

Wilderness Permit Information and Application for Enchantment Area

Enchantments, Stuart, Colchuck, Snow,
Eightmile and Caroline Lakes

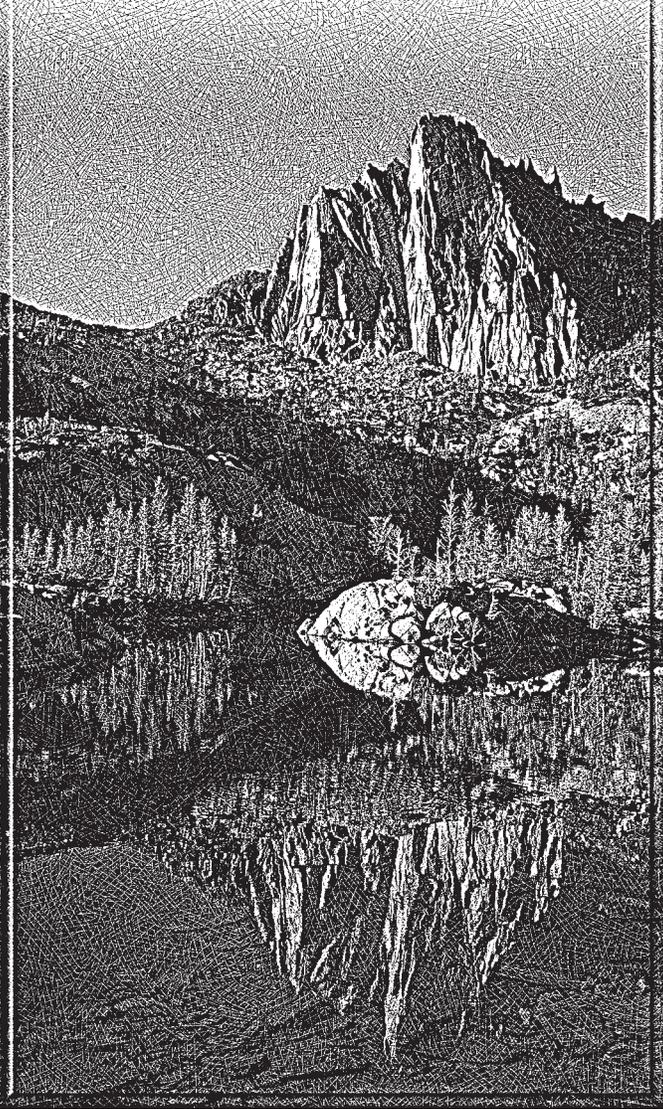
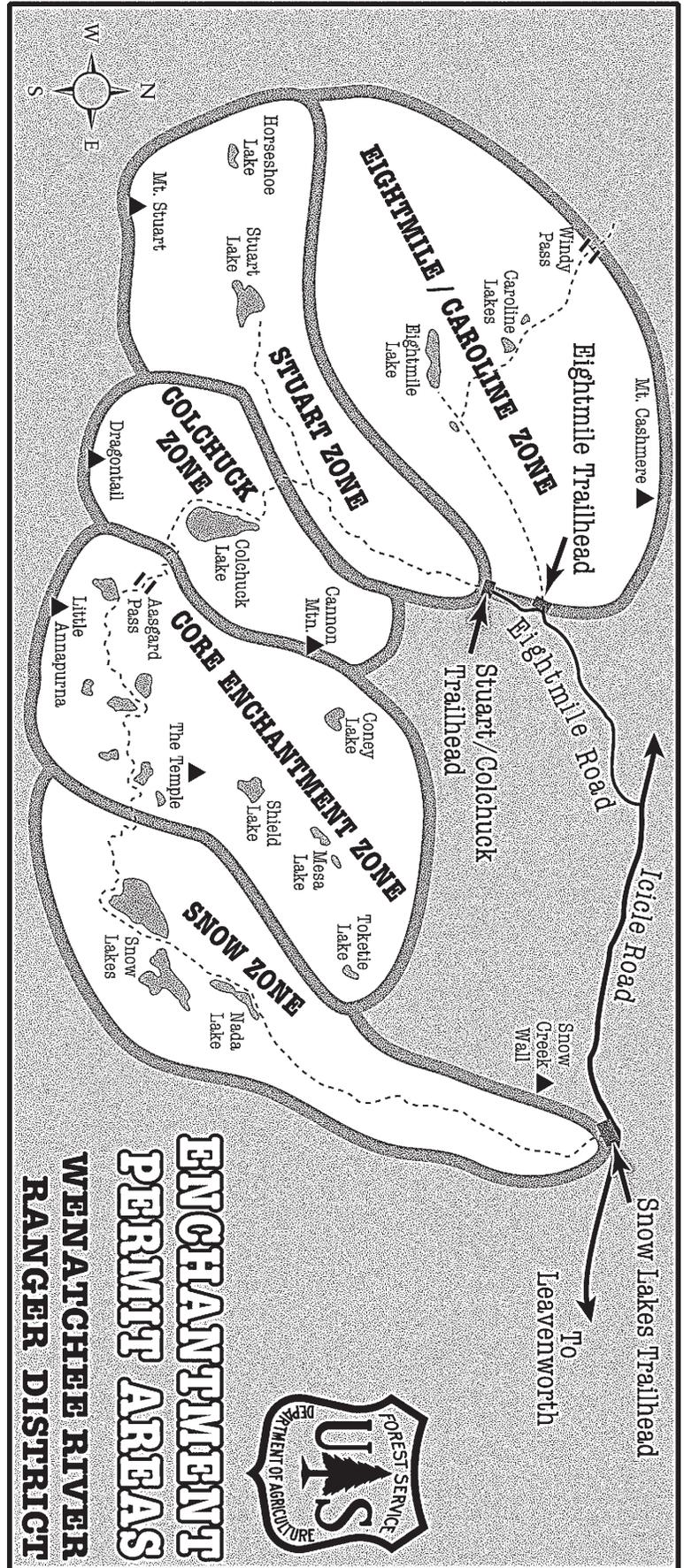


Photo by John Lindsey

US Forest Service
Pacific Northwest Region
Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest
Wenatchee River Ranger District



Questions and Answers

Are parking passes required?

Overnight permit holders are provided a parking pass valid for length of the trip. Day users are required to display a Federal Recreation Pass.

How many permits are issued a day?

By RESERVATION DAY OF DRAWING

Enchantments? 15 people..... 5 people
Colchuck? 3 parties 1 party
Stuart? 4 parties 1 party
Snow/Nada? 4 parties 1 party
Eightmile/Carolines? ... 5 parties 5 parties

How long can I stay?

14 days is the maximum length of stay. You are not allowed to come out of the wilderness permit area and then re-enter on the same permit.

If I'm not coming, should I cancel?

YES. Your spot will be made available to others.

What's the weather like?

Expect extreme weather conditions any time of year. Check the web at:
www.wrh.noaa.gov/otx

When do the larch turn color?

It varies from late September to mid-October

How many days do you recommend?

Plan at least 3 days for a trip. The Enchantment area is recommended for experienced hikers. Steep elevation changes and rough terrain make the trip very strenuous. Green Trails Map #209S has exact distances and elevation gains. Trailhead choice depends on your hiking ability and preference.

Are there bears?

Yes. Hang food, toiletries, and trash 15 feet up and 5 feet out from a tree. Cook away from your sleeping area.

May I bring my horse, llama, or goat?

Stock are allowed, subject to all applicable regulations, at any time in the Eightmile/Caroline zone, and in the Stuart Lake zone only from the Saturday following Labor Day to January 1. The maximum group size is 8, including stock.

Can you recommend other areas if I don't get a permit?

Yes, Chiwaukum/Larch Lakes, Lake Augusta, Blackjack Ridge/Cradle Lake or Chain/Doelle Lakes.

Minimize Your Impact to Help Protect this Fragile Environment...

CAMPFIRES... are prohibited everywhere above 5,000 feet elevation and within 1/2 mile of Nada, Eightmile, and Little Eightmile Lakes. This leaves only a few campsites along the Snow Lake and Stuart Lake trails where fires are allowed.

DOGS... Dogs are prohibited throughout the permit area to protect wildlife, water quality, and the wilderness experience.

ROCK WALLS... Don't build 'em.

GOATS... Goats dig up vegetation in search of salt—please don't urinate on vegetation—go on a rock or dig a hole in a sandy area where goats won't paw up vegetation.

TOILETS... Use them where provided or bury waste at least 6 inches deep. **DO NOT PUT ANY GARBAGE IN TOILETS!**

CAMPING... At Snow and Nada Lakes, campsites are designated with a hiker symbol. Elsewhere camp in previously impacted sites.

TRAILS... Follow the cairns and stay on rock where possible to protect the fragile, alpine vegetation. When trails are muddy, stay on the trail instead of going to the side. Avoid walking on heather and huckleberry.

WATER... Help keep the lakes clean—do your washing well away from water (never in it!). Even biodegradable soap does not break down quickly in cold water. Filter or treat your drinking water—giardia is not fun!

FISHING... It's okay with a valid Washington State fishing license. Please bury fish guts and don't leave line and lures behind.

Wenatchee River Ranger District
600 Sherbourne
Leavenworth, WA 98826
(509) 548-2550



This application and more information is available on our website: www.fs.fed.us/r6/wenatchee

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READ FIRST... Application Instructions and Intricacies

The Permit System: Quota permits are required for overnight camping in the Enchantment area of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. These include the following 5 quota zones: Enchantments, Snow Lakes, Stuart Lake, Colchuck Lake, and Eightmile/Caroline Lakes areas and the trails leading to them. **The permit season is from June 15 to October 15. Due to the popularity of the Enchantment Area, we accept only one application per person, group, or family per zone, per year.** For example, you may send in an application for the Core Enchantment Zone and another one for the Stuart Lake Zone, but you may not send in two applications for the Core Enchantment Zone. This application, and more information, is available on our website:

www.fs.fed.us/r6/wenatchee

Obtaining Permit Reservations: Permits are available only from the Wenatchee River Ranger Station. Reservations are made by using this mail-in application. In-person applications do not get priority. No FAX, e-mail or phone reservations.

Application Processing: Beginning March 1 reservations are processed randomly to handle the initial deluge of requests. Applications are processed in the order received thereafter. Applications must be postmarked no earlier than February 21; **those postmarked before that date are rejected.** Most Enchantment Zone dates fill with the March 1 applications. Applications are accepted from February 21 - October 15 each year.

*** Select Entry Date:** Include several alternatives in case your first request is unavailable. Include other helpful instructions for additional flexibility (for example, "Any 4 days in August" or "3 days any weekend after July 15, starting on a Friday or Saturday").

Choose Zone You Want to Camp In:

To camp in the Enchantments you must have a permit for the Enchantment Zone. This permit also allows you to camp in any other zone. Permit holders for other zones must camp in that zone the first night; they can then move to any zone EXCEPT the Enchantment Zone for the following nights. **Your group must camp together.**

Include Application Fee: The fee for overnight permits is \$5 per person per day. **Partial days, such as first and last day count as complete days.** Payment by credit card is preferred. Due to US Forest Service fiscal policies, we no longer accept personal checks for reservations due to the length of time required to process over 1,000 reservation requests. You may send a money order or cashier's check in U.S. funds, payable to "USDA Forest Service." Make sure you can get your money refunded by your bank if you are unable to secure a reservation. No Traveler's Checks. If paying by money order or cashier's check, make sure requested dates have the same number of days and people so that payment is correct.

Confirmation: Your reservation will be confirmed or rejected in writing. If the reservation is confirmed and you cancel later, there will be no refund of the fee. **Please allow at least three weeks for processing your application** (longer in March).

Permit Pickup: Permits must be picked up in person at the ranger station. "No-show" permits are issued to others. **The earliest your permits can be picked up is after 4:30 the day before your entry date.** You cannot start your trip, however, until the following day. The latest you can pick up your permit is 9:00 a.m. on the day of departure unless you call ahead. **If you should arrive when the office is closed, permits will be placed in the permit box located on the front porch of the office.**

Trip Changes: A fee of \$10 will be charged for changes. If adding people to your group or extending your trip, additional fees of \$5 per person per day are also required. Entry dates will be changed only if space is available. Changes not accepted until after April 15th.

Day Use Permits: Self-issue, free day-use permits are available at trailheads and the Wenatchee River Ranger Station. Free permits are required from May 15 to October 31.

Daily Walk-in Permits: Visitors who are unable or who do not want to make advance reservations during the quota permit period may take advantage of the 25% walk-in quota. This quota is available at the Wenatchee River Ranger Station beginning at 7:45 a.m. the **day of the trip.** A daily drawing is used to determine which waiting parties receive permits. Permits are issued until available spots are filled. The permit fee of \$5 per person per day applies to walk-in permit holders. The Ranger Station is closed on Sundays and Columbus Day (10-12-09).



For your records, copy the dates you wish to enter and exit the area for all choices and trailheads.

Choice	Enter Date	Exit Date
First		
Second		
Third		
Trailhead		

This application is for 2009 only.



**ENCHANTMENT AREA
Reservation Application
For Overnight Permit**

READ INSTRUCTIONS FIRST. This application is for ONE trip only. Please print clearly.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City (no abbreviations): _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

Number of People in Party (Including Self) **Maximum Group Size is 8**

Indicate below your first, second, and third choices for dates you plan to enter and exit the area.

NOTE: You are required to start trip on the first day

Choice Enter Date Exit Date

First _____

Second _____

Third _____

Additional Instructions on flexibility (see instructions*): _____

Trailhead You Will Enter (circle one):

Stuart/Colchuck Snow Eightmile Other

Trailhead You Will Exit (circle one):

Stuart/Colchuck Snow Eightmile Other

Permit Zones Where You Wish to Camp (see map):

Core Enchantments Stuart Colchuck

Snow/Nada Eightmile/Caroline

If Enchantment zone permits are not available, are you willing to camp at Snow or Colchuck Lake instead? You may then hike to the Enchantments for the day only.

Camp at Snow **Camp at Colchuck**

**Applications postmarked prior to
FEBRUARY 21 will be rejected.**

Incomplete applications may result in delays in processing or automatic rejection.

Mail Application To:

Wenatchee River Ranger Station
Attn: Enchantment Reservations
600 Sherbourne
Leavenworth, WA 98826

Be Sure to Include:

Fee of \$5 per person per DAY, including ENTRY and EXIT days:

X X **\$5** =
Number of People Number of DAYS \$ Amount Enclosed
(Days, not nights)

Charge to my: Visa MasterCard
 Discover American Express

Card # _____

Expiration Date: Month ____ Year ____

Signature _____

If you are not able to pay by credit card, see instructions for payment by cashier's check or money order.

Fee is nonrefundable if reservation is confirmed.

Privacy Act Statement

The following information is provided to comply with the Privacy Act of 1974 (PL-93-502), 5 U.S.C. 552 and 7 CFR 260 authorize acceptance of information requested on this form. The data is used to process Enchantment permit reservations. There may be follow up contacts related to your visit. Furnishing your name and credit card information is voluntary. However, your application cannot be processed without this information.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE: _____

AMOUNT: _____

RESERVED: _____

This application is for 2009 only.



Cut along dashed line, and fold in half to fit standard business envelope.