allow pets, and are considered relatively easy for wheelchairs and baby strollers according to that same group. Lovely scenery and lots of plants native to the Redding Area on the Churn Creek Trail. Note: I have not yet visited that location.

<https://www.mcconnellfoundation.org/lema-ranch/>

Clear Creek Gorge Overlook (and fish observation deck): Part of the Clear Creek Greenway includes this nice picnic area that intersects with local trails and has a fish overlook, too. During certain times of the year it's a popular location to observe salmon runs. There is about 1000' of paved trails that dwindle down into single hiker dirt trails. The gorge itself presents pretty rock formations about 70 feet tall. It's a picturesque location and a nice stop with short walks for the wheelchair user or those using rolling walkers. Don't try going down to the creek, though. It's too steep for all but the ablebodied. Map:

http://healthyshasta.org/maps/ClearCreekGreenway_Swasey_MuleRidge_rev6-13-13.pdf

MORE TRAILS MAPS: <http://healthyshasta.org/maps.htm> which has maps for ‘walks’ in Redding, Shasta Lake City, Anderson and Cottonwood. I wish I could say that there was enough information in these maps to discern where a person using a mobility walker or wheelchair could actually use the pathways, but I am afraid there isn’t the degree of detail needed. Some careful reading may help you decide which paths to try as there is occasional mention of wheelchair or stroller suitability.

SHASTA LAKE CITY: LAKE SHASTA DAM TOUR: barrier-free, accessible parking and rest rooms, picnic areas around lake. [link]
<http://emerginghorizons.com/the-best-dam-tour-in-northern-california/>
and accomodations nearby: <http://emerginghorizons.com/sleeping-in-the-pines/>

Shasta Dam Tour is fully wheelchair accessible and free to boot! The US Bureau of Reclamation has a very nice visitor center, A free video version of the tour is available in their auditorium, along with displays, exhibits explaining the dam's construction, and a gift shop. But you can also tour the actual dam. [link]

<https://www.usbr.gov/mp/ncao/docs/shasta-tour.pdf>
<https://www.usbr.gov/mp/ncao/shasta-dam.html>

SCENIC DRIVES

Redding is really a hub for a number of terrific Scenic Drives. Day trip or target a destination. There are lots of possible stops – just don’t try to do everything in a single day.

44-89-299 LOOP: Let’s start a loop drive by heading east on Highway 44 and doing a portion of the **Volcanic Legacy Scenic Byway**. We often take this drive up to Lassen Volcanic National Park. This is a lovely drive through magnificent forests. At the turn off to the Park you’ll notice the **Lassen Crossroads**, which is a great place to stop. The restrooms are wheelchair accessible as are the information kiosks and short trail.

At this point you can choose go to **Lassen Volcanic National Park**, or continue down Highway 44 which will become Highway 89 if you keep going north. These roads are part of the Volcanic Legacy Scenic Byway. On the west side of the highway will be the Lassen National Forest campgrounds along Hat Creek. **Lassen National Forest** has a downloadable accessible recreation guide. Alas, it appears out of date in 2017.

Hat Creek is a terrific fishing creek. But, the USFS locations along Hat Creek do not appear to have wheelchair access to the Creek, with the exception of the **Day Use area near the Bridge**. Fortunately, there are other locations with better access.

Going down Highway 89, you'll pass right by the **Hat Creek SETI Radio Telescope Array**, which is supposed to be wheelchair suitable due to the flat terrain. It's a uniquely interesting and seldom visited location. It's just a couple of miles down Doty Rd.

When you see the road to the small town of Cassel, you'll have the option of heading over to the **PG&E Campground** which has ADA campsites, restrooms, and fishing access to Hat Creek diversion canal. Just north of that campground is the Crystal Creek Fish Hatchery, and Baum Lake.

Baum Lake does have a really nice wheelchair accessible fishing platform, plus it is a terrific location for photography. The Baum Lake restroom is not ideal, so a person may need to head back up to the PG&E campground. There is a picnic table there, and a trail around a portion of the lake. However, the trail gate blocks anyone using a mobility device from entering the trail area.

If you stay on or return to Highway 89, when you reach Highway 299E, you'll have added choices. If you are a determined fisherman, Head further east and you can take a side trip off 299E using Power House #2 Road down to Hat Creek. There is a restroom and a nice walkway/fishing location there. In autumn, the foliage is spectacular.

For picnics, though, a little further to the east on 299E is the Day Use area of **Hat Creek County Park**. This lovely little rest area has picnic tables, a wheelchair accessible fishing platform and an ADA restroom. This is a great place to practice fly fishing or just have lunch.

Closer to the town of Fall River, you'll find the **BLM Pit River Campground** and Day Use area. It's another great spot for fishing, though not as fancy a fishing location. It's wonderful for photography, and an absolutely beautiful location for river watching and picnics. You may want to camp there sometime, too.

On a day trip loop drive you'll be returning back to Redding. You'll likely drive through the town of Burney where you might like to stop for a great meal at Annie's Place.

Volcanic Legacy Scenic Byway: Shasta County, Siskiyou County and Southern Oregon

You'll be on state highways unless you take a trip down a side-road. If you are unfamiliar with back country drives, then stay with paved roads. If your road turns into gravel and you do not have a high clearance car and some good maps, I suggest you backtrack.

<http://www.volcaniclegacybyway.org/>

http://www.volcaniclegacybyway.org/Scripts/tiny_mce/jscripts/tiny_mce/plugins/filemanager/files/Scenic-byway-geology-tour.pdf

<http://www.volcaniclegacybyway.org/Burnregion.html>

http://www.volcaniclegacybyway.org/Scripts/tiny_mce/jscripts/tiny_mce/plugins/filemanager/files/Volcanic-legacy-road-trip-brochure.pdf

299-89-i5 LOOP: McArthur Burney Falls, McCloud Falls

4x4 FUN: Off Highway Roads:

Chappie-Shasta off-highway-vehicle recreation area: BLM along with local partners has created a wonderful off-highway recreational area. There are some roads that allow highway vehicles, but I do suggest you carefully review the maps and if at all possible stop by the BLM office on Airport Rd and get information. It's generally recommended that people drive high-clearance vehicles like SUVs or trucks.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NRnBHsHNJDw>

Shasta Trinity National Forest also has off-highway use areas. Stop by a district office, or the main USFS office off Airport Rd, Redding to get maps and information about current conditions.

MORE SCENIC DRIVES: Shasta County, Siskiyou, Southern Oregon

Trinity Scenic Byway: Map: <https://scenicbyways.info/byway/2194.html>

This byway goes from Redding along state highway 299W through Trinity County, to Arcata in Humboldt County, which is on the Coast. This is quite a lovely trip, but in recent years there has been a lot of road work between Weaverville and Blue Lake causing substantial time delays. In 2017 the highway was closed for several weeks. First due to landslides after the heavy spring rains, then in the summer due to wildfire activity. I suggest packing along food and water, and starting with a full tank of gas. While there are some wheelchair accessible services in the small towns, don't depend on finding them. This is northern California. You are expected to be resourceful.

Scenic Byway Guide The Scenic Byway Guide has good overviews of the various roadways in northern California. Scenic drives generally overlap counties. Good maps are a necessity. You can get a print copy of the guide at the Shasta Cascade Visitor Center in Anderson. If you decide to use Redding as your home base, another useful web site lists the many events and activities of this area:

<http://www.visitredding.com/home/things-to-do/scenic-drives/gateway-to-getaway>

FOREST AND LAKE RECREATION IN SHASTA COUNTY

My suggestion to everyone who wants to camp out and who needs a wheelchair accessible camp site, is to pre-scout the possibilities. In general, the federal campgrounds run by concessionaires will have 'accessible' campsites and restrooms, and will likely be your best bet for a good camping experience on a National Forest.

National Forests are entrusted with multiple use management of vast amounts of land in Shasta County. They do provide 'vast recreational opportunities for all to enjoy the great outdoors in Northern California' but I have to say the term 'vast' will not apply to barrier-free opportunities.

Also, keep in mind the most of these national forests are huge. Generally, they will overlap into more than one county. Thus their lists of accessible recreational features will need to be cross referenced to a map to determine exactly where the campground or feature is located.

Using the updated information, I have not personally been to all locations listed. Should you encounter any access problems in an area a forest has identified as 'accessible', please report it to the appropriate national forest office (or the appropriate agency) to get it fixed.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5316153.pdf

Shasta-Trinity National Forest: Shasta County Portion

USFS Accessible Features List 2017:

https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5316153.pdf

Note: Each campground has multiple camp sites, but I am listing just what is known to be identified as accessible to a wheelchair user. If you need a wheelchair suitable camp site, and you are coming during a popular use season, it would be wise to choose a campground where you can make a reservation to avoid disappointment.

Wheelchair Accessible Campgrounds/Accessible Campsites

- **Alpine View Campground: 53 campsites**
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6474>
- **Bushytail Campground: possible 2 campsites**
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6477>
- **Cooper Gulch Campground: 5 campsites**
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6482>
- **Lakeshore East Campground: 1 campsites**
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6426>
- **Mary Smith Campground: 1 campsites**
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6489>
- **McCloud Bridge Campground (Unknown number of accessible sites)**
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6429>
- **Minersville Campground: 2 campsites**
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6451>
- **Pigeon Point Campground:** 2017 listed as accessible
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recreation/camping-cabins/recarea/?recid=6532&actid=29>
- **Fowlers Campground (shows 36 sites at Recreation.gov) – McCloud Falls area** This is a nice campground near Lower McCloud Falls, which makes it quite popular. It's now on a reservation system. One key attraction is the paved trail between the campground and the Lower McCloud Falls Day Use area. It's not quite as flat as Cattle Camp, and I think the campsites are more closely spaced than Cattle Camp. Still, quite a nice campground, but don't overlook Cattle Camp as a possibility, too.
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6583>
- **Cattle Camp Campground – McCloud Falls area.** This is actually quite a nice campground. Reservations are not required and there are usually some open sites except possibly on holiday weekends. The location is very 'park-like' with nice spacing between sites. It's in the same general area as McCloud Falls, but seems less heavily occupied than Fowlers. The campground and surrounding area is reasonably flat and seems wheelchair and rolling-walker friendly. It should provide a very nice camping experience. Plus it's a good location to day-trip to Medicine Lake, Lavabeds National Monument, or even Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Wonderfully scenic area. (and don't forget the three McCloud Falls!)
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6582>

Shasta- Trinity NF Wheelchair Accessible Boat Ramps: 5 are described as accessible with a sixth possibly accessible. Some boat ramps have wheelchair accessible fishing platforms and/or wheelchair accessible loading platforms. Restrooms may or may not be wheelchair accessible as it's hard to tell from the

descriptions. Plus, I don't boat so I have no real knowledge of how suitable these locations are for wheelers.

Shasta Lake

- **Antlers Boat Ramp**
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6421>
- **Centimudi Public Boat Ramp**
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6457>
- **Packers Bay Public Boat Ramp**
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6460>

Wheelchair/rollator Accessible Day Use:

- **Coopers Gulch Day Use**
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6483>
- **McCloud Bridge Day Use**
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6451>
- **Pine Cove Picnic Area** mentions a wheelchair accessible fishing dock but doesn't specify as to the accessibility of the picnic area itself.
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6493>
- **Stoney Creek Swim Area** Lists accessible parking and restrooms
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/stnf/recarea/?recid=6499>

Lewiston Lake and Trinity Lake both offer boating and fishing. There is some degree of handicap access at both lakes.

LASSEN NATIONAL FOREST – HAT CREEK AREA in Shasta County

USFS Accessible Recreation Opportunities List:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/lassen/home/?cid=stelprdb5106692&width=full>

CAVE CAMPGROUND: Hat Creek Ranger District, Hwy. 44, at Old Station, CA. According to the list, it has an Accessible vault toilet, campsite, and fishing platform. However, I was unable to locate the listed fishing platform in 2017. Note that the nearby Subway Cave is NOT wheelchair accessible.

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/lassen/recreation/camping-cabins/recarea/?recid=11421&actid=29>

HAT CREEK CAMPGROUND: Hat Creek Ranger District, Highway 44/89, 1 mile South of Old Station, CA. The fishing platform I found was made of wood and in very poor shape. I would not count on using it particularly if you have a heavy electric wheelchair.

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/lassen/recreation/camping-cabins/recarea/?recid=11425&actid=29>

HAT CREEK RIM OVERLOOK: Hat Creek Ranger District, Highway 44, 3 miles North of Old Station, CA. Accessible <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/lassen/recarea/?recid=11427>

LASSEN CROSSROADS

Lassen Volcanic National Park/Lassen National Forest, located at the North (Manzanita Lake) entrance to the Park on Highway 44/89. Fully Accessible. This is a really nice, often overlooked stopping point near the entrance of Lassen Volcanic National Park. The Crossroads has a nice restroom, and several roofed kiosks with lots of information about the geology and wildlife of the area. There is a nice short pathway

to the stone monument, plus a few benches. It's quite pretty, and well worth a stop. I have no idea why they didn't add some picnic tables.

OLD STATION DAY USE: Hat Creek Ranger District, Highway 44/89, 1/2 mile South of Old Station, CA.
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/lassen/recarea/?recid=11429>

OLD STATION VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER: Hat Creek Ranger District, Corner of Highway 44 & 89 at Old Station, CA. Accessible as long as the staff doesn't clutter up the access ramp. They usually have a lot of handouts here, but do not expect the staff to be very knowledgeable about where you can 'wheel' to. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/lassen/recarea/?recid=11430>

Near Hat Creek:

Hat Creek Radio Observatory [\[link\]](#)

<https://www.sierranevadageotourism.org/content/allen-telescope-array-at-the-hat-creek-radio-observatory/siedb70300c95372c17d>

The Allen Telescope Array (ATA) at Hat Creek Radio Observatory is a group of 42-dish radio telescopes. Apparently, these 'dishes' can operate as snapshot cameras of the sky. The Observatory is open to visitors 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday, closed all major holidays. A self-guided tour is available, which consists of four kiosks with information about the ATA. If you are there during the week a short video can be viewed in the lobby. You can see the signal processing room through the glass and see the array of 42 telescopes which make up the ATA.

Driving directions: From Highway 89 (watch for sign Hat Creek Observatory) turn onto Doty Road Loop, follow along until you see a sign "Hat Creek Radio Observatory", turn onto Bidwell Road, follow 1.8 miles to the entrance gate (black double gates), turn right into the observatory and continue straight 7/10's mile to the Main Office. The site is generally level and is considered ADA accessible.

SETI: Hat Creek Radio Observatory: Hat Creek Radio Observatory

42231 Bidwell Road, Hat Creek, CA 96040. The site is generally level and is ADA accessible. Driving directions: From Highway 89 (watch for sign Hat Creek Observatory) turn onto Doty Road Loop, follow along until you see a sign "Hat Creek Radio Observatory", turn onto Bidwell Road, follow 1.8 miles to the entrance gate (black double gates), turn right into the observatory and continue straight 7/10's mile to the Main Office.

<https://www.sierranevadageotourism.org/content/allen-telescope-array-at-the-hat-creek-radio-observatory/siedb70300c95372c17d>

More to see around Hat Creek and Burney: [\[link\]](#)

<https://www.burneychamber.com/>

BLM

The BLM has been very helpful in determining the location of 'accessible recreation' on their lands. But, finding that information at BLM's new website is incredible difficult. Until that situation improves, I

suggest you stop by the nearest BLM office (call or email) and ask a lot of questions. They will return your calls.

BLM: Tips for camping on BLM lands.

<http://www.rv-camping.org/blmcampgrounds/>

Pit River Campground: This is a recently improved and re-opened campground. It's not large. The campground features seven individual campsites, a group campsite, and a day-use area ideal for fishing and picnicking. Campsites have fire rings, tables and barbecues. Barbecues and picnic tables are available at the day use site.

This particular location is also used as a take-out location by kayakers who run the Pit 1 rapids upstream. They put in around Fall River Mills then come downstream to here. At various times this campground could be quite busy with kayaks to-ing and fro-ing as most kayakers like to make several runs of that stretch of river a day when the water is high. But for the most part, later in the summer and into early fall, there should only be a few campers there.

The campground area is hard-packed gravel, but I found it usable for my WalknChair and it should be usable for most wheelchair users. Because the area is relatively small, the distances between campsites, fishing areas, restrooms, are not long. Those with walking difficulties can fish from an **accessible fishing pier**, while kayakers can take advantage of a specially designed launch site.

There are no fees for the day use site. Campsite fees are \$8 per night; the group site is \$12 nightly. Camping is on a first-come, first served basis, with a limit of 14 days. Reservations are not accepted. A camp host is on site. The campground is five miles west of Fall River Mills along State Highway 299. <https://www.blm.gov/press-release/blm-pit-river-campground-opens-summer-season>

Chappie-Shasta Off Highway Vehicle Area: 250 miles of roads and trails west of Lake Shasta. This would be a sort of 'scenic drive' but done with either a 4x4 vehicle or an ATV. Some roads can be used by everyone. Others would require more skill and a specialized vehicle. This is a very popular area.

http://www.trinityohvtrails.com/riding_areas.html

<https://www.blm.gov/visit/chappie-shasta>

NATIONAL PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS

Whiskeytown National Recreation Area: 10 miles west of Redding

Download the Park's Accessibility Guide. <https://www.nps.gov/whis/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm>

ADA Accessible Trails, Restrooms, Visitor Center, Lake Access, Campgrounds

Whiskeytown National Recreation Area features several wheelchair friendly trails. There is a reroute of the original Guardian Rock Trail from Horse Camp to the new **Guardian Rock Vista Point**. The short quarter-mile trail winds through an oak and pine forest to the rim of Lower Clear Creek Canyon.

The second ADA accessible trail is the **Crystal Creek Falls Trail**, which is located a short drive up Crystal Creek Road from Highway 299. The trail is paved and leads to Lower Crystal Creek Falls where you can linger and enjoy a picnic lunch at the provided tables and barbeque grills.

https://www.nps.gov/whis/learn/news/upload/Whiskeytown_Nugget_for_web.pdf

Crystal Creek Water Ditch Trail: (from an older article – cross-check with Park staff for availability.)

<http://archive.redding.com/lifestyle/guide-to-traversing-the-crystal-creek-water-ditch-trail-ep-378873429-356950031.html>

Whiskeytown Lake is popular with sailing craft, motor boats, and kayakers. There are special programs for water activities during the summer that you may be interested in participating.

Lassen National Park, West Entrance

Lassen National Park Accessibility list: <https://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm>

If you are entering the Park from the west, then you'll be near Manzanita Lake, and the Discovery Center. The Park has wheelchair accessible cabins, campgrounds, picnic areas, and a few trails that are wheelchair accessible. The drive through the Park is incredibly beautiful. Plan to spend a lot of time stopping to admire the views.

STATE PARKS

The state parks lost a lawsuit around 2005 regarding disabled access and they have since spent millions making state parks disability friendly. Each listing will tell you what features are accessible for that location.

Old Shasta State Park: historic interest. Exhibits are generally accessible

<http://access.parks.ca.gov/parkinfo.asp?park=27&type=0>

Ahjumawi Lava Springs State Park: no accessible features, Boat access only.

Castle Crags State Park

<http://access.parks.ca.gov/parkinfo.asp?park=25&type=>

- **Root Creek Trail**
- **Vista Point Trail**

<http://emerginghorizons.com/castle-crags-state-park-more-accessible-than-it-sounds/>

“It’s just a short drive from the entrance station to one of the best vantage points in the park — Vista Point. That said, the last part of the drive is uphill on a one-lane road with several switchbacks, so proceed with caution. At the top there’s accessible parking near an accessible pit toilet, with level access to a nearby accessible picnic table in a level dirt area.

The Vista Point Trail begins at the opposite end of the parking lot. This quarter-mile hard-packed dirt trail winds through a pine, oak and cedar forest and up to a viewpoint. It's 36-inches wide at the narrowest point, and although it has a gradual uphill grade, it's still accessible. Up on top you'll be rewarded with a wonderful view of Mt. Shasta on one side, and a panoramic view of Grays Rock on the other. There's also a wheelchair-height viewing scope for a better view of the formations, and several picnic tables (including an accessible one) on a level dirt area. It's the perfect lunch spot — it's a lot more secluded than the one in the parking area, plus you just can't beat the view."

MacArthur Burney Falls Memorial State Park:

Possible one of the most beautiful and picturesque waterfalls in the world is at this park. It's been called the eighth wonder of the world for good reason. There are a variety of wheelchair accessible features in this park, including rentable Accessible cabins, campsites, picnic areas, a fishing platform at Lake Britton, and accessible Trails. If you only have time to visit one state park, it should be this one!

<http://access.parks.ca.gov/parkinfo.asp?park=26&type=0>

SHASTA COUNTY PARKS

Hat Creek County Park: day use picnic area, ADA restrooms and fishing platform. Beautiful location and a lovely spot for a picnic.

http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/pw_index/operations/fac_mgmt/hat_creek.aspx

PG&E Campgrounds

- Baum Lake Fishing platform
- Cassel PG&E Campgrounds and fishing point
- 2 Fishing Platforms on Pit River east of Big Bend
- Pit #2 fishing platform on Hat Creek
- Lake Britton Campground

Fish Hatcheries and Salmon Viewing

Clear Creek Gorge and Salmon Viewing Platform: Part of the Redding Trails system. From Redding, take Highway 273 south to Clear Creek Road. West on Clear Creek Rd. Short paved trail, picnic area, restrooms and a salmon viewing platform. Best opportunities for salmon viewing are during the spring salmon run.

http://healthyshasta.org/maps/ClearCreekGreenway_Swasey_MuleRidge_rev6-13-13.pdf

Coleman National Fish Hatchery, Anderson:

<https://www.fws.gov/coleman/>

Fish Viewing area: Best times to see fish: October, November

<http://thebayinstitute.org/salmon-viewing-map>

Weir, Caldwell park, Redding

Clear Creek Fish viewing area, picnic area and trail

Fishing Platforms

Since I don't fish, I use such platforms as photo opportunities. I have noticed that a number of people who use wheelchairs actually use boats to fish from – often small craft with and without electric motors. They take advantage of the smaller lakes and reservoirs where summer crowds are less.

In Shasta County, I have found nice fishing platforms in several locations. Most are PG&E, state or county facilities. Alas, the USFS fishing access locations seem to have vanished.

- Baum Lake Fishing platform (near Cassel)
- Cassel PG&E Campgrounds and fishing point
- 2 Fishing Platforms on Pit River east of Big Bend
- Pit #2 fishing platform on Hat Creek
- Lake Britton Campground (McArthur Burney Falls State Park)
- Hat Creek County Park

Wildlife Areas and Refuges

State Wildlife Areas are undergoing changes. In late 2017 a number of Wildlife Areas are now requiring advance purchase of permits to access the area for any reason. This can be complex. In some locations you may be able to purchase and download a permit with your cell phone at the entrance gate. In other locations without cell service you may need to plan ahead and purchase a permit to enter through places that sell hunting permits (even though you may just to birdwatch). It's not expensive, but it must be done ahead of time. You cannot purchase an entry permit at the gate. At this point I can't tell what locations are now requiring permits. If you have to call head, you may have to wait several days for a reply. They will return your call, just not the same day. <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/lands>

Battle Creek Wildlife Area: (state) The Battle Creek Wildlife Area is 582 acres of riparian forests, marshes, and oak woodland that support a diverse variety of migratory and resident bird species, as well as aquatic and terrestrial mammals. Bald eagles and osprey nest here in spring. California quail, wood ducks, beaver, river otter, bobcat, and coyote may also be viewed.

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Battle-Creek-WA>

Mouth of Cottonwood Creek Wildlife Area: is near the Battle Creek Wildlife Area provides excellent bird habitat and for viewing river creatures.

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Mouth-of-Cottonwood-Creek-WA>

Fall River Mills Ecological Preserve: (state) This tiny reserve is a major nesting place for Bank Swallows, a threatened species. Birdwatchers also flock here. <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Fall-River-Mills-ER>

Cinder Flats Wildlife Area: (state) Located near Cassel, 720 acres of oak and pine habitat is home to eagles, deer, mountain lions and other mammals. Wildlife viewing and birdwatching are top activities.

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Cinder-Flats-WA>