Backcountry Weekend 2026
Mountain Biking Guidance

Rules of the Road

- Helmets are **REQUIRED** for all riders under 18 and **STRONGLY** advised for all riders
- Class 1 electric mountain bikes are allowed - must use pedals to move and limited to 18 mph under power
- **No** gas powered, throttle controlled or Class 2 or higher electric bikes

- Remember:
    - Downhill riders yield to uphill riders
    - Bicycles yield to hikers
    - Bicycles yield to horses
    - Keep bike under control at all times
    - Speed limit is 15 mph
    - Preserve our trails, ride slow, don't skid, and stay on trail.

Terrain

The rugged terrain offers a variety of riding options from moderately difficult to extremely difficult. There are practically no easy flat trails for bikes. Be prepared for steep inclines, extremely fast descents and rugged roads & trails requiring scrambling skills.

Be sure you have plenty of water and a good tool kit including a pump.

In the event of an injury

During Backcountry Weekend, there are camp hosts at Mississippi Lake (north and south), Kingbird Pond, Orestimba Corral, and there will be patrols roaming the trails. They can get help on their radios.

On the hilltops, you may have mobile phone service. Dial 911 for help and tell the dispatcher where you are and that you need a ranger.

We do NOT provide rides back to Orestimba Corral or out of the park unless it is medically necessary.

Orestimba Wilderness - No Bikes Allowed

Orestimba Wilderness is a designated State Wilderness, a protected area where the environment has not been significantly impacted by humans and retains their natural character. To protect the wilderness area, **NO** vehicles (motorized or foot powered) are allowed. The only exception is emergency vehicles.

The Orestimba Wilderness is **closed** to all bikes all year around including during Backcountry Weekend. Even walking your bike is not allowed.

This includes the following trails:

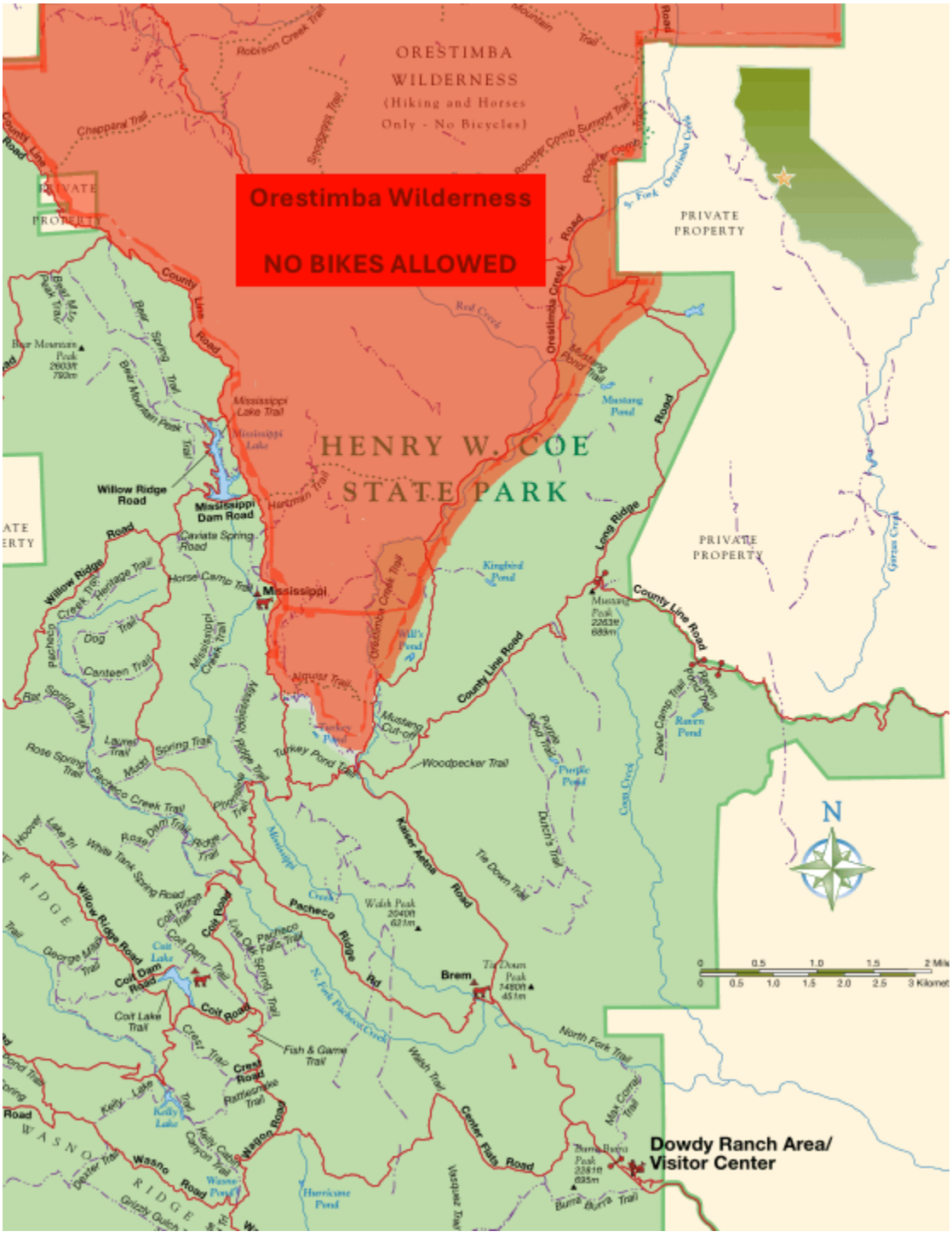
Alquist Trail
Hartman Trail

For Backcountry Weekend the following trails are **closed** to all bikes:

Mustang Cutoff (downhill)
Orestimba Creek Trail
Long Ridge Road west of the Jackrabbit Lake trailhead
Orestimba Creek Road north of the Kingbird Pond trailhead

You can ride on County Line Road and Turkey Pond Trail, but not on any trails east of there, as shown below.

The map below highlights the restricted area.



Self Guided Routes

For those who are new to the east side of the park, here are a few self guided routes you could try.

Easy	Moderate	Hard
Orestimba Corral to Kingbird Pond Type: Out and back Distance: 3 miles Elevation: 436 ft Strava Map	*Orestimba Corral to Pacheco Camp* Type: Out and back Distance: 8.5 miles Elevation: 1714 ft Strava Map	*Orestimba Corral - County Line - Dutch's Trail - Tie Down - Orestimba Corral* Type: Loop Distance: 10 miles Elevation: 1656 ft Strava Map
	Orestimba Corral to Mississippi Lake Type: Out and back Distance: 10.22 miles Elevation: 1820 ft Strava Map	*Orestimba-WalshPeak-Kaiser Aetna-Pacheco Ridge-Phoneline Trail-Turkey Pond Trail-Orestimba* Type: Loop Distance: 12 miles Elevation: 2871 ft Strava Map
	Orestimba to Walsh Peak Type: Out and back Distance: 7.15 miles Elevation: 1413 ft Strava Map	