

**Attention John Muir Trail (JMT) hikers:** This season, we are pleased to announce a new and improved reservation process for those backpacking within Yosemite and exiting the park boundary over Donohue Pass - primarily JMT hikers. If you are flexible on the start date for your trip, you can now submit one application for a range of dates up to 3 weeks long. Your reservation application will be placed in each day's daily lottery for the date range you provide. You will be notified of lottery results each day via email. If denied, your application will roll to the next day's lottery. The application will be removed from the rolling lottery if 1) your request is granted 2) is manually canceled by applicant or 3) the date range has expired. Once expired, you may reapply with a new application and date range. In exceedingly high demand, JMT reservations are difficult to obtain. It is not unusual to be denied multiple days or weeks in a row. Do not submit multiple applications. The non-refundable fee of \$5 per person, plus \$5 for reservation is charged to confirmed reservations only. You will not be charged if your reservation request is denied in the lottery. You may cancel your request from rolling lottery at any time. Rolling lottery process outlined below:

- Fax application to 209.372.0739, up to 2 days (170 days) prior to lottery date\*
- Once received & entered into database, confirmation of receipt is sent via email
- Application is entered into daily lottery for each date selected w/in date range
- Lottery results announced via email daily
- If denied, application rolls to next days' lottery until expired
- Visitor notified when date range expires / May reapply

\*Applications will be processed via random lottery 24 weeks (168 days) in advance of entry date, but faxes may be submitted up to two days prior (170 days in advanced). For example, if the first day to reserve your chosen entry date is on Wednesday, you may fax your reservation form anytime Monday or Tuesday.

Found on the following page is the **JMT lottery request application form**. Complete the form on your computer, then print and fax, or use an online service to fax, it to 209/372-0739. Detailed instructions are on the final pages. If you must complete the form by hand please print clearly. DO NOT Fax cover sheets or instruction pages – only the one page application.



# Yosemite National Park

## JMT Lottery Request Application



Providing For Yosemite's Future

### 1 Trip Planning

This form is only for John Muir Trail hikers and other hikers wishing to hike from Yosemite over Donohue Pass. This request will be placed in the daily wilderness permit reservation lottery for the date span listed. For each trailhead list your preference order. Enter 0 if you do not wish to have a permit for that trailhead. To clarify trailhead please list an intended first night's camp location in wilderness for each trailhead selected. For more information and trip planning please visit <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm>

Permit ID # \_\_\_\_\_

Request ID # \_\_\_\_\_

*For Official Use Only*

Entry Preference Rank 1 - 5	Trailhead	1 <sup>st</sup> Night's Camp Location in Wilderness
	Happy Isles->Sunrise/Merced Lake (pass through)	
	Happy Isles->Little Yosemite Valley	
	Glacier Point->Little Yosemite Valley	
	Sunrise Lakes	
	Lyell Canyon (Half Dome Permits not available for this trailhead)	

Exit Trailhead: \_\_\_\_\_ Trip Length (Nights) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Date Range:

*Submit only one application per range  
May reapply after last start date  
Max 21 Day Span*

First Desired Starting Date \_\_\_\_\_

Last Desired Starting Date \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People: \_\_\_\_\_ Minimum Number of People Acceptable (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to walk to the top of **Half Dome** while on this overnight wilderness trip, please reserve **Half Dome Permits** for an additional \$8 per person payable when I pick up my wilderness permit. (Check)

If Half Dome permits are **NOT** available for my trip (Check):

Please do **NOT** process this request.

Please process this request. I understand that there are no refunds for reservations.

**NO** **YES** Number of Half Dome Permits \_\_\_\_\_

*(If yes, list number of Half Dome Permits)*

*Can not be more than group size.*

Number of Stock Animals & Type \_\_\_\_\_

If a guided or organized trip, write the name of the GUIDE SERVICE (e.g. Sierra Club) or the ORGANIZATION (e.g. BSA) \_\_\_\_\_

### 2 Trip Leader Information

Please type name or if unable, please write legibly. Applications with illegible information may have a delayed response.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
*first middle last*

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### 3 Fees/Payment

For confirmed reservations only there is a processing fee of \$5.00 per permit plus a \$5.00 per person reservation fee. All processing and reservation fees are **non-refundable**. Fees may vary depending on group size

Please check method of payment:

**Credit Card**

**Check**

Number of People \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5.00

Transaction Fee

Total Fee Amount

+ \$5.00

*For Official Use Only*

Permit ID Number
+ \$5.00

Make checks or money orders payable to "Yosemite Conservancy"

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ CVV Code # \_\_\_\_\_  
*month year*

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 Submit Application

**Mail To:** Permit Reservations  
P.O. Box 545  
Yosemite, CA 95389

**Fax To:** **209.372.0739**  
**(NO cover letters)**

You will receive an email notification within one or two business days on the status of your request if an email address is provided.

# Instructions for JMT Rolling Lottery Application

## **Step 1: Fill Out the Application Form**

Complete the form on your computer, then print. Fax or mail form, or submit it via an online faxing service. Faxing is the preferred method. If you must hand-write your responses, please write clearly. Fill out the form completely. Provide a daytime telephone number and email so we can reach you with questions regarding your application. List date range and trailheads in order of your preference.

### **Entry Preference (Rank 1-5):**

Attribute a ranking of 1,2,3,4, or 5 to each of the 5 trailheads according to your order of preference. For example, if you are requesting all five trailheads and Lyell Canyon is your most desired and Sunrise Lakes your least desired, put a 1 next to Lyell Canyon and a 5 next to Sunrise Lakes. **Use each number only once.** Use zero (0) for trailhead that are not desired. You must start from the specific trailhead assigned to your permit.

### **First Night's Camp Location**

To verify that your route matches your trailhead selection, list your anticipated first night's camp location within wilderness. You may list a nearby lake, stream, mountain, trail junction, or other feature you plan to camp near. The backpackers' campgrounds located in the front country such as Tuolumne Meadows, White Wolf, Hetch Hetchy, and Yosemite Valley are not valid options because they are not in the backcountry. You do not need to give a precise location, but be as clear as possible. In most situations you are not required to camp in the exact location listed but should be within the general area. Exceptions: Little Yosemite Valley, Glen Aulin

### **Exit Trailhead**

List the trailhead that you plan to exit on. The most popular exit points are listed on the drop down menu. If your exit trailhead is not listed, please type in the trailhead name. Quotas are not based on exit trailheads or dates, so you may change your exit trailhead when you pick up your permit in person if needed.

### **Trip Length (Nights):**

State the estimated number of nights you expect to spend in the wilderness. It is better to overestimate than underestimate.

Quotas are based on trip start date, not exit.

### **Date Range:**

If you are flexible on the start date for your trip, you will submit one application for a range of dates up to 3 weeks (21 days) long. Your reservation application will be placed in each day's daily lottery for the date span you provide. You will be notified of lottery results each day via email. If denied, your application will roll to the next day's lottery. The application will be removed from the rolling lottery if 1) your request is granted 2) is manually cancelled by applicant or 3) the date range has been exceeded. If you have not been selected by the end of that window/date range you will be notified that the window has closed, at which point you may reapply with a new application and date range. Applicants may have only one window open at a time. We will calculate your trip's end date from Trip Length (Nights) specified. If your date range exceeds a 21 day span, we will reduce your *Last Desired Starting Date* to accommodate the 21 day Date Range cap. Quotas are based on starting date - you may change your exit date when you pick up your permit in person if needed.

### **Number of People**

The maximum group size is 15, however not all trailhead quotas will allow for a group this large. Smaller groups are easier to accommodate. Learn more about [backpacking with large groups](#). Maximum group size for cross-country travel is eight people.

### **Minimum Number of People Acceptable**

If space is not available for your preferred group size, and you are willing to accept a smaller group, indicate that in the “minimum number of people” field.

### **Half Dome Permits**

**Half Dome cables permits for backpackers** are limited. Select yes if want to reserve Half Dome cable permits with your wilderness permit (only for overnight use – day hiking permits not available). If no boxes are selected for Half Dome permits, no Half Dome permits will be given. If you select yes to Half Dome permits and do not complete the “Number of Half Dome Permits” field, we will assume you want permits for your full group size.

Please select the appropriate box in below the question, “If Half Dome Cable permits are NOT available for my trip:”

If you do not select an option we will default to the “Please do NOT process this request” option and your wilderness permit may be denied.

### **Trip Leader Information**

The listed trip leader must be on the backpacking trip and is responsible for the group. Once a reservation is confirmed, a new trip leader may be assigned to the permit.

### **Fees/Payment**

The non-refundable fee of \$5 per person, plus \$5 for reservation, is charged to confirmed reservations only. If your reservation request is denied, you will not be charged. The “check” option is only available to applications submitted by mail.

### **Step 2: Submit Your Application**

You may fax your application form to (209) 372-0739 (no cover letters). Applications will be processed via random lottery **24 weeks (168 days) in advance** of entry date, but the rolling JMT lottery application may be submitted up to two days prior (170 days in advanced). For example, if the first day to reserve your chosen entry date is Wednesday, you may fax your reservation form anytime Monday or Tuesday. **Do not** submit more than one application per request or group—this will not increase your chances of winning the lottery. If you apply multiple times for the same request/group, your request will be excluded from the lottery and subject to a non-refundable fee.

### **Step 3: Notifications**

#### **Email Confirming Receipt**

Once your application is received and entered into the lottery database, you will receive an email from our office confirming the receipt of your application. Carefully review the information in the email to ensure the dates, trailhead selections, and group size listed are correct. Allow one to two business days for a response (check spam folder if needed.) Do not call prior to this time to inquire about the status of your application as this slows the

process for all. From here your application will be entered into the daily lottery for each day of the time span you indicated.

### **Daily Email Notifications**

Each day you will receive an email notification announcing the lottery results for that day's lottery. If your application is not awarded you will be notified and your application will continually roll to the following days' lotteries until your date range expires. If your request is granted, you will receive an email confirmation and your application will be automatically removed from future lotteries. Your final email (announcing results for the daily lottery) will note when your application date range has expired, at which point you may submit a new application with a different range of dates.

### **Step 4: Pick Up Your Permit**

Your confirmation is not your permit. You must pick up your permit at one of the five wilderness centers located within in Yosemite before you begin your hike. You, or another member of your hiking group, must pick up the wilderness permit at any permit station during business hours the day of, or the day before, your hike. Reserved permits are held until 10 am on the day of your trip. If you will arrive later than 10 am on the day of your trip, call us to hold your permit for a late arrival: 209/372-0308 (this number is for cancellations and late arrivals only). If you do not call or pick up your permit by 10 am, your permit reservation will be canceled. Permits held for late arrival still must be picked up at a **permit station during business hours**.