

Eastern Sierra Scenic Byway - Current Status & Background Information

Prepared by the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative December 2021

Research - Kristy Williams 10/24/21 & 10/27/21






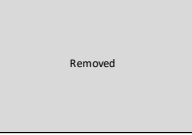


10/26/21 Added comments from CalTrans Planners from "a couple years ago"








11/12/21 Melissa Tothoroh Added Comments







12/16/2021 KW added update on land tenure per data from GIS maps




GIS Map: <https://mtpa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?webmap=65a7c472d8224d85bdeb3711a504998d>

Additional photos taken October 2021 are available, including close ups of panel messaging.

ID#	Location	Display (Panel) Status	Right of Way Per CalTrans	Land Tenure per GIS	Notes from Land Manger / Requirements for Next Step	Notes from SRTI Team Kristy Williams October 2021	Notes from Original Program Melissa Tothoroh November 2021	Notes - Provided by CalTrans From approx. 2 years ago	Thumbnail Image
0	Southbound Welcome Sign 2.2 miles north of 395/89 junction .7 miles south of agricultural inspection station.		Caltrans Right of Way	Caltrans Right of Way		Per Matt P Cal Trans Right of Way.	1st Encroachment Permit (1997 or 98)		
1	Highway 89 @ Topaz Lake	Displays are in decent condition primarily due to being shaded by the trees.	BLM Land	BLM	Met with Sherri Liskus 11/10/21: BLM will maintain If changing and improving, will need to bring up to speed with ADA, but would not be required if just switching signage. Preference would be to make fully accessible and bring up to ADA. Messaging/Updating - they would want to be in on early discussions of messaging, including bigger picture messaging for all signs (whole group meeting), then final sign off. Grant/Plan should include annual maintenance.	Good hwy signage both directions.	1st Encroachment Permit (1997 or 98), BLM Bishop Area sponsor, replacement signs may be at INF/BLM warehouse on Pacu Lane in Bishop.	Displays are in decent condition primarily due to being shaded by the trees. Pathway to displays and nearby restrooms not up to current ADA standards.	
2	Walker River Shinglemill Day Use Area	Displays are webbing,	Forest Service	HTNF		Winter closure - gate was closed. Short paved loop trail. Note that there are some nice features and signage at Mountain Gate park north of this stop. Similar looking kiosk, but not part of the Byway program.	1st Encroachment Permit, on Humboldt-Toiyabe NF land. H-T National Forest is sponsor. Replacement panels may be at Bridgeport Ranger Station (HTNF)	Displays are webbing, ADA parking needs new striping	
3	Bridgeport Park	Displays are in decent condition.	Mono County	Mono County		Off the highway. No NB hwy signs, but good signs once you get off the hwy. SB has a good sign.	1st encroachment permit, Mono County sponsored, included a Bridgeport Historic Building walking tour brochure (check with museum?)	Needs ADA pathway	
4	Dogtown Between Bridgeport & Conway Summit Us 395 near 270	Metal signs in good condition.	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way	CalTrans Encroachment Permit Displays brought to ADA compliance Maintenance Agreement	Southbound pullout only. No Byway sign on 395 either direction. There is a point of interest type sign southbound indicating stop in 500 feet. Historical landmark sign (placed by State of CA and Mono County in 1964) in middle. Scenic Byway signs on both sides.	1st Encroachment Permit (1997 or 98)	Curb and lack of asphalt prevent ADA access. Only able to drive in when driving south-bound due to double yellow line.	
5	Virginia Creek between Bridgeport & Conway Summit	Removed	Removed	Removed		Removed	1st Encroachment Permit (1997 or 98), signs vs. snow plow. Snow plow won. Bishop Area BLM sponsored		
6	Mono Overlook on Conway Summit	Kiosk Panels - damage & graffiti. Outdated info. Lake overlook panels - weathered and unreadable	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way	CalTrans Encroachment Permit Displays brought to ADA compliance Maintenance Agreement	No hwy signage north or south. Only can pull out from southbound lane (double yellow for nb) Kiosk AND lake map panels.	1st Encroachment Permit (1997 or 98)	Displays have extensive webbing, graffiti, and stickers. Only able to drive in when driving south-bound due to double yellow line. Gravel limits ADA access	
7	Mono Craters on Sandhouse Grade	Kiosk panels - empty panel space, some damage (bullet hole?)	INF Mono County ?	INF		2.2 miles north of June Lake junction. Only accessible northbound. No street signs and not visible from street so the only way to discover these panels is by stumbling upon them. Empty panel space in kiosk.	Inyo NF sponsored; did have encroachment permit for advance notice logo and site number signing (noted as missing now)	Not ADA accessible. Paking lot in need of repair and needs ADA parking. Accessible only for north-bound traffic.	



7	Mono Craters on Sandhouse Grade - Trail Panels	Overlook panels - unreadable	INF Mono County?	INF		Nearby short walk to look out and more panels - turns out that is branded with Byway logo. Those panels are unreadable for the most part. And the trail entrance is not clearly signed.	Inyo NF sponsored, part of the Mono Craters site		
8	June Lake Junction	Looks like most of the panels have been replaced and are no longer branded with the Byway logo.	Forest Service	INF		No highway signage northbound. Has hwy signage southbound. Branded as USFS Info Kiosk. Looks like panels have been replaced and are no longer branded with the Byway logo. I wonder what is inside? Was it staffed at one time?	June Lake Chamber of Commerce sponsored (might be part of 1st encroachment permit, but don't recall land jurisdiction status)		
9	Crestview Roadside Rest Stop	Removed	Removed	Removed		Removed	Inyo NF sponsored, included Byway map and recreation in the Mammoth area, 1st Encroachment Permit		Removed
10	Mammoth Park & Ride Junction of Hwy 203 and 395	Panel is weathered on one side. MLT has inserted its own messaging on the other side. Graffiti on back panel.	Mono County	CalTrans Right of Way		No roadside signage northbound, which would make this hard to find. Signage southbound. Also Clamper monument nearby.	Town of Mammoth Lakes sponsored; replacement panels possibly stored at Town Maintenance station? Given to someone I recall named Dave?	Parking lot needs improvement to be accessible by wheelchair, ADA parking needs striping.	
11	Crowley Lake Northbound	Perhaps one panel has been removed? Panels have weather damage.	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way	CalTrans Encroachment Permit Displays brought to ADA compliance Maintenance Agreement	No highway sign. Appears that it used to be 3 panels and one maybe was removed? Otherwise 2 free standing panels.	1st Encroachment Permit, sponsored by Mono County	Extensive webbing on display. Curb, gravel and sign height limit ADA access	
11	Crowley Lake Southbound	Panels very damaged and hard to read. Bullet holes.	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way	CalTrans Encroachment Permit Displays brought to ADA compliance Maintenance Agreement	No Highway sign. Panels very damaged and hard to read. Bullet holes.	1st Encroachment Permit, sponsored by Mono County	Extensive webbing and bullet holes, graffiti. Gravel, step and sign height limits ADA accessibility	
12	Sherwin Grade Northbound Vista Point	Graffiti on legs of panels. Signage & plexiglass replaced by CalTrans per MP.	Caltrans	INF	CalTrans Encroachment Permit Displays brought to ADA compliance Maintenance Agreement	No Highway sign. No services, just place to pull out and park. No other interp signage there. 3 panels 2 full 1 half Graffiti on legs of panels.	Sponsor (Inyo NF?) 1st Encroachment Permit		
12	Sherwin Grade Southbound Vista Point	Signage & plexiglass replaced by CalTrans per MP.	Caltrans	INF	CalTrans Encroachment Permit Displays brought to ADA compliance Maintenance Agreement	Lots of graffiti on back of signs and on nearby guardrail. Also Clamper monument nearby.	Sponsor (Inyo NF?) 1st Encroachment Permit		
13	Round Valley Northbound	N/A	N/A			N/A	There was never a northbound site at Round Valley		N/A

13	Round Valley Southbound	Panels weathered and hard to read.	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way	CalTrans Encroachment Permit Displays brought to ADA compliance Maintenance Agreement		2nd Encroachment permit, Inyo County sponsored, used to be a Clampers Monument at the location		
14	Bishop Chamber of Commerce	3 panels damaged. The "crack" looks like the artwork on the inside is pulling apart. The plexiglass/outer cover is not cracked.	City of Bishop	LADWP		5 panels. 4 half panel 1 full size panel 3 panels damaged. The "crack" looks like the artwork on the inside is pulling apart. The plexiglass/outer cover is not cracked. No roadside sign northbound.	Bishop Chamber of Commerce, or City of Bishop sponsor. Advance notice sign is on City Park sign, or it used to be (see photo in next cell), 1st encroachment permit		
15	Big Pine BP Canyon Rec Area	Can see glue marks coming through on panels.	Big Pine Civic Club	Big Pine Town Trustees		Lots going on here. Looks like recent involvement & updates from Big Pine Civic Club in the area. 6 panels. Can see glue marks coming through. Other signs and things in the same area	Big Pine Civic Club sponsored (late Bill Wright was actively involved) On DWP land leased by Inyo County. Extra panels delivered to Bill Wright		
16	Division Creek Rest Area	Panels in good condition. Indigenous topics and images should be reviewed.	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way	CalTrans Encroachment Permit Displays brought to ADA compliance Maintenance Agreement	CalTrans rest area Single panel does not appear to be produced by this effort (no logo)	Inyo County sponsored, 2nd Encroachment Permit, Major rest area hardscaping site redesign and reconstruction moved the panels (wildlife and water in Owens Valley) from original location. May have removed them altogether?		
17	Winnedumah (Northbound pull out 3.8 miles north of Independence.)	Panels weathered and hard to read.	Caltrans	US Bureau of Indian Affairs	CalTrans Encroachment Permit Displays brought to ADA compliance Maintenance Agreement	Different style.	1st Encroachment Permit (1997 or 98), sponsored by Independence Civic Club (Arlene Grider) no replacement panels made due to cost		
18	Independence Dehy Park	Panels damaged.	Inyo County	CalTrans Right of Way		2 panels cracked, I think (one may be a bird design?)	Inyo County sponsored, 2nd Encroachment Permit, includes Native plant garden/trail/bridges at Eastern California Museum; there was also a historic building walking tour brochure, done by the same illustrator/artist as Bridgeport's brochure. I can't recall her name, but think it was Lauren something from Lee Vining/Mono City (not Laura Patterson).		
19	Manzanar	NA	Manzanar Historic Park	NPS		COULD NOT FIND	1st Encroachment Permit (1997 or 98) Included only as a stop on Byway. Did have a site number, and a map of the whole Byway delivered to Ross Hopkins (former Monument Supervisor). Manzanar was in the preliminary stages of getting funding to restore the gymnasium, and making large scale infrastructure improvements for parking, access, interpretation, so Byway specific interpretation would have been premature and was therefore not pursued		
20	Lone Pine InterAgency Visitor Center	Panels very damaged Appears "Sunny Side" more damaged	Caltrans	LADWP	CalTrans Encroachment Permit Displays brought to ADA compliance Maintenance Agreement	Gazebo and pad in good shape. Panels inside case all in bad shape. Gazebo also appears to be used as night drop off/pick up for Whitney wag bags and bear bins. Not located near visitor center building, not even accessible easily from parking lot (just from road). 3 2-sided panels	Inyo NF sponsored, 2nd Encroachment Permit (1999/2000). Site was planned and constructed years before the "new" InterAgency Visitor Center was constructed (2005)		
21	Diaz Lake	Graffiti	Inyo County	LADWP		Gazebo in nice condition but panels have some graffiti. Could use space on back for additional panels. 4 large panels +1 half panel (map)	Inyo County sponsored, on LADWP land leased to County, 2nd Encroachment permit, panels given to Parks and Recreation Department (Lance?)		



22	Coso Junction Rest Area	Panels in good condition. Indigenous topics and images should be reviewed.	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way	CalTrans Encroachment Permit Displays brought to ADA compliance Maintenance Agreement		2nd Encroachment Permit, can't recall sponsor (Inyo County?) Major rest area hardscaping site redesign and reconstruction moved the panels (Owens Valley Paiute and Trail of Tears) from original location. May have removed them altogether?		
23	Fossil Falls Trailhead/Parking Lot (Approx 1 mile off hwy 395)	Panels in good condition. Indigenous topics and images should be reviewed.	BLM - Ridgecrest Office	CalTrans Right of Way	Met with Sherri Liskus 11/10/21: BLM will maintain If changing and improving, will need to bring up to speed with ADA, but would not be required if just switching signage. Preference would be to make fully accessible and bring up to ADA. Messaging/Updating - they would want to be in on early discussions of messaging, including bigger picture messaging for all signs (whole group meeting), then final sign off. Grant/Plan should include annual maintenance.	Small parking lot at trailhead approx 1 mile off 395. Campground nearby. 1 vault toilet 2 picnic tables	1st Encroachment Permit, sponsored by Ridgecrest Area BLM		
24	Northbound Welcome 3.5 miles south of Fossil Falls exit		BLM CalTrans Right of Way	CalTrans Right of Way			1st Encroachment Permit (1997 or 98)		





Eastern Sierra Scenic Byway - Summary of Refurbishment Requirements

Prepared by the Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative January 2022

New Count	Original ID#	Location	Status	Right of Way Per CalTrans	Land Tenure per GIS	Thumbnail Image	Needs to move forward	Panel Space Available for Regional Sustainable Recreation Messaging?
1	0	Southbound Welcome Sign 2.2 miles north of 395/89 junction .7 miles south of agricultural inspection station.		Caltrans Right of Way	Caltrans Right of Way		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encroachment Permit? 2. Evaluation of Refurbishment Needs 3. Refurbishment 4. Maintenance Plan 	No
2	1	Highway 89 @ Topaz Lake	Displays are in decent condition primarily due to being shaded by the trees.	BLM Land	BLM		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ADA compliance for signage & pathway 2. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and restroom. 3. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 4. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 5. Maintenance Plan 	Yes
3	2	Walker River Shinglemill Day Use Area	Displays are webbing.	Forest Service	HTNF		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ADA Compliance for signage 2. Review of ADA requirements for pathway, parking lot and restroom. 3. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 4. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 5. Maintenance Plan 	Potential
4	3	Bridgeport Park	Displays are in decent condition.	Mono County	Mono County		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ADA compliance for signage & pathway 2. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and restroom. 3. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 4. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 5. Maintenance Plan 	Yes
5	4	Dogtown Between Bridgeport & Conway Summit Us 395 near 270	Metal signs in good condition.	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way		Is it possible to decommission this one from the program and instead make it a "Point of Interest" under CalTrans?	No
6	6	Mono Overlook on Conway Summit	Kiosk Panels - damage & graffiti. Outdated info. Lake overlook panels - weathered and unreadable	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encroachment Permit 2. ADA compliance for signage 3. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and pathway 4. CalTrans Review - breakaway structures 5. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 6. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 7. Maintenance Plan - this appears to get significant usage and would need regular clean up/graffiti checks, etc. 	Yes
7	7	Mono Craters on Sandhouse Grade	Kiosk panels - empty panel space, some damage (bullet hole?)	INF Mono County ?	INF		Needs discussion with INF/Mono Conty. This is not a well known spot and is "hidden". Just a parking lot, no services (restrooms, etc.) is this the best spot for signage?	Yes

8	7	Mono Craters on Sandhouse Grade - Trail Panels	Overlook panels - unreadable	INF Mono County?	INF		Needs discussion with INF/Mono County. This is not a well known spot and is "hidden." Just a parking lot, no services (restrooms, etc.) is this the best spot for signage?	Potential
9	8	June Lake Junction	Looks like most of the panels have been replaced and are no longer branded with the Byway logo.	Forest Service	INF		Needs discussion with INF - what is the best use of this space?	Yes
10	10	Mammoth Park & Ride Junction of Hwy 203 and 395	Panel is weathered on one side. MLT has inserted its own messaging on the other side. Graffiti on back panel.	Mono County	CalTrans Right of Way		Needs discussion with Mono County.	Yes
11	11	Crowley Lake Northbound	Perhaps one panel has been removed? Panels have weather damage.	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encroachment Permit 2. ADA compliance for signage 3. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and pathway 4. CalTrans Review - breakaway structures 5. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 6. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 7. Maintenance Plan - this appears to get significant usage and would need regular clean up/graffiti checks, etc. 	Potential
12	11	Crowley Lake Southbound	Panels very damaged and hard to read. Bullet holes.	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encroachment Permit 2. ADA compliance for signage 3. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and pathway 4. CalTrans Review - breakaway structures 5. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 6. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 7. Maintenance Plan - this appears to get significant usage and would need regular clean up/graffiti checks, etc. 	Potential
13	12	Sherwin Grade Northbound Vista Point	Graffiti on legs of panels. Signage & plexiglass replaced by CalTrans per MP.	Caltrans	INF		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encroachment Permit 2. ADA compliance for signage 3. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and pathway 4. CalTrans Review - breakaway structures 5. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 6. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 7. Maintenance Plan - this appears to get significant usage and would need regular clean up/graffiti checks, etc. 	Potential
14	12	Sherwin Grade Southbound Vista Point	Signage & plexiglass replaced by CalTrans per MP.	Caltrans	INF		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encroachment Permit 2. ADA compliance for signage 3. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and pathway 4. CalTrans Review - breakaway structures 5. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 6. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 7. Maintenance Plan - this appears to get significant usage and would need regular clean up/graffiti checks, etc. 	Potential

15	13	Round Valley Southbound	Panels weathered and hard to read.	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encroachment Permit 2. ADA compliance for signage 3. Review of ADA requirements for parking area and pathway 4. CalTrans Review - breakaway structures 5. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 6. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 7. Maintenance Plan - this appears to get significant usage and would need regular clean up/graffiti checks, etc. 	Potential
16	14	Bishop Chamber of Commerce	3 panels damaged. The "crack" looks like the artwork on the inside is pulling apart. The plexiglass/outer cover is not cracked.	City of Bishop	LADWP		Needs discussion with City of Bishop.	Potential
17	15	Big Pine BP Canyon Rec Area	Can see glue marks coming through on panels.	Big Pine Civic Club	Big Pine Town Trustees		Needs discussion with Big Pine Civic Club. Discuss whether they would prefer decommissioning of the space?	Potential
18	16	Division Creek Rest Area	Panels in good condition. Indigenous topics and images should be reviewed.	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encroachment Permit 2. ADA compliance for signage 3. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and pathway 4. CalTrans Review - breakaway structures 5. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 6. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 7. Maintenance Plan 	Potential
19	17	Winnedumah (Northbound pull out 3.8 miles north of Independence.)	Panels weathered and hard to read.	Caltrans	US Bureau of Indian Affairs		<p>Need to discuss if this should be transitioned to another type of sign - point of interest, etc.?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encroachment Permit 2. ADA compliance for signage 3. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and pathway 4. CalTrans Review - breakaway structures 5. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 6. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 7. Maintenance Plan 	No
20	18	Independence Dehy Park	Panels damaged.	Inyo County	CalTrans Right of Way		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ADA compliance for signage & pathway 2. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and restroom. 3. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 4. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 5. Maintenance Plan 	Yes
21	20	Lone Pine InterAgency Visitor Center	Panels very damaged Appears "Sunny Side" more damaged	Caltrans	LADWP		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encroachment Permit 2. ADA compliance for signage 3. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and pathway 4. CalTrans Review - breakaway structures 5. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 6. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 7. Maintenance Plan 	Yes

22	21	Diaz Lake	Graffiti	Inyo County	LADWP		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ADA compliance for signage & pathway 2. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and restroom. 3. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 4. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 5. Maintenance Plan 	Yes
23	22	Coso Junction Rest Area	Panels in good condition. Indigenous topics and images should be reviewed.	Caltrans	CalTrans Right of Way		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encroachment Permit 2. ADA compliance for signage 3. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and pathway 4. CalTrans Review - breakaway structures 5. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 6. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 7. Maintenance Plan 	Potential
24	23	Fossil Falls Trailhead/Parking Lot (Approx 1 mile off hwy 395)	Panels in good condition. Indigenous topics and images should be reviewed.	BLM - Ridgecrest Office	CalTrans Right of Way		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ADA compliance for signage & pathway 2. Review of ADA requirements for parking lot and restroom. 3. Messaging & Interpretive Updates 4. Panel printing & Installation (including highway "indicator" signs) 5. Maintenance Plan 	Potential
25	24	Northbound Welcome 3.5 miles south of Fossil Falls exit		BLM CalTrans Right of Way	CalTrans Right of Way		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encroachment Permit? 2. Evaluation of Refurbishment Needs 3. Refurbishment 4. Maintenance Plan 	No