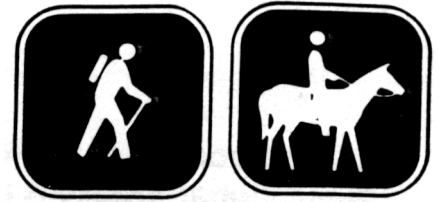


COTTONWOOD LAKES NEW ARMY PASS

INYO National Forest



Named for the cottonwood trees which were located at the original trailhead in the Owens Valley, the Cottonwood Lakes/New Army Pass trail provides access to the southern portion of the John Muir Wilderness and Sequoia National Park. The Cottonwood Lakes are home to the Golden Trout (*Salmo aguabonita*), California's state fish.

Trailhead Location: The trail begins at Horseshoe Meadows which is located 24 miles from Lone Pine. The paved road is usually open late May to late October. To reach the trailhead, turn west onto Whitney Portal road from Lone Pine. Drive 3.5 miles and turn south (left) onto Horseshoe Meadow Road. Continue 20.5 miles to the Cottonwood Lakes/New Army Pass trailhead.

Elevations: *Trailhead:* 10,040 feet. *Lake Basin:* 11,000 feet. *New Army Pass:* 12,400 feet.

Trailhead Difficulty: Moderate to the lake basin; strenuous over New Army Pass.

Maps: The Forest Service's "John Muir Wilderness and Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness" topographic set (15 min.) is available at the Ranger Station. Also see the USGS "Cirque Peak " topographic map(71/2 min.).

Weather: Summer temperatures can be quite hot, and night temperatures may drop to freezing. Thunderstorms are very common during the summer and snow storms can occur at anytime. The weather can change quickly in the Sierra Nevada, be prepared for changing weather conditions.

Water: Water is available near the trail as far as High Lake. Carry water if you are traveling over New Army Pass. Boil or filter your water as the presence of Giardiasis in backcountry water poses a serious health problem.

Bears: Bears are prevalent in the Cottonwood Lakes area and in the adjacent Sequoia National Park. There are no bear food storage lockers in the Cottonwood Lakes area. The bear-resistant food canister is a recommended method of food storage. Check at the Ranger Station before starting your trip for current information on bear activity.

Trailhead facilities: *Parking:* Hiker and equestrian parking facilities are provided.

OVERNIGHT STAGING AREAS, LIMIT ONE NIGHT STAY:

Hiker: 12 sites, walk-in tent pad, toilets and piped water.

Equestrian: 10 sites, walk-in tent pad, toilets and piped water.

Pack Station: Cottonwood Pack Trains, P.O. Box 81-A, Independence, CA 93526, 760-876-2015.

Fishing:

Season: July 1 through October 31.

Tackle: Only artificial lures or flies with barbless hooks.

Limit: 5 trout.

COTTONWOOD LAKES 1, 2, 3 AND 4 ARE

CATCH AND RELEASE ONLY.



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