



Administering
Campus
UC Berkeley

Established
1951 (Joined NRS
2004)

Location

Nevada County, 8.4 miles north of Truckee on Highway 89.

Size

183 ha (452 acres); available watershed comprises ~3,200 ha (~7,900 acres)

Elevation

1,800 m to 3,000 m (5,900 to 9,800 ft); station facilities located at 1,943 m (6,390 ft)

Annual Average Precipitation

Measurements taken at 1,943 m (6,390 ft): water 88 cm (34.67 in); snow 515 cm (202.8 in)

Average Temperature Ranges

January: -10.5 to 4.5°C (13 to 40°F)
July: 3 to 26°C (37 to 79°F)

Facilities

Housing in 19 buildings for up to 20 to 40 people, depending on the season. Library/computer lab; two class-rooms; communal kitchen, eating area, and deck; office space; fish observation house. Electricity w/ backup generator, wireless network w/satellite Internet service, VCR, slide and LCD projectors. Flush toilets, showers, sinks, washing machines. Heat in most buildings.

Personnel

Year-round resident station manager and part-time assistant manager.

Contact Information

Jeff Brown, Reserve Manager
University of California, Berkeley
Sagehen Creek Field Station
P. O. Box 939 (11616 Sagehen Road)
Truckee, CA 96160-0939
Phone: 530-587-4830
Fax: 530-582-4031
Email: Sagehen@berkeley.edu
Website:
<<http://sagehen.berkeley.edu>>

NRS Website

<<http://nrs.ucop.edu>>

Sagehen Creek Field Station

Situated on the eastern slope of the northern Sierra Nevada approximately 20 miles north of Lake Tahoe, Sagehen Creek Field Station has been dedicated to research and teaching since 1951. The University of California operates the station under a long-term, special-use permit from the U.S. Forest Service. The surrounding watershed is also available to researchers and classes through an agreement with the Forest Service and includes extensive stands of yellow pine, mixed conifer, and red fir forests, as well as brush fields, scattered mountain meadows, and fens. Sagehen serves as the hub of a much broader network of research areas known as the Central Sierra Field Research Stations, which is comprised of: Sagehen Creek Field Station, Central Sierra Snow Laboratory, Onion Creek Experimental Watershed, Chickering American River Reserve, and North Fork Association Lands.

Databases & Collections

Daily weather data (1953 to present) from National Climate Data Center; climate data (1961 to present) from Western Regional Climate Center. Streamflow/water-quality data from U.S. Geological Survey; precipitation (2001 to present) from National Atmospheric Deposition Program. Online biological inventories of amphibians, birds, bony fishes, insects, mammals, plants, and reptiles. Onsite teaching collections of birds, insects, plants, and mammals.

Potential Research

Fire ecology and fire-risk management. Restoration/enhancement of ecological functioning in second-growth montane western forests. Social/ecological effects of development near wildlands. Interconnections between hydrological/geochemical/ecological processes in snowmelt-dominated watersheds.

Special Programs

Graduate research at Sagehen has provided the basis for 70+ masters and doctoral theses. Current work includes: behavioral studies of dark-eyed juncos; stream run-off modeling, bees/butterflies in mountain montane meadows; GIS as a tool for reserve master planning.

Summer field courses: UC Davis offers a five-week entomology field course and a two-week botany field course.

Community GIS Center provides advanced GIS support for researchers; established in collaboration with Truckee River Watershed Council, U.S. Forest Service, CA Fish and Game, Desert Research Institute.

K-12 education: Local schools regularly bring students for outdoor education classes. UC Berkeley's Lawrence Hall of Science offers a one-week summer science camp for high school students.