

Pacific Crest Trail Water Report -- Northern CA: Sierra City, CA to Ashland, OR

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Updated 9:29pm 4/10/18

www.pctwater.com

See Snow/Fords page for updates on Snow & Creek crossings & Road Closures in NorCal.

Never rely on water caches!!! Beware of contaminated water. Purify backcountry water.

Send email updates to water@pctwater.com or phone/text **619-734-7289** or **619-734-PCTW** [voice mail/text only, no one will answer]. Mileages and waypoint names used in this water report are from Halfmile's PCT maps [www.pctmap.net]. Please send photos & videos of water sources, fires, passes, **Poodle Dog Bush**, and stream creek crossings to our **Facebook page** called "**PCT Water,Fire,Passes,Fords Update Group**"

Take fire safety seriously. Alcohol stoves start fires – go stoveless or carry a stove with a contained fuel source and a shut-off valve.

Water sources with blue text [marked with * or **] have historically been more reliable. Sources marked with ** are more likely to have water year-round than those marked with a single *. Water described as seasonal, usually dry, early spring, etc. are less reliable.

Map	Mile	Waypoint	Location	Report	Date	Reported By
M5	1195.4	Church1195	Church, 1.4 miles southwest of PCT in Sierra City, water, hikers allowed to camp on lawn, public restroom nearby.			
	1195.4	Sierra City				
M1	1197.2	WA1197	Switchback spring			
M5	1200.7	WA1201	Seasonal spring			
M1	1202.6	WA1203	Sierra Buttes Spring			
M2	1211.7	SummitLake Road	Unpaved road to Summit Lake, water at Summit Lake.			
M3	1214.4	PauleySeep	Pauley Seep, 100 yards off trail.	----- Note that the sign is facing southbound traffic so watch for a faint use trail to avoid missing it.		
M3	1216.0	LittleJamison Creek	Trail junction to Little Jamison Creek, 200 feet off-trail.			
M3	1216.0	WA1216	Piped spring 1/10 mile E of PCT			
M3	1216.1	WACS1216	Small pond			
M3	1219.7	ATreeSpring	<i>*A Tree spring</i>			
M4	1223.8	WA1224	Small creek			
M4	1224.0	WBranch NelsonCreek	Seasonal W Branch Nelson Creek			
M4	1226.3	EBranch BearTrap	East Branch of Bear Trap Creek			
M4	1226.6	WBranch BearTrap	West Branch of Bear Trap Creek. East Branch 3/10 mile south may be better water.			
M4	1228.5	EHopkins Seep	Seasonal East Hopkins Seep			
M5	1231.6	DuckSoup Pond	Small Lake, west of the trail.			
M5	1231.6	WhiskySpring TR	Whiskey Spring trail junction, spring is 3/10 mile off trail			
M5	1234.8	SForkFeather River	<i>*Creek 3/10 mile S of PCT on paved Quincy-LaPorte Road.</i>			
M5	1236.9	AlderSpring	<i>*Alder Spring (800 feet off trail) trail junction.</i>			
M6	1241.4	BlackRock Spring	Black Rock Spring, 3/10 mile S of Fowler Peak Trailhead along trail			
M6	1244.5	NFowler Creek	Small N Fowler Creek, 1/10 mile S of PCT down short trail,			
Sign for the creek is mounted parallel to the trail so be careful not to miss it. The use trail is visible, and takes you down across a road to a shady watering hole. As a south-bounder coming up from the Middle Fork on a hot day, this oasis was a welcome relief.						
M7	1249.7	MForkFeather River	<i>**Middle Fork Feather River, steel bridge</i>			
M7	1252.1	BearCreek	Tributary of Bear Creek			
M7	1253.3	BearCreekB	<i>*Bear Creek</i>			
M7	1253.7	BearCreekC	Tributary of Bear Creek			
M7	1257.8	BearCreekD	Seasonal tributary of Bear Creek			
M7	1259.7	LookoutSpring	Lookout Spring			
	1263.5	HaskensStore	Haskens Store, small store next to bed and breakfast - alt. mi 2.7			
	1263.5	LkshoresResort	Lake Shore Resort, restaurant, bar, small store, www.bucksakeshoresort.com . - alt mi. 3.8			
M8	1264.6	WA1265	Seasonal spring			
M8	1265.0	WA1265B	Seasonal spring			
M8	1265.6	BigCreek	A seasonal Big Creek			

M9	1269.1	BucksCreek	Bucks Creek			
M9	1269.5	BucksCreek2	Bucks Creek			
M10	1276.2	ClearCreek Spring	Clear Creek Springs			
M10	1276.7	ClearCreek	Seasonal headwater of Clear Creek			
M10	1277.7	ClearCreek2	Clear Creek			
M10	1278.0	WA1278	Shallow lily pond			
M11	1279.6	BreckenFern Spring	Brecken Fern Spring			
M11	1281.5	WA1282	Seasonal spring.			
M11	1281.7	CanyonView Spring	Canyon View Spring			
M11	1286.9	Belden	Belden Town Resort			
N1	1287.9	IndianCreek	Indian Creek, large wooden footbridge.			
N1	1289.0	WA1289	Small creek			
N1	1290.5	WA1291	Small seasonal creek.			
N1	1291.8	Rattlesnake Spring	Seasonal Rattlesnake Spring			
N1	1291.1	WA1292	Creek			
N1	1292.4	WA1292B	Creek			
N1	1292.7	WilliamsCabin Site	William's Cabin site, small creek nearby.			
N1	1293.1	ChipsCreek	Large stream			
N1	1293.6	MyrtleFlat	Myrtle Flat, small stream nearby.			
N2	1295.0	WA1295	Large creek			
N2	1295.4	WA1295B	Small creek			
N2	1295.6	ChipsCreek2	<i>*Chips Creek ford, large creek.</i>			
N2	1296.0	ChipsCreek3	Chips Creek, 2nd crossing, large creek.			
N2	1296.2	WA1296	Small creek			
N2	1296.8	WA1297	Small creek			
N2	1297.2	ChipsCreek4	Creek			
N2	1297.3	ChipsCreek5	Creek			
N2	1299.6	Andesite Spring	Andesite Spring			
N2	1301.0	FrogSpring	Frog Spring			
N3	1305.4	ColdSprings	<i>*Cold Springs</i>			
N4	1313.2	CubCreek Spring	Little Cub Spring, near sign on tree, 3/10 mile west of the PCT.	----- Follow trail to the left for ~0.3 miles down to an ice cold springs. It's a bit of a climb back up (~300 ft) but worth it and I would fill up here as the next water source at mile 1315.5 (Carter Creek) gave a lot of other hikers problems in 2014 in terms of finding it which meant no water between Little Cub Springs and Soldier Creek 12.2 miles ahead.		
N4	1315.8	TR1316	Trail junction to a spring, 3/10 mile off-trail			
N5	1318.0	CarterCreek	Seasonal Carter Creek, ~0.5 mile N of PCT	----- Many hikers in 2014 could not find any water which is 0.5 mile off the PCT. A few hikers did find water however.		
6/1/16 (Fat Sectioner) : Currently, Carter Creek is at the point where the trail crosses Carter creek, 350 feet or so past the campsites. If one follows the path past * 0.0 miles: Leave PCT * 0.4 miles: Campsite * 0.45 miles: Carter Creek Crossing * 0.5 miles: Unnamed Creek Crossing * 0.6 miles: Confluence of two creeks 100 feet to the west of the trail * 0.7 miles: Permanent (aka more than seasonal) creek about 50 feet to the west of the trail *** To that end, at the Carter Meadows trail intersection on the PCT there's a sign that says "permanent water 0.7 mi". And based on what I've seen, that may be correct. However, the campsites are similar enough distance, one could easily assume that was the 0.7 miles (particularly with how off mileage can be on trail markers) and explore further down-stream. So what I'd recommend is adding waypoint WA1316 at location 40.2027,-121.4178 (that's the 0.6 mile item on the mileage log) with description: "Permanent water on Carter Creek, further downstream of campsite." If you'd prefer something even more substantial, you could use location 40.2042,-121.4166 that is 0.7miles downstream. At that point the flow is so strong the creek can be seen from Google Earth imagery and the USGS topo maps. Another creek having joined in (although I didn't see it).						
N6	1328.0	SoldierCreek	<i>*Soldier Creek</i>			
N6	1330.1	SoldierCreek 2	Wooden footbridge over seasonal part of Soldier Creek, often dry.			
Bear Canisters are now required by law when camping in Lassen National Park probably due to a aggressive bear near Lower Twin Lake (mile 1355.1) in 2016 that harrassed multiple hikers for their food. See https://www.nps.gov/lavo/learn/news/bear-canisters-required.htm for more info. 8/27/17 (Rocky & Peaks) : Warner Valley Campground at Mile 1347.8 has bear boxes for your food.						
	1331.3	Chester	Town, 7.5 miles E on Hwy 36			
N7	1334.8	StoverSpring	<i>*Stover Spring</i>			

N8	1340.7	NForkFeather River	**North Fork Feather River, footbridge.			
N8	1341.4	Domingo Spring	Domingo Spring trail junction, spring is 3/10 mile off-trail.			
N9	1346.3	Boundary Spring	Boundary Spring, 400 feet off-trail.			
N9	1350.1	WarnerValley TH	Warner Valley trailhead parking, water spigot, outhouse, picnic tables, trash cans. Drakesbad Resort is 4/10 mile west via the road.			
N9	1350.1	Drakesbad	Drakesbad Resort			
N10	1352.9	SummitCreek	Summit Lake trail junction, trail side creek			
N10	1354.3	GrassySwale Creek	Grassy Swale Creek			
N10	1357.0	SwanLake	Swan Lake.			
N11	1357.6	LowerTwin Lake	**Lower Twin Lake			
N13	1369.7	HatCreek	*Hat Creek			
N13	1373.5	OldStation	Old Station Post Office.			
N14	1373.5	OldStation	Old Station Visitor Center	Exit the trail at Highway 44 turn left toward highway 89 as though heading toward JJ's. Just before 89 turn left on a paved forest service road that cuts over to 89. Visitor Center on the right has water fountains and outhouses. If going to JJ's anyway, easier to water here than off-trail at Subway.		
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N14	1377.5	SubwayCave	Subway Cave, water fountain, outhouse, paved parking area nearby.	The local Forest Service ranger is having trouble with hikers camping at Subway Cave. Please add a note on your map - absolutely no camping at Subway Cave.	11/21/17	Jim
N15	1385.5	LostCreek SpringTR	Trail to Lost Creek Spring, 3/10 mile off-trail and ~388ft descent ----- We are especially interested in water reports about this location. Please send info.	Great water!	8/6/17	Hunter
N17	1393.6	Road22	Cache 22	4/8/18 (Joel) : Tank is full of water. 3/29/18 (Jim) : The 550 gallon water tank was filled on March 29. ----- <i>Please send in level gauge reading to help with monitoring for a refill. You can also let the Burney Mountain Guest Ranch know when the tank gets below 1/2 full and they will call to get it refilled.</i>	4/8/18	Joel
N19	1406.9	RockSpring Creek	Small Rock Spring Creek			
N19	1407.1	HatCreek2	Hiker bridge over Hat Creek			
N19	1407.3	CrystalLake Fish	Crystal Lake Fish Hatchery, 300 feet E of trail, water.	----- Informed by Fish & Wildlife employee at Hatchery that water there is non-potable. All residents are on bottled water. Use filter & it's okay. Walk past fish rearing areas down to Administrative Office. On rear is hose bib with plenty of flow; bathrooms by fish pens are nearly unusable.		
N19	1407.7	BaumLakeRd	Pass near a lake.			
N20	1415.9	RimLake SpringTR	Rim of the Lake Spring trail junction (1/4 mile off-trail).			
N20	1418.2	BurneyCreek	Hiker bridge over Burney Creek (usually dry).			
N20	1419.0	BurneyFalls SP	Burney Falls State Park PCT trail camp, outhouse, picnic tables, outhouse, trash cans.			
O1	1420.9	ClarkCreek RD2	PCT crosses Lake Britton Dam on a paved road.	----- Best access on S side downstream via stairs.		
O1	1424.5	RockCreek	*Cross Rock Creek on a wood bridge.			
O2	1427.8	UpperJake Spring	Upper Jake Spring <i>At trail to left down to spring, 0.17 miles off trail and 111 feet down.</i>			
O2	1428.6	Screwdriver Creek	Screwdriver Creek, 1/10 mile off trail.			
O2	1432.7	PeavineCreek	Seasonal Peavine Creek			
O3	1436.9	ClarkSpring	Clark Spring, 1/10 mile off trail.			
O3	1438.8	Deadman Creek	Deadman Creek			

O3	1440.4	KoskSpring	Kosk Spring, 2/10 mile off-trail		
O4	1447.3	Moosehead Creek	Moosehead Creek		
O4	1447.7	Moosehead Creek2	Headwaters of Moosehead Creek, better water 4/10 mile back.		
O5	1455.1	AlderCreekTR	Alder Creek ~1/2 mile N of PCT		
O6	1458.1	GoldCreek	Gold Creek trail junction, creek is 2/10 mile off trail.		
To access, go up the Gold Creek trail from the PCT, cross a forest road, follow another road about .15 miles to just before where it dips and turns to the right after and old "ramp" on the right side covered in bushes. Exit the road to the left toward the stand of conifers and go down the embankment to the creek.					
O6	1461.6	DeerCreek Spring	Deer Creek Spring		
O6	1462.6	DeerCreek	Deer Creek		
O6	1463.7	DeerCreek2	Another branch of Deer Creek.		
O6	1466.7	Butcherknife Creek	Small tributary of Butcherknife Creek		
O6	1467.1	Butcherknife Creek2	Butcherknife Creek		
O6	1467.3	WA1467	Small spring		
O6	1467.4	WA1467B	Small creek		
O6	1467.8	WA1468	Creek		
O7	1470.9	AshCamp	Ash Camp Campground, outhouse, water from nearby creek, unpaved road.		
O7	1471.0	McCloudRiver	<i>**McCloud River, large wooden bridge. Watch for Poison Oak near the McCloud River.</i>		
O7	1472.7	WA1473	Small spring		
O7	1473.1	FitzhughGulch	Fitzhugh Gulch Creek		
O8	1481.4	TroughCreek	Trough Creek		
O8	1481.9	WestTrough Creek	West Trough Creek		
O8	1484.7	SquawValley Creek	<i>*Squaw Valley Creek, Squaw Valley trailhead trail junction nearby.</i>		
O9	1494.0	SForkFall Creek	South Fork of Fall Creek		
O9	1494.8	NForkFall Creek	North Fork of Fall Creek		
O9	1500.3	WA1500	Small spring		
O9	1500.8	SodaCreek	Cross a bridge over Soda Creek		
O9	1500.9	Sacramento River	Cross bridge over Sacramento River		
	1501.7	Castella	2.0 miles SW of PCT on I-5		
	1501.7	Dunsmuir	5.5 miles N of PCT on I-5		
	1501.7	Mount Shasta	13.2 miles N of PCT on I-5		
P1	1502.7	FernSprings	Fern Springs		
P1	1504.5	IndianSprings Creek	Indian Springs Creek		
P1	1504.7	WintonCanyon Creek	Winton Canyon Creek, wooden bridge.		
P1	1504.9	IndianCreek2	Indian Creek		
P1	1507.2	EForkSulphur Creek	East Fork of Sulphur Creek		
P1	1507.6	WForkSulphur Creek	West Fork of Sulphur Creek. The east fork is often better.		
P1	1510.1	Burstarse Creek	Seasonal Burstarse Creek		
P2	1511.3	TR1511	Trail junction to a small spring	----- Follow the side trail for 0.1 mi and then walk over some rocks to get to the water.	
P2	1515.3	NForkSpring	North Fork Spring		
P2	1516.2	GullySpring	Gully Spring		
P3	1521.8	WA1522	Spring 1/3 mile off-trail		
P3	1526.6	Picayune Spring	Picayune Spring trail junction. Spring is 800 feet off-trail.		
P4	1529.0	WhiteRidge Spring	White Ridge Spring		
P4	1531.3	Porcupine LakeTR	Porcupine Lake trail junction. Lake is 2/10 mile W of PCT.		
P5	1535.1	RedRock Spring	Red Rock Spring		

P5	1536.7	DeadfallLake s	**Deadfall Lake		
P5	1537.4	DeadfallCreek Spg	Seasonal Spring above Deadfall Creek		
P6	1545.9	ChilcootCreek k	Seasonal headwaters of Chilcoot Cr		
P6	1549.7	LittleTrinity Headwaters	Seasonal headwaters of Little Trinity River		
P7	1554.1	LittleTrinity Trib	Seasonal tributary of Little Trinity River		
P7	1555.8	Masterson Spring	Small seasonal spring above Masterson Meadow		
P7	1557.7	DanRiceCreek k	Small seasonal spring above Dan Rice Creek		
P8	1564.7	WA1565	Spring just below the PCT	----- No sign. Watch for short trail back to your left next to rock cairn (for NOBO).	
P9	1565.9	WA1566	Small creek		
P9	1566.0	MosquitoLake e Creek	Creek below Mosquito Lake.		
P9	1571.2	EagleCreek	Small seasonal tributary of Eagle Cr		
P9	1571.3	EagleCreek Spring	Piped spring near Eagle Creek		
P10	1573.1	WolfordGulch	Small seasonal tributary		
P10	1575.5	GraniteCreek Trib	Small tributary of Granite Creek		
P10	1578.1	SForkScott Trib	Small tributary of South Fork Scott River		
P10	1579.0	SForkScott River	**South Scott River		
P11	1585.3	WA1585	Spring, 100 yards E of the PCT on a jeep road.		
P12	1587.8	SRussian CreekTrib	Spring, tributary of South Russian Creek		
P12	1588.9	SRussian CreekTrib2	Small stream, tributary of South Russian Creek below		
P12	1589.3	SRussian CreekTrib3	Small stream, tributary of South Russian Creek below		
P12	1590.8	StatueCreek	Seasonal creek below Statue Lake		
P13	1594.0	PaynesLake	**Paynes Lake, 100 yards W of PCT.		
P13	1594.7	PaynesLake CrkTrib	Tributary of Paynes Lake Creek		
P13	1594.7	PaynesLake CrkTrib2	Tributary of Paynes Lake Creek		
	1599.7	Etna	10.4 miles E on Sawyers Bar Road		
Q1	1607.2	CubBear Spring	Cub Bear Spring, small spring 2/10 mile E of PCT.		
Q2	1610.3	ShellyLake Outlet	Shelly Lake Outlet		
Q2	1613.5	KidderCreek Trib	Small tributary of Kidder Creek		
Q2	1614.0	MartenLake	Marten Lake		
Q3	1615.2	WA1615	Seasonal stream		
Q3	1620.4	ColdSpring	Cold Spring, 3/10 mile S of PCT, 270 ft elevation drop.		
Q4	1623.7	MarbleValley Cabin	Creek near Marble Valley Cabin [locked]		
Q4	1625.0	WA1625	Creek		
Q5	1629.0	ParadiseLake	**Paradise Lake		
Q5	1629.5	KelseyCreek Trib	Seasonal tributary of Kelsey Creek		
Q6	1634.5	Buckhorn Spring	Buckhorn Spring, small signed spring 150 feet W of the PCT in a meadow NW of the large three- forked tree		
Q6	1640.7	WA1641	Seasonal creek		
Q6	1641.5	ColdSpring Creek	Cold Spring Creek, a large creek.		
Q6	1641.6	WACS1642	Creek		
Q7	1642.5	GriderCreek	**Grider Creek, 1st crossing, wooden footbridge (bridge was completely burnt in Nov 2014).		

Q7	1643.7	GriderCreek2	<i>**Grider Creek, 2nd crossing, wooden footbridge (bridge was burnt & broken in half but passable on foot, Nov. 2014).</i>			
Q7	1645.4	GriderCreek3	<i>**Grider Creek, 3rd crossing, wooden footbridge.</i>			
Q7	1645.8	BarkShanty Creek	Bark Shanty Creek			
Q8	1647.8	WA1648	Creek			
Q8	1649.4	GriderCreek4	<i>**Grider Creek, 4th crossing near campground, steel footbridge, good swimming just N of bridge. Walk through the campground to start of 6.4 mile roadwalk to Seiad Valley.</i>			
Q8	1655.0	KlamathRiver	Highway crosses the Klamath River on a large highway bridge.			
	1655.9	SeiadValley				
R1	1657.6	FernSpring	Fern Spring			
R1	1661.9	Lookout Spring2	<i>*Lookout Spring, flowing from iron pipe.</i>			
R2	1666.0	Kangaroo Spring	Kangaroo Spring			
R2	1667.7	WA1668	Seasonal creek			
R2	1670.7	CookGreen PassSpg	<i>*Piped Cook and Green Pass spring</i>			
R3	1676.2	BearDog SpringTR	Bear Dog Spring			
R4	1677.9	WA1678	Spring, 1/10 mile SW of PCT			
R4	1680.2	ReevesRanch Spring	Reeves Ranch Springs, 9/10 mile S of PCT.			
R5	1683.2	AlexHole	<i>*Alex Hole Spring nearby.</i>			
Look for trail to the left of the PCT right after you pass the unpaved road on the right. About 0.1 mile and 100 ft down (after a sharp turn to the left) you will run into multiple small streams from the spring which is ice cold.						
R5	1685.3	MudSpring	Mud Springs, 2/10 mile north of PCT mile 1692.4.			
R5	1687.2	WA1687	Spring above Bearground Gulch			
R5	1687.6	WA1688	Small spring			
R5	1687.7	WA1688B	Another small spring			
R6	1690.5	Donomore Creek	Donomore Creek, small wooden bridge.			
R6	1693.1	Tamarack CreekTrib	Small spring, tributary of Tamarack Creek			
R6	1696.1	SheepCamp Spring	<i>*Sheep Camp Spring</i>			
R7	1697.2	WA1697	Small stream			
R7	1703.9	WBranch LongJohn	Seasonal headwaters of West Branch Long John			
R8	1708.7	GrouseCreek	Small seasonal creek			
R8	1709.0	WA1709	Seasonal creek			
	1718.9	Ashland	13 miles NW of the PCT on I-5			

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