

The 1970 High Trip

(The 65th High Trip)

Due to increasing concern about the impact of stock and large groups on the fragile Sierra, the traditional Sierra High Trips will be changed this year. The new High Trips will be reduced in size from 100 to 50 members, which will permit more remote campsites. Although similar to the High-Light formula, the new High Trips will differ in two significant ways: 25 pounds of dunnage will be allowed as opposed to the High-light 20-ound limit; and staff members will do the cooking and camp chores.

The Kern Headwaters High Trip will move generally every two or three days, but occasionally on consecutive days; the length of the moves will vary between and 5 and 15 miles depending on the difficulty of the terrain. The Family High Trip is designed to be somewhat less strenuous; moves are shorter and less frequent, so that families with young children can participate.

On moving days, stock carries all personal dunnage, food and equipment, leaving participants free to hike without packs, and at their own pace. Once in camp, there is ample time for side trips, fishing and climbing. Leaders are available for supervised hikes and nature study, and there may be opportunities for overnight backpack excursions. Although trip members are expected to volunteer when needed, camp chores are minimal. Both High Trips try to include an experienced climber, a naturalist, and a physician on their staffs. Musical instruments are carried free.



Family High Trip - Humphreys Basin Loop – July 19 – August 1

Leader – Michael Loughman

This year's Family High Trip will explore the scenic John Muir Wilderness Area located on the eastern side of the central Sierra. This is an area noted for its superb alpine terrain and unique opportunities for climbing, photographing and fishing. Our trip will begin at the North Lake roadhead and end two weeks later at Pine Creek. There will be a total of five moving days with no moves over seven miles or involving more than 1,000-foot gain in altitude. All camps but one will be located well away from traveled trails at especially scenic, alpine (over 10,500 feet) sites. This trip will provide plenty of leisure time and close access to the breathtaking Glacier Divide, upper French Canyon and Granite Park. Children of five in good condition can make this trip comfortably.

High Trip – Kern Headwaters – August 22 – September 6

Leader – John Edginton

Most of our 15-day trip in this country of bottomless blue lakes and high peaks will be spent exploring the mighty basins of the Kern River. The lakes and streams here are the original home of the crimson-bellied

Golden Trout. For climbers, the 14,000-foot Whitney Crest, the Kings-Kern Divide, and Mount Brewer are within reach.

Our moving days should not overtax anyone who has done some pre-trip conditioning; longer moves will come toward the end of the trip and will be tempered by relatively few changes in elevation. Most of our camps will be at 10,000 to 11,000 feet; we will cross several 12,000-foot passes.



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(Illustrations by Milton Hildebrand)