

## Inyo National Forest

### Overnight (Non-Commercial)

### Rules & Regulations

#### Inyo National Forest

Wilderness Permit Office

351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200, Bishop CA 93514

In addition to all county, state, and federal laws, the following acts are prohibited in wilderness:

- Camping within 100 feet of lakes, streams or trails (terrain permitting) & never within 50 feet of lakes, streams or trails.
- Possessing or storing any food or refuse, unless the food or refuse is stored in a container designed to prevent access by bears, or counter-balanced at least 15 feet above the ground and 10 feet horizontally from a tree trunk (where containers are not required).
- Washing and/or discharging soap waste within 100 feet of lakes or streams.
- Depositing bodily waste within 100 feet of lakes, streams, campsites or trails.
- Leaving any debris, garbage or refuse within the wilderness.
- Entering or using the wilderness in a group larger than 15 persons or with more than 25 head of pack or saddle stock.
- Storing or leaving unattended equipment, personal property, or supplies for more than 24 hours.
- Hitching, tethering or tying pack or saddle stock within 100 feet of lakes, streams, trails or campsites except while loading or unloading.
- Camping overnight in the John Muir, Ansel Adams, Hoover, or Golden Trout Wildernesses, or entering or being in the Mount Whitney Zone without a valid wilderness permit.
- Discharging a firearm, except for emergencies and the taking of game as permitted by California State law.
- Possessing or using any wheeled or mechanical device (bicycle, drone, motorcycle, cart, etc.) is prohibited, except for persons requiring a wheelchair may use non-motorized wheelchair.
- Shortcutting a switchback on any forest trail.

#### Additional Regulations

- A signed permit must be in the group leader's possession and must be presented to rangers upon request.
- Dogs must be under control (6ft. leash).

#### Food Storage

##### Areas where Bear Container Use is Required:

- Bishop Pass area, includes Treasure Lakes
- Cottonwood Lakes & Cottonwood Pass area
- Kearsarge Pass area

- Little Lakes Valley area, includes to crest of Mono Pass
- Mammoth Lakes area, includes Reds Meadow Valley, Rush Creek & John Muir Trail corridor from Yosemite to south of Lake Virginia. Trails affected include Beck, Duck, Fern, Fish, High (PCT), JMT North & South, Minaret, Red Cones, River, Rush Creek, and Shadow Creek.
- Mt. Whitney area

Bear container use is also required when camping in any area without trees adequate to hang food more than 15 feet above ground and 10 feet from tree trunk.

#### Pack Goats & Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep

- To prevent disease transmission to Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep you are advised to limit the use of pack goats to areas that are not sheep habitat.
- Do not approach wildlife.

#### Pack & Saddle Stock

- Pack goats are prohibited west of highway 395 to prevent disease transmission to Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep.
- Stock prohibited: Whitney Portal to Trail Crest.
- Grazing prohibited: Pioneer Basin, Hilgard Meadow, east of Shepherd Pass.
- Camping prohibited with pack or saddle stock east of Shepherd Pass. Check for current grazing restrictions.

#### National Park Regulations

When you enter park boundaries park regulations apply.

- Pets are not allowed.
- Discharge of any firearm or weapon is prohibited, including bear spray.
- Smaller group size limits apply for some areas of the park.

Refer to the parks minimum impact handout for specific regulations on camping, campfires, food storage, group size, and other regulations.

#### Campfire & Camping Regulations

##### Hoover Wilderness:

- Campfires prohibited: 20 Lakes Basin north of Saddlebag Lake.
- Camping prohibited: Crystal Lake, and all of the Hall Natural Area (includes Conness Lakes, Wasco, Alpine, Green Treble, Maul, Spuller, Big Horn, and Fantail Lakes).
- Swimming or wading prohibited: Crystal Lake.

##### Ansel Adams Wilderness:

- Campfires prohibited: for all areas above 10,000 ft. in elevation. Additional areas are closed to campfires below 10,000 ft. near: Badger Lakes, Clark Lakes, Lower Davis Lake, Ediza Lake, Emerald Lake, Garnet Lake, Gem Lake (north side) Iceberg Lake, King Creek (includes Ashley, Anona, Beck, Fern, Holcomb and Noname Lakes), Minaret Lakes, Parker Lake, Ruby Lake, Rush Forks, Lower Sardine Lake, Shadow Lake & Creek, Sullivan Lake, Thousand Island Lake, Waugh Lake, Weber Lake.
- Camping prohibited: At Shadow Lake, between Shadow Creek and the trail & the south & east side of Ediza; within 1/4 mile of the outlet of Garnet Lake; within 1/4 mile of the outlet of Thousand Island Lake.

##### John Muir Wilderness:

- Campfires prohibited: for all areas above 10,000 ft. north of Mt Emerson/ Glacier Divide; and above 10,400 ft. south of the divide. Additional areas in lower elevations are closed to campfires near: Big Pine Creek (North and South forks), Coldwater Canyon, Duck Creek, Hilton Lakes & Creek, Lower Horton Lake, Kearsarge Pass/ Onion Valley (includes Golden Trout Lakes and Robinson Lake), McGee Canyon, Meysan Canyon, Mildred Lake, Mt Whitney Zone, Pine Creek, Purple Creek, Sabrina, Shepherd Pass (within 1,000 ft. of Anvil Camp), Taboose Creek, and Tyee Lakes.
- Camping prohibited: Within 300 ft. of the outlet of Duck Lake and Purple Lake; at Mirror Lake and Trailside Meadow on the Mt. Whitney Trail; within 500 feet of Lower Golden Trout Lake (Plute Pass area).

##### Golden Trout Wilderness:

- Campfires prohibited: Chicken Spring Lake and Rocky Basin Lakes.

Permit #: **0350025704-1**

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