



Bruce Morgan and his mules on Mount Whitney, 1948.

Mount Whitney East Trail

East trail built by Marsh, 1904
Olivas Packing

Rebuilt in 1938
Chrysler and Cook Packing

Main trail completed, 1948
Mt. Whitney Pack Trains Packing

In July of 1948 the final phase of the Whitney job was begun and on September 8, the first group to use the completed trail was the Trail Riders of America, accompanied by forest service personnel and members of the Mt. Whitney Pack Train. Thirty-five people with their pack and riding stock used the trail this first day. Before the completion of the new trail, about 200 people used it over a busy weekend. In recent years a quota system was enacted to protect the environment from overuse, and now about seventy-five people are allowed up the trail each day to climb Mount Whitney—the highest mountain in the continental United States.