

“Camp Like a Pro” with the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP)

Thousands of people will soon be headed toward the Eastern Sierra Mountains in anticipation of their long-awaited Fourth of July weekend. Many will enjoy the beautiful scenery, hiking or rock climbing, and others fishing or just enjoying the time away from the sounds of large cities.

[Inyo National Forest](#), [Bureau of Land Management](#), [Bishop Field Office](#), and the [Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership \(ESSRP\)](#) remind you that while you are enjoying the spectacular scenery and outdoor activities that the eastern sierras have to offer, you have another equally important task, learning to recreate responsibly.

To assist you in both learning these skills and teaching them to the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts, the [Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership \(ESSRP\)](#) has developed a handout of common-sense outdoor tips and tricks to help you Camp Like a Pro. Print the “[Camp Like a Pro](#)” flyer to take with you, and to give to those traveling with you. Visit <https://www.essrp.org/camping> to learn these skills. They also have interactive maps, and links to many other resources which will help you plan and enjoy your time.

One of the most critical skills of Camping Like a Pro is your campfire. Not how to make it, but whether you should, or are even allowed to have one. The Inyo National Forest and Bureau of Land Management may restrict where you may have one, and sometimes may not allow fires at all. Always check with your local ranger station or [forest website for current restrictions](#), and make sure you have your [Free California Campfire Permit](#). Even when fires are allowed, high winds and dry conditions may mean that you shouldn't have fires. When in doubt, keep it out!

Interested in learning more? Many organizations, both local and national, advocate for the care of our natural lands. A quick search online may reveal websites of groups where you can get involved and make a difference in your community. Some organizations, such as Leave No Trace (www.lnt.org) have programs to train the trainer. Becoming involved is the best way to challenge yourself and make a difference.

The goal of firefighters, ranchers, land managers, actually ... every human alive... should be to allow future generations to have the same sense of awe and wonder from the outdoor world as we do today!