

Shasta County

The Shasta County Courthouse in Redding. (March 2006)



Shasta County Data

Population: 163,256 (Rank: 29)

Land Area (square miles): 3,785 (Rank: 13)

Shasta is one of the original 27 counties of the state. It is named after Mt. Shasta that in turn is the name of an Indian tribe in the area. Shasta is at the top of the Sacramento Valley. The western and northern part of the county is the Shasta Trinity National Forest. The eastern part is in the Lassen National Forest. In the southeast corner of the county is the Lassen National Park. Mt. Lassen is an active volcano that last erupted in 1915.

About in the middle of the county is Lake Shasta, a reservoir formed by Shasta Dam. The dam is the centerpiece of the Central Valley Project. The water stored in the reservoir prevents flooding along the Sacramento River and provides water for the San Joaquin Valley. The reservoir contains 4.5 million acre-feet of water.

Roads are few in this area. I-5 cuts through the middle of the county. Highway 299 runs east-west through the county. It connects Redding with Eureka on the coast and Alturas in the far northeast corner of the state. This highway passes Burney Falls State Park. Highway 44 leads to Lassen National Park and continues on to Susanville.

Lumbering is still an important part of the economy. The county produces 7.4% of the state's lumber and the manufacture of wood products is the leading industry.

Cities: Redding, Anderson, Shasta Lake. Towns: Shasta, McArthur, Fall River Mills, Burney, Whiskeytown, French Gulch.

Introduction

California is comprised of 58 counties. The state, the third largest in the U.S., has the greatest diversity of geography of any of the states. It has huge deserts, high mountain ranges, fertile valleys and a 1000 mile coastline. Beginning in 2001 my wife and I began to travel and photograph the state as a retirement hobby.

In 2009 we published a CD containing about 4,000 photos of the regions of the state. Since that time we have added about 10,000 more photos to our collection. It was also at this time (December 2008) I began to send a photographic diary of our trips to friends and people with an interest in California geography.

Now we are organizing our collection by county using all of our photos dating back to 2001.

© 2012 by Larry Stevens
stevens.lawrence@comcast.net

Photo Trips

August 2003
Shasta City to McArthur.

March 2006
Turtle Bay, Downtown Redding, loop to Shasta City, Douglas, Hayford and Platina.

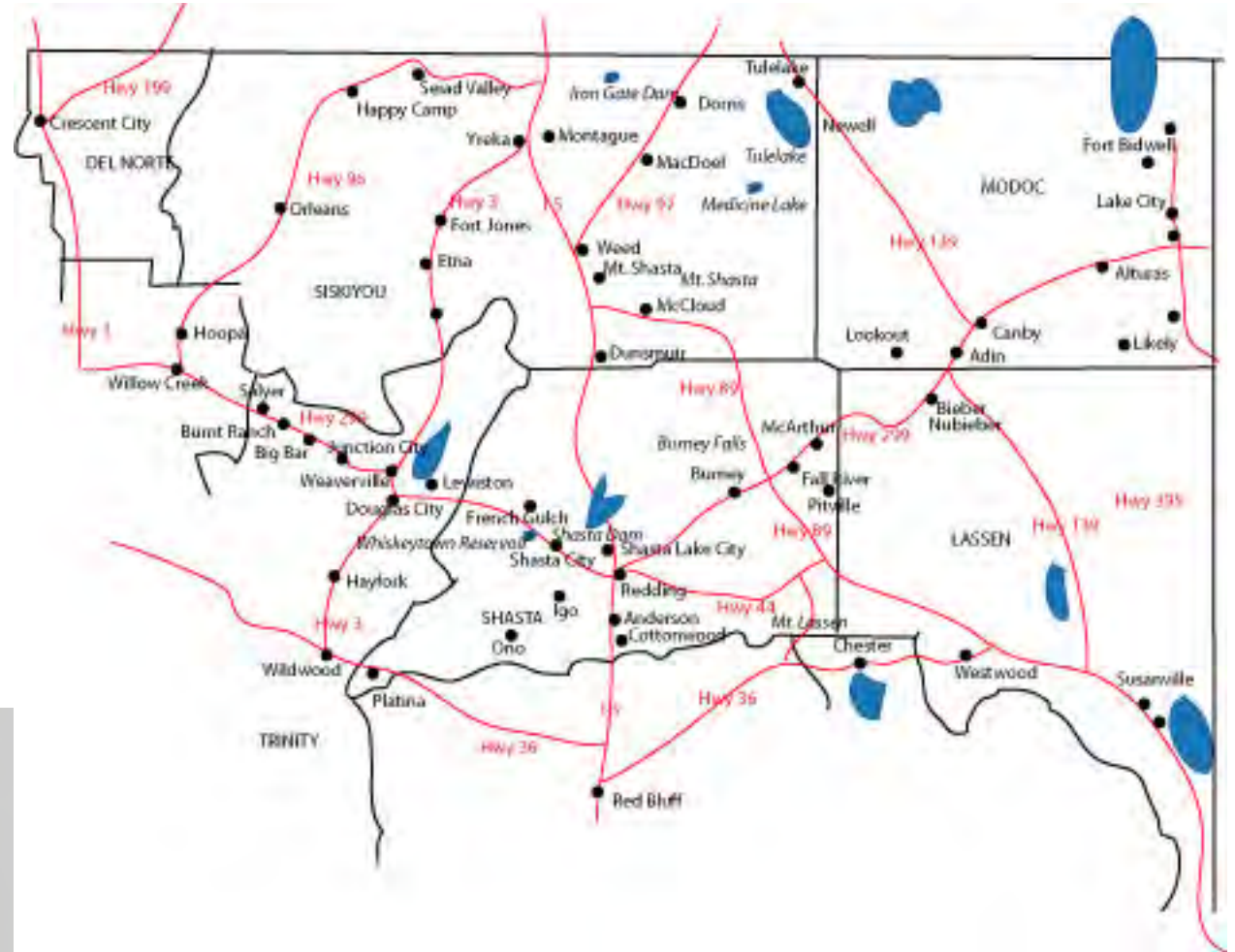
August 2006
Burney Falls, Medicine Lake, and McCloud.

August 2008
Redding downtown, Highway 299 to Coast.

August 2010
Stopped at Shasta Dam, Turtle Bay. This was a day trip to Yreka.

October 2011
Cottonwood. This was a stop on our trip to photograph fish hatcheries.

Shasta County



Pittville

Pittville is a small farm community in the Fall River Valley.
(2006)



Pittville



Pit River

The Pit River flows 207 miles from the Modoc Plateau to Lake Shasta. This is the Pit River near McArthur. (2006)



Mt. Lassen

Mt. Lassen at the end of the summer. Very little snow is left.
(October 2010)



McArthur

McArthur is located on Highway 299 in the Fall River Valley.
(August 2003)



McArthur



Fall River

The Fall River as it runs through town.
(2003)



Fall River

The historic Fall River Hotel. (2003)



Fall River

The Fall River theatre. (2003)



Burney

The big bench at Burney High School. (2003)



Burney

The saw mill at Burney. (2003)



Burney

The Burney movie theatre on Highway 299.
(2003)



McArthur–Burney Falls

The falls are only 129 feet tall but are impressive because the water squirts out the sides of the falls. The basalt lava is very porous. One hundred million gallons of water flows over and through the falls each day. (2006)



Cottonwood

Cottonwood is half way between Redding and Red Bluff and it began as a stage coach stop. (October 2011)



Cottonwood

(October 2011)



Cottonwood

(October 2011)



Cottonwood

(October 2011)



Cottonwood

(October 2011)



Cottonwood

(October 2011)



Cottonwood

(October 2011)



Cottonwood

(October 2011)



Cottonwood

(October 2011)





Anderson

Anderson is a lumber mill town south of Redding on I-5. This is the main street of town.



Anderson



Anderson

The old movie theatre.



Anderson

The old highway bridge across the Sacramento River.



Platina

Platina is located on Highway 36 that connects Red Bluff with Highway 101 on the coast. (March 2006)



Ono

Igo and Ono are small communities located on county road A16 which connects State Highway 36 with Redding. (March 2006)



Ono

The store in Ono. (March 2006)



Ono

ECV stands for E Clampus Vitas, a fun-loving social group dedicated to preserving California's history. (March 2006)







Keswick

*Keswick is a dam below Shasta Dam that was built to regulate water flows on the river and generate more hydroelectricity.
(March 2006)*



Keswick Dam

The power house at Keswick Dam.
(March 2006)



Whiskeytown

Whiskeytown was moved when the Whiskeytown Reservoir was built. Now the community has been abandoned. Behind the store you can see the damage caused by the forest fire of 2004. (March 2006)



Whiskeytown Dam

Whiskeytown Dam was completed in 1963. The 263 foot tall dam is part of the California Valley Project. It stores water taken from Lewiston Reservoir on the Trinity River and transfers it into the Sacramento River. (March 2006)



Shasta City

Shasta City was once the the key city in this part of the state. That changed when the railroad decided to put the tracks through Redding in 1887. (March 2006)



Shasta City

Shasta City is now a state park that is split by Highway 299.
(March 2006)



Shasta City

(March 2006)



French Gulch

The old hotel in French Gulch. The population of this old gold mining town is about 350, 100 more than it was ten years before. The opening of old gold mines has caused the increase. (March 2006)



French Gulch

The main street of French Gulch. (March 2006)



French Gulch

The old mercantile store. There is still an operating saloon in the building. (March 2006)



French Gulch



Old Redding Downtown Mall

The entrance to the old Redding Mall which blocked the main street of Redding. Redding was founded in 1887 as a rail town. It is named for Benjamin Redding. It has a population of 90,000. (August 2003)



Cascade Theatre Redding

The Cascade Theatre on main street. The manager saw us taking pictures and invited us in for a tour. It turns out that the theatre has the same floor plan as the Del Mar in Santa Cruz. (2006)



Redding

The ceiling of the Cascade Theatre. (2006)



Redding

The old Redding hotel on main street. (2006)



Old Redding Mall

Redding had an unusual response to urban sprawl. They built a downtown covered mall. It didn't work. (2003)



Redding

The mall has had its roof removed and a branch of Shasta College built. (2008)



Redding

A branch of Shasta Community College. (2008)



Lorenz Hotel – Redding

The Lorenz Hotel now provides affordable housing for senior citizens.
(2006)



Redding City Hall

Redding has a new an imposing city hall. (2006)



Redding City Hall

(2006)



Carnegie Library

The steps to the old Carnegie Library are preserved next to the Lorenz Hotel.
(2006)



Shasta Dam conveyor belt

The longest conveyor belt in the world was constructed to provide rock for the dam. The conveyor belt was 9.5 miles long and began at Turtle Bay on the Sacramento River. It carried 12 million tons of rock to the dam. (2006)



Turtle Bay Museum

The Turtle Bay Museum has been an excellent attraction for Redding. (2006)



Turtle Bay Museum

(2006)



Turtle Bay Botanic Garden

The main path of the Botanic Garden which is one of the better ones in the state. Below is an artistic model of the California water system. (2006)



Sundial Bridge – Redding

The Sundial Bridge was constructed across the Sacramento River in 2004. It was designed by the Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava. (2006)



Turtle Bay Botanic Garden

A mosaic piece in the middle of the Botanic Garden. (2006)



Turtle Bay Botanic Garden

(2006)



Redding Performing Arts Center

This is next to the Turtle Bay complex. (2006)



Shasta Lake City

Shasta Lake City was formed in 1993 when five communities joined together to form a city. The five communities were created as homes for construction workers on Shasta Dam. Construction of the dam began in 1937. (2003)



Shasta Lake City

Population of the city is now about 9,000. The original communities were Central Valley, Toyon, Project City, Pine Grove and Summit City. The community contains many of the original buildings. (2003)



Shasta Lake City

(2003)





Shasta Lake City

(2003)



Shasta Lake City

(2010)



Shasta Dam

Shasta Dam was completed in 1945. It is 602 feet tall making it the 9th tallest dam in the U.S. It provides electricity, flood control and irrigation to the Central Valley Project. (2010)

