



United States Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service



## PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION

*Restoring, Enhancing and Sustaining Forests in California, Hawaii and the Pacific Islands*

### Sierra National Forest

# DINKEY LAKES WILDERNESS

## High Sierra Ranger District

The California Wilderness Act of 1984 created the 30,000 acre Dinkey Lakes Wilderness. Dinkey Lakes lies immediately west of the John Muir Wilderness (the portion added in 1984) and is separated from the John Muir by the Dusy-Ershim off-highway vehicle route.

Most of the Dinkey Lakes Wilderness consists of timbered rolling terrain. Sixteen lakes are clustered in the west central region. Most of the wilderness is above 9,000 feet at the highest point Three Sisters Peak is 10,619 feet in elevation. Large meadows can be found in the north central region of the wilderness and along Helms Creek.

Dinkey Lakes Wilderness is well suited for stock travel, but natural feed is available only in the meadows north of First Dinkey Lake and in the vicinity of Nelson Lake. Stock parties must camp at least 500 feet from any lakeshore to protect water quality. Cattle grazing is a historical and continuing use of the Dinkey Lakes Wilderness.

### HOW TO GET THERE

Access into Dinkey Lakes Wilderness is via Kaiser Pass Road (north), Red/Coyote Jeep Road (west), Rock Creek Road (southwest), or Courtright Reservoir (southeast). The Wilderness is accessible generally from mid-June to late October.

### WILDERNESS PERMITS AND TRAIL-HEAD QUOTAS

A wilderness 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

reservation and 40 percent is available 24 hours prior to entry for walk-in visitors, 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 and available 24 hours in advance of your trip.

### 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 a very effective way for backpackers to store food in the wilderness. Each canister weighs less than three 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 canister.
- At night or when you are away 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.



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture



Forest Service  
Pacific Southwest Region  
[www.fs.usda.gov/sierra](http://www.fs.usda.gov/sierra)

Sierra  
National  
Forest

Rev 06/14/2011

## CAMPFIRES

Your wilderness permit will serve as a one time campfire permit when you are into the wilderness. No fires are permitted above 10,400 feet in elevation. Firewood is very scarce in the lakes region. Please keep fires small, and when possible, please use existing fire rings and only use dead and down wood.

## 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 water sources and trails.
- Use a cook stove or existing fire rings.
- 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.

## TO OBTAIN A WILDERNESS PERMIT

For more information call:

### High Sierra Ranger District

P.O. Box 559  
Prather, CA 93651  
559-855-5355  
(TDD) 559-855-5367

Trailhead Number	Trailhead Name	Daily Reservations	Daily Walk-ins
D1	Badger	6	4
D2	Helms Meadow	6	4
D3	Cliff	12	8
D4	Nelson	6	4
D5	Willow Meadow	18	12
D6	Coyote	6	4

## All Are Welcome

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.), should contact USDA's TARGET center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.