



Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake Range Access Policy

January 2003

THE RANGE ACCESS POLICY

The Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) China Lake allows access to its ranges when possible. This policy allows groups or individuals access to certain areas on the ranges for limited recreational purposes and scientific research that benefits the Station. Such access is contingent on non-interference with operational commitments and is subject to cancellation without advance notice due to operational, safety, security, environmental, and fiscal considerations.

Scientific research has included geological and cultural resource surveys, archaeological excavations, site examinations, earthquake monitoring, bird counts, and insect studies. Any group or individual seeking access for such research must have professional or academic standing in the field of study, and the results of the study must be shared with the Station.

Recreational access on the ranges includes petroglyph tours, camping at Birchum Springs, and day-time hikes up B Mountain. All petroglyph tours and camping requests are subject to approval and require at least two Command-approved tour guides. Hikes up B Mountain are restricted to individuals who have the proper access requirements or are joining a Command-authorized event.



*Petroglyphs
are found
throughout
NAWS
China Lake.*

PROCESS FOR OBTAINING ACCESS

Organizations or individuals seeking access for research need to submit their request in writing to the Public Affairs Office, Code 750000D, 1 Administration Circle, China Lake, CA 93555-6100. The request should include the organization or individual requesting access, what professional or academic organization is being represented, the purpose of the visit, the location being requested, what is being proposed and why (benefits), the number of people requesting access, possible dates for access, and the type of product the Station will receive at the end of the research period.

Petroglyph tours are grouped into two types – public and private. Call the Public Affairs Office at 760.939.1683 to request a packet for details on how to arrange a tour.

Overnight camping at Birchum Springs normally is approved only in conjunction with a petroglyph tour or research trip, and approval is on a case-by-case basis. Due to heightened security restrictions, not many requests will be approved.

NAWS continually reviews its access policy. For specific input on an activity or area that may be of interest to the general public, please submit a request to the Public Affairs Office.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information regarding public access, contact the Public Affairs Office at 760.939.1683.

