



Pacific Crest Trail

Pacific Southwest Region

Eldorado National Forest and Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit

The Trail

The Pacific Crest Trail National Scenic Trail extends 2,600 miles from Canada to Mexico. It passes through 23 National Forests, including several Wilderness areas, 7 National Parks, other federal lands, and numerous portions of state, local government and private lands.

In California the trail begins at the California-Oregon border south of Observation Peak in the Siskiyou Mountain Range and ends at the Mexican Border near Campo.

From the north, the Pacific Crest Trail enters the Eldorado National Forest in Desolation Wilderness. It continues south jogging back and forth between the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit and the Toiyabe and Eldorado National Forests.

Designated access points are located at Norden on Interstate 80, Echo Lake on Highway 50, Carson Pass on Highway 88, and Ebbetts Pass on Highway 4.

The entire Pacific Crest Trail is closed to all types of vehicles, including bicycles.

Permits

A permit is not required on the Pacific Crest Trail as such, but a permit is required for travel through Wilderness and other special areas. A Campfire Permit is required for portable campstoves or for building campfires in wildlands. Check with the local areas to ensure that campfires are allowed. Many wilderness areas like Desolation Wilderness do not allow campfires.

Pacific Crest Trail permits are issued by the agency at which point the traveler enters the trail. Thus the Forest Service will issue permits for trips originating on National Forests, and the Park Service will issue permits for trips starting in National Parks. The permit will cover the entire trip. For trips originating on the Eldorado National Forest, Pacific Crest Trail permits may be obtained by contacting the Placerville Ranger District.

Travelers passing through the Desolation Wilderness on the Pacific Crest Trail are not subject to the quota system or a fee. Short trips with Desolation as the primary visited area is not considered a PCT permit and is subject to fees and quotas.

Maps

Maps of National Forests and Wilderness Areas may be purchased from:

Placerville Ranger District
4260 Eight Mile Road
Camino, CA 95709
(530) 644-2324

Topographical maps of the area may be purchased from backpacking stores or online.

Check out the maps at the **U.S. Geological Survey website at:**

www.usgs.gov/products/maps

Or place an online order at:

store.usgs.gov

California Campfire Permits may be obtained at National Forest, Bureau of Land Management or California Department of Forestry offices. Please check locally before starting your trip to see if any special restrictions are in effect anywhere along your planned route.

www.readyforwildfire.org/

Pacific Crest Trail Association

www.pcta.org

2150 River Plaza Drive, Suite 155
Sacramento, CA 95833
(916) 285-1846 (office)

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USDA Forest Service Headquarters

Pacific Southwest Region

www.fs.usda.gov/r5

1323 Club Drive
Vallejo, CA 94592
(707) 562-8737

Angeles National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/angeles

701 North Santa Anita Ave.
Arcadia, CA 91006
(626) 574-1613

Cleveland National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/cleveland

10845 Rancho Bernardo Road,
Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92127-2107
(858) 673-6180

Eldorado National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado

Placerville Ranger District
4260 Eight Mile Road
Camino, CA 95709
(530) 644-2324

Inyo National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/inyo

351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200
Bishop, CA 93514
(760) 873-2400

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/htnf

1200 Franklin Way
Sparks, NV 89431
(775) 331-6444

Klamath National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/klamath

1711 South Main Street
Yreka, CA 96097
(530) 842-6131

Lake Tahoe Basin

Management Unit

www.fs.usda.gov/lbtmu

35 College Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
(530) 543-2600

Lassen National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/lassen

2550 Riverside Drive
Susanville, CA 96130
(530) 257-2151

Los Padres National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf

6750 Navigator Way, Suite 150
Goleta, CA 93117
(805) 968-6640

Mendocino National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/mendocino

825 N. Humboldt Ave.
Willows, CA 95988
(530) 934-3316

Modoc National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/modoc

225 West 8th Street
Alturas, CA 96101
(530) 233-5811

Plumas National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/plumas

159 Lawrence Street
Quincy, CA 95971-6025
(530) 283-2050

San Bernardino National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf

602 South Tippecanoe Ave.
San Bernardino, CA 92408-3430
(909) 382-2600

Sequoia National Forest

www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia

1839 South Newcomb St
Porterville, CA 93257-2035
(559) 784-1500



Shasta-Trinity National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/stnf

3644 Avtech Parkway
Redding, CA 96002
(530) 226-2500

Sierra National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/sierra

1600 Tollhouse Road
Clovis, CA 93611-0532
(559) 297-0706

Six Rivers National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/srnf

1330 Bayshore Way
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 442-1721

Stanislaus National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/stanislaus

19777 Greenley Road
Sonora, CA 95370
(209) 532-3671

Tahoe National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/tahoe

631 Coyote Street
Nevada City, CA 95959-6003
(530) 265-4531

Yosemite National Park

www.nps.gov/yose

P.O. Box 577
Yosemite National Park, CA 95389
(209) 372-0200
