

SKY MOUNTAIN OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER



A NEW OUTDOOR EDUCATION EXPERIENCE FOR SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY STUDENTS

The San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) is pleased to announce it has acquired the Sky Mountain Outdoor Education Center, which is situated at the top of the north-fork of the American River in the Sierra Nevada in Tahoe National Forest in Placer County. Sky Mountain will provide an opportunity for year-round learning and activities and will be the new home for Science Camp for San Joaquin Valley students.

Sky Mountain includes cabins, a gymnasium, lodge, and other facilities surrounded by acres of forest alongside a pristine mountain lake. The 62.68-acre parcel was donated by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) to the SJCOE. Preexisting infrastructure, capital assets, and \$2.5 million to support code compliance and infrastructure reinforcement were donated by the Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council. In 2016, the SJCOE applied to become a grantee of the property through the Stewardship Council, which oversees more than 140,000 acres of watershed lands owned by PG&E to ensure they are used to benefit the residents of California.

Programming information for the new center will not be available until the 2021-2022 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has changed how field trips can be offered. The SJCOE is currently working on renovating the property and designing a new curriculum specific to the unique ecosystem that aligns with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and makes connections with California's Environmental Principles and Concepts (EP&Cs). The SJCOE will provide an update once programming begins.



**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

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