

Custodial Facility Tours

Mt. Bullion Conservation Camp (CC#39)

On April 15th, 2024, the Civil Grand Jury made its annual inspection of the Mt. Bullion (CC#39) Conservation Camp. The Mt. Bullion Conservation Camp is a minimum-security detention center jointly operated by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and the California Forestry and Fire Prevention. There are currently 32 such minimum correctional camps in California. The facility has been operating since 1957 and the facility changed from one that housed juveniles to only adults in 2004. The camp's primary mission is to provide incarcerated hand crews to support local, state, and federal agencies in their response to emergencies such as fires and floods. Camp participants also complete community service and conservation projects year-round. Current inmate population is 62.

The staff were stellar regarding their management of the inmates and the facilities. The MCCGJ found that the facility is well organized and is in good condition with just some wear and tear on the existing buildings from the length of service. One large dormitory room houses all the inmates. Each inmate is supplied with a cot and a storage locker. The mess hall and cooking facilities look well-organized and well-maintained. Minor medical needs are met onsite. Those with illnesses requiring more extensive treatment are transferred to the Jamestown facility.

Inmates have the option to be trained for fighting wildfires and help the local CalFire Unit. They can also receive training in working with chainsaws and other outdoor equipment, which is helpful for keeping the growth of weeds and brush under control. Inmates have a variety of facilities for amusement, entertainment, and creative pursuits available to them.

If an inmate is sent to CC#39 but has family in the southern part of the state, there are procedures in place for qualifying the inmate for a transfer to a facility closer to their family. An open-air area with exercise and weight training equipment is open daily from 5 AM to 10 PM. The MCCGJ observed the kitchen and cafeteria area to be very clean and structured for easy clean-up. Inmates that have demonstrated good behavior over a period of time help run the camp. They generally work in the kitchen and laundry. Despite the minimal funding the camp is functioning at a high level.

The 2023-24 Mariposa Civil Grand Jury was charged with the oversight of the Mt. Bullion Conservation Camp #39. Civil Grand Jury oversight of the camp is required by California Penal Code. The Mariposa Civil Grand Jury performed a general overview of the facility and found no deficiencies in the care and maintenance of Camp #39. Therefore, no recommendations are made regarding the facility.

Mariposa County Adult Detention Facility

On February 16th, 2024, the Grand Jury went on its yearly visit to the Mariposa Adult Detention Facility. The current facility was opened in March of 1995 and is located on Hwy 49N about a mile north of the town of Mariposa. It has the capacity to house 58 inmates and is currently at about half capacity. The employees were efficient, knowledgeable, and very professional. Although the facility and the staff are consistently dealing with several financial budget cuts, the County incarceration facility is being run in a safe and secure manner. The staff are upbeat and vigilant in their jobs, and our County has every reason to feel confident and secure regarding the well-being of its inmates.