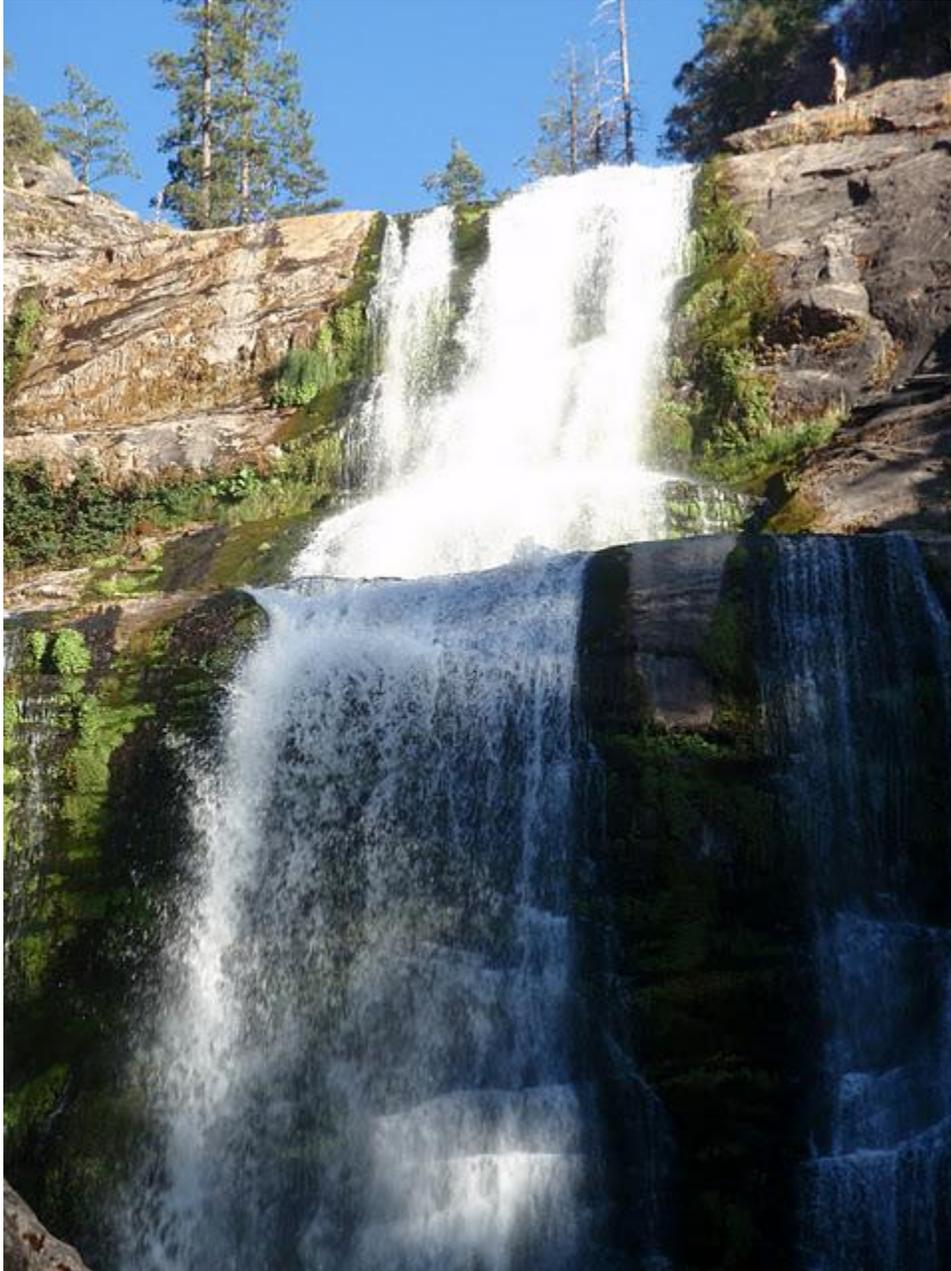


Seven Falls



Top two: Photo by T. Williams

Seven Falls:

A tributary to the Middle Fork of the Feather River.

History: Seven Falls is a stunning series of waterfalls near Wiskey Hill off of Milsap Bar Road within a steep granite lined canyon. With a water level elevation drop of 600ft in under half a mile the falls range from a gentle flow over the granite to a few hundred feet. The photo above is of the top two falls of the largest group. Above these is an island that makes for an excellent camp in summer and early fall. The area is also a nice spot for a day trip and photography.

Description: The area surrounding the falls is part of the Plumas National Forest and is just south of the Middle Fork of the Feather River that leads to Lake Oroville. The elevation is about 3000 ft at the camp and the area has a mix of oak and pine as well as manzanita and other shrubs. The water temperature is cold into September but makes for nice swimming late in the summer or early fall.

Directions: There are two routes that are nearly identical when driving from Quincy. You can go west along Bucks Lake road or east on LaPort road and get to Seven Falls, or you can make it a loop and take both roads. The drive is a few hours but only due to the winding roads, which are dirt at times. Below is the route using Bucks Lake road.

1. Leave Quincy headed west on Bucks Lake rd.
2. Continue on Oroville-Quincy Highway approx. 42 miles from Quincy
3. Turn left onto Bald Rock rd for .5 miles
4. Turn left onto Milsap Bar rd for 13 miles.

Milsap Bar rd is dirt and rough in some places.

About 5.9 miles after the bridge you will find a turn out to park and might have to search a bit for the trail head.

Drive time ~2-2.5 hours

<http://g.co/maps/gghvy> is the route mapped on google and recommended to both zoom and other features to understand the area better.

Seven Falls trail:

Time Needed: From parking to river is little over a mile but is very steep.

Down would take 20-40 minutes, depending on how much you carry.

Up will take 30-60 minutes or more, again depending on gear.

Sun Exposure: All day, with significant shade.

Elevation: 2600-3200 ft

Rating: Trail is 2-3, steep and might require 3 points of contact for balance. Off trail is 3-4 and is risky in places.

Gear Needed: For day hike:

Water, lunch, sun protection, hiking shoes, hiking stick (recommended), ect

For camping light weight is recommended and basic backpacking gear would be required.

Directions: The trail head can be difficult to find, at 5.7-5.9 miles from the bridge there is a bend in the road to the left with a turn out to the right to park. To the right down the slope the trail almost invisible while driving. In the past it was marked with a rusty old refrigerator which has since fallen down the slope some.



Slide Fall (Top waterfall reachable)



The most upstream that I hiked to. While very steep and slippery in places the hike is manageable for the risk takers among you. However its not recommended to go it alone.

#2 (continuing downstream)

A good view of the pools and rocks at the top of the series of falls. #2 is the smallest of the falls but still has a nice pool below it.



Green Pool (Below #2 a bit)

This is one of the more beautiful pools around the falls, full of plant life on all sides.



Wide Load

The widest of the falls, is a spectacular view at the bottom of the trail or from Camp Island which sits just down stream.

From the bottom The best view of the longest drop is from the bottom. While a tricky hike it is worth it to get a glimpse of the drop. The top you might recognise from my first picture, and can use the two for scale (the people are still in this picture too!)

Risks!

While an amazing place it is very dangerous. The sides of the canyon are steep and very slippery in places due to leaves and pine needles resting on the granite. There is no trail between the falls themselves and the trail it self is very steep. I would not venture alone in this area, any injury would make the hike out difficult. However if you can handle being off the beaten path this is an excellent place for a few adventurers.

