



Mokelumne Wilderness

SUMMER PERMITS

May 29TH, 2025 –
September 4TH, 2025



SUMMER PERMITS – 2 OPTIONS

1. GENERAL MOKELUMNE WILDERNESS – SELF ISSUE PERMITS

- ◆ Permits are good between **May 29th - September 4th, 2025**.
- ◆ *These permits exclude the Carson Pass Management Area (CPMA).* ◆ They must be printed, signed, and emailed to SM.FS.mowilderness@usda.gov, and carried on your person.

*See Backpacking trails on page 3 for general Mokelumne Wilderness trails.

**See Parking Pass and Campfire permits for other permits required for your trip.

2. CARSON PASS MANAGEMENT AREA - SAME DAY ONLY PERMITS

Winnemucca, Round Top, and Fourth of July Lakes and surrounding areas are considered the CPMA of the Mokelumne Wilderness. The CPMA was created to protect and promote the restoration of the shorelines and geological features in this high-use area.

- ◆ **Availability:** The summer CPMA permits are available every day, **May 29th to September 4th**, at **8:00 AM** at the **Carson Pass Information Station**. Permits for the CPMA are NOT reservable and will be issued on the day of entry on a first-come, first-served basis. Hours may vary.
- ◆ **13 designated sites** = 3 sites at Winnemucca, 5 sites at Roundtop, and 6 sites at Fourth of July Lake. Camping restricted to these sites in the CPMA.
- ◆ **Limits:** 1 permit per site / 8 people per permit / **2-night** stay limit at Winnemucca and Roundtop Lakes / **3-night** stay limit at Fourth of July Lake.
- ◆ **The CPMA wilderness permit is the ONLY wilderness permit legal in the CPMA area.** The general self-issue Mokelumne Wilderness permits will not work. Without the issued and signed, CPMA permit, you are prohibited from camping anywhere in the CPMA or along the trail from Woods Lake/Carson Pass trail head to Winnemucca, Round Top, or Fourth of July Lakes.
- ◆ No **CAMPFIRES** allowed anywhere within the Mokelumne Wilderness boundaries.

Typically, permits go within moments of opening every day as there is a high volume of people inquiring about these designated CPMA sites during the summer months.

You should always have a backup option outside of the CPMA area*.

Read all Rules and Regulations

By reading through the rules and regulations, you are agreeing to uphold and abide by them while recreating and backpacking in the Eldorado National Forest, and the Mokelumne Wilderness which includes the CPMA.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

WEBSITE:

www.fs.usda.gov/goto/enf/mokelumne

EMAIL:

SM.FS.mowilderness@usda.gov

CARSON PASS MANAGEMENT AREA SUMMER INFORMATION STATION

At Carson Pass Trailhead / Parking Area

209-258-8606

Facebook: Carson Pass Station

Mon - Fri 8 AM – 3 PM

Sat - Sun 8 AM – 4 PM

CPMA Permits are Same Day, First-Come, First-Served, and only issued at the Pass. No Reservations

AMADOR RANGER DISTRICT OFFICE

209-259-3774

Tuesday – Saturday (summer)

8 AM – 4:30 PM

Closed Federal Holidays and

Weekends

General Non-CPMA permits are available online and in-person at the district office.



PARKING - SUMMER PERMITS

June 1st – October 31st

- ◆ Applies to USFS operated parking areas.
- ◆ **FEE:** The fee to park at the Carson Pass and the Meiss ([Meiss trail system information here](#)) trailhead parking lots is **\$5.00 per day**. There is a self-service iron ranger, fill out the pink/green slip and place the **cash or check** into the slip (*each day the vehicle is parked it must be paid in full and on slip*), keep the tag and place on your vehicle dashboard.
- ◆ **PASSES:** ATB Senior and Access Passes are accepted. There is no longer a Carson Pass seasonal pass.
- ◆ **WINTER:** A different [Snow Park permit](#) is required for parking in the Carson Pass and the Meiss ([Meiss trail system information here](#)) trailhead parking lots between **November 1st - May 31st** every year.

GROUP SIZE

- ◆ **OVERNIGHT group** size is limited to **8 people per permit**.
- ◆ **DAY Hikes** are limited to **12 people per group**.

No permits are needed for day hikes in the Mokelumne Wilderness including the CPMA. Day hikers are not permitted to camp overnight. Please follow LNT guidelines and practice low-impact recreational practices. Hiking on forest lands including the wilderness in large groups can cause resource damage. Please minimize this damage if you have multiple groups, by staggering your start times by thirty minutes. Backpacking and hiking in groups diminishes the opportunities for solitude. Please respect others in the area, as larger groups voices can carry more.

CALIFORNIA CAMPFIRE/CAMP STOVE PERMITS

- ◆ **No CAMPFIRES are allowed anywhere within the Mokelumne Wilderness boundaries.**

The State of California requires a campfire permit for any open flame including camping stoves, year around. Print-ready California Campfire Permits can be obtained online easily and for free at readyforwildfire.org.

Permits are valid from the date issued for the remainder of the calendar year. Check with the local office for restrictions before using the permit. Please carry your campfire permit on your person during the entirety of your travels. Please report illegal campfires that are still burning, smoldering or have hot coals to 911 immediately.

CAMP STOVES: *The Campfire permit covers your camp stove and lanterns and must be carried to use an "on and off" switch style gas camp stove.*

MECHANIZED AND MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT IS PROHIBITED

No bicycles, vehicles, hand gliders, over-snow vehicles (no Snowmobiles), strollers, chainsaws, or game carts are allowed.

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Set up your own emergency contact prior to your trip. Leave your trip plan and your backup plan with them before beginning your trip. **ALWAYS CALL 911 FIRST.** We encourage the use of Maps and GPS units.

TREAT WATER

By boiling or filtering through a portable water filter.

MAPS

Digital Maps: The Avenza App is free to download on iOS or Android. The application works like a GPS unit without using data. Purchase the [Mokelumne Wilderness Digital Avenza Map](#) for \$4.99.

Mokelumne Wilderness map: cost \$13.08 + shipping and handling at ENFIA.ORG.

Available at the Carson Pass Information Station and Amador District office during business hours. Credit Card only.

PACIFIC CREST TRAIL (PCT)

Through Hikes are being issued for 2025. Seek out each permit needed for your journey.

LEAVE NO TRACE

**Please Remember Your Actions
Matter!**

[LEAVE NO TRACE](#) of your visit.
Pack out what you pack in, including toilet paper & waste.



PROHIBITED TO CAMP AT...

- ◆ **EMIGRANT LAKE**: Camping within 300 feet of Emigrant Lake is not permitted to protect and promote the restoration of the shoreline. Camping within 300 feet of the shoreline is only permissible when there is snow on the ground. Make sure you do not dig down and cause resource damage. Pack out all waste and TP.
- ◆ **WOODS LAKE** offers day use hiking only. **NO overnight backpacking** around the lake.
- ◆ **FROG LAKE**: Camping is not permitted within a quarter mile of Frog Lake to protect and promote the restoration of the shoreline. Unless there is a durable snowpack on the ground. If there is **snow** on the ground, you may camp on any durable surface. Be vigilant of the areas below the snow. Do not dig down to the earth and cause resource damage.

BURY HUMAN AND CANINE WASTE. PACK OUT TP

Bury waste 6-8 inches deep at least 200' (100 paces) from water sources, campsites, and trails. Digging animals will expose waste buried in shallow holes. Pack out your used toilet paper. (Desovw.org [how to poop in the woods](#)). **Winter Months** when snow is on the ground, please pack out both TP and waste.

DOGS

Must always be leashed and controlled. Handlers must physically restrain their dogs on a leash less than six feet throughout the duration of their visit in the Mokelumne Wilderness and the CPMA. Be considerate to other visitors and protect wildlife. Dog's off leash can threaten wildlife or present a hazard to the safety or convenience of other visitors.

BACKPACKING TRAILS

INSIDE the Mokelumne Wilderness but not in the Carson Pass Management Area for other options.

- ◆ [Tanglefoot Trail 17E29](#)
- ◆ [Granite Lake Trail 17E23](#)
- ◆ [Munson Meadow Trail 17E27](#)
- ◆ [Horse Canyon Trail 17E21](#)
- ◆ [Grouse Lake Trail 18E08](#)
- ◆ [Summit City Trail 18E07](#)
- ◆ [Evergreen Trail 18E21](#)

OUTSIDE of the Mokelumne Wilderness

- ◆ [Hiking Trails: Meiss Country, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit](#)
- ◆ [Other Special Places to Hike and Backpack in the Eldorado National Forest](#)

BEARS

Bear canisters are recommended. Have extremely keen noses and are attracted to food smells as well as to the scents of personal products such as toothpaste and deodorant. Using bear canisters for food storage will aid in minimal bear activity and trash; or hang your food using the counterbalancing method.

BEAR CANISTERS are available for no cost loan at the Amador District office.

HUNTING AND FISHING

Both activities are allowed in the Eldorado National Forest and in the wilderness.

Hunting is a seasonal activity, and the rules are simple: Follow the state, local, and federal laws and regulations pertaining to hunting, including seasons, dates, and licensing. Forests and grasslands may place some areas as off limits to hunting.

Salt Springs State Game Refuge is one of them. [Using Firearms on the Eldorado National Forest](#). (pdf)

Hunting is permitted during hunting seasons designated by the [California State Department of Fish and Wildlife \(CDFW\)](#). Licenses are available [Online](#), at any [CDFW License Sales Office](#) or [License Agent](#).

GENERAL MOKELUMNE WILDERNESS PERMIT

Click here for the fillable General Mokelumne Wilderness permit. *(This document does not permit this person/group to camp in the CPMA or the three CPMA lakes.)*

- ◆ [NON-CPMA WILDERNESS PERMIT](#)

Print, sign, scan/take a photo of permit, and email to

SM.FS.mowilderness@usda.gov