Lovers Leap
Swimming hole

By Travis Williams

Lovers Leap Swimming hole
Bucks Lake Rd, Quincy CA

**History:** Located on Spanish Creek, the area was heavily mined in the early settlement of the area. There are still active mining claims nearby on other sections of the creek and its tributaries. The mining activity in this location created a deep pool at the foot of the waterfall as well as a small beach. With mining no longer active at this location it has become one of the most popular swimming holes for locals of all ages.

**Description:** This beautiful section of Spanish Creek has something for everyone. The main pool is at the foot of a beautiful waterfall and has several large rock formations for those who like a good jump. Above the falls and main pool there are several smaller crystal clear pools to explore with lush plant life and interesting critters. It is common to spot a water snake or small lizard on the hot day.
Directions: From the campus of FRC it is about a 10 minute drive to the parking spot for the swimming hole, a total of 5.6 miles.

Starting from Golden Eagle Ave
1. Head east on Golden Eagle Ave
2. Turn right at CA-89 S/California 70
3. Turn right at W Main St
4. Continue onto Bucks Lake Rd
   Parking is on the right in the large flat section
   If you have reached the turn for Deans valley Camp ground you have gone too far.

For a map to the parking spot check the link here:
http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=113515668354625647071.00049272776613b5f59dc&ll=39.942252,-120.980072&spn=0.03876,0.077162&z=14

NAME: Lovers Leap Swimming Hole ★★★★★

Time Needed: Hike from parking to water is under 5 minutes.
Sun Exposure: Most of the day, falling behind the mountains in late afternoon.
Elevation: ~3500ft
Rating: The difficulty of the trail to the falls is easy to moderate, and has been highly traveled by people of all ages.
Gear Needed: Sun protection, towel (optional)

Directions: From the parking spot the trail starts at the north east side and heads down until you reach the water. There are a few places where the use of hands for balance is sometimes required.

Description: All along Spanish Creek both up and down stream there are beautiful places to explore. The falls and pools up steam are beautiful places for photography or more seclusion away from the main pool. Downstream and upstream both have interesting geology and plant and animal life to discover. If you are like the majority of people who visit here and are just interested in jumping in and enjoying the cool water on a hot day this is still the place for you. With plenty of sun and fun this is one of the most popular swimming holes in the area.

Risks: Poison oak, snakes, slippery wet rocks are hazards in the area. The water temperature is also very low, being a snow melt fed stream. The best time to swim here is usually midsummer to early fall, or on unusually warm days earlier or later in the season.