

Mt. Bullion (CC#39) Conservation Camp Facility Tour

On March 6th, 2025, the Civil Grand Jury made its annual inspection of the Mt. Bullion (CC#39) Conservation Camp.

About the Facility: 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 (CalFire). 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 population of incarcerated persons is approximately 50, with a maximum full-time capacity of approximately 100.

About the Tour: The tour of the facility lasted approximately 2 hours and extended through nearly all the buildings onsite that are for both CalFire operations and housing of incarcerated persons. All buildings and equipment appear to be in good operation condition despite the age of the camp.

The incarcerated persons detained at the facility perform all manner of domestic chores, such as cooking, cleaning, laundry, etc., as well as light maintenance tasks. There are areas for physical fitness as well as hobbies and skills development. The interactions we observed between incarcerated persons and the CDCR and CalFire staff were professional and positive.

The CDCR staff indicated they are open to further community involvement and volunteer activity both to aid in the skills development of the incarcerated persons as well as to assist with local community service and conservation needs.

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. The Mariposa Civil Grand Jury performed a general overview of the facility and found no deficiencies in the care and maintenance of Camp #39.

Commendations: The 2024/2025 Mariposa County Civil Grand Jury commends the current staff of the Mt. Bullion Conservation Camp #39 in respect to the following:

- The interactions we observed between incarcerated persons and the CDCR and CalFire staff were professional and positive.
- The Mariposa Civil Grand Jury performed a general overview of the facility and found no deficiencies in the care and maintenance of Camp #39.
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