The Bureau of Land Management and Buena Vista Museum of Natural History have initiated a program of earth science field trips to points of mineralogic, geologic, paleontologic and historic interest throughout central California. These trips are designed for persons of high school age and older. It is not necessary to have a technical background to attend or benefit from the trips. These field trips are recommended for teachers and many of them can be taken for in-service continuing education credit through California State University Bakersfield. Each trip includes a full spectrum of environmental and land management topics. A field guide is prepared for some of the field trips which include maps and directions which can be used by anyone for self-guided investigation of the geology along the field trip route.

California is ever-changing. The Geology Field Trip Program explores the changes that have occurred throughout California's complex and fascinating geologic history and focuses on the human interaction with this geology over the past 150 years. Since the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill in 1848, the landscape of California has never been the same. We live in an environment today with a range of social issues that are directly linked to our geologic past. Symposia and field trips of this interpretive outdoor program are designed to bring this message to residents of all parts of California.

Visit our web site at [http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/bakersfield/Programs/geology/fieldtrips.html](http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/bakersfield/Programs/geology/fieldtrips.html). The Buena Vista Museum of Natural History web site is at [www.sharktoothhill.com](http://www.sharktoothhill.com). For additional information, comments or suggestions, contact Dr. Gregg Wilkerson at 661-391-6081 or at gwilkers@blm.gov. High-clearance vehicles are required for this trip.

**March 6-7, 2010  Tecopa-Amargosa Valley**
The silver-lead-zinc mines of Tecopa and the clay deposits of the Amargosa Valley will be investigated. The Tecopa district was the only long-running, profitable metal mining district in the Death Valley Region. The Amargosa Opera House and Amargosa Valley Pup Fish localities will also be visited.

**May 8, 2010  Mineral King and Case Mountain Sequoia Grove**
The seldom-visited giant sequoia groves on BLM land at Case Mountain are inspected by a 1 mile hike cross-country (no trails). This unique experience is followed by a tour of historic Mineral King in Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park. The silver-lead-zinc (gold) mineralization there is associated with an ancient sub-sea volcano. High clearance

**June 5, 2010 Oil and gas seeps of western Kern County**
The oil/gas seeps at Devil’s Den, Avinal, McKittrick and Maricopa are investigated.

**July 9-10-11, 2010  Mother Lode Part I: Southern Mines**
This 3-day field conference examines the mines, geology and mining history between Maricopa and Jackson. There will be a Friday Evening Lecture Series in Jamestown at the Community Hall 6:00-9:00 p.m. Saturday’s trip will be from Jamestown through Columbia and then to the Hidden Treasure Mine and hence to the Westpoint Mining District via the Chaw Se Historic Park (petroglyphs, grinding stones). This tour ends at the Kennedy Wheels in Jackson. Sunday’s Field trip starts in Coulterville and examines
the mining areas of La Grange, Hornitos, Bear Valley and Mt. Bullion. The Sunday field trip ends with a stamp-mill demonstration in Mariposa and a visit to the State Mining and Mineral Museum.

**August 7, 2010  Bakersfield to Mojave and Red Rock Canyon**

Mercury mines near Keeler and the Cactus, Golden Queen and Solidad Mountain gold mines near Mojave are visited. Then we go to Red Rock Canyon by way of the old salt mines at Saltdale. On the way we examine the Garlock Fault. The day ends with a tour down the Kern Canyon on our way back to Bakersfield. Management practices for the Mojave ground squirrel, Desert tortoise and Tehachapi salamander are discussed.

**Sept 4, 2010  San Andreas Fault: Soda Lake (Carrizo Plains) to Parkfield;**

Parkfield, the "earthquake capital of the world" is the final stop in this trip along the San Andreas. We learn about the complex and fascinating ecology at Soda Lake and Carrizo Plains Natural Area. We see examples of off-set fences and bridges in the fault zone. We investigate oil seeps at McKittrick. The stratigraphy and ecology of the La Panza and Gablin ranges are studied including Syncline Hill in the Carrizo Plains.

**Oct. 2, 2010  Panoche and Tumey Hills**

This is a 2-day field conference. Leaving early Saturday morning, we set up a base camp at the edge of the Tumey-Panoche Hills Wilderness Study Area. Saturday afternoon will be spent in reconnaissance for plesiosaur and mosasaur sites within a radius of 3 miles of base camp. Reconnaissance work will continue on Sunday afternoon.

**TO PAY FOR YOUR RESERVATIONS**

If you have any questions about registering for a field trip, contact Gregg Wilkerson at 661-391-6081 or contact the Museum directly at 661-324-6350. Prices vary for each trip depending on stops at museums or other locations that charge admission. Generally, fees are $25.00 per vehicle per day.

For BMNH records, insurance coverage and coordination, please fill out the BVMNH registration form below and return to, BVMNH, 2018 Chester Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301. You will be asked to sign a "Hold Harmless" agreement before the field trip begins.

**CALL FOR MOST RECENT DATES AND SCHEDULE. SOMETIMES WE NEED TO CHANGE FIELD TRIP DATES.**

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Field Trip Name: ___________________ Dates: ________________ bring a sack lunch and plenty of water

E-mail: _____________________________

**NOTE: WE NO LONGER OFFER MUSEUM VANS FOR THESE TRIPS DUE TO THEIR HIGH COST AND LIABILITY ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH USING THE VANS.**