



1. Was your route completed as planned ? If there were changes, why?

We completed our route as planned. We hiked in on the High Sierra Trail and camped at Mehrten Creek the first night, then continued on to Hamilton Lakes, where we camped the second night. We day hiked to Kaweah Gap on the third day, then packed up camp and hiked back to Buck Creek, where we spent our last night. This was a slight adjustment to our original schedule to shorten our hike out on Sunday. Total distance was about 42 miles round-trip.

2. What were you most inspired by?

The section of the trail from Bearpaw Meadow to Hamilton Lakes is some of the most spectacular scenery I've seen in CA or anywhere. And the hike to Kaweah Gap is truly beautiful, taking us through lush alpine meadows bursting with wildflowers and bubbling brooks. Precipice Lake is stunning. And the view from Kaweah Gap to the other side of the Great Western Divide is well worth all the climbing!

3. Any advice for other backpackers?

Give yourself plenty of time to relax and enjoy the places you go. I always find myself trying to cram too much in and often wish I had more time to spend an afternoon just sitting by a lake reading.

4. What was the most useful product from SNHA?

Because there were bear boxes all along the High Sierra Trail we didn't need bear canisters. But the High Sierra book came in very handy for planning.

5. Additional comments about your experience with the Hike Big program or the Sequoia Natural History Association

Great program! Would love to see more programs like this to encourage folks to get out into our Parks.

Thanks again for your help making this happen!