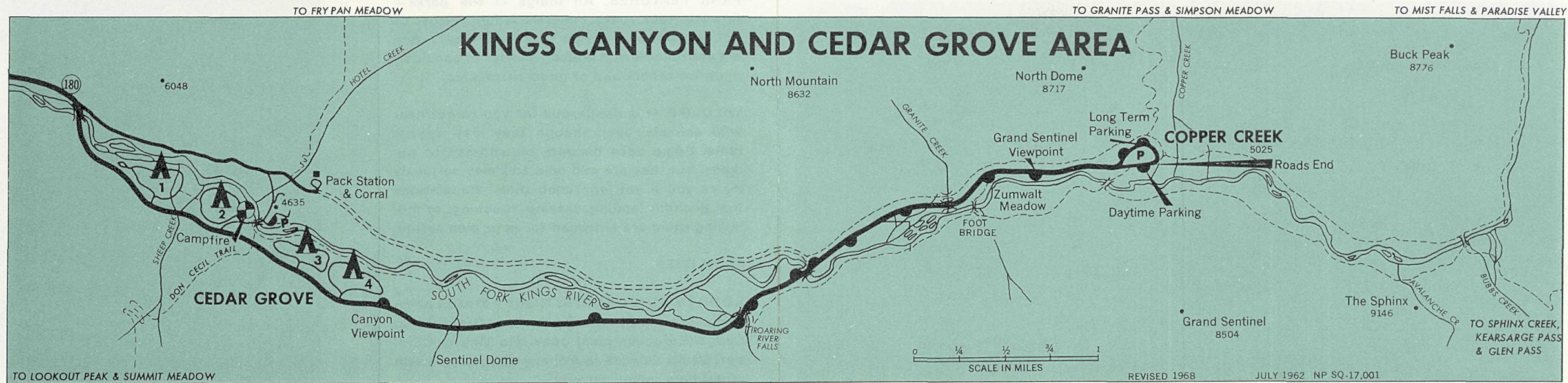


# Sequoia and Kings Canyon

NATIONAL PARKS • CALIFORNIA



## WHAT TO SEE

The features of these parks are so numerous and so diverse you will have a wide choice of things to see. What you find will depend upon your interest, your mode of travel, and your time.

**GIANT FOREST, SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK.** Some of the finest groups of giant sequoias can be seen at Giant Forest. Here, too, is the General Sherman Tree, largest and one of the oldest of living things. Its age is estimated at more than 3,000 years. Here also you can see Moro Rock, Crescent Meadow, Crystal Cave, and Takopah Valley. Short climbs to Moro Rock and Little Baldy open up superb views of valley, forest, and high mountain scenery. Tours through Crystal Cave are conducted daily, mid-June through Labor Day, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.; ½-mile walk; wraps needed; entrance fee.

**GRANT GROVE, KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK.** Grant Grove is somewhat separated from the main body of the park. In it is the General Grant Tree, second in size only to the General Sherman Tree. Another notable giant, is the General Lee Tree, second largest in the grove. In striking contrast to these living survivors of antiquity is the weathered Centennial Stump, remnant of a tree cut in 1875 to provide an exhibit for the Philadelphia World's Fair. Big Stump Basin, where age-old trees were cut during the logging era, is nearby.

**KINGS CANYON AND CEDAR GROVE.** Kings Canyon is a steep-walled valley of the South Fork of the Kings River. Towering peaks rise to heights of 1 mile or more above the stream. Cedar Grove is the center of activity in Kings Canyon and a popular base for extensive trail trips into the high country. Zumwalt Meadow, Roaring River Falls, and Mist Falls are readily accessible.

**THE HIGH COUNTRY.** This is a vast region of unbroken wilderness, of mountains, canyons, rivers, lakes, and meadows. Evolution Basin,

Kern Canyon, Tehipite Valley, and Simpson Meadow are a few of the places where you can find the spectacular and unspoiled scene. Only by trail can you gain acquaintance with this rugged but friendly country. The Sierra crest, ranging in elevation from 11,000 feet to 14,495 feet at the summit of Mount Whitney, forms the eastern boundary of the parks. There are several hundred miles of trail; those in the higher elevations are generally open from late June through September.

## THINGS TO DO

**SCENIC DRIVES.** Generals Highway (open all year) is the main road that connects Sequoia and Kings Canyon. It winds through the sequoia belt and covers 46 miles (2 hours driving time) from the Ash Mountain Entrance to Grant Grove. Branching off from it are other roads that take you to other attractions or within short trail distances of them. From Grant Grove, you travel 30 miles on Calif. 180 through Sequoia National Forest and along the South Fork of the Kings River to Cedar Grove. The road then continues for 6 miles through the canyon to Copper Creek. Here you are beneath solid granite walls that tower thousands of feet above the canyon floor.

**HIKING.** Self-guiding nature trails are available at Giant Forest and Grant Grove. Numerous trails wind through the Giant Forest, Grant Grove, and Cedar Grove areas. More than 900 miles of trails invite you to visit the high country.

**SADDLE HORSES.** You can rent saddle horses at corrals near Giant Forest (at Wolverton), Grant Grove, or Cedar Grove; in Owens Valley, on the east side of the Sierra; and at many other places around the borders of the parks.

**FISHING.** You will find trout fishing in almost every lake and stream. Park waters contain brook, brown, rainbow, and golden trout. The most popular fishing spots are along the Kings River and the forks of the Kaweah River. You

can buy a California fishing license at the stores. Certain closures and special regulations are in effect from time to time, so check at a visitor center, at a bulletin board, or with a ranger before you fish.

## NATURALIST SERVICES

The National Park Service provides many services in the parks to help you understand these areas and their special features. These include:

**GUIDED TRIPS.** Schedules for naturalist-conducted walks, through the big-tree areas and to important scenic points in summer, are posted on bulletin boards. Most walks are one-half day or less in duration.

**CAMPFIRE PROGRAMS.** Illustrated talks on various aspects of the two parks are given at evening campfire programs at Giant Forest, Grant Grove, Dorst, Lodgepole, and Cedar Grove in summer. Weekly programs are posted.

**VISITOR CENTERS.** Open daily at both Lodgepole and Grant Grove, these feature exhibits and information on the sequoias, park wildlife, geology, history, and Indians.

## YOU NEED TO KNOW

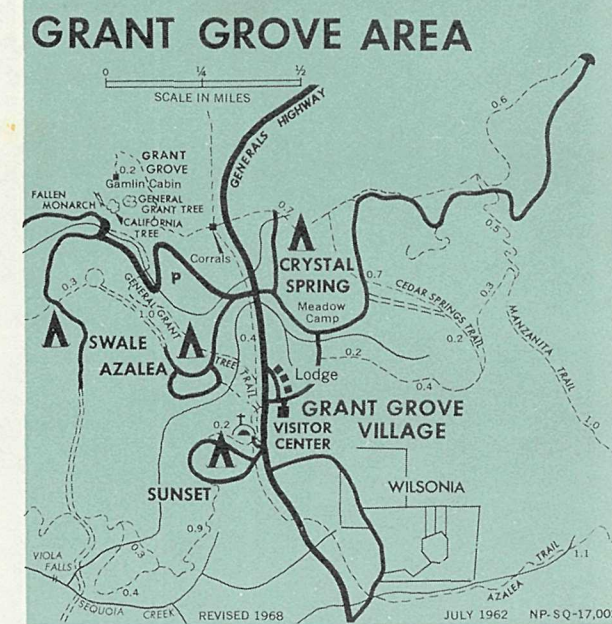
**ABOUT YOURSELF AND FAMILY.** Avoid overexertion. Accustom yourself gradually to strenuous hikes and to the higher elevation of the mountains. Stay on the trails. Avoid trips alone. Tell one of your party or a park ranger where you are going and when you expect to be back. Be sure that your children do not get lost.

**YOUR CAR.** Some mountain roads are crooked and steep—so always drive on your own side. Drive slowly and shift into second or low gear to control your speed. Continuous use of your brakes may cause them to overheat, possibly resulting in loss of control of your car. Wherever you drive, observe posted speed limits; practice the courtesies of the road.

**YOUR CAMP.** Camp only in a designated area. On trail trips, camp where others have camped before. Permits, required for trailside or backcountry campfires, can be obtained at ranger stations. Build your campfire in the fireplace provided. Use refuse receptacles.

**PETS.** You may take your pets into the parks. However, for the protection of park wildlife, they must be kept under physical control at all times—caged, leashed, or confined in your car—and they may not be taken on park trails, to campfire programs, or into visitor centers, stores, and eating establishments.

**FIRES AND SMOKING.** Do not smoke while traveling along the trails. If you want to smoke, stop, clear the ground around you, smoke, put it out, and then move on. Break your match before throwing it away. Never leave a campfire unattended; always extinguish it with water. During the fire season, from about late June to October, smoking in moving cars is not permitted below 6,000 feet elevation.



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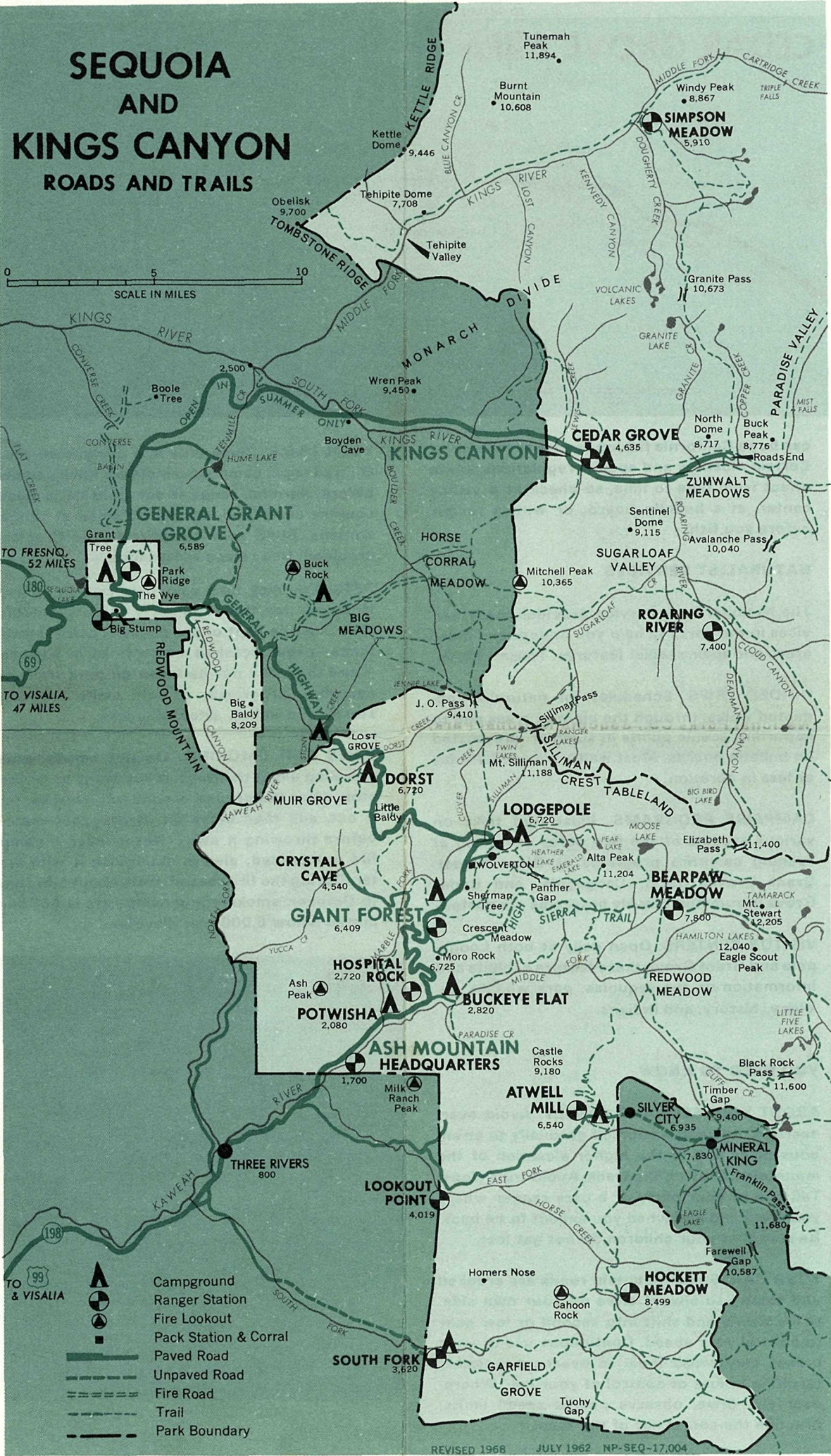
## ADMINISTRATION

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks are administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

The superintendent's headquarters are at Ash Mountain. His address is: Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Three Rivers, Calif. 93271.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, wildlife, mineral, land, park, and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial affairs are other major concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources." The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States—now and in the future.

U. S. Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



**PARK FEATURES.** All things in the parks—flowers, trees, rocks, minerals, wildlife—must be left unharmed for others to enjoy. Preservation is a matter of law; it is also a matter of consideration for others and of good citizenship.

**WILDLIFE.** It is dangerous for you to get near wild animals, even though they may appear tame. Some have become accustomed to humans, but they are still wild and may seriously injure you if you approach them. Regulations that prohibit feeding, teasing, touching, or molesting them are enforced for your own safety.

**FACILITIES**

**LODGES AND CABINS.** Giant Forest Lodge (American and European plans) and Grant Grove Lodge (European plan) open late May to October. Camp Kaweah (European plan) cabins and motel-type rooms, all year.

**HOUSEKEEPING CABINS.** Camp Kaweah, open all year; Meadow Camp and Grant Grove, late May to October. Pinewood Camp (partially equipped cabins) in Giant Forest, early June to early September.

**TRAILSIDE CAMP.** Bearpaw Meadow Camp has wood-platform tents and lodge with meals, 11 miles from Giant Forest on High Sierra Trail (no road), from late June to early September.

Reservations for lodges and cabins should be made by writing to Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks Co., Sequoia National Park, Calif. 93262 (winter, Visalia, Calif. 93277).

**CAMPGROUNDS.** Equipped with running water, toilets, fireplaces, and tables. Gasoline stove recommended. Firewood may be purchased. Camping is permitted only in designated campgrounds and at established campsites along the trails. Lodgepole and Cedar Grove camps are best suited to trailer use, though they have no electrical or sewer connections. Occupancy limited to 14 days; no reservations can be made. Most campgrounds open from June 1 until closed by snow in October. Winter camping at Potwisha.

**FOOD AND SUPPLIES.** Coffee shop at Giant Forest open all year; Grant Grove, late May to October (lunch service only in winter). Dining room at Giant Forest Lodge open late May to October.

**STORES.** General supplies and curios at Giant Forest, Lodgepole, Grant Grove, and Cedar Grove in summer; limited staples at Giant Forest and Grant Grove in winter.

**EQUIPMENT RENTAL.** Camping and hiking supplies, including tents, cots, and mattresses, at Pinewood Camp, Giant Forest; snowshoes and ski equipment at Wolverton; figure and hockey skates at Lodgepole.

**POST OFFICE.** Giant Forest, Sequoia National Park, Calif. 93262, open all year; Grant Grove, Kings Canyon National Park, Calif. 93633.

