

The South Fork Trail

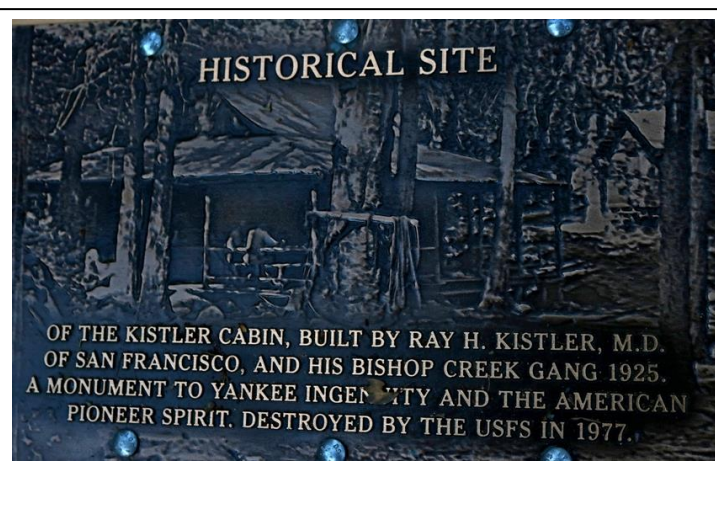
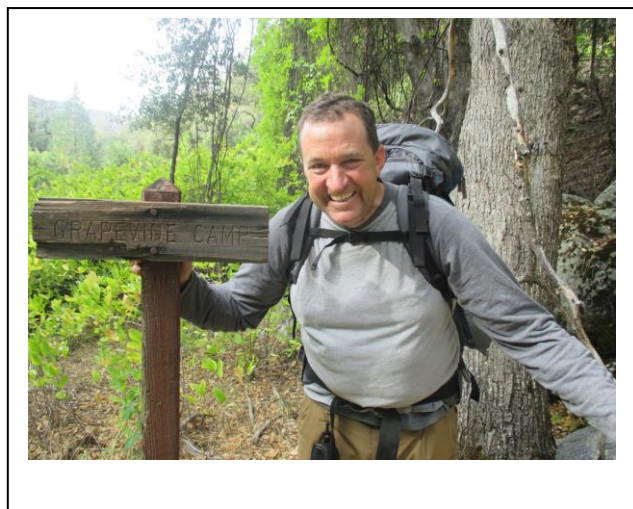
Segment 2: Kistler-Grapevine

Report Date: June 10, 2022.

Trail Stats -- Mileage: 3.4 miles; Elevation Gain/Loss: 1,073 feet. 3,957' (top), 3,241' (bottom);
Estimated Duration: From Bishop Camp to Grapevine Camp (2.5 hours). From Grapevine Camp to Bishop Camp (3 hours)

Status: https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1cK-eXqe6IX6YY26_JrNhdLB370vI92aL&ll=37.60174944115586%2C-119.79676961792443&z=12

Overall Goal -- To repair and maintain the trail for non-motorized users (hikers, runners, backpacking and equestrians), and to provide access to campsites.



Project History – The initial work on this trail by Mariposa Trails occurred in June 2018, a few months before the Ferguson Fire, which had two significant impacts on this trail segment. (1) it removed the tree-topped nature of the two knolls between Kistler and Grapevine; and (2) the fire burned off chaparral, revealing two “lost trail” sections, which were then found, flagged and restored in June of 2021. That same year, the CCC cleared and widened the entirety of the trail in this segment of the South Fork Trail.



Past Activities --

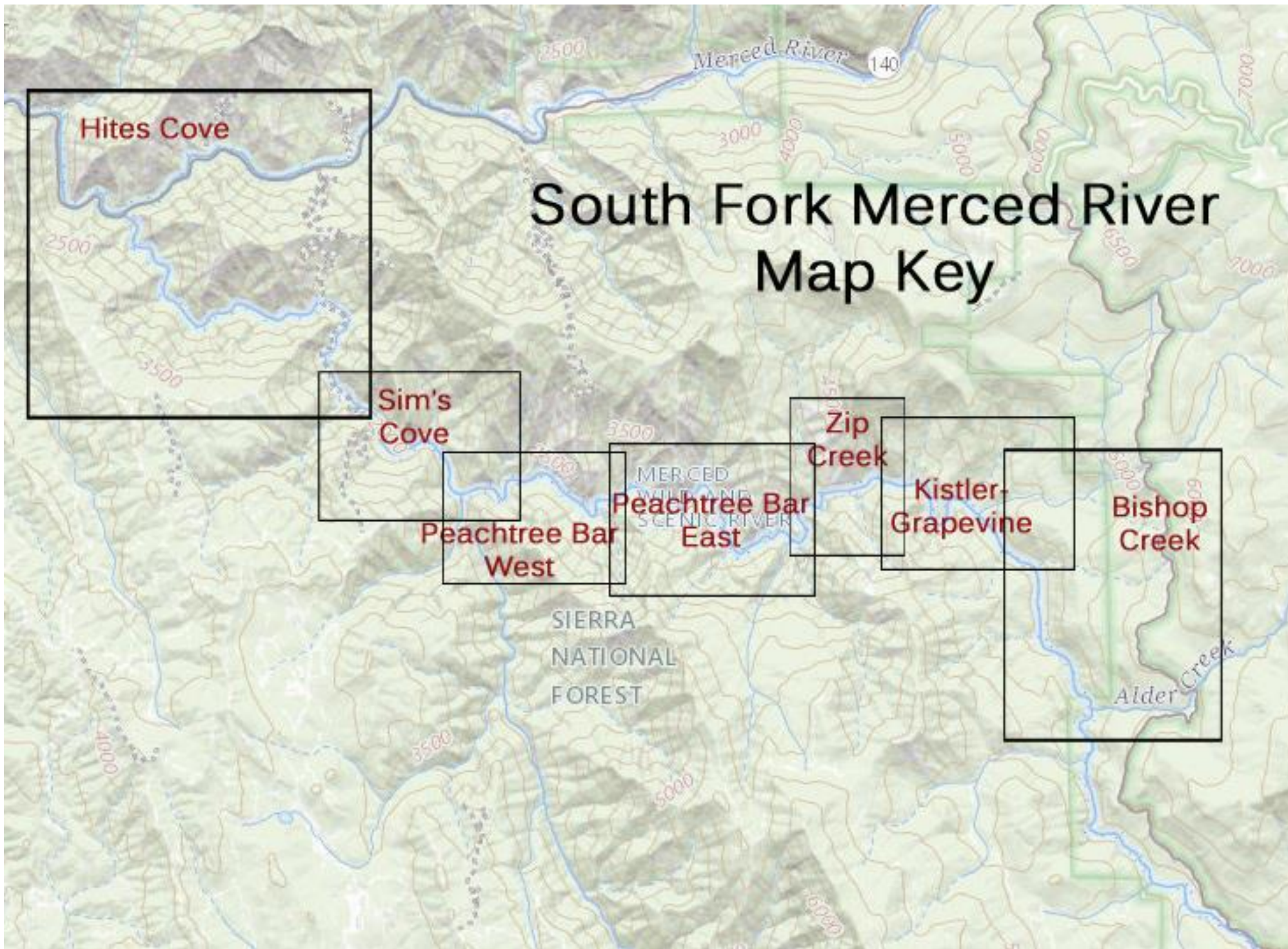
Except where noted, all categories are described as “number of.”

YEAR	OUTINGS	VOL-HOURS	TREES CLEARED	TREAD REPAIR (ft)	ROCKWORK	BRUSH REMOVED	CAMPSITE IMPROVE
2018	3	96					0
2019	8	225	7	2,000		100	0
2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	1+CCC	16	25	15,000	0	600	0
2022							



Future Objectives –

1. Install wayfinding signs and trail information boxes
2. Buck 10 fallen trees from trail
3. Remove brush and saplings encroaching onto trail by: (1) extract buck-brush, deer-brush & mountain mahogany by roots (15 hrs labor); and, (2) clipping back brush (8 hrs labor)
4. Clear dead ladder fuel from trunks of oak trees in the trail corridor.
5. Install “Kistler Camp” sign
6. Locate and re-establish “Grapevine Camp” (install “Grapevine Camp” sign)
7. Improve trail for stock use
8. Re-establish original alignment of trail tread (two 35-foot sections)



South Fork Merced River Map Key

Hites Cove

Sim's
Cove

Peachtree Bar
West

Peachtree Bar
East

Zip
Creek

Kistler-
Grapevine

Bishop
Creek

SOUTH FORK TRAIL- SEGMENT 2: Kistler-Grapevine

Improvement Needs

- ①. Install wayfinding signs and trail information boxes
- ②. Buck 10 fallen trees from trail
- ③. Remove brush and saplings encroaching onto trail by: (1) extract buck-brush, deer-brush & mountain mahogany by roots (15 hrs labor); and, (2) clipping back brush (8 hrs labor)
- ④. Clear dead ladder fuel from trunks of oak trees in the trail corridor.
- ⑤. Cleanup camping related trash & install "Kistler Camp" sign
- ⑥. Locate and re-establish "Grapevine Camp" (install "Grapevine Camp" sign)
- ⑦. Improve trail for stock use
- ⑧. Re-establish original alignment of trail tread (two 35-foot sections)

