

# PCT Long Distance Permit

Most of the PCT does NOT require a permit of any kind. Some parts of the PCT require a permit, which could be the PCT Long Distance Permit **\*\*OR\*\*** it could be a local permit.

The PCT Long Distance Permit (available on the PCTA website [www.pcta.org](http://www.pcta.org)) makes your life extremely easy because it is an umbrella permit, meaning it covers you for all areas that need a permit — so you don't have to worry if you are in a permit-required area or not. It is a fantastic resource, and I'm glad it exists. BUT . . . . it is not, and has never been, required.

Because the PCT Long Distance Permit covers you for your entire thru-hike, it is obviously the easiest option. But it is not the ONLY option! If you can't get a PCT Long Distance Permit, use local permits (see following pages). Using local permits is not cheating!! Local permits were around WAY BEFORE the PCT Long Distance Permit. You can absolutely, positively, legally, hike the PCT using local permits! Hikers have used local permits for decades.

Think of it this way: to board an airplane, you need identification. That could be a Driver's License, State ID, or Passport — each of those gets you on the plane. To hike SOME PARTS of the PCT, you need a permit. That permit could be a local permit or the PCT Long Distance Permit — each of those are valid permits.

The PCT Long Distance Permit is distributed by the PCTA, but it is actually issued by the USFS.

There are two major misconceptions regarding the PCT Long Distance Permit.

## **FIRST MISCONCEPTION**

“The PCT Long Distance Permit is REQUIRED for thru-hikers.” THAT IS INCORRECT.

Oh, the blasphemy!! I said that the PCT Long Distance Permit is not required! That is true. However, there are many areas of the PCT where a permit is required. Note that I said “a permit,” not “the PCT Long Distance Permit.” If a permit is required, you could use a local permit or the PCT Long Distance Permit. Either works.

## **SECOND MISCONCEPTION**

“Hikers do not need any permits if their trip is under 500 miles.” THAT IS INCORRECT.

Whether or not a permit is required is determined by WHERE you hike, not by HOW FAR you hike. You could do a 10-mile hike in a permit-required area and you would need a permit. You could do a 600-mile hike in an area which does not require any permits, and you would not need a permit.

I suspect some people think that permits are not required for hikes LESS THAN 500 miles because the PCTA only distributes the PCT Long Distance Permit for hikes GREATER THAN 500 miles. Think of it this way: If a hiker is planning a hike UNDER 500 miles, that hiker IS NOT eligible to apply for the PCT Long Distance Permit. That hiker must figure out if any permits are required for the section of trail they are hiking. The hiker then must contact all the local agencies to obtain individual permits. If a hiker is planning a hike OVER 500 miles, that hiker IS eligible to apply for the PCT Long Distance Permit. The starting and ending locations on your PCT Long Distance Permit can be anywhere on the PCT as long as the total length of your hike is at least 500 miles.

## Northbound PCT Long Distance Permits

There are 50 northbound PCT Long Distance Permits issued for starting locations south of Sonora Pass (PCT northbound mile point 1017) for each date from March 1 thru May 31. The 50/day limit encompasses ALL starting locations south of Sonora Pass (for example, if one person starts at the Mexican border, another person starts at Idyllwild, and another person starts at Walker Pass, they have taken 3/50 permits for that day).

35/50 permits per day are issued on a specific date in October/November, the remaining 15/50 permits per day are issued on a specific date in January.

There is NOT a quota for northbound PCT Long Distance Permits with starting locations at or north of Sonora Pass.

In addition to a PCT Long-Distance Permit, **EVERYONE must have a California Campfire Permit**. This is a calendar-year permit, free, available here: <https://www.readyforwildfire.org/permits/campfire-permit/>

**If you have a Mexico to Canada PCT Long Distance Permit** (distributed by the PCTA), you do not need ANY of the permits listed below.

**NORTHBOUNDERS who do not have a Mexico to Canada PCT Long Distance Permit** (distributed by the PCTA) can legally hike from Mexico to Canada using ONLY the permits noted with blue shading below.

## Southbound PCT Long Distance Permits

There are 15 southbound PCT Long Distance Permits issued for starting locations north of and including Stehekin WA (PCT southbound mile point 80.7) for each date from June 15 thru July 31. The 15/day limit encompasses ALL four northern starting locations: Canadian Border, Harts Pass, Rainy Pass, and Stehekin (for example, if one person starts at the Canadian Border, another person starts at Harts Pass, and another person starts at Stehekin, they have taken 3/15 permits for that day).

All 15 permits for each day are issued on a specific date in January.

There is NOT a quota for southbound PCT Long Distance Permits with starting locations south of Stehekin WA.

In addition to a PCT Long-Distance Permit, **EVERYONE must have a California Campfire Permit**. This is a calendar-year permit, free, available here: <https://www.readyforwildfire.org/permits/campfire-permit/>

**If you have a Canada to Mexico PCT Long Distance Permit** (distributed by the PCTA), you do not need ANY of the permits listed below.

**SOUTHBOUNDERS who do not have a Canada to Mexico PCT Long Distance Permit** (distributed by the PCTA) can legally hike from Canada to Mexico using ONLY the permits noted with green shading below.

# PCT Local Permits

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As stated above, whether or not a permit is required is determined by WHERE you hike, not by HOW FAR you hike. The following pages list, in northbound order, the areas of the PCT where permits are required for hiking or camping.

- Some areas require a permit just to be there.  
It doesn't matter if you're hiking or camping, if you're there, you need a permit.
- Some areas require a permit only for camping/overnight travel.  
If you're hiking thru during the day, you do not need a permit.
- Some permits are non-quota/unlimited.
- Some areas limit the number of permits issued for each day or for a specific trailhead location.
- Some permits are self-issued, meaning there is a kiosk at the trailhead which contains permits.  
You fill it out, usually attach a portion to your pack and drop a portion in a collection box.
- Some permits are only available at USFS Ranger Stations.
- Some permits are only available online.
- Some permits must be reserved in advance.
- Some permits are available on-the-spot or same-day.
- Some permits are free, some permits have a fee.

**This list does NOT address trail closures.** There could very well be closed areas that are included on this list. This document simply lists if permits are required or not. Trail closure information is here:

<https://www.pcta.org/discover-the-trail/closures/>

**EVERYONE must have a California Campfire Permit.** This is a calendar-year permit, free, available here:

<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/permits/campfire-permit/>

New changes to this document are noted with orange highlighted text.

## DISCLAIMER:

This is NOT an official document. This document may contain errors.  
Changes may have occurred since this document was created.  
This document was created by reviewing maps and relevant websites.  
Jackie McDonnell and Triple Crown Outfitters take no responsibility for incorrect information.

This document references National Geographic Maps, available here: <https://bit.ly/PCTNatGeo>

If you notice any errors or have any questions, please email me. HOWEVER, be absolutely sure to read through this entire document before asking questions. **If the answer to your question can be found in this document, I will not respond to your inquiry.** [jackie@triplecrownoutfitters.com](mailto:jackie@triplecrownoutfitters.com)

# PCT Local Permits

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	PCT Mile	NatGeo Map	Cleveland National Forest
<b>Start</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>1012, p 13</b>	Southern boundary Cleveland NF, south of Hauser Canyon
<b>End</b>	<b>53.2</b>	<b>1012, p 10</b>	Northern boundary Cleveland NF, 0.5 mile north of Pioneer Mail

**Managing Agency:** Cleveland National Forest, Descanso Ranger District <https://bit.ly/DescansoPCT>  
 Cleveland National Forest: <http://bit.ly/ClevelandNFHome>

**What is "dispersed camping"?** "Dispersed camping" refers to the practice of camping anywhere you want. You see a nice flat spot, you're ready to stop for the day, you set up your shelter or cowboy camp. That's "dispersed camping."

**Quoted from the Descanso PCT page on February 1, 2022** <https://bit.ly/DescansoPCT> : SECTION HIKING (less than 500 miles): For those looking to hike less than 500 miles with a starting point located near or within the Cleveland National Forest, please note the permitting system below. Those without a PCTA long-distance permit looking to disperse camp along the PCT on the Cleveland National Forest must obtain a wilderness visitor permit for the 2022 season. Permits are required March 1, 2022 through May 31, 2022. During non peak months (June-February), a dispersed camping permit is required and can be obtained by contacting the Descanso Ranger District office or by clicking here: <https://bit.ly/DescansoPCT2022> .

- To obtain a wilderness visitor permit, please fill out the PCT application form <https://bit.ly/DescansoPCT2022> and email it to: SM.FS.descansord@usda.gov. Permits will be issued and approved via email by administrative staff at the Alpine District Office. No permit requests will be processed by phone, fax, or mail. Visitors must print the permit and have it with them on the trip.
- Wilderness and visitor permit applications are accepted one month prior to their effective date. For example, a permit application asking for a March 1 start date can be submitted no earlier than February 1st at 12:01 PST. All permit applications are accepted on a first come first served basis. The Descanso Ranger District Office is staffed Monday-Friday. All permits submitted on Saturdays or Sundays will be reviewed on Monday.
- Only one individual can be assigned to each wilderness visitor permit. 5 permits will be issued per day from March 1, 2022 through May 31, 2022.
- Permit holders are required to abide by the start date listed on their permit.
- The wilderness visitor permit is valid for all portions of the Cleveland National Forest: mile 13.5 to mile 53.2 (north of Pioneer Mail Picnic Area), and mile 112.7 to mile 124.8. This permit does not authorize access across non-forest land. There is a 59 mile gap (miles 53 to 112) of non-forest land between the Descanso & Palomar Ranger Districts.

**Note the Cleveland NF Descanso Ranger District requires permits for dispersed camping, not for hiking.**

You can hike thru this area without the above permit if you stay in established campgrounds or the Laguna Mountain Lodge.

PCT mile 20.0 Lake Morena CG  
 PCT mile 26.0 Boulder Oaks CG  
 PCT mile 32.6 Cibbets Flats CG

PCT mile 41.5 Burnt Rancheria, closed in 2020-2021 (COVID)  
 PCT mile 41.5 Laguna Mountain Lodge (motel and cabins)  
 PCT mile 47.5 Mt. Laguna CG, closed in 2020-2021 (COVID)

	PCT Mile	NatGeo Map	Cleveland National Forest
<b>Start</b>	<b>112.7</b>	<b>1012, p 6</b>	Southern boundary Cleveland NF, just north of Warner Springs
<b>End</b>	<b>124.8</b>	<b>1012, p 6</b>	Northern boundary Cleveland NF, southern boundary Anza-Borrego State Park

This is the Cleveland National Forest. Same details as on mile 13.5 to 53.2 above.

# PCT Local Permits

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PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	San Jacinto Wilderness + San Jacinto State Park
Start	167.2	1012, p 3	Southern boundary San Jacinto Wilderness, 0.6 mile north of Fobes Saddles
End	190.5	1012, p 2	Northern boundary San Jacinto Wilderness, Fuller Ridge Trailhead

PCT mile 167.2 to 183.3 San Jacinto Wilderness  
PCT mile 183.3 to 188.7 San Jacinto State Park  
PCT mile 188.7 to 190.5 San Jacinto Wilderness

**Managing Agencies:** San Bernardino NF, San Jacinto Wilderness <https://bit.ly/SJWild>  
San Jacinto State Park <https://bit.ly/SJStatePark>

**Hiking:** San Jacinto Wilderness (federal) and San Jacinto State Park (state) honor each other's free day use permit (i.e. for hiking, not for camping) so visitors only need to obtain one for both federal and state wilderness areas.

**Camping:** Free in the San Jacinto Wilderness. \$5 per night in the San Jacinto State Park.

**San Jacinto Wilderness and San Jacinto State Park permits are self-issued** at the Idyllwild Ranger Station. To obtain a permit, northbounders need to hitch into Idyllwild from Paradise Café (PCT mile 151.8).

**San Jacinto Wilderness Permit by mail** San Bernardino NF San Jacinto Ranger District <https://bit.ly/SanBernSJDistrict>

**San Jacinto Wilderness mail PDF Application:** <https://bit.ly/SJWildPermitMail>

And this is where it gets confusing. The San Bernardino NF website (<https://bit.ly/SJWild>) states, "a free permit is **required** for day hiking and overnight trips within the federal wilderness area." HOWEVER, their own Wilderness Permit application (<https://bit.ly/SJWildPermitMail>) states "A permit is **strongly recommended** to enter the San Jacinto Wilderness for either day hiking or overnight backpacking." So which is true? Does the San Jacinto Wilderness **REQUIRE** a permit or **STRONGLY RECOMMEND** a permit?

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	San Jacinto Wilderness
Start	193.9	1012, p 2	Southern boundary San Jacinto Wilderness, near West Fork Snow Creek Spur Trail
End	205.0	1012, p 1	Northern boundary San Jacinto Wilderness, 0.5 mile south of Snow Creek Faucet

**Managing Agency:** San Bernardino NF, San Jacinto Wilderness <https://bit.ly/SJWild>  
See notes for mile 167.2 to 190.5 above.  
Your San Jacinto Wilderness Permit for mile 167.2 to 190.5 also covers mile 193.9 to mile 205.0.

# PCT Local Permits

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PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Sierra, Kennedy Meadows to Sonora Pass
Start	703.4	1009, p 14	Southern boundary Inyo NF, 1.1 mile north of Sherman Pass Road
End	1016.9	1008, p 11	Sonora Pass, Hwy 108

USFS Kennedy Meadows Pacific Crest Trail Page: [https://bit.ly/USFS\\_KM](https://bit.ly/USFS_KM)

Lots of good permit information here: <https://bit.ly/InyoNFPermitInfo>

Permits issued by Recreation.gov: [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

This permit is non-quota, meaning there is NOT a limit on the number of permits issued. This permit is only reservable TWO WEEKS in advance. Don't worry, that's not a problem. Northbounders can easily reserve in Mojave/Tehachapi (150 trail miles south of Kennedy Meadows) or Ridgecrest/Lake Isabella/Kernville (50 trail miles south of Kennedy Meadows).

You only have 15 minutes to complete your application. Fee is \$6 plus \$5 per person

Go to [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) Create an account, then log in to your account

Type into the search bar Inyo

Choose Inyo National Forest - Wilderness Permits

Click the blue box Explore available permits

Permit Type drop down Overnight

Date box Select the date you will head north from Kennedy Meadows (must be in the next two weeks)

Group size Enter the number of people on this permit

Is this a Commercial trip Select No

Entry Point Select the blue box (99+) next to "Kennedy Meadows (NonQuota)" in the column for your start date

Bottom of page Click "Book Now"

Exit Point Select "Sonora Pass - PCT (Exit Only) HT NF - HT01"

Exit Date Choose the date you will be at Sonora Pass.

Sonora Pass is northbound PCT mile 1017, which is 315 trail miles north of Kennedy Meadows.

First night camp area Select "Beck Meadows PCT (Kennedy Meadows- South Sierra)"

All other nights camp area Select "Other / Don't Know"

Travel method Select Foot

Animals Yes or No

Issuing Station Select Eastern Sierra InterAgency Visitor Center

Agree Click Yes to agree

Proceed to Payment

Receiving the following emails could take a couple hours or a couple days:

After purchasing, you will receive a "Reservation Confirmation" email with instructions to check in by phone or by email. After checking in, you will receive a PDF permit by email. You must print the permit and carry it with you.

Permit pickup instructions: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/inyo/passes-permits/recreation/?cid=stelprdb5356869>

FYI, the above permit allows you to summit Mt. Whitney.

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	<b>PCT Mile</b>	<b>NatGeo Map</b>	<b>Sonora Pass to Canada</b>
<b>Start</b>	<b>1016.9</b>	<b>1009, p 14</b>	Sonora Pass, Hwy 108
<b>End</b>	<b>2653.1</b>	<b>1002, p 2</b>	US-Canada border

- ▶ **Northbound hikers wishing to hike Mexico to Canada: Use the permits noted with blue shading above, PLUS get a northbound PCT Long Distance Permit, issued by the PCTA, for Sonora Pass to Canada. [www.pcta.org](http://www.pcta.org)**
- ▶ If you get a northbound PCT Long Distance Permit for Sonora Pass to Canada, YOU DO NOT NEED ANY YELLOW-SHADED, PURPLE-SHADED, OR GREEN-SHADED PERMITS LISTED BELOW.
- ▶ Northbound PCT Long Distance Permits starting at Sonora Pass are unlimited, and they are NOT part of the 50/day northbound permit allocation.
- ▶ Use this permit for Sonora Pass (mile 1017) to Canada.
- ▶ You can apply for this permit any time DURING and AFTER the January Mexico-Canada permit allocation.
- ▶ Carefully estimate your Sonora Pass date! You'll need to reach Sonora Pass on that date.
- ▶ It takes PCT thru hikers an average of 10 weeks to hike 1017 miles from Mexico to Sonora Pass.
- ▶ When you're on trail, if it seems like you estimated your Sonora Pass date incorrectly, you should be able to log back into the portal to change the start date of your Sonora Pass to Canada PCT Long Distance Permit if needed. But you WILL NOT be able to change the date once your permit is printed.

	<b>PCT Mile</b>	<b>NatGeo Map</b>	<b>Carson-Iceberg Wilderness</b>
<b>Start</b>	<b>1021.0</b>	<b>1008, p 11</b>	Southern boundary Carson-Iceberg Wilderness, crest crossing 4.1 mile north of Sonora Pass
<b>End</b>	<b>1041.7</b>	<b>1008, p 10</b>	Northern boundary Carson-Iceberg Wilderness, crest crossing north of Wolf Creek Pass

**Managing Agency:** Stanislaus NF, Carson-Iceberg Wilderness <https://bit.ly/StanislausNF>

**A wilderness Permit is required for all overnight trips** to the Emigrant, Carson-Iceberg, and Mokelumne Wildernesses. Permits issued by phone (1-5 days in advance), walk-in (same day or day before), or online (5-15 days in advance). Specific instructions are on this site: <https://bit.ly/StanislausNF>.

**Interpretation:** "All overnight trips." I do not see anything on the website stating permits are required to HIKE, just that "a wilderness permit is required for all overnight trips." So perhaps you could hike the 20.7 miles thru the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness, DURING THE DAY without a permit. I do not know for sure.

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	<b>PCT Mile</b>	<b>NatGeo Map</b>	<b>Mokelumne Wilderness</b>
<b>Start</b>	<b>1051.8</b>	<b>1008, p 9</b>	Southern boundary Mokelumne Wilderness, ridge south of Raymond Meadows
<b>End</b>	<b>1076.1</b>	<b>1008, p 8</b>	Northern boundary Mokelumne Wilderness, 0.5 mile south of Carson Pass

**Managing Agency:** Stanislaus NF, Mokelumne Wilderness <https://bit.ly/StanslausNF>

**Wilderness Permit is required for all overnight trips** to the Emigrant, Carson-Iceberg, and Mokelumne Wildernesses. Permits issued by phone (1-5 days in advance), walk-In (same day or day before), or online (5-15 days in advance). Specific instructions are on this site: <https://bit.ly/StanslausNF>.

**Interpretation:** "All overnight trips." I do not see anything on the website stating permits are required to HIKE, just that "a wilderness permit is required for all overnight trips." So perhaps you could hike the 24.3 miles thru the Mokelumne Wilderness, DURING THE DAY without a permit. I do not know for sure.

	<b>PCT Mile</b>	<b>NatGeo Map</b>	<b>Desolation Wilderness</b>
<b>Start</b>	<b>1095.5</b>	<b>1008, p 7</b>	Southern boundary Desolation Wilderness, north of Upper Echo Lake
<b>End</b>	<b>1117.2</b>	<b>1008, p 6</b>	Northern boundary Desolation Wilderness, 1.3 mile south of Richardson Lake

**Managing Agency:** Eldorado NF, Desolation Wilderness <https://bit.ly/DesWild>  
**Website currently lists only 2021 information. 2022 information is not yet posted.**

**Day Use Permit, 2021 season:** The use of paper day use permits is temporarily suspended in Desolation Wilderness for the 2021 season, due to the current COVID-19 situation. Signs are posted at trailheads with information and regulations. All other regulations still apply.

**Overnight Permits, 2021 season:** Permits are required year-round for overnight use. Within the quota season (the Friday before Memorial Day to September 30), 100% of the daily quota for overnight permits is available online from 6 months to 1 day in advance of your date of entry at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). The overnight quota is based upon the number of people entering the wilderness each day, and their first night's destination zone. Permits must be booked at least one day in advance. This means there are NO permits available to book on the day of your visit, as there have been in the past. A phone app is available for booking permits via [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).

[www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

Choose Desolation Wilderness Permit

Starting Destination Zone: Tamarack

Starting Trailhead: Echo

Ending Trailhead: Richardson Lake



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PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Lassen Volcanic National Park
Start	1346.3	1007, p 10	Southern boundary Lassen Volcanic National Park, Boundary Spring
End	1365.5	1007, p 9	Northern boundary Lassen Volcanic National Park, 2 miles north of Badger Flat

**Managing Agency:** Lassen Volcanic National Park <https://bit.ly/LassenPermit>

**Permit required for overnight camping, not for hiking.** A free permit is required to camp in park backcountry (outside of park campgrounds). A permit is not required for day hiking and is not required if you are staying in an established park campground. There are no designated backcountry campsites or quotas in the park.

**Interpretation:** PCT is in Lassen NP for 19.2 miles.

To avoid getting this permit, simply hike thru without camping, or camp at Warner Valley Campground, PCT mile 1350.3.

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Trinity Alps Wilderness
Start	1562.9	1006, p 12	Southern boundary Trinity Alps Wilderness, 2.7 miles north of Scott Mtn Summit
End	1580.0	1006, p 11	Northern boundary Trinity Alps Wilderness Near Carter Meadows Summit, Hwy 93

**Managing Agency:** Shasta-Trinity NF, Trinity Alps Wilderness <https://bit.ly/TAlpsWild>

**Wilderness Permit required for overnight stays.** The outside kiosks at the Ranger Station in Weaverville and FS Fire Stations in Big Bar, Junction City, Mule Creek, and Coffee Creek are stocked for self-issue permits. Follow the instructions posted.

Looks like the closest option to the PCT would be to hitch from Scott Mtn Summit. Coffee Creek is 27 miles south on Highway 3.

**Interpretation:** This permit required section is 17 trail miles (permit required for overnight stays).

Hike thru during the day, don't stay overnight, and you won't need a permit.

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Crater Lake National Park
Start	1814.7	1005, p 7	Southern boundary Crater Lake National Park
End	1847.8	1005, p 5	Northern boundary Crater Lake National Park

**Managing Agency:** Crater Lake National Park <https://bit.ly/CraterLakePCT>

**Permits: Quoted from the Crater Lake National Park website:** "Most hikers who wish to stay overnight in Crater Lake National Park must get a backcountry permit. Permits may be obtained at the backcountry office in park headquarters. PCT through-hikers alternatively, may sign the trail register as they enter the park. Section hikers planning on leaving a vehicle in the park must get a backcountry permit at the ranger station. **Through-hikers who have signed the trail register do not need to obtain a backcountry permit.**"

**Permit information for Oregon:** [www.pctoregon.com](http://www.pctoregon.com)

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PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Mount Thielsen Wilderness
Start	1849.0	1005, p 5	Southern boundary, Mount Thielsen Wilderness, 1.2 miles north of Hwy 138
End	1874.2	1005, p 3	Northern boundary, Mount Thielsen Wilderness, 4.1 miles south of Windigo Pass

**Managing Agencies:** Fremont-Winema National Forest <https://bit.ly/FreWinNF>  
Umpqua National Forest <https://bit.ly/UmpquaNF>  
Deschutes National Forest <https://bit.ly/DeschutesNFMTW>

**Wilderness Permits are required for both day use and overnight stays** from Memorial Day Weekend until October 31. Permits are non-quota, free, and self-issued at the trailhead.

**Permit information for Oregon:** [www.pctoregon.com](http://www.pctoregon.com)

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Diamond Peak Wilderness
Start	1890.7	1005, p 2	Southern boundary, Diamond Peak Wilderness, Emigrant Pass Rd, near Summit Lake
End	1906.2	1005, p 1	Northern boundary, Diamond Peak Wilderness, Pengra Pass

**Managing Agency:** Deschutes NF, Diamond Peak Wilderness <https://bit.ly/DiaPkWild>

**Wilderness Permits are required for both day use and overnight stays** from Memorial Day Weekend until October 31. Permits are non-quota, free, and self-issued at the trailhead. Northbounders can self-register at Summit Lake. Southbounders can self-register at Pengra Pass.

**Permit information for Oregon:** [www.pctoregon.com](http://www.pctoregon.com)

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**Three Sisters Wilderness, Mount Washington Wilderness, and Mount Jefferson Wilderness are all covered by the Central Cascade Wilderness Permit.**

**Information:** PCT Oregon <http://www.pctoregon.com/pct-info/permits/>

**Information:** Central Cascade Wilderness Permits <https://bit.ly/CentCascPermits>

**Permits issued by Recreation.gov** [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

**Very detailed information on the websites above.**

**Another option:** You could apply for a PCT Long Distance Permit for a 500+ mile hike starting at Seiad Valley CA (northbound) or Panther Creek WA (southbound). The PCT Oregon website (above) states: "You then qualify for a PCT long-distance permit. There currently are no daily quotas for these trailheads during the Oregon hiking season. Simply visit the PCTA website and fill out the application. This permit can help you avoid the limited-entry permit requirements in the Central Cascades wilderness areas."

	<b>PCT Mile</b>	<b>NatGeo Map</b>	<b>Three Sisters Wilderness</b>
<b>Start</b>	<b>1930.6</b>	<b>1004, p 16</b>	Southern boundary, Three Sisters Wilderness, Waldo Lake Road
<b>End</b>	<b>1983.7</b>	<b>1004, p 12</b>	Northern boundary, Three Sisters Wilderness, Highway 242

	<b>PCT Mile</b>	<b>NatGeo Map</b>	<b>Mount Washington Wilderness</b>
<b>Start</b>	<b>1983.7</b>	<b>1004, p 12</b>	Southern boundary, Mount Washington Wilderness, Highway 242
<b>End</b>	<b>1997.1</b>	<b>1004, p 11</b>	Northern boundary, Mount Washington Wilderness, Old Santiam Wagon Road

	<b>PCT Mile</b>	<b>NatGeo Map</b>	<b>Mount Jefferson Wilderness</b>
<b>Start</b>	<b>2001.3</b>	<b>1004, p 11</b>	Southern boundary, Mount Jefferson Wilderness, north of Santiam Pass
<b>End</b>	<b>2036.7</b>	<b>1004, p 8</b>	Northern boundary, Mount Jefferson Wilderness, south of Breitenbush Lake

# PCT Local Permits

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PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Mount Hood Wilderness
Start	2087.5	1004, p 4	Southern boundary, Mount Hood Wilderness, Wapinitia Pass, Highway 26
End	2114.7	1004, p 3	Northern boundary, Mount Hood Wilderness, Lolo Pass

**Managing Agency:** Mount Hood NF, Mount Hood Wilderness <https://bit.ly/MtHoodWild22>

**A wilderness permit is required to enter the Wilderness in the Mt. Hood National Forest** from May 15 through October 15. You must have a copy of the completed permit in your possession during your visit to the Wilderness. Permits are non-quota, free, and self issued at trailheads and Wilderness boundaries.

**Permit information for Oregon:** [www.pctoregon.com](http://www.pctoregon.com)

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Mark O. Hatfield Wilderness
Start	2129.6	1004, p 2	Southern boundary, Mark O. Hatfield Wilderness, intersect Rd 660
End	2143.5	1004, p 1	Northern boundary, Mark O. Hatfield Wilderness, Herman Bridge Trail

**Managing Agency:** Mount Hood NF, Mark O. Hatfield Wilderness <https://bit.ly/MOHWild>

**Wilderness Permits are required to enter any Wilderness in Mt Hood National Forest** from May 15 through October 15. You must have a copy of the completed permit in your possession during your visit to Wilderness. Permits are non-quota, free, and self-issued at trailheads and Wilderness boundaries. Self-issue permit available at Wahtum Lake.

**Permit information for Oregon:** [www.pctoregon.com](http://www.pctoregon.com)

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Indian Heaven Wilderness
Start	2201.5	1003, p 14	Southern boundary, Indian Heaven Wilderness, 0.2 mile south of Green Lake
End	2214.5	1003, p 13	Northern boundary, Indian Heaven Wilderness, Sawtooth Mountain Trail

**Managing Agency:** Gifford Pinchot NF, Indian Heaven Wilderness <https://bit.ly/IndHeavWild>

**Wilderness Permits are required for day hiking and overnight use** in all Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wildernesses. Permits are non-quota, free, and self-issued at trailheads, and also at Forest Service Ranger Stations.

# PCT Local Permits

Revised April 8, 2022

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Mount Adams Wilderness
Start	2231.9	1003, p 12	Western boundary, Mount Adams Wilderness, 2 miles north of Road 23
End	2250.8	1003, p 11	Northern boundary, Mount Adams Wilderness, 0.3 mile north of Lava Spring

**Managing Agency:** Gifford Pinchot NF, Mt. Adams Wilderness <https://bit.ly/MtAdamsWild>

**Wilderness Permits are required for day hiking and overnight use** in all Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wildernesses. Permits are non-quota, free, and self-issued at trailheads, and also at Forest Service Ranger Stations.

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Goat Rocks Wilderness
Start	2258.3	1003, p 10	Southern boundary, Goat Rocks Wilderness
End	2293.8	1003, p 8	Northern boundary, Goat Rocks Wilderness, Ginnette Lake

**Managing Agency:** Gifford Pinchot NF, Goat Rocks Wilderness <https://bit.ly/GoatRocks>

**Wilderness Permits are required for day hiking and overnight use** in all Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wildernesses. Permits are non-quota, free, and self-issued at trailheads, and also at Forest Service Ranger Stations.

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	William O Douglas Wilderness
Start	2297.1	1003, p 8	Southern boundary, William O Douglas Wilderness, Dark Meadow Trail Junction
End	2313.8	1003, p 7	Southern boundary, Mount Rainier Wilderness + Mount Rainier National Park

**Managing Agency:** Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, William O Douglas Wilderness <https://bit.ly/WmODougWild>

**Wilderness Permits are required for day hiking and overnight use** in all Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wildernesses. Permits are non-quota, free, and self-issued at trailheads, and also at Forest Service Ranger Stations.

# PCT Local Permits

Revised April 8, 2022

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Mount Rainier Wilderness
Start	2313.8	1003, p 7	Southern boundary, Mount Rainier Wilderness + Mount Rainier National Park
End	2324.6	1003, p 6	Chinook Pass, Hwy 410

From mile 2313.8 to mile 2324.6, the PCT bounces between the William O. Douglas Wilderness (permit required for overnight and day use) and the Mount Rainier Wilderness in Mount Rainier National Park (permit required for overnight use). See the National Geographic Maps to determine where you can legally camp.

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**William O. Douglas Wilderness:** Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, William O Douglas Wilderness <https://bit.ly/WmODougWild>

**Wilderness Permits are required for day hiking and overnight use** in all Gifford Pinchot National Forest Wildernesses. Permits are non-quota, free, and self-issued at trailheads, and also at Forest Service Ranger Stations.

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**Mount Rainier Wilderness + Mount Rainier National Park** <https://bit.ly/MtRainierWild>

Permits are not required for day hiking. However, camping overnight in the wilderness at Mount Rainier requires a permit. Permits may be reserved in advance by visiting [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov), or be obtained in person at park Wilderness Information Centers. <https://bit.ly/MtRainierWild>

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Norse Peak Wilderness
Start	2334.0	1003, p 5	Southern boundary, Norse Peak Wilderness, Scout Pass
End	2347.2	1003, p 4	Northern boundary, Norse Peak Wilderness, Maggie Creek Trail

**Managing Agency:** Okanogan-Wenatchee NF <https://bit.ly/OkWenNF>

**Wilderness permit required.** Permits are non-quota, free, and self-issued at trailheads.

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Alpine Lakes Wilderness
Start	2395.6	1002, p 16	Southern boundary, Alpine Lakes Wilderness, 1.4 mile north of Interstate 90
End	2461.5	1002, p 14	Northern boundary, Alpine Lakes Wilderness, 3.7 mile south of Stevens Pass

**Managing Agency:** Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, Alpine Lakes Wilderness <https://bit.ly/AlpLakesWild>

**Wilderness Permits required for day use and overnight trips.** Permits are non-quota, free, and self-issued at trailheads.

# PCT Local Permits

Revised April 8, 2022

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	North Cascades National Park
<b>Start</b>	<b>2570.8</b>	<b>1002, p 7</b>	Southern boundary, Lake Chelan National Recreation Area
<b>End</b>	<b>2588.8</b>	<b>1002, p 6</b>	Northern boundary, North Cascades National Park

**Managing Agency:** North Cascades National Park <https://bit.ly/NCNatPark>

**Permits required for camping.** A park-issued backcountry permit must be obtained in advance from a designated ranger station for camping inside North Cascades National Park Service Complex. Contact the Marblemount Wilderness Information Center at (360) 854-7245 for assistance.

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Pasayten Wilderness
<b>Start</b>	<b>2627.7</b>	<b>1002, p 3</b>	Southern boundary Pasayten Wilderness, Windy Pass
<b>End</b>	<b>2653.1</b>	<b>1002, p 2</b>	US-Canada Border

**Managing Agency:** Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, Pasayten Wilderness <https://bit.ly/PasaytenWild>

**Permits are required for overnight use.** Permits are non-quota, free, and self-issued at trailheads and Forest Service Ranger Stations.

PCT Mile		NatGeo Map	Stevens Pass to Mexico
<b>Start</b>	<b>2461.5</b>	<b>1002, p 14</b>	Northern boundary, Alpine Lakes Wilderness, 3.7 mile south of Stevens Pass
<b>End</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1012, p 13</b>	US-Mexico border

- ▶ **Southbound hikers wishing to hike Canada to Mexico: Use the permits noted with green shading above, PLUS get a southbound PCT Long Distance Permit, issued by the PCTA, for Stevens Pass to Mexico.** [www.pcta.org](http://www.pcta.org)
- ▶ If you get a southbound PCT Long Distance Permit for Stevens Pass (northbound mile 2462) to Mexico, YOU DO NOT NEED ANY YELLOW-SHADED, PURPLE-SHADED, OR BLUE-SHADED PERMITS LISTED ABOVE.
- ▶ Southbound PCT Long Distance Permits starting at Stevens Pass are unlimited, and they are NOT part of the 15/day southbound permit allocation.
- ▶ Use this permit for Stevens Pass (northbound mile 2462) to Mexico.
- ▶ You can apply for this permit any time DURING and AFTER the January Canada-Mexico permit allocation.