

The 1961 High Trip

(The 57th High Trip)

**High Trip 1 – Foerster Lake, Moraine Lake, Little Five Lakes Basin,
Kaweah Peaks – July 23 - August 5**

**High Trip 2 – Redwood Meadow, Kaweah Peaks,
Little Five Lakes Basin – August 6 - 19**

Some of the same country will be traversed by each section of the High Trip, as one moves in a clockwise direction and the other counterclockwise. The first trip heads south over Farewell Gap; the second goes north over Timber Gap.

Our itinerary crosses the Great Western Divide twice in each two-week period. Moving days average about 8 miles in length, and the six wilderness campsites in each period will range from 6,550 to 10,500. Thus, the High Trip will avoid extremely strenuous days in favor of more frequent walks of moderate distances.

Several camps will be shared in turn by both trips. Nine Lakes Basin (10,200) is in the open sky-land country, a group of granite-rimmed lakes above a forest of foxtail pines, with the peaks of the Kaweah Ridge – Black, Red and Mount Kaweah – towering over it. Moraine Lake (9,900), reflecting those same peaks, is circled by the forest covering the geologically intriguing Chagoopa Plateau. Little Five Lakes (10,500) is a beautiful lake basin on the rim of the great glacial canyon of the Big Arroyo, and affords spectacular views of the Kaweah Peaks and the main crest (Mount Whitney) of the High Sierra.

The first trip will camp on the upper Little Kern River, and after crossing Shotgun Pass will camp near Foerster Lake.

The second trip will travel through Redwood Meadow and past Hamilton Lakes and Precipice Lake, which is famous for the memorable Ansel Adams photograph portraying its striking beauty.

The commissary will contain many familiar faces and some new ones. Al Baxter will lead for the first two weeks, and Ted Grubb for the second.

Excerpt taken from the *Sierra Club Bulletin*, January 1961