

November

- Mountains become cold and snowy
- Fall color peaks in Valley
- Irrigation releases into Cache Creek are eliminated and the creek becomes fordable until heavy rains occur
- Waterfalls on Table Mountain start flowing again after the first good rain
- [Ladybugs](#) converge in Deer Creek Canyon (Rocky Pool and Bigleaf Pool hikes) to overwinter. You may see them when the weather is nice
- Migratory waterfowl back at Gray Lodge. The birds congregate at the Gray Lodge refuge now and disperse after heavy rains flood the rice fields
- Best November hikes:
 - [Hat Creek Rim](#) -- some fall color peaking around Nov 1, often fresh snow on the surrounding peaks
 - [Rocky Creek](#) -- a little fall color peaking in mid Nov, creek ford likely low
 - [Yana Trail](#) -- moderate fall color 2nd and 3rd weeks of Nov
 - [T-Ford](#) -- some fall color usually peaking last week of Nov
 - [Gray Lodge](#) -- peak birds in Nov

December

- Coldest month
- Shortest days
- Best December hikes:
 - [High Bridge Hill](#) -- usually grass is greening the hills, and the creek still crossable before the winter rains
 - [Yahi Trail](#) -- the ford is often impassable in winter so early Dec may be last chance for a while
 - [Inks Creek Point](#) -- sunset from the bluff overlooking the river beside a campfire is recommended. Sunsets come early in Dec

January

- Second coldest month
- Wettest month
- Waterfalls are flowing well
- Best January hikes:
 - [Phantom Falls](#) -- lots of waterfalls
 - [Old Homestead](#) -- visits one waterfall which runs a day or two after heavy rain. Green and lush
 - [Many Waterfalls](#) -- very many waterfalls, especially for a day or two after heavy rain
 - [Inks Creek Point](#) -- open sunny hike, place for campfire and watch the sun set, view of Lassen Peak

February

- Wildflower season starts
- Second wettest month. Waterfalls continue to flow well
- Best February hikes:
 - [Yana Trail](#) -- nice climate in Feb, beautiful walk through green grasslands in canyon along Sacramento River
 - [Old Homestead](#) -- visits one waterfall which runs a day or two after heavy rain. Green and lush. A few wildflowers by late Feb
 - [Many Waterfalls](#) -- very many waterfalls, especially for a day or two after heavy rain. Some wildflowers by late Feb

March

- In late March wildflowers reliably peak at [Table Mountain](#) and [Upper Bidwell Park](#)
- Best March hikes:
 - [Annie Bidwell](#) -- outstanding wildflowers, no creek crossing for this hike
 - [Paynes Creek Point](#) -- some wildflowers, views of snowy mountains
 - [Indian Creek Hill](#) -- a good time for this hike
 - [Phantom Falls](#) -- outstanding wildflowers. Parking lot may be full in late Mar-early Apr, especially on weekend afternoons.
 - [Many Waterfalls](#) -- outstanding wildflowers. Parking lot may be full in late Mar-early Apr, especially on weekend afternoons.
 - [Yana Trail](#) -- some wildflowers, perfect weather

April

- If rains kept ground moist throughout March, wildflowers will peak in early April at Table Mountain and Upper Bidwell Park. Superblooms may occur
- Peak [tick](#) season. They are most common in Feather River Canyon and Upper Park hikes. We have never found any ticks on any High Country hikes.
- Best April hikes:
 - [T-Ford](#) -- the creek ford at T more likely easy to cross than it has been for a while, great variety of wildflowers sometimes 70 species
 - [Rocky Creek](#) -- creek may be low, green, some flowers
 - [Chips Creek](#) -- perfect weather, snow on the mountain, green in the canyon

May

- [Darmara](#) bloom up out of the creek Deer Creek Canyon hikes: [Rocky Pool](#), [Bigleaf Pool](#)
- Butterflies peak in foothill hikes especially when about 80F
- Flower season peak moves up to the higher foothills
- High Country season starts when snow has melted at [Jonesville Canyon](#). In 2020, Jonesville went to zero snow when [Humbug Snow Pillow](#) was measuring 9-inches Snow Water Content. This usually occurs sometime in May.
- Best May hikes:
 - [Rocky Pool](#) -- peak wildflowers, butterflies on warm days
 - [Chips Creek](#) -- butterflies, cool water

- [Pauls Creek Point](#) -- peak wildflowers, good weather
- [T-Ford](#) -- past peak wildflowers, creek crossing likely easy
- [Hat Creek Rim](#) -- peak wildflowers last week of May

June

- Hot in the Valley & Foothills, still snow melting in the High Country
- Longest days, high UV index
- [Humboldt Lilies](#) bloom in early June upper Yahi Trail and Old Homestead hikes
- Best June hikes:
 - [Mount Linn](#) -- snow melts earlier here than in the Cascade Range
 - [Jonesville Canyon](#) -- lowest elevation of the High Country hikes. Flowers peaking
 - [Cub-Butt Divide](#) -- often some snow patches until late June. Good wildflowers

July

- Snow likely melted from all but the highest elevation hikes
- Hottest month
- PCT thru hikers passing through our area
- In early July wildflowers peak in High Country
- Mosquitos peak in High Country
- Best July hikes:
 - [Mount Linn](#) -- great hike. Relatively mosquito-free.
 - [Brokeoff Mountain](#) -- peak wildflowers. Best just after the snow has all melted (about mid July). Relatively mosquito-free.
 - [Mount Eddy](#) -- a little crowded but many outstanding campsites
 - [Shasta View](#) -- grand view of Mount Shasta from campsites
 - [Toad Lake](#) -- fairly large lake, with spring water source

August

- [Perceids](#) meteor shower
- Second hottest month
- Wildflower season ends by September
- Best Aug hikes:
 - [Mount Linn](#) -- West Knob or Mount Linn summit campsites perfect for meteor shower
 - [Mount Eddy](#) -- a little crowded but many outstanding campsites
 - [Shasta View](#) -- grand view of Mount Shasta from campsites
 - [Toad Lake](#) -- fairly large lake, with spring water source

September

- UV intensity much reduced from June Solstice, good time for higher peaks
- Most of snow melted off Lassen Peak
- Mosquito season is past
- Weather starts to cool
- Sunset opposite [full moon](#) on [Lassen Peak](#)
- Best September hikes:
 - [Mount Eddy](#) -- a little crowded but many outstanding campsites

- [Shasta View](#) -- grand view of Mount Shasta from campsites
- [Toad Lake](#) -- fairly large lake, with spring water source
- [Grassy Swale](#) -- Kings Creek is finally low enough for easy crossing on this excellent hike
- [Lassen Peak](#) -- outstanding for hike up for sunset, can hike down in moonlight
- [Magee Lake](#) -- outstanding after an early fall rainstorm has passed through

October

- Fall color peaks in High Country
- First dustings of snow likely
- Late October or early November the High Country snows-in for the winter. Check amount of snow at the [Humbug Weather Station](#) and the [Lower Lassen Peak Weather Station](#)
- Best October hikes:
 - [Jonesville Canyon](#) -- Black Cottonwoods yellow fall color. Aspens, Mountain Dogwood, Bigleaf Maple and Black Oak in color along the drive. Best the middle two weeks of October
 - [Chips Creek](#) -- Bigleaf Maple bright yellow fall color. Best the last two weeks of October
 - [Cub-Butt Divide](#) -- good for sunset hike, view of Lassen Peak