

CHAPTER 10

High Adventure Awards of Los Angeles Area Council

The outdoor awards that are sponsored by the LAAC are discussed in Hike Aid 6, “High Adventure Awards Program”. Unit leadership is to refer to it, and any supplemental Program Announcements, for the current and complete listing of the requirements for each award. Weekend awards that are required to earn certain other LAAC awards are National Park/National Monument, California State Park/County Park, and National Forest. Any award that requires a minimum of seven hours scheduled backpack time and two days may be substituted for these awards.

TRAINING HIKE

Requirements:

1. Take an overnight backpack of at least 5-miles.
2. No mileage offset for elevation gain is allowed.
3. Comply with the General Requirements, except for the First Aid Card requirements.



FIG. 10-1
TRAINING HIKE
2" x 2"

NATIONAL PARK / NATIONAL MONUMENT

Requirements:

1. Make an overnight backpack of at least 7 hours scheduled backpack time.
2. The campsite and over half of the backpack must be in a National Park / National Monument.
3. Have earned two Training Hike awards prior to the hike
4. Comply with the General Requirements, except for the First Aid Card requirements.



FIG. 10-2
NATIONAL PARK / MONUMENT
2" x 2"

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK / COUNTY PARK

Requirements:

1. Make an overnight backpack of at least 7 hours scheduled backpack time.
2. The campsite and over 1/2 of the backpack must be in a State Park or County Park. Backpacking on Catalina Island may qualify for this award.
3. Have earned two Training Hike awards prior to the hike.
4. Comply with the General Requirements, except for the First Aid Card requirements.



FIG. 10-3
STATE / COUNTY PARK
2" x 2"

NATIONAL FOREST

Requirements:

1. Make an overnight backpack of at least 7 backpack hours.
2. The campsite and over half of the backpack must be in a National Forest.
3. Have previously earned two Training Hike Awards.
4. Comply with the General Requirements, except First Aid Card requirements.



FIG. 10-4
HIKE IN A NATIONAL FOREST
2" x 2"

SNOW HIKING

Requirements:

1. Take an overnight backpack of at least 5 miles (round trip) to a trail camp in the backcountry or wilderness. NOTE: "Car Camp" campsites do not qualify as a "Trail Camp".
2. There must be snow on both the trail and the campsite. NO EXCEPTIONS!
3. At least 2 meals, supper and breakfast, shall be prepared in the Trail Campsite. Everything must be backpacked in, including food.
4. No mileage offset for elevation gain is allowed.
5. Have earned two Weekend awards and the Snow Camper award from Desert Pacific Council prior to the hike.
6. Participating Scouts must be 12 years or older.
7. One participating adult must have completed the BSA Winter Camping and Travel training.
6. Comply with the General Requirements, except First Aid Card requirements.



FIG. 10-5
SNOW HIKING
2" x 2"

BACKPACKER

The BACKPACKER is one of two achievement awards offered by the LAAC authorized for uniform wear in accordance with National and Council Uniform Regulations. All other backpacking awards are to be worn either on "brag sheets", vests, or backpack flaps, NOT ON UNIFORM.

Requirements:

1. Comply with the General Requirements.
2. Earn a Long Term Backpack Award (5 or more days).
3. Perform 12 hours of LAAC-HAT approved conservation work applied to earning the Trail Saver or Forest Saver awards.
4. Conservation work must be performed in the same calendar year the Backpacker award is earned.
5. Conservation work applied to meet the requirements for any other award or for advancement does not apply to earning this award.



FIG. 10-6
BACKPACKER
3½" DIA.

ADVANCED BACKPACKER

Requirements:

1. Comply with the General Requirements.
2. Earn the BACKPACKER AWARD.
3. Earn an additional long term backpack award (5 days or more) in year after earning the Backpacker award.
4. Perform 12 hours of LAAC-HAT approved conservation work applied to earning the Trail Saver or Forest Saver awards subsequent to receiving the Backpacker award.
4. Conservation work may be performed any time after receiving the Backpacker award.
5. Conservation work applied to meet the requirements for any other award or for advancement does not apply to earning this award.
5. Scouts and Venturers must earn (or have earned) the Camping, Cooking and Hiking Merit Badges.
6. Adults must complete the BSA Adult Leaders Backpack Training Course.



FIG. 10-7
ADVANCED BACKPACKER
4" DIA.

FOREST SAVER

This award program recognizes individual participation in trail construction and maintenance projects. This participation can be as part of a Unit service project or an Eagle project. Although originally established as a two year program, it is now on-going. All effort applied to earning these awards must be performed in projects which are approved in advance by the LAAC-HAT and are supervised by a Trail Boss or representative of the US Forest Service.

There are three categories of projects:

Campsite: development, improvement, maintenance, and rehabilitation of campground or trail camp

Wildlife: construction and maintenance of feeders and watering, habitat restoration, browse-way improvement, etc.

Forestry: plantation clearing, tree planting, tree thinning and pruning, etc.

Requirements:

1. Campsite award - six (6) hours of effort in that category.
2. Wildlife award - six (6) hours of effort in that category.
3. Forestry award - six (6) hours of effort in that category.
4. Forest Saver - earn the Campsite, Wildlife, and Forestry awards and do an additional six (6) hours of Forest Saver project work in any of the three categories at any time.
5. Forest Saver medal - earn the Forest Saver award and do an additional six (6) hours of Forest Saver project work in any of the three categories at any time.
6. Use the Conservation Award Log from Hike Aid 7 to obtain awards.

Please refer to the LAAC-HAT Program Announcement, "Forest Saver Program", for additional information on this award series.



FIG. 10-8
FOREST SAVER AWARD
5" x 5"



FIG. 10-9
FOREST SAVER MEDAL
1½" x 3"

TRAIL SAVER

This award program recognizes individual participation in trail construction and maintenance projects. This participation can be as part of a Unit service project or an Eagle project. Although originally established as a two year program, it is now on-going. All effort applied to earning these awards must be performed in projects which are approved in advance by the LAAC-HAT and are supervised by a Trail Boss or representative of the US Forest Service.

The awards are earned in six (6) hour increments on a cumulative basis. Please refer to the LAAC-HAT Hike Aid 7, "Trail Conservation", for additional information about this program. The appendix of the Hike Aid contains a form, Conservation Award Log, to be used to obtain awards.



FIG. 10-10
6-HOUR SILVER TRAILSAYER
3" x 3½"



FIG. 10-11
12-HOUR FOREST CONSERVATION
3" x 3"



FIG. 10-12
18-HOUR GOLD TRAILSAYER
3" x 3½"



FIG. 10-13
24-HOUR TRAILBLAZER
3" x 3"



FIG. 10-14
30-HOUR MEDAL
1½" x 3"

EXPLORER MOUNTAINEERING 1-WEEK BACKPACK

Units can choose their own route and location for it's week long vacation. Locations are generally those involving several thousand feet of elevation gain or loss per day, much above the 9000' level.

Requirements:

1. Backpack a minimum of 50 miles.
No mileage offset for elevation gain.
Hike may be taken on any public lands.
2. Participants must be Venturers or Scouts 14 years old or older.
3. Earn two Weekend backpack awards within 90 days of the start of the hike.
4. Minimum six days and five nights with one layover day recommended. Food drops or re-supplies are not permitted.
5. At least one adult accompanying the group must have completed Council Adult Leader Backpack Training and one adult on the hike must have completed a Red Cross First Aid Class and possess a current card.
8. All participants must present evidence of a physical exam within a year of the hike using BSA Form 4412.
9. Submit proposed hike plans to LAAC-HAT at least six weeks prior to hike. Identify challenges and mountaineering experiences to be encountered to earn this award, submit a "High Adventure Application", "Trail Profile/Trail Schedule", menu and other relevant material.
7. Comply with the General Requirements.



FIG. 10-15
EXPLORER MOUNTAINEERING 1-WEEK BACKPACK
6" x 2"

GABRIELINO

Requirements:

1. Two Training Hike awards shall have been within the prior six months.
2. Trail and campsites must be in the Angeles National Forest.
3. Complete a minimum of 12 hours scheduled backpack time over a minimum of three days and two nights.
4. Award recipients must perform six hours of LAAC-HAT approved conservation work in the Angeles National Forest within 90 days before or after the hike.
8. Comply with the General Requirements, except First Aid Card requirements.



FIG. 10-16
GABRIELINO
3" x 3"

HIGH ADVENTURE BACKPACK

Requirements:

1. Plan and carry out a backpack of at least 5 consecutive days with at least 25 backpack hours. Backpackers must present evidence of a medical examination within one year of the hike using BSA Form 4412.
2. Earn two Weekend backpack awards within 90 days of the start of the hike.
3. Participants must be at least 12 years old and it is strongly recommended they be 14 years old or older.
4. At least one adult accompanying the group must have completed Council Adult Leader Backpack Training and one adult on the hike must have completed a Red Cross First Aid Class and possess a current card.
5. Submit proposed hike plans to LAAC-HAT at least six weeks prior to hike. Identify challenges and mountaineering experiences to be encountered to earn this award, submit a “High Adventure Application”, “Trail Profile/Trail Schedule”, menu and other relevant material.
6. Comply with the General Requirements.



FIG. 10-17
HIGH ADVENTURE BACKPACK
4" x 4"

JOHN MUIR AWARD

Requirements:

1. Plan and carry out a backpack of at least 7 days and 6 nights with a recommendation of one additional layover day. Backpack in the range of 50 miles per segment over the specified routes. Food drops or re-supplies are not permitted.
2. Backpackers must present evidence of a medical examination within one year of the hike using BSA Form 4412.
3. Earn two Weekend backpack awards within 90 days of the start of the hike.
4. Participants must be at least 12 years old and it is strongly recommended they be 14 years old or older.
5. At least one adult accompanying the group must have completed Council Adult Leader Backpack Training and one adult on the hike must have completed a Red Cross First Aid Class and possess a current card.
6. Submit proposed hike plans to LAAC-HAT at least one month prior to hike. Identify challenges and mountaineering experiences to be encountered to earn this award, submit a "High Adventure Application", "Trail Profile/Trail Schedule", menu and other relevant material.
7. Backpack the system of the John Muir Trail appropriate to the segment to be earned, beginning and ending at the locations indicated on the respective segment.
8. Comply with the General Requirements.

Please refer to the LAAC-HAT Program Announcement, "John Muir Trail", for additional information about these awards.



FIG. 10-18
JOHN MUIR AWARD
6" x 2"



FIG. 10-19
JOHN MUIR TRAIL SEGMENTS
3" X ¾"

MINI-PEAK BAGGER

Requirements:

1. Climb peaks listed in the Los Angeles County Council MINI-PEAK BAGGER AWARD booklet. Awards are earned when 8, 16, or 24 different peaks have been climbed. A given peak may be counted only once for credit for these awards.
2. Climb a maximum of three peaks per outing, and two per day.
3. It is recommended that each Scout do two hours of work or study on an applicable merit badge or Scouting skill during each outing..
4. Each climber shall pack out trash picked up from trail and campsite areas.
5. Perform six (6) hours of LAAC-HAT approved conservation work (not applicable to any other award or for advancement) at any time independent of the peak climbs.
6. Maintain and submit a roster for each participant which identifies the peak, date climbed, and Tour Permit number. Also keep notes on the date, location, and Tour Permit number for conservation work.
7. Comply with the General Requirements.

Please refer to the LAAC-HAT Program Announcement, "Mini-Peak Bagger Award", for additional information and a listing of the eligible peaks. This also contains a Mini-Peak Bagger Award Record form for applying for an award.



FIG. 10-20
MINI PEAK BAGGER
3" x 3"

SIERRA NORTH and SIERRA SOUTH

Requirements:

1. Plan and make a backpack of at least 25 backpack hours in at least 5 consecutive days. An additional day for layover is recommended.
2. Backpackers must present evidence of a medical examination within one year of the hike using BSA Form 4412.
3. Earn two Weekend backpack awards within 90 days of the start of the hike.
4. Participants must be at least 12 years old and it is strongly recommended they be 14 years old or older.
5. At least one adult accompanying the group must have completed Council Adult Leader Backpack Training and one adult on the hike must have completed a Red Cross First Aid Class and possess a current card.
6. Submit proposed hike plans to LAAC-HAT at least one month prior to hike. Identify challenges and mountaineering experiences to be encountered to earn this award, submit a "High Adventure Application", "Trail Profile/Trail Schedule", menu and other relevant material.
7. The backpack shall be made entirely within the specified area designated by the U.S. Geological Survey 15 minute quadrangle topographical maps listed below:

SIERRA NORTH

Fallen Leaf Lake, Silver Lake, Marklesville, Big Meadow, Dardanalles Cone, Sonora Pass, Fales Hot Spring, Pinecrest, Tower Pk., Matterhorn Pk., Eleanor, Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, Tuolumne Meadows, Mono Craters, Yosemite, Merced Pk., Devil's Postpile, Mt. Morrison, Kaiser Pk., Mt. Abbot and Mt. Tom.

SIERRA SOUTH

Mt. Tom, Mt. Abbot, Kaiser Peak, Big Pine, Mt. Goddard, Blackcap Mt., Marian Pk., Huntington Lake, Mt. Pinchot, Tehipite Dome, Lone Pine, Mt. Whitney, Triple Divide Pk., Giant Forest, Olancha, Kern Pk., Mineral King, Kaweah, Monache Mt., Hockett Pk., Kernville, Camp Nelson and Lamont Peak.

8. Comply with the General Requirements.



FIG. 10-21
SIERRA NORTH
3" x 2½"



FIG. 10-22
SIERRA SOUTH
3" x 2½"

SILVER MOCCASINS TRAIL AWARD

Requirements:

1. Backpackers must present evidence of a medical examination within one year of the hike using BSA Form 4412.
2. Earn two Weekend backpack awards within 90 days of the start of the hike.
3. Participants must be at least 12 years old and it is strongly recommended they be 14 years old or older.
4. At least one adult accompanying the group must have completed Council Adult Leader Backpack Training and one adult on the hike must have completed a Red Cross First Aid Class and possess a current card.
5. Comply with the General Requirements.

SILVER MOCCASINS TRAIL

1. Hike the Silver Moccasin Trail, Chantry Flat to Vincent Gap, in the Angeles National Forest a distance of 50 miles (40 scheduled backpack hours).
2. Six days and five nights minimum, of which one is a mandatory layover day. One additional layover day is permitted.
3. Maximum of two food drops are permitted at the time and place of your choice. Menu accompanying the award application must note the day(s) of a food drop.

SEQUOIA/KINGS CANYON ROUTES

1. Hike A specified route in the Silliman Crest or Sugarloaf Valley areas of the Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Parks.
2. Five days and four nights minimum. One additional layover day is permitted.
3. Backpack 25 or more scheduled hours. No food drops are permitted on these routes.



FIG. 10-23
SILVER MOCCASIN
4" x 4"

SILVER MOCCASINS MEDAL

Requirements:

1. Earn the Silver Moccasins Trail Award.
2. Perform 12 hours of LAAC-HAT approved and supervised trail conservation work in the Angeles National Forest (out of Council units may request alternate locations).
3. Conservation work must be performed in the same year as the Silver Moccasins Trail Award is earned.
4. Conservation work applied to meet the requirements of another award or for advancement does not apply for this award.

Please refer to the LAAC-HAT Program Announcement, "The Silver Moccasins Hike", for additional information about this award.



FIG. 10-24
SILVER MOCCASIN MEDAL
1" x 1"

HIGH SIERRA TRAIL

Requirements:

1. Backpackers must present evidence of a medical examination within one year of the hike using BSA Form 4412.
2. Earn two Weekend backpack awards within 90 days of the start of the hike.
3. Participants must be at least 12 years old and it is strongly recommended they be 14 years old or older.
4. At least one adult accompanying the group must have completed Council Adult Leader Backpack Training and one adult on the hike must have completed a Red Cross First Aid Class and possess a current card.
5. Comply with the General Requirements.
6. The High Sierra Patch is awarded along with the appropriate segment the first time. Thereafter, only the segment is awarded.

GIANT FOREST TO MINERAL KING

1. Hike must start at Crescent Meadow and end at Mineral King or the reverse.
2. Six days and five nights minimum duration with 25 or more scheduled backpack hours. One layover in addition is recommended. The usual route is 44 miles with 7,500 feet elevation gain - 30 backpack hours.

MINERAL KING TO MT. WHITNEY

1. Hike must start at Mineral King and end at Whitney Portal or the reverse with day hike to Mt. Whitney.
2. Seven days and six nights minimum duration with 25 or more scheduled backpack hours. One layover in addition is recommended. The usual route is 52 miles with 12,000 feet elevation gain - 38 backpack hours.



FIG. 10-25
HIGH SIERRA TRAIL
6" x 2"



FIG. 10-26
GIANT FOREST TO MINERAL KING
3" x 2"



FIG. 10-27
MINERAL KING TO MT. WHITNEY
3" x 2"



FIG. 10-28
PEAK BAGGER

PEAK BAGGER

This award program is designed to stimulate a greater appreciation of the beauty, peace, and majesty of the alpine wilderness. Each peak on the approved list has been carefully selected so that a variety of locations are reached using backpacking rather than mountaineering skills.

Your trip planning will normally provide for climbing no more than two (2) peaks on a short term (less than five days) outing and no more than three (3) peaks on a long term (five or more days) outing. Under certain circumstances, in advance of the trip, the LAAC-HAT does grant approval to climb an additional peak for credit on an outing. However, only one peak may be climbed in a single day. Most of the approved peaks are located in the Sierra Nevada and the San Bernardino Mountains. Each has an elevation of between 8,500 and 14,500 feet and presents a unique challenge.

Requirements:

1. An award is earned when a cumulative 5, 10, 15, 20, or 25 different peaks from the approved list are climbed and all other requirements have been met.
2. All outings that include a peak climb must satisfy the General Requirements.
3. Earn two Weekend backpack awards before beginning to climb peaks that qualify for this award.
4. Climb five different approved peaks, limited to one per day, with a maximum of three per long-term outing. A given peak may be climbed only once for credit for these awards.
5. Pick up and pack out any trash from the trail or campsite along the way.

Please refer to the LAAC-HAT Program Announcement, "Peak Bagger Award", for additional information, a more complete discussion of the requirements, and a listing of the eligible peaks. The appendix of the announcement contains a form, "Peak Bagger Award Record", which is suggested for keeping track of individual participation and for applying for an award.

GOLDEN EAGLET MINI-LONG TERM AWARD

Requirements:

1. Select hiking area from public lands. Plan a hike consisting of a minimum of 16 hours scheduled backpack time.
2. Plan a minimum of 4 days for completion of trip. One layover day in addition is recommended.
2. Backpackers must present evidence of a medical examination within one year of the hike using BSA Form 4412.
3. Earn two Weekend backpack awards within 90 days of the start of the hike.
5. At least one adult accompanying the group must have completed Council Adult Leader Backpack Training. It is strongly recommended one adult on the hike have completed a Red Cross First Aid Class and possess a current card.
6. Submit proposed hike plans to LAAC-HAT at least two weeks prior to hike. Identify challenges and mountaineering experiences to be encountered to earn this award, submit a "High Adventure Application", "Trail Profile/Trail Schedule", menu and other relevant material.
7. Comply with the General Requirements except for First Aid requirements.



FIG. 10-29
GOLDEN EAGLET
3" x 3"

GOLDEN BIGHORN TREK

Requirements:

1. Must be taken in the San Bernardino Mountains, beginning and ending at Angeles Oaks, using designated route through the San Geronio Wilderness. Five days, four nights minimum duration; one layover day in addition is recommended.
2. Backpack time is 33 scheduled hours (designated route is 53 miles with 7,000 foot elevation gain). One food drop is permitted, at the time and place of your choice.
3. Participating Scouts must be 12 or older, it is recommended that they be 14 or older. Award recipient to have earned two weekend awards within 90 days prior to hike.
4. Secure LAAC-HAT approval of a "High Adventure Application" at least one month prior to departure. the "Trail Profile/Trail Schedule", the menu, and all other relevant planning material must accompany the Application.
5. Each participant must have a medical examination, per BSA-National Council policy (BSA Form 44122), within one year prior to hike. One participating adult must have completed BSA Adult Leader Backpack Training. One participating adult must hold a current Red Cross First Aid Certificate.
8. Comply with the General Requirements.



FIG. 10-30
GOLDEN BIGHORN TREK
3" x 3"

TRAIL BOSS SERVICE PIN

This award is given to Scouters by the Forest/Trail Conservation Committee of the LAAC-HAT and is earned when the following conditions are met.

1. The Scouter completes Trail Boss training (refer to the LAAC-HAT Hike Aid 7, "Trail Conservation").
2. The Scouter oversees two trail conservation projects, each of which are a minimum of six hours, in the Angeles National Forest.



FIG. 10-31
TRAIL BOSS SERVICE PIN
½" x 1"

JIM SPENCER CONSERVATION AWARD

This award, which honors the accomplishments of long-time LAAC-HAT member Jim Spencer, is a Unit award. It is awarded when the following requirements are satisfied.

Requirements:

1. The Unit performs 1000, 2000, or 5000 cumulative hours of onsite work on LAAC-HAT or other Southern California Council approved conservation projects.
2. The unit must have a registered leader who is a Trail Boss.

All qualified conservation hours apply regardless of the awards or advancements earned by the individual participants in the projects. All hours performed on approved conservation projects since 1980 may be used to qualify for this award. This award is a ribbon 2" x 22" to be displayed on the Unit's flag and a Certificate of Recognition. A different color recognizes each level, 1000, 2000, or 5000 hours, of conservation service.

Use the special "Jim Spencer Award Application" in Hike Aid 7 when applying for this award.

Please refer to the LAAC-HAT Program Announcement, "Jim Spencer Conservation Award", for additional information about this award.

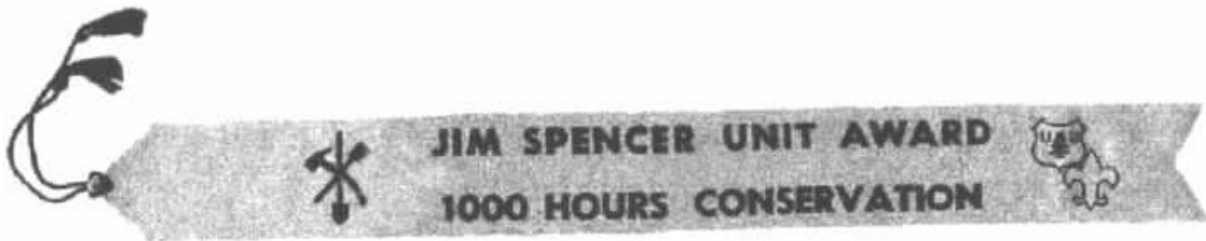


FIG. 10-32
JIM SPENCER AWARD
PENNANT

MASTER TRAILBUILDER

This is an award presented to the Scouters by the Forest/Trail Conservation Committee of the LAAC-HAT for continued service to the conservation programs of the United States Forest Service and the LAAC-HAT.



FIG. 10-33
MASTER TRAILBUILDER
GOLD PIN