

Little River of Giants Trip

July 12-13 at Moses Gulch Campground

Signup Deadline Monday July 6th

Meet at Sequoia Fishing Co in Springville Saturday at 9:30 AM

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Moses Gulch is a small but beautiful campground on the Wishon fork of the Tule river amongst giant sequoias. As you walk upstream there are numerous natural bridges made by the big trees that have fallen across the river gorge in ages past. It has 4 walk in and 7 drive in tent sites. Picnic tables, bear boxes, pit toilets, and fire pits are available and fire permits are free at the forestry office on hwy 190 just before you get to Springville. The River is here but there is no potable water so bring your own drinking/cooking water. Also bring mosquito repellent for the evenings.

This is a small stream with a lot of personality! Every bend reveals a new pool, tree, waterfall, well you get the point. The trail is moderately difficult can be challenging in places, but there are a lot of fish in this area including native browns and leftover rainbows from DFG plants. Check out this video of the area.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uwj3cmJrF2M> If you are not comfortable with this type of hiking Balch park is just a few minutes away and is regularly stocked with catchable trout. If you have never seen Balch Park you absolutely MUST go see it on this trip. It is truly inspiring. Balch Park pack station is also close by if you want to explore horseback trips etc.

Bring shorter light weight rods if you have them as there are a lot of trees to work around. 7 ½' 5x leader with a fluorocarbon tippet is recommended as these natives are smart! Casting can be difficult in many places, and the trees will most likely claim a few flies for themselves so bring some extras. Elk hair caddis, caddis variants, stimulators, Parachute Adams, Royal Wulff, ant patterns, prince nymphs, Pheasant tail nymphs, and soft hackle hairs ear nymphs all work well here. Waders are not really needed but bring some good wading boots with felt or rubber soles and a change of clothes as you will get wet. Hey we are fly fishermen after all!

From Moses Gulch there are numerous areas to fish including Balch Park, Hidden Falls, redwood crossing, Old copper mine, Galena creek, and if you want to drive a bit it is not far to Camp Nelson, Wishon Campground, Bolder Creek, and more.

Directions to Moses Gulch

Take Hwy 190 through Porterville and Springville

Turn left on Balch Park Road at the white barn - Sequoia Ranch - just past Springville

In 3 miles turn right at Bear Creek Rd, pass Scicon and continue another 15 narrow, steep, and winding miles to Balch Park. Just before you enter the park there is a sign directing you to Hidden Falls, follow this dirt road 2 or 3 miles to a double junction that can be a little confusing. Turn right to go to Hidden Falls and Moses Gulch, whereas continuing straight ahead leads to Shake Camp. About 2 miles from the confusing junction, another junction is reached. Going left leads about 1/4 mile to Hidden Falls, going right leads about 1/2 mile to Moses Gulch.