

# **THE EAGLE LAKE FIELD STATION**

## **NOTES TO USERS**

**Revised in March 2008**

The Eagle Lake Field Station (ELFS), located 26 miles (by road) northwest of Susanville in Lassen County, California, is a ten building facility on the eastern shore of Eagle Lake. The field station is administered by California State University, Chico (CSUC) and the CSUC Foundation, with support from the University of California Natural Reserve System and UC Davis. The ELFS is open to any individual or group whose purpose is primarily academic, and whose activities are consistent with the isolation and natural setting of the station.

The ELFS can comfortably accommodate about 35 people in cabins and dormitories. Most housing has wood heating, indoor plumbing, hot water, and showers. Food service is provided although individuals or very small groups (2-3) may prefer to provide their own. Cabins are limited and their use is restricted to ELFS staff, faculty, group leaders, and long-term researchers.

Reservations for use of the facility should be made by contacting the Director through the California State University, Chico, Department of Biological Sciences at (530) 898-4490 or -5356). Reservations for courses, research space/lodging and other long-term usage should be made by the end of December. Reservations for other types of short-term usage should be made at least one month in advance.

### **Travel To The ELFS**

A map is available to guide users to the field station from Susanville. The last ten miles of travel are over rather rough and rocky road. Travel over this road in good weather (no standing water or snow) is bumpy but passable for all but low clearance vehicles such as sports cars. During the winter and early spring, standing puddles can exceed two feet in depth, and heavy snow cover can make travel to the ELFS impossible for all but 4-wheel drive vehicles.

### **What To Bring**

The field station is located at an elevation of 5100 feet, so dress appropriately for mountain weather. In the spring and fall, weather is very unpredictable and rain is likely. Summers are mild and winters, although cold, are not unduly harsh and accumulated snow is typically less than 24 inches. Warm clothes, a hat, rugged shoes, waterproof boots and rainwear, sunscreen, and a flashlight are always appropriate.

There is no bedding other than a mattress, so sheets and blankets or a sleeping bag are necessary. Users must also provide towels, soap, and other personal items. No personal items are available at the field station and the nearest town is 26 miles away, so come prepared.

### **What Not To Bring**

Pets; Weapons of any kind; Illicit Drugs.

## Meal Service

A varied menu is provided and meals are served at appropriate times adjusted to the schedule of the visiting group. Given the time and effort required to provide food service, there can be no significant last minute changes to the menu.

**Groups with more than two individuals below the reservation number** will be charged for those meals; **the ELFS is not able to absorb these sorts of financial losses.**

There are no refunds for missed meals due to oversleeping, leaving earlier or arriving later than scheduled, or simply deciding not to take a particular meal. Meals additional to those scheduled for (due to arriving early or leaving late) will be charged at a per-meal rate (see ELFS brochure for meal fee rates).

We ask that all groups please assist the cook(s) by providing 2 helpers for clean-up duties in the dining hall **after each dinner.**

Coffee and hot water for tea and hot chocolate will be available all day long. Student and Staff refrigerators are available for personal food items.

## What To Expect

The ELFS Steward is there to see that your stay at the field station is an enjoyable one. If you have questions or problems, he/she will assist you. The Steward will accommodate every reasonable request and provide you with facilities, equipment, and supplies (**No personal items can be provided, however**).

The ELFS staff is there to facilitate your activities and to promote a healthy, safe environment for those activities. Things work most smoothly when you let us know in advance what your needs will be as last-minute requests cannot be easily fulfilled due to the station's isolation.

## What We Expect

One of our primary concerns is that users behave in a manner consistent with the nature of the facility and its natural environment. Off-road vehicle driving, loud and boisterous activities, destructive behavior, loud stereos, etc. are all inappropriate. Smoking is a dangerous and unhealthy activity that we ask you to keep confined to designated areas. Open fires are prohibited except for an occasional outside barbecue or campfire when conditions allow.

## Alcoholic Beverages

Alcohol use (in moderation) is not prohibited at ELFS. However, bringing several cases of beer or a keg is not appropriate, as that indicates a questionable use of the station. It should be noted and well understood that consumption of alcohol is for the most part restricted to one's living quarters, although a beer or glass of wine at meal times or out by the campfire ring is permissible. **There will be no alcoholic beverages in the lab or library at any time.** Storage of small quantities of alcoholic beverages (beer and wine only) within dining hall refrigerators is permissible.

## Check In Procedures

Group leaders are expected to check in with the resident Steward, Cook, or the Station Manager upon arrival. Each group will be given a brief orientation to the ELFS facilities as well as station procedures shortly after arrival. Leaders should then pick up one ELFS Information Sheet for each member of the group. Information sheets are kept in the dining hall. **Completed information sheets should be submitted by the group leader to either the Steward, Cook, or Station Manager upon or soon after departure.**

## Use of ELFS Boats and Other Equipment

**Motorized Boats:** The use of motorized ELFS boats is restricted to faculty/group leaders/researchers who have been adequately trained and then checked out by the Steward or Station Manager; Students and other group members are **NOT** to operate ELFS boats without a trained faculty/group leader on board. **We at the ELFS expect users of our boats to assume full financial responsibility should their activities result in any significant damages to our boats and/or motors.**

**Canoe:** The ELFS canoe is considered a recreational vessel, and therefore, we make it available to users of the ELFS. **However, do ask that you please notify the Steward, Station Manager, or your Group Coordinator prior to taking it out onto the lake. As Eagle Lake is often quite rough, it is advisable that at least someone on board have experience with a canoe.**

**Other ELFS Equipment:** As most of the equipment and materials at the ELFS are the property of either the field station or CSUC, it is expected that those wishing to use ELFS equipment, etc. check with the staff for permission. Most of the gear in the lab has been transported to the station from campus for use by researchers or those involved with university courses. **We therefore ask that groups please: (1) return all equipment in good working order prior to departure; (2) replace or repair any destroyed or damaged equipment; and (3) notify the Steward or Director of materials used in order that we may replace them.**

## Check Out Procedures

Each group is expected to conduct a thorough clean-up detail on the ELFS grounds. The Station Manager and resident staff expect the station to look the way it did upon arrival. Therefore, we ask that groups please allow enough time to complete the following tasks (Any of the following facilities not utilized by a group will be cleaned by staff):

- (1) **Dormitories -** Sweep out all rooms thoroughly.  
Remove empty toiletry containers.  
Bag up all trash (the Steward or Cook can provide you with trash bags). Hauling trash out of the ELFS would be appreciated, although not expected.
  
- (2) **Cabins -** Sweep out and vacuum thoroughly.  
Remove empty toiletry containers.  
Bag up all trash (see Dormitories).

- (3) **Dining Hall** - Pick up any personal items, magazines, etc.  
Thoroughly clean group refrigerator and remove any  
personal items from both the refrigerator and freezer.
- (4) **Library** - Clean blackboard.  
Remove any personal items.  
Sweep out thoroughly and bag up trash from can.
- (5) **Lab** - Sweep out all rooms thoroughly.  
Bag up contents of all trash cans.  
Return all lab equipment to proper location.
- (6) **Boats** - Refuel for next group (see Steward for assistance).  
Clean out trash, and bring all life vests, oars, etc. up to  
the boat shed.

**The Station Manager, or the Steward in the Manager's absence, has the authority to restrict inappropriate activity on the ELFS grounds and to remove any individuals or groups whose conduct is questionable.**

### **Mail, Telephone, and Emergency Contact**

Mail can be received c/o Eagle Lake Field Station, 692-225 Merrillville Road, Susanville, CA 96130. There are no public telephones at the ELFS, but an on-site telephone is available in case of an emergency. The ELFS can be reached in case of emergency by contacting the Lassen County Sheriff.

### **Reference Materials**

Available upon request are various handouts for the ELFS and its environs, including a brochure, a map to the station, an informative guide for users of the station and its surroundings, and a taxonomic key to the identification of Eagle Lake flora. Check out our web site (see below) for updated lists of local vertebrate taxa as well as other field station information.

### **For additional information and reservations call or write to:**

**Raymond J. Bogiatto, Station Manager**  
**Eagle Lake Field Station**  
**Department of Biological Sciences**  
**California State University,**  
**Chico, CA 95929-0515**  
**(530) 898-4490 or 898-5356**  
**E-Mail address: [rbogiatto@csuchico.edu](mailto:rbogiatto@csuchico.edu)**  
**Home Page: <http://www.csuchico.edu/biol/EagleLake/eaglelake.html>**

