CHAPTER 2M. RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL INTEREST AREA SIGNS

Section 2M.01 Scope

Support:

01 Recreational or cultural interest areas are attractions or traffic generators that are open to the general public for the purpose of play, amusement, or relaxation. Recreational attractions include such facilities as parks, campgrounds, gaming facilities, and ski areas, while examples of cultural attractions include museums, art galleries, and historical buildings or sites.

02 The purpose of recreation and cultural interest area signs is to guide road users to a general area and then to specific facilities or activities within the area.

Option:

03 Recreational and cultural interest area guide signs directing road users to significant traffic generators may be used on freeways and expressways where there is direct access to these areas as provided in Section 2M.09.

04 Recreational and cultural interest area signs may be used off the road network, as appropriate.

Section 2M.02 Application of Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Signs

Support:

01 Provisions for signing recreational or cultural interest areas are subdivided into two different types of signs: (1) symbol signs and (2) destination guide signs.

Guidance:

02 *When highway agencies decide to provide recreational and cultural interest area signing, these agencies should have a policy for such signing. The policy should establish signing criteria for the eligibility of the various types of services, accommodations, and facilities. These signs should not be used where they might be confused with other traffic control signs.*

Option:

03 Recreational and cultural interest area guide signs may be used on any road to direct persons to facilities, structures, and places, and to identify various services available to the general public. These guide signs may also be used in recreational or cultural interest areas for signing non-vehicular events and amenities such as trails, structures, and facilities.

Support:

04 Section 2A.12 contains information regarding the use of recreational and cultural interest area symbols on other types of signs.

Support:

The recreational and cultural interest area signs are supplemental signs and are subject to the same spacing and number of messages limitations set forth in Chapters 2A, 2D and 2E. Under these limitations, the supplemental destination, recreational and cultural interest area signs compete for signing on the basis of traffic service.

Guidance:

Recreational area signs to National Parks and State Parks should normally include the name of the area. County and City Park signs should not normally include the name.

Option:

Recreational area signs may be placed for the following facilities:

- National Parks or Monuments.
- State Parks, when located within 5 mile of the highway.
- County Parks, when located within 3 mile of the highway.
- In urban areas, City Parks within 1 mile may be signed from conventional highways. Normally, City Parks will not be signed to from metropolitan freeways.
- Campgrounds in National Forests or State Parks may be signed from conventional highways when the entrances are located on the highway. An advance sign reading "Campground 1/4 mile" may be placed. Signs at the immediate entrance will be placed by the agency having jurisdiction over the campground.

- Major rural recreational areas may be signed by name. When a recreational area is served by more than a single exit, the appropriate colored NEXT X EXITS (E9) sign may be used. Normally, the sign will include the name of the area and the text "RECREATIONAL AREA".
- In rural recreational areas, guide signs may be supplemented with white on brown symbol signs mounted below indicating recreational facilities available to the motorists.

Guidance:

On State highways, signs to major rural recreational areas that include a jurisdictional logo or are unique in shape should be placed under an encroachment permit from the Department of Transportation.

Standard:

Placement of these signs to major rural recreational areas shall be by the jurisdiction or agency making the request through the normal permit process as a fee exempt permit.

These signs shall be installed in accordance with the Department of Transportation's Standard Plans publication. See Section 1A.11 for more information regarding this publication.

Guidance:

These signs to major rural recreational areas should be limited to areas where they do not block or interfere with other signs necessary for safe and efficient operation of the highway. The sign panels should be clearly marked as to the ownership.

Standard:

The use of the following symbol signs shall conform to the warrants shown here and in Chapter 2I:

General Information

Option:

The Automobile (RG-010) sign indicates that automobiles may use the signed facility within a recreation area.

Standard:

The RG-010 sign shall not be used on State highways.

Option:

The Lookout Tower (RS-006) sign may be used for lookout facilities that are publicly owned, within 3 mile of the highway, and open for visitors at least 8 hours per day, 180 days per year.

Standard:

Follow up signs to the RS-006 sign, where required, shall be installed by the local authority having jurisdiction in the area.

Option:

The Lighthouse (RS-007) sign may be used for lighthouse facilities that are within 3 mile of the highway and open for visitors at least 8 hours per day, 180 days per year.

The Dam (RS-009) sign may be used to indicate dams, located within 1 mile of the highway, that have recreational activities with parking, water access, power plant tours and picnicking, which do not meet warrants for other recreational symbols.

The Fish Hatchery (RS-010) sign may be used to indicate publicly administered hatcheries that are within 3 mile of the highway and open for visitors at least 8 hours per day, 180 days per year.

The Deer Viewing Area (RS-011) sign may be placed to indicate an area which is determined by the Department of Fish and Game to be particularly well suited for viewing deer and other wild life. This area should have adequate parking and be within 1 mile of the highway, via a well-maintained road.

The Drinking Water (RS-013) sign may be used to indicate free public drinking water within 0.25 mile of the highway where no other publicly accessible drinking water is available within 10 mile.

The Information (D9-10) sign may be used to indicate publicly operated informational facilities that are located within 1 mile of the highway and open all year.

Option:

The Ranger Station (RS-015) sign may be used for public agency ranger stations that are within 1 mile of the highway and open all year.

The Truck (RG-190) sign indicates that trucks may use the signed facility within a recreation area.

Standard:

The RG-190 sign shall not be used on State highways.

Option:

The Wildlife Viewing (RS-076) sign may be used to direct motorists to the Wildlife Viewing Areas as published in the California Watchable Viewing Guide.

Support:

Refer to the following web link for more information:
http://www.cawatchablewildlife.org/viewing_guide.htm

Standard:

The WILDLIFE VIEWING (G200-81A(CA)) sign shall be placed below the Wildlife Viewing (RS-076) sign.

Option:

The Botanical Management Area (G200-82(CA)) sign may be used to identify areas along the State highway right-of-way that are environmentally significant natural remnants of California's botanical diversity, as designated by the Office of State Landscape Architecture.

Guidance:

The G200-82(CA) sign should be placed in combination with the BOTANICAL MANAGEMENT AREA (G200-82A(CA)) plaque.

The G200-82A(CA) plaque should be placed below the G200-82(CA) sign.

Motorist Services

Option:

The Camping (Tent) (D9-3) sign may be used for campsite facilities, either public or private, located within 3 miles of the highway.

Standard:

For the use of D9-3 sign, a minimum of 15 campsites shall be provided. Water and sanitary facilities shall be available, but not necessarily at each individual campsite.

Option:

The Trailer Site (RS-040) sign may be used to indicate trailer site facilities within a public recreation area, located within 3 miles of the highway.

Standard:

For the use of RS-040 sign, a minimum of 15 trailer sites shall be provided. Water and sanitary facilities shall be available.

Option:

The Ferry (RM-030) sign may be used to indicate recreational ferry operations within 2 miles of the highway.

The Food Service (D9-8) sign may be used to sign for food service facilities in public recreation areas which meet the criteria for food (D9-8) signs in Chapter 2I. On State highways, only the D9-8 sign is used, where appropriate, to sign for food service facilities.

The Gas (D9-7) sign may be used to indicate fuel stations in public recreation areas, which meet the criteria for Gas (D9-7) signs in Chapter 2I. On State highways, only the D9-7 sign may be used where appropriate.

The Grocery Store (RS-020) sign may be used within public recreation areas for facilities within 1 mile of the highway that provide standard grocery items such as eggs, bread, milk and fruit, provided there are no other similar facilities within 10 miles.

Standard:

For the use of RS-020 sign, services shall be available at least 12 hours per day.

Option:

The Handicapped (D9-6) sign may be used in public recreation areas where paved ramps and rest room facilities accessible to, and usable by, the physically handicapped are provided. On State highways and at other State facilities, only the International Symbol of Accessibility for the Handicapped (D9-6) sign is to be used.

The Lodging (D9-9) sign may be used to indicate lodging facilities in public recreation areas, which meet the criteria for lodging (D9-9) signs in Section 2D.45. On State highways, only the D9-9 sign is used, where appropriate, to sign to lodging facilities.

The Mechanic (RS-027) sign may be used to indicate facilities in public recreation areas with automotive repair capability.

Standard:

The RS-027 sign shall not be used on State highways.

Option:

The Picnic Area (RS-044) sign may be used for picnic areas, either public or private, located within 1 mile of the highway.

Standard:

For the use of RS-044 sign, a minimum of 10 sites with tables shall be provided. Water and sanitary facilities shall be available.

Option:

The Rest Room (RS-022) sign may be used to indicate free public access to a restroom within 0.25 mile of the highway where no other publicly accessible restroom is available within 10 miles.

The Telephone (D9-1) sign may be used within public recreation areas where a public telephone is available 24 hours a day and it is located in a remote area where it is not expected. On State highways, only the Telephone (D9-1) sign is used, where appropriate, to indicate the availability of a telephone.

The Trailer Sanitary Station (RS-041) sign may be used to indicate dump stations where recreational vehicles may dispose of their holding tank waste.

Standard:

For the use of RS-041 sign, the station shall be located within a public recreation area and within 1 mile of the highway.

Option:

The Viewing Area (RS-036) sign may be used to direct motorists to public recreation area sites, located within 0.25 mile of the highway, which have significant views.

Guidance:

For the use of RS-036 sign, the sites should have adequate parking and well maintained access. On freeways, the VISTA POINT (D5-1) sign should be used where appropriate. Refer to Chapter 2I.

Accommodation Services

Option:

The Airport (I-5) sign may be used in public recreation areas to direct motorist to airports, which meet the criteria, specified for Airport (I-5) signs. Only the I-5 and Conventional Airport (G94-1(CA)) signs may be used on State highways to indicate nearby airports.

The Parking (RS-034) sign may be used to indicate public parking facilities less than 0.25 mile from a highway in recreation areas.

Guidance:

Use of RS-034 signs should be restricted to locations outside of urbanized zones, where the Parking Area (D4-1) sign is inappropriate.

Land Recreation

Option:

The Amphitheater (RS-070) sign may be used to identify an amphitheater facility within 1 mile of the highway.

The Playground (W15-1) sign may be used to identify playgrounds within a recreation area and not more than 1 mile from the highway.

The Trail (Bicycle) (D11-1) sign may be used for identifying bicycle trails located within public recreation areas.

Guidance:

On State highways, the Bike Lane (R81(CA)) or the Bike Route (D11-1) signs should be used.

Option:

The Trail (Hiking) (RS-068) sign may be used for marked and maintained hiking trails.

Standard:

For the use of RS-068 sign, the trailhead shall be within 1 mile of the highway, with sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand.

Option:

The Trail (Horse) (RS-064) sign may be used for identifying horse trails located within public recreation areas.

Guidance:

For the use of RS-064 sign, the trailhead should be within 3 mile of the highway.

Option:

The Trail (4WD Vehicle) (RS-067) sign may be used to identify recreation vehicle trails located within public recreation areas.

Guidance:

For the use of RS-067 sign, the trailhead should be 3 mile or less from the highway. For this application, the term "recreation vehicle" is synonymous with "off highway vehicle" (OHV), which includes vehicles with two or more wheels. The OHV TRAIL (S12(CA)) sign should be used at points where off-highway vehicle trails intersect highways.

Option:

The Trail (Trail Bike) (RL-150) sign may be used to identify trail bike trails located within public recreation areas.

Guidance:

For the use of RL-150 sign, the trailhead should be 3 mile or less from the highway. The OHV TRAIL (S12(CA)) sign should be used where the trail intersects the highway.

Option:

The Tramway (RS-071) sign may be used to identify recreational tramways or gondolas that provide year-round service and are located within 5 mile of the highway.

The Golf Course (G200-80(CA)) sign may be used to identify a 9 hole or more golf course within 3 mile on a conventional highway which does not have its main entrance adjacent to the highway. The G200-80(CA) signs may be installed under permit by local agencies only.

Standard:

The G200-80(CA) **signs shall not be used at driving ranges or miniature golf courses.**

Option:

The OHV TRAIL (S12(CA)) sign may be used to direct off highway vehicle operators to the location of a OHV trail. The S12(CA) sign may be supplemented by a white on brown Directional Arrow Auxiliary (M6 Series) sign.

Water Recreation

Option:

The Canoeing (RS-079) sign may be used to indicate where canoeing facilities and services are available within 3 mile of the highway.

The Diving (RS-062) sign may be used to indicate a diving facility within a recreational area.

The Diving (Scuba) (RS-060) sign may be used to indicate areas suitable for scuba diving within 3 mile of the highway.

The Fishing (RS-063) sign may be used to indicate a fishing area, either public or private, within 3 mile of the highway.

The Marina (RS-053) sign may be used to indicate an area where boats can be anchored and serviced within 3 mile of the highway.

The Motorboating (RS-055) sign may be used to indicate areas where motorboating facilities and services are available within 3 mile of the highway.

The Ramp (Launch) (RS-054) sign may be used to indicate boat launching facilities, either public or private, located within 3 mile of the highway.

The Rowboating (RS-057) sign may be used to indicate areas where Rowboating facilities and services are available within 3 mile of the highway.

The Sailboating (RW-056) sign may be used to indicate areas where Sailboating facilities and services are available within 3 mile of the highway.

The Skiing (Water) (RW-058) sign may be used to indicate areas where water-skiing facilities and services are available within 3 mile of the highway.

The Surfing (RS-059) sign may be used to indicate areas suitable for surfing within 3 mile of the highway.

Guidance:

For the use of RS-059 sign, adequate parking should also be available.

Option:

The Swimming (RS-061) sign may be used to indicate a swimming facility within a recreational area.

Winter Recreation

Option:

The Skating (Ice) (RS-050) sign may be used to indicate ice skating facilities within 5 mile of the highway.

The Ski Jumping (RS-048) sign may be used to indicate ski jumping facilities within 5 mile of the highway.

The Skiing (Bobbing) (RS-030) sign may be used to indicate ski bobbing facilities within 1 mile of the highway.

Guidance:

For the use of RS-030 sign, there should be sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand.

Option:

The Skiing (Cross Country) (RS-046) sign may be used to indicate cross country skiing facilities within 1 mile of the highway.

Guidance:

For the use of RS-046 sign, there should be sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand.

Option:

The Skiing (Downhill) (RS-047) sign may be used to indicate down hill skiing facilities located within 5 mile of the highway.

The Sledding (RS-049) sign may be used to indicate sledding facilities within 1 mile of the highway.

Guidance:

For the use of RS-049 sign, there should be sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand.

Option:

The Snowmobiling (RS-052) sign may be used to indicate Snowmobiling facilities within 1 mile of the highway.

Guidance:

For the use of RS-052 sign, there should be a paved loading area at any such facility which is at least 20 feet wide (measured perpendicular to the traveled way) and sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand. Parking spaces should be sized for vehicles with small trailers.

Option:

The Snowshoeing (RS-078) sign may be used to indicate an area within 1 mile of the highway where special facilities or services are available for Snowshoeing.

Guidance:

For the use of RS-078 sign, there should be sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand.

Option:

The Winter Recreation Area (RS-077) sign may be used to indicate a winter recreation area within 1 mile of the highway when other recreation symbols are not appropriate.

Guidance:

For the use of RS-077 sign, there should be sufficient parking to accommodate normal demand.

Sno-Park Signs

Option:

Only those specific parking areas designated by the Department of Parks and Recreation may be signed as Sno-Park parking areas. Parking is by permit only.

The SNO-PARK X MILE (SG30(CA)) sign may be used on expressways or conventional highways to give advance notice of a snow plowed parking area. The SNO-PARK with Arrow (SG32(CA)) sign may be used on expressways or conventional highways in advance of a turn off to a snow plowed parking area.

The SNO-PARK NEXT RIGHT (SG31(CA)) sign may be used on freeways to give advance notice of an exit to a snow plowed parking area. The SNO-PARK (SG34(CA)) sign may be placed below an existing Advance Guide (G83(CA) Series) or Supplemental Destination (G86(CA) Series) sign on freeways to indicate an exit to a snow plowed parking area.

Standard:

If the SG31(CA) or SG34(CA) sign is used, a SNO-PARK with Arrow (SG33(CA)) sign shall be placed at the ramp terminal.

Guidance:

If used, the PERMIT REQUIRED (SG35(CA)) sign should be placed below the SG30(CA) or SG31(CA) sign and the PERMIT REQUIRED NOV 1 TO MAY 30 (SG35-1(CA)) sign should be placed below the SG32(CA) or SG33(CA) sign. Placement should be under the sign, which is nearest to the Sno-Park entrance.

Between November 1 and May 30, during periods when snow is not available for recreational activities, the SG35(CA) and SG35-1(CA) signs should be covered.

Standard:

At the end of the Sno-Park season, May 30, the SG35(CA) and SG35-1(CA) signs shall be covered or removed.

Section 2M.03 Regulatory and Warning Signs

Standard:

01 **All regulatory and warning signs installed on public roads and streets within recreational and cultural interest areas shall comply with the requirements of Chapters 2A, 2B, 2C, 7B, 8B, and 9B.**

Section 2M.04 General Design Requirements for Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Guide Signs

Standard:

01 **Recreational and cultural interest area symbol guide signs shall be square or rectangular in shape and shall have a white symbol or message and white border on a brown background. The symbols shall be grouped into the following usage and series categories:**

A. General Applications,
B. Accommodations,
C. Services,
D. Land Recreation,
E. Water Recreation, and
F. Winter Recreation.

Support:

02 Table 2M-1 contains a listing of the symbols within each series category. Drawings showing the design details for these symbols are found in the "Standard Highway Signs and Markings" book (see Section 1A.11).

Option:

03 Mirror images of symbols may be used where the reverse image will better convey the message.

Section 2M.05 Symbol Sign Sizes

Guidance:

01 *Recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs should be 24 x 24 inches. Where greater visibility or emphasis is needed, larger sizes should be used. Symbol sign enlargements should be in 6-inch increments.*

02 *Recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs should be 30 x 30 inches when used on guide signs on freeways or expressways.*

Option:

03 A smaller size of 18 x 18 inches may be used on low-speed, low-volume roadways and on non-road applications.

Section 2M.06 Use of Educational Plaques

Guidance:

01 *Educational plaques should accompany all initial installations of recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs. The educational plaque should remain in place for at least 3 years after the initial installation. If used, the educational plaque should be the same width as the symbol sign.*

Option:

02 Symbol signs that are readily recognizable by the public may be installed without educational plaques.

Support:

03 Figure 2M-1 illustrates some examples of the use of educational plaques.

Section 2M.07 Use of Prohibitive Circle and Diagonal Slash for Non-Road Applications

Standard:

01 **Where it is necessary to indicate a prohibition of an activity or an item within a recreational or cultural interest area for non-road use and a standard regulatory sign for such a prohibition is not provided in Chapter 2B, the appropriate recreational and cultural interest area symbol shall be used in combination with a red prohibitive circle and red diagonal slash. The recreational and cultural interest area symbol and the sign border shall be black and the sign background shall be white. The symbol shall be scaled proportionally to fit completely within the circle and the diagonal slash shall be oriented from the upper left to the lower right portions of the circle as shown in Figure 2M-1.**

02 **Requirements for retroreflection of the red circle and red diagonal slash shall be the same as those requirements for backgrounds, legends, symbols, arrows, and borders.**

Section 2M.08 Placement of Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs

Standard:

01 **If used, recreational and cultural interest area symbol signs shall be placed in accordance with the general requirements contained in Chapter 2A. The symbol(s) shall be placed as sign panels in the uppermost part of the sign and the directional information shall be placed below the symbol(s).**

02 **Except as provided in Paragraph 3, if the name of the recreational or cultural interest area facility or activity is displayed on a destination guide sign (see Section 2M.09) and a symbol is used, the symbol shall be placed below the name (see Figure 2M-2).**

Option:

03 When the legend Wildlife Viewing Area is displayed with the RS-076 symbol on a destination guide sign, the symbol may be placed to the left or right of the legend and the arrow may be placed below the symbol (see Figure 2M-2).

04 The symbols displayed with the facility or activity name may be placed below the destination guide sign as illustrated in Figure 2M-2 instead of as sign panels placed with the destination guide sign.

05 Secondary symbols of a smaller size (18 x 18 inches) may be placed beneath the primary symbols (see Drawing A in Figure 2M-1), where needed.

Standard:

06 **Recreational and cultural interest area symbols installed for non-road use shall be placed in accordance with the general sign position requirements of the authority having jurisdiction.**

Support:

07 Figure 2M-3 illustrates typical height and lateral mounting positions. Figure 2M-4 illustrates some examples of the placement of symbol signs within a recreational or cultural interest area. Figures 2M-5 through 2M-10, and 2M-5(CA) and 2M-8(CA) illustrate some of the symbols that can be used.

Guidance:

08 *The number of symbols used in a single sign assembly should not exceed four.*

Option:

09 The Advance Turn (M5 series) or Directional Arrow (M6 series) auxiliary signs with white arrows on brown backgrounds shown in Figure 2D-5 may be used with Recreational and Cultural Area Interest symbol guide signs to create a Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Directional Assembly. The symbols may be used singularly, or in groups of two, three, or four on a single sign assembly (see Figures 2M-1, 2M-3, and 2M-4).

Guidance:

The symbol signs should be placed below the first advance ground-mounted directional sign.

Option:

The NEXT RIGHT/LEFT (G58(CA)) Auxiliary sign (see Figure 2M-1(CA)) may also be used in conjunction with the recreational and cultural interest area signs.

Section 2M.09 Destination Guide Signs

Guidance:

01 *When recreational or cultural interest area destinations are displayed on supplemental guide signs, the sign should be rectangular or trapezoidal in shape. The order of preference for use of shapes and colors should be as follows: (1) rectangular with a white legend and border on a green background; (2) rectangular with a white legend and border on a brown background; or (3) trapezoidal with a white legend and border on a brown background.*

Standard:

02 **Whenever the trapezoidal shape is used, the color combination shall be a white legend and border on a brown background.**

Option:

03 Destination guide signs with a white legend and border on a brown background may be posted at the first point where an access or crossroad intersects a highway where recreational or cultural interest areas are a significant destination along conventional roads, expressways, or freeways. Supplemental guide signs with a white legend and border on a brown background may be used along conventional roads, expressways, or freeways to direct road users to recreational or cultural interest areas. Where access or crossroads lead exclusively

to the recreational or cultural interest area, the advance guide sign and the exit direction sign may have a white legend and border on a brown background.

Standard:

04 **All Exit Gore (E5-1 and E5-1a) signs (see Section 2E.37) shall have a white legend and border on a green background. The background color of the interchange Exit Number (E1-5P and E1-5bP) plaque (see Section 2E.31) shall match the background color of the guide sign. Design characteristics of conventional road, expressway, or freeway guide signs shall comply with Chapter 2D or 2E except as provided in this Section for color combination.**

05 **The advance guide sign and the Exit Direction sign shall retain the white-on-green color combination where the crossroad leads to a destination other than a recreational or cultural interest area.**

Support:

06 Figure 2M-2, and 2M-2(CA) illustrates destination guide signs commonly used for identifying recreational or cultural interest areas or facilities.

The name of a community that is culturally unique and historically significant can be used on supplemental guide signs in accordance with California Streets and Highways Code Section 101.12.

Option:

The Historic District Supplemental Destination (G86-11(CA)) signs may be placed directing traffic to a commercial or residential area that is of historic significance to a community and is recognized as such in the National Register of Historic Places.

Standard:

For a Historic District to be signed from a State highway, its boundaries shall be within 3 mile of the highway. Only one sign, for each direction shall be allowed and it will be from the nearest State highway. The type of sign, whether it is a supplemental plate under an existing Supplemental Destination (G86(CA) Series) sign or a stand alone sign shall be determined by the Department of Transportation. Any follow-up signs, if needed, shall be in place before the highway signs are installed.

The requesting local agency shall be responsible for consulting with the Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Historic Preservation to verify the Historic District's official name and to insure there are no conflicts with existing historic landmarks or points of historical interest signs which may already be in place.

When the above requirements are met, the requesting agency shall adopt a resolution, requesting Department of Transportation to place the signs. The cost of these signs, and their installation shall be the responsibility of the requesting agency.

Section 2M.10 Memorial or Dedication Signing

Support:

01 Legislative bodies will occasionally adopt an act or resolution memorializing or dedicating a highway, bridge, or other component of the highway.

~~*Guidance:*~~

02 ~~*Such memorial or dedication names should not appear on or along a highway, or be placed on bridges or other highway components. If a route, bridge, or highway component is officially designated as a memorial or dedication, and if notification of the memorial or dedication is to be made on the highway right-of-way, such notification should consist of installing a memorial or dedication marker in a rest area, scenic overlook, recreational area, or other appropriate location where parking is provided with the signing inconspicuously located relative to vehicle operations along the highway.*~~

~~Option:~~

03 ~~If the installation of a memorial or dedication marker off the main roadway is not practical, memorial or dedication signs may be installed on the mainline.~~

Guidance:

04 *Memorial or dedication signs should have a white legend and border on a brown background.*

Standard:

05 **Where such memorial or dedication signs are installed on the mainline, (1) memorial or dedication names shall not appear on directional guide signs, (2) memorial or dedication signs shall not interfere with the placement of any other necessary signing, and (3) memorial or dedication signs shall not compromise**

the safety or efficiency of traffic flow. The memorial or dedication signing shall be limited to one sign at an appropriate location in each route direction, each as an independent sign installation.

06 **Memorial or dedication signs shall be rectangular in shape. The legend displayed on memorial or dedication signs shall be limited to the name of the person or entity being recognized and a simple message preceding or following the name, such as "Dedicated to" or "Memorial Parkway." Additional legend, such as biographical information, shall not be displayed on memorial or dedication signs. Decorative or graphical elements, pictographs, logos, or symbols shall not be displayed on memorial or dedication signs. All letters and numerals displayed on memorial or dedication signs shall be as provided in the "Standard Highway Signs and Markings" book (see Section 1A.11). The route number or officially mapped name of the highway shall not be displayed on the memorial or dedication sign.**

07 **Memorial or dedication names shall not appear on supplemental signs or on any other information sign on or along the highway or its intersecting routes.**

Option:

08 The lettering for the name of the person or entity being recognized may be composed of a combination of lower-case letters with initial upper-case letters.

Guidance:

09 *Freeways and expressways should not be signed as memorial or dedicated highways.*

Support:

10 Named highways are officially designated and shown on official maps and serve the purpose of providing route guidance, primarily on unnumbered highways. A highway designated as a memorial or dedication is not considered to be a named highway. Section 2D.53 contains provisions for the signing of named highways.

Guidance:

Route numbers and cardinal directions should be used in signing to freeways in metropolitan areas.

Option:

At freeway to freeway interchanges, overhead signing by freeway name may be included in primary directional signs only when the freeway name is well recognized and space permits. At other than freeway to freeway interchanges, Interchange Guide (G77(CA) and G78(CA) series) signs including both the freeway name and appropriate route shield may be used to direct to the named freeway.

Ground-mounted freeway name signs in rural areas may be installed beyond major freeway interchanges and at approximate 10 mile intervals.

Guidance:

Freeway names should not be used on signs directing to freeways in rural areas.

Option:

The Legislature, by legislative action, may designate names for State highways and bridges. The Legislature may request memorial named highway facilities to be designated with signs instead of a plaque and specify that the signs are to be furnished and installed "at no cost to the State".

Support:

The Department of Transportation is authorized to expend reasonable sums for plaques.

Standard:

When highway facilities are named by the Legislature, the following guidelines shall apply according to the type of facility:

1. ***Bridges.*** **One sign shall be placed at the approach ends of the bridge, underpass, tunnel or other structure with the name of the memorialized individual. Normally this would consist of an additional plate attached to the existing Memorial Bridge (G11(CA) series) sign. The color and size of the plate shall match the sign. The memorial name shall be smaller so that it does not dominate the G11(CA) sign.**
2. ***Freeways and Highways.*** **One sign shall be placed at each terminal. Signs shall be white on green. When used, the Memorial Highway (G12-1(CA) & G12-2(CA)) signs (see Figure 2M-101(CA)) shall be placed at the beginning of the highway segment memorialized by the Legislature.**
3. ***Rest Areas.*** **One sign shall be placed in advance of each named rest area. Normally a one line message would be placed above the REST AREA (X MILE) (D5-1) sign. The sign shall be white on blue.**

4. ***Interchanges.*** **One bronze plaque shall be installed at each legislatively named interchange. Memorial name signs shall not be erected at interchanges.**
5. ***Vista Points.*** **One bronze plaque shall be installed at each legislatively named vista point. Memorial name signs shall not be installed in advance of vista points.**

Guidance:

The size, color, and retroreflectorization of memorial named signs should match existing signs associated with the facility.

Standard:

Standard letter size, type and stroke widths shall be used.

Support:

The word "memorial" is not normally included on the sign.

Guidance:

Bronze plaques normally should bear the name in 1 inch letters. However, the plaque should be no larger than 30 x 30 inch.

When the highway is a State facility, the following procedure should be followed when legislation includes a provision that either memorial signs or plaques be purchased and installed at no cost to the State.

The District Director will:

1. *Contact the sponsor of the legislation to determine appropriate wording for the signs or plaques.*
2. *Prepare an estimate of cost for the signs or plaque installation, and submit the estimate to the sponsor.*
3. *After receipt of the funds from the sponsor, purchase and install the signs or plaque.*
4. *Notify the author and sponsor when the memorial signs or plaque are ready so that a dedication can be arranged.*
5. *Maintain all signs and plaques within the right-of-way.*

The sponsor will:

1. *Collect donations from individuals who appreciated the services provided by the memorialized individual.*
2. *Submit advance payment for the signs or plaque and installation to the department.*
3. *Arrange for suitable public dedication.*

Support:

When legislation does not include the "at no cost to the State" provision, signs and plaques will continue to be furnished and installed at State expense.

Existing named highway facilities that have been designated with a bronze plaque are exempt from the above provisions and no signs are required.

Option:

The Memorial Bridge (G11-4A(CA) and G11-4B(CA)) signs (see Figure 2M-101(CA)) may be placed above an existing Inventory Marker (G11-1(CA), G11-2(CA), G11-4(CA) or G11-5(CA)) when an appropriate authority has requested that a highway facility be designated as a memorial facility.

The Memorial Bridge and Inventory Marker (G11-8(CA) and G11-9(CA)) combination signs (see Figure 2M-101(CA)) may be placed when an appropriate authority has requested that a highway facility be designated as a memorial facility.

Guidance:

The Inventory Markers should be placed at each end of a structure, with the bottom of the sign even with the top of the bridge rail.

Support:

The official name and number of structures on State highways are determined by the Department of Transportation's Office of Structures Design.

Option:

The Named State Highway (SG1(CA)) sign may be used to identify a named State highway when required by legislation or when determined necessary to provide traveler information.

Victims Memorial Program Signs (S35(CA) Series)

Support:

Refer to Streets and Highways Code Section 101.10.

Option:

The PLEASE DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE (S35(CA)) sign (see Figure 2M-101(CA)) may be placed on any state highway upon request from an immediate family member of a person who was killed by a driver intoxicated with drugs or alcohol, in memory of the victim.

Standard:

The IN MEMORY OF XXX – 1 PERSON (S35-1(CA)), IN MEMORY OF XXX – 2 PERSONS (S35-2(CA)) or IN MEMORY OF XXX – 3 PERSONS (S35-3(CA)) sign (see Figure 2M-101(CA)) shall be placed below the S35(CA) sign.

The following conditions shall be satisfied to qualify for a S35(CA) sign on a state highway:

1. **At least one of the deceased victim's immediate family members requests a memorial sign. An immediate family member is a spouse, child, stepchild, brother, stepbrother, sister, stepsister, mother, stepmother, father or stepfather.**
2. **The accident occurred on or after January 1, 1991.**
3. **Either (a) or (b) is true:**
   a. **The intoxicated driver was convicted of second degree murder, or gross vehicular manslaughter, or vehicular manslaughter.**
   b. **The intoxicated driver died or could not be prosecuted because of mental incompetence.**
4. **Note: An intoxicated driver who died does NOT qualify as a victim.**

The placement of the S35(CA) sign on state highways shall be per the following requirements:

1. **Signs will be installed in accordance with applicable Caltrans policies and standards for signs. This includes posts, hardware, materials, vertical, longitudinal, and lateral positioning.**
2. **Caltrans will NOT install or maintain a memorial sign if there is written opposition from any immediate family member.**
3. **Only one sign will be installed in one direction of travel on the right side of the state highway in close proximity to where the accident occurred at a location where it is safe and practical to do so.**
4. **Caltrans will maintain the sign for 7 years or until the condition of the sign has deteriorated to a point where it is no longer serviceable, whichever occurs first.**
5. **Only one sign will be installed per accident. Multiple victim names may appear on the sign.**
6. **A sign will NOT be installed in the median of any state highway.**

Section 2M.101(CA) Historical Landmark Signs (G13-1(CA), G13-2(CA) and G14(CA))

Standard:

The Historical Landmark (G13-1(CA) and G13-2(CA)) signs and the Advance Historical Landmark (G14(CA)) sign shall have a brown legend and border on a cream colored background.

Option:

The G13-1(CA), G13-2(CA) and G14(CA) signs may be in addition to the normal compliment of signs, but minimum spacing will be maintained.

The G13-1(CA), G13-2(CA) and G14(CA) signs may be placed directing to Historical Landmarks that are registered with the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Standard:

On freeways, the G13-1(CA), G13-2(CA) and G14(CA) signs shall be limited to those more important and better known landmarks where some physical evidence remains, such as missions, forts, state monuments, etc., rather than mere sites of former buildings or happenings.

The Office of Historic Preservation within the Department of Parks and Recreation (or the Resource Protection Division in the case of State Historic Park sites) shall be notified prior to the removal of existing G13-1(CA), G13-2(CA) and G14(CA) signs.

Guidance:

The Historical Landmark (G13-1(CA)) sign should be used on conventional highways to guide motorist by the most direct route to registered historical landmarks which are located within 5 mile of the highway. The sign should be placed not more than 150 feet in advance of the intersection on the right.

The Historical Landmark (G13-2(CA)) sign should be used on freeways to guide motorists to the original 21 California Missions and other important well-known historical landmarks. See Section 123.5 of the Streets and Highways Code for

signing to Missions. The G13-2(CA) sign should also be used on freeways to guide motorists to historical landmarks that have a profound impact on the history of California as a whole.

Option:

Supplemental Destination (G86(CA) Series) signs (white text on green background) may be used on freeways where the landmark generates considerable traffic.

Standard:

These G86(CA) Series signs shall be followed up by standard Historical Landmark signs on the next exit ramps.

Guidance:

The Advance Historical Landmark (G14(CA)) sign should be used in advance of a registered historical landmark monument or plaque within or adjacent to the right of way. The sign should be placed 500 to 1500 feet in advance of the landmark or monument on the right, depending on the approach speed of traffic.

Section 2M.102(CA) POINT OF HISTORICAL INTEREST Sign (G15(CA))

Standard:

The POINT OF HISTORICAL INTEREST (G15(CA)) sign shall have a cream legend on a brown background.

The G15(CA) sign shall not be used on freeways.

Option:

The POINT OF HISTORICAL INTEREST (G15(CA)) sign may be used to direct the public to a historical point of interest that has been registered with the Office of Historic Preservation, Department of Parks and Recreation. The G15(CA) sign may be used on the right on city streets or conventional rural highways.

Support:

The G15(CA) sign is placed when requested by local authorities, after markers or other identification have been placed at the location and follow-up signs. If necessary, have been installed.

Section 2M.103(CA) Historic Route Signs (SG2(CA), SG2A(CA), S18(CA) and S25(CA))

Guidance:

The EL CAMINO REAL (SG2(CA)) sign should be used in combination with the Mission Bell assembly, to identify the original route of El Camino Real.

The HISTORIC EL CAMINO REAL (SG2A(CA)) sign should be used in combination with the Mission Bell assembly, to identify Historic El Camino Real.

Option:

The Historic Route (S18(CA)) sign may be used to identify a "Historic Route" when directed by the Legislature.

Support:

The Department of Transportation and local agencies with portions of Historic Routes under their jurisdiction, upon application by an interested local agency or private group and receiving donations from non-State sources for the cost of the sign and their installation, will place these signs as requested.

The Historic Route 99 (S25(CA)) sign is used to identify "Historic Route 99".

The Department of Transportation and local agencies with portions of former U.S. Route 99 currently under their jurisdiction, upon application by an interested local agency or private group and receiving donations from non-State sources for the cost of the sign and their installation, will place these signs as requested.

Guidance:

Suggested placement should be staggered in each direction at approximately 10 mile intervals on conventional highways and 25 mile intervals on freeways for the S18(CA) and S25(CA) signs.

Section 2M.104(CA) Historic Bridge Signs (S29(CA), S29-1(CA) and S29-2(CA))

Guidance:

The Historic Bridge (S29(CA) and S29-1(CA)) sign should be used to identify 280 bridges in the State that are of historical significance and appear in the Department of Transportation's publication titled "Historical Highway Bridges of California". See Section 1A.11 for information regarding this publication.

The Advance Historic Bridge (S29-2(CA)) sign should be used in advance of a historic bridge to direct the public to the historic bridge.

Support:

The initial installation of the Historic Bridge signs was through a grant provided under the ISTEA Enhancement Program and administered by the Department of Transportation's Environmental Program. Maintenance for the existing signs is borne by the agency responsible for the bridge.

Figure 2M-1. Examples of Use of Arrows, Educational Plaques, and Prohibitive Slashes

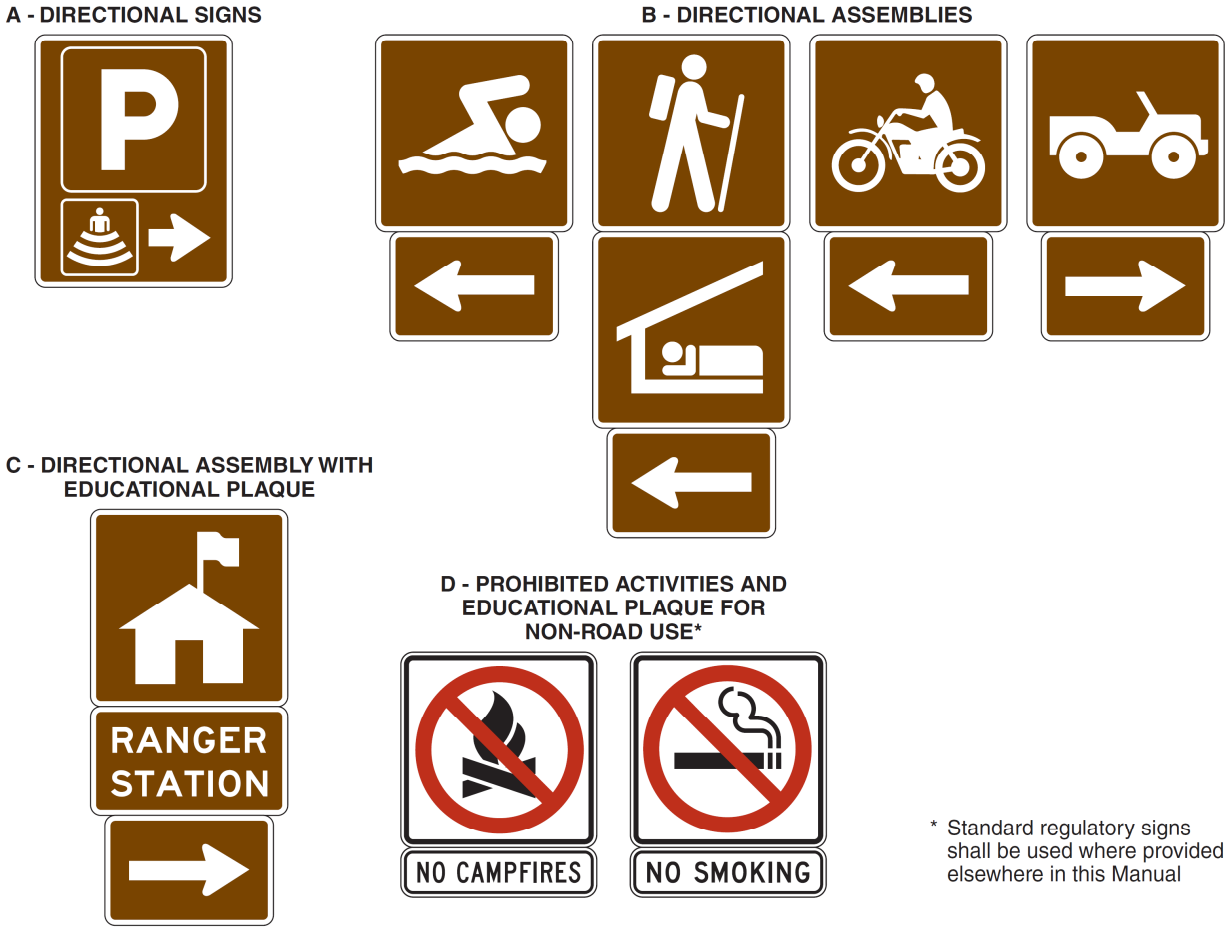


Figure 2M-1 (CA). Examples of Use of Arrows, Educational Plaques, and Prohibitive Slashes

G58 (CA)

Figure 2M-2. Examples of Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Guide Signs

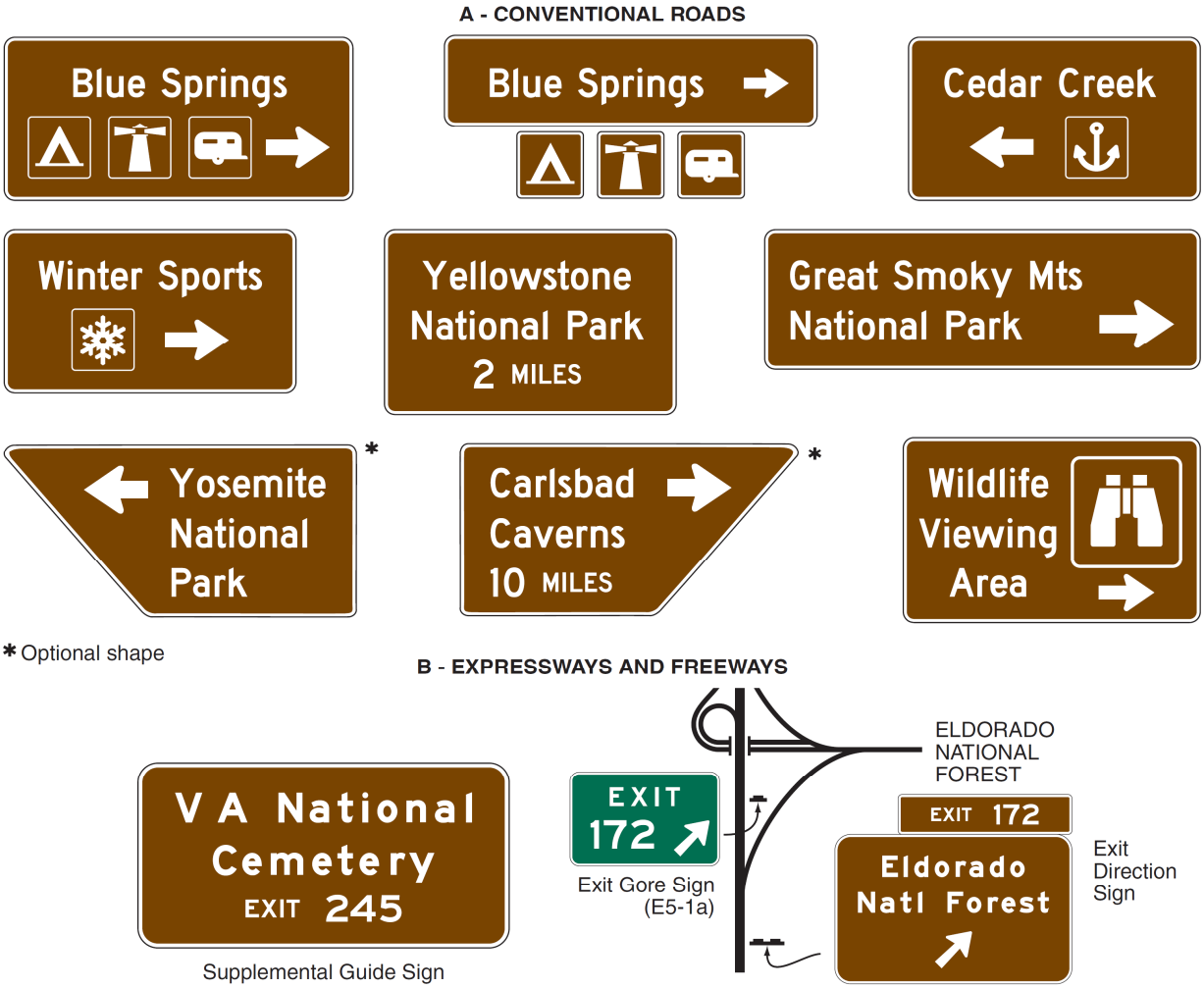


Figure 2M-2 (CA). Examples of Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Guide Signs

G13-1 (CA)

G13-2 (CA)

G14 (CA)

G15 (CA)

G72 (CA)

G86-11 (CA)

SG2 (CA)

SG2A (CA)

S18 (CA)

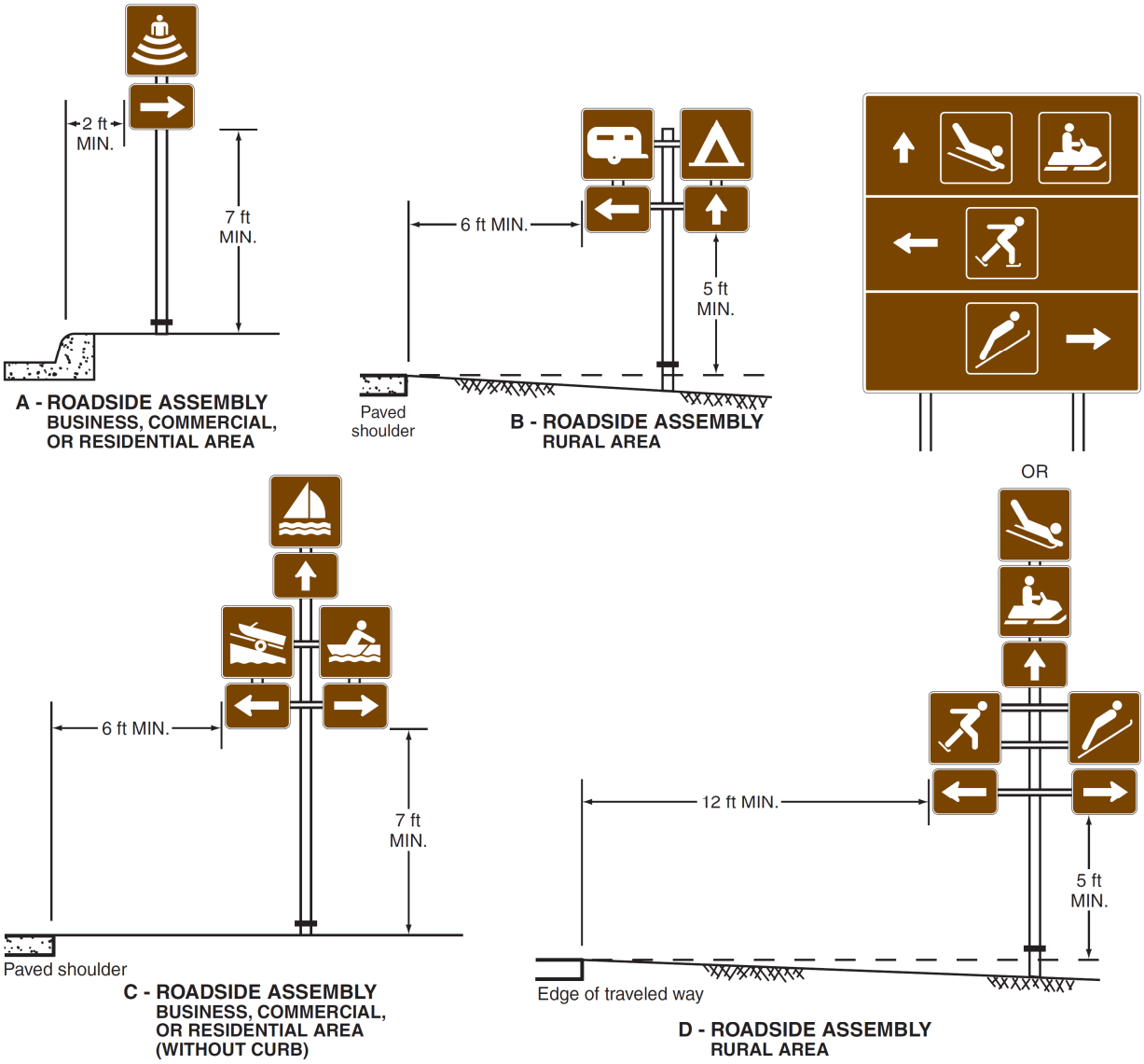
S25 (CA)

S29 (CA)

S29-1 (CA)

S29-2 (CA)

Figure 2M-3. Arrangement, Height, and Lateral Position of Signs Located Within Recreational and Cultural Interest Areas



Note: See Section 2A.19 for reduced lateral offset distances that may be used in areas where lateral offsets are limited, and in urban areas where sidewalk width is limited or where existing poles are close to the curb.

Figure 2M-4. Examples of Symbol and Destination Guide Signing Layout

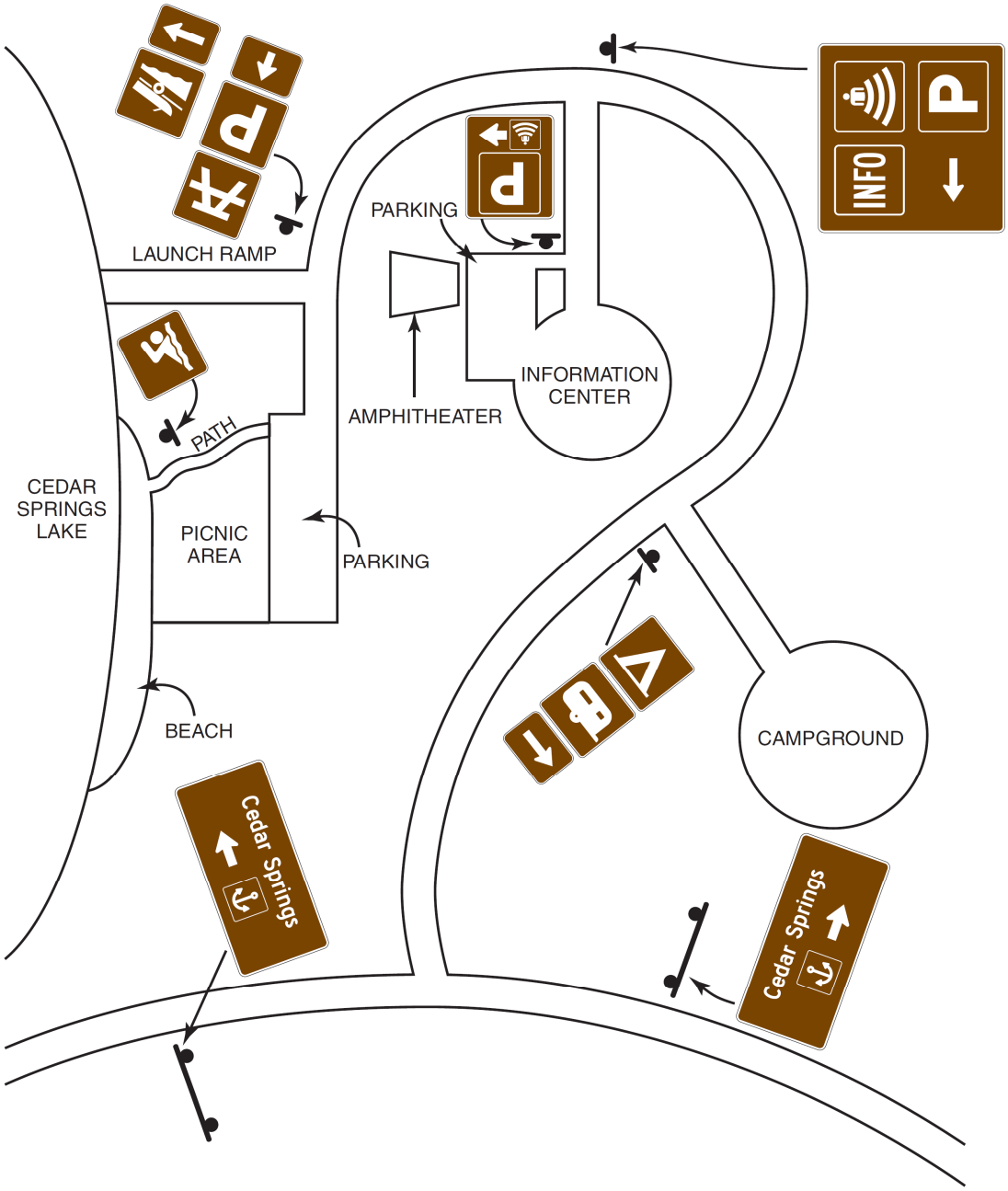


Figure 2M-5. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for General Applications

Figure 2M-6. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Accommodations

RS-021 Men's Restroom
RS-022 Restrooms
RS-023 Women's Restroom
RS-034 Parking
RS-037 Sleeping Shelter
RS-040 Trailer Site
RS-104 Recreational Vehicle Site
RS-137 Baby Changing Station (Men's Room)
RS-138 Baby Changing Station (Women's Room)
RS-148 Walk-In Camp

Figure 2M-7. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Services

RS-013 Drinking Water
RS-015 Ranger Station
RS-020 Grocery Store
RS-024 First Aid
RS-026 Post Office
RS-027 Mechanic
RS-030 Lockers/Storage
RS-035 Showers
RS-039 Picnic Shelter
RS-041 Sanitary Station
RS-043 Trail Shelter
RS-044 Picnic Site
RS-045 Kennel
RS-071 Tramway
RS-073 Stable
RS-085 Laundromat
RS-086 Litter Receptacle
RS-091 Trash Dumpster
RS-109 Theater
RS-112 Firewood Cutting
RS-114 Radiator Water
RS-150 Electrical Hook-Up

Figure 2M-8. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Land Recreation

Figure 2M-8 (CA). Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Land Recreation

G200-80 (CA)

G200-81A (CA)

G200-82 (CA)

G200-82A (CA)

S12 (CA)

Figure 2M-9. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Water Recreation

Figure 2M-10. Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Winter Recreation

Figure 2M-10 (CA). Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbol Signs for Winter Recreation

SG30 (CA)

SG31 (CA)

SG32 (CA)

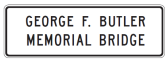
SG33 (CA)

SG34 (CA)

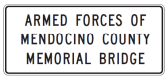
SG35 (CA)

SG35-1 (CA)

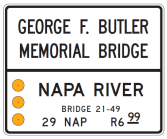
Figure 2M-101 (CA). Memorial or Dedication Signing



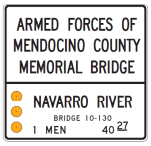
G11-4A (CA)



G11-4B (CA)



G11-8 (CA)



G11-9 (CA)

G12-1 (CA)

G12-2 (CA)

SG1 (CA)

S35 (CA)

S35-1 (CA)

S35-2 (CA)

S35-3 (CA)

Table 2M-1. Category Chart for Recreational and Cultural Interest Area Symbols

General	
Bear Viewing Area	RS-012
Bus Stop	RS-031
Campfires *	RS-042
Cans or Bottles *	RS-101
Cultural Interest Area	RS-142
Dam	RS-009
Deer Viewing Area	RS-011
Falling Rocks *	RS-008
Fire Extinguisher *	RS-090
Lighthouse	RS-007
Lookout Tower	RS-006
Nature Study Area	RS-141
Pets on Leash *	RS-017
Pick-Up Trucks	RS-140
Point of Interest	RS-080
Radios *	RS-103
Rattlesnakes *	RS-099
Recycling *	RS-200
Sea Plane	RS-115
Smoking *	RS-002
Snack Bar *	RS-102
Stay on Trail *	RS-123
Strollers *	RS-111
Tunnel	RS-005
Viewing Area	RS-036
Walk on Boardwalk *	RS-122
Wood Gathering *	RS-120

Accommodations	
Baby Changing Station (Men's Room)	RS-137
Baby Changing Station (Women's Room)	RS-138
Men's Restroom	RS-021
Parking	RS-034
Recreational Vehicle Site	RS-104
Restrooms	RS-022
Sleeping Shelter *	RS-037
Trailer Site	RS-040
Walk-In Camp	RS-148
Women's Restroom	RS-023

Services	
Drinking Water	RS-013
Electrical Hook-Up	RS-150
Firewood Cutting *	RS-112
First Aid	RS-024
Grocery Store	RS-020
Kennel	RS-045
Laundromat	RS-085
Litter Receptacle	RS-086
Lockers/Storage *	RS-030
Mechanic	RS-027
Picnic Shelter	RS-039
Picnic Site	RS-044
Post Office	RS-026
Ranger Station	RS-015
Sanitary Station	RS-041
Showers *	RS-035
Stable	RS-073
Theater	RS-109
Trail Shelter *	RS-043
Tramway	RS-071
Trash Dumpster	RS-091

Land Recreation	
All-Terrain Trail	RS-095
Amphitheater	RS-070
Archery	RS-116
Baseball *	RS-096
Climbing *	RS-082
Corral	RS-149
Driving Tour	RS-113
Exercise/Fitness	RS-097
Golfing *	RS-128
Hang Gliding	RS-126
Hiking Trail	RS-068
Horse Trail	RS-064
In-Line Skating	RS-125
Interpretive Trail	RS-114
Off-Road Vehicle Trail	RS-067
Rock Collecting *	RS-083
Skateboarding *	RS-098
Spelunking/Caves	RS-084
Technical Rock Climbing	RS-081
Tennis	RS-129
Wildlife Viewing	RS-076

Water Recreation	
Beach	RS-145
Boat Motor	RS-147
Boat Ramp	RS-054
Canoeing	RS-079
Diving	RS-062
Fish Cleaning *	RS-093
Fish Hatchery	RS-010
Fish Ladder *	RS-089
Fishing Area	RS-063
Fishing Pier	RS-119
Hand Launch/Small Boat Launch	RS-117
Jet Ski/Personal Watercraft	RS-121
Kayaking	RS-118
Lifejackets *	RS-094
Marina	RS-053
Motorboating	RS-055
Rafting	RS-146
Rowboating	RS-057
Sailing	RS-056
Scuba Diving	RS-060
Seal Viewing	RS-106
Surfing	RS-059
Swimming	RS-061
Tour Boat	RS-087
Wading	RS-088
Waterskiing	RS-058
Whale Viewing	RS-107
Wind Surfing	RS-108

Winter Recreation	
Chair Lift/Ski Lift	RS-105
Cross Country Skiing	RS-046
Dog Sledding	RS-143
Downhill Skiing	RS-047
Ice Fishing	RS-092
Ice Skating	RS-050
Ski Jumping	RS-048
Sledding	RS-049
Snow Tubing	RS-144
Snowboarding	RS-127
Snowmobiling	RS-052
Snowshoeing	RS-078
Winter Recreational Area	RS-077

* For non-road use only