

SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGISTS (SDAG) FIELD TRIP

SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2026

Southern Owens Valley: Faults, Fortune, and Forgotten Shores



This year's field trip, **"Owens Valley: Faults, Fortunes, and Forgotten Shores,"** will explore the geology and history of Southern Owens Valley from **September 25 through 27, 2026**. Participants will stay two nights at **Diaz Lake Campground near Lone Pine**, with optional camping available Thursday evening, September 24. The trip includes a half day on Friday and full days on Saturday and Sunday.

Day One will examine the 1872 Owens Valley earthquake and the Lone Pine segment of the Owens Valley Fault Zone, including fault scarps, displaced alluvial fans, and evidence of one of California's largest historical earthquakes. Day Two will follow Cerro Gordo Road through nearly 500 million years of geologic history, including marine sedimentation, deformation, magmatism, hydrothermal mineralization, and Basin and Range extension, before concluding with a tour of the historic Cerro Gordo Mine. Day Three will explore the geologic and human history of Owens Lake, including lake evolution, mining, water diversion, dust mitigation, and environmental restoration.

Field stops will span more than 700 million years of Earth history and include active fault scarps, granitic and volcanic rocks, Paleozoic marine strata, carbonate replacement mineralization, historic mining features, and the evolving landscape of Owens Lake.

The trip will be led by **Dr. Rafael Almeida, Professor of Structural Geology at San Diego State University**. A comprehensive field guide based on the trip is anticipated for publication in 2027.

The group campground accommodates tents, vehicle camping, and dry RV camping without hookups. Vault toilets and potable water are available.

Registration includes Friday dinner, all meals on Saturday, and Sunday breakfast and lunch. Participants are responsible for meals before the trip begins on Friday and dinner after the trip concludes on Sunday. Thursday night camping is available for an additional fee.

Participants may arrange separate lodging in Lone Pine at their own expense. Lodging is available approximately 1 to 4 miles north of Diaz Lake Campground. Visit www.lonepinechamber.org/lodging/ for more information.

Paid registrations must be received by September 4, 2026. Space is limited to the first 50 paid participants.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN YOUR REGISTRATION FEE

3 Days of Guided Field Trips

- Expert-led excursions throughout Southern Owens Valley, including the 1872 Owens Valley Earthquake, the Cerro Gordo Mining District, and Owens Lake; cost includes tour of Cerro Gordo Ghost Town.

2 Nights Group Camping (Friday & Saturday, September 25-27)

- Reserved group campground in the Alabama Hills group site at Diaz Lake Campground near Lone Pine.
- Accommodations for **tent camping, vehicle camping, and dry RV camping** (no hookups).

Vault toilets and potable water available on site.

- Participants must provide their own camping equipment, including tent (if applicable), sleeping bag, sleeping pad/cot, pillow and any other camping necessities.

Optional Thursday Night Camping (September 24)

- Participants may arrive Thursday evening and camp an additional night. Please indicate your interest on the registration form.

6 Catered Meals

- Friday: Dinner
- Saturday: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- Sunday: Breakfast and lunch
- Vegetarian, vegan, and other dietary accommodations are available. Please indicate any dietary restrictions on your registration form.

Snacks and Beverages

- Water, snacks, and beverages will be available throughout the field trip.
- Road logs, maps, and supporting field materials will be provided and commemorative field trip souvenirs. A comprehensive field guide based on this excursion is currently in preparation and is anticipated for publication in 2027.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR REGISTRATION FEE

Transportation

- Participants are responsible for their own transportation to and throughout the field trip. Carpooling is strongly encouraged, and assistance with coordinating carpools will be provided when possible. 4x4 with high clearance is recommended for this trip

Camping Equipment

- Tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad or cot, pillow, camp chair, headlamp, other personal camping gear and rock hammer.

RV Hookups

- Dry camping only. No electrical, water, or sewer hookups are available.

Additional Lodging

- Participants who prefer hotel, motel, or Airbnb accommodations are welcome to make their own arrangements. Off-site lodging is not included in the registration fee.

Personal Expenses

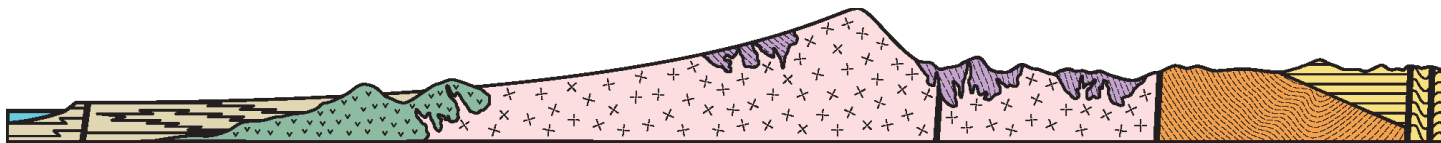
- Meals while traveling to Lone Pine on Friday (breakfast and lunch), dinner after the conclusion of the trip on Sunday, and other incidental expenses.

Recommended Field Equipment

- Bring sturdy hiking boots, sun protection, layered clothing, a refillable water bottle, notebook, hand lens, Brunton compass (optional but encouraged), rock hammer, camera, and any other personal field gear.

Important Details

- September 4, 2026 – Last day to register. Field trip participation is limited to the first 50 paid registrants.
- September 25–27, 2026 – Field trip begins at 12:00 p.m. on Friday at Diaz Lake Campground in Lone Pine, California.
- Participants may arrive Thursday evening and camp an additional night (included in cost). Please indicate your interest on the registration form.
- A completed registration form and signed Release of Liability Waiver are required for all participants. Please ensure that every attendee, including spouses and minors, submits a signed waiver.



SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGISTS (SDAG) – 2026 FIELD TRIP

Southern Owens Valley: Earthquakes, Mining, and Owens Lake

REGISTRATION FORM

Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-paid basis. Space is limited to the first 50 paid participants.

Registration Deadline September 4, 2026.

Today's Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Mobile Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

TRANSPORTATION

Will you be driving your own vehicle? ☐ Yes ☐ No (I would like to carpool)

Driver Vehicle Make/Model: _____

☐ 2-Wheel Drive (2WD) ☐ All-Wheel Drive (AWD) ☐ 4-Wheel Drive (4WD)

How many passenger seats (excluding the driver) are available for carpooling? _____

Would you be willing to drive other participants? ☐ Yes ☐ No

CAMPING

Camping Preference (check one):

☐ Tent Camping ☐ Vehicle/Car Camping ☐ Dry RV Camping (No hookups)

☐ I will arrange my own lodging (hotel, motel, Airbnb, etc.)

Optional Thursday Night Camping: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Dietary Restrictions: ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Vegan ☐ Gluten-Free ☐ Other: _____

PAYMENT & REGISTRATION FEES

☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card (PayPal)

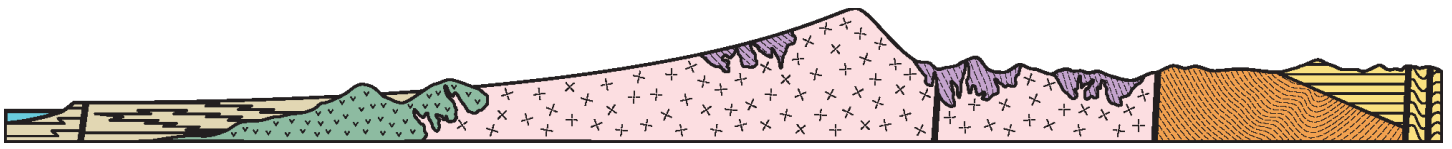
Quantity	Cost
Non-Member(s)	_____ × \$275 = \$_____
SDAG Member(s)	_____ × \$250 = \$_____
Student(s) (with ID)	_____ × \$125 = \$_____
Student Field Trip Sponsor	_____ × \$125 = \$_____
Walawender Fund Donation	\$_____
Total Amount	\$_____



SCAN HERE TO PAY

Make checks payable to: **San Diego Association of Geologists (SDAG)**
6867 Golfcrest Dr, Apt 22, San Diego, CA
(Or pay by credit card, cash, or check at an SDAG meeting.)

For registration questions, please contact Jasmine Peach; jasmine@sandiegogeologicalsociety.org



San Diego Geological Society, Inc. & San Diego Association of Geologists

General Release and Save Harmless Waiver

The undersigned acknowledges that participation in the San Diego Association of Geologists 2026 field trip, "Owens Valley: Faults, Fortunes, and Forgotten Shores," scheduled for September 25 through 27, 2026, may involve inherent risks and hazards. These may include, but are not limited to, uneven or unstable ground, steep trails and slopes, loose rock, abandoned mine features, remote locations, unpaved and four-wheel-drive roads, vehicle travel, heat or cold stress, high elevation, poisonous reptiles and insects, wildlife, open flames, variable or extreme weather conditions, flooding, earthquakes, active faults, rockfalls, and landslides.

By participating in the field trip, the undersigned voluntarily assumes all risks associated with these conditions and activities. The undersigned agrees to release, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the San Diego Geological Society, Inc., its board of directors, its committees, including the San Diego Association of Geologists, its officers, members, volunteers, trip leaders, and other participants from any claims, losses, liabilities, damages, expenses, or costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees, arising from injury, illness, death, property damage, delay, inconvenience, or financial loss related to participation in the field trip, except where prohibited by law.

The undersigned understands that they are responsible for maintaining their own medical, automobile, and liability insurance and for ensuring that they are physically prepared and properly equipped for the conditions and activities associated with the field trip.

Today's Date: _____

Printed Name(s): _____

Signature(s): _____

Emergency Contact: _____

(Name & Phone Number)
