

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE SOUTH FORK OF THE SALMON RIVER, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: The south fork of California's Salmon River (not to be confused with the river of the same name in Idaho) is located in Siskiyou County in northwestern California. The South Fork has its headwaters in the Salmon Mountains and in the fringes of both the *Trinity Alps Wilderness* and the *Russian Wilderness in Klamath National Forest*. Elevations range from some 600 feet above sea level at the forks of the Salmon to close to 8,600' at the summit of Caribou Mountain. This Guide assumes an elevation of around 3,000 feet above sea level. The South Fork is popular for fishing, hunting, camping, wilderness exploration, white-water activities, and many other forest and river activities.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:35	10:37	11:55	13:18	14:28	15:05	14:50	13:50	12:31	11:10	9:57	9:17
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:58	5:23	6:04	7:34	9:06	10:38	12:05	10:56	9:54	7:37	5:06	4:20
AREA OF BLUE SKY	32%	36%	35%	41%	47%	60%	76%	73%	71%	58%	43%	37%
LOW FOR MONTH	9°	12°	15°	20°	27°	30°	38°	39°	29°	24°	19°	12°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	28°	30°	31°	34°	39°	45°	50°	48°	44°	37°	32°	28°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	47°	52°	57°	64°	73°	82°	91°	90°	83°	71°	55°	46°
HIGH FOR MONTH	63°	71°	74°	83°	94°	100°	104°	103°	99°	88°	73°	64°
FROSTY MORNINGS	75%	68%	59%	43%	12%	2%	0%	0%	2%	22%	56%	77%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	25%	60%	60%	29%	4%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	69%	58%	49%	40%	35%	31%	25%	25%	28%	40%	57%	70%
DRY DAYS	58%	57%	58%	67%	77%	87%	94%	94%	90%	81%	63%	61%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	67%	69%	73%	83%	86%	93%	97%	95%	94%	87%	74%	71%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	1.07	0.96	0.70	0.37	0.26	0.14	0.06	0.10	0.13	0.42	0.84	1.05
LIKELY SNOWFALL	6.3"	4.7"	3.0"	1.6"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.1"	2.0"	5.8"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	4%	4%	3%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	2%	3%	5%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	10%	4%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	4%	9%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 62% of the daylight hours of the year. Most of the communities and campgrounds are located in valleys that are shaded to some degree by the surrounding mountains. This is especially true during the low-sun winter season. This percentage might range from a low of 41% in cloudy January, to a high of 82% in sunny July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 8° at some clear and calm winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 106° on some equally clear and windless summer afternoon. Clear skies and calm airs tend to make the high temperatures higher and the low ones lower. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be up to 6° cooler during the summer months due to the low afternoon humidity. Winds tend to blow down the slopes and valleys at night, and up the slopes and valleys during the daylight hours. Passing storm systems can easily override both of these local winds.