

INTRODUCTION TO THE FIELD TRIP GUIDES

Purpose

The routes of four trips in north central California are laid out for you in these guides. Each guide describes the route and important ecological zones along the way. The purpose of each trip is to introduce you to major life zones in California and to give you the opportunity to find examples of important ecological and biogeographical properties on your travels.

Practical Aspects

Keep track of miles from starting point in Davis described in trip guide. Stop areas are often described by the closest highway mile post (Figure 1). Be sure to pull well off the road.

128	route #
NAP	county
10.48	mile given

Each trip is guided in one direction (from Davis to the final destination), and is about 150 miles one way. This design is to allow you the freedom to return by any route and at the pace you wish. A round trip can be done in one day or you may wish to make an overnight-weekend excursion of it. In any case, suggested alternate return routes are given at the end of each guide. Be aware, however, that many campsites are quick to fill over weekends, especially those in the Coast Ranges.

Because of the distance involved to observe many of California's diverse zones, your trip will require an early start. If you will be doing the trip and return in one day, we recommend starting at the latest 8:00a.m., plan on spending no more than 15-30 minutes at each of the planned stops, (approximately 8 stops) and expect to return to Davis at 6:00-9:00p.m.

Expenses can run high and many of you will be doing the same trip, we strongly recommend joining up and sharing driving and expenses. This will greatly increase the quality of your experience, as you will be able to share observations and understanding, as well as chores (driving and navigating). If you go camping be sure to be in groups of 2 or more.

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Be sure to take:

- EST 30 field trip guide
- Road map of California
- Natural history guide (see reference list for your trip)
- Jacket/sweater (the coast and mountains will be colder than Davis)
- Good shoes for short hikes
- Food (lunch, etc.)

You may want to have:

- Camera and film
- Binoculars
- A friend

Be aware of poison oak

Be aware of laws that concern nature sight seers:

Please be aware that picking wildflowers along the roadside is illegal and in the past has decimated many natural populations.

Be careful not to litter

"Take only photographs, leave only foot prints." Take care not to contribute to the high impact of recreationists on the California countryside.

DRIVE CAREFULLY