

Diana Falls: Great Sierra River Cleanup

By Adam Blauert

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A small but refreshing pool is created as Bean Creek drops to join the North Fork of the Merced River. The trail is roughly the same length as Natural Bridges, but has less elevation gain. To get to the fall and the pool, take J132 from Coulterville or Highway 120 east of Groveland. At a sharp junction (six miles from 120 and 11 miles from Coulterville), turn east on Greeley Hill Road for about four miles. Just before you reach the bridge over the North Fork of the Merced River, park in one of the areas that isn't signed "No Parking" and follow the unmarked trail behind the green gate. Follow the right branch of the trail at Bean Creek until you find a short scramble path down to the pool. More adventurous hikers can continue down the North Fork for shallow but refreshing spots to cool off. Unfortunately this area has been treated badly and hikers will see some scattered trash and graffiti. If anyone is looking to organize a cleanup group for this area during the Sierra Conservancy's September 17th Great Sierra River Cleanup Day, this would be an area that could really use some help. A few people working for a couple of hours could make a huge difference! Go to www.sierranevada.ca.gov or call Brittany Juergenson at (530) 823-4686.