



# CALAVERAS DOME MULTI-PITCH CAMP

Spectacular Sierra granite multi-pitch climbing and rustic riverside camping define this two day program. Be prepared for a lot of exposure, a low student to instructor ratio (2:1), and tons of multi-pitch climbing. This course focuses on climbing the areas classic's on both Hammer and Calaveras Dome. For those interested in learning the mechanics of multi-pitch climbing consider the Multi-Pitch Rockcraft Seminar which delves further into helping folks become independent multi-pitch lead climbers.

Day one typically starts off with a warm-up multi-pitch climb on Hammer Dome which is located directly across the Mokelumne River from Calaveras Dome proper. During this initial climb rope management and team logistics will be introduced and refined while climbing. Participants should expect a mixture of crack and face climbs from 5.7 to 5.9. Most climbs require multiple rappells back to the ground and some of the belay stations are hanging so make sure your harness and shoes are comfortable. Often groups climb 2 separate climbs 3-4 pitches in length.

Day two is reserved for a longer multi-pitch climb on Calaveras Dome. A standard route for MAS is "Sands of Time" (5.9 IV) which is a physical crack and face climb that is 6 to 11 pitches in length before rapelling back to the ground. Another harder option is "Wall of the Worlds" (5.10c IV) with demanding cracks and delicate face climbing. Rest assured all participants will experience exciting and safe multi-climbing on a variety of climbs throughout the two day program.

Participants should try and arrive either before sunset the evening prior or early in the morning on day one. MAS will establish a group campsite and each morning will prepare a large bowl of oatmeal and pot of coffee or tea for course participants to help get the day started right. Evening are reserved for relaxing and swamping tales.

## **PREREQUISITES:**

- ability to climb at least 5.9 cracks and faces on top rope
- strong belaying skills
- good physical condition

## **LOCATION & TIME:**

The course officially starts at 8 AM on day one at the MAS campsite. Best to arrive the evening before dark if it is your first time in the area (directions on the back).

## **COURSE CURRICULUM:**

- overview multi-pitch hazards and precautions
- standardize commands and review safety procedures
- review and clarify lead climber belay techniques and expectations
- multi-pitch psychology & tactics
- removing and racking anchors and slings
- rapelling with a backup
- tons of multi-pitch climbing

## **REGISTRATION INFORMATION:**

Participants can register online, through email, by fax or over the phone. Preregistration is required and full payment reserved your space. For more information either visit the MAS website ([www.mtadventure.com](http://www.mtadventure.com)), email us ([mail@mtadventure.com](mailto:mail@mtadventure.com)) or call the MAS office at (209) 753-6556 ext. 1. Cancellations made 14 days or more prior to course date will be refunded less \$25. No refunds can be made within 7 days of course date. If a course has to be cancelled due to low enrolment or poor weather you will be given a full refund.

**\*SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION\***

## ADDITIONAL MULTI-PITCH INFORMATION

- comfortable climbing shoes are important
- a well padded harness is nice
- consider climbing with athletic long pants
- compact low profile climbing backpack
- a small, lightweight head lamp is never a bad idea
- a lightweight windbreaker is a critical piece of gear
- small, easily accessible, lunch snacks
- sunglasses & camera please have a keeper strap
- pay attention to weather and dress appropriately

### MAS PROVIDES:

- professional & personable instructors
- low student to instructor ratio (2:1)
- Wilderness First Responder certified guides
- first aid kit
- all climbing ropes, anchors, and slings
- climbing helmets if requested beforehand
- commercial guiding permits and insurance

### WHAT TO PACK:

- harness, rock shoes, helmet\*
- 2 locking carabiners, belay device
- lunch, water, day pack, approach shoes
- sunglasses, sunscreen & lip balm w/SPF 10+
- see "hot & cold weather considerations" above
- camera (optional)

### HOT WEATHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- hydrate aggressively the night & morning prior
- 2-3 quarts recommended for the day
- we often leave extra water at the base of the climb
- loose, lightweight and light colored clothing
- sun hat to wear underneath your helmet

### COLD WEATHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- warm hat or beanie cap that fits underneath helmet
- climbing shoes that you can wear a pair of socks
- plenty of little snacks while climbing
- lightweight fingerless gloves can be nice for belaying

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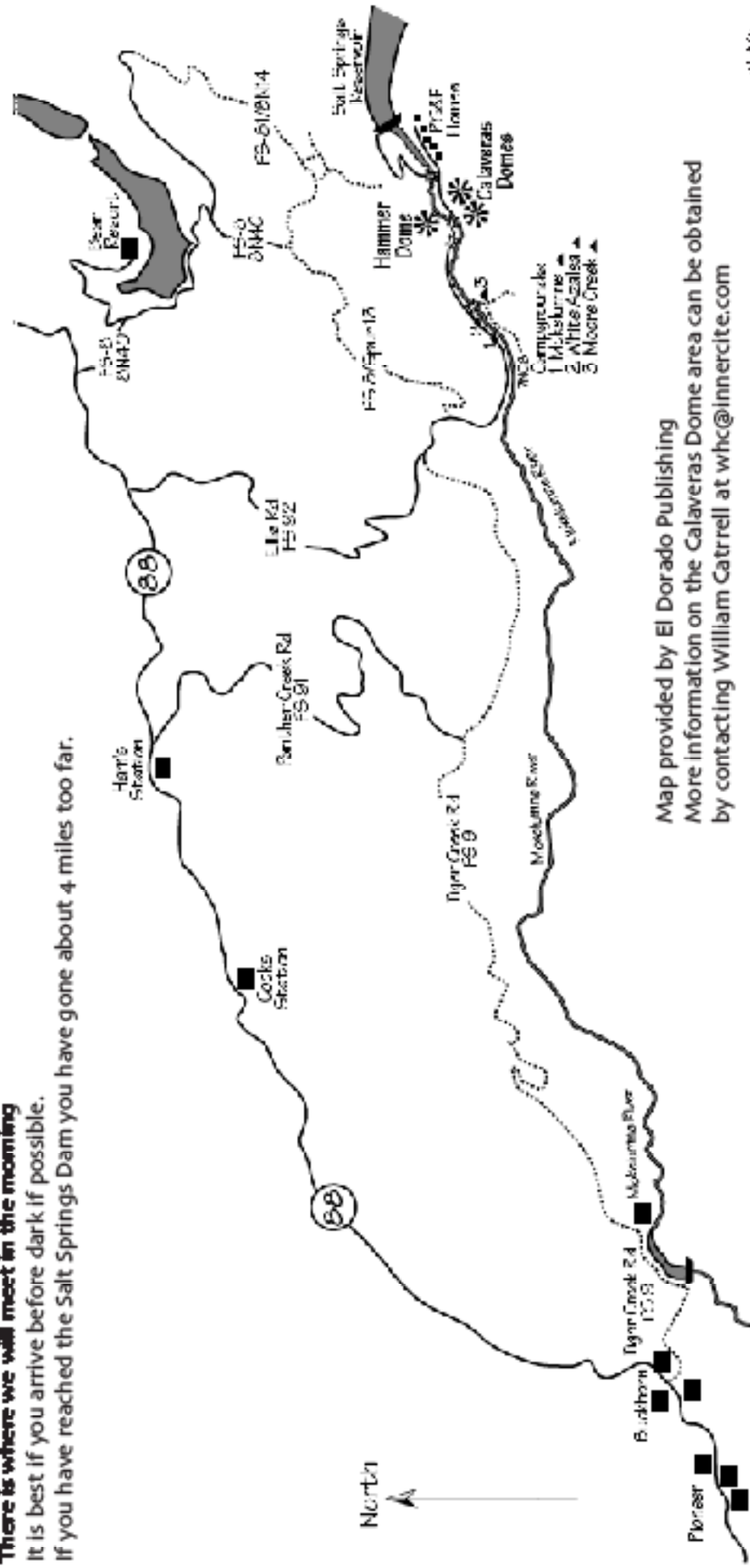
## CALAVERAS & HAMMER DOME CAMPING INFORMATION (DIRECTIONS ON NEXT PAGE)

- Camping in the Calaveras & Hammer Dome is located alongside the scenic Mokelumne River and is considered semi-primitive. There are no services such as gas stations or general stores nearby (basic services 30 minutes drive away). You must come prepared for car camping: tent, stoves, and water.
- No campsites have running potable water. MAS will bring several large water containers to help out.
- The established campsites are clumped near simple outhouses. Good idea to bring your own toilet paper.
- In the spring you should bring some mosquito repellent for the early morning and evenings.



## DIRECTIONS TO CALAVERAS & HAMMER DOME

- Use your California map to get you to the town of Jackson at the junction of Highway 88 and 49.
- From Jackson take 88 East
- 18 miles past Pioneer, and just beyond Ham's Station, at the top of a hill, turn right on Ellis Road (FS 92).
- Travel 10 miles on this winding "pot-holed" road down to the Mokelumne River. This section will take you about 20 minutes. Please drive carefully
- As you get to the bottom of the canyon the road parallels the Mokelumne River.
- Keep your eye out for the "Mokelumne Campground"
- MAS will post a note on the campground sign giving directions to the campsite.
- There is where we will meet in the morning
- It is best if you arrive before dark if possible.
- If you have reached the Salt Springs Dam you have gone about 4 miles too far.



Map provided by El Dorado Publishing  
More information on the Calaveras Dome area can be obtained  
by contacting William Catrell at [whc@innercite.com](mailto:whc@innercite.com)

