

# Pacific Crest Trail Snow & Ford Report

Updated 9:09pm 1/16/18

[www.pctwater.com](http://www.pctwater.com)

Send email updates to [water@pctwater.com](mailto:water@pctwater.com) or phone/text **619-734-7289** or **619-734-PCTW** [voice mail/text only, no one will answer]. Water reports are compiled from email updates, posts to the PCT-L, on-line trail journals, and other on-the-ground reports. Mileages and waypoint names used in this water report are from Halfmile's PCT maps [[www.pctmap.net](http://www.pctmap.net)]. Please send photos & videos of water sources, fires, passes, and stream creek crossings to our [Facebook page](#) called "PCT Water, Fire, Passes, Fords Update Group". See this Facebook page for latest photos of passes and fords sent in.

**PASSES : Camp high and start early to get up and over the pass before the snow gets slushy and post-holing occurs.**

**FORDS : Cross high water level crossings early in the morning. It can be multiple feet higher later in the day.**

**IMPORTANT WEBSITES:**

**CALTRANS (Road Conditions in the Sierra) -->** <http://www.dot.ca.gov/>

**SEQUOIA / KINGS CANYON (SEKI) TRAIL CONDITIONS PAGE -->** <https://www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/trailcond.htm>

Map	Mile	Elevation	Location	Report	Date	Reported By
	178.0	8,619	South Ridge Trail	South Ridge trail from Idyllwild to PCT is passable without microspikes.	5/11/17	Numbers
			San Jacinto Peak	<b>5/18/17 (Chris)</b> : Still snow on San Jacinto but no need for micro spikes. Snow primarily a navigational annoyance making it hard to stay on trail at times. <b>5/11/17 (Numbers)</b> : The portion of the trail southeast of summit is passable without microspikes. Poles become increasingly useful within approx. 0.5 mile radius of summit. On the portion of the trail west of the summit, the trail can be very difficult to find between approx. 0.5 mi and 1.4 mi east of PCT due to snow. Needed gps and poles on several occasions. Give yourself extra time to descend back to the pct from the summit.	5/18/17	Unknown
B9,10	~179-190	~8,000-9,000	Mt San Jacinto, Fuller Ridge	<b>5/5/17 (Shades)</b> : Fuller ridge was easily passable without any snow equipment. The snowpack ends at 187.5 apart from a few patches as of yesterday. We did need a gps to find the route off of the San Jacinto summit to the fuller ridge junction. ----- <b>5/4/17 (A-Team)</b> : Fuller Ride was no Problem at all. Nothing needed anymore. Just some small snow fields. We crossed Fuller Ridge at around 09:30am. ----- <b>4/30/17 (Hunter)</b> : Fuller Ridge is passable. Microspikes not necessary, but are helpful. Use caution as snow softens. I crossed early evening.	5/5/17	Shades
C13	313.6	WR0314	<b>**Deep Creek ford</b>	Running strong, was able to ford using a small log across the stream, otherwise thigh-deep in spots.	4/7/17	RockDoc, Woodrat, GalPal
D4	377.9	9,390	Mt Baden Powell	<b>6/23/17 (Chris Q.)</b> : No snow on Baden-Powell. <b>5/28/17 (Numbers)</b> : Very little snow remaining, no problem finding/following trail <b>5/17/17 (Janos)</b> : trail lost at 9100 feet in a snowpack, but tracks were easy to follow. The trail reappears ca. 50 yds uphill. 2-3 snowpacks to cross on the ridge leading W of the peak, but nothing to worry about. No special equipment needed. <b>5/4/17 (Todd)</b> : No spikes no axe needed. Route finding was easy. Descended of the summit ridge in bare tread to rejoin PCT. <b>4/24/17 (Aaron)</b> : Microspikes and hiking poles a must, ice axe and crampons not needed. Recommend having Guthooks or route finding skills as the trail disappears from time to time. Ground was consistently covered in slushy snow starting at 8500 ft which is when the trail disappears for the most part. Lots of footprints going in various directions. Kicking steps rather than following others' footprints often made for better traction. Due to an injury, I also descended today with glissading being the easiest way down. Ice axe would have been nice but poles did the job in terms of controlling the short glissades. No need to take the alternate route. Brave the snow and enjoy the amazing view from the top!!	6/23/17	Chris Q.
G??		8,500+		The snow level right now is about 8500 feet. At 10,000 feet + the PCT is entirely covered in snow. In terms of equipment; boots, crampons and mountaineering axe were my choice. I did see others with trail shoes and crampons. I think a whippet would be a good alternate - assuming good skills with that tool. Right now, the snow is consolidating (firm) and very easy to walk on for most of the day. My strategy has been to start early and stop when snow gets softer - mid afternoon this past few days. As spring progresses, snow will become softer earlier in the day. Snowshoes would help in soft afternoon snow, but my goal is 10 miles per day and this is no problem with an early start, so I'm not carrying snowshoes. Creeks are flowing but according to locals, the big run-off has yet to start. To this point, all creeks have been covered in snow - so no fording rivers.	5/20/17	John

**SEQUOIA / KINGS CANYON (SEKI) TRAIL CONDITIONS PAGE -->** <https://www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/trailcond.htm>

**6/3/17 (Scott)** : **Horseshoe Meadows Campground is now open.** water spigots on, cars of weekend campers already in the parking lot  
**5/27/18 (Optimistic Turtle)** : I hiked out 1st Mulkey pass to Horseshoe Meadows. Go across river can via a wood near snow field. But I was too scared due to my pack was too heavy. So I ford the river by walking about a mile to find a safe crossing. The water will get more for sure. Road (**Horseshoe Meadows Road**) was open, gate to campground was closed, but dayhikes parked right outside the gate. It was easy hitch.

**6/10/18 (Ned Tibbits) : Horseshoe Meadows to Rock Creek**

**Snow Line:** 10,000 feet

**Temperatures:** 25-37 overnights with highs into the 50-60s.

**Snow Condition:**

**Below Timberline:** Due to a recently reported high country rain event, the otherwise softening and thawing snowpack has re-consolidated, hardened, and become something decent to walk on without snowshoes nearly all day! Start with hiking crampons or other traction device you can rely on to use on steep surfaces until the "ball-up" underfoot when the snow starts getting soft and wet in the afternoons.

**Above Timberline:** Our only exposure on this trip was on Cottonwood Pass, itself, and the south-facing snowpack was wonderfully consolidated and easy to walk on all day.

**Daily Logistics:** When the snowpack can change so quickly in the heat of sunny days, the rule of thumb is always to be off as early as possible, yet without the need for headlamp use (that limits your ability to differentiate between pitches in snow and easily avoidable hazards in surface conditions that may result in a fall or posthole alongside a boulder or tree). Usually, the hour or hour-and-a-half before direct sun is a good time to start walking. Get over your daily pass as early as possible, too, so your glissade down the backside will be gloriously fun!

**Trail Conditions:** All south-facing trails are opening up and making for nice and easy leg swinging in cool, daytime weather conditions below 10,000 feet! Shady trail may still have large patches of snow where you may lose the trail. Keep walking in the general direction where you know the trail to be headed and keep looking around for signs of it going across any open ground nearby. Learn how to use your GPS to know where you are in relation to the trail. Routes through the trees will consist of lots of ups and downs over drifts of snow whereas routes through flat meadows and open spaces between trees will be flat and easier to walk across.

**Notes:**

- 1) Mosquitoes are coming out in droves below 10,000 feet, but are slow and stupid in the morning cold. Bring repellent or netting!
- 2) Gaiters were not necessary since we were not postholing this time through the area.
- 3) Nighttime temps were either so warm that we were sleeping under our bags or so cold that we had to layer-up our clothing to stay warm enough. Current forecast calls for continued cold temps into the low 20s, so go prepared!
- 4) The Sierra Thaw started around May 25th, but has since seen rain, cold, and snow events that will slow the thaw causing snowline to remain low into the summer. Prepare for long, snow-covered trail up and down each pass.
- 5) As long as the snowpack continues to melt, the creeks will run high and fast like they are right now. Look for meadow crossings and learn how to safely cross creeks, first by dry routes, then by wading across. Remember, you may not have enough dry trail on the other side to allow your shoes to dry, should you choose to cross in your hiking shoes, so the issue of "trench foot" caused by chronic wet feet may arise.
- 6) Even the long-distance PCT thru hikers who already have 700 miles under their belts are experiencing altitude sickness when they get up to 11,000 feet, so watch for those symptoms!
- 7) This same group also was experiencing surprising daily fatigue where even 8 miles/day was all they could take over snow. Snow-hiking is very tiring and uses different muscle groups than dry-trail hiking, so don't necessarily expect to be able to do 10-20 miles/day.
- 8) Take lots more food!
- 9) Looks like we will be getting more thunderstorms this spring-summer, so go prepared.
- 10) If the above-timberline snowpack starts getting super-soft again in the thaw, stop your struggle through the wallow and just quit for the day rather than strain something trying obstinately to make your miles. Get up early in the morning to utilize what hard snow you might have to facilitate easier walking!

**5/26/17 (Ned Tibbits) : Horseshoe Meadows to Kearsarge Pass Summary**

**Snow Line:** 9,500 feet

**Temperatures:** 27-31 overnights with highs into the 50-60s.

**Snow Condition:**

**Below Timberline:** Consolidated with a strong surface crust, 6-14" of afternoon slush, then another ice layer (to slip on). Hiking crampons worn from 0530 starts daily, depending on snow condition and slope aspect, until early afternoon when they started "balling up" and were removed.

**Above Timberline:** Consolidated with a strong surface crust made by overnight sub-freezing temperatures re-freezing previous day's surface thaw until about mid-morning when nasty postholing begins and progresses to hip-deep even before noon. Already!

**5/10/17 (Ned Tibbits) : Horseshoe Meadows to Guyot Pass Summary**

**Snow Line:** 9,000 feet

**Specific Details:**

1. **Temperatures:** 30-60 degrees
  2. **Snow Condition:** Consolidated with a surface crust, 6-12" of slush, then another ice layer (to slip on). Hiking crampons worn daily, depending on snow condition and slope aspect.
  3. **Snow Depth:** (per Snow Surveyor) 200% of normal in southern Sierra with greater amounts to north similar to winter of 1968.
  4. **Creeks:** Most are running higher than during normal pre-thaw time frames, but lower in volume than after the thaw starts. Most still have intact and reliable snow bridges, though are open in many places to get water (no need yet for creek crossing shoes).
  5. **Daily Logistics:** It feels like the thaw is going to start soon, so days are quite warm and the snow gets soft and slippery early. Best to start your days as early as you can see (0600) and quit when potholing gets painful.
  6. **Trails:** All buried above 9,000 feet depending on slope aspect, though we did see 100 feet of trail on one south-facing slope.
- Horseshoe Meadows has 2-4 feet of snow throughout. all Passes into it have snow, Mulkey, Trail, and Cottonwood.

G13	744.5	10,385	Mulkey Pass	<b>6/29/17 (Pika &amp; LaundryMat):</b> No snow <b>5/27/17 (Optimistic Turtle) :</b> I hiked out 1st Mulkey pass to Horseshoe Meadows. Go across river can via a wood near snow field. But I was too scared due to my pack was too heavy. So I ford the river by walking about a mile to find a safe crossing. The water will get more for sure. Road was open, gate to campground was closed, but dayhikes parked right outside the gate. It was easy hitch. <b>5/22/17 (Ned Tibbits) :</b> All passes into Horseshoe Meadows have snow on them.	6/29/17	Pika & LaundryMat
G13	745.3	10,486	Trail Pass	<b>6/29/17 (Pika &amp; LaundryMat):</b> No snow <b>6/15/17 (Iorn Man):</b> Just a few small snow fields left. No extra equipment needed. <b>5/22/17 (Ned Tibbits):</b> All passes into Horseshoe Meadows have snow on them.	6/29/17	Pika & LaundryMat

**7/1/17 (Pika & LaundryMat):** Temperatures are above freezing at night, even above 11,000ft, so morning river crossings are still higher than earlier in the season. Daytime temps at 10,000ft have been reaching low 80°F's so still better to cross in the cool mornings. We didn't run into snow until Cottonwood pass and even then it was a rare 20-yard patch. Patches of snow became more frequent at Wallace creek. Snow became continuous 2 miles from the base of Forrester. Snow continuous 4 miles after Forrester then became many large patches with tree shadow-mounds that require hikers go up and down, easy to lose trail.

**6/26/17 (Daniel C.) :** Came northbound from LonePine via trail pass to Independence as of yesterday ... all streams raging and I recommend crossing with team only ... remember thigh high water is very powerful and really stick those poles into the water... we stayed on the other side of the creek across from Crabtree Ranger Station to approach Mt. Whitney so maybe take the second route to Mt. Whitney .... still 2.5 miles snowfields approach Mt. Whitney, however amazing views up top !!! Tyndall creek we crossed way up stream , however still powerful currents... I needed help .... big snowfield before Forester and we didn't find snow switch backs so made our own or just climbed straight up until it became just rock hiking trail ... the snow shoot was easy near the top ... lots of snow on the other side and even through the trees mostly snow banks and easy to lose the trail so slow going and staying with your team is recommended .... we usually used log crossings, however sometimes my boots were already wet so I found easy wet crossing because not as confident crossing a narrow log ... Kearsarge had snow before however up the switchbacks near the summit are clear of snow... over the summit on east side lots of snow for probably 3 miles... be careful around rocks just over Kearsarge pass because now they have melted away snow around the edges so test with trekking poles, many times the trail has become a stream .. always need ice axe or whippet and some microspikes or crampons.... be safe.

G14	750.2	11,132	Cottonwood Pass	<p><b>6/29/17 (Pika &amp; LaundryMat)</b>: No snow</p> <p><b>6/25/17 (Do-Over &amp; Snackmaster)</b> : Nearly snow free. Only 3-4 places where trail was snow covered and had to be crossed. We came through at mid-morning and kicking steps was easy in boots. No crampons or axe required.</p> <p><b>6/20/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : Patchy snow on trail, with alternating dry and soggy trail. No need for spikes.</p> <p><b>6/12/17 (Josh)</b> : The approach to the pass was the first time that the trail was entirely buried in snow. We used our crampons to cross the snow and ice patches in the early morning. There were no significant hazards.</p> <p><b>6/10/17 (Young Blood)</b> : Cottonwood Pass has a cornice overhanging the trail, we scrambled up the rocks to the side.</p> <p><b>6/10/17 (Ned Tibbits)</b> : Horseshoe Meadows/Cottonwood Pass trail: The only creek crossing on this segment is usually a rock-hop across a narrow tributary, but is now quite flooded at the west end of the meadow. Search upstream as always for a narrower jump-across or try the flooded log at the summer location. Dry trail for most of the way up until the last few switchbacks where snow covers the steep trail! This last pitch across 50 yards is where, if you're on hard, morning snow, you might want to crampon-up and stay in the boot-track, otherwise you'll be on your edges and wishing you had decent boots.</p> <p><b>5/26/17 (Ned Tibbits)</b> : Cottonwood Pass (another pass with a steep final pitch) is still covered with feet of snow, so don't plan on sailing up it without crampons (depending on time of day and presence of a boot-track). Trees on the slope can be a clear and present danger to any tumble after a fall.</p>	6/29/17	Pika & LaundryMat
G15	760.5	9,584	Rock Creek	<p><b>7/2/17 (Will H.)</b> ; crossed on a double log about 300 yards upstream from the trail crossing.</p> <p><b>6/30/17 (Pika &amp; LaundryMat)</b>: Crossed at 10AM in meadow downstream of ranger station where creek consists of multiple channels. Approx 1.5ft deep at deepest part, medium swiftness, crossed without difficulty. Crossing at trail still looks dangerous: approx 3ft deep with swift current and poor run out.</p> <p><b>6/25/17 (Do-Over &amp; Snackmaster)</b> : Downstream log crossings still either partially submerged or very high above rough water with poor runouts. Suggest crossing up near ranger station where a series of shallow logs and/or ankle deep fords makes crossing easy. Note that after crossing near the ranger station you'll need to follow the creek downstream through wet, muddy meadows to intersect with the PCT again.</p> <p><b>6/21/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : crossed 200 yds upstream from ranger station sign across two large downed trees and then a short ankle deep wade to the marsh. Don't bother drying out until you rejoin the PCT because there's about a half mile of marsh you have to smush through. Others were crossing at the widened area, looked fast but doable, thigh deep.</p> <p><b>6/13/17 (Josh)</b> : There were multiple log crossings downstream, but they were all above high flow with terrible runout. We opted to cross a series of three logs in the meadows by the ranger station. This was a more difficult log crossing, but the logs were above ankle deep slow moving water. If you're willing to get your feet wet, fording where the river splits in four by the ranger station would be the safest option. The water was calf deep there at the most.</p> <p><b>6/11/17 (Young Blood)</b> : Rock Creek is easy to cross near the ranger station. At the trail crossing it is raging hard but crossable.</p> <p><b>6/10/17 (Ned Tibbits)</b> : This peaceful, little creek is a whitewater torrent right now! The usual 2-log dry crossing 75 yards above the summer location is nearly underwater and it is 4-5 feet above the creek bed, so you can't cross there. Another log exists nearby that fell across the creek breaking on a boulder on the other side, but it has a hazardous jump-down on that end, so think twice about that one. Otherwise, as always, go to meadows where the flow is spread out in the flooding area, shallower, and the current's "push" is less strong. Crossing in the meadow below the Ranger Station (upper campground) works best. Rock Creek descent: Still under snow and quite steep in places requiring steep snow descent techniques to stay balanced and safe from falling.</p> <p><b>6/6/17 (Jukebox &amp; Snak Blok)</b> : there is a 2 log crossing which isn't useful where trail crosses river. There is a tree that has fallen adjacent which you can easily use and crawl down the other side. Every hiker we encountered used this log thus far. Highly recommended.</p> <p><b>6/4/17 (Crush)</b> : Log upstream of summer crossing is completely snow free. Creek is flowing, 4 feet deep at summer crossing.</p> <p><b>5/26/17 (Ned Tibbits)</b> : Log crossing upstream has almost lost all its snow cover. Easy crossing. Bits of dry ground appearing here and there, otherwise solid snow into and throughout the area. Southern aspect climb out northbound is showing sections of dry trail, but most of the tree-covered switchbacks are still covered with 4-6 feet of snow.</p>	7/2/17	Will H.

G16	761.8	10,384	Guyot Creek	Simple rock hop just upstream from trail crossing. No need to get wet.	6/30/17	Pika & LaundryMat
H1	766.3	10,371	Crabtree Meadow / Whitney Creek	<p><b>7/3/17 (Will H.)</b> : crossed at the trail crossing 630 am. Slow flow, up to kneecap on 6'3" hiker.</p> <p><b>6/30/17 (Pika &amp; LaundryMat)</b>: Crossed at 2:30PM at trail crossing, 2-2.5ft deep, slow current, quite easy.</p> <p><b>6/26/17 (Do-Over &amp; Snackmaster)</b> : About 3 feet deep in the middle of the channel when crossed just past the campsite with bear box. Swift current, but good run out and flat sandy bottom make for an easy morning ford.</p> <p><b>6/21/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : Waist deep (3 ft) ford in afternoon at summer crossing. Water is slow moving, deep but easy. All of Crabtree Meadows is underwater, but there are good places to camp near the trail after crossing. Whitney creek upstream of the Meadows is gushing, making the trail crossing to get to the ranger station / campground impassable. We ended up scrambling back up to the JMT Whitney trail to camp before summiting the next day.</p> <p><b>6/11/17 (Young Blood)</b> : Crabtree meadows is covered in snow but plenty of dry spot in the area for base camp to Whitney. There is a waist deep stream flowing just before the Whitney junction. Past Timberline lake is all snow until you reach the switchbacks which are mostly clear except for 2 or 3. It was cold and windy at the top, and snowed at Crabtree when we came down.</p> <p><b>6/4/17(Crush)</b> : Best crossing is at summer trail crossing. 3-4 feet deep at middle of creek. There is also a partially submerged fallen pine tree about 200 yards downstream of summer trail crossing - use caution.</p> <p><b>6/1/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : Two big logs across, either one is okay. Late afternoon fording without issue. 2nd Whitney Creek on the way to Whitney trail. Still some ice bridge. Easy crossing. But melt soon.</p>	7/3/17	Will H.
H1B	767.0	13,612	Mount Whitney / Trail Crest** [Trail Crest ~6 mi E of PCT on trail to Mt Whitney]	<p><b>6/22/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : Sun cupped snow from 0.7 mi before Guitar Lake to the base of the switchbacks. Microspikes recommended. No need to traverse snow up to the summit, doable on rock scramble.</p> <p><b>6/14/17 (Josh)</b> : The trail has sun cupped snow for about two miles around guitar lake. After that the trail is almost entirely dry. We did traverse a snowfield on one of the first switchbacks, but the runout was pretty safe and it made for a trivial glissade on the way down. You could hike around that snowfield by descending around it if desired. The trail also crossed a steep 40 degree snowfield at the edge of a switchback, but we were able to scramble up to the next switchback and avoid it. There was a small 10-15 yard traverse on ice near the summit, but there was a deep channel cut and the runout was excellent. You could bypass this by scrambling on loose rock, but we felt safer in the channel. I think that some form of traction such as microspikes or crampons are still required to do this route safely. The most hazardous part of the trip was descending past guitar lake on soft snow in the afternoon. An early start and early descent would make this route safer.</p>	6/22/17	Team Two Poles
<p><b>7/1/17 (Pika &amp; LaundryMat)</b>: Temperatures are above freezing at night, even above 11,000ft, so morning river crossings are still higher than earlier in the season. Daytime temps at 10,000ft have been reaching low 80°F's so still better to cross in the cool mornings. We didn't run into snow until Cottonwood pass and even then it was a rare 20-yard patch. Patches of snow became more frequent at Wallace creek. Snow became continuous 2 miles from the base of Forrester. Snow continuous 4 miles after Forrester then became many large patches with tree shadow-mounds that require hikers go up and down, easy to lose trail.</p>						
H1	767.6	13,612	Seasonal Stream	Had lots of exposed rocks that were easy to step across on in the afternoon.	6/26/17	Do-Over & Snackmaster

H1	770.3	10,392	Wallace Creek Ford	<p><b>7/3/17 (Will H.)</b> : crossed at trail crossing mid-morning. Slow-medium flow, mid shin depth. No big deal.</p> <p><b>6/30/17 (Pika &amp; LaundryMat)</b>: Crossed at 5:40PM at trail crossing. 2-2.5 ft deep with medium swift current, no difficulty.</p> <p><b>6/26/17 (Do-Over &amp; Snackmaster)</b> : Current was swift in the afternoon, but we had no trouble crossing at the trail crossing. Was approximately thigh deep on a 5'3" hiker.</p> <p><b>6/15/17 (Josh)</b> : We crossed downstream. The water was less than knee deep on a 5'11" hiker. This crossing did not seem very hazardous. The runoff from the crossing was acceptable to us. There wasn't any snow on the banks where we crossed.</p> <p><b>6/12/17 (Young Blood)</b> : easily fordable.</p> <p><b>6/8/17 (Jukebox &amp; Snak Blok)</b> : We forded the Creek roughly 0.25miles downstream where water slowed down. Water was just over knee high on 5'-9" hiker.</p> <p><b>6/6/17 (Mike &amp; Kimi)</b> : There is a log crossing for the north fork of Wallace about 0.5 miles upstream of the trail crossing at 36:35:55.1040 -118:21:41.1372. We crossed quite a few braids on snow bridges to get there but should be doable without them as well.</p> <p><b>6/5/17 (Crush)</b> : No snow bridges remaining and south side bank is lined with 2-10 feet of steep snow. Summer trail is best crossing. Water is ~24 inches deep at summer crossing when standing on rocks.</p> <p><b>6/3/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : afternoon crossing, boots off. Go upstream 10 ft for shallower cross. Water level about knee high for short person.</p>	7/3/17	Will H.
H1	771.0	10,700	Wright Creek Ford	<p><b>7/3/17 (Will H.)</b> : did not attempt crossing around midday, too fast and deep. Followed notes and crossed downstream on the log/island combo. The log is steady but a fall here would be ugly.</p> <p><b>6/30/17 (Pika &amp; LaundryMat)</b>: Most technical creek crossing thus far. We reached the trail crossing at 6:00pm and creek looked approx 3-3.5ft deep, very swift, extremely dangerous run out if one fell. No more snow bridges. Since late in the day, we didn't check out island/log crossing below trail crossing (see entry from 6/8 below, apparently easy to ford to island then take log to cross far side but reports of log under water in the afternoons) we decided to see if we could cross upstream or camp and cross in the morning. Found a suitable crossing location upstream in meadow just after a bend in creek. Creek was wider and flatter with safe run out. Still 3ft deep in middle with swift current. I'm 5.2ft and crossed it but with concentration, if any higher I wouldn't of been able to cross here but would have searched further upstream or waited until morning.</p> <p><b>6/26/17 (Do-Over &amp; Snackmaster)</b> : Arrived at 5pm to find potential crossings too risky for us. Downstream about 0.2 miles a wade to an island followed by a log crossing where the creek splits into three was too fast in the evening, but passable by morning. Further downstream a potential log crossing was under water in the evening. A note left near the summer crossing indicated no potential crossings for 0.5 miles upstream.</p> <p><b>6/25/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : raging hard, go .2 miles downstream to where creek splits in two around a small island, ford towards island walk slightly downstream on island to find large stable log to cross the second part to other bank.</p> <p><b>6/22/17 (Annie V.)</b> : video of crossing at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Shk_E9Gzj7M">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Shk_E9Gzj7M</a></p> <p><b>6/15/17 (Josh)</b> : The banks were snow covered so the runoff from crossings near the trail was awful. The water was over the knees of a 6 foot tall hiker. We found a relatively safe log crossing less than half a mile downstream.</p> <p><b>6/12/17 (Young Blood)</b> : Wright creek is raging but about .1 or .2 upstream was an easy enough ford.</p> <p><b>6/8/17 (Jukebox &amp; Snak Blok)</b> : approximately 0.3miles downstream, stream splits around island. You can't see to the other side however there is a log bridge on other side. We used half snow bridge into rocks to cross first half and then wide log to cross.</p> <p><b>6/5/17 (Crush)</b> : No snow bridges remaining within 1.5 miles of summer trail crossing. Banks are lined with overhanging snow. Creek is definitely raging. Best place to cross is likely ~1 mile upstream near 771C campground.</p> <p><b>6/3/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : afternoon crossing. Snow bridge there. Raging! There is a log across but water overflowing. Be very careful!! I would like to emphasize that. The snow bridge is break, once fall, could be very bad</p>	7/3/17	Will H.

H1	774.7	10,934	Tyndall Creek Ford [sometimes difficult]	<p><b>7/3/17 (Will H.)</b> : impassible mid-afternoon. Crossed upstream, perhaps 3/4 of a mile where the creek widens. There are cairns on both banks where the crossing is best.</p> <p><b>7/1/17 (Fire princess)</b>: Crossed at 6 p.m. 1 mile up creek from trail.</p> <p><b>7/1/17 (Pika &amp; LaundryMat)</b>: Another technical crossing. At 7AM, creek raging at trail crossing, too much whitewater to approximate depth, super swift current and dangerous run out. No more snow bridges. Hiked upstream to where grade flattens out and stream is split into 3 tributaries. Deepest channel still 2.5-3ft deep, moderately swift current but safe run out. 6.2ft husband crossed without difficulty, 5.2ft me crossed with concentration.</p> <p><b>6/27/17 (Do-Over &amp; Snackmaster)</b> ; Easily crossed at mid-morning approximately 0.75 miles upstream. The stream splits into several smaller, shallow (mid-calf) flows just before a marshy area. The PCT parallels the creek while walking upstream, so hikers can return to the trail by traveling cross-country uphill and into the trees. We added very little mileage overall with this strategy.</p> <p><b>6/25/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : uncrossable at summer crossing in late afternoon solo ford possible .5 miles upstream where it splits into 3 feeders, thigh deep, strong current.</p> <p><b>6/22/17 (Annie V.)</b> : Video of crossing at the Facebook page "PCT Water,Fire, Passes,Fords Updates Group"</p> <p><b>6/15/17 (Josh)</b> : This creek has many partial snow bridges near the banks, so use caution approaching it. You could easily fall through while the creek still appears to be several yards away. We walked upstream on the snowfields for just about half a mile, approaching the headwaters. The creeks flow reduces dramatically as you head upstream past the streams that feed it, so just carry on that way until you feel comfortable. We found a crossing that was about shin deep with an excellent flat shallow runout and dry banks. This was a good strategy for crossing, because the PCT parallels the creek to the north, allowing you to intercept it without backtracking. We did cross several snow bridges over the streams that feed the creek on both sides, but only 1-4 inches of water was typically running under these bridges. Crossing this creek anywhere near the trail crossing would be dangerous, because the creek is deep fast and steep around that location.</p> <p><b>6/12/17 (Young Blood)</b> : Tyndall Creek is easily crossable at the trail. The camping area is covered in deep snow, but room for a crew. Arctic tundra from here until vidette meadows.</p> <p><b>6/6/17 (Crush)</b> : One thin snow bridge remaining near ranger station. Banks are lined with overhanging snow and very steep. If fording seems difficult, feeding lake is entirely covered and many snow bridges upstream and doesn't put PCTers too far off course from trail enroute to Forrester Pass.</p> <p><b>6/4/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : snow bridge gone summer location at 3:30AM. Walk 400+ ft upstream have a few big snow bridges!! Safely cross with boots.</p>	7/3/17	Will H.
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H3	779.5	13,118	Forester Pass	<p><b>7/1/17 (Pika &amp; LaundryMat):</b> Started climbing from base around 10AM with microspikes and ice axe, snow hard enough for microspikes to bite but soft enough to slightly sink in with each step (instead of sheer hard ice). Lower switchbacks still covered in steep snow so climbed straight up to gain lowest visible switchback to it's farthest right/east. Climbing up snowfield to middle of switchback gets very steep (we saw other hikers climb this way and had a lot of difficulty, we caught up to them because it took them so long to climb the steep bit). Hardest part was traversing a long snowfield across the middle of the lowest visible switchback: snow steep with rocks far below, but foot prints kicked into snow so crossable with concentration, may be difficult for someone afraid of heights. Switchbacks above this point were clear of snow. Chute crossing had kicked-in path, hikers must downclimb slightly to path but otherwise short and easy to cross. Reached pass by 11AM. Know how to properly use an ice axe and practice on some steep snow slopes with safe run out (aka no rocks below you).</p> <p>Northside/backside: still lots of snow, soft by the time we descended at 12noon making for easy descent with trekking poles and shoes. Snow lingers until 4 miles past pass, well into the forest so be prepared to navigate.</p> <p><b>6/28/17 (Do-Over &amp; Snackmaster)</b> : We camped about 2 miles from the pass and found the snow fields firm and easy to cross early in the morning. We arrived at the base of the switchbacks around 6-6:30am and easily climbed up to the deep boot track using K10 crampons and ice axes. Other hikers ascended at the same time with microspikes and poles successfully, though I felt that an axe was necessary in case of a need for self-arrest. The last few switchbacks were dry ground up to the ice chute. The path in the chute is well-worn but must now be climbed down to and back up out of due to serial melting. On the northside (we started down around 9:30am), snow was softening quickly, and in places glissades were arguably safer than rapidly softening boot tracks. Several long glissade tracks are established and can be used as long as conditions remain favorable (I.e. No visible rocks and clear runouts persist through the daily/freeze thaw). Expect to be almost entirely on snow until reaching treeline, and then maybe 40-50% snow and difficult to follow trail down to Vidette Meadow.</p> <p><b>6/26/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : sun cupped snow starts 2.5 miles from pass, we walked it at 6:30 when it was hard. The pass itself required some steep snow hiking before steps were kicked in leading to some dry switchbacks. The ice chute had very well kicked in path and was easy to cross. Good boot path most the way up. The way down is still completely covered in snow with only a couple opportunities for small glissades. We started down around 8:30-9 and we're walking on mushy snow the whole way down, mostly doing long traverses in a decent boot path. There wasn't anything really dangerous about the climb or descent and only microspikes and an ice axe were needed but it is slow going and exhaustive. Be wary when you get back into the trees because way finding can be tricky especially without a GPS app like guthooks.</p> <p><b>6/17/17 (Hops &amp; Pocahontas)</b> : Video of hikers crossing snow/ice chute just below south side of Forester Pass at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gMqsu7nhr7E">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gMqsu7nhr7E</a></p> <p><b>6/16/17 (Josh)</b> : We started the pass around 6:30-7 in the morning. The snow was hard and the climbing was very exposed. I would encourage anyone coming up here to have crampons, an ice axe and the skills to use both effectively. There are several slopes around mount Whitney that you could use to practice and prepare for this. I felt confident that I would be able to self arrest before hitting the boulder fields below the first climb. There were pretty good steps in the snow most of the way up to the rocks. Some climbers scrambled rock to bypass a small amount of snow, but that looked more dangerous and presented a rockfall hazard to those below. At the rocks 2-3 switchbacks were exposed. The ice chute was easy to cross. There were good steps kicked in, and in several locations there are holes to the right which you can plunge the shaft of your ice axe into to make an anchor while you step. We descended on firm snow around 9:30, and glissaded 4-5 times. There were two steep slopes on the descent, and we could often hear water running under the trail. Be cautious of voids in the snow.</p> <p><b>6/13/17 (Young Blood)</b> : Forester Pass basin is a deep snowfield but good trail is broken in. Follow the switchbacks in the snow until you reach dry trail about halfway up. The snow chute is well kicked in, and the snowladder/cornice has melted so no need to climb it. Great trail broken in on the way down and plenty of glissading opportunities! Vidette meadows was starting to dry up, but still lots of snow here, keeping trail through the forest is impossible.</p>	7/1/17	Pika & LaundryMat
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H3	~781.7	11,666	Creek draining center basin north of Forester Pass	mid-am the creek draining center basin north of forester pass is serious. Scooted across on a log a few hundred yards up from the trail crossing, however, a fall in this location would be very dangerous, possibly fatal. It may be possible to cross upstream, the creek forks into two not far above the log. I would look for a way around and not do the log if I had to do it again.	7/4/17	Will H.
H3	784.0	10,536	Bubbs Creek Ford	<p><b>7/1/17 (Pika &amp; LaundryMat)</b>: Bubbs creek flowing from Forrester pass is snow covered where route crosses it. The Center Valley Creek tributary at mile 784 had a log across the creek just upstream. We were already wet from our snow descent that we just crossed at trail, 2.5ft deep and swift with poor run out but narrow enough that my 6.2ft husband crossed without difficulty and stood just downstream ready to catch me if I happened to loose my balance. I was able to step over the deepest part of the current.</p> <p><b>6/29/17 (Do-Over &amp; Snackmaster)</b> : Can be crossed 0.1 miles upstream by wading out (shallow, calf-deep) to a log. But the stream underneath was very high flow and had a terrible runout beneath the log crossing, so proceed with caution if log skills are shaky.</p> <p><b>6/26/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : easy ford near trail, knee deep.</p> <p><b>6/16/17 (Josh)</b> : There is a snow bridge to a log crossing 100 feet upstream. It appears that the log crossing could still work after the snow bridge melts out, depending on how much more the water level rises. The water level was 2-3 feet below the log. The log is fairly narrow and the runout looks quite bad, so use caution in the morning when it may be slippery. If this log crossing isn't viable for you, head upstream towards the headwaters and cross the smaller tributaries that feed the creek.</p> <p><b>6/9/17 (Jukebox &amp; Snak Blok)</b> : there was a snow bridge which lead to log north of crossing. Snow bridge might stay for one more week???</p> <p><b>6/6/17 (Crush)</b> : Many sturdy snow bridges remaining. Creek is partially open allowing near summer trail allowing for easy water access.</p>	7/1/17	Pika & LaundryMat
5/24/17 (Ned Tibbits) : <b>Onion Valley road</b> (7.6 miles east of PCT) is <b>open</b> and has sufficient snow depth at the trailhead to allow skiing down the the asphalt.						
5/26/17 (Ned Tibbits) : Bullfrog Lake and ponds creeks: Vidette Meadows area (9,000) completely covered with 2-5 feet of snow. Some patches of ground starting to appear wherever it is not flooded. Route up to PCT/JMT jct. at Charlotte Lake/Kearsarge Pass trails is completely covered though on a southern aspect with no water access. Ponds below Bullfrog are starting to open up with standing water on lake snow surface, but no peripheral cracking making for safe passage across. Bullfrog also completely frozen with safe passage directly across. No water access in Kearsarge Lakes drainage.						
H4	787.3	9,563	Cedar Grove Trail Junction (potential exit point to Roads End)	<p>Hwy 180 down to Cedar Grove is open.</p> <p><b>CALTRANS HWY 180 STATUS</b> --&gt; <a href="http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi?roadnumber=180&amp;submit=Search">http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi?roadnumber=180&amp;submit=Search</a></p> <p><b>5/30/17 (DoubleTap)</b> : <b>This is your last chance to exit the Sierra westbound (for a long time) via Roads End / Hwy 180 as the bridge ~6 miles west of the PCT from the Woods Creek bridge (Mile 799.8) is OUT. This bridge is not on the PCT but if you decide to exit the Sierra at Woods Creek heading towards Roads End you will not be able to cross the South Fork of the Kings River at the damaged bridge. If you go over Glen Pass northbound and decide to exit the Sierra after Glen Pass you will have to exit eastbound over Baxter, Sawmill, Taboose, or Bishop Pass which are all higher in elevation from the PCT.</b></p>	5/30/17	CALTRANS



H4	788.9	11,790	Kearsarge Pass** [2.9 mi E of PCT on trail to Onion Valley/Independence, CA]	<p><b>7/2/17 (Pika &amp; LaundryMat):</b> Took Bullfrog Lake route, large patches of snow covered trail but definitely less snow on the west/trail side of pass than on the east/town side. Pass itself is clear of snow.</p> <p><b>6/30/17 (Do-Over &amp; Snackmaster) :</b> We took the Bullfrog Trail and found ourselves crossing large snow fields and frequently stopping to double check navigation. Though patches of dry trail were frequent enough to confirm our path. Other hikers who took the Onion Valley trail on the same day reported three snow chutes with poor footing in the afternoon slush. The final switchbacks up to the pass are dry, but from the pass to the trailhead is still 75% under snow until you reach the lakes. After that the trail is mostly dry. We did the snow down to the trailhead in the morning (before 10am) and it was easy walking with spikes and/or crampons although we felt axes were necessary for safety in a few steep traverses. Others who hiked it in the afternoon reported a slushy, but passable slog.</p> <p><b>6/14/17 (Young Blood) :</b> Switchbacks from hell up to bullfrog lakes trail junction (Mile 787.3) are dry. Bullfrog lake basin is snowcovered, stay to the left and make your own route. Switchbacks up kearsarge are dry though. Snow all the way down from kearsarge to onion valley, and the lakes are still frozen. Lots of cars in the parking lot.</p> <p><b>6/10/17 (Jukebox &amp; Snak Blok) :</b> Camped near bull frog lake, headed out by 4am. We were descending by 6am. Snow became slushy by 7-730am. When descending, after you passed the lake, stay high on rocks, not on official trail. Most tracks lead to trees, but go towards rocks. Easy traverse over and down. Got info from hikers coming up to K.Pass that day.</p> <p><b>6/6/17(Optimistic Turtle) :</b> Bullfrog Lake condition is ok, noon postholing for sure start early. Kearsage south side at 7:30 already started slushy, fy!!!</p>	7/2/17	Pika & LaundryMat
H5	791.0	11,946	Glen Pass	<p><b>7/4/17 (Will) :</b> very challenging. Pcters have carved steep trenches/ ridges into the snow using more direct routes to the top. They tend to go rock area to rock area. Be prepared for being on steep narrow ridges.</p> <p><b>6/27/17 (Team Two Poles) :</b> Easy going up on hard snow at 7:00, good kicked steps the whole way up. Harder going down, very steep. There were two boot tracks starting the descent the higher one will lead to a straight down descent. The lower, which is hard to see at the top, looks worse but will lead to a more gradual descent to several dry switchbacks. A lot of snow after switchbacks. Glissading would be dangerous as it is very steep with rocks at the bottom and snow isn't soft enough until 9:30 or 10. We attempted a short glissade after switchbacks but had to self arrest as it was too steep and icy causing it to be painful and dangerously fast. Walking down is time consuming because it is steep but not dangerous if done carefully.</p> <p><b>6/14/17 (Jukebox &amp; Snak Blok) :</b> Climb up Glenn Pass has steps created and was great. Descent lead us to lake which was steep and required good footing. If I'd do it again, I'd begin descending right after reaching top on left side, doing switch backs down and traversing over to avoid rocks if you decide to descend on the right side, be prepared for rocks below you.</p> <p><b>6/12/17 (Snitch):</b> Long and steep climb early in the morning. Footprints were leading us almost straight uphill. At the steepest and sketchiest point, I couldn't go on with only microspikes and ice ax, so a group member had to kick steps in the icy snow with his very aggressive crampons. Downhill was even steeper. Walking switchbacks is possible, but requires good traction and ice ax skills. We were lowering ourselves in self-arrest position step by step down. It was relatively safe, but very exhaustive.</p> <p><b>6/10/17 (Crush) :</b> Visible snow route up north face. Steep sections with a some rock scrambling. Top of pass is snow free. South side almost completely covered with snow. Glissade chutes directly off pass, but control speed as there are rocky patches at bottom not visible from pass. Otherwise steep snow steps to skiers right.</p> <p><b>6/10/17 (Optimistic Turtle) :</b> start 5:30. Took 1 hr down so steep, 45 degrees all the way down. 9:37 at the bottom of the Glen Pass. Postholing the entire way. After Glen Pass, there is big chute needs glissade, be prepared.</p> <p><b>5/23/17 (Dan Winsor) :</b> Video at <a href="https://vimeo.com/220157541">https://vimeo.com/220157541</a></p>	7/4/17	Will
H5	793.0	10,548	Upper Rae Lakes outlet	cross at summer crossing up onto dirt covered slope, waist deep water, flowing moderately but clear and not turbulent	6/27/17	Team Two Poles

H6	795.5	10,314	Arrowhead Lake outlet	<p><b>6/27/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : No more snow bridges. According to a ranger who was hiking up glen pass as we came down the summer crossing of arrowhead lake outlet is 20 ft wide and 8 ft deep. Be prepared to cross just past lower Rae (approx mile 794.6) lake and hike across some steep snow around the west side of arrowhead lake and meet back up with pct around dollar lake (approx mile 795.7)</p> <p><b>6/14/17 (Jukebox &amp; Snak Blok)</b> : Crossed at PCT crossing where water was up to crotch height for 5'-10" but for only a few seconds. Water was stagnate.</p> <p><b>6/10/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : Arrowhead outlet cross about 500 down stream. Two snow bridges remain. Cross then boulder up. Make sure crampons off before crossing. Water raging.</p>	6/27/17	Team Two Poles
H6	797.1	9,524	Baxter Creek	<p><b>6/27/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : Very swift afternoon crossing. Recommended to cross at trail where there is only a small patch of whitewater to cross. One hiker did this solo. Crossing above or below isn't an option as it is narrower but faster and can only be done with a group.</p> <p><b>6/21/17 (Pano)</b> : We crossed at 7am. Current was swift and strong, 2+ feet deep. Group crossing recommended.</p> <p><b>6/14/17 (Jukebox &amp; Snakblok)</b> : crossed at PCT crossing, water was ankle high, started crossing as a double but quickly changed to solo as easier to cross solo</p> <p><b>6/12/17 (Snitch)</b>: Early afternoon crossing. Water was swift, but only less than knee deep. We were crossing solo.</p> <p><b>6/10/17 (Crush)</b> : Best crossing is likely near summer trail crossing. ~10' across with about 5' of 2-3' deep water and strong, yet doable current.</p> <p><b>6/10/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : Afternoon crossing, challenging, I did a catapillar with 3 others cross. Some ppl cross alone, raging water. Be careful.</p> <p><b>5/23/17 (Beta)</b> : Snow bridge. Didn't even realize we'd crossed it.</p>	6/27/17	Team Two Poles
H6	799.8	8,532	Woods Creek Suspension Bridge	<p><b>5/28/17 (Grizz &amp; Lovely Heart via inReach sent from Woods Creek at 8:14pm)</b>: Suspension bridge at mile 799.7 is intact, not damaged, and perfectly passable.</p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>5/30/17 (DoubleTap)</b> : The bridge ~6 miles west of the PCT from the Woods Creek bridge is OUT. This bridge is not on the PCT but if you decide to exit the Sierra at Woods Creek heading towards Roads End / Hwy 180 you will not be able to cross the South Fork of the Kings River at the damaged bridge.</p>	5/28/17	Grizz & Lovely Heart
H6	801.1	9,103	WR801, White Fork Creek	<p><b>7/7/17 (Fire Princess)</b> : My group checked the crossing on 7/6 and decided to wait until morning to cross. Waters rose over night around 3-6 inches. Believe it rained over night in the mountains and temps were warm. Crossing at trail went badly for one member who fell in but Everyone made it across. One of the more dangerous crossings up to mammoth.</p> <p><b>7/4/17 (Unknown)</b>: Just received this from my son's Garmin....Worst crossing yet! Not on water or snow report! Very dangerous! White fork mile 801.2 Crossed with 9 people. Me and one other made it across but sent everyone else up river. There were big snow bridges about .2 miles up hill. A lot safer!</p> <p><b>6/27/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : an intense ford in early evening (5:00 pm). Crossed at trail just above whitewater with a linked group of four hikers, wouldn't have been possible to ford solo. Runout was bad. Solo hiker found snowbridge half mile up but requires a lot of bushwhacking and things are melting fast. Early morning ford may be safer.</p> <p><b>6/23/17 (Ten Gallon)</b> : Felt like an impassable ford at the trail, ended up going 0.75 miles up stream to cross a snow bridge.</p> <p><b>6/21/17 (Pano)</b> : We crossed at 11:45am. Current was swift, strong, and 2.5 feet deep. Group crossing recommended but difficult due to the narrowness of the crossing. 2 solo and two groups of three crossed successfully</p>	7/7/17	Fire Princess

H7	807.1	12,142	Pinchot Pass	<p><b>7/5/17 (Will)</b> : not especially technical. Just lots of snow (sun cups in many areas) for 3+ miles on each side. Makes for slow going.</p> <p><b>6/28/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : There is snow starting about 3.5 miles from summit. Way finding can be a bit tricky, there are vague boot paths but nothing easy to follow until you get into the basin and can see the summit, there the boot path is solid and easy to follow. It wasn't very steep until the last tenth of a mile to the summit. That was the only place we used our ice axes the rest of the approach was easy to do with microspikes and trekking poles on the hard snow from 5:45-8:00 am.</p> <p>Descent was gradual and easy on snow that didn't get mushy until 9:30-10:00. There were several streams on way down with melting snow bridges that looked easy to ford. In the trees keeping trail is very difficult and the trail descends steeply at points making crossing the snow banks somewhat precarious but doable. It is somewhat easier to travel generally in the trails direction while avoiding steep snow drifts than to try to stay directly on trail.</p> <p><b>6/15/17 (JukenoX &amp; Snak Blok)</b> : started climb at 3am, snow was nice and firm along with great foot steps. Climb up was long and long and long but more than doable. Descent was great and not steep.</p> <p><b>6/13/17 (Snitch)</b>: Climbed up early in the morning. Thanks to solid foot steps it was quite easy. If they are gone, it will be harder, but probably not a big challenge.</p> <p><b>6/11/17 (Crush)</b> : Snow covering all but the very top of pass (north and south sides). Check map often as there are several sets of misleading footprints.</p> <p><b>5/24/17 (Dan Winsor)</b>: <a href="https://vimeo.com/220142357">https://vimeo.com/220142357</a></p>	7/5/17	Will
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H8	811.4	10,040	S Fork Kings River Ford [sometimes difficult]	<p><b>7/30/17 (DoubleTap) : Please be very careful while attempting this crossing. A PCT hiker recently passed away close to this crossing. Her body was found downstream from the PCT crossing. This is a dangerous crossing until the snowmelt subsides.</b></p> <p><b>7/27/17 (Hikin Jim) :</b> The ford of the S Fork of the Kings River is really dangerous this year. <b>A PCT through hiker recently lost her life crossing here.</b> A bypass is available. Simply *stay* on the east bank and walk through the open Lodgepole forest. In 2.5 miles the JMT/PCT recrosses the river, and you join right back in but having eliminated two unnecessary crossings. Here's a downloadable pdf of the bypass that can be saved on a smart phone or printed on 8.5" x 11" paper: <a href="https://caltopo.com/p/1U64">https://caltopo.com/p/1U64</a> Here's an interactive link that can be toggled to satellite view or other alternatives: <a href="https://caltopo.com/m/LLOB">https://caltopo.com/m/LLOB</a></p> <p><b>7/6/17 (Will) :</b> Going NOBO it's the one you have to cross twice before you get to Mather Pass. Some hikers gave us the advice to walk along side the river for 1.5-2 miles and then cross two tributaries instead. We were very thankful for this advice. Still challenging, but much easier.</p> <p><b>6/28/17 (Team Two Poles) :</b> Forged the river at noon. Solo crossing wasn't difficult when done a short ways downstream from the trail where the river splits into 4 or 5 pieces. We forded the flows by working our way up and down stream on the small islands to find the slowest spots. At the hardest part, in the flow nearest the far bank, the water was moderately strong flow but not hard to ford solo and about mid thigh deep. The other side offered plenty of sun and places to dry out.</p> <p><b>6/22/17 (Pano) :</b> Got to the standard crossing around 7am to find it raging. 100 yards downstream at the split, the log-ford combo looked sketchy. We went 1.5 miles upstream and crossed over multiple small forks, coming out at PCT mile 812.8. Flow was swift but totally manageable, water 2.5 feet at deepest.</p> <p><b>6/16/17 (Jukebox &amp; Snak Blok) :</b> we saw river and saw log but did research from Andrew Skurka's website and stayed on right side of river since river crosses twice. Just had to pass sun cups.</p> <p><b>6/14/17 (Crash) :</b> crossed at summer location at 4.30pm where the stream splits in two.  - First behind a log. Waste deep still water  - Second behind a log for the first half and then climbed on the log the second. Knee deep slow flow.</p> <p><b>6/13/17 (Dan D) :</b> River is raging but is easily crossed on a sturdy log, 1/4 mile upstream.</p> <p><b>6/13/17 (Snitch):</b> Early afternoon crossing. The creek braids and the water was only knee deep, but wide. We crossed solo without any issues.</p> <p><b>6/11/17 (Crush) :</b> Best crossing likely near summer trail crossing where there are two river crossings, the first being the difficult one - no complete snow bridges remaining. Used line method to cross with 5 guys; two men were able to scramble across. Water is definitely flowing and about 3' high with splash up. Strongly recommend crossing with a group.</p> <p><b>5/24/17 (Beta):</b> Raging river with several solid snow bridge options within a couple hundred yards of the actual trail crossing. Snow bridges won't last for more than a week, maybe two</p>	7/27/17	Hikin Jim
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H9	816.9	12,096	Mather Pass	<p><b>7/16/17 (Lauren)</b> : WARNING: I crossed Mather heading northbound on 7/16 using the middle (the most travelled) path on the south side of the mountain. I fell up to my waist and realized there was no snow beneath me. It was a complete void in the mountain.. no rock under the snow we were hiking on. As of today, I have heard from hikers at Reds Meadow that the hole I fell into is now a full crevasse. Please share with any northbounders who have not yet crossed Mather.</p> <p><b>7/6/17 (Will)</b> : toughest one we did. See comments on Glen and add a level of difficulty rating. The SOBO route appeared quite a bit easier.</p> <p><b>6/29/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : snow starts about 3.7 miles from summit, just after kings river, and doesn't let up. Initially you can find peices of trail before climbing onto another patch of snow but eventually the trail disappears and navigation is by boot track and gps. Doing this at about 3 pm was extremely exhausting as the snow was very soft and slippery and suncupped. Camping below Mather was very limited. We found a rock island with barely enough flat gravel to pitch tents. Otherwise we'd be camping on snow or cowboy camping on the rock islands. Pass itself was steep snow traverse bit had good kicked steps and holes for ice axe, only the left route was apparent others may have melted. Descent was very gradual with some rock scrambles made challenging by snow bridges and water. Melting snow bridges may pose problems for getting around rocky portions of the trail.</p> <p><b>6/25/17 (Ten Gallon)</b> : Very steep, took path across the snow and rock fields up the left side around the lake. Definitely advise ice axe and boot traction for the ascent if you are doing it when it is icy. The advantage is that there were some very well-cut boot prints all the way through the snow, our group actually felt more unsafe on the rocks than the snow.</p> <p><b>6/17/17 (Jukebox &amp; Snak Blok)</b> : we climbed early in the morning and took left side trail up. Good tracks but they could be hazardous in the future so use judgement as this route is not the official PCT route. Descent was not very steep and more then doable.</p> <p><b>6/15/17 (Crash)</b> : two route options. The one we did at 5am, traversing the left side with great steps. The other zigzagging up the middle. I would try to cross in the morning for harder snow conditions. Enough dry spots within 2 miles of the summit to facilitate this.</p> <p><b>6/14/17 (Snitch)</b>: Very long and steep climb. Luckily we found perfect footsteps, so we could climb the pass safely within 45 minutes in the morning. Camped just below on exposed rocks (no water, had to melt snow). It took other hikers, who made these steps in the afternoon, two hours. We did not see an overhanging cornice, but we also climbed well off trail on the west side of the pass.</p> <p><b>6/12/17 (Crush)</b> : Well defined traverse cut in snow on the left when approaching from the south. The final few yards are steep cut into the cornice. Snow/ice covers both north and south faces as well as the top.</p> <p><b>5/31/17 (John Colver)</b> : The snow conditions were very good this morning after a cold night. We have cloud cover as well, which is keeping us and the snow cool. The pass was hard work to climb and the actual summer trail had an overhanging cornice, so we climbed to a point 100 feet west of the center of the pass on 50 degree slopes. This pass was more exposed and steeper than any pass yet. We kicked a trail in the snow which should last some days. Of all the passes so far, it's my estimation that Mather will be the most challenging for north bound hikers. No part of the actual trail is visible on either side. The north side is mellow for descending and climbing. The critical safety factor for SoBo will be to know that the cornice is not visible from the north. The safe point on the pass now is the west side of pass. Every other part is overhanging on the lee side (the south-facing slope)</p> <p><b>5/25/17 (Dan Winsor)</b> : Video <a href="https://vimeo.com/220157705">https://vimeo.com/220157705</a></p>	7/16/17	Lauren
H11	831.0	8,751	Bishop Pass [6.5 miles east of PCT junction]	<p><b>6/15/17 (Snitch)</b>: Trail from junction on 8,700 ft till ~10,500 ft (three miles switchbacks) mostly snow free. A swift and steep creek crosses the trail, but crossing a bit upstream was not a problem. Three more miles gradual climb led us to the pass. Only downhill there were some steeper sections, where microspikes/crampons and ice ax required. Five miles behind the pass we arrived at the trailhead. In general a nice and relatively easy exit.</p> <p><b>6/3/17 (John Clover)</b>: I have also heard that Bishop Pass is steep with cornice on east side, but have not seen it</p>	6/15/17	Snitch

H12	838.6	11,974	Muir Pass	<p><b>10/9/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b>: Sobo, mi 857.7 Muir Ranch Junction to mi 838.6 Muir Pass to mi 827.4: Trail is 99% free of snow except 4 to 5 big patches on the north side (downhill Muir Pass for sobo or uphill for nobo), you can walk around it or on snow. Non technical. Just be careful on rocks. . Water crossing is not a concern, via logs or rock hops. .</p> <p><b>7/7/17 (Will)</b> : 3.5 miles of snow on the south side and 6 miles of snow heading towards Evolution Lake. That's 9.5 miles of snow! Just a very long period of snow. Not especially steep, etc..., just really long.</p> <p><b>6/30/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : Still 4 miles of snow south and 6 miles north of the hut. However the boot path comes pretty close to the edge of some melting and crumbling snow bridges so take caution. Ford to the other side of the basin 6 miles from the hut on the north side was knee deep but slow flowing water.</p> <p><b>6/27/17 (Ten Gallon)</b> : Longest pass approach yet, snow fields for several miles on either side. Path was well-cut and not terribly steep at any point, just long. The snow is pretty much gone on the backside by the far end Evolution Lake.</p> <p><b>6/13/17 (Crush)</b> : Summer trail completely covered in snow ~4 miles south of pass and ~6 miles north of pass.</p> <p><b>6/1/17 (John Colver)</b> : Walked from Glacier Creek to Muir Pass today. We had mainly bare trail until Big Pete meadows. Plenty of trees fallen by avalanches. Snow level at Muir Pass is about 3 meters. It's same height as top of door on hut. Last visible trail was 4 miles north at 9500 feet. Beautiful weather today. The rain yesterday, firmed up the snow, so good walking. Was starting to posthole a bit at 5 p.m. as I approached the pass. No creek crossings today, all still covered by snowbridges. Headed to Evolution Valley and Creek tomorrow and day after.</p> <p><b>5/26/17 (Dan Winsor)</b> : <a href="https://vimeo.com/220158341">https://vimeo.com/220158341</a></p> <p><b>5/21/17 (Anyia)</b> : Tons of snow</p>	10/9/17	Optimistic Turtle
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H14	850.9	9.201	<p>Evolution Creek Ford [sometimes difficult, alternate ford crosses Evolution Creek near mi 850.1]</p>	<p><b>10/9/17 (Optimistic Turtle):</b> Mid calf deep, ford no issue.</p> <p><b>7/7/17 (Will)</b> : definitely do the long wade/ alternative crossing. The normal crossing is both fast and deep right now.</p> <p><b>7/2/17 (Annie V.)</b> ; Evolution Creek Alternate was stomach deep but slow moving. Good place to swim after crossing.</p> <p><b>6/30/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> ; Easy to cross on alternate trail. Some marshy stuff to slog through, a couple sections shin to knee deep and the biggest section about 15 yards across was waist deep on 5'7" hiker. Flow was moderate and not too forceful through all sections. Crossing at the regular place looked like it would be at least chest deep if not deeper and flowing strongly but not whitewater.</p> <p><b>6/28/17 (Ten Gallon)</b> : Alternate through meadow is crotch deep at noon, very manageable current, but watch out for sudden drop-off points by the far shore (if you're northbound), or else you might fall up to your midriff.</p> <p><b>6/24/17 (Pano)</b> : We crossed that alternate crossing (850.1) easily at noon. Water was 3.5 feet at deepest but slow moving. The friendly ranger at McClure Meadows said peak flow for most streams was midnight, low flows at noon.</p> <p><b>6/18/17 (Jukebox &amp; Snak Blok)</b> : Also crossed 5 miles upstream where water was crotch deep for a few moments then bush whacked back to PCT. There was one crossing where you need a partner to cross with.</p> <p><b>6/16/17 (Crash)</b> : alternative location. Waste deep and slow moving. Easy crossing at noon. Additional: night of the 15th was the first above freezing temperatures above 10,000ft we experienced.</p> <p><b>6/15/17 (Dan D)</b> : Raging river and borderline impassable at the official crossing, neck deep at the meadow alternate. We crossed ~5 miles upstream, as soon as the trail hits the valley floor after descending from Evolution Lake - it was shin-deep here. We then blazed a cross country trail along south side of Evolution Valley to rejoin PCT at 850.9. If doing this, there are 2 significant fords on south side of the valley. The first is waist deep with a strong, pushy current. The second can currently be easily crossed on a snow bridge.</p> <p><b>6/13/17 (Crush)</b> : Alternate Route Crossing: Easy to spot sign pointing out <b>Alternate Crossing</b>. Crossed at hard bend in creek at about 4:30 PM. Water was slow moving and ~2.5-3' deep at deepest with a sandy/small rock bed. No snow at either banks and easy entrance and exit.</p> <p><b>Primary Crossing:</b> We did not cross here, and while it looked like more difficult of a crossing (faster flow, large rocks to walk on and steep exit bank), water looked to be about 2' deep at deepest.</p> <p><b>6/3/17 (John Colver)</b> : We just crossed Evolution Creek near PCT/JMT crossing. The creek is 1 to 1.4 feet above the banks. We crossed at widest section on down stream side of bend. [Note: judging from the map that accompanied his message, it looks like they crossed well upstream of both of the usual summer crossings] Water was between chest and chin deep at deepest part of crossing, but slow moving. I am 5' 9". Two of our party are lighter and shorter so we worked as a team to assist each other. So it's doable solo, for some, others not. We crossed at 8 a.m. which was nice because sun is out and we rewarmed quickly. There were blocks of ice floating down! So as of today, the key hazards are the regular challenges of river crossing plus cold temperatures. This update is for June 3. It's clear that air temps are still cool (ice on tent at 9000 feet this morning) and it appears that peak snowmelt has yet to occur. While crossing was not difficult today, I expect this river will provide a significant challenge for Nobo PCT hikers currently south of Sierra and anyone doing JMT/PCT after peak snow melt occurs. Given the volume of snow, it seems this river could become impassable at this point by mid/end June. Further upstream (500 m), the creek breaks into several crossings which are less wide but with faster flow. These provide an alternative. In my experience, Evolution Creek was not difficult, but fordable with care and teamwork. The water is deep, but slow moving, due to the topography which creates large bends in a flat meadow.</p> <p><b>5/27/17 (Beta)</b> : Morning observation. Incredible flow. Impassable at trail crossing. Crossed Evolution Creek about 3.5 miles upstream of the meadow crossing (approximate location shown in blue in the top image below) on a solid snow bridge. Another snow bridge was noted about 3 miles upstream from the meadow crossing as well, but no others. After crossing, we followed the creek to the meadow crossing where we reconnected with the PCT.</p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>DoubleTap</b> : During peak snow melt season, the alternate crossing at Mile 850.1 is a much safer place to cross Evolution Creek compared to the PCT/JMT crossing.</p>	10/9/17	Optimistic Turtle
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H16	865.6	10,910	Selden Pass	<p><b>10/8/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : Sobo, mi 878.7 Mono Creek to Selden Pass to mi 857.7, Muir Ranch Junction. Trail is clear of snow except a big patch near north to Selden Pass, you can walk around it without touch any snow. Water crossing is not a concern, via logs or rock hops. Fall colors are amazing.</p> <p><b>7/2/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : there is low angle snow that we crossed in microspikes but without ice axes for 1 mile south of the pass along with a small amount of hiking up a loose rocky slope. The top of the pass and several switchbacks leading up to it are dry. There is about 20 yards of steep snow north of the pass for which some may like an axe but it can be cautiously traversed with just poles. Afterwards it is 2.1 miles of gradual snow descent north of the pass.</p> <p><b>6/28/17 (Ten Gallon)</b> : Very manageable, couple of miles of snowfields over the creek and the lake. The path is not as well-cut as previous passes, but it is fairly obvious where the pass is. The biggest danger in the upcoming weeks will probably be melting snowbridges. The backside is a little steep for the first 0.1 mile, and the snow disappears after Marie Lake.</p> <p><b>6/14/17 (Crush)</b> : Snow on either side of pass for ~3 miles. Last mile is a mixture of snow and rock scrambling with the top of the pass snow free.</p> <p><b>6/4/17 (John Colver)</b> : Crossed Selden Pass today (nobo). So very beautiful with trees all the way. Snow on south face is disappearing and exposing sections of trail. North side all snow. Lakes at 10,000 feet on either side all frozen over. Going to look at Bear Creek in the morning and expect it isn't fordable, but want to see it. Muir Trail Ranch reports their water level meter for the San Joaquin River has risen one foot in 24 hours confirming the sudden rise in creek levels this past couple of days.</p>	10/8/17	Optimistic Turtle
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H17	869.2	9,574	Bear Creek	<p><b>7/3/17 (Annie V.)</b> : Going downstream from trail crossing, crossed first split then crossed entire log crossing, which involved a smaller log and then a very large downed tree. Other people crossed through water, holding onto tree.</p> <p><b>7/2/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : Overall it was a easy crossing. There was an arrow pointing downstream at the summer crossing with the word "log." There is a large downed creek across a portion but there is still a portion that needs to be forded. The fording was knee to thigh deep and the water was moderately flowing. There appeared to be a lot of options to safely ford or cross logs both up and downstream of the trail.</p> <p><b>6/29/17 (Ten Gallon)</b> ; Bear Creek is passable near the PCT intersection. I crossed 100yds up from the intersection where the creek is split by a thin strip of land on the farther side - it was around 10am. I'm 5'6 and it only reached mid-thigh. The other hiker I was with walked downstream about 50yds and crossed over a log, said he didn't even take his boots off, although it probably wouldn't be passable.</p> <p><b>6/28/17 (Finesse)</b> : The creek forks a couple of hundred yards downstream from the official crossing. Cross over the first portion onto an island. Just before the fork rejoins, there is a newly fallen tree that you can walk to get over the second fork. Be cautious, and you should be fine.</p> <p><b>6/16/17 (Crash)</b> : Bear creek is crossable. I crossed upstream at the tributaries. The first crossing under the waterfall in a meadow. It was still water and shin deep. The second crossing is on a large log totally above the water line. Bear Creek has another possible crossing not far up from the summer crossing. It is a couple of logs suspended about 6-8ft above the water. It looks like it would be nasty if you slipped.</p> <p><b>6/15/17 (Dan D)</b> : If taking the alternate around Bear Creek via VVR and Goodale Pass, there is also a significant water crossing after Graveyard Meadow. Ford the creek from west to east as soon as you reach the meadow.</p> <p><b>6/14/17 (Crush)</b> : Crossed about 100 yards upstream of summer trail crossing right before river splits in two (recombines shortly before summer trail crossing). At this crossing, water was about 2.5-3' deep at deepest and about 30 yards across. No snow on either bank and easy entrance/exit. Crossed stream around 2:30PM and flow was moderate, but not overwhelming with a long runout with ample time to recover if one were to slip. Summer trail crossing looked slightly more difficult with a slightly higher flow, perhaps a little deeper. Still ~30 yards across with easy entrance/exit.</p> <p><b>6/6/17 (John Colver)</b> : See video of Bear Creek at PCT Water/Fire/Passes/Fords page or on John Colver's Facebook/Instagram. It seems that North Fork of Mono Creek and Bear Creek (at the PCT crossing) will remain impassable until water levels recede. We had just crossed the multiple streams from Little Italy drainage (all difficult and an hours worth if effort to go 1/2 mile). This is just about 200 meters from Bear Creek Trail junction. The tributaries were so frequent and forceful that we decided to go over Bear Ridge Trail to Edison Lake - to try and gain a respite from water. We were very tired from the multiple creek crossings. An alternate route to avoid Bear Creek from Bishop Pass north, or an entrance from the west (Florence Lake or Edison Lake) would be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) From Muir Trail Ranch take Florence Lake Trail to Florence Lake Resort – 9 miles (or 4.5 miles once Ferry is operating).</li> <li>2) Road walk north (or hitch) 13 miles to Thomas Edison Lake.</li> <li>3) Take Goodale Pass Trail to rejoin JMT/PCT at 10545 elevation 1 mile north of Silver Pass.</li> </ol> <p><b>6/4/17 (John Ladd)</b> : Report of PCT hiker (a Brian) <b>unable to find passage across Bear Creek</b>, walked back though Florence. North Fork of Mono Creek also problematic, the tree that served as a bridge washed out a couple of years ago and it is raging. Inyo County SAR stressed with PCT and early hiker rescues.</p> <p><b>5/29/17 (Dan Windsor)</b> : Easily crossable snow bridges about 0.7 miles upstream of Bear Creek trail crossing. Many snow bridges to cross that will persist for weeks, BUT crossing was a mistake. A steep drop downhill brought us to the Bear Creek crossing which was a bit of a debacle. <a href="https://vimeo.com/220137305">Video at https://vimeo.com/220137305</a>.</p>	7/3/17	Annie V.
H17	870.4	9,345	Hilgard Branch Ford	<p>~2' deep at deepest with a low-moderate flow. Two crossings within 100 yards, both are nearly identical in terms of flow. Second crossing is slightly slippery with a smooth rock bottom.</p>	6/14/17	Crush

H18	874.5	9,874	Trail junction to VVR (VVR another ~7 miles from trail junction) (VVR Website : <a href="http://www.edisonlake.com/">http://www.edisonlake.com/</a> )	<p><b>VVR is open</b> and has packages for hikers (plus food and amenities). Ferry info at <a href="http://www.edisonlake.com/hikers/ferry">http://www.edisonlake.com/hikers/ferry</a></p> <p>Schedule: Begins Service June 1st 2017 - Ends Oct 1st 2017 Leaves the resort at 9:00 and 4:00 daily Pick-up Mono Headwaters (back of the lake) at 9:45 and 4:45 daily</p> <p>Should you arrive at the Mono Creek landing side with a large group outside of these times, please call 559-259-4000 for pickup. (AT&amp;T only) Pick up location is the flag on the beach. Fare for the water taxi is \$13 per person one way, \$23.00 round trip, and can be purchased in the general store before and after your ride. NO Reservations needed. NO reservations or pre-payment are needed just pay for your ride at the store before or after you have ridden the water taxi. Unless it is a Special Ferry Request. (Minimum \$75.00 charge) call 559 259-4000 to schedule. Special Ferry runs can be arranged throughout the day. The charge is \$13.00 per person, with a \$75 minimum.</p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>7/2/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : Switchbacks are free of snow and dry other than a few small creeks that are easy to cross. <b>6/16/17 (Crush)</b> : They are not sure when the ferry will start operating so don't count on it in the next week or two. Also, should note that the switchback descent along the PCT around miles 875 were among the steepest snow descent yet. Definitely recommend ice ax + crampons depending on time of day.</p>	7/2/17	Team Two Poles
<b>GOODALL PASS ALTERNATE (from VVR)</b>						
<b>6/8/17 (John Colver)</b> : From the lake this morning we enjoyed bare trail for about 4 miles and then perfect snow conditions All the way up to an over Goodale Pass. The pass is a lovely broad pass and it was interesting to see sand and sandstone.						
H18	879.4	7,972	N Fork Mono Creek Ford	<p><b>7/4/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : Easy crossing on log less than .1 miles upstream of trail crossing. <b>6/27/17 (Pano)</b> : The log just upstream of the standard crossing was easy, although one in our group forded the standard crossing at 9am. The water was 3 feet deep and fast-moving. <b>6/18/17 (Crash)</b> : There 3 logs less the 0.1 miles upstream of the first mono crossing that make it easy. <b>6/6/17 (John Colver)</b> : It seems that North Fork of Mono Creek and Bear Creek will remain impassable until water levels recede. <b>6/4/17 (John Ladd)</b> : Report of PCT hiker (a Brian) unable to find passage across Bear Creek, walked back though Florence. North Fork of Mono Creek also problematic, the tree that served as a bridge was washed out a couple of years ago and it is raging. Inyo County SAR stressed with PCT and early hiker rescues. <b>5/30/17 (Beta)</b> : Very early morning crossing on large log about 100 feet upstream. Creek raging below log.</p>	7/4/17	Team Two Poles
H19	881.5	8,993	N Fork Mono Creek Ford (2nd Ford)	<p><b>7/4/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : Cairn marks spot on trail .1 miles from trail crossing where there is a good log crossing. Short rock scramble to return to trail on the other bank. <b>6/27/17 (Pano)</b> : We crossed downstream of the trail crossing at 10am. The creek splits into three channels. Two were less than knee-deep fords, and one was a rock hop. Just downstream of these splits was a log that appears to be the easiest and definitely the driest option. Also, further down, you could wade across the slow-moving water in Pocket Meadow. <b>6/18/17 (Crash)</b> : I also crossed silver in the meadow on snow bridges. The water looked knee deep. <b>5/30/17 (Beta)</b> : Crossed about a half-mile before the trail crossing on a large snow bridge. Bridge wouldn't persist for more than a couple weeks.</p>	7/4/17	Team Two Poles
H19	882.6	9,694	Silver Pass Creek	<p><b>7/4/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : waterfall over trail, easy to ford across but cold from the mist and has very bad runoff. <b>6/27/17 (Pano)</b> : We crossed at 10:30am without issue. It was a straightforward wade in slow-moving water, 2.5 feet at the deepest point. <b>6/25/17 (Dropout)</b>: Silver Pass Creek is no longer a problem. Snow has melted completely on the waterfall. Creek is running strong over the trail and it is knee-deep but easy to walk through. From VVR to Mammoth we had no problems with creek crossings. Silver Pass was also an easy walk up. <b>5/30/17 (Beta)</b>: Most dangerous and intimidating encounter we faced up to Mammoth. Used planted ice axe to lower into the waterfall jet. Stepped across exposed slippery rocks above trail to a fallen tree we could use as a handrail with the waterfall at our backs. A slip would've been fatal. No alternate that we could find. Once the snow is gone from this section, the crossing will be safer but still loud, wet, and cold.</p>	7/4/17	Team Two Poles
H19	884.9	10,704	Silver Pass	<p><b>7/4/17 (Team Two Poles)</b> : Easy pass, not steep but still 2.1 miles of snow on south side and about 3 miles of snow on north side including some tricky snowy route finding through forest on steep terrain. <b>5/30/17 (Dan Winsor)</b> : <a href="https://vimeo.com/220159403">https://vimeo.com/220159403</a></p>	7/4/17	Team Two Poles

H20	888.6	9249	Fish Creek [Steel Bridge]	Cold Creek and Fish Creek were raging, but not overflowing their banks.	6/8/17	John Colver
H22	906.7	7669	Reds Meadow <a href="https://www.nps.gov/depo/planyourvisit/hours.htm">https://www.nps.gov/depo/planyourvisit/hours.htm</a>	<b>7/7/17 (Chris) : Reds Meadow store is open for hikers to pick up resupply boxes there</b> (even though the road down to Mammoth is closed). <b>7/6/17 (Devils Postpile Website) : The Reds Meadow Road remains closed to vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians.</b> Work is in progress to make necessary repairs and to assess storm damage after the substantial snowpack, flooding and resulting poor road conditions. Due to winter storm and flood damage and prioritization of trail repairs including Rainbow Falls, <b>the monument's 20 site campground is not anticipated to reopen in 2017.</b> ----- <a href="https://www.nps.gov/depo/planyourvisit/reds-meadow-and-devils-postpile-shuttle-information.htm">https://www.nps.gov/depo/planyourvisit/reds-meadow-and-devils-postpile-shuttle-information.htm</a>	7/7/17	Reds Meadow Resort & Pack Station
<b>JOHN MUIR TRAIL ALTERNATE</b> <b>Mile 909 (John Colver, 6/19/17) :</b> A quick trail report from JMT just south of Garnet Lake. There is a big change in sun-exposed trails between 8,000 and 9,000 feet - from Agnew Meadow to Shadow Lake – now 90% snow free. However, shaded forest trails at the same elevations are still 40% covered in snow. At about 9,000 ft elevations, sun-exposed trail is about 50% snow free while forested trails are 90% snow covered. Above 10,000 feet, everything snow covered. Up that high, it looks about the same as three weeks ago. The chief difficulty is navigation and increasing unreliable snow bridges. Shadow Lake at 8700 feet is almost melted out. Lake Ediza at 9300 mostly ice. Garnet and Thousand Island lakes are completely frozen over. It's beautiful – but sure does look like the middle of winter above 10,000 feet. I climbed Mt Ritter yesterday and also noticed that while snow at 10 to 11,000 feet has consolidated well, snow above 12,000 feet hasn't seen many melt/freeze cycles and is now being exposed to high heat, both day and night, for the first time. The result is that I witnessed high snow instability on south facing slopes. I was able to use rocks as alternative, but those slopes were unsafe, so I presume the same is true of slopes like Mather and Glen. A wet slide avalanche may be a small problem on a benign slope, but on passes like Mather, Forester and Glen – these slides could take a hiker over an edge, or into rocks. Just a caution for anyone traveling these spots to know avalanche awareness and avoidance. I'll send any updates as I see new conditions. I believe [have heard?] the bridge on PCT over Minaret Creek has been washed away. Apparently the creek is waist deep and fast moving. <b>Mile 909, Minaret Creek (6/5/17 : Dan Winsor) :</b> hiked one of the most heinous little sections of hiking the PCT so far. From Devil's Postpile to Agnew Meadows... 5.8 miles that took 10 hours! Ugh. The biggest part of the day was spent finding a way across Minaret Falls. The footbridge there has been washed away from the largest creek that leaves the falls. The "wade" across that creek is probably 6-7 feet deep in swift water. There is a log across the deep section, but it's small and unstable. Downstream we found a deeper section (10 ft) with a slightly bigger log to pony our way across, followed by a 3 foot wade to... More shallow wading. It was a wet morning.						
H25	924.6	10,227	Island Pass	Not bad at all, just a lot of snow like everything else, not steep or dangerous, it's so flat you might not even realize you are going over island pass.	6/13/17	Pirate
H25	925.9	9,645	Rush Creek Trail junction	The Inyo National Forest, through a forest order, is closing segments of the Rush Creek Trail for public safety from June 30, 2017 through September 1, 2017. See <a href="http://www.sierrawave.net/inyo-national-forest-closes-segments-rush-creek-trails/">http://www.sierrawave.net/inyo-national-forest-closes-segments-rush-creek-trails/</a> for more info.	6/30/17	Sierra Wave Media
H25	926.9	10,069	Rush Creek Ford	<b>6/28/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox) :</b> multiple snow bridges across Creek however at some locations snow was getting thin at crossings. <b>6/14/17 (Pirate) :</b> Not a problem, did not get wet, there are thick snowbridges	6/28/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox
H25	929.5	11,073	Donohue Pass	Donohue Pass and surrounding trail is only an estimated 1% water, ice, or mud. No condition requires special equipment or navigation. All conditions could easily be traversed in trail runners and hiking poles. All elevations within the section are experiencing night-time temperatures well below freezing. 10-day forecasts for the area predict sun with partial clouds for the next couple of days and then a 50% chance or greater for precipitation for two days.	10/15/17	Just Jon
H25	931.2	10,186	Lyell Fork Ford	<b>6/29/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox) :</b> still plenty of snow bridges remain <b>6/14/17 (Pirate) :</b> Not a problem, plenty of snow bridges		Snak Blok & Jukebox
	936.0		Ireland Creek	<b>6/29/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox) :</b> stable log just upstream of PCT remains <b>6/14/17 (Pirate) :</b> Was an easy cross. A good log lay across the creek just upstream of the PCT and there was a wider, fordable portion just downstream.	6/29/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox
<b>10/3/17 (Optimistic Turtle) :</b> 10/2-3/2017 --> Sobo mi 942.5 Hwy 120 Tuolumne Meadows, Donohue Pass, Island Pass to Red's Meadows bus JMT alternate is clear of snow, only a few thin snow/ice patches. Although it snowed just now 4PM on 10/3/17. Please add night temperature is below freezing. Please find cover from wind.						
H27	942.5	8,596	<b>Highway 120 (CALTRANS : <a href="http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi?roadnumber=120&amp;submit=Search">http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi?roadnumber=120&amp;submit=Search</a>)</b>	<b>The Tioga Road in Yosemite National Park (Highway 120 through the park) will open for the season to all vehicular traffic beginning at 8 a.m. on Thursday, June 29.</b> <b>Wilderness ranger on phone in Yosemite said Tuolumne Meadows Post Office is closed until Aug 1st. All packages that were sent there are st Yosemite Valley Post Office (per Annie V. on 7/6/17)</b> ----- <b>6/14/17 (Pirate) :</b> Section from Mammoth to Tuolumne Meadows was pretty easy and straight forward, all the snow has been removed from the 120 hwy but it still remains closed to the public, ranger vehicles can go through though, there is no one in Tuolumne Meadows yet, the only person I saw was the ranger. <b>5/25/17 (Henry) :</b> We hiked out on the closed highway 120 to Lee Vining. The highway was covered by 9 feet of snow for the first miles.	6/28/17	
<b>6/15/17 (Ben) :</b> video of creek crossings from Tuolumne Meadows to Sonora Pass at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bigbenbrewing/videos/10155575445179248/">https://www.facebook.com/bigbenbrewing/videos/10155575445179248/</a>						
	944.2		Delaney Creek	<b>6/30/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox) :</b> we crossed using I-formation at PCT crossing, water was knee high on 5'-10" hiker <b>6/17/17 (Fox) :</b> Was an easy ford, with relatively slow water up to my waist.	6/30/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox

I1	947.0	8,303	Wooden Bridge over Tuolumne River	<p><b>6/30/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox)</b> : water was just below bridge and fully usable.</p> <p><b>6/17/17 (Fox)</b>: Was very high and up over the bridgehead of the second bridge. With a waterfall just below, I decided to bypass the bridges and head downstream to Glen Aulin camp and cross the smaller Conness Creek. The bridge across this creek was destroyed, but the water was slow and it was a pretty easy ford. The lower bridge across the Tuolumne River had water cresting over both bridgeheads but it was otherwise intact.</p> <p><b>5/25/17 (Henry)</b>: Tuolumne river is running strong. The two foot bridges at mile 947 and 948.3 were partly flooded thigh deep. At the first bridge, we had to climb up a snow chute with crampons on the other side. At the second bridge, we couldn't reach the other side of the trail, but climbed up a rock wall to the side. After setting up camp, me, yukon jack and yukon jane decided to turn around to not get caught between rivers in this section later on. When we crossed the river again next early morning, the water level had not dropped. That was thursday and friday this week. The nights were warm and by 8 a.m. the snow was getting soft and slushy. We do not encourage hikers to hike this section, as the melt seems to get faster every day. If you go in, be prepared to have to turn around.</p>	6/30/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox
	956.0		McCabe Creek	<p><b>6/30/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox)</b> : followed Creek upstream for a mile. There was a log bridge that other hikers after us used however we deemed unusable so we crossed .1 mile upstream. Very easy ford. Hint - if you wish to use this location review topography map and don't consider to come to river as you'll just have to climb all the way back up to get to location where we crossed.</p> <p><b>6/17/17 (Fox)</b> : Was running high and very fast. I had to hike upstream nearly a mile from the PCT before the topography flattened out and I could safely cross. The water was still relatively swift and up to my thighs.</p> <p><b>6/3/17 (Bin Chicken)</b>: Walked a mile upstream as fox suggested but we were able to cross on a log. We crossed at 5:45pm on June 3.</p>	6/30/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox
I3	956.2	8,531	Ford a Creek (Return Creek)	<p><b>7/1/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox)</b> : crossed upstream .5 miles where official PCT crossing was using I-formation and water came up to mid thigh on 5'-10" hiker.</p> <p><b>6/17/17 (Fox)</b> : Was running high and very fast. I had to hike upstream nearly a mile from the PCT before the topography flattened out and I could safely cross. The water was still relatively swift and up to my thigh.</p> <p><b>6/3/17 (Bin Chicken)</b> : Walked 0.3-0.4 miles from pct and crossed on a log. Crossed at 7pm June 3</p>	7/1/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox
	957.3		Spiller Creek	<p><b>7/4/17 (Haymaker)</b> : just go upstream to where the creek gets very wide over a series of slabs. Easy ankle deep crossing possible.</p> <p><b>7/1/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox)</b> ; crossed at PCT crossing water was just above knee high on 5'-10" hiker.</p> <p><b>6/18/17 (Fox)</b> : Was waist deep and fast, and the bottom was continuous rock that made traction difficult. I crossed a few hundred feet upstream of the PCT. This was the sketchiest ford in my opinion, but I didn't explore too far up/downstream so there may have been better options.</p>	7/4/17	Haymaker
	962.1		Matterhorn Creek	Was fast and thigh deep when I crossed at the PCT.	6/18/17	Fox
I4	963.9-965.3	~9,400	Wilson Creek	<p><b>7/2/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox)</b> : we only crossed Creek once instead of 3 times and we crossed on snow bridge.</p> <p><b>6/18/17 (Fox)</b> : I crossed only once, on a snow bridge early on.</p>	7/2/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox
I4	966.4	10,125	Bensen Pass	Not a steep climb up and had a false summit. Once you hit false summit, look left and you will see remainder of summit.	7/2/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox
	970.5, 971.6, & 972.3		Creek before Paiute Creek	<p><b>7/2/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox)</b> : We decided to stay on left side of creek as snow bridge on right from last report we deemed unusable. Went down boulders but had to cross snow bridge that was mid-break to get on other side of Creek. A fall would be catastrophic.</p> <p><b>6/18/17 (Fox)</b> : Was heavily snow-bridged higher up. I crossed it only once, rather than three times like the PCT.</p>	7/2/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox
I4	972.5	~8,000	Paiute creek	mild flow, dry crossed via logs.	9/30/17	Optimistic Turtle
<b>10/1/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : Sobo mi 974.8 Small Lake to mi 942.5 Hwy 120 Tuolumne Meadows is clear of snow.						
	979.8		Kerrick Creek [sometimes difficult]	looked ankle to knee deep, mild flow. Dry crossed via rocks.	9/29/17	Optimistic Turtle
	982.3		Creek in Stubblefield Canyon	does not require fording. Dry crossing options exist within a few hundred feet both up and down stream.	10/13/17	Jon
	985.5		Creek in Tilden Canyon	<p><b>7/3/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox)</b> : July 3, 2:15pm - water was slow moving and knee high at PCT crossing. July 3, 4pm - At Wilma Lake, the trail is completely submerged for roughly .2 miles. At crossing, water level is belly button deep on 5'-10" hiker. The remaining flooded section is shin deep.</p> <p><b>6/19/17 (Fox)</b> : Was waist deep but slow, an easy ford.</p>	7/3/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox
	987.4		Wide Creek	River crossing does not require fording. Pile of downed trees just a few feet down stream provided safe dry crossing (with assistance from hiking poles.)	10/9/17	Just Jon

18	997.0	9,531	Dorothy Lake Pass N boundary Yosemite NP	Pass has suncups, Pass was a wide open valley. If you've made it here, you've been here, done that...	7/4/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox
<b>9/29/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : Dorothy Lake Pass - Seavey Pass Sobo mi 1003.9 to mi 974.8 Small Lake * Dorothy Lake Pass is clear of snow, trail is not so muddy. * 0.2 mi around Seavey Pass has thin layer of snow/ice. I didn't use microspikes.						
	998.5 & 998.9		Cascade Creek	<b>7/4/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox)</b> : July 4 - 4pm - 1st crossing was extremely easy. 2nd crossing was just above knee level. We crossed just upstream of PCT crossing near bushes however it appeared multiple locations could be forded. <b>6/19/17 (Fox)</b> : Was avoided by hiking along Bonnie Lake from roughly mile 997.5, though the creek did appear snow-bridged higher up.	7/4/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox
	1002.4		Walker River	Had a bridge that was fully functional.	6/19/17	Fox
	1005.9		Kennedy Canyon Creek	<b>7/5/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox)</b> : July 5, 8am - still had one snow bridge left however was quite thin; wouldn't bank on this lasting long. Creek did appear to be fordable though. <b>6/19/17 (Fox)</b> : Was heavily snow-bridged near the PCT crossing.	7/5/17	Snak Blok & Jukebox
	1011.9			1011.87 per HikerBot. Trail is completely covered in iced-over snow for '100'-200'. (Black line in image)(@5:00pm) No existing secure footsteps to follow. Boots provided no grip. Hardware recommend. Possible alternate might be to cut up to higher altitude and bisect problem area through tallis (*sp) 800' prior to western trail turn and come down (East) through slight valley to the north (green line in image).	10/7/17	Just Jon
110	1016.9	9,655	<b>Sonora Pass [Hwy 108] (CALTRANS : <a href="http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi?roadnumber=108&amp;submit=Search">http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi?roadnumber=108&amp;submit=Search</a>)</b>	<b>Hwy 108 at PCT is OPEN.</b> <b>10/10/17 (Eowyn)</b> : From Sonora Pass south to mile 1011 there is 70-80% snow coverage on north-facing slopes. Much of the snow is icy; microspikes recommended, especially for NOBOs (who will be hiking downhill on these snowy stretches). At mile 1011.9, there is a large, icy, potentially dangerous snow field that can be bypassed by hiking uphill (west of the trail). <b>10/7/17 (Just Jon)</b> : Mile 1016 to Emigrant Wilderness boundary (mi 1014) an estimated 80% of trail has snow, ice, slush, mud, or water on it. These conditions have covered some trail sections with very steep drops next to them. <b>9/27/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : Sobo, mi 1016.9 Hwy 180/Sonora Pass to mi 1003.9: * As ascending (go down for nobo), lots of mud! * Snow cover 90% from 2 to 6 in at high elevation about 9000 ft." * Snow moving. Postholing yes but only ankle deep, expect trail runners get wet slightly all day. * No navigation needed as follow footprints. I didn't use microspikes but I do carry them. * There are a few points higher than 10800 ft, but the actual Sonora Pass has a sign. As descending (go up for nobo) from official on trail Sonora Pass, gravel rocks walk, no mud. <b>7/5/17 (Snak Blok &amp; Jukebox)</b> : July 5, 9am - we began hiking trail and then eventually went straight up on snow into shale rocks. We then traversed over to trail where it continued with a slanted snow ridge walk that was tracked in. The remaining ridge walk on top was 30% snow covered; didn't pull out ice axes. On the descent, we bypassed Sardine creek / trail at mile 1015 and came down on the left where we hiked down near a rock face and glissaded. An easy pass. To avoid slanted ridge walk at beginning, one could also hike all the way to the top of the ridge and traverse on flat ground. Take your pick.	10/10/17	Eowyn
<b>9/27/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : Highest point before Sonora Pass at mi 1020.4 (10505 ft) to Hwy 180/Kennedy Meadows North mi 1016.9, snow cover 90% 2 to 3 in at high elevation. As descending lower (go in up for nobo), lots of mud! No navigation needed as follow footprints. I didn't use microspikes but I do carry them. No difficult postholing, expect trail runners get wet slightly.						
<b>9/26/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> * mi 1043.1 saddle above Noble Lake to mi 1021.81 (9747ft), snow cover 20% thinly 1 to 2 in. No navigation needed as follow footprints or trail visible. Trail occasionally quite wet due to melted snow in the form of mud. * mi 1021.81 (9747ft) to highest point before (sobo) Sonora Pass at mi 1020.4 (10505 ft), snow cover 80% 2 to 3 in. No navigation needed as follow footprints. I used microspikes sometimes but others didn't. No difficult postholing, expect trail runners get wet slightly. ** Temperature is warmer than South Lake Tahoe at high 30s at night. Sunny during the day. So beautiful up here (near Sonora Pass)!!!						
J4	1048.4	8,702	<b>Ebbets Pass [Hwy 4]</b>	<b>Hwy 4 at PCT is OPEN.</b>	7/5/17	CALTRANS
J8	1076.7	8,590	<b>Carson Pass [Hwy 88] (CALTRANS : <a href="http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi?roadnumber=88&amp;submit=Search">http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi?roadnumber=88&amp;submit=Search</a>)</b>	<b>9/24/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : mile 1065.5 Blue Lakes Road to 1043.1 saddle above Noble Lake, snow cover 20% thinly. No navigation needed as follow footprints or trail visible. Trail occasionally quite wet due to melted snow in the form of mud. Slower moving. Freezing temp at night, be prepared with right gear to stay warm. <b>9/23/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : Hwy 88 Carson Pass to mi 1065.5 Blue Lakes Road, snow cover 20% thinly. No navigation needed as follow footprints or trail visible. Freezing temp at night, be prepared with right gear to stay warm. <b>7/1/17 (Just Jon &amp; Spuds)</b> ; Snow was 50/50 from 1076-1081 with multiple water crossings above the knees and lots of 3" water on trail. 1081-1086 was all snow. Progress is slow. We were able to do 1081-1086 in the afternoon with almost no postholing and only slight sliding in boots alone. <b>Hwy 88 at PCT / Carson Pass is OPEN per CALTRANS</b>	9/24/17	Optimistic Turtle

<p><b>6/30/17 (Just Jon &amp; Spuds)</b> : Snow was 50/50 from <b>1076-1081</b> with multiple water crossings above the knees and lots of 3" water on trail. <b>1081-1086</b> was all snow. Progress is slow. We were able to do 1081-1086 in the afternoon with almost no postholing and only slight sliding in boots alone.</p> <p><b>10/1/17 (Just Jon)</b> : Between HWY-50 (1089) and HWY-88 (1076) an estimated 1% of the trail was covered in ice, snow, slush, mud, or water. No condition required special equipment or navigation. All conditions could be traversed easily even in trail runners. All elevations within the section appeared to be experiencing night-time temperatures well below freezing.</p>					
J10	1090.8	7,241	<p><b>Highway 50 (CALTRANS)</b> : <a href="http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi?roadnumber=50&amp;submit=Search">http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi?roadnumber=50&amp;submit=Search</a></p>	<p><b>9/23/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b>: Echo Summit at South Lake Tahoe to mi 1076.6 Hwy 88 Carson Pass, snow cover trail about 2-3 in. No navigation needed as follow footprints. Cold windy, 29F.</p>	9/23/17 Optimistic Turtle
<p><b>6/16/17-6/18/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : Desolation Wilderness mi <b>1095.5</b> to <b>1117.2</b> condition, the trail is covered by snow 99%, I crossed a few rivers (passable), and the 1% where I could see the trail is either flooded or blocked with falling trees. It is like a obstacle course.</p>					
K2	1101.6	7,776	Susie Lake outlet	Flowing fast and deep, easily crossed on log at trail crossing. Take care - outlet flows out over a waterfall! Entire TRT/PCT section is *covered* with downed trees, logs, floods, snow banks. Navigation is hard at times, very easy to lose the trail. Makes for slow progress.	6/27/17 Dan
K2	1102.2	7,682	Glen Alpine trail junction	Trail junction, flooded with water. Afternoon crossing utilized rocks and snow bridge. No issue crossing with boots on.	6/16/17 Optimistic Turtle
K2	1105.7	9,377	Dicks Pass	7000ft+ snow covered. Early start to avoid postholing late morning. Picture is uphill 1.2 mi from the pass. Navigation by Guthook and compass. Don't expect crushing miles in this area.	6/17/17 Optimistic Turtle
K3	1110.1	7,894	Middle Velma Lake Outlet	the boardwalk is broken but you can easily nimble your way across on logs	7/11/17 Haymaker
K3	1112.8	7,630	Phipps Creek (seasonal)	Lots of water, deep slow moving downstream. I crossed at downstream 500ft ish and found a log across the entire creek.	6/18/17 Optimistic Turtle
K3	1113.4	7,900	Seasonal Creek	Raging. Safe crossing via 6in thick snow bridges. If no snow bridges, there are two logs across at same location.	6/18/17 Optimistic Turtle
K4	1120.4	7,021	Miller Creek	Flowing hard and approx waist to chest deep. Only visible log crossing entire creek is partially submerged and very slippery. Opted for the "scoot across on my butt" technique.	6/28/17 Dan
K5	1122.1	6,973	Bear Lake Outlet	Moderately fast flow but an easy ford. Knee deep at trail crossing. Plenty of logs and rocks if you prefer to stay dry.	6/28/17 Dan
K5	1123.2	7,264	Seasonal Creek	5PM safe crossing via snow bridge. a few 6in thick snow bridges.	6/19/17 Optimistic Turtle
K5	1124.8	7,658	Barker Pass [RD1125]	Trail up from Bear Lake outlet is approx 50% snow covered. Some navigation required to find trail in shaded areas but generally not too bad.	6/28/17 Dan
<p><b>6/20/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : <b>Mile 1129.5</b> --&gt; Granite Chief Wilderness hike up condition: Initially follow the switchbacks till it disappeared by snow. Then free style up between soil and steep snow. I utilized the ice axe of my Whippet axe into the snow and climb up the high steep snow mountaineering style, it is easier than kicksteps potential falling. Optimistic Turtle (attached is pic from top, looks flat but way up is challenging. The last 0.2mi descending to the sign was very steep, crampon used, ramdon footprints and gravel walk (free style, be safe!)</p>					
<p><b>6/21/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : From Alpine Meadows Ski to Tinker Knob. Snow condition is about 50/50 snow covered. River crossing no issue at all. At times not even noticed crossing due to snow bridges. Trail where visible is often flooded. Tinker Knob to Donner Pass stretch, pretty dry. Either melt snow or get water ahead of time.</p>					
K7	1135.9	7,426	Five Lakes Creek	Crossed at summer location, boots off, no visible crossable logs found. No problem.	6/20/17 Optimistic Turtle
K7	1139.6	8,120	Headwaters of American River (Middle Fork)	snow covered, crossed without notice	6/21/17 Optimistic Turtle
<p><b>7/11/17 (Haymaker)</b> : Descent below squaw chair lifts is no big deal. You can stay mostly on rock and dirt through the steep part, with some standard easy downhill on snow. No special gear required, just a trekking pole or a good stick.</p>					
<p><b>6/29/17 (Dan)</b> : Mile <b>1140.5</b>, Squaw Valley ski lift. Descent beneath Squaw Valley lift should be tackled with extreme caution whilst snow is present. No visible trail, incredibly steep descent with potential for long, nasty falls and serious injury if not careful. Ice axe and crampons/spikes essential.</p>					
<p><b>6/20/17 (Dora the Explorer)</b> : Got back on trail near Truckee at Squaw Valley via the Granite Chief Trail on 6/16. I stopped by Squaw Valley because I ski there during the winter -- the resort is still open for skiing, usually on the weekend but on the occasional weekday. The staff mentioned they may not be letting people hike under the lift (<b>mile 1140</b>) since the Granite Chief lift is still operating. I don't know how they are enforcing this, but those hiking should be careful in watching out for skiers and be mindful of not destroying the terrain. This is expert terrain, so skiers will likely be moving quickly down steep slopes and maybe through the trees. The resort so far has no closing date but will certainly remain open through July 4th. From where I got back on trail (mile 1142), most of the trail was still covered in snow with no footprints. GPS and route-finding skills are a must. Trail crosses several steep, snow-covered, and exposed slopes. No steps have been kicked in yet. I would personally not attempt with anything less than crampons -- ice axe / whippet are needed.</p>					
K9	1157.1	7,114	Donner Pass [Hwy40, Hwy80, Truckee area]	<p><b>6/24/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : Noon crossing. There are two sections. I walked through with water shoes, Each one no higher than my mid thigh. No problem. After tunnel there is a creek crossing. 20ft upstream has a few dry logs, crossed with boots on. I found it refreshing crossed on a hot day. I40 Donner Pass to Peter Grubb Hut, About 60/40 snow covered. Need navigation. River crossing no problem.</p> <p><b>6/21/17 (Dora the Explorer)</b> : The two drainage tunnels that pass under i80 at around mile <b>1157</b> are overflowing right now. The water is very cold but slow-moving and the walk feels very long. I did the first tunnel barefoot but regretted it halfway when my feet went numb. It was knee-high in most places and a bit deeper in others. From Donner Pass onward (mile 1153), the route has patches of snow mixed with dry trail. After crossing I-80 and entering Tahoe National Forest (mile 1157), the backcountry is still covered in snow 4ft+ deep in most places. This is unlikely to melt soon. There are few tracks to follow. No dangerous creek crossings though. Starting at <b>mile 1179</b>, the trail clears up significantly. The descent into Sierra City is very clear. It's right around here when I needed to be mindful of water sources again.</p>	6/24/17 Optimistic Turtle
<p><b>9/29/17 (Just Jon)</b> : Between HWY-80 (1157) and HWY-50 (1089) an estimated 3% of the trail was covered in snow, slush, mud, or water. No condition required special equipment or navigation. All conditions could be traversed easily even in trail runners. All elevations within the section appeared to be experiencing night-time temperatures at or below freezing.</p>					
L1	1158.8	7,478	Upper Castle Creek	Crossed safely via snow bridge upstream near summer location (still a few available but there are rocks you can step on if you look).	6/24/17 Optimistic Turtle

L1	1164.4	7,559	Wooden Bridge over Seasonal Stream	Bridge intact. First 0.5 mi 100% snow covered need navigation. Then trail changed to 50/50. See trail, navigation no need. 7800ft up (southfacing) trail 99.9% clear till top. Downhill from mi 1166 100% snow covered to uphill mi 1168.2. Then snow free for 0.5 miles. Then 90% snow covered till mi 1173.7.	6/25/17	Optimistic Turtle
<p><b>6/26/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b> : from <b>1173.7 to 1179.4</b> about 50/50 snow covered. Still need navigation sometimes. After mi <b>1179ish</b>, NO SNOE!!!!</p> <p><b>7/4/17 (Dan)</b> : Sierra City to Belden (<b>1195.4 - 1284.3</b>), 99% snow-free. Some insignificant patches remain between <b>1207 to 1209</b>, but nothing that obscures the trail. Between <b>1209-1210</b> snow coverage approx 50%. Between <b>1213-1214.5</b>, snow coverage approx 90%. Trail obscured in places, generally still easy to follow. GPS navigation may be required sometimes. No need for axe/spikes/crampons. Lots of blowdowns in this section, but a walk in the park compared to the Desolation Wilderness obstacle course!</p> <p><b>6/26/17 (Give A Hoot)</b> : Snow report for the same section: trail was clear from <b>1195.4 to 1202.5</b> then patches until <b>1205.5</b> then mostly covered until <b>1215</b>. Clear from <b>1215 to 1217.2</b> then mostly covered from <b>1218.5 to 1221</b>. Basically clear from <b>1221 to 1261</b> except for about a mile of patches at <b>1226</b> and 1/4 mile at <b>1230.5</b>. In summary, snow remains on north facing and flat forested slopes above about 6750 feet. Some of the snow covered sections were in steep terrain and the trail traversed the slope. We chose not to follow the PCT track directly and there were some areas that required scrambling on rocks and off-trail travel down steep slopes. We had trekking poles but no microspikes or ice axes.</p> <p><b>6/18/17 from Mike &amp; Elizabeth 1195-1278</b>: We just hiked northbound from <b>Sierra City to Belden</b>. We started at the tail end of a storm, so there was snow on the ground from mile 1195 to 1202, but I suspect that it was all new snow and gone by now. There was snow almost non-stop from 1202 until 1222, with varying degrees of difficulty (snow fields, steep slopes, etc). The section from about 1219 to 1222 was especially difficult with traverses over steep sections (and the snow from the storm wasn't quite consolidated yet, so there was lots of slipping). Not much snow from 1222 until about 1226 (approximately from my memory), then several miles of snow with traverses again. Seemed easier than the prior section, but could be based on the time of day we hit it. Virtually no snow from 1234 to 1268, then snow until about 1275. This last section didn't have many traverses, mainly a ridge walk. There was one last traverse around mile 1278, then it's all downhill and no snow until Belden. Water was present at all sources in the water report and more. Only section we had to pay attention was during snowless section because there were some larger gaps, but all streams were running.</p> <p><b>6/29/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b>  mi <b>1195.4</b> Hwy49/Sierra City to mi <b>1203.2</b> No snow.  mi <b>1203.2 to 1205</b> patches of snow here and there, no spike used.  mi <b>1205.7 to 1206.2</b>, snow but you can walk the forest on the right avoid most of snow.  mi <b>1206.2 to 1215</b>, snow covered, spikes used, navigation sometimes. I went to the mountain top instead of trail sometimes.  mi <b>1215 to 1218.6</b> clear, no snow. A few falling trees.  mi <b>1218.6 1220.2</b>, it's free style. I skipped switchbacks, go to top uphill then right downhill at saddle. Down is steep so I skiped 4 downhill switchbacks by bushwack. I passed the stream and follow trail. This part snow is a little sketchy steep. Bushwack till switchback ended.  mi <b>1220.2 to 1221.1</b> switchbacks sometimes steep snow, I made my way down to bottom and got back to the end of the switchbacks.  mi <b>1221.1 to 1224</b> clear.</p> <p><b>6/29/17 (Malcolm)</b> : patches from <b>1268</b> to around <b>1275</b> but no real impact on navigation or travel.</p> <p><b>6/18/17 (Numbers)</b> <b>1295-1299</b>: Pockets of snow beginning at mile 1295.5. From roughly 1297 to 1299 (one mile on either side of summit) the entire trail is under several feet of snow. Snow line is at about 6600 ft. Microspikes and trekking poles are necessary, at minimum. Bring snow baskets for your poles if you can. Gps is an absolute must, as this heat can quickly melt footprints, and in some places they are easily lost (and sometimes they're wrong). Be prepared to kick your own steps. Some hikers may be more comfortable having an ice axe for a few sections.</p> <p><b>6/30/17 (Give A Hoot)</b> : Snow in patches around <b>1299</b> and <b>1319</b>. Some patches around <b>1299</b> were large but picking up the trail again was relatively easy.</p> <p><b>6/11/17 (Comma)</b> <b>1296-1306, 1317-1321</b>: Near continuous wayfinding required (Halfmile compass enabled diagram view worked very well) from <b>1296 to 1306</b> due to 0-10 feet of snow, many blowdowns big and small, and 3" new snow above 6,500 on Sunday June 11. I needed micro spikes and GPS navigation again <b>1317 to 1321</b> or so.</p> <p><b>7/4/17 (Salamander)</b>: There is no snow on the PCT left between Burney and Chester, <b>mile 1328 to mile 1408</b>.</p> <p><b>6/24/17 (Numbers)</b> : No snow from approx <b>1354 to 1446</b>.</p> <p>6/14/17 (Comma): Miles 1349-1356 have patchy snow (0-3 feet deep), about half the time the trail is easy to find and follow, the other half required GPS to find the trail (slow going)</p> <p><b>6/28/17 (Numbers)</b> : There are a half dozen or so small patches of snow on trail from <b>1446 to 1449</b>. Microspikes are not necessary, although sobos may want to exercise caution when descending the steps at 1448.8, or find/create a better route.</p> <p><b>6/19/17 (Comma)</b> <b>1446 - 1449</b>: Difficult navigation from just before 1446 to just after 1449 (2 hours), otherwise snow in this area is a non-issue. Friend said forest service road from 1444-1448 was challenging due to blowdowns and bush whacking. A summary comparison of three snowy spots between Belden and Castella: Between Belden and Chester is longest and middle hardest. Lassen Park is middle length but easiest. 1447 is shortest but most difficult. All are doable, but with the hassle of spikes and gps.</p>						
M10	1275.2	WACS1275	Clear Creek	tough to cross there is so much water, there is a small tree or knee high water if you walk through.	6/4/17	Pineapple
<p><b>6/19/17 (Comma)</b> : difficult navigation from just before <b>1446</b> to just after <b>1447</b> (2 hours), otherwise snow in this area is a non-issue. Friend said forest service road from <b>1444-1448</b> was challenging due to blowdowns and bush whacking.</p> <p><b>7/14/17 (Numbers)</b> : <b>1449 to 1597</b> (south of dunsmuir to etna). Approx half a dozen patches of snow, all brief and easily negotiable. No need for any snow gear.</p> <p><b>6/21/17 (Flow &amp; BamBam)</b>: Snow between <b>1445-1450</b> is now patchy. The trail is generally easy to follow, with only a few short stretches requiring routefinding.</p> <p><b>7/29/17 (High-Definition)</b> : NOBO to Etna. Only one snow patch about 3 miles to Sawyer Road. There was dirt, branches, and etc on it to make it easier to cross. Etna &gt;&gt; Seiad. There was about 6 patches of snow about mile <b>1624</b>. Two you can avoid, and all are easy to cross. After Marten Lake (post <b>1611</b>), there are reports of snow from 7/14 via Guthook but there was only two patches and it was easy to get across. Happy trails and thank goodness for less snow in NorCal!</p> <p><b>7/1/17 (Optimistic Turtle)</b>: Snow report 7/1-7/3/17, <b>Mi 1583.1</b> has snow for a small stretch, we rock scrambled to top to avoid all snow hike. Also <b>mi 1597.2</b> Etna Summit needs rock scrambled for about 0.5 miles to void snow. Other than that, <b>mi 1571.3 to mi 1597.2 are very clear</b>.</p> <p><b>7/3/17 (Mashed Potatoes &amp; Iron Man)</b> : 07/02: Approx <b>1614-1615</b>: Big snowfield SOBO Have fun glissading down. NOBO Stay on trail. No ice axe necessary but microspices are helpful. Approx <b>1624-1625</b>: Big and steep snowfield. Traverse carefully. We crossed without an ice axe, but we would love to have one. Microspices needed. <b>1594</b>: Multiple steep snowfield. Definitely microspikes needed. <b>1583</b>: Snowfield no ice axe but microspices needed. Stay away from the rocks, cause you might break through</p> <p><b>6/25/17 (Comma)</b> : Seiad Valley to Ashland is definitely doable. One really tricky snow spot at <b>1691.8</b> (stay below the trail). A couple other snow patches at 6,800 feet or higher, but no real problem. A couple places where it is easier to jump over to the road.</p> <p><b>6/20/2017 (Snotfish)</b>: <b>1684.7</b> - The snow south of Ashland started at mile 1705 and lasted until southbound to mile 1690 and again from mile 1684 to mile 1675. Take forest service road that runs parallel to trail to avoid the steep slopes that trail runs through.</p>						
<p><b>Oregon</b>  OREGON HIGHWAY STATUS --&gt; <a href="https://www.tripcheck.com">https://www.tripcheck.com</a></p>						
<p><b>6/17/17 (Salamander, 7Up, GPSy, Flatfoot)</b>: Mile <b>1705</b> Snow starts at 6500 feet at ca. Mile 1705, 2 days of snow hiking from Seiad to Ashland. Take Forest roads on these days, PCT is too steep. [They were hiking southbound from mile 1705 -Halfmile]</p> <p><b>6/20/17 (I-Beam)</b>: <b>1706 - 1771</b> - There were snow fields across the trail south of mile 1705.7. From 1705.7 to 1770.9 there is no snow on the trail.</p> <p><b>7/10/17 (Halfmile)</b> : <b>1795.8-1796.5</b>, snow covered E slope of Devils Peak. Easy series of 3 glissades down.</p> <p><b>7/25/17 (Josh &amp; Sara)</b> : Miles <b>1814-1820</b> now have very little snow remaining, no navigation needed.</p> <p><b>7/12/17 (Halfmile)</b> : About mile <b>1814-1818</b> is 70% covered with several feet of snow. Not steep, trekking poles helpful, navigation skill necessary. Alternate between Dutton Creek and Rim Village was not too bad. Mostly clear trail except for pretty solid snow covering the trail for about 1/2 mile toward the top. Trekking poles, navigation skills helpful.</p>						

**7/13/17 (Halfmile)** : The Rim Alternate (starting at mile **1820.5**) is mostly snow free from Rim Village to just before The Watchman. Starting around The Watchman is 3-4 miles of hikable but tiring snow, ending around Grouse Hill Camp.

**7/16/17 (Halfmile)** : Mount Thielsen area snow report. The Pacific Crest Trail is about 30-40% snow covered from mile **1849 - 60** with larger patches around 1851.4, 52.3, 53.6 & 58.3. Hiking was not too bad. We managed without snow gear by avoiding early morning hiking, but having gear might have been better.

**7/28/17 (Rebo)** : Spotted snow Mount Thielsen on north face coming down NOBO  
 Spotted Snow with a few 50-75 yard lengths  
 Starting South West base all along to the South East Base of Diamond Peak/Point Mountain  
 Both Diamond Peak and Thielsen are moderate  
 No steep falls..  
 rebo highly recommends the Pacific Crest Trail route as opposed to the Oregon Sky Line Alternate Route.  
 The Pacific Crest Trail is above tree line and has vast views plus less mozzies (skeeters)

**7/21/17 (Furball)** : Snow is patchy, with some snow fields up to 1/4 mile, from miles **1850-1859**. Navigation is helpful as it's easy to lose the trail in some of the snow patches. Traction might be helpful but there are enough footprints that they're not necessary.

**7/14/17 (GoalTech)** : According to rangers, the PCT is just now snow-free from Timberline Lodge (**Mile 2095**) to Paradise Park (**Mile 2100**, the worst snowy part) and also in the Indian Heaven area by Mt Adams.

**Washington**

**WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PASS HIGHWAY STATUS** --> <http://www.wsdot.com/traffic/passes/default.aspx>

	2254-87	~6,000-7,000	Goat Rocks Wilderness	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
H20	2292.4	4,409	<b>White Pass [Hwy 12]</b> (WA DOT: <a href="http://www.wsdot.com/traffic/passes/white/default.aspx">http://www.wsdot.com/traffic/passes/white/default.aspx</a> )	<b>Hwy 12 at PCT is OPEN.</b>	6/11/17	WA DOT (Department of Transportation)
I4	2321.0	5,434	<b>Chinook Pass [Hwy 410]</b> (WA DOT: <a href="http://www.wsdot.com/traffic/passes/PassInformation.aspx#chinookpasssr410link">http://www.wsdot.com/traffic/passes/PassInformation.aspx#chinookpasssr410link</a> )	<b>SR-410 over Chinook Pass is now OPEN.</b> With snow in the forecast, drivers are advised to prepare for inclement weather when traveling over the passes. WSDOT maintenance crews will work over the weekend monitoring snow, slides and debris activity along the highway.	6/11/17	WA DOT (Department of Transportation)
I13	2380.9	3,582	Yakima Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
J1	2390.7	3174	<b>Snowqualmie Pass [I-90]</b> (WA DOT: <a href="http://www.wsdot.com/traffic/passes/snoqualmie/default.aspx">http://www.wsdot.com/traffic/passes/snoqualmie/default.aspx</a> )	<b>I-90 at PCT is OPEN.</b>	6/11/17	WA DOT (Department of Transportation)

**Mile 2391 : 5/30/17 (Uli)** : Ascended to **Kendall Katwalk** via the **Commonwealth basin**, then continued on the Ridge & Gravel Lakes, returned via the PCT back to the parking lot. This trail will require route finding skills and special gear for at least the next few weeks. Longer description: Trailhead parking area is still under 2-4 ft of snow, so park at the ski area or on the Alpental road. Bathrooms are locked for season, and there is no self registration at the trailhead. The registration box is still snow covered....The first 1/4 mile of the trail is mostly snow covered, but a boot track can be followed. The next mile is mostly melted out. The next mile after that is mostly snow covered, but again there is a boot track. At least until you get to the larger waterfall just before the junction with the Commonwealth Basin trail. Usually you can rock-hop the creek, but it is flowing so high there is no way to avoid getting wet feet. Unless you descend a few hundred feet and cross the creek on a log or questionable snow bridge. Shortly after the creek crossing you may run in the Commonwealth basin trail sign. At this point, or mostly at the waterfall, the boot track disappears. I just followed the PCT (approximately) until the switchback about 1/4 mile past the Comm. basin trail junction. At this point I went straight (towards Red Mtn) and eventually ascended the Valley to the right between Red Mountain and Kendall Peaks. I was on snow for all but 15 feet, all the way to the Katwalk. At this point this route is easier to find than trying to follow the PCT through the woods, as the trail is 100% snow covered. I did make extensive use of my ice axe and I wore Kathoola Crampons (the one inch steel kind, not microspikes) Once at the Katwalk (which is snow free) I continued on to Gravel / Ridge Lake. The first few hundred feet after the Katwalk are the crux, as you traverse 45 degree snow slopes with a fairly long run-out. After that just stay at about the Katwalk elevation, or a little higher, and eventually you will look down onto Ridge Lake. Back at the Katwalk I decided to try to take the PCT back down. Well, it took me 25 min for the first 1/4 mile as I had to kick steps into 45 degree snow slopes and use my ice axe as a safety hold. And that was on a very warm day. On a cooler day this snow will be very icy and dangerous without the right equipment. (see one of the pics). The west facing traverse below Kendall Peaks is still 100% snow covered. I decided to not go all the way into the forested area near Kendall Lakes, but to descend down the wide avalanche path before. I stayed to the right of the larger creek (from the viewpoint of descending), until I saw the creek crossing where the PCT crosses that creek. Knowing that following that creek would eventually lead to the top of a 100ft waterfall, I tried to follow the PCT (in the direction of Red Mtn). But it's 100% snow, so I lost the trail soon and eventually just descended the forest until I ended up near the Commonwealth Basin trail. Eventually found the PCT again and descended the last 2 or 2.5 miles on the trail. If you're comfortable with route finding, ice axe, and crampons, this is a great one to do now. If you prefer to just hike up a trail, check back in 4 weeks or so. But there might still be a lot of snow on the North-facing slope on that last 1/4 mile before the Katwalk. In some places there were still 10 - 15 ft of snow on the trail....

J5	2438.7	3,806	Potentially difficult Ford	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
J6	2445.7	5,933	Piper Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
K16	2461.6	4,053	<b>Stevens Pass [Hwy 2]</b> (WA DOT: <a href="http://www.wsdot.com/traffic/passes/stevens/default.aspx">http://www.wsdot.com/traffic/passes/stevens/default.aspx</a> )	<b>Hwy 2 at PCT is OPEN.</b>	6/11/17	WA DOT (Department of Transportation)
K16	2588.9	4,855	<b>Rainy Pass [Hwy 20]</b> (WA DOT: <a href="http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic/passes/northcascades">http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic/passes/northcascades</a> )	STATUS UPDATE - <b>OPENED</b> May 16, 2017 *Note for travelers bound further east of the North Cascades. SR 20 between Twisp (~44 miles east of PCT & Rainy Pass) & Okanogan is closed due to washouts and may remain so until late July. There is a detour using SR 153 and US 97, adding 24 miles.	5/16/17	WA DOT (Department of Transportation)

**10/13/17 (Ravensong)** : There is a foot of fresh snow on the PCT up north here. On the east facing slopes where snow remains from the last snowfall there is significant risk of avalanche over the next couple days. Like Rock Pass to Woody Pass. For anyone still on the trail look at alternate routes at low elevation such as the Ross Lake trail to get to Canada. The snow level currently is around 2500 feet. Hunters are ready for the hunting season, but have jackknifed and gone off road on the way to Harts Pass. Locals talk over and over about PCTers who consider only their own journey, and not the ramifications for family, friends and local SAR.

L1	2593.9	6,837	Cutthroat Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
L1	2596.3	6,263	Granite Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
L2	2599.3	6,593	Methow Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
L3	2609.7	5,581	Glacier Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
L4	2619.5	6,188	Harts Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
L5	2623.8	6,557	Buffalo Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
L5	2624.7	6,273	Windy Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
L5	2626.9	6,182	Foggy Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
L5	2627.6	6,265	Jim Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
L6	2633.0	5,066	Holman Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
L6	2636.5	6,502	Rock Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
L7	2639.1	6,651	Woody Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap
L7	2644.0	6,140	Hopkins Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap



L8	2646.4	5,460	Castel Pass	No updates sent in yet, send us updates & photos!	3/30/17	DoubleTap

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