Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau Board of Directors Presentation 2019/2020 Results August 20, 2020

# 2020/2021 Focus and Outlook

- COVID-19 Recovery California Drive Market is our 2020 2022 audience.
- Mariposa County history, culture and building the Mariposa County brand. Non-Yosemite and repeat visitation. Where possible with budget reductions.
- GAP opportunity analysis and data driven focus and SWOT. (need periodic property forecast updates)
- Owned Media Channels eCRM (Electronic Customer Relationship Management), email, newsletters, social media. Lack or paid budget forces increased "guerilla marketing".
- On –Hold Earned Media Channels PR, editorial, paid social influencers, media FAM trips, international trade and travel trade.
- Content (owned) blogs, editorial/stories, video, photography, although very little useful marketing photography of Mariposa County is available through normal means.
- Budget shifts for YMCTB & County's marketing plan limit recovery timeline near and long term.



# **Director Update – PY Goals Recap**

2019/2020 Goals:

- Reduce COST and dependence on outside agencies , putting this funds to work in direct marketing, local talented staffing and local vendor use (\$194,000 savings). Success 100%.
- Focus more attention on promoting Mariposa County along with Yosemite, to increase repeat visitation and increase off-season visitation. Achieved, but always On-Going
- Increase the use of lower cost but highly impactful marketing efforts such as Public Relations, Social Media, Newsletters, Blogs and Content. Success - 100%
- Focus more resources on Yosemite.com, creating a Yosemite.com 2.0 revamp plan, including updating content & functionality. Success - 98% of an unending goal. We created more content than ever before and visitation prior to COVID-19 was record breaking. COVID-19 impacted our ability to grow further in the fiscal year.
- Integrated year-long campaign focus, aligned with an 18-month content plan to include our new PR firm efforts. Success - 100% - Very Effective & ongoing – COVID-19 derailed our Spring efforts and put much our already written spring blogs and stories on hold.
- Always be more data reliant in selecting our marketing investments, to ensure the highest impact on our media investments. HMA Report crucial step. Success – 100%. Completing the HMA project will help in planning and targeting for many years into the future.

# **Director Update – PY Goals Recap**

Additional 2019/2020 successes:

- YMCTB has made major organizational changes in agency and contract retainers. This transition is working very well.
- Robust fall lodging occupancy increases year-over-year have increased revenues. As a result, budget and marketing tactics are expanding to promote winter and spring.
- **Yosemite.com visitation growth** <u>once again</u> was "EPIC"!
- Social Media volume or posting frequency and quality reached an all-time high and excellent follower growth. Large increases in paid social sending, replacing traditional digital.
- Frequency of Newsletters and Blogs have increased significantly. Subscribers substantially up too!
- New international digital media in Australia and UK achieved excellent results.
- Earned excellent PR and Media results and coverage via internal, 360ViewPR and International efforts.
- Challenges? Book Direct web booking engine took time to implement improving connectivity to reservations systems was complicated and time consuming. More refinement is underway, current results, impact and referrals ARE MASSIVE, exceeding 110,000 searches and 74,000 direct property referrals direct to lodging reservations system in June and even larger results in July! These are now measurable results.

# **Pandemic Update**

4. Recovery

Commencement

People are looking

travel

ahead to future, eager

to get life back on track

An invitation to

Reminder that

we're here to

travelers when

they feel ready

welcome

Be inspirational and

Don't be pushy, be

welcoming.

May

encourage planning for when people are ready.

June, possibly as early as

YOSEMITE **ARIPOSA** COUNTY

3. Improving Situation

aware of what people

STATUS SHIFTING

Restrictions are being lifted, and the mood is

Soon, we'll travel •

Photo, video, or •

story that brings

us joy during this

			1. Onset	2. Outbreak	3. Improving Situati
Goal: To bring visitors from the drive market to Yosemite Mariposa County as the nation recovery from the oronavirus. Impact period – April 1 - October 31, 2020         Goal: To bring visitors from the drive market to Yosemite Mariposa County as the nation recovery from the virus. If we will take a three-phased approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "Improving Situation" phase and the virus. If we will take a three-phased approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "more visit drained mariposa County as the arcovery from the virus. If we will take a three-phased approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "Improving Situation" phase and the virus. If we will take a three-phased approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "more visit drained mariposa County.         When: we will take a three-phased approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "Improving Situation" phase and the virus. If we will take a three-phased approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "Improving Situation" phase and the virus. If we will take a three-phased approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "Improving Situation" phase and the virus. If we will take a three-phased approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "Improving Situation" phase and the virus. If we will take a three-phased approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "Improving Situation" phase and the virus. If we will take a three-phased approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "Improving Situation" phase and the virus. If we will take a three-phased approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "Improving Situation" phase approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "Improving Situation" phase approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "Improving Situation" phase approach – the "Outbreak" phase, the "Improving Situation" phase approach – the "Outbreak" phase approach – the "Improving Situation" phase approach – the "Outbreak" phase approach – the "Improving Situation" phase approach – the "Improving Situation" phase approve approve approve approve approve approve approve a			Crisis happening outside of California	California and visitor markets affected by crisis	Curve has been flattened and cases begin to decrease. Restrictions are beir lifted, and the mood less tense.
<ul> <li>"Recovery 'F aution, we will an of the coronal (200-mile rate soon as possion)" A study, interversion of the coronal we market as soon as possion MA study, interversion of the coronal we market as soon as possion of the texpands we expand the weight of the source of the texpand of texpand of the texpand of the texpand of the texpand of the texpand of texpand of the texpand of texpand of the texpand of the texpand of the texpand of the texpand of texpand of the texpand of the texpand of texpand of texpand of the texpand of the texpand of texpa</li></ul>	lude		Business as usual, except to affected target markets.	<ul> <li>We're in this together.</li> <li>Here's a photo or video that brings us joy during this period</li> <li>Stories of locals and humanity</li> <li>Share current information/ news</li> </ul>	story that bri us joy during period
have been expectally concerned or our hoters are an entire failure of any be especially concerned or our main demographic; our hoters are an entire failure of any be especially concerned or work with Tony: an entire failure of the Story, including any secondary generated for the Story, including and secondary generated for the St	of ark. Share	Social Media Approach	Business as usual in unaffected destination	Do not go dark. Instead, share news. Be present online as a source of calm during a chaotic period. Sensitive and empathetic tone of voice.	
Inspirational Post in the second seco	mayee	Status	This period has passed	This is where we are as of March 16, 2020	May
<ul> <li>For the Output at tours.</li> <li>Inspirational Posts. Peaceful images of scenes when emories of visiting of summerses. Stargazing, etc.</li> <li>Inspirational Posts. Peaceful images of scenes when emories of use experiments of the starget people to post stories of why the photo is exceptionally meaningful to them. Extra 'points' for your photos. Tell us your stories. It could be a fun activity to find and post of what end are drawn or painted; extra points for submissions from kids under age 12 (or whatever), in courage people to post stories of why the photo is exceptionally meaningful to the intervent that makes it an art challenge? (Activities for kids staying home from school?)</li> <li>(For the Improving Situation Phase) Social media messaging only. Yosenite Mariposa county is with an and the post. Continue with peaceful images of scenes without people, or solitary indicates the are the Park. Sunrise, stargazing, etc.</li> </ul>	lls or co sa Cou hat they Yosem	ouples nty y have in ite		ST	ATUS SHIFT

### **TOT & TBID Year to Date over Prior Year and Forecast**

### **TOT Collections**

Month	19/2	20 Amount	18/	19 Amount	17/	18 Amount	16	17 Amount	15	/16 Amount
July	\$	2,857,229	\$	1,548,198	\$	1,995,936	\$	2,011,727	\$	1,946,951
August	\$	2,626,881	\$	650,470	\$	1,823,040	\$	1,827,371	\$	1,810,249
September	\$	2,483,753	\$	1,670,119	\$	1,641,612	\$	1,700,907	\$	1,604,623
October	\$	1,852,803	\$	1,276,720	\$	1,289,251	\$	1,224,684	\$	1,145,947
November	\$	1,094,861	\$	859,085	\$	769,596	\$	761,591	\$	672,509
December	\$	1,081,371	\$	748,286	\$	752,876	\$	731,360	\$	844,387
January	\$	598,299	\$	454,886	\$	468,527	\$	406,545	\$	454,398
February	\$	779,460	\$	394,608	\$	507,606	\$	476,816	\$	556,406
March	\$	378,288	\$	671,734	\$	748,369	\$	735,920	\$	768,135
April	\$	10,793	\$	1,471,107	\$	1,112,161	\$	1,274,928	\$	1,047,577
May	\$	17,168	\$	2,234,619	\$	1,709,524	\$	1,678,830	\$	1,537,000
June			\$	2,844,599	\$	2,165,245	\$	2,052,049	\$	1,964,970
GR TOTAL	\$	13,780,906	\$	14,824,432		\$14,983,743	\$	14,882,728	\$	14,353,152
∆ Prior Year	\$	(1,043,527)	\$	(159,311)		\$101,015	\$	529,576		

 2019/2020 expected to be 7% lower to prior years, a significant drop from forecast.

- Tenaya Lodge Explorer Cabins and AutoCamp added significant new revenue in during the final 5-6 months of 2019. Currently pacing well.
- Measure M off-set some county losses in 2020, but does not impact TBID.



Year To Date \$ 1,801,072

## **KPIs: FY 2019/2020 Performance Recap**

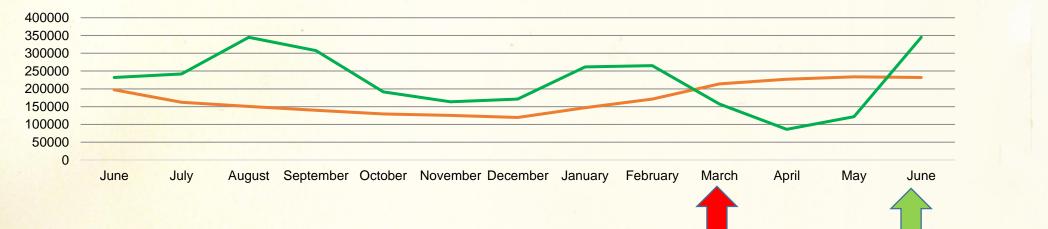
	July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 Month 12 of 12 = 100%	FY2019/20 Annual Goals
PRIMARY KPI Partner Referrals	ACTUAL: 517k   115% exceeded goal Lodging: 414k Things to do: 87k Dining: 16k	450k Referrals
Supporting KPIs		
Overall Sessions	ACTUAL: 2,658,095   121% hit goal	2.2M Sessions
Organic Sessions	ACTUAL: 1,318,504   <mark>94%</mark> to goal	1.4M Sessions
International Market Sessions (UK, Australia, China, Germany, Scandinavia)	ACTUAL: 323,496   144% hit goal	225k Sessions
Tracked Metrics	This year	Combined total
NEW - Book Direct Referrals	June 2020: 75,091	Total: 84,613
<b>NEW</b> - Newsletter Sign Ups	New Subscribers YTD 28,499	Total Subscribers 61,682



## **Overall Growth: Sessions 2019 / 2020**

Sessions June 2020	Total Fiscal Year Sessions	Fiscal Year Goal	% of Goal Reached
344,894	2,658,095	2,200,000	121%

FY 2018-2019



-FY 2019-2020 All digital paid Select digital paid advertising advertising paused restarted

## International Market Growth 2019/2020

International Market June 2020	Total Fiscal Year International Market	Fiscal Year Goal	% of Goal Reached
7,507	323,496	225k	144%



## Site Channel Performance for 2019/2020

Default Session	2019/2020 Sessions	2018/2019 Sessions	Variance	Bounce Rate	Pages / Session
Organic Search	1,318,504	1,314,330	.32%	48.02%	2.51
Paid Search	388,962	334,613	16%	39.06%	3.45
Direct	330,822	217,580	52%	51.74%	2.3
Display	392,508	34,591	1,035%	88.30%	1.18
Paid Social	91,253	64,326	42%	61.69%	1.75
Social	66,089	26,424	150%	22.07%	1.43
Referral	64,476	45,398	42%	45.83%	2.34
Email	2,744	2,377	15%	52.55%	2.53
Total	2,658,095	2,051,980	30%	52.91%	2.37

## Paid Search Budget 2019/2020 \$100K



Spent

2

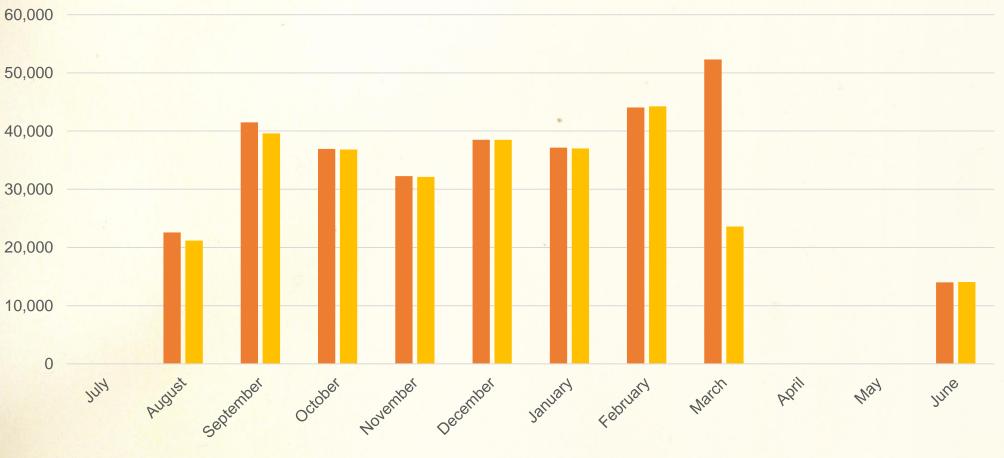
-

Budget

\*NOTE: \$1,003.97 has rolled over from FY 2018/19 Media Funds

### Paid Media Budget FY 2019/2020: \$375,000

2

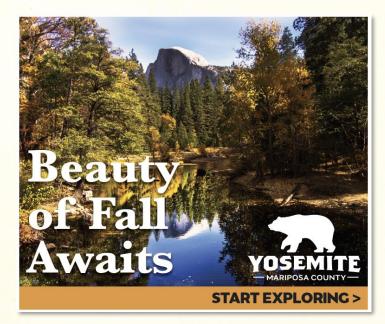


Budget FY 19-20 Spent

### **Display Ads Performance in US: 2019/2020**

13

- We began running domestic display in August 2019, starting with a brand awareness campaign and then refined the targeting of campaigns to be more focused on an intent to travel. We paused display ads in March 2020 due to COVID-19.
- In June we launched a brand awareness recovery campaign announcing that Mariposa County was open for travel.
- For the year, domestic display website visits are 128,281, up 278% YoY.
- 38.5M impressions in the United States







### **Display Campaign in United Kingdom: 2019/2020**

- Ads ran from December 2019 to March 2020 and were ultimately paused due to COVID-19 impacting international travel.
- The campaign was successful and drove 147,239 UK website visits 21M impressions in the United Kingdom.
- This success supports running future ads in the UK after the effects of COVID-19 dissipate, we will layer in ads focused on driving conversions.



Plan Your Adventure

### Unlimited Grandeur YOSEMITE USA

MARIPOSA COUNT

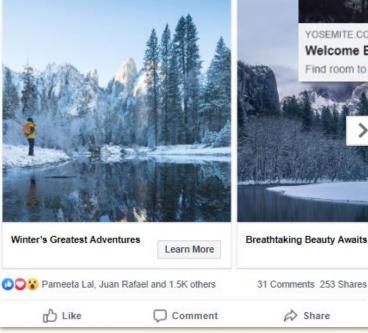
Plan Your Adventure

### Paid Social Media Ads Performance 2019/2020

- Paid social has been a huge success for YMCTB in Fiscal Year 2019/2020.
- We kicked off the fiscal year with social campaigns to promote fall visitation, starting them in August 2019. We successfully ran winter and holiday themed campaigns, and launched spring campaigns in March, then we paused due to COVID-19.
- In June, we launched our paid social recovery campaigns, focused on driving visitation to Mariposa County.
- In FY 2019/2020, campaigns drove over 16M impressions
- Paid social ads drove 91,253 website sessions, up 42% YoY

#### Yosemite Nation Sponsored · O

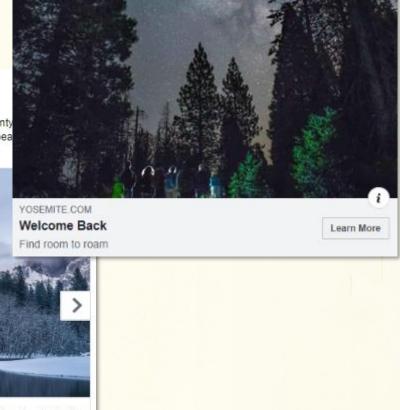
Winter's greatest adventures live in Yosemite Mariposa County the breathtaking beauty of Yosemite National Park's iconic pea charm of Mariposa County's historic towns.



### Yosemite N

Written by Sam Noble (?) - 21h - 3

Mariposa County is base camp to Yosemite and a whole lot more -- like miles of open space, historic towns and great lodging. Plan your weekend trip. It's forever yours, California.



# 2019/2020 Co-op Advertising

We saw significant participation in co-operative advertising in the fall and winter in 2019 / 2020.

Media Outlets:

- Bon Appetit Magazine
- Conde Nast Traveller
- Architectural Digest
- Orange Coast Magazine
- Pasadena Magazine

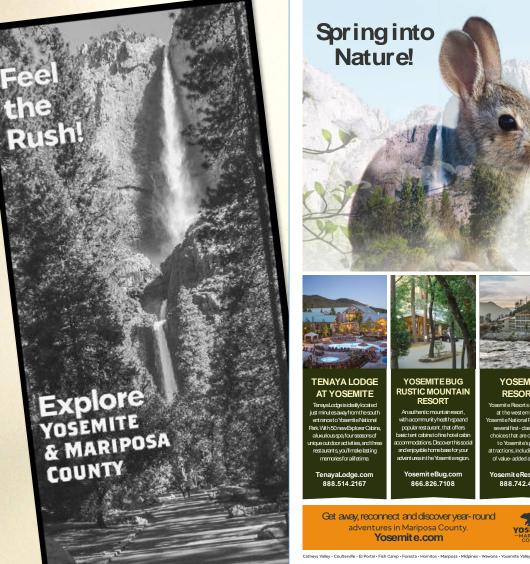
Partners:

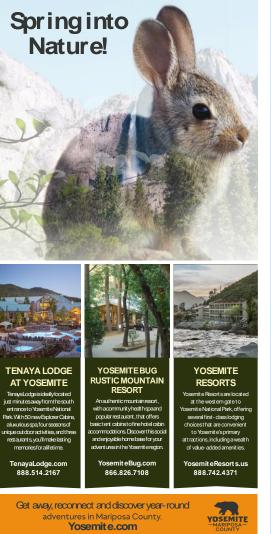
- Yosemite Hospitality
- Tenaya Lodge at Yosemite
- Yosemite Resorts
- The Redwoods in Yosemite





# **Spring Creative – Produced but not Used**





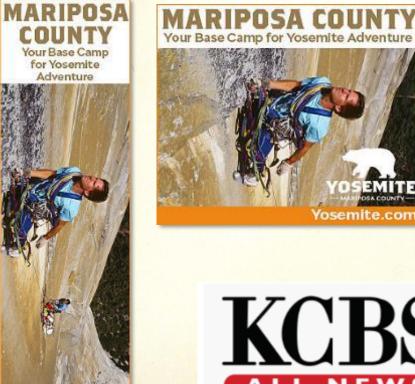
Bay Area News Group – BANG

With the issuance of stay-at-home orders in March, no new print ads were placed. In addition, any planned advertising – such as the BANG insert were postponed.

The insert was finally run on August 9 with completely new design and content focused on late summer / fall travel.



# **Spring Creative – Produced but not Used**



Yosemite.com

Banner ads for climbing magazine websites did not run. New creative developed for fall.

> Expedia landing page postponed then canceled due to budget cuts.



Yosemite.com

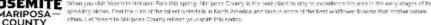
Radio spots were were ready but had to be postponed. New spots to be produced.

KQED





Visit Yosemite Mariposa County, Experience Spring's Greatest Adventures Refresh your spirt and feel the power of nature in Yosemite this spring When you visit Yosem to National Park this spring. Manpage County is the best place to stay to experience the area in the early stages of its.





The Best Thing to Come out of Yosemite The staming Wild & Scenic Merced River or ginutes



covered

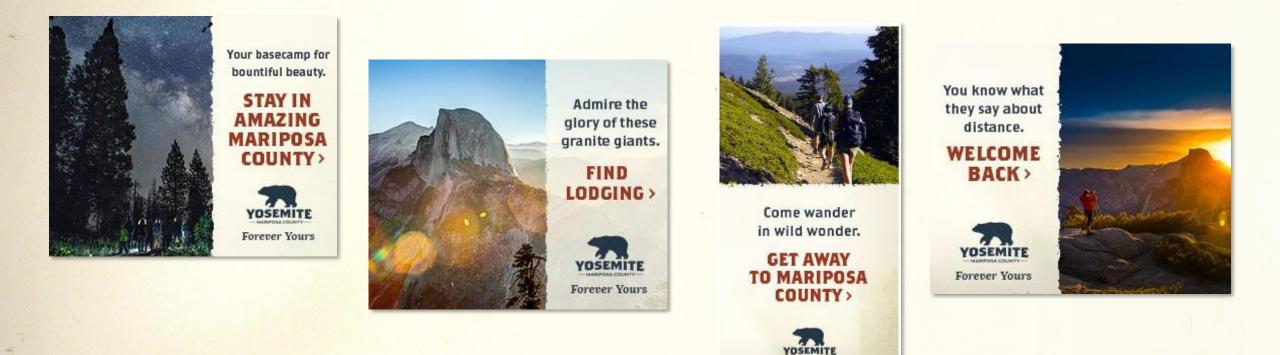
Best Hiking in Yosemite? We've got you



Four Ways to Find the Perfect Yosemite National Park Lodging

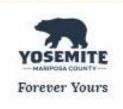


# **Recovery Creative**





This basecamp is forever yours, California. SEE WHERE ADVENTURE LIVES >



Forever Yours

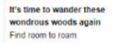


# **Recovery Creative Paid Social**

### Willen by Sam Noble 171 - 21h - 3

Mariposa County is base camp to Yosemite and a whole lot more -- like miles of open space, historic towns and great lodging. Plan your weekend trip, It's forever yours, California. Welcome back.





....

To make this your base camp again Learn More Find room to roam.



Written by Sam Noble [?] - June 26 · 3

It's time to marvel at mighty Yosemite again. Explore more than 1000 miles of open space.



Learn More

See magnificent giants again Find room to roam

Follow trails of wonder again Find room to roam.

...

Written by Sam Noble 121 21h @ Yosemite Nation

Mariposa County is base camp to Yosemite and a whole lot more -- like miles of open space, historic towns and great lodging. Plan your weekend trip, it's forever yours, California.



YOSEMITE.COM Welcome Back Find room to roam

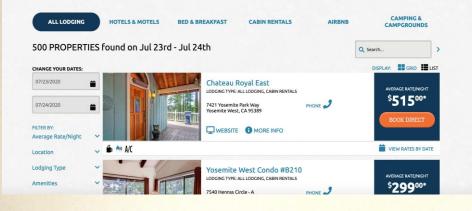
Learn More

...



# **Yosemite.com Strategy 2.0**

### Yosemite Mariposa County Lodging





- The addition of BookDirect, a built-in booking engine for Mariposa County's hotels, B & B's and vacation rentals was a massive undertaking that will help drive bookings to all of the region's properties. The engine saw 110,000 searches in June and 115,000 in July.
- In FY 2019-20, 39 blogs, itineraries and articles we're created and published to Yosemite.com by the content creation staff. More than any other year in the history of Yosemite.com.
- Special Offers are now featured on a dedicated page on Yosemite.com to highlight businesses and lodging establishments that are offering them.
- A list of **100 Things to do in Mariposa County** has been created to drive people to out of the park businesses and activities and promote out of the park fun.

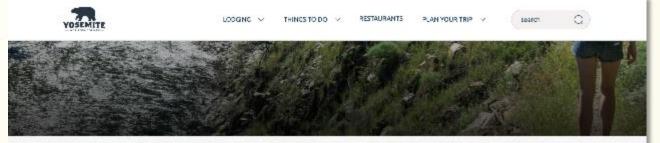


### **100 Things to Do in Mariposa County**

Working with members of the community, YMCTB staff developed a list of 100 Things to Do in the county that were not Yosemite based. We have recently approached 4-H staff to collaborate on a **"For Kids by Kids" Things to Do** call for entries. Selected entries will be included on Yosemite.com and other social media.

The list is available on Yosemite.com and will continually be updated. A printed version may be available in the next year.

The purpose of the list is to encourage travelers to return to our region for more than just Yosemite. Grouped by location, the list includes activities for all ages and activity levels. It is not intended to be a "business listing" per se, but business names for activities are included and are linked to more information on Yosemite.com.



### 100 Things To Do In Mariposa County

COVID-19 Disclaimer: Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, some services and activities may not be open or are operating on a limited basis. Before visiting, we recommend calling any business or activity.

From low elevation lakes to high elevations peaks. From the Sierra National Forest to the Stanislaus National Forest. Ziplining, skydiving, and white water rafting. Fishing and bird watching. Wine tasting and even office oil sampling. Yosemibe Manposa County is the home to countiless activities and the best things to do near Yosemite. We've taken the liberty of giving you 100 things to do in Mariposa County that don't include Yosemite National Park to get you on your way to your own adventure.

### **Coulterville and Buck Meadows**

The northern portion of Mariposa County is home to trails for recreation at higher elevations, lakes for fun in the sun at lower elevations, and the historic towns of Coulterville, Greeky Hill, and Buck Meadows. Museums, mine tours, and even spooky ghost tours will get you right in touch with the area's gold mining history that runs as deep as the mines that existed here over a hundred years ago.

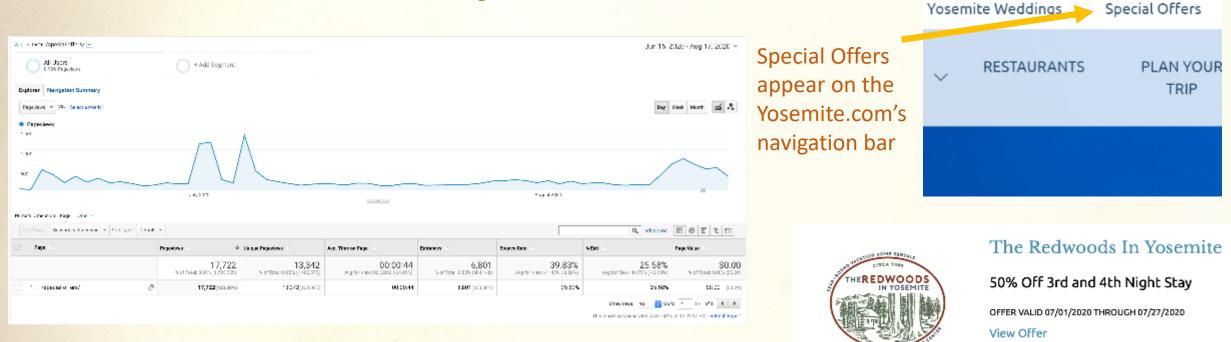
Smith Peak Mountain Bike Trail Propel yourself to a beautiful local summit on a fun 11.3-mile (18.2 km) mountain bike trail.

Cakewalk Heirloom Baking Co. Gallery Enjoy this farm to table French Cafe and Art Gallery

Coulterville Gold & Ghost Tours



## **Special Offers**



YMCTB staff met a long-term goal adding special discount offers from local lodging and businesses to Yosemite.com. Since the launch, the effort has garnered 17,722 page views. There are currently 22 special offers running on Yosemite.com. The program is an ongoing engagement effort to attract stay-over and longer, length-of-stay business for Mariposa County tourism-related businesses, outside of the park.



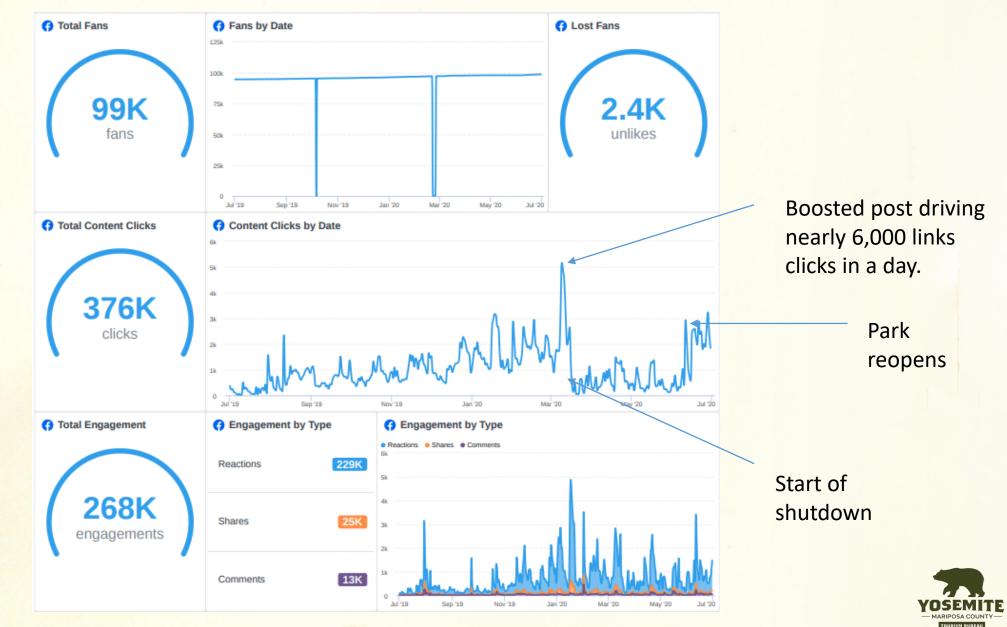
**River Rock Inn** 

25% Off Room Rates OFFER VALID 06/15/2020 THROUGH 08/20/2020

View Offer



## **Social Media – YosemiteNation Facebook**



## **Social Media - Facebook Examples**

#### **Yosemite Nation**

Published by Hootsuite (?) - 10 February - 🕲

Our Instagram photo of the week is from @bayphotography on Instagram. To be considered for our photo of the week, tag us on Instagram with the hashtag #YosemiteNation



33,106 People reached	5,389 Engagements		Boost post
00 2.7K		41 comments	302 shares
🖞 Like	Comment	🖒 Share	

**Yosemite Nation** Published by Hootsuite [7] - 11 June - 3

#### Yosemite National Park re-opens today!

This is the first phase of re-opening, and there are a limited number of day-use passes available and they must be purchased prior to arrival. http://ow.ly/UV0450A4eJJ

...

Facilities inside the park are limited. The best place to get more information is on the park's website, below.

#### #YosemiteNation Visit California

I http://ow.ly/3xdk50A4eJH (info on visiting) I http://ow.ly/3ymv50A4eJI (purchase day-use pass)

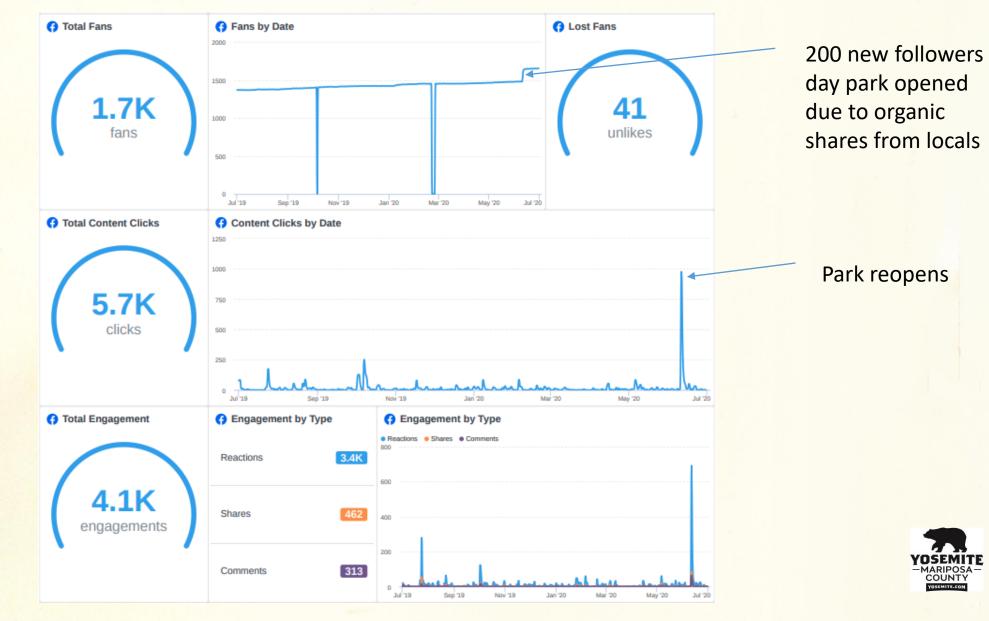


95,440 People reached	12,364 Engagements	В	Boost post	
00 4.7K		160 comments	432 shares	
🖒 Like	Comment	🖒 Share	a. •	



## **Social Media - Facebook Local**

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# **Social Media - Facebook Local Examples**



Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau Published by Hootsuite [?] · 21 July · 🔇

Today is #TakeoutTuesday! Looking for a nice dinner out? 1850 Restaurant + Brewing Company has both take out and outdoor dining options. Have a great sandwich, burger or a craft brewed pint, and keep on supporting those local businesses!

Do you know of a restaurant that could use a shout-out on our page? Let us know so we can help folks support our local economy while they enjoy a tasty meal, refreshing drink, or even a delicious dessert!

#### #YosemiteNation

#### I http://ow.ly/UOCb50ADuVN



#### YOSEMITE.COM

### 1850 Restaurant | Discover Yosemite National Park

1850 Restaurant Fresh, local and affordable. 1850 features "twisted burgers" and salads at lunch, with more of a grill/steakhouse feel at ...

<b>130</b> People reached	<b>14</b> Engagements		Boost post
008			
Ľ Like	Comment	🖒 Share	<u></u> •

Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau Published by Tony McDaniel (?) - 13 August 2019 - 3

A few months ago Scott Henderson from Men's Health Australia visited Mariposa County to experience all that we have to offer!

Scott mentions local businesses like AutoCamp, ZEPHYR WHITEWATER. RAFTING, Skydive Yosemite and Yosemite Blue Butterfly Inn in his outstanding article below.

Be sure to give it a read to see what Men's Health Australia is saying about our community.

#### The Yosemite Nation

Published by Tony McDaniel (?] - 13 August 2019 - 3

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Let your inner adventurer run free and get in touch with the world around you in #YosemiteNation, which Men's Health Australia calls the "Men's Health-iest Holiday Destination on Earth".

#### https://bit.ly/2YYqzs1



#### MENSHEALTH.COM.AU Yosemite Could Possibly Be The Men's Health-iest Holiday **Destination On Earth**

Engagements

95

#### 489 People reached

**Boost Unavailable** 

Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau Published by Tony McDaniel 19 - 6 August 2019 - 3

When was the last time you visited our AWARD WINNING website, Yosemite.com?

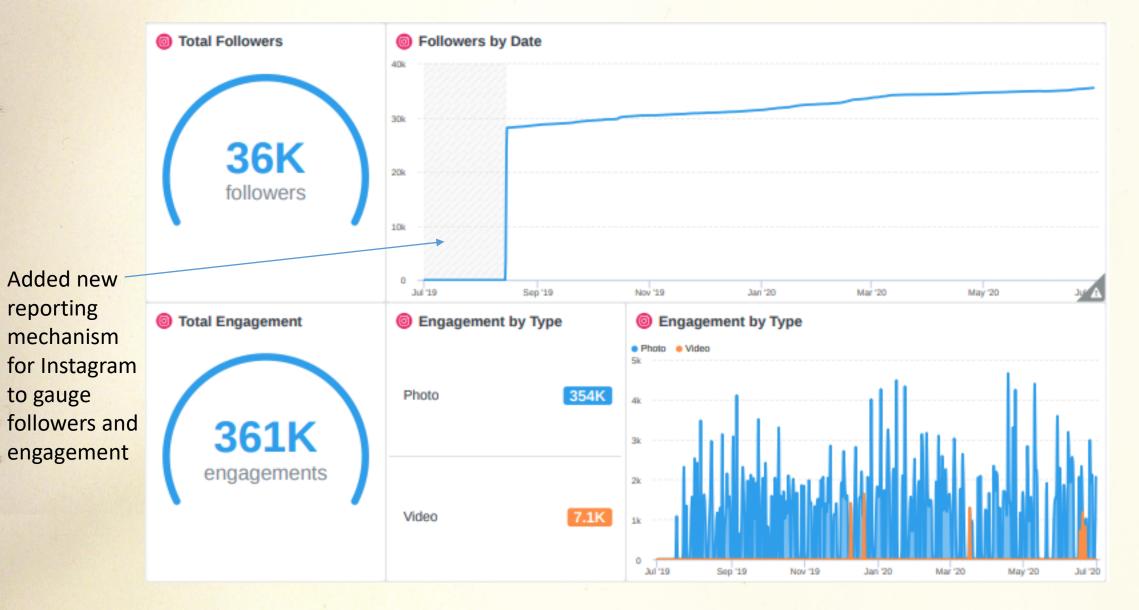
Head on over to check out the award-winning design that our friends at Noble Studios put together that earned Yosemite.com the award for Best Website Design at the 2019 Hermes Creative Awards.

Yosemite.com



	316	60	Sec. and Sec.
٠	People reached	Engagements	Boost pos

## **Social Media - Instagram**





### **Social Media - Instagram Examples**



yosemitenation

yosemitenation Yosemite: where every path leads to beauty.

#### mby: @scrappylala +

Ayosemite Ayosemitenationalpark Ayosemitevalley Ayosemitenation Ayosemitenp Ayosemite\_national\_park Ayosemitenps Ayosemitepark @YosemiteNation @yosemitenps Ayosemitefails Aloweryosemitefails Awaterfail Anaturephotography Anature Anaturephotography

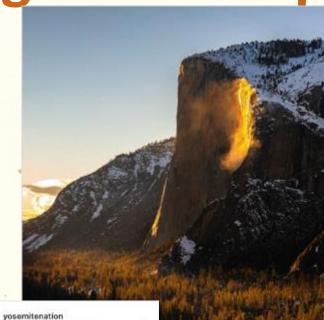
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Uked by thehighergrounds and 4,291 others

Add a comment...

25m





Yosemite National Park, USA

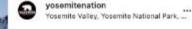
vosemitenation #YosemiteNation will soon be consumed by emerald colors. and blue waters and skies. No time like spring in #yosemite. mby: @tomwagnerphotography #yosemite #yosemitenationalpark #yosemitevalley #yosemitenation #yosemitenp #yosemite\_national\_park #yosemitenps #yosemitepark @YosemiteNation @yosemitenps @visitcalifornia #californiaadventure #californialove #YosemiteFall #waterfall #yosemitewaterfall #yosemitefalls #yosemitereflections #reflection #reflectionphotography #reflections #reflectiongram #yosemitephotographer

C Q V Liked by vache.in.focus and 2,557 others

 $\square$ 

21w

Add a comment....



-

yosemitenation Elusive, ephemeral, magical... the natural Firefall at Horsetail Fall is as amazing as it is fleeting.

Each February, people come from around the world to catch a glimpse of this unique event. Take a look at our article on how to best enjoy the natural phenomenon at Horsetail Fall.

#YosemiteNation #waterfall #yosemite #photography #naturephotography #magicalmoments #winter #winterwonderland #firefall #yosemitewinter #sunset #sunsetphotography

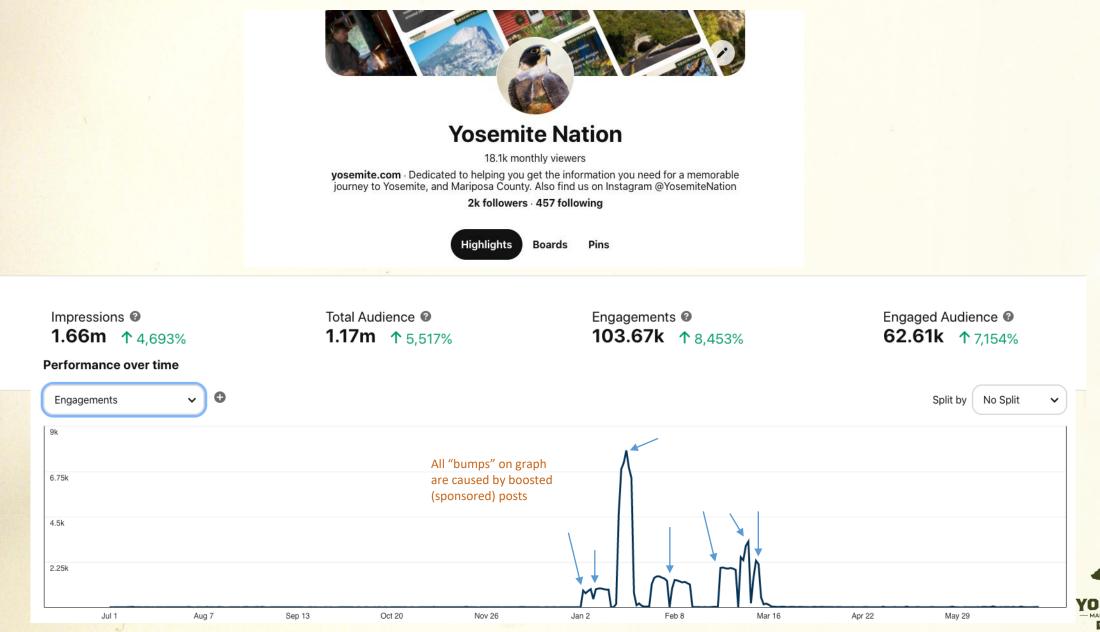
QQA Liked by vache.in.focus and 8,538 others JANUARY 18

Add a comment...

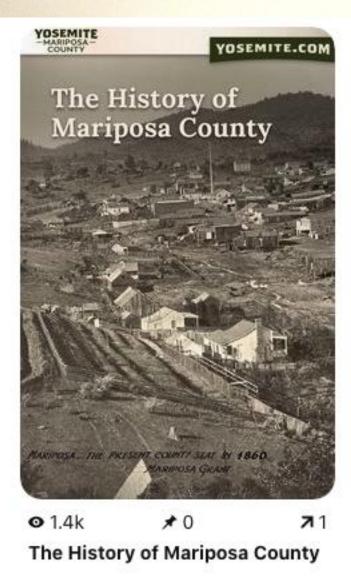
26w

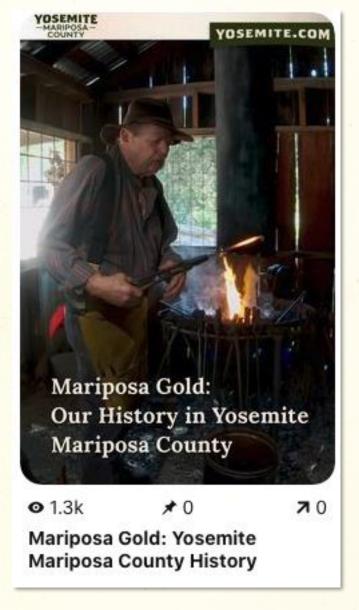


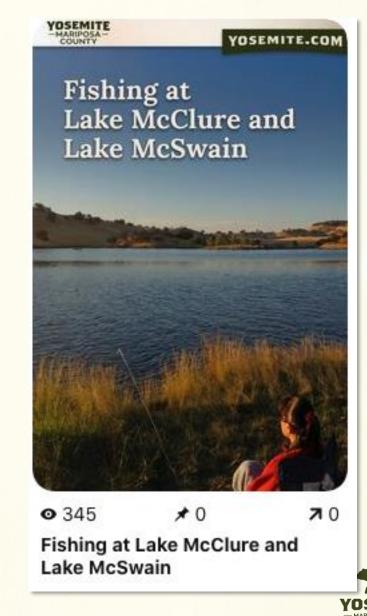
## **Social Media - Pinterest**



## **Social Media - Pinterest Examples**



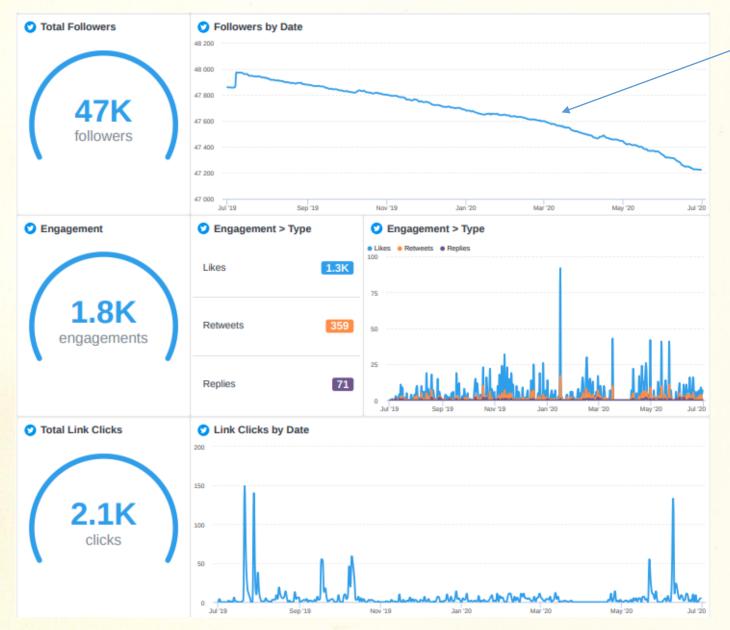




## **Social Media - Twitter**

-

-



Follower loss looks worse than it is, represents a loss of 754 followers, or 1.6%.



### **Social Media - Twitter**



#### Yosemite Nation @yosemitenation

Good morning from Mariposa County! 🥮

We're glad to see more snow 🔆 added to the Sierra snowpack to help keep those rivers, waterfalls and reservoirs full.

### **#YosemiteNation**



9:29 AM · Mar 17, 2020 · Hootsuite Inc.

11 Retweets and comments 32 Likes



Yosemite Nation @yosemitenation

A drive through Mariposa County right now means green rolling hills, colorful wildflowers and lots and lots of animals out enjoying the great weather.

### #YosemiteNation @VisitCA

### bit.ly/3brubc5



2:02 PM · May 13, 2020 · TweetDeck

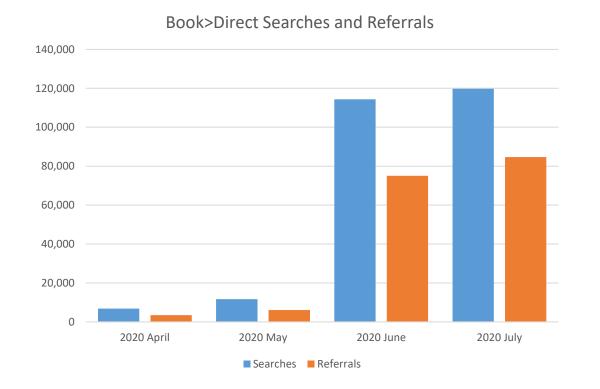
9 Retweets 30 Likes

### 20/21 Social Media – Strategy Varies by platform:

- YosemiteNation Facebook: The YosemiteNation Facebook page is viewed as the flagship of our owned channels social media efforts. Its 98,000 followers makes its reach incredibly powerful. For a comparison, our Facebook page has twice as many followers as our competitive counties of Tuolumne or Madera County's Facebook pages. Our page is a juggernaut when it comes to marketing the region.
- Local Facebook Page: Our local page has a vastly different strategy as compared to our YosemiteNation page. Our goal is to keep the Mariposa County public aware of YMCTB work and efforts in marketing the region, for the community. Not just lodging and tourism business, but keep the community informed of updates and our efforts to support the county entirely.
- Instagram: In the last year, through our targeted posting efforts, this page has seen the biggest growth. Currently at 36,000 followers and up by nearly 10,000 followers or 27%, Instagram is becoming its own bit of a juggernaut thanks in part to the large amounts of user generated content that comes out of this region.
- Twitter: We maintain activity on the platform by sharing partner deals here as well as inspiring content and articles created from our website. This platform is also a great place to engage with people and our partners, like VisitCA.
- Pinterest: This channel has been a renewed effort for the tourism bureau and we're learning its intricacies. This platform
  operates differently from most others in the fact that it's not a timeline, so all content posted to it needs to have an
  evergreen focus instead of an in the moment focus. We look to inspire dreaming about the destination year-round with our
  posts.

### **Book>Direct Engagement Tracking**

Book>Direct Searches June 2020	2019/2020 Book>Direct Searches
114,380	132,843



As the most recent addition to Yosemite.com, the **Book>Direct allows** visitors to search all lodging partners in Mariposa County. For those properties connected to the booking engine's system, visitors can also see availability of rooms in real time.

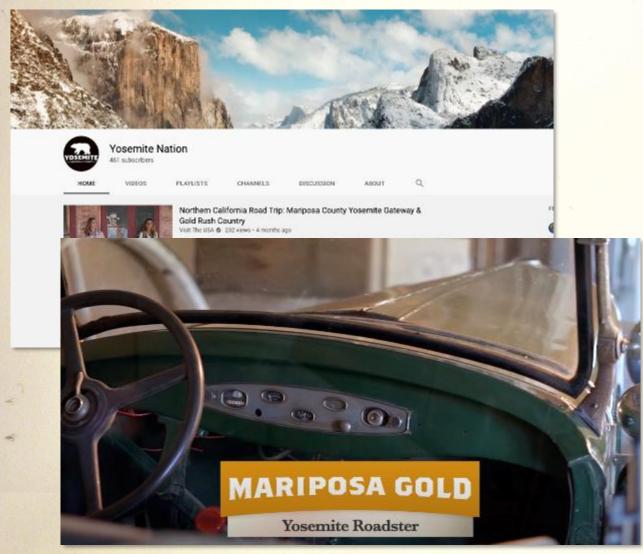
## **Book>Direct Lodging Referral Tracking**



1500

1000 500 6/9/20 Digital paid advertising restarted

# Video Production and YouTube



- A focus for our team has been on building a new presence on YouTube, which means a huge time investment in producing videos in house.
- YouTube is the world's second-largest search engine (behind Google) making it's reach potentially invaluable.
- To begin the process, we've produced 17 new videos and spent more than 100 hours filming and editing footage that promotes the county.
- Additionally, our staff has put a lot of effort into restructuring and reorganizing the content on our YouTube channel. We've scoured the site to find all of the best videos to add to our page that represent Yosemite and Mariposa County.



# **Video: Mariposa Moments**

Mariposa Moments Spring wildflowers on Highway 49

Mariposa Moments
Oliver Creek, Mariposa County, CA

Recognizing the importance of video content in all aspects of digital marketing and the need to "show, not just tell" what Mariposa County has to offer, the bureau has put a greater emphasis on creating video content.

A new type of video called "Mariposa Moments" was established in March. These are very short videos with no narration that are intended to give a sense of what being in Mariposa County looks like. Wildflowers, hiking paths, historic buildings, etc. are just a few of the subjects that are covered in Mariposa Moments.

The videos are produced in-house by the Staff and usually run about a minute. They are used on social media and the website as little moments of zen.



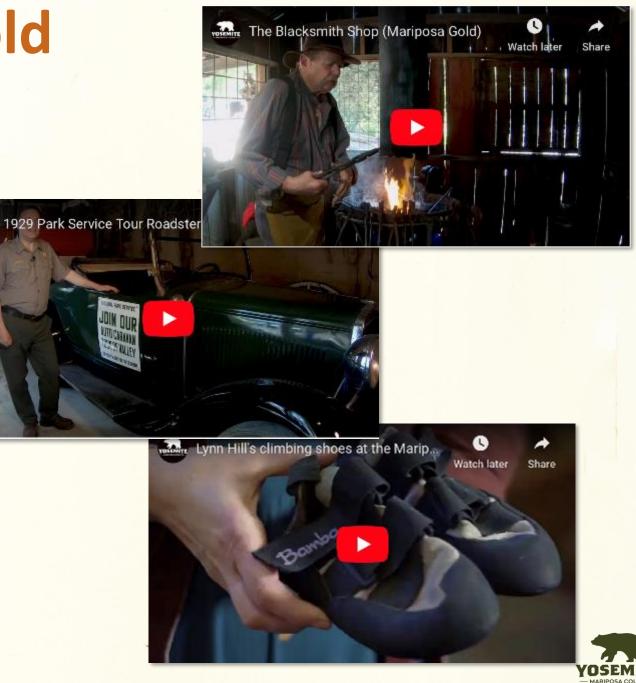
Mariposa Moments Distance

# Video: Mariposa Gold

In the last quarter of 2019/2020 during the shut-down, bureau staff worked to create new projects that would allow for appropriate social distancing while moving the video projects to a new level.

A new series called "Mariposa Gold" premiered in early May. Filmed in collaboration with the Mariposa Museum and History Center, the series focuses on interesting artifacts that tell stories about our area's history and culture. They are intended to be "evergreen" in that they can be used far into the future.

These 2-minutes-or-less short videos provide content that can be shared on our website, YouTube, social media posts, and emails.



# **Video: Modern Day Pioneers**

As the fiscal year ended, the bureau began a new video project highlighting the stories of the unique people that make Mariposa County special. These "Modern Day Pioneers" are selected for their interesting backgrounds, the way their businesses impact the community, and their love of Mariposa County.

The first of these 2- to 3-minute videos has been completed – the story of Keith and Stephanie Erikson, owners of the River Rock Inn and The Alley.

Upcoming videos will cover Skydive Yosemite and the Yosemite Bug Rustic Mountain Resort.





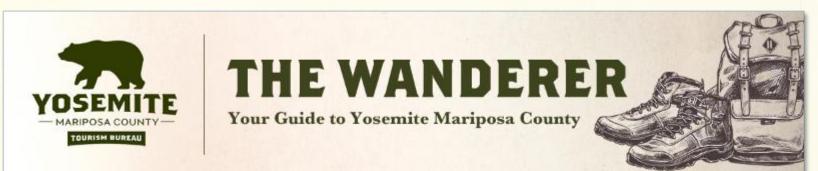
# **Email Marketing**

We have rebranded our email communications with new mastheads.

For our Constituent emails:



## For our Consumer emails:





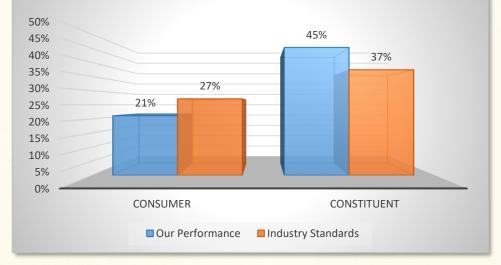
# **Email Marketing**

### **EMAIL LIST SIZE**

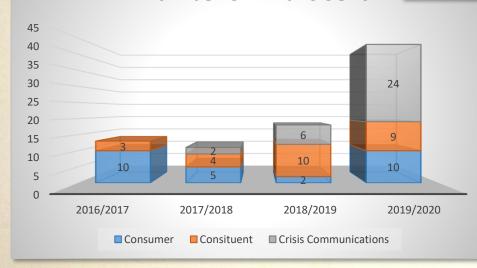
In 2019/2020 we refocused our efforts on utilizing emails for marketing and communications. Both the Briceburg fire and COVID-19 quadrupled the number of crisis-related emails sent this year. FY 17 FY 18 FY 19 FY 20

Increasing our consumer email open rates through new tactics and list management is a key strategy for 2020/2021.

## **Current Average Open Rates**







Number of Emails Sent

Consumer Consituent

## 2019-20 Public Relations and Earned Media Campaign



EARNED RESULTS OF JANUARY 2020- JUNE 2020 PR CAMPAIGN

62

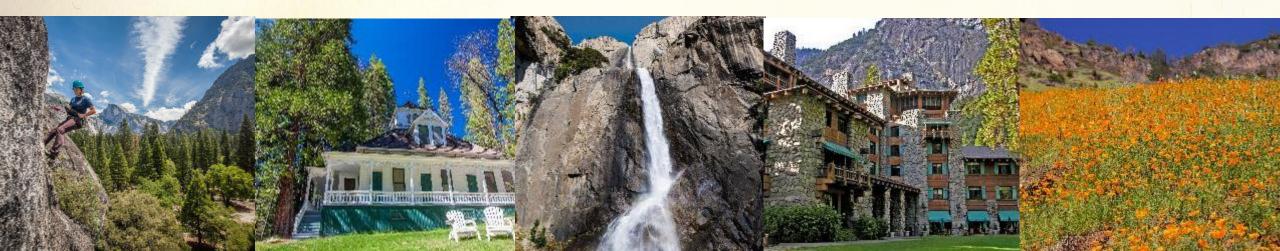
**PIECES OF COVERAGE** 

## 706K

**ONLINE READERSHIP** 

\$53.8K

AVE



# YOSEMITE MARIPOSA COUNTY TOURISM BUREAU



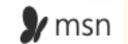
#### **EARNED PR HEADLINES**

"Want to see Yosemite's famous firefall? Plan to visit in the next few weeks"

"My first holiday after coronavirus? To the greatest place in America"

Reader's "I've Seen 100+ of Those Virtual Tours—And These Are My 11 Favorite"

"The Most Unique Places to Stay in an Airstream Around the World"



The Telegraph

yahoo!

Digest

THE

POINTS

GUY

"Yosemite, California: Family Travel Guide"



# Examples of 2020 Earned Media

1/3/20	14 of the most photogenic hotels in California	House of Coco	4/8/20 Relax and Dream of a World of Adventure	Lancashire Evening Post
1/6/20	The Best Places to Travel in January Based on Weather, Flights and Price	purewow.com	4/8/20 Relax and Dream of a world of adventure	Edinburgh Express
1/8/20	7 Of The Most Instagrammable Luxury Hotels In California	Luxury Lifestyle Magazine	4/8/20 Relax and dream of a world of Adventure	Pocklington Post & Scarborough News
	From wingwalking to swimming with whale sharks: The travel experiences that the		4/8/20 Relax and Dream of a world full of adventure	Harrogate Advertiser
1/9/20	From wingwalking to swimming with whale sharks: The travel experiences that the	MSN.com	4/8/20 My first holiday after coronavirus - the greatest place in america	Daily Telegraph
1/11/20	Romantic Valentine's Weekend at Tenaya Lodge	justluxe.com	4/12/20 Time Travel	The Sunday Mirror
1/12/20	14 TRAVEL HOTSPOTS TO ADD TO YOUR 2020 LIST	Ecophiles	4/12/20 Time Travel	The Irish Sunday Mirror
1/13/20	Experiencing Yosemite's Seasonal Bracebridge Dinner	Santa Barbara Independent	4/21/20 dream of a world of adventure	LA Times
1/17/20	ACTIVITIES TO MAKE YOU FEEL ALIVE IN 2020	whateveryourdose.com	4/22/20 How to support Yosemite National Park from a distance during the coronavirus	Outdoorsy Blog
1/20/20	The 49 things you have to see in California before you die	SFGate.com	4/22/20 5 Classic California Road Trips	AAA Westways Blog
1/23/20	The best off-season destinations in the USA	MSN.com	4/23/20 99 beautiful things we love about America	Love Exploring
1/23/20	The best off-season destinations in the USA	loveexploring.com	4/25/20 Follow in the footsteps of John Muir	Glasgow Herald
1/24/20	How to see Yosemite's Famous Firefall	thepointsguy.com	4/27/20 Armchair Travel	Savour Magazine
1/24/20	The Ultimate Northern California Road Trip with Wine, Walls and WildernessCop	luxurious magazine	5/12/20 I've Seen 100+ of Those Virtual Tours—And These Are My 11 Favorite	Reader's Digest
1/27/20	GUIDE TO YOSEMITE'S FIREFALL – A NATURAL PHENOMENON	lovethemountains.co.uk	5/14/20 National parks begin to reopen to eager crowds: Here's everything you need to know	Thepointsguy.com
1/29/20	How to View the Yosemite 'Firefall' This Year	Travel + Leisure	5/17/20 The 12 Best Road Trips in the US to Take This Summer	Popsugar.com & MSN.com
1/30/20	18 travle destinations where one visit isn't enough	MSN.com	5/30/20 The 5 Best Places To Visit In The U.S. After The Pandemic	yourtango.com
2/1/20	The Ultra-Rare Firefall Returns to Yosemite This Month	Hemispheres	6/1/20 16 Gardens That Are Blossoming Around the World	jetsettersblog.com
2/2/20	Yosemite National Park: Best Places To Stay	Travel Awaits	6/2/20 New Lease Of Life For Drive-ins?	Yorkshire Times
2/10/20	Horsetail Fall	Culture Trip	6/10/20 The Best Cycling Routes Around The World - National Bike Week	MD Harding Travel Photograpny
2/10/20	A Ten-Day Guide to Northern California for True Romantics Copyright © Luxurious	Luxurious Magazine	6/11/20 Five of the Best National Parks in California	Rough Guides
2/20/20	The best multi-generational holidays for 2020	The Time UK	6/14/20 The Most Unique Places to Stay in an Airstream Around the World	MSN.COM/PUREWOW.COM/Yahoo.com
2/24/20	Escape Hot List: Tasty tatties to a spin in London	Metro.news	6/18/20 Can I Visit the US	Telegraph.co.uk
3/9/20	BUCKET LIST ROAD TRIPS: DRIVING FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO MAMMOTH LAKES	Intrepid Escape	6/18/20 Can I Visit the US?	Yahoo.co.uk
3/10/20	Mariposa, Yosemite, and Sequoia a Spotlight on Great Things to See and Do	Retire Early and Travel	6/25/20 Top Luxury Travel Itineraries in the US National Parks	Departures
3/13/20	The fields are alive: How to view a wildflower bloom without destroying it	Washington Post	6/29/20 The 14 Cutest Cabins for a Secluded Summer Getaway	Reader's Digest
4/1/20	Asian VoiceL Hiking Yosemite National Park	Asian Voice	6/29/20 The 14 Cutest Cabins for a Secluded Summer Getaway	MSN.com
4/1/20	Food & Travel in the American West	Food & Travel	6/29/20 7 Classic California Road Trips to Drive in Your Lifetime	AFAR.com
4/3/20	50 Virtual Days Out	Inews	6/29/20 Yosemite, California: Family Travel Guide	Yahoo.com
4/3/20	Virtual Days Out	The Independent: App edition	6/29/20 7 Classic California Road Trips to Drive in Your Lifetime	MSN.comn
4/6/20	How to travel the world from the comfort of your couch	Buzz.ie	7/19/20 ROAD-TRIP DESTINATIONS IN CALIFORNIA WHILE SOCIAL DISTANCING	CalifornialifeHD.com



## Marketing Plan for 2020/2021

Since April 2020, the YMCTB staff has pushed to create a robust marketing plan for 2020/2021 that provides background information, annual goals, ongoing strategies and measurements for all aspects of the bureau's work.

The plan provides a roadmap for the year and years ahead and is a living document that will be updated given a number of external factors, including financial and COVID-19 changes. It also becomes a repository of historical data as the bureau's work is renewed each year and YOY data becomes available.

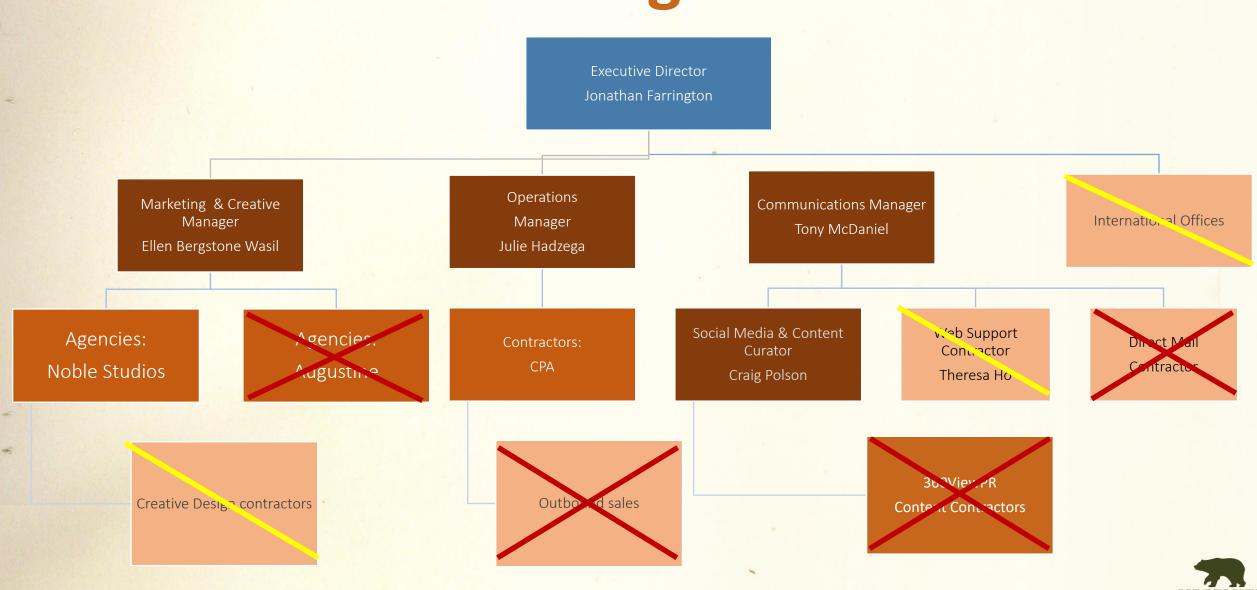


Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau Marketing Plan 2020/2021

Updated 7/23/20



# **YMCTB** Organization



# **New Budget Cuts**

We have budgeted carefully this year to maintain the minimum that can be accomplished with the funding anticipated. With defunding from the County, we have already begun making cuts, including:

- Public Relations Agency 360viewPR has been eliminated, impacting:
  - Domestic earned media will be curtailed
  - Pitching locations for the Film Commission will end
- Augustine Agency has been cut, so that any traditional advertising placements will be managed in-house.
- All upcoming print media has been eliminated.
- The annual "Above the Fog" radio campaign will not take place.
- All direct mailing of travel planners has been cut.
- The Sponsorships / donations budget supporting local events and nonprofits will be cut by 70%.
- One international agency has been cut completely.
- All international co-op budgets have been eliminated.



# Navigating Challenges in 2020/2021

- Stay focused on COVID-19 recovery while remaining adaptive and flexible. Focus on California.
- Drive visitation when safe and appropriate to do so, based on Public Health Officer and Yosemite National Park access.
- Focus on Mariposa County beyond Yosemite, building the Mariposa County brand via its history & culture if the budget allows.
- Be data and results driven in all paid Media Channels decisions.
- Focus on our owned Media Channels eCRM, email, newsletters, social media.
- Salvage what we can of our earned Media Channels, which are diminished as we reduce budget and release retained partners: PR, editorial, paid social influencers, media FAM trips, international trade and travel trade.
- Focus on owned content blogs, editorial/stories, video, photography although very little high-quality photography of Mariposa County is available through normal means.
- Produce as much content (photography, blogs, video and stories) in-house despite the loss of retained partners.

BOTTOM LINE: The County's Marketing Plan for the year is has been significantly disrupted. Recent proposed changes in funding have all but scuttled the already-reduced plan. Our team is further slashing strategy and tactical plans and contracted support to deal with these new projections and reality. (We've cut to the bone, and now cut into bone.) All of this will negatively impact the County's lodging, retail, restaurant and business recovery timeline.





# **Thank You!**



TOURISM BUREAU