



Forest Service

Inyo National Forest

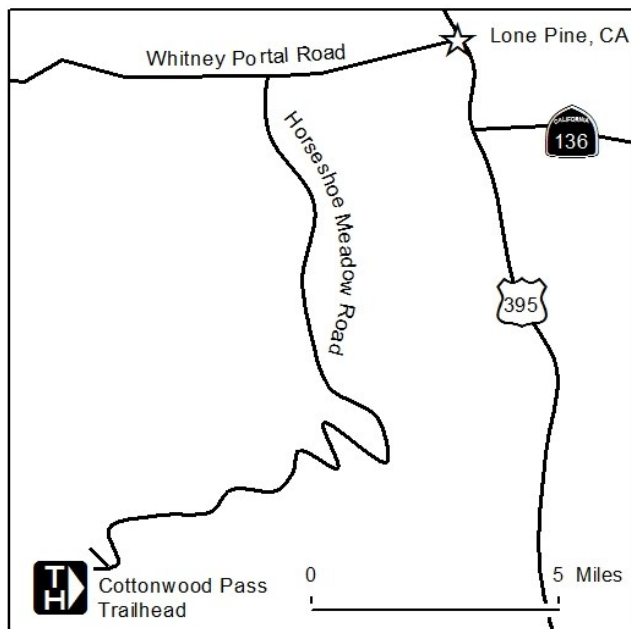


Cottonwood Pass / Pacific Crest Trail

Cottonwood Pass Trail provides access to the northern portion of the Golden Trout Wilderness. Small streams meander through tree-rimmed meadows in this wilderness area named for California's state fish, the Golden Trout. The trail intersects the Pacific Crest Trail at Cottonwood Pass (11,200 feet), southeast of Sequoia National Park,.

Access:

The trailhead is located approximately 24 miles southwest of Lone Pine, CA. From Highway 395 in Lone Pine, turn west onto Whitney Portal Road. Drive 3.5 miles and turn south (left) onto Horseshoe Meadow Road. Travel approximately 20 miles to the end of the road.



Season:

Horseshoe Meadow Road is usually open from late May to October. It is closed in winter due to snow. The trail is relatively snow free from approximately June to October. For the rest of the year, snow may cover some or all of the trail.

Trailhead Facilities:

Water: Yes

Bear Resistant Food Storage Lockers: Yes

Campgrounds: Cottonwood Pass Trailhead Campground is adjacent to the trailhead. Visitors with stock may use Horseshoe Meadow Equestrian Camp, located nearby.

On The Trail:

Food Storage: Food, trash and scented items must be stored in bear-resistant containers at Chicken Spring Lake and north on the PCT.

Camping: Use existing campsites. Camping is prohibited within 25 feet of the trail, and within 100 feet of water.

Human Waste: Bury human waste 6"-8" deep in soil, at least 100 feet from campsites, trails, and water.

Campfires: Campfires are prohibited at Chicken Spring Lake and Rocky Basin Lakes.

Pets: Pets must be under control at all times.

Additional Regulations: Information about Kings Canyon National Park regulations is available at www.nps.gov/seki, www.fs.usda.gov/goto/inyo/cottonwoodpasstrail, or at Inyo National Forest visitor centers.

Permit & Quota Information:

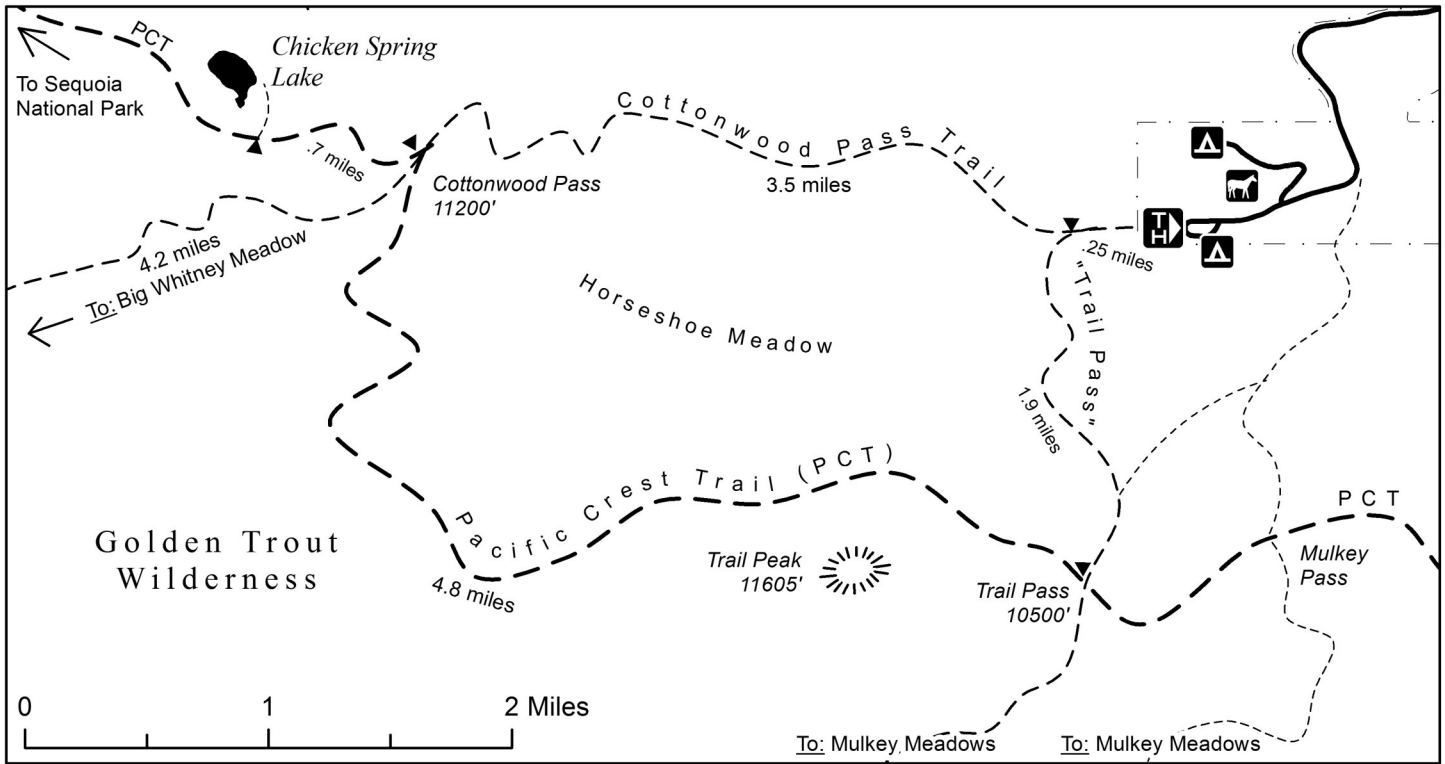
Permits are required for overnight trips. Obtain permits at Inyo National Forest Visitor Centers. From the last Saturday in May to September 15, use is limited by daily entry quotas. Permits for this period may be reserved up to six months in advance at www.recreation.gov.



United States Department of Agriculture

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Inyo National Forest - Cottonwood Pass / Pacific Crest Trail



Cottonwood Pass / Pacific Crest Trail

Location	Distance	Elevation
Trailhead	0 miles	10,000 ft
Cottonwood Pass / PCT	3.75 miles	11,200 ft
Big Whitney Meadow	7.5 miles	9,700 ft
Trailhead (via PCT & Trail Pass)	10.7 miles	9,600 ft



Leave No Trace Principles

1. Plan ahead and prepare.
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
3. Dispose of waste properly.
4. Minimize use and impact of fires.
5. Respect wildlife.
6. Leave what you find.
7. Be considerate of other visitors.

Maps:

USGS Quad: Cirque Peak; Johnson Peak
Tom Harrison: Golden Trout Wilderness; Mt. Whitney High Country; Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks
National Geographic: Mt Whitney

Need more information?

On the web at:
www.fs.usda.gov/inyo

Mt Whitney Ranger District
 P.O. Box 8
 Lone Pine, CA 93545
 760-876-6200



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