www.pctwater.com

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

access down the Mt. Whitney Trail to Whitney Portal has been eliminated. Local agencies can still issue permits for access to and from Whitney Portal. Please read more at you need to know about access to Mt. Whitney at https://www.pcta.org/discover-the-trail/permits/pct-long-distance-permit/#whitney.

S: Camp high and start early to get up and over the need before the

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/

	DIA / KING Mile			://www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/trailcond.htm	Data	Penorted By
Мар		Elevation	Location	Report	Date	Reported By
	178.0	8,619	South Ridge Trail	No snow.	4/25/18	Cloud Rider
			San Jacinto Peak	From the top of Mt San Jacinto. I have good AT&T and weak T-Mobile signal here. I started from Humbar Park and made it here without using microspikes or ice axe without any problems.	3/28/18	Super Vegan
B9,10	~179-190		Mt San Jacinto, Fuller Ridge	Jacobson Science Science States and Jacobson Science S	5/17/18	
C13	313.6	WR0314	**Deep Creek ford			
D4	377.9	,,,,,	Mt Baden Powell	5/8/18 (Cloud Rider): No snow. 5/2/18 (Phoenix): It snowed on Baden-Powell recently (mile 377.9) but as of 4PM today, 5/2, the trail is almost entirely clear again already. No snow worth being concerned about. 4/26/18: No snow on trail.	5/8/18	Cloud Rider
	DIA / KING	S CANYON (SEK	I) TRAIL CONDITIONS PAGE> https:	s://www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/trailcond.htm		
G13			Road to Lone Pine from Horseshoe Meadows	Road is snow free and open.	5/28/18	Cloud Rider
G13	744.5	10,385	Mulkey Pass	5/28/18 (Cloud Rider): No snow on the approach. No snow at the pass. 5/23/18 (Lucky Duck): There is 3-7 inches of fresh snow (depending on where), and it's still snowing currently. 5/7/18 (Super Vegan): No snow on the PCT.	5/28/18	Cloud Rider
G13	745.3	10,486	Trail Pass	5/28/18 (Cloud Rider): No snow on the approach. No snow at the pass. 5/13/18: No snow between PCT and Horseshoe Meadows parking lot.	5/28/18	Cloud Rider
G14	750.2	11,132	Cottonwood Pass	Clear of snow.	6/22/18	Flying Turtle
5/24/18	(Silver) : E			uple of 10ft patches that have foot holes well worn in).	!	•
G15	760.5	9,584	Rock Creek	Easy to cross in the afternoon.	6/22/18	Flying Turtle
G16	761.8		Guyot Creek	Easy to cross in the afternoon.	6/22/18	Flying Turtle
H1	766.3	10,371	Crabtree Meadow / Whitney Creek	3:18PM : I crossed dry on a log 100 ft downstream from PCT because half of the step stones at PCT were under water.	5/8/18	Super Vegan
H1B	767.0		Mount Whitney / Trail Crest** [Trail Crest ~6 mi E of PCT on trail to Mt Whitney]	6/19/18 (Flying Turtle): Earlier reports good for western side & summit Info on the east side into Whitney Portal: several walls of snow covering the trail down to ~12, 000ft, descended by climbing across rocks/snow/ice sometimes, three bad sections on "switchbacks" where crampons would be helpful, but not necessary (if you are careful and cross slowly in the AM), other hikers echoed these comments significant water from top down to the Portal, numerous easy creek crossings (sometimes the trail is a couple inches underwater), recommend resupplying from Horseshoe Meadows. 6/11/18: Not a lot of snow on the trail up to Whitney. 6/9/18 (Squishy): Summited Mt. Whitney on 6/9 and there were some snow patches near guitar lake and up to trail crest - spikes not necessary. After trail crest there are a few sketchy snow spots. For the most part there are steps kicked in, but I felt more comfortable putting my spikes on, as did my hiking buddy.	6/19/18	Flying Turtle
H1	767.6	,	Seasonal Stream			
H1	770.3	·	Wallace Creek Ford	Easy to cross in the morning.	6/23/18	Flying Turtle
H1	771.0		Wright Creek Ford	Easy to cross in the morning.	6/23/18	Flying Turtle
H1	774.7	10,934	Tyndall Creek Ford [sometimes difficult]	Easy to cross in the morning.	6/23/18	Flying Turtle
НЗ	779.5	13,118	Forester Pass	Forrester Pass had 4 very small patches of easy snow to cross or walk around. The snow shute is above the trail only now.	7/8/18	Lickity Split
НЗ	~781.7	11,666	Creek draining center basin north of Forester Pass			

НЗ	784.0	10,536	Bubbs Creek Ford	Easy to cross in the afternoon.	6/23/18	Flying Turtle
H4	787.3	9,563	Cedar Grove Trail Junction (potential exit point to Roads End)	5/19/18: Hwy 180 is open This is your last chance to exit the Sierra westbound (for	5/19/18	CALTRANS (Department of Transportation)
			CALTRANS HWY 180 STATUS> http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads. cgi?roadnumber=180&submit=Search	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.		na sportation,
14	788.9	11,790	Kearsarge Pass** [2.9 mi E of PCT on trail to Onion Valley/Independence, CA]	6/2/18 (Sonic): No snow through 789.5 (Onion Valley Junction, 3rd trail to Kearsarge). Kearsarge Pass is Clear of snow! (YAY!!) 5/31/18 (Sashay & Skunkbear): Basically no snow from exit onto Bullfrog Lake trail to Onion Valley.	6/2/18	Sonic
1 5	791.0	11,946	Glen Pass	No snow gear needed, Ascent 100% clear, descent had four >20ft sections of snow that I crossed, but otherwise clear, Parts of the trail near the base we're covered in ~1" /3cm-deep, flowing water	6/24/18	Flying Turtle
15	793.0	10,548	Upper Rae Lakes outlet	Easy to cross in the morning.	6/24/18	Flying Turtle
16	795.5	10,314	Arrowhead Lake outlet	Easy to cross in the morning.	6/24/18	Flying Turtle
1 6	797.1	9,524	Baxter Creek	Easy to cross in the morning.	6/24/18	Flying Turtle
H6	799.8	6,332	Woods Creek Suspension Bridge	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. PCTA (4/13/18): The South Fork Kings River Bridge above Paradise Valley washed out during the winter of 2016-2017. Construction of a replacement bridge will not begin before 2019. Depending on conditions, crossing the South Fork of the Kings River can be extremely hazardous. Observe conditions carefully and then evaluate the risk of crossing. Be prepared to turn back. If you hike the Rae Lakes Loop beginning from Bubbs Creek, plan for the possibility that you may have to backtrack to safely reach Cedar Grove.		
1 6	801.1	9,103	WR801, White Fork Creek	Easy to cross in the afternoon.	6/24/18	Flying Turtle
17	807.1	12,142	Pinchot Pass	Just one small, easy snow patch on the trail to Pinchot Pass.	7/5/18	Lickity Split
H8	811.4	10,040	S Fork Kings River Ford [sometimes difficult]	Pass. Easy to cross. Please be very careful while attempting this crossing. A PCT hiker in 2017 passed away close to this crossing. Her body was found downstream from the PCT crossing.	6/24/18	Flying Turtle
H9	816.9	12,096	Mather Pass	Mather Pass is snow free.	7/4/18	Lickity Split
H11	831.0		Bishop Pass [6.5 miles east of PCT junction]	6/27/18 (Pokey_man): I have gone in over the pass with no problems only to find the Dusy Creek ford thigh deep white water. 6/11/18 (Extra Mile): Bishop pass June 11th, reached the pass at approximately 9am. There is some route finding on the west side of the pass where there are intermittent snow fields. The west side was non technical and relatively easy. The east side is snow covered for a few miles after the pass. Resorted to a mixture of scrambling and glissading at times. There are some animal cracasses on the trail partly covered in snow (several large deer possibly) so be mindful to filter water adequately. The east side of Bishop pass was very difficult and tiring but also absolutely beautiful.		Pokey_man
112	838.6		Muir Pass	You cross a total of 300 ft of snow. One 40 ft section	7/3/18	Lickity Split
				needs care, the rest is easy. Lots of water running on the trail. Easy crossings.		
H14	850.1		Alternate Evolution Creek Crossing			
1 14	850.9	9,201	Evolution Creek Ford [sometimes difficult, alternate ford crosses Evolution Creek near mi 850.1]	At 8AM, Evolution Creek crossing was below knee height. No need to use the alternate.	7/3/18	Lickity Split
H15	857.7		Muir Trail Ranch	6/11/18: Closed until June 21st. 5/27/18 (Good Man Gramps): Not water or snow related, but the Muir Trail Ranch isn't open until June 16th this season.	6/11/18	
H16	865.6	10 910	Selden Pass	Trail is snow free.	7/2/18	Lickity Split

H17	869.2	9,574	Bear Creek	7/2/18 @ 9AM (Lickity Split): Ford below knee high at 9 am, easy crossing. 6/29/18 (SugarBear & Pink Panther): Crossed Bear creek 6/29 and it was fine. Current but not above knees. 6/27/18 (Flying Turtle): I went a tiny bit upstream (maybe 0.05mi) of the main trail and crossed in mainly knee-deep (though a bit got up to my mid-thigh) water, there were rocks, a log, and an island that made the water almost still at some parts, the rest was swift, but manageable, crossed solo at 05:15. This is a notoriously dangerous crossing. You don't have	7/2/18	Lickity Split
				to cross where the PCT crosses Bear Creek. Safer		
H17	870.4	9,345	Hilgard Branch Ford	crossing options are often found further upstream. 06:00, Crossed Back-to-Back fords Dry (see notes on 6/22), water moving a little slower than Bear Creek, but looked about knee-deep in the middle	6/27/18	Flying Turtle
H18	874.5	9,874	Trail junction to VVR (VVR another ~7 miles from trail junction) VVR Website: http://www.edisonlake.com/ Ferry info: http://www.edisonlake.com/hikers/ferry	6/27/18 (Flying Turtle): Shuttle running, 09:00/16:00 from VVR and 09:45/16:45 from Edison Ferry station 1.5mi W of PCT, the "dock" area is wonderful and free of mosquitoes, the food the chef has been preparing is first-rate. 5/28/18 (Good Man Gramps): VVR is open for the season. Shuttle is only running upon request until the bubble arrives. AT&T service at dock, call for shuttle information. 5/17/18: VVR is open for the season but the ferry is not running until early June.	6/27/18	Flying Turtle
H18	879.4	7,972	N Fork Mono Creek Ford	Crossed dry in the morning.	6/28/18	Flying Turtle
H19	881.5		N Fork Mono Creek Ford (2nd Ford)	Crossed dry in the morning.	6/28/18	Flying Turtle
H19	882.6	9,694	Silver Pass Creek	Crossed dry in the morning.	6/28/18	Flying Turtle
H19	884.9	10,704	Silver Pass	6/30/18 (Lickity Split): had a 70 ft snowfield on the north side of the high point. Icy in the early morning, but there is a rock walk around west. 6/28/18 (Flying Turtle): No snow gear needed, Approach had two very small snowfields, otherwise ascent 100% clear, descent had a short glissading chute at the top and then it's all clear.	6/30/18	Lickity Split
H20	888.6	9249	Fish Creek [Steel Bridge]			
H22	906.7	7669	Reds Meadow: https://www.nps. gov/depo/planyourvisit/hours.htm Shuttle Information: https://www.nps. gov/depo/planyourvisit/reds-meadow- and-devils-postpile-shuttle- information.htm	Red Meadows is open and the bus is running to Mammoth.	6/19/18	Northern Comfort
H25	924.6	10,227	Island Pass	clear of snow	6/28/18	Lickity Split
H25	925.9	9,645	Rush Creek Trail junction			7 .
H25	926.9	10,069	Rush Creek Ford	Crossed dry.	6/29/18	Flying Turtle
H25	929.5	11,073	Donohue Pass	250 ft total of snow in three patches. Easy walk around option.	6/28/18	Lickity Split
H25	931.2	10,186	Lyell Fork Ford	Crossed dry.	6/30/18	Flying Turtle
	936.0		Ireland Creek	Crossed dry.	6/30/18	Flying Turtle
H27	942.5	8,596	Highway 120 CALTRANS: http://www.dot.ca. gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi? roadnumber=120&submit=Search			
	944.2					
I1	947.0	8,303	Wooden Bridge over Tuolumne River	Crossed dry.	6/30/18	Flying Turtle
I1	948.3		Glen Aulin Campground	Crossed dry In Spring 2017, Yosemite Rangers discovered the bridge crossing Conness Creek near Glen Aulin HSC had been washed off its support beams. As of Spring 2018, the bridge has yet to have been rebuilt. This will impact access to hikers planning to spend a night at Glen Aulin. PCT hikers continuing North or South of this area without camping will not be impacted. Work is anticipated to begin early summer.	6/30/18	Flying Turtle
	956.0		McCabe Creek	Crossed dry.	7/1/18	Flying Turtle
13	956.2	8,531	Ford a Creek (Return Creek)	Crossed dry.	7/1/18	Flying Turtle
	957.3		Spiller Creek	Crossed dry.	7/1/18	Flying Turtle
	962.1		Matterhorn Creek	Crossed dry.	7/1/18	Flying Turtle
14	963.9- 965.3		Wilson Creek	Crossed dry.	7/1/18	Flying Turtle
14	966.4	10,125	Benson Pass	Benson Pass had no snow on the trail at all.	6/25/18	Lickity Split

8 S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	970.5, 171.6, & 972.3 972.5 979.8 982.3 985.5 987.4 997.0 998.5 & 998.9 1002.4 1005.9 1016.9 Lickity Split	9,531 9,655 8,702	Creek before Paiute Creek Paiute creek Kerrick Creek [sometimes difficult] Creek in Stubblefield Canyon Creek in Tilden Canyon Falls Creek Doroth Lake Pass N boundary Yosemite NP Cascade Creek Walker River Kennedy Canyon Creek Sonora Pass [Hwy 108] CALTRANS: http://www.dot.ca. gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi? roadnumber=108&submit=Search Ebbets Pass [Hwy 4] CALTRANS:	Crossed dry. Crossed dry. AM crossing, Shin deep water, water not moving quickly. Crossed dry. Crossed dry. Crossed dry. Crossed dry. Crossed dry. Crossed dry.	7/1/18 7/2/18 7/2/18 7/2/18 7/2/18 7/2/18 7/2/18 7/3/18 7/3/18 7/3/18	Flying Turtle
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0 4 4 /18/18 (L 8 8 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	997.0 998.5 & 998.9 1002.4 1005.9 1016.9 1048.4 Lickity Splii	9,655	Doroth Lake Pass N boundary Yosemite NP Cascade Creek Walker River Kennedy Canyon Creek Sonora Pass [Hwy 108] CALTRANS: http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi? roadnumber=108&submit=Search Ebbets Pass [Hwy 4]	Crossed dry.	7/3/18	Flying Turtle Flying Turtle
/18/18 (L 8 //19/18 (L 10	998.5 & 998.9 1002.4 1005.9 1016.9 1048.4	9,655	N boundary Yosemite NP Cascade Creek Walker River Kennedy Canyon Creek Sonora Pass [Hwy 108] CALTRANS: http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi? roadnumber=108&submit=Search Ebbets Pass [Hwy 4]	Crossed dry.	7/3/18	Flying Turtle
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44	1005.9 1016.9 1048.4 Lickity Split	8,702	Kennedy Canyon Creek Sonora Pass [Hwy 108] CALTRANS: http://www.dot.ca. gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi? roadnumber=108&submit=Search Ebbets Pass [Hwy 4]	,		, ,
44 //18/18 (L 8 8 //19/18 (L 110 2 2 2	1016.9 1048.4 Lickity Splir	8,702	Sonora Pass [Hwy 108] CALTRANS: http://www.dot.ca. gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi? roadnumber=108&submit=Search Ebbets Pass [Hwy 4]	Crossed dry.	7/3/18	Flying Turtle
4	1048.4 Lickity Split	8,702	CALTRANS: http://www.dot.ca. gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi? roadnumber=108&submit=Search Ebbets Pass [Hwy 4]			
6/18/18 (L 18	Lickity Split					
S/19/18 (L 110 (2 (2		t) · Carson nass	http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi?roadnumber=4&submit=Search			
8 6/19/18 (L 110 (2 (2		., . ວັດເວັດເເນີດ		leep traverse where microspikes would be good early in the	day.	
J10 K2 K2 K2		8,590	Carson Pass [Hwy 88] CALTRANS: http://www.dot.ca. gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi? roadnumber=88&submit=Search		,	
<2 <2		<u> </u>		tches. No need for microspikes or GPS navigation.		
(2	1090.8	7,241	Highway 50 CALTRANS: http://www.dot.ca. gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi? roadnumber=50&submit=Search			
	1101.6	7,776	Susie Lake outlet	A walk accross steps .	6/17/18	Lickity Split
(2	1102.2	7,682	Glen Alpine trail junction			
	1105.7	9,377	Dicks Pass	6/16/18 (Lickity Split): Dick's Pass had .8 miles of snow on the north side on June 16. Microspikes not needed for safety, but could speed you up. GPS navigation yes. 6/15/18 (Numbers): Snow field starts a few tenths south of the pass, extends for approx. one mile on the north face. Passed at noon, snow was a bit slushy, but postholing was very rare. Not many footprints to follow right now, used gps a few times. Microspikes not needed. Wasn't difficult. 6/14/18 (Picasso): Approximately the last mile on the north side is still snow covered. Various tracks, be careful to not lose them! South side almost clear, here and there wet or muddy.	6/16/18	Lickity Split
(3	1108.6	8,288	Fontanillis Lake	Lake Fontanillis outlet crossing was knee high on.	6/16/18	Lickity Split
.3	1110.1	,	Middle Velma Lake Outlet			
.3	1112.8	7,630	Phipps Creek (seasonal)			
.3	1113.4	7,900	Seasonal Creek			
(4	1120.4	7,021	Miller Creek			
(5	1122.1	6,973	Bear Lake Outlet			
.5	1123.2	7,264	Seasonal Creek			
.5	1124.8	7,658	Barker Pass [RD1125]			1
7	1135.9		Five Lakes Creek			-
(7	1139.6	8,120	Headwaters of American River (Middle Fork)	Crossed w/ dry feet using rocks a few yards downstreams.	6/13/18	Picasso
/1/18 (CI	loud Dide-		1	and hwy 80. Foot tunnels under hwy have 3-18 inches of wa	ater in then	that you will hav
walk thi	iiouu Klaer					,
(9		7,114	Donner Pass [I-80] CALTRANS: http://www.dot.ca. gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi? roadnumber=80&submit=Search			

6/11/18 (Picasso): Foot tunnels under Hwy 80 are nearly dry.
6/10/18 (Lickity Split): Hiked June 9 to 10. Significant snow still for just 7 miles from 1162 to 1169 mostly in patches, with one .8 mile snowfield. Also snow for about .3 miles on either side of the Peter Grubb Hut. Other snow in small patches. Microspikes not needed as snow is almost all on gentle slopes. GPS navigation occasionally useful. Lots of running water and mud. Budget 3 hours of extra hiking time and you will be fine.
6/1/18 (All Day Long): Just hiked NB 1157>1191. Trail has lots of snow cover until =1178.

6/1/18 (Cloud Rider)									
Mile 115	58.8 - Uppe	er Castle Creek -	~20% trail snow from mile 1158.0 to Cas	stle Pass. ~95% snow from Castle Pass to Mile 1164.4 Woo	oden Bridge.				
			snow tapers off after 3/10ths of a mile fi	rom the bridge.					
			rail snow from mile 1165.8 to 1167.7.						
			I snow from mile 1168.5 to 1170.5.	4/4 4/0 mile startely as of solid trail arrays. No security as the	4- 0: (0:4.			
			e 1170.5 to mile 1178.0 with a couple of	1/4-1/2 mile stretches of solid trail snow. No snow from the	re to Sierra (olty.			
	Cloud Ride		at is easy to walk through or ground after	Siorra City. One expention is around mile 1212 0 1212 6 w	hara thara i	o o otoop opou			
Only very small patches of snow that is easy to walk through or around after Sierra City. One exception is around mile 1213.0-1213.6 where there is a steep snow bank on a hillside that requires climbing up and around.									
L1	1158.8	,	Upper Castle Creek						
L1	1164.4	7,559	Wooden Bridge over Seasonal Stream						
Orego									
			nttps://www.tripcheck.com						
		verywhere betwee	en Fish Lake and Crater lake got 1-2" of	snow last night.					
	ington								
WASHI				STATUS> http://www.wsdot.com/traffic/passes/default.a	<u>spx</u>				
	2254-87	~6,000-7,000	Goat Rocks Wilderness						
H20	2292.4	4,409	White Pass [Hwy 12]						
			WA DOT : http://www.wsdot.						
			com/traffic/passes/white/default.aspx						
14	2321.0	5,434	Chinook Pass [Hwy 410]						
			WA DOT : <u>http://www.wsdot.</u>						
			com/traffic/passes/PassInformation. aspx#chinookpasssr410link						
140	2380.9	0.500							
I13			Yakima Pass						
J1	2390.7	3174	Snowqualmie Pass [I-90]						
			WA DOT : <u>http://www.wsdot.</u>						
			com/traffic/passes/snoqualmie/default.						
J5	2438.7	3 806	Potentially difficult Ford						
J6	2445.7	,	Piper Pass						
	-		•						
K16	2461.6	4,053	Stevens Pass [Hwy 2] WA DOT: http://www.wsdot.						
			com/traffic/passes/stevens/default.						
			aspx						
K16	2588.9	4 855	Rainy Pass [Hwy 20]						
1010	2000.9	4,000	WA DOT: http://www.wsdot.wa.						
			gov/traffic/passes/northcascades						
L1	2593.9	6,837	Cutthroat Pass						
L1	2596.3	6,263	Granite Pass						
L2	2599.3	6,593	Methow Pass						
L3	2609.7	5,581	Glacier Pass						

6/23/18 (Luc): Well folks, I made it from Harts Pass to Stehekin. I'm happy to report that it is indeed passable, but I have to warn that it's not easy (details below), especially without proper snow gear. If you're an adventure seeker, you'll love this stuff (though be prepared for wet feet), but if you're looking for snow-free trails, give yourself another TWO weeks (and even then, you'll probably still have some snow). All distances below are rough estimates.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Harts Pass to Brush Creek and Tent site (20km or 12.5 miles)

Day 2: Brush Creek Tent Site to Rainy Pass Trailhead (the "lovely" campsite right next to Highway 20 and the shitters) (29km or 18 miles)

Day 3: Rainy Pass Trailhead to Bridge Creek Campground (24km or 15 miles) - Definitely doable to Stehekin from Rainy Pass Trailhead, but I would've missed the last shuttle, so didn't bother and just had a short hike the next day. My feet were also drenched and nothing dried overnight.

Day 4: Bridge Creek Campground to High Bridge (9km or 5.5 miles)

REPORT (valid as of 23-June-2018 - may not apply to you depending on your start date - all mileage points are from the Northern Terminus Monument):

Harts Pass to Methow Pass:

- I camped the first night at Brush Creek. There are some decent spots here with fire rings and benches. This is a short distance for the first day (about 20km or 12.5 miles), but after this spot is a steep climb to Methow Pass, and I knew there would be snow, and I didn't want to camp in it.
- I'd say everything from about 1,400-1,500m or so to Methow Pass (2,010m) is snow covered. Snow pack is decent, but do expect to posthole every now and then to about knee height.
- If you're a Guthook user, you'll notice that it says there's a campsite at Methow Pass, but it's completely snow covered. It's wide open though, so you can dig yourself in if you're willing.

Methow Pass to Cutthroat Pass:

- When you turn the bend leaving Methow Pass, you'll be thrilled to see a dry trail, and I'm happy to report that this is MOSTLY true. You'll hit some snow patches, but definitely manageable. This is about 6km (or almost 4 miles). Enjoy this part, because the next part will kick your ass (see picture with caption ("Mother Nature can be really cruel sometimes...")
- As soon as you finish climbing the 4 switchbacks, you hit snow. You're not traversing here, so climbing it is manageable, and you're good for just under a mile, however, once you turn the bend, you're hit with why feels like a long mountain side snow traverse (see pictures). You have just over 2km of steep mountain side traversing, and it's slow moving. Expect some postholing here.
- Once you get to Cutthroat Pass (2,089m), rejoice! It's all (mostly) downhill from here to Stehekin. The one tent site at Cutthroat Pass is fairly open, and is shielded, but the ground is wet, but not enough to get through your tent. If you're burnt here, you have a decent option to spend the night.

Cutthroat Pass to Rainy Pass:

- You're going to be on snow from Cutthroat Pass (2,089m) until about 1,700m. Once you start downhill from Cutthroat Pass, have some fun (if you're up for it, and experienced enough). You can boot ski down as the trail is a series of switchbacks that you can quickly cut through. You'll hit some post holes, but since you're moving quick, you can avoid this. Obviously expect you're feet to be wet by doing this (if they didn't get drenched from the previous traversing), and a fair warning... WET FEET SUCKS!
- Pretty straight forward once you clear the snow. You'll hit a couple of patches again, but nothing extreme below 1,700m to Rainy Pass Trailhead (1,492m)
- You will have to do some stream crossing (about 3-4), and they're relatively strong.

Rainy Pass Trailhead to High Bridge:

- Trail starts off snow covered, but quickly clears up. Pretty easy downhill from here.
- NOTE: The Bridge Creek Bridge at km 102.8 (or mile 63.9) is OUT! As in, there is absolutely no bridge, and crossing the very powerful stream is not recommended, nor is it necessary. At the junction just before the bridge crossing, follow the signs for Stilleto Peak Trail. This will eventually lead you back to Twisp Pass Trail junction, where you'll be able to reconnect with the PCT.
- That's it, you're golden after this all the way to Stehekin. The shuttle is running (from High Bridge: 9:15, 12:30, 15:00, 18:15), and it does stop at the bakery, so fill your boots baby!

Again, this wasn't an easy section to complete with the snow. If you're fit, have experience in the snow (and have the right gear), and are more of an adventure hiker, by all means, go out there, have some fun, and occasionally ridiculously sweat at the snow, but if you're a casual hiker and are looking to avoid snow, wait another two weeks.

L4	2619.5	6.188	Harts Pass	Find your own comfort level June 26 Ice axe/Spikes 8	6/26/18	Meander Meander
		,		hikers made it to the border and some other hiker chose		
				NOTLeisure hikers should be fine from July 4th		
				weekend There will be patches of snow as always on		
				the Northern exposures but now you can follow other		
				hikers tracks as well. Mica Lake area may still be like		
				some patches up here but for now Harts Pass to		
				Monument and back is melting real fastThis week		
				expect overcast with a dusting of snow that is not lasting.		
L5	2623.8	6,557	Buffalo Pass			
L5	2624.7	6,273	Windy Pass			
L5	2626.9	6,182	Foggy Pass			
L5	2627.6	6,265	Jim Pass			
L6	2633.0	5,066	Holman Pass			
L6	2636.5	6,502	Rock Pass			
L7	2639.1	6,651	Woody Pass			
L7	2644.0	6,140	Hopkins Pass			
L8	2646.4	5,460	Castle Pass			

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