

Paradise

(Formerly **Leonards Mill** and **Poverty Ridge**).

It is located in the Sierra foothills and is considered part of the Chico Metropolitan Area.

It is spread out on a wide ridge between deep canyons on either side. The canyons are formed by the West Branch of the Feather River to the east and Butte Creek to the west.

The Paradise area extends northward from the town to its northern limits south of Magalia. Elevation ranges from 1500 to 2300 feet at its northern limit.

The town is approximately 8 miles east of Chico and 10 miles north of Oroville.

Local legend has it that this name is a euphemistic corruption of the locality's original designation of "Pair-o-dice".

Another legend has it that Sam Neal, a longtime farmer and Cattleman, used to drive his herd up a trail, which later became the current Neal Road, from the valley to higher ground for the Summer. On one of these drives, he rested and watered the herd at a location about half way up now called the "Spring House". Resting under a tree with his drovers, he allegedly stated, "This is Paradise".