



Forest Service

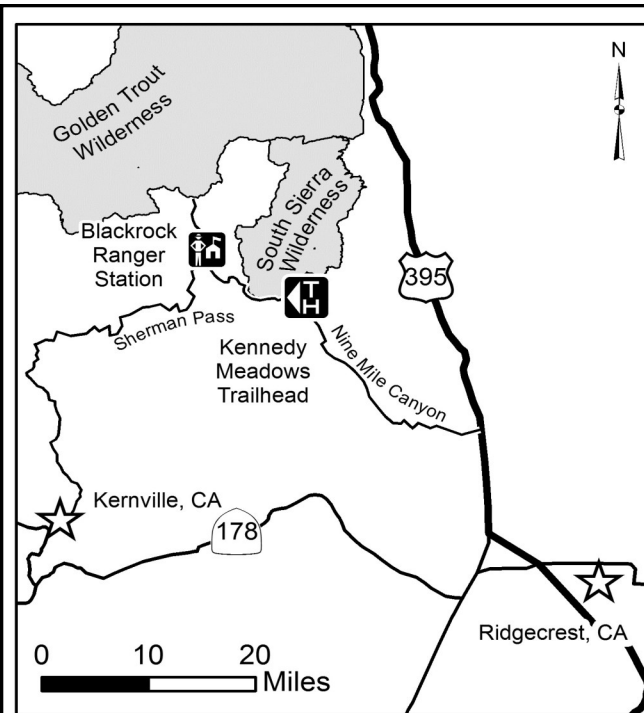
Inyo National Forest



Pacific Crest Trail / Kennedy Meadows Trailhead

Kennedy Meadows Trailhead, and the Pacific Crest Trail, provide access to South Sierra Wilderness. The Pacific Crest Trail stretches over 2,650 miles from Mexico to Canada through California, Oregon and Washington. Thousands of hikers and equestrians enjoy the trail each year. Some travel a few miles, while others complete the entire trail in a single season.

Traveling north from Kennedy Meadows Trailhead, the PCT passes through South Sierra Wilderness, Golden Trout Wilderness, and then Sequoia National Park. For the first few miles, the trail is adjacent to the South Fork Kern River. After leaving the South Fork Kern River, water may be scarce. The trail starts in arid pinyon and juniper woodlands, then gains elevation and enters forests of Jeffrey and foxtail pines. Although the PCT is generally well maintained, other trails in the area are not and may be difficult to locate.



through November. Recommended in spring and fall when temperatures are mild.

Trailhead Facilities:

Water: No

Bear Resistant Food Storage Lockers: No

Corrals: No

Campgrounds: Kennedy Meadows Trailhead is located in Kennedy Meadows Campground.

On The Trail:

Food Storage: Food, trash and scented items must be stored in Bear-resistant containers. When suitable trees are present these items may be counter-balanced 15 feet above the ground and 10 feet horizontally from a tree trunk.

Human Waste: Bury human waste 6"-8" deep in soil, and at least 100 feet from campsites, trails, and water.

Campfires: Fire permits are required for stoves or campfires.

Pets: Pets must be under control at all times.

Additional Regulations: Additional information can be found at www.fs.usda.gov/inyo.

Permit Information:

Permits are recommended for overnight trips in South Sierra Wilderness and are required for overnight trips in Golden Trout Wilderness. Obtain permits at any Inyo National Forest ranger station or Blackrock Ranger Station.

Access:

From US 395, 55 miles south of Lone Pine, CA, and 15 miles north of Ridgecrest, CA, turn west onto *Nine Mile Canyon Rd* (J41). Drive approximately 25 miles to the end of the road. The trailhead is located in the center of Kennedy Meadows Campground.

From Kernville, CA. Travel north on *Sierra Highway*, then east on *Sherman Pass Road* (22S05). At the end of Sherman Pass Road, at Kennedy Meadows, turn left. Drive approximately 2 miles to the end of the road. The trailhead is located in the center of Kennedy Meadows Campground..

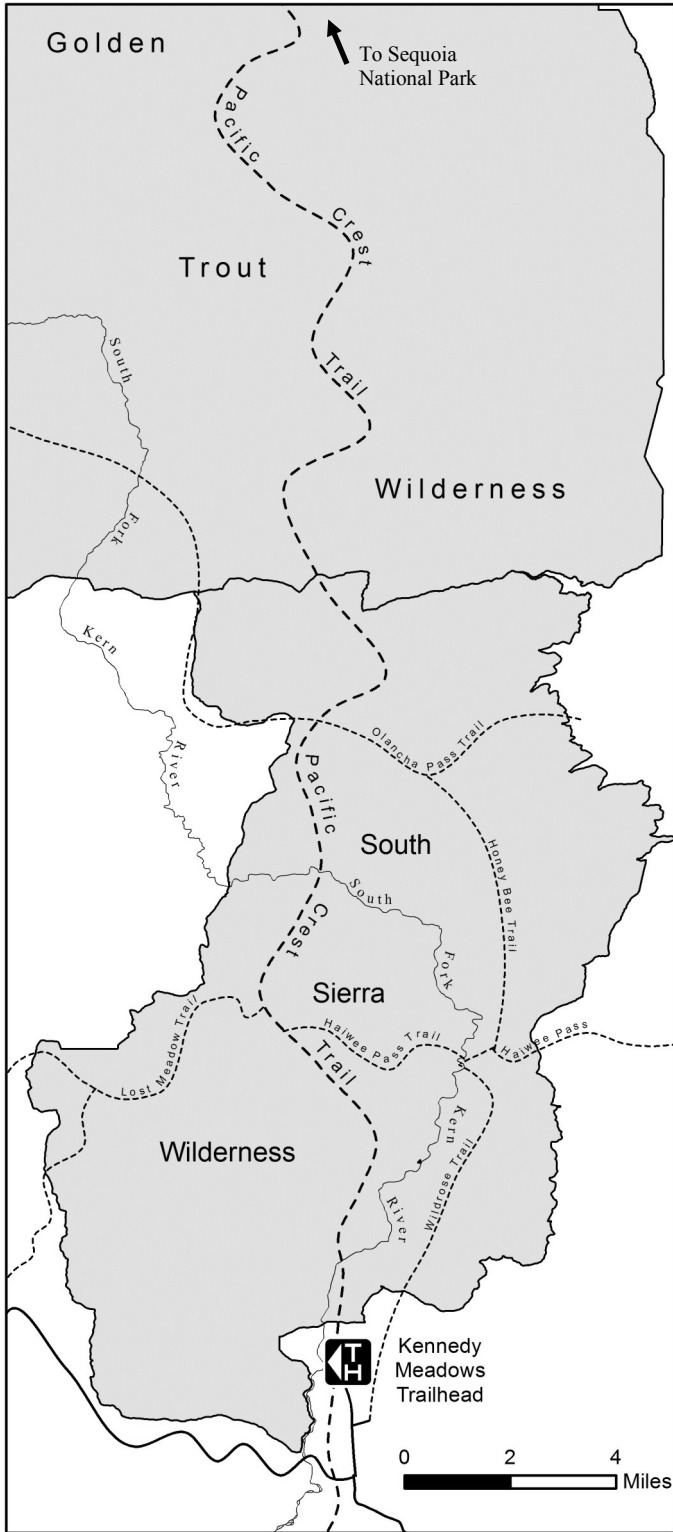
Season:

Relatively snow free from approximately April



United States Department of Agriculture

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<u>Location</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Elevation</u>
Kennedy Meadows Trailhead	0 miles	6,200 ft
S. Fork Kern River Bridge #1	2 miles	6,300 ft
S. Fork Kern River Bridge #2	10 miles	7,800 ft
Olancha Pass Trail	14 miles	9,000 ft
Golden Trout Wilderness	18 miles	10,200 ft
Sequoia National Park	47 miles	11,300 ft

Maps:

Tom Harrison Maps: South Sierra Wilderness, Golden Trout Wilderness

USGS Quads: Long Canyon, Crag Peak, Monache Mountain, Haiwee Pass, Templeton Mtn., Olancha, Cirque Peak



Leave No Trace™
Center for Outdoor Ethics | LNT.org


Leave No Trace Principles

1. Plan ahead and prepare.
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
3. Dispose of waste properly.
4. Minimize use and impact of fires.
5. Respect wildlife.
6. Leave what you find.
7. Be considerate of other visitors.

Need more information?

www.fs.usda.gov/goto/inyo/kennedymeadowspct

Mt Whitney Ranger District
P.O. Box 8
Lone Pine, CA 93545
760-876-6200



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