

Kaiser Wilderness

Sierra National Forest



The Kaiser Wilderness was established in 1976 and covers a total of 22,700 acres. It is located immediately north of Huntington Lake, approximately 70 miles north east of Fresno. The wilderness was named after Kaiser Ridge, which divides the area into two distinctly different regions. A hike to Kaiser Ridge and Kaiser Peak provides a commanding view of much of the central Sierra Nevada Mountain Range.

Southern Portion of Kaiser Wilderness

The southern half of Kaiser Wilderness rises gradually from summer homes, resorts and campgrounds on the north shore of Huntington Lake.

There are four trailheads along this southern boundary. The western most is where the county road crosses Home Camp Creek. This trail leads to Coarsegrass Meadow.

Moving eastward, the next trailhead is behind Upper Billy Creek Campground. This point provides access to Nellie Lake, Hidden Lake, and Gloria Meadow on the north side of Kaiser Ridge, and to the loop trail that traverses Kaiser Ridge To Kaiser Peak. Another access to this loop trail is at the D&F Pack Station located behind Kinnikinnick Campground.

The Potter Pass Trail starts on Kaiser Pass Road near Badger Flat Campground. This and Potter Creek Trail provide access to the lakes in the northeast area of the Wilderness.

Northern Portion of Kaiser Wilderness

The northern half of the Kaiser Wilderness is much more open than the southern half. The descent from Kaiser Ridge into this area is very steep. Four trailheads provide access into the northern half of the wilderness and the primary point of entry is from Sample Meadow Campground.

Upper and Lower Twin Lakes and George Lake can be reached by this trail. All other lakes are approached cross-country. Winter storms start arriving in late October and snow generally remains on the ground until early June.

Wilderness Permits and Trailhead Quotas

A wilderness visitor permit is required for all overnight trips into the wilderness. Trailhead quotas are in place year-round. For all trails, 60 percent of the trailhead quota is available through advanced reservations and 40 percent is available 24 hours prior to entry for walk-in customers, first come-first served. There is a \$5.00 non-refundable reservation fee for each person for all trails. There is a \$10.00 charge for any changes to a confirmed reservation. First come, first served permits are free of charge.

Group Size

Group size is limited to 15 people and 25 head of stock for overnight trips.

Proper Food Storage

Backcountry and wilderness users are required to store food or refuse in a manner designed to keep bears from gaining access to it. Visitors are encouraged to use bear-resistant food canisters to safeguard food. If a bear canister is not available, the counter-balance method of storing food is also an acceptable method.

Bear-Resistant Canisters

These portable containers are the only effective way for backpackers to store food in wilderness. Each canister weighs less than 3 pounds, fits in a full-sized backpack, and is capable of holding up to 3 to 5 day's worth of food for one person. When using the canister remember the following guidelines:

- Store all food, cosmetics, toothpaste, soap, and refuse in the canisters.



United States
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Trailhead and Quota Information

- At night or when you are way from camp, leave your empty pack on the ground with all pockets and flaps open.
- Put the canister 50 feet from your sleeping area.
- Leave the canister on the ground.
- Do not hang the canister from a tree.

Leave No Trace

To practice **LEAVE NO TRACE**, follow these simple practices:

- Camp at least 100 feet away from water sources and trails.
- Bury human waste in a hole 6 to 8 inches deep and over 100 feet away from any water source.
- Use a stove for cooking and existing fire rings.
- Stay on the main trail and don't shortcut switchbacks.
- Pack out all trash, including paper and food scraps.
- Purify all water for human use.
- Use soap at least 100 feet away from any water source.

Campfires

A campfire permit is included with your wilderness permit. No campfires are permitted above 10,000 in elevation. Please keep fires small, use existing fire rings when possible and use only dead and down material.

Trailhead Number	Trailhead Name	Daily Advanced Reservation	Daily Walk-In
K1	Sample	22	14
K2	Potter Pass	22	14
K3	Potter Cutoff	8	4
K4	Deer Creek	8	4
K5	Billy Creek	18	12
K6	Coarsegrass	8	4
K7	Hidden	8	4
K8	Pryor	8	4

To Obtain a Wilderness Permit

To obtain a wilderness permit and for additional information contact:

High Sierra Ranger District

P.O. Box 559
Prather, CA 93651
(559) 855-5360

Sierra National Forest Website

www.fs.fed.us/r5/sierra

All Are Welcome

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