

Millers Creek

(Ohlone Wilderness)

🪨 3 bedrock mortars in creek setting

N 37° 33' 062"
W 121° 42' 144"
elev 1909

We've been surprised not to find more bedrock mortars out in the Ohlone Wilderness. The area seems well suited to Native American needs. Look at a map of California today and you'll see a large blank space that runs from south of Livermore to Bakersfield. That's the Diablo and Inner Coast Ranges. This wilderness extends the full length of it. These mortars are on one table like rock sitting right next to the creek.



Table Rock in Millers Creek

To get there ➡➡

Find Lake Del Valle south of Livermore. When you enter the park stay to your left and go down and cross the bridge. Turn right into the west shore parking area and then get on the Ohlone Trail heading up.

This is for serious hikers who like to go uphill. Hike

up and over the top and down into Williams Gulch. Stay on the trail. This rock is visible from the trail when you get down near the creek.

Murietta Falls

(Ohlone Wilderness)

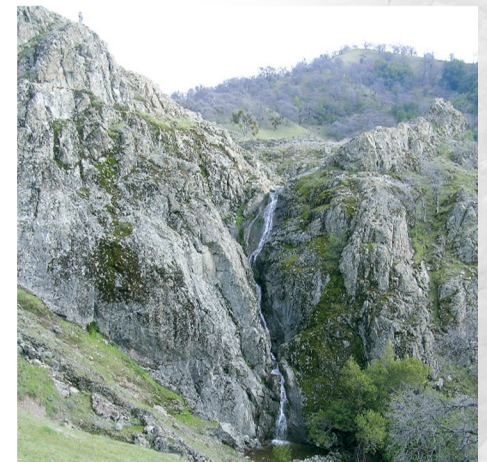
🪨 3 bedrock mortars atop Bay Area's tallest freestanding waterfall at 110 feet

N 37° 32' 028"
W 121° 42' 881"
elev 2975

By the time you're near the falls you're about 7 miles out from Lake Del Valle. The falls are spectacular in the winter and spring but dry in the summer and fall. The topography and vegetation at the top of the falls are unique in that area, and these mortar holes are near the pools at the top.

To get there ➡➡

Continue on the Ohlone Trail past Millers Creek and right on up the next big hill. Go to the top, past Schlepper Rock (great views) and on out to Johnny's Pond. Stay on the dirt road headed west from the pond and drop down into the next creek watershed. The falls are there, although not well marked. You'll know when you're there.



The author - top left - above Murietta Falls.
Photo credit: Bob Bardell