

# WARDS FERRY AREA



**Hiking Distance:** This is essentially a  
 "car" outing  
**Difficulty:** Easy  
**Start Elevation:** 2200 feet  
**Elevation Change:** About 1000 feet  
**Location:** Wards Ferry road  
**Map:** USFS Tuolumne Quadrangle 457-2

Area's Blooming Season	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	
	Early	E	Mid	M	Late	L	Very Late	V

## Description:

This is actually the old Wards Ferry road and is reached best from Tuolumne road before you get to Tuolumne City about 4 miles from the intersection with SR 108. The best wildflower viewing areas begin just as the road narrows considerably and begins its descent into the Tuolumne river canyon. In most places till you get to the bridge the road is steep and very narrow with room for only one vehicle at a time. There are some pull out areas and a few areas to park and then walk back to explore the flowers. After last year's rains (2006), there were several sizeable slips and slides that closed the road for a while and have since been repaired; but beware of slides if there should be another very prolonged rainy period. The hillsides on both sides of the road on the north side of the river can be covered with poppies, lupine, fiddleneck, clover, saxifrage, lilies, larkspur, live forever, sunflowers, buckeyes, elderberry, and many others. At peak bloom times from the middle of April to the middle of May the hillsides can be a sea of moving color.



### Trailhead Directions:

There is no trailhead as such as this is a stop the car and get out and observe rather than hiking on a trail.

