Sierra Nevada
Wilderness Food Storage Requirements

Proper food storage is required everywhere. Bear-resistant food storage containers are required in purple areas shown on this map and strongly recommended in all other areas. Please make sure the container that you are using is allowed within the area or areas you will be traveling.

To avoid negative encounters with bears while visiting the Sierra Nevada wilderness:

• NEVER give food to a bear.
• Carry and use a bear-resistant food storage container that is allowed in the area or areas that you are visiting
• Ensure that all of your food, toiletries, and trash fit in the container. Most negative bear encounters occur due to overflowing container.
• Remove all your food and toiletries from their original packing to reduce bulk.
• Pack your container before leaving the permit office to be sure all items fit inside.
• During your trip, be sure that your food, toiletries and trash are stored properly at all times and that your container is closed properly - Bears are active 24 hours, day and night.
• Keep your food withing arms reach when you are cooking or have your bear resistant food container open
• If you do see a bear, do not approach it. Yell and make noise to scare it away.

While not everyone will encounter bears in the wild, everyone has an opportunity to save bears by storing their food appropriately and keeping them wild.