



DINKEY LAKES WILDERNESS

Sierra National Forest

The California Wilderness Act of 1984 created the 30,000-acre Dinkey Lakes Wilderness. Dinkey Lakes Wilderness lies immediately west of the John Muir Wilderness 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 TRAILHEAD QUOTAS

A wilderness permit is required for all overnight trips into the wilderness. Wilderness permit reservations are available at www.recreation.gov. Trailhead quotas are in place year-round although most of the trailheads are not accessible until early June. For all trails, 60 percent of the trailhead quota is available through advanced reservation 6 months prior to entry date and 40 percent is available 2 weeks prior to entry date, for first come-first served. There is a \$6.00 non-refundable reservation fee and a \$5.00

charge per person for everyone included in the reservation.

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 counterbalance 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 can hold up to 3 to 5 days' 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.

CAMPFIRES

Your wilderness permit will serve as a one-time campfire permit when you are in the wilderness. No fires are permitted above 10,000 feet in elevation. There may be additional fire closures so please check with your local Forest Service office. 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.

Respect the solitude of others by avoiding boisterous behavior and loud noises, camping in areas that are not visible to other visitors.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO OBTAIN A WILDERNESS PERMIT:

Go to www.recreation.gov and search Sierra National Forest Wilderness Permits / Explore Available Permits

For more information please contact:

Bass Lake Ranger District
559-877-2218

High Sierra Ranger District
559-855-5355
(TDD) 559-855-5367

Trailhead Number	Trailhead Name	Daily Advanced Reservations	Daily "Walk-Ups"
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