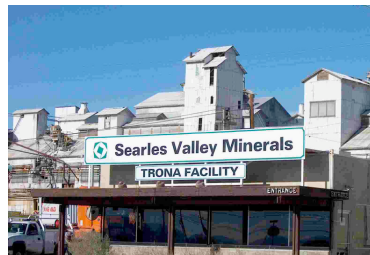


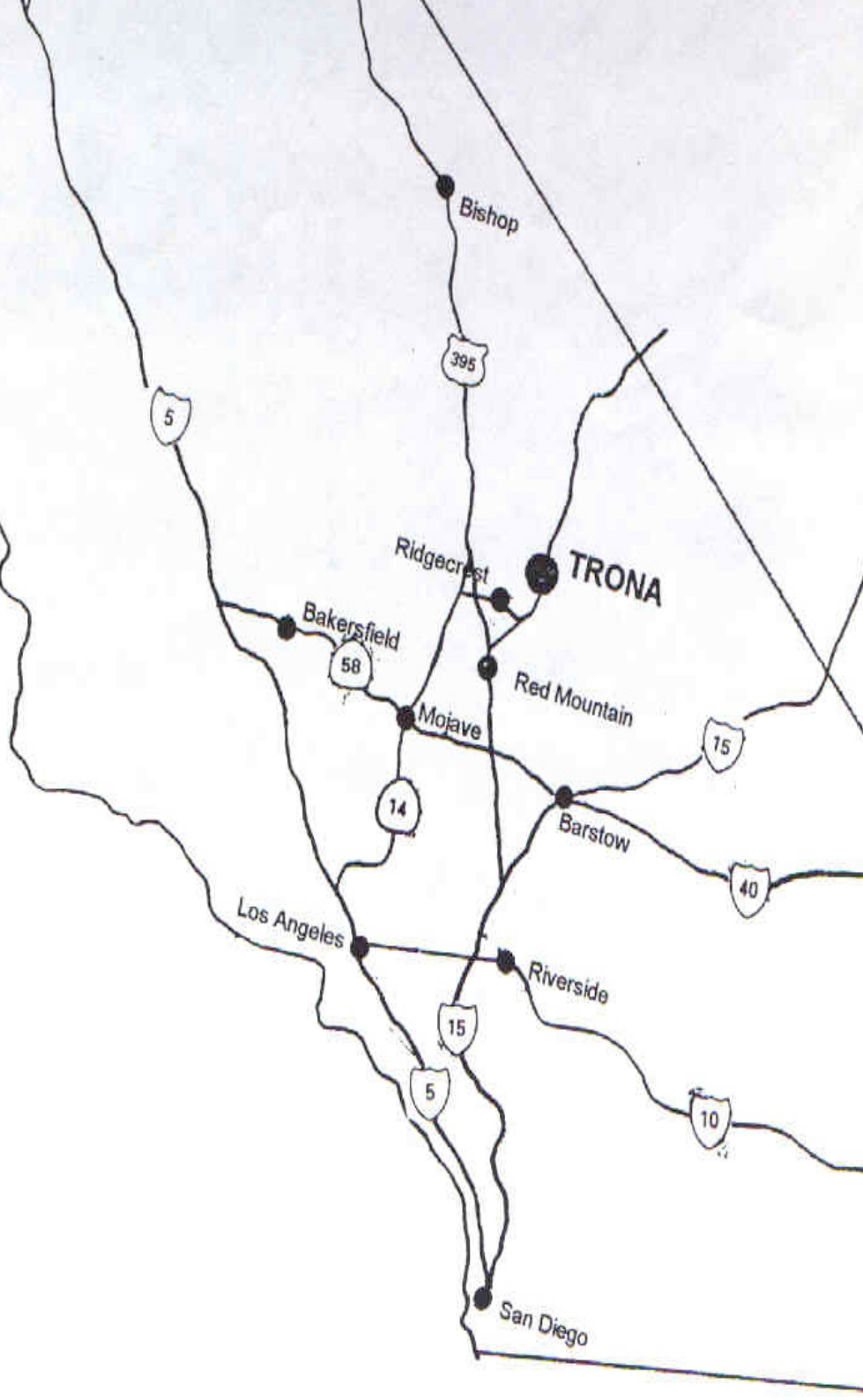


TRAVEL & TOURISM

TRONA, CA



RICH IN MINERALS. RICH IN LIFE.



TRONA HISTORY & INFORMATION

In the late 1800s mining industry set up around Searles Dry Lake to mine borax. By 1913, Trona was officially established as a self-contained company town, wholly operated by its resident mining company to house employees. Trona is an unincorporated community in San Bernardino County, California. The town takes its name from the mineral trona, abundant in the lakebed.

Climate: Trona has an arid climate with cool winters and hot summers.

Population: 2,800

Geography: Located a few miles to the south are the Trona Pinnacles, an unusual landscape consisting of more than 500 tufa spires, some as high as 140 feet, rising from the bed of the Searles Lake basin.



SEARLES VALLEY MINING FACTORY

Searles Valley Minerals provides customers worldwide with soda ash, sodium sulfate, and boron minerals from the desert of the western United States. Its advanced solution mining and crystallization techniques yield approximately two million tons of these minerals each year.

These minerals are necessary to the manufacturing of a wide variety of goods essential to modern life: glass, ceramics, animal feed, paper products, and detergents-to name only a few.

Address: 82090 First Street, Trona, CA 93562

MUSEUM PROPERTIES

There are historical properties and museums throughout Trona. They include the Old Guest House Museum, the Searles Valley History House, the Trona Railway Museum, the Trona Railway Caboose and the Argus Fire Station with 2 fire engines. Most are run by the Historical Society.

Old Guest House Museum:
760-372-5222



MINERALS IN TRONA - GEM-O-RAMA

Thousands of visitors have come to Trona during the second weekend in October for the annual Gem-O-Rama. And each year more collectors converge for the 36 hours of frantic, non-stop activity to collect some of the best and most desirable evaporite mineral specimens in the world. Since the first show, the Searles Lake Gem and Mineral Society has worked closely with the management and employees of owner/operator on Searles Lake to provide one of the most exciting mineral collecting field trips available in the world. Call 760-372-5356 for more information.



LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Trona Care is a non-profit organization that hopes to improve the community while instilling pride in each of its community members.

For Trona Care Information: 760-372-5988

The Searles Valley Historical Society was founded in 1979 as a non-profit corporation. Its primary purpose is to bring together people interested in history, especially in the history of Searles Valley, and to preserve the history of Searles Valley for future generations.

Address: 13193 Main Street - Trona, CA 93592

For Historical Society Information: 760-372-5222



LOCAL AREAS OF INTEREST

The BLM Ridgecrest Resource area is another great place to be if you love outdoors. It's only a 15 minute drive away, and it's located by the edge of the Mojave Desert and the toe of the Sierras.

Darwin Falls is only a short hike away. It's a very scenic waterfall and grotto in the middle of the driest place in North America. The falls are located just west of Panamint Springs.

The Argus Range Wilderness is a thin and narrow north-south mountain chain, stretching 28 miles along the west side of the Panamint Valley, just south and west of Death Valley National Park and just east of the China Lake.



OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE RECREATION & CAMPING



SPANGLER OHV RECREATION

Spangler Off-road High Vehicle (OHV) recreation area is located within 20 miles of Trona and is the closest OHV park. Spangler OHV Recreation area spans Kern and San Bernardino Counties and is an open ride park where riders are free to ride anywhere within park boundaries. This OHV recreation area provides trail riding, advanced technical routes, 4-wheel drive trails, technique trails, and more (BLM, 2007).

TRADITIONAL CAMPING

Primitive camping is available at the Trona Pinnacles; however, there are no services except an outhouse. At this campsite water and fire-wood has to be brought in and trash must be packed out.

RV CAMPING

Camping is permitted anywhere in the open area, but is limited to 14 days per visit (2007). There are no bathrooms or recreational vehicle (rv) water or sewer hook-ups. Solid waste must be bagged and properly disposed of. A couple of the more popular camping and staging areas are at Teagle Wash, Wagon Wheel, Football Field Camp, and Prospector Camp. Trona has a mobile home and rv park with full hook-up sites should campers prefer to sleep away from the ride areas.



ROCK CLIMBING & HIKING

Trona sits at the base of the Argus Range providing many places to camp.

GREAT FALLS BASIN WILDERNESS AREA

In springtime, a stream of water from springs on the east side of



Argus Peak tumbles over rocks and a cliff about 25 ft high in the Great Falls Canyon. The flow of water generally diminishes in the fall and winter periods (Searles Valley Historical Society, 2010).

SALT WELLS CANYON

Salt Wells Canyon is commonly called “Poison Canyon” because the small stream at its west end contains naturally occurring arsenic, selenium and other minerals at toxic levels.

The canyon includes a rock formation that was painted by Joe Fox in the 1940s because it re-



mindful him of fish. It has since been a landmark and maintained by the community.

INDIAN JOE CANYON

A large spring in a canyon can be found about one mile south of Great Falls. The trailhead is 2.2 miles north of the Inyo County line and 2.5 miles west on a graded dirt road.

John W. Searles was said to have planted a garden and fruit trees there to help feed workers at his borax mine, since the spring had year-round water. To this day fig and nut trees, grape vines, and celery still grow there (Searles Valley Historical Society, 2010).



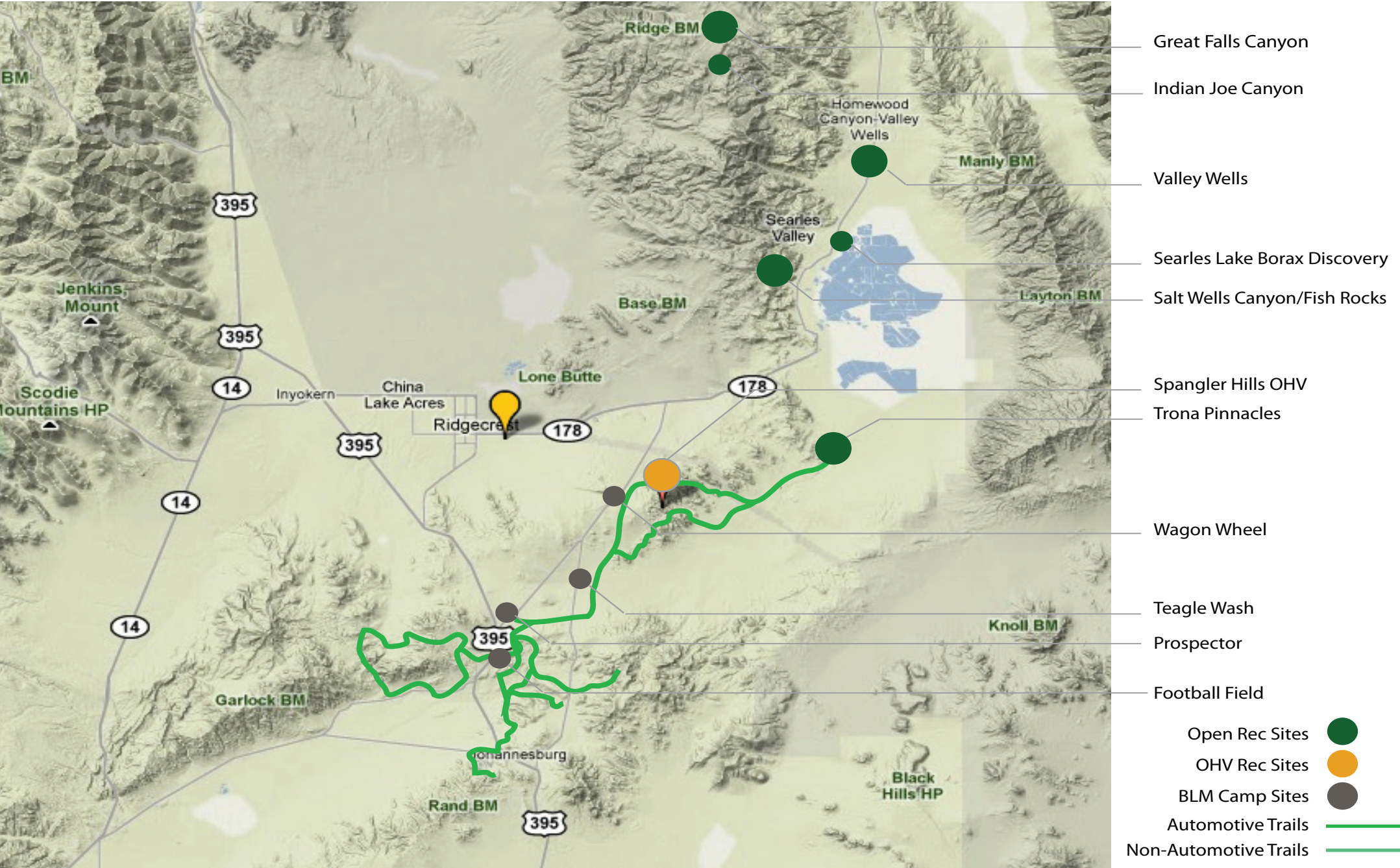
TRONA PINNACLES

Just about 12 miles south of Trona there are over 500 calcareous tufa towers that make up the Trona Pinnacles. It is a National Natural Landmark and accessible by a 5-mile dirt and road from the end of State Highway 178.

The Trona Pinnacles are made from tufa--mineral deposits that were left behind 10,000 to 100,000 years ago when this area was under a lake and springs below the lake floor emitted mineral-laden water. The calcium carbonate pinnacles were created with the help of algae and when the lake dried up, the pinnacles remained. At an elevation of 600 meters the Trona pinnacles stand up to 20 to 40 meters high in what is now the desert. A number of movies and commercials have been filmed here, including the final battle scene of Star Trek V.



RECREATION MAP



TRONCA CARE

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TRONACARE@YAHOO.COM

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