

HORSESHOE MEADOW, COTTONWOOD LAKES & THE GOLDEN TROUT WILDERNESS



Horseshoe Meadow is located 24 miles from Lone Pine, at 10,040 feet. It is the trailhead to many wilderness areas as well as being a great camping site and a lovely place for a picnic. There is a wildflower filled meadow surrounded by trees and a brook running through it even in the late summer.





The trailhead for the Cottonwood Lakes Trail provides access to the Pacific Crest Trail, the southern portion of the John Muir Wilderness and Sequoia National Park.

The Cottonwood Lakes are home to the beautiful Golden Trout, California's State Fish. Anglers feel differently about fishing for golden trout than they do about regular trout fishing.

One reason is that the golden trout waters are not accessible by roads. To seek the golden trout, one must hike or ride horseback far into primitive high country. The Golden Trout is a brightly colored fish, with a medium dark olive back shading down through lighter olive and lemon golden sides to a brilliant orange to cherry-red belly. These bright colors become almost gaudy at spawning time.

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