

BACKCOUNTRY HIKING AND CAMPING
CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK

The backcountry of Crater Lake National Park offers an exceptional variety of rewarding experiences. Forests of pine, fir, and hemlock are highlighted with springs and cold mountain streams. Several peaks offer challenging hikes with impressive vistas of the surrounding area. The perceptive, quiet observer can see and hear many different kinds of wildlife.

To provide the opportunity for a quality experience with minimal impact on these outstanding resources, the following policies are in effect:

- 1) BACKCOUNTRY USE PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL BACKCOUNTRY OVERNIGHT STAYS (camping anywhere outside a developed drive-in campground). These permits can be obtained by visiting one of the designated public information stations or by going to a self registration box.

The designated public information stations are:

- A. Annie Springs Entrance Station
- B. North Entrance Station
- C. Park Headquarters
- D. Exhibit Building at Rim Village

Self registration boxes are located:

- A. At the north park boundary where the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) enters the park.
- B. At the junction of the Pacific Crest Trail, Stuart Falls Trail, and Cold Spring Trail.

The purpose of the backcountry permit is to help park managers determine distribution and magnitude of use and to accurately assess impact on backcountry resources.

- 2) CAMPING WITH FIRES IS PERMITTED WITHIN THE BACKCOUNTRY OF CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK. CAMPING OR FIRES ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS BECAUSE OF THEIR UNIQUE, AESTHETIC, AND/OR FRAGILE QUALITIES:
 - A. Within one mile of any paved road, nature trail, or developed area.
 - B. Within one mile of Boundary Springs or Sphagnum Bog.
 - C. Within 100 feet of any water source.
 - D. Within any meadow.
 - E. Within sight or sound of any trail, camp, or other people (except at designated backcountry camps).
 - F. Between Rim Drive and the Lake, on the Phantom Ship, or on Wizard Island.

- 3) DEAD AND DOWN WOOD MAY BE USED FOR FIREWOOD. Cutting or damaging living or standing vegetation is prohibited.
- 4) DON'T LEAVE A BURNING CAMPFIRE UNATTENDED. Prior to leaving your campsite make sure it is out and cold. Try to remove all signs of the fire by scattering the rocks and churning the soil.
- 5) ALL NON-BURNABLE MATERIALS WILL BE CARRIED OUT OF THE BACKCOUNTRY AND DEPOSITED IN PROPER RECEPTACLES.
- 6) CAMPING PARTIES ARE RESTRICTED TO NO MORE THAN 12 PERSONS.
- 7) PETS, FIREARMS, BICYCLES, OR MOTORIZED VEHICLES ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE BACKCOUNTRY. Exception: Pets are permitted on leash on the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) only when the backcountry camper is travelling through Crater Lake National Park. The traveler must enter and exit on the PCT. Pets are not permitted on any of the spur or access trails to or from the PCT.
- 8) DO NOT BATHE, WASH CLOTHES IN OR OTHERWISE CONTAMINATE STREAMS IN THE PARK.
- 9) PARTIES WITH STOCK WILL BE LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN 12 ANIMALS FOR EACH GROUP. Commercial dry feed must be carried, as horses cannot be pastured in the meadows.

We hope you enjoy your visit to Crater Lake National Park. For further information or in case of emergencies, please call Park Headquarters, 503-594-2211.