

SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

& SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST/GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT

FALL 2007 GUIDE



Crystal Cave Tours, Free Activities, Fire Danger • page 3

Road & Safety Tips / Finding Gasoline • page 5

Highlights & Shuttle Buses in Sequoia Park • page 6

Highlights in Kings Canyon & USFS • page 7

page 8 • Facilities & Naturalist Programs in Sequoia

page 9 • Facilities & Programs in Kings Canyon & US Forest Service

page 10 • Camping & Lodging / Bears & Your Food

page 12 • Park Road Map



Changing climate changes everything

Hot, cold, moist, and dry, four champions fierce, strive here for mast'ry.

John Milton, Paradise Lost, 1667

The Sierra knows these "four champions" well. From its hot, dry foothills to the frosty peaks, temperature and moisture play a critical role in determining what lives where. In fact, the ups and downs of these climatic conditions affect just about everything everywhere.

Climate has always shifted, but almost always gradually. Over long periods of time, life adjusts very slowly — or adapts — to survive.

Therefore, each creature and plant lives where the specific conditions suit it. Each has a range of hot and cold, wet and dry, that it can tolerate — or that the food it depends on can tolerate. Those that can live with a wide range of conditions inhabit many places (think of common species like coyotes and dandelions).

Others are remarkably limited in where they can survive (think of rare life forms like sequoias and cave insects). Climate dictates all.

If climate shifts quickly, life doesn't have time to adapt. Animals and plants cannot change rapidly. A few can migrate, but only if appropriate habitat is close enough. During climate change that is faster than usual, what cannot adapt or move on must perish.

Due to its extreme variety of elevations — and therefore climatic conditions — this park is home to incredibly diverse life. Given that shifting climates could mean big changes to that life, park staff work hard to understand what climate was like in the past and how it could change. They join researchers from other agencies and universities to study a broad



Ancient Sierran ice is melting. Photos of the Darwin Glacier and others document a century of change — and shrinkage. © USGS G.K. Gilbert; © H. Basagic

field of topics related to climate:

- **Snow:** Monthly measurements taken at 29 places throughout the parks reveal snow's depth and water content. This tells approximately how much snowmelt will flow into rivers that support wildlife and feed reservoirs that serve people.
- **Daily weather:** Over a dozen stations record temperature and other weather factors. These documents record highs and lows as well as average changes over time. Temperature affects whether precipitation comes as rain or snow, which affects how much snow accumulates *and* how soon it is melted away by spring rains and heat. It affects how much water evaporates from rivers and reservoirs. In some reptiles, it affects the gender of offspring. For the pika, an alpine cousin of the rabbit, a few degrees too warm spells death. This tiny mammal, already living on mountain peaks, has nowhere to go if the climate heats up.
- **Tree rings:** Weather affects growth, so tree ring patterns tell us about past climate. Long-lived trees like sequoias give us a climate history over thousands of years. We can see when they grew well and when they grew not at all.

• **Fire:** Scars on tree rings also record the number and intensity of past fires. Since we can date tree rings down to season, we know when the fires occurred. Fire intensity and frequency is strongly related to climate. Fire is critical to sequoia reproduction, overall forest health, and creation of habitat for many plants and animals.

Studying these clues to past climate help to predict how upcoming climatic shifts might affect life. What will come to pass if the "fierce champion" of heat increases? Are we willing to accept those changes?

WELCOME TO SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON

Get to know these parks!

Given the names of these parks, you expect giant trees and huge canyons — and you won't be disappointed. Yet the whole of them is even greater than the sum of their famous parts.

Rising from 1300' to 14,494', these parks protect a spectacular elevational range. This span from low to high means dramatic shifts from hot foothills to shady forests to the cold High Sierra. It means extraordinarily diverse plants and animals living in extremely varied conditions. It means steep roads and trails that climb mountains, and cold rivers that plunge down from their heights.

There is diversity, too, in the caretakers of this landscape. Bordering these two national parks is a national monument, which is part of a national forest. A U.S. Geological Survey Field Station conducts research here. The Sequoia Natural History Association sells books and maps at visitor centers and contributes to education and research. The Sequoia Parks Foundation supports significant park projects.

Other partners, public and private, cooperate with the Park Service to meet a challenging mission — providing for public enjoyment while keeping the parks unimpaired for future generations. You are an equally important partner! Experience these parks fully: Learn all you can and join in preserving them. Together we can meet this inspiring goal:

*The National Park Service
cares for special places
saved by the American people
so that all may experience
our heritage.*

FEES HELP YOUR PARKS!

Most of your entrance and camping fees stay here. The parks use them to invest in projects that enhance visitor facilities and protect park resources. In the past few years, fees have paid for repairing and improving roads, campgrounds, trails, picnic areas, and restrooms. They have improved visitor centers, updated exhibits, and modernized naturalist slide programs.

ENTRANCE FEE OPTIONS

- **7-day pass for Sequoia & Kings Canyon, and for Hume Lake District of Sequoia National Forest/Giant Sequoia National Monument (GSNM):** \$20 per vehicle (private, non-commercial) or \$10 per person on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or bus.
- **12-Month Pass for Sequoia & Kings Canyon, & for Hume Lake District of Sequoia National Forest/GSNM:** \$30 admits all passengers in a private vehicle for one year from month of purchase.
- **12-Month: America the Beautiful Interagency Annual Pass:** Cost \$80. Valid for entrance fees at Federal recreation sites including National Parks, National Forests, FWS, BLM, & Bureau of Reclamation. Admits all passengers in a single private non-commercial vehicle where per-vehicle fees are charged, or the passholder plus up to 3 persons (age 16 & older) for per-person fee areas, for 12 months. Not valid at Crystal Cave.
- **Seniors: America the Beautiful Interagency Pass:** \$10 one-time fee buys a lifetime pass for entrance fees for U.S. citizens & permanent residents 62 or over. (Previously issued Golden Age passes remain valid.)
- **Accessibility: America the Beautiful Interagency Access Pass:** Free to blind or permanently disabled U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Take appropriate documentation to any park visitor center. (Previously issued Golden Access passes remain valid.)

WELCOME

You may borrow the park map & guide in Braille at visitor centers.

BIENVENUE

Une guide officielle est disponible dans les centres d'information.

BIENVENIDOS

Hay un folleto en Español disponible en los centros de visita.

WILKOMMEN

Eine Landkarte ist auch in deutscher sprache im Besucherzentrum erhältlich.

BENVENUTI

La traduzione in lingua Italiana della mappa e' disponibile in tutti i centri di informazioni.

PARK, FOREST, OR MONUMENT?

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Sequoia National Forest, and Giant Sequoia National Monument... What is the difference between them?

Each is on federal land. Each exists to benefit society. Yet each has a different history and purpose. Together they provide a wide spectrum of uses.



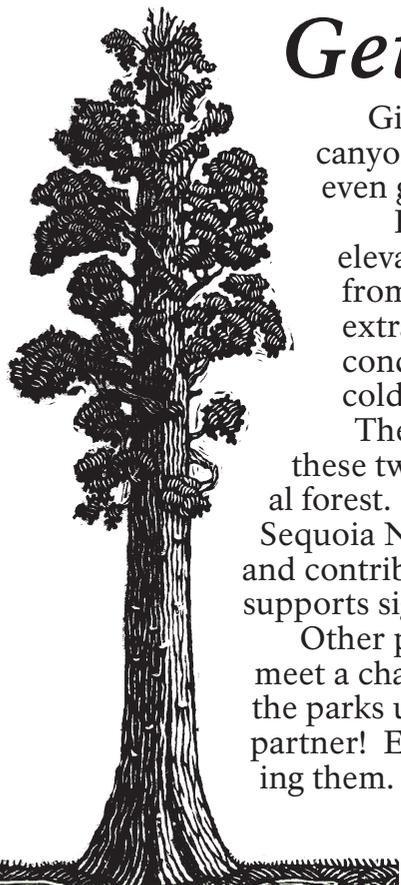
National parks strive to keep landscapes unimpaired for future generations. They protect natural and historic features while offering light-on-the-land recreation. Park rangers work for the National Park Service, part of the Department of the Interior.

National forests, managed under a "multiple use" concept, provide services and commodities that may include lumber, cattle grazing, minerals, and recreation with and without vehicles. Forest rangers work for the U.S. Forest Service, an agency in the Department of Agriculture.



Both agencies manage wilderness and other areas where they strive for maximum protection of natural resources. For example, part of Sequoia National Forest has been designated Giant Sequoia National Monument to emphasize protection of sequoias.

Parks, forests, and monuments may have different rules in order to meet their goals. Read "Where can I..." on the next page to learn what activities are permitted where. Despite confusion over names, we get a wide range of benefits from these diverse areas.



PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY — DIAL 911
No coins needed.

24-Hour Park Information
1-559-565-3341 (NPS)
www.nps.gov/seki

National Forest Information
1-559-338-2251 (USFS)
www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia

Yosemite Information (NPS)
1-209-372-0200
www.nps.gov/yose

California Road Conditions
1-800-427-7623 (Caltrans)

Partners in the Parks

The following organizations work together to provide this guide, first published in 1974 as the Sequoia Bark. It is published by the Sequoia Natural History Association (SNHA) and printed by the Selma Enterprise:

National Park Service (NPS)

Malinee Crapsey, Editor

1-559-565-3341

www.nps.gov/seki

Sequoia Natural History Association (SNHA)

1-559-565-3759

www.sequoiahistory.org

Sequoia Parks Foundation

1-559-739-1668

www.sequoiafund.org

U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

1-559-784-1500

www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia

Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts (DNCPR)

1-888-252-5757

www.visitsequoia.com

Kings Canyon Park Services (KCPS)

1-866-KCANYON (522-6966)

www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

1-559-565-3171

www.werc.usgs.gov

Page 1 illustrations ©SNHA by Rick Wheeler

Crystal Cave Rocks!



Explore fabulous formations! Protected since its discovery in 1918, this is the only one of over 200 known caves in these parks that can be toured.

No tickets are sold at the cave, only at Foothills and Lodgepole visitor centers. Buy them at least 1-1/2 hours in advance of your tour, and check timing of road delays between the Foothills and the cave.

Crystal Cave Road is 15 miles (24 km) from the Sequoia Park entrance on Hwy 198, and 3 miles (5 km) south of the General Sherman Tree (see map on page 12). Maximum vehicle length is 22' (6.7 m).

Use restrooms at the parking lot; there are none at the cave. Wear sturdy shoes; the 1/2-mile trail (.8 km) to the cave is steep. Bring a jacket; the cave is 50°F (10°C). No strollers, baby backpacks, or tripods. Not wheelchair accessible.

Ask about Wild Cave Tours and group reservations! Tours operated by SNHA: 1-559-565-3759.

45-Minute Cave Tours daily
(check details above)
through October 28, weather permitting

Through 10/28 (weather permitting): *Weekdays* 11am, 1pm, 2pm. *Saturday* 11am, noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm. *Sunday* 11am, noon, 1pm, 2pm.
Fees: Ages 6-12 \$6; age 13-61 \$11; age 62 & up \$10; under 6 free. National Park, Interagency, & Golden Age passes do not apply. SNHA members get a discount!

Free Activities

WALKS & TALKS Free ranger-led talks or walks are offered at Giant Forest, Lodgepole, Grant Grove, Cedar Grove, and the Foothills. See pages 8 & 9 or check bulletin boards and visitor centers to see what is scheduled.

JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM - FREE

People of all ages earn a badge while learning to protect resources. Those 5 to 8 years old earn the Jay Award. If you are 9 to 12 years old, work for a Raven Award. Ages 13 to 103 earn an Arrowhead Award. Pick up a free Jr. Ranger booklet in any visitor center or ask a ranger. Follow the instructions and have fun!

BEETLE ROCK NATURE CENTER Programs, activities, and exhibits for all ages. Open June 30 through August 18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Next to the main Giant Forest Museum parking lot across the Generals Highway from the museum.

VISITOR CENTERS & PARK STORES Each center offers different exhibits to enjoy. The park stores in each visitor center sell a wide variety of books, maps, postcards, posters, and other items. Remember: All your purchases there help to support the parks! See pages 8 and 9 for hours and locations.

TEACHERS: BRING YOUR CLASS TO THE PARKS! Rangers offer fun, curriculum-based programs for 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6th-grade classes in spring and fall. Topics include geology, sequoias, Native Americans, and other cultural history. For details or to reserve a date for your class, call 1-559-565-4303.



WHERE CAN I...

You are visiting two different areas - a National Park (NPS) and a National Forest and Monument (USFS). Some activities that are illegal in the Park may be legal in the Forest (see page 2 to learn more). Use a map to know where you are!

- **WALK A PET?** *In the Parks:* Not on trails but it's ok 100 feet from roads in developed areas (picnic areas, campgrounds, roads). *In National Forest:* Pets can go on trails. *In both areas:* Pets must be on a leash less than 6 feet (1.8m) long. Don't leave pets in hot cars.
- **COLLECT THINGS?** *Not in Parks:* Leave everything to play its natural role in the ecosystem. *In National Forest:* Keeping a few cones or rocks for personal use is permitted. *In both areas:* Archeological sites & artifacts are protected by law.

- **GO CAMPING?** *In the Parks:* Only in numbered sites in designated campgrounds. *In National Forest:* In campgrounds or, unless posted otherwise, near roadsides. Pull safely off the road, no further.
- **HAVE A FIRE?** Fire danger is serious; restrictions may increase. Check bulletin boards for limitations before starting any fires. *In the Parks:* Only in fire grills in campgrounds & some picnic areas. *In National Forest:* Free fire permits are required, even for gas stoves and lanterns. Some areas are more restricted than others. Get permits at Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center (in Grant Grove) or USFS office in Dunlap on Hwy 180.
- **RIDE A BICYCLE?** *In the Parks:* Keep bikes on roads only, not on any trail (other than the designated bike trail in Cedar Grove). Bicycles may not be ridden

through the Generals Highway construction zone. *In National Forest:* Ask a ranger which trails permit bicycles. *In both areas:* Be careful & courteous near pedestrians & horses. People younger than 18 must wear helmets.

- **CUT WOOD?** *Not in the Parks.* *In National Forest:* Call Hume Lake Ranger District for permit & guidelines: 559-338-2251.
- **DRIVE OFF-ROAD?** *Not in either area.* Stay on roads.
- **GO PICNICKING?** See picnic symbols on map (back page). Never leave food unattended! Check bulletin boards for fire restrictions. Most sites have tables, restrooms & fire grills, except: No fire grills at Foothills & Sandy Cove. No fires permitted at Lodgepole & Crescent Meadow. No water at Grizzly Falls, Halstead, & Powdercan. Big Stump Picnic Area is closed temporarily; it is serving as entrance station.
- **HUNT?** *Not in the Parks.* Firearms must be unloaded, inoperable & stored in way that prevents

ready use prior to entering national parks. *In National Forest:* Only during the season with a license. Call 1-559-243-4005.

- **GO FISHING?** *In both areas:* Permitted during the season; California fishing licenses required for ages 16 & up. Ask for copies of park regulations.

• RIDE HORSEBACK

From late spring into fall. Hourly rides, backcountry spot trips, & guided trips.

- **Cedar Grove**
1-559-565-3464 summer
1-559-337-2314 off season
- **Grant Grove**
1-559-335-9292 summer
1-559-337-2314 off season
- **Horse Corral**
at Big Meadows in Sequoia National Forest south of Grant Grove
1-559-565-3404 summer
1-559-564-6429 off season
1-559-679-3573 cell

Change: Natural & unnatural

We often think of parks as outdoor museums. Caretaking a living ecosystem, however, is very different than protecting unchanging objects.

Both natural features and human facilities may be different each time you visit. Both are changing all the time. How we take care of those features and facilities may also affect your visit. You won't notice the ozone monitor that works 24 hours a day, but you will see other activities such as revegetation, road work, painting, or trail maintenance. Some activities may unavoidably affect you, such as smoke from a prescribed fire, campsite closures due to revegetation, or bear management.

The park staff uses such actions as tools to maintain the landscape and protect its inhabitants and visitors. Your visit gives you but a snapshot of this process; Nature decides the timing of many of these actions. They all share one goal: preservation of these parks for us all, now and in the future.



Fire in the Sierra usually hugs the ground. Its low flames clear dangerous built-up fuels. Without it, these fuels would feed intense, hard-to-control wildfires. The natural burn pattern includes occasional hot spots. These leave important openings in the forest — the sunny, bare places where sequoia trees regenerate best.
©NPS Photo

Fire: A natural change

Years ago, we tried to banish fire from the landscape, believing it was destructive. In sequoia groves, that meant putting out lightning-caused fires that naturally start as frequently as every 5 to 20 years.

As time passed, we saw unanticipated consequences from this. Fire suppression blocked important ecological processes and caused many problems. Two problems were glaring:

First, sequoias were not reproducing. We learned that fires create the conditions that sequoias need to regenerate: They create a fertile ash seedbed and they open the forest canopy, allowing sunlight to reach the seedlings.

Second, dead wood and small, dense white fir trees increased tremendously. Natural fires used to burn these away frequently. Now, after fire's long absence, these fuels feed bigger blazes that are more dangerous for people, plants, and wildlife. They burn hotter and are harder to put out.

For over 40 years at Sequoia and Kings Canyon, we have studied fire and its effects on the land. Now, to protect human safety and benefit giant sequoia trees, the National Park Service works with fire to gain the benefits it brings.

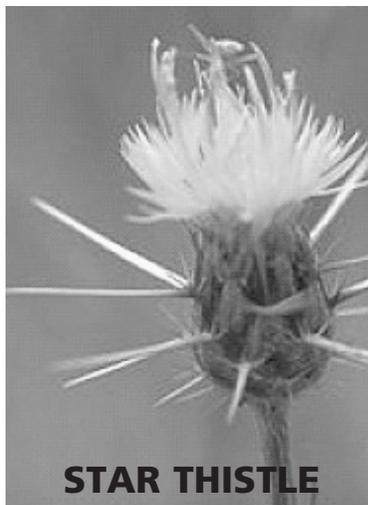
When and where it's appropriate, we may ignite prescribed fires or allow lightning-caused fires to spread naturally, reducing fuels and improving resource conditions. Strong evidence shows that we are succeeding.

Why is this important? The National Park System exists to conserve resources "unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." We once thought that aggressive fire suppression met this goal. A more complete understanding of fire tells us that excluding this important natural agent of change only hurts what we are trying to protect.

Unnatural change: Alien invaders!

Plants and animals evolve together in communities over time. Often they keep each other in check. When species get brought in from other places, the newcomers may multiply wildly since the competitors, predators and diseases they evolved with in their home communities are not here. They break links in the local web of life, badly disrupting species that depend on each other. Sometimes they completely replace native plants and animals.

Practice alien hygiene! Look for seeds and tiny animals attached to shoes, clothes, waders, equipment, tires, and pet fur. Wash mud from under cars and on tires before coming into the parks. The natives will thank you!



STAR THISTLE

Two immediate threats:

Star thistle is one of the most damaging non-natives in the state. Dense, thorny patches completely exclude native plants, and limit wildlife movements. Not yet established here! If you recognize it from your home or travels, make sure not to bring it in.

New Zealand Mud Snails take over waterways that they invade, eating most of the food. Due to their biology, just one snail can start a huge population! They stick on gear; check boots & waders thoroughly for this tiny invader. Common just east of the parks. Could easily be carried into the High Sierra.



NEW ZEALAND MUD SNAIL

WILDERNESS OVERNIGHTS

Each park trail has a daily entry quota for overnight trips, and a wilderness camping fee of \$15 is required between late May and late September. The quota and fee are used to help protect your wilderness environment and experience. (They are not required for day hikes, or for overnights in the adjacent Monarch and Jennie Lakes wildernesses in US Forest Service. However, a free fire permit is required for any open flame on USFS land.)

A permit is required for each overnight trip. Reserved and first-come, first-served permits are issued the morning of your trip or after 1pm the day before at the park permit station/visitor center nearest your trailhead (see pages 8 & 9). If the quota for your preferred trail is full, you can choose another trail for that day or another day to start, if space is available. Permits are not issued after mid-afternoon as minimum distances must be reached before you camp.

Requests to reserve a permit for a certain date are accepted beginning March 1 and at least 2 weeks before your trip's start date.

Reserved permits must be picked up between the afternoon before and 9am of your day of departure. If delayed, call the Wilderness Office or you may lose the reservation.

Camping in the park's "front-country" is permitted only in campgrounds. Camping or sleeping in vehicles is not allowed in parking lots, pull-outs, picnic areas, or trailheads in the park.

Wilderness Permit Reservations
Sequoia & Kings Canyon N.P.
47050 Generals Highway #60
Three Rivers, CA 93271
1-559-565-3766; Fax 565-4239

For more details, visit Wilderness Information at www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/wilderness.htm or get a free copy of *Backcountry Basics*.

HIGH SIERRA LODGE

- **BEARPAW MEADOW CAMP** (DNCP) www.visitsequoia.com Reservations (required) taken starting January 2: 1-888-252-5757. Open June 8 to September 15. This tent hotel is at 7800' on the High Sierra Trail, an 11-mile hike from Giant Forest.

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR SAFETY!

Natural areas present hazards. Rocks roll, trees topple, and limbs drop without warning. Wild animals, uneven ground, and changing weather can pose dangers. People may create other hazards through campfires, traffic, snowplay, and poor decisions.

Water is the main cause of death here. Many drowning victims were walking or climbing near rivers and unexpectedly fell in.

The Park Service works to reduce risks, but your safety is in your hands. Keep alert. Read warnings and ask a ranger for advice.



DROWNING: is the #1 cause of death in national parks! Be extra careful along rivers and streams; falling in is as dangerous as swimming. Once in a river, getting out can be nearly impossible. Rocks are smooth and slippery; swift, cold water rapidly saps your strength.

PLAGUE: Please do not feed or touch ANY park animals. Fleas on rodents can carry plague. Deer mice feces can carry hantavirus.

POISON OAK: This common shrub grows in the foothills and Kings Canyon up to 5000 feet elevation. Red in fall with whitish berries, bare in winter, in spring its shiny green leaves grow in groups of three. If you touch any part of the plant, wash skin and clothes right away.



TICKS: Common in foothill and Kings Canyon grasses; check yourself after a walk. Their bite is painless, but a small percentage carry Lyme disease. Remove them carefully with tweezers; seek a doctor's advice.



GIARDIA IN WATER: This protozoan in lakes and streams can cause intestinal distress. Iodine and other chemicals may not be as reliable as heat in killing bacteria or Giardia, but can be effective if used properly. Boil drinking water at least 3 minutes.

HYPOTHERMIA: This life-threatening condition can occur year-round. Stay dry and snack often. If others don't respond to the need for warmer clothes or are stumbling, forgetful, or extremely tired and drowsy, get warm sugary drinks into them immediately. Get them into dry clothing, sleeping bags, and shelter.

FINDING GASOLINE

No gas stations lie within the park itself. Only Grant Grove Market sells cans of emergency gas. Fill up in nearby Three Rivers, Clingan's Junction, or in the National Forest at:

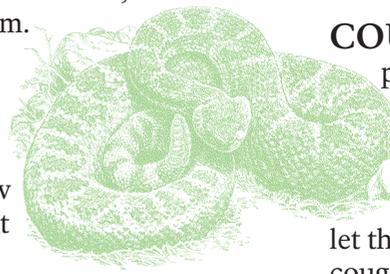
- Stony Creek Village 1-559-565-3909: Open until early October, if weather permits. Available 24 hours with credit card. Between Wuksachi and Grant Grove on the Generals Hwy.
- Hume Lake Christian Camp 559-335-2000: Year-round 24 hours with credit card. 11 miles (18 km) north of Grant Grove via Hwy 180.
- Kings Canyon Lodge 1-559-335-2405: Close 11/13. 17 miles (27 km) north from Grant Grove on Hwy 180.

BICYCLES

Ride only on roads (not trails), single file, with traffic, and wear light colors after dark. People under 18 must wear a helmet.

RATTLESNAKES are especially common in the foothills. Watch where you put your hands and feet! They are protected here; do not kill them.

Most bites result from teasing or handling them. Very few people die, but tissue damage can be severe. If bitten, avoid panic; call a ranger or 911.



LIGHTNING: If you see dark clouds or lightning or hear thunder, get inside a large building or a vehicle (not convertible), if possible. Do not stand under trees or in shallow caves. Avoid projecting above the surrounding landscape such as standing on a ridge, on Moro Rock, or in open meadows. Stay away from open water, wire fences, and metal railings, which can carry lightning from a distance.

WEST NILE VIRUS is passed by bites from infected mosquitos. Human illness is not common, but take steps to avoid mosquito bites.

CARBON MONOXIDE:

This odorless, colorless gas can be fatal. Never burn charcoal in closed spaces such as a tent, camper, or RV.

OZONE POLLUTION: See air-quality index forecasts in visitor centers. Most ozone rises into the Sierra on warm winds. Levels of this colorless gas are highest May to October, peaking in late afternoon. These peaks sometimes reach "unhealthy" state and federal standards and can affect respiratory systems. Ozone forms from gases in car and factory exhaust.

MOTORCYCLES

Avoid oil buildup on pavement.

LENGTH ADVISORY

On 12 narrow miles from Pot-wisha Campground to Giant Forest Museum in Sequoia Park, advised maximum vehicle length is 22 feet (6.7m). Maximum limit on the Generals Highway is 40 feet (12 m) for single vehicles, 50 feet (15 m) for vehicles plus a towed unit. Alternatives: Hwy 180 from Fresno is straighter, less steep, and wider. If towing a car, camp in the foothills and use the car to explore.

ICY ROAD CONDITIONS

Watch for icy areas and snow plows. Recorded information: 559-565-3341 (press 9, then 4).

NARROW, WINDING ROADS

IN KINGS CANYON PARK & NATIONAL FOREST/ SEQUOIA MONUMENT –

- Highway 180 to Cedar Grove: Closes November to mid-April.
- Panoramic Point Road closes with first snow. No trailers or motorhomes.
- Redwood Mountain Road:

CELL PHONES rarely work well in these mountains; don't rely on them. Note where pay telephones are available (see pages 8 & 9).

COUGARS roam throughout the parks, but chances of seeing one are very small. They rarely attack people and pets, but be aware. Avoid hiking alone. Watch children closely; never let them run ahead. If you see a cougar, the goal is to convince it that you are not prey and may be dangerous to it:

- Don't run. Cougars associate running with prey and give chase.
- Try to appear as large as possible. Don't crouch or try to hide.
- Hold your ground or back away slowly while facing the lion.
- Pick up children.
- If the lion acts aggressively, wave your hands, shout, and throw stones or sticks at it.
- If attacked, fight back!
- Report any cougar sightings.

EXPLORE SAFELY: Avoid going alone. Tell someone your plans and return time. Beware of uneven or slippery surfaces. Wear sunglasses and sunscreen. Share roads and trails with people and wildlife.

SAFE DRINKING WATER:

The parks' 13 water systems are tested to ensure that they meet state and federal standards. Annual Consumer Confidence Reports are available at visitor centers.

OPERATION NO-GROW

- Prevent illegal marijuana growing.
 - Protect visitor & employee safety.
 - Preserve your natural resources.
- Keep your parks safe and free from illegal activities! Report suspicious activities to 1-888-NPS-CRIME.

Unpaved, rough. Not plowed.

- Big Meadows, Quail Flat/Ten Mile, Converse Basin (FS): All or partially unpaved.

IN SEQUOIA –

- Crystal Cave Road closes late October. Maximum vehicle length 22' (6.7m). No trailers.
- Mineral King Road: Steep. RVs & trailers strongly discouraged (not permitted in campgrounds). Closes 11/1.
- Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow Road: Temporarily closed for construction. Check at visitor centers for more information. Reopens spring 2008.
- South Fork Road: Partially unpaved. Slippery when wet.
- Road to Middle Fork Trail: Unpaved. Slippery when wet.

LET OTHERS PASS BUT STAY ON PAVEMENT

Slower vehicles *must* use paved turnouts to let traffic pass. Park and drive only on pavement to protect plants and soils and to avoid fires.

Rules of the road

GO SLOW FOR WILDLIFE!

TRAFFIC DELAYS - SEQUOIA

On weekdays on the Generals Highway between Hospital Rock Picnic Area and the Giant Forest. Slow down in work areas. Check visitor centers for current information.

DON'T LOSE YOUR BRAKES

Frequent braking causes overheating and brake failure. Instead, *always* downshift when going downhill. In automatic vehicles, put the gearshift on 1, 2 or L. The engine gets louder, but it will save your brakes.

EMERGENCY CAR REPAIRS

For a tow: 565-3341 then press zero (24 hours). In Sequoia Park only, AAA is available for out-of-gas, lock outs, minor repairs, jump starts: 565-4070 (24 hours).



@NPS Photo

Highlights

SEQUOIA PARK

GIANT FOREST



Review safety tips on page 5. Take a map and water. Orient yourself before heading out and tell someone where you are going. You are on your own in the woods.

GENERAL SHERMAN TREE:

Trails and parking for the world's largest tree have changed! The main area is via Wolverton Road, off the Generals Highway just north of the tree itself (between Lodgepole and the Sherman Tree). From there, the 1/2-mile (.72 km) trail descends and includes some stairs. Rest on benches along the trail; don't overexert yourself. Handicapped parking and an accessible trail are along the Generals Highway two

miles (3.2 km) north of the Giant Forest Museum. You can drop off and pick up passengers here. If you have difficulty walking at this elevation (7000 feet / 175m), stop at a park visitor center for a temporary parking permit.

GIANT FOREST MUSEUM:

Start your visit here! It's the best place to learn about the Big Trees before you go exploring.

BIG TREES TRAIL:

This 2/3-mile (1km) trail circles Round Meadow. Colorful trailside panels describe sequoia ecology. Start at Giant Forest Museum and follow the paved, accessible trail from there. Allow 1 hour round trip.

CONGRESS TRAIL:

A fairly level, partially paved two-mile loop (3.2 km) through the heart of the sequoia grove, beginning at the Sherman Tree. Use the main parking area off the Wolverton Road (see *General Sherman Tree*).

ALONG MORO ROCK - CRESCENT MEADOW ROAD

This road is temporarily closed for construction. The road will reopen in spring 2008 with new pavement, drainages, and culverts. Check at visitor centers for more information.

MORO ROCK: A granite dome with a steep 1/4-mile (.4 km) staircase to the summit (300 foot / 91 m elevation gain). A spectacular view of the Great Western Divide and the western half of the park. 2 miles (3.2 km) from the Generals Highway.

TUNNEL LOG: A fallen sequoia that was tunneled through. The only "tree you can drive through" in these parks. A by-pass is available for larger vehicles. 2.7 miles (4.3 km) from the Generals Highway.

CRESCENT MEADOW lies at the end of this road. Excellent summer wildflowers. Stay on designated trails; walk only on fallen logs to access fragile meadows. Several trails start here, including the 1-mile (1.6 km) route to Tharp's Log, summer home of the first settler in Giant Forest, and the High Sierra Trail, which runs 71 miles (114 km) to Mt. Whitney (14,494 feet / 4417 m; highest peak in the lower 48 states).

AUTO LOG: Once you could drive a car onto this fallen giant sequoia but rot in the log has put an end to the tradition.

NEARBY TRAILS

TOKOPAH FALLS: 1.7 miles (2.7 km) along the Marble Fork of the Kaweah River, ending below the impressive granite cliffs and waterfall of Tokopah Canyon. Spectacular in early summer, but be careful around the water! Start in Lodgepole Campground, 500 foot/152 m elevation gain. Allow 2-1/2 to 3 hours.

LITTLE BALDY: Ascends 700 vertical feet (213 m) in 1.7 miles (2.7 km) to a rocky summit with a grand view. Starts at Little Baldy Saddle, 9 miles (14 km) north of the General Sherman Tree on the Generals Highway. Allow 3 to 4 hours round trip.



MINERAL KING

Open late May through October 31 (weather permitting), the winding, steep road to this valley ends at 7800' (2380 m), the park's highest road. From there, trails lead to the High Sierra and excellent — if hilly — hiking. Fall weather can be severe on the passes; ask for a weather report. No gasoline or electricity is available. Starting November 1, the road is gated at the park boundary (about 9 miles from Highway 198). See page 8 for more information.

THE FOOTHILLS

These lower elevations host more different kinds of plants and animals than the rest of the park. Watch for ticks and poison oak on foothills trails.



HOSPITAL ROCK PICNIC

AREA: Western Mono people once lived here; exhibits offer insight into their lifestyle. A very short trail built by the Civilian Conservation Corps leads to cascade. Be careful! Drownings occur here.

MARBLE FALLS: This trail climbs 3.9 miles (6 km) through chaparral to a lovely cascade. Park near site #14 at Potwisha Campground. Follow the dirt road across the concrete ditch. The trail starts along the steep bank to the right.

MIDDLE FORK: Leading through chaparral to highcountry, the first miles offer views of Moro Rock and Castle Rocks. Take the Buckeye Flat Campground road and turn left on the dirt road before the campground. Go 1.3 miles (2 km) to a parking area. Panther Creek Falls is 3 miles (5 km) beyond that. Park at Hospital Rock 1 mile (1.6km) when Buckeye Flat is closed.

PARADISE CREEK: Follow the footpath across from site #26 in Buckeye Flat Campground and cross the footbridge over the Middle Fork. The trail then follows Paradise Creek, not the Middle Fork, for just over 1-1/2 mile (1.6 km) before growing faint.

SOUTH FORK

Park at South Fork Campground at the end of a 13-mile road leaving Highway 198 in Three Rivers.

LADYBUG: Hike along the South Fork of the Kaweah in the upper foothills (moderately steep). From the campground, cross the river via footbridge. The trail ends 3 miles (5 km) up at one of the lowest-elevation sequoia groves.

GARFIELD: A relatively steep 5 mile (8.3 km) one-way climb to Garfield sequoia grove. Start on the south side of the river in the campground.

Highlights

KINGS CANYON



@TheWhaleback © Peter Stekel, used with permission.

GRANT GROVE

Before taking to the trails, review safety advice on page 5. Carry a map and water. Orient yourself before heading out and tell someone where you are going.

GENERAL GRANT TREE: One of the world's largest living trees. President Coolidge proclaimed



it the Nation's Christmas Tree in 1926. It is also a National Shrine, the only living memorial to those who died in war. Visit historic

Gamlin Cabin and the Fallen Monarch along this 1/3-mile (.5 km) paved trail. A trail guide is sold at the visitor center. North and west of the visitor center 1 mile (1.6 km).

NORTH GROVE LOOP: This lightly traveled, 1-1/2 mile (2.4 km) trail provides a close look at the Big Trees and a quiet walk through conifer forest. Starts at lower Grant Tree parking area.

DEAD GIANT LOOP: Speculate on what killed this sequoia, and enjoy a picturesque view of an historic mill pond. Follow the old road from the lower Grant Tree parking area for about a mile. The trail branches off, creating a 1-1/2 mile (2.4 km) round trip.

NEARBY TRAILS & POINTS OF INTEREST

PANORAMIC POINT ROAD: Spectacular vista of the high Sierra. Go east through the visitor center parking lot, left around the meadow, then right at the intersection signed "Panoramic Point, 2.3 miles (3.7 km)." Walk 1/4 mile (.4 km) up to the viewpoint. Trailers and RVs strongly discouraged on this steep, narrow road. The 4.7-mile (7.5 km) round-trip Park Ridge Trail begins here.

BUENA VISTA PEAK: Begin just south of Kings Canyon Overlook on Generals Highway, 7 miles (11 km) southeast of Grant Grove. 360° vista of Redwood Canyon, Buck Rock Lookout, and the high Sierra. 2 miles (3.2 km) round trip.

REDWOOD CANYON: The world's largest grove of giant sequoias. Acres of rejuvenating forest result from 30 years of prescribed fires, showing the positive relationship between fire and sequoias. Across the Generals Highway from the Quail Flat/ Hume Lake junction (6 miles/9.6 km south of Grant Grove), turn south/west at Redwood Saddle. Go right for 2 miles (3.2 km) on a bumpy dirt road.

BIG BALDY: Great views and a look down into Redwood Canyon from this ridge. The trail winds 2 miles (3.2 km) to the summit at 8,209 feet (2502 m). From Grant Grove, drive 8

miles (13 km) south on the Generals Highway to Big Baldy Trailhead. Elevation gain 600 feet (183 m); round trip 4 miles (6.4 km).

KINGS CANYON OVERLOOK: For a view to the northeast of the high Sierra wilderness, stop at this overlook about 6 miles (9.5 km) south of Grant Grove.

REDWOOD MOUNTAIN OVERLOOK: Six miles (9.6 km) south of Grant Grove, on the Generals Highway, it looks west over one of the world's largest sequoia groves. Studies here proved the strong relationship between fire and sequoia reproduction.



KINGS CANYON & CEDAR GROVE

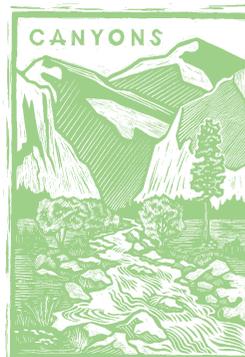
The road into this spectacular gorge is open late April to mid-November (weather permitting). Be very careful around the river!

CANYON VIEW: The "U" shape of Kings Canyon, apparent from this viewpoint, reveals its glacial history. 1 mile (1.6 km) east of Cedar Grove Village turnoff.

KNAPP'S CABIN: During the Roaring '20s, Santa Barbara businessman George Knapp commissioned lavish fishing expeditions here, using this small cabin to store gear. A short walk from a turnout 2 miles (3.2 km) east of Cedar Grove Village road.

ROARING RIVER FALLS: A shady, five-minute walk to a powerful waterfall rushing through a narrow granite chute. 3 miles (4.8 km) east of the Village turnoff. Relatively accessible; fairly level. Repaving in progress.

ZUMWALT MEADOW: This 1.5-mile (2.4 km) trail offers high granite walls, a lush meadow, and the meandering Kings River. Park at trailhead 4-1/2 miles (7.2 km) east of the Cedar Grove Village turnoff. Purchase a trail guide at the trailhead or visitor center. Allow 1 hour.



ROAD'S END: Here where the pavement ends are high granite walls and trails to the river, Muir Rock, and the High Sierra. East of the Village turnoff 5-1/2 miles (8.8 km).

TAKE TIME FOR A HIKE

MIST FALLS: Follow the river to one of the park's largest waterfalls. Allow 4-5 hours; 9 miles (14.4 km) round trip. Fairly flat at first; a 600-foot elevation gain in the last 2 miles (3.2 km). Park at Road's End.

DON CECIL TRAIL: The main route into the canyon prior to the 1939 completion of Highway 180. It starts .2 miles (.3 km) east of the village, climbs a north-facing slope past Sheep Creek Cascade (1 mile/1.6 km up); good views. Lookout Peak (13-mile/21-km round trip, 4000 foot/1220 m elevation gain) has a great panorama. Strenuous; allow all day.

HOTEL CREEK TRAIL: Starts .2 mile (.3 km) north of the market at the intersection with the pack station road; climbs through chaparral to a forested ridge and Cedar Grove Overlook. Great views. 5 miles (8 km) round trip; 1200-foot/365 m elevation gain. Strenuous; allow 3-4 hours. Return via Lewis Creek Trail for an 8-mile (12.9 km) loop.

USFS NATIONAL FOREST

Explore Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of Sequoia National Forest (see page 2).

CONVERSE BASIN: Virtually every mature sequoia in this huge grove was felled early in the 1900s. Walk the 2-mile (3.2 km) Boole Tree loop to see a monarch they spared (6 miles north of Grant Grove), or the 1/2-mile (.8 km) loop to the Chicago Stump, a tree cut for exhibit at the 1893 World's Fair (2 miles north of Grant Grove).

INDIAN BASIN: Logged a century ago, this recovering forest and meadow look quite different today. A one-mile, newly constructed accessible trail extends another unpaved mile. Take Highway 180 7 miles north of Grant Grove; turn into Princess Campground. Trail begins by the host's site near the dump station.

HUME LAKE, formed by a rare, historic multiple-arch dam, supplied water for a flume to float lumber to Sanger, 67 miles (108 km) below. An easy 2 1/2-mile (4 km) trail circles it. Page 9 lists recreational options there. 8 miles (12.8 km) north of Grant Grove on Highway 180; 3 miles (4.8 km) south on Hume Lake Road.

BUCK ROCK LOOKOUT: A 1916 tower, still used for spotting fires, offers 360° views. Approximately 6 miles (9.6 km) off Big Meadows and 14S11 then Forest Road 13S04.

FACILITIES IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

Giant Forest Area

GIANT FOREST SEQUOIA GROVE

6400' (1950m) elevation. Home of the world's biggest trees, it offers 40 miles (64 km) of walking trails. See highlights on page 6, and this page for information on road delays between Giant Forest and Three Rivers.

- **Giant Forest Museum (NPS):** Daily 9am - 5pm through 10/31, then 9am - 4:30pm. Exhibits about the Big Trees. Books, maps, first aid. 1-559-565-4480. No payphone; closest phones are at Lodgepole & Wolverton.

CRYSTAL CAVE - Daily through 10/28 (weather permitting)

This cavern is one of the highlights of the park! Tickets are not sold at the cave; see page 3 for details and schedule.

Lodgepole Area

LODGEPOLE VILLAGE

6700' (2040 m) elevation. A few miles north of Giant Forest, in beautiful Tokopah Canyon along the Marble Fork of the Kaweah River. For nearby picnic areas see page 3 and your map. Lodgepole Village offers:

INFORMATION (NPS) - Last day open October 28

- **Visitor Center:** Daily 8am-4:30pm through 10/28. Crystal Cave tickets sold 8am - 3:30pm. Exhibits on geology & forest life; books; maps; first aid. Pay phone. See award winning *Bears of the Sierra* movie. 1-559-565-4436.
- **Wilderness Permits:** Required for backcountry overnight trips. Self-issue outside the visitor center starting 10/1. See page 4 for details. 1-559-565-4408

FOOD & SHOPS (DNCPR) - Last day for services October 28

- **Lodgepole Market & Gift Shop:** Daily 9am-4:30pm. Supplies, bear canisters, gifts, sandwiches, ice cream.
- **Harrison Grill:** Weekends only 10am-4:15pm. Breakfast, hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, & barbecue.

OTHER SERVICES

- **Lodgepole Campground (NPS):** Open all year. Details on page 11.
- **Laundry (DNCPR):** Daily 10am-4:15pm through 10/28, then closed for season. Last load of laundry in 1 hour before closing.
- **Showers (DNCPR):** Daily 10am-4:15pm through 10/28, then closed for the season. Closed daily 1-3pm for cleaning.
- **Post Office:** Weekdays 8am-1pm & 2-4pm. 1-559-565-3678. Lobby with stamp machine open 24 hours. Address mail to visitors: c/o General Delivery, Sequoia National Park, CA 93262.
- **Pay Telephones:** Outside visitor center & market buildings.

WUKSACHI LODGE & DINING ROOM

7200' (2160 m) elevation. Open year-round 4 miles (6.4 km) north of the Sherman Tree. The center for lodging & food services in Sequoia.

FOOD, SHOPS & LODGING (DNCPR)

- **Dining Room:** Breakfast 7:30am-9:30am; Lunch 11:30am-2:30pm; Dinner 5pm-8:30pm. Dinner reservations required. Box lunches available. 559-565-4070.
- **Lounge:** Daily 5pm-9pm through 10/22 then 5pm-8:30pm. Pay telephones downstairs.
- **Gift Shop:** Daily 8am-8pm. Film, souvenirs, crafts, clothing, art, snacks.
- **Lodging:** Year-round. See page 10 for details.

Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts and the National Park Foundation have made it easy for Wuksachi Lodge guests to contribute to Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. Ask about the Guest Donation Program when you check in!

Sequoia Roads Advisory

Generals Highway:

A 1-1/2 mile section of the old road is being reconstructed in Sequoia National Park between Hospital Rock Picnic Area and the Giant Forest.

Planned work schedule: Monday-Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Traffic can pass once per hour, at the top of the hour. Uphill traffic goes through first, then downhill traffic.

Try to get to the work zone at about 10 minutes before the hour (see drive-time chart below). *Slow down* as you approach the area; traffic may be stopped just around a curve. If night work is needed, signs and notices will be posted.

Last restrooms before the construction are at Hospital Rock and Giant Forest Museum. Be sure to use them, as none are available near the construction zone!

After hours, automatic lights control traffic where the road narrows to one lane. Wait for the green light, or you'll get trapped by oncoming traffic!

DRIVE TIME TO CONSTRUCTION ZONE FROM:

Sequoia Entrance / Hwy 198	- 35 minutes
Foothills Visitor Center	- 30 minutes
Potwisha Campground	- 21 minutes
Hospital Rock Picnic Area	- 15 minutes
Giant Forest Museum	- 15 minutes
Grant Grove Village	- 1-1/4 hours

Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow:

This road is temporarily closed for construction and will reopen in spring 2008. Check at visitor centers more information.

Foothills Area

500-3500' (457-1067 m) elevation. Oaks, chaparral, & river canyons; hot summers & snow-free winters; & the greatest biological diversity in these parks. Park headquarters is at Ash Mountain.

- **Visitor Center (NPS):** Daily 8am-4:30pm.. Exhibits, books, maps, bear canisters, first aid, local wilderness permits, Crystal Cave tickets sold until 3:45pm through 10/28. 1-559-565-3135.
- **Potwisha Campground (NPS):** Year-round. Details on page 11.
- **Pay Telephones:** Foothills Visitor Center (by front door), Potwisha Campground, Hospital Rock Picnic Area (on restroom wall).

Mineral King Area

This area closes November 1 through late May.

NOTE: Starting 11/1, Mineral King Road is gated at the park boundary (about 9 miles from Highway 198) due to illegal activities and resource damage. With a permit from the Foothills Visitor Center (see information above), visitors may drive another 8 miles to the old winter gate, weather permitting.

7800' (2380 m) elevation. This subalpine valley at the end of a steep, narrow, difficult road open until October 31, weather permitting. No RVs, buses, or trailers, please. There is no electricity or gas; no drinking water in campgrounds starting 10/10.

- **Ranger Station (NPS):** Closed for season. Self-register for wilderness permits on the porch.
- **Silver City Mountain Resort:** Last night 10/7. Cabins, chalets, bakery, showers, small store (gifts, limited supplies & ice; no gas or fishing licenses), restaurant (open Saturday-Sunday only). Weekends 8am-8pm; store open Monday-Friday variable hours. 559-561-3223; winter 805-528-2730; www.silvercityresort.com. **Camping (NPS):** No RVs or trailers. Details: page 11.

FREE NATURE PROGRAMS

Park rangers may offer free walks and talks in the Giant Forest, Wuksachi, and the Foothills, usually on weekends.



Once it snows enough, free snowshoe walks are offered. Ask at visitor centers and see local bulletin boards for times, locations, & topics.

FACILITIES IN KINGS CANYON PARK & USFS

Grant Grove Area

GRANT GROVE VILLAGE

6600' (2008 m) elevation. This was originally General Grant National Park, created in 1890 to protect sequoias from logging. Here you can see both a pristine grove & one that was logged in the 1800s.

INFORMATION

• **Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center (NPS):** Daily 8am-5pm through 10/27, then 9am-4:30pm. Exhibits & 15-minute movie in English and Spanish. Books, maps, first aid, bear canisters. Local wilderness permits issued until 1/2 hour before closing. 1-559-565-4307.

FOOD & SHOPS (KCPS)

- **Restaurant:** Daily 8am-2pm & 5-7pm (Fridays & Saturdays until 8pm).
- **Gift Shop, Market:** Daily 9am-7pm (Fridays & Saturdays until 8pm). Souvenirs, film, clothing, ATM. Market sells food and other supplies, sandwiches, bear canisters, emergency gas.

OTHER SERVICES

- **Camping & Lodging:** See page 10-II.
- **Post Office:** Hours may change without notice. Monday-Friday 9am - 3:30 pm; Saturday 10 -noon. Lobby open 24 hours. Send mail for visitors to: c/o General Delivery, Kings Canyon NP, CA 93633. 1-559-335-2499.
- **Pay Telephones:** Available 24 hours at Kings Canyon Visitor Center (booth by front door); & outside gift shop, market, & post office.

In the Kings Canyon

Highway 180 from Junction View into the canyon remains open until November 13, weather permitting.

CEDAR GROVE VILLAGE

4600' (1410 m) elevation. This glaciated valley features towering granite cliffs, tumbling waterfalls, and the powerful Kings River — “a rival to the Yosemite,” according to John Muir.

INFORMATION & CAMPING (NPS)

- **Cedar Grove Visitor Center:** Closed for the season. Check bulletin boards for information.
- **Wilderness permits:** Self register at Road's End, 6 miles (9.6 km) east of the village. See details about permits on page 4.
- **Camping (NPS):** Details on page 11.

FOOD, LODGING, SHOPS, & OTHER SERVICES (KCPS)

Last day for services - October 13.

- **Restaurant:** Counter-service meals (not a full-service restaurant). Weekdays 8am-10:30am & 5-7pm, Saturday/Sunday 8am-2pm & 5-7pm. Picnic supplies at market.
- **Gift Shop & Market:** Salads, sandwiches, supplies, bear canisters, souvenirs, film. Daily 8am-7pm.
- **Lodging:** Open daily (last night 10/13). Page 10 has details.
- **Showers & Laundry:** Daily 8am-1pm & 3-6pm. Last laundry load in by 1 hour before closing.
- **Picnicking & Horseback Riding:** See page 3 & the page-12 map.
- **Pay Telephones:** Outside visitor center & restaurant/market.

Fee Collection at Kings Canyon Visitor Center starting October 16th.

This fall, fee collection will be moved near the visitor center, so please stop there to pay. The Big Stump Picnic Area will reopen on 10/17. Until then, take your picnic basket to Columbine (or see the park map for other picnic areas). If you want to explore an area that was logged in the last century, try Converse Basin, north of Grant Grove in the National Forest.

USFS: National Forest & Monument

HUME LAKE & BIG MEADOWS AREAS (FS)

Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of Sequoia National Forest, borders much of the western edge of these National Parks. You are in National Forest when you drive between the park areas of Lodgepole and Grant Grove, and between Grant Grove and Cedar Grove (see page 2 for more on Parks and Forests). It was sold to the government as a Forest Reserve in 1935. It is an excellent place to see sequoias recovering from intensive logging in the late 1800s.

PAY TELEPHONES

- **Between Wuksachi Village & Grant Grove:** Summer only at Stony Creek Resort & Big Meadows trailhead.
- **Between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove:** Hume Lake (year round); Kings Canyon Resort (summer only).

INFORMATION

• **USFS Hume Lake District Office (FS):** 35860 Kings Canyon Road (Hwy 180) in Dunlap, 19 miles (31 km) west of Kings Canyon Park entrance at Big Stump. Weekdays 8am- 4:30pm. Maps & books sold. 1-559-338-2251; www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia.

OTHER SERVICES

- **Camping (FS) & Lodging (private):** See pages 10 & 11 for details.
- **Boyden Cavern:** Closes when road does on 11/13. On Hwy 180 between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove. Cave tours on the hour Monday-Friday: 11am-4pm; weekends: 10am-5pm. \$11 ages 14 & up; \$6 ages 3-13; under 3 free. AAA discounts. 1-209-736-2708.
- **Stony Creek Village (FS):** Last night 10/9. On Generals Highway between Grant Grove & Lodgepole; . Lodging. Restaurant: 4-7pm (8pm Friday-Saturday). Market: 8am-7pm (8pm Saturday-Sunday). Showers: 9am-4pm. Gasoline 24 hours with credit card. 1-866-KCANYON; 1-559-565-3909.
- **Montecito Lake Resort (FS):** A permitted resort on public land open all year. On Generals Highway 9 miles (14.5km) south of Grant Grove. Breakfast 7:30-9am, lunch 12- 1:30pm, dinner 5:30-7pm. Cabins, hotel, children's activities. 1-800-227-9900 or 559-565-3388.
- **Big Meadows Cabin - Historic guard station (FS):** Details page 10.
- **Hume Lake:** Private facilities open to public, 8 miles (13km) north of Grant Grove on Hwy 180 then 3 miles (5 km) south on Hume Lake Road. 24-hour laundry (coin operated) & gas station (with credit card). Market open daily 8am-5pm. Snack shop open on weekends, call ahead for hours of operation. 1-559-335-2000.

GASOLINE SALES

At Hume Lake, Stony Creek, and Kings Canyon Lodge. See page 5, *Rules of the Road - Finding Gasoline* for hours.

FREE NATURE PROGRAMS



**In the fall,
park rangers offer free walks and talks
on some weekends in Grant Grove.
Snowshoe walks start when the snow lies
deep enough.**

Check local bulletin boards and visitor centers for schedules.

Staying Overnight

LODGING

SEQUOIA PARK

• **Wuksachi Village** (DNCPR)
Reservations: 1-888-252-5757
Front Desk: 1-559-565-4070
www.visitsequoia.com. All year.
North of Giant Forest Museum 6 miles (9.6 km). Lodge, restaurant, lounge, gifts.

* **Silver City Mountain Resort** *
Summer: 1-559-561-3223
Winter: 1-805-528-2730
www.silvercityresort.com. Open late May to mid-October. Cabins, chalets, supplies, restaurant, gifts, bakery, showers. No gas.

KINGS CANYON PARK

• **Grant Grove Lodge & John Muir Lodge** (KCPS)
Reservations: 1-866-522-6966
Front Desk: 1-559-335-5500
www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com. All year. In Grant Grove. Cabins, hotel, restaurant, gifts, showers.

• **Cedar Grove Lodge** (KCPS)
Reservations: 1-866-522-6966
Front Desk: 1-559-565-0100
www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com
Opens mid-May; last night 10/13. In the Kings Canyon. Motel, restaurant, public showers, restaurant, laundry.

SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST/MONUMENT

• **Montecito Lake Resort** (formerly Montecito-Sequoia Lodge)
Reservations: 1-800-227-9900
Front Desk: 1-559-565-3388
www.mslodge.com. All year. On Generals Hwy 9 miles (14.5 km) south of Grant Grove. Cabins, restaurant, hotel, lodge, swimming, seasonal & children's activities.

• **Stony Creek Lodge** (KCPS)
Reservations: 1-866-522-6966
Front Desk: 1-559-565-3909.
www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com
Open mid-May through 10/9. On Generals Highway between Grant Grove & Lodgepole. Hotel, restaurant, market, showers, gas.

• **Big Meadows Cabin** (FS)
Reservations: 1-877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov
Opens mid-June into October, if weather permits. An historic guard station in the National Monument between Grant Grove & Lodgepole.

* **Kings Canyon Lodge** (Private*)
Reservations: 1-559-335-2405
Open mid-April through mid-November. On Hwy 180, 13 miles (21 km) east of Grant Grove.

* **Note:** These two facilities on private land are not evaluated or regulated by the Park or Forest.

NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Three Rivers, Lemon Cove, Squaw Valley & others offer year-round lodging, camping, & services. Ask at visitor centers or go to the park website (www.nps.gov/seki), click "Plan your visit," then link to "Lodging."

WILDERNESS LODGE & PERMITS

See page 4 for details.

CAMPING DOs & DON'Ts: These rules protect the park & you!

NOTE: Rules may vary between the Park to the National Forest. Check page 3 for details.

KEEP FOOD FROM BEARS!

It's required all year! Learn how to do it correctly — see below.

CAMPFIRE RESTRICTIONS

Check bulletin boards for restrictions before you start any fire! Gather only dead & down wood; do not cut limbs from trees. Better yet, bring wood or buy it at a market. Fires must be out cold before you leave.

In the national forest & monument you must get a free campfire permit from the Hume Lake District Office, Kings Canyon Visitor Center (Grant Grove), or a Forest Service ranger.

ROADSIDE CAMPING?

It's not permitted in the park.

Camp only in designated sites in campgrounds. In the National Forest & Monument, roadside camping is permitted unless posted otherwise. Ask a ranger for possible locations.

NO HOLDING CAMPSITES

You may not hold a site for someone who has not arrived. Sites not occupied for 24 hours are considered abandoned; property may be impounded.

GROUP SITES & MAXIMUM GROUP SIZES

UP TO 6: Many campgrounds allow only one vehicle & six people per site. Check locally for slight variations in these limits & parking locations for extra vehicles.

7 TO 19: In summer, Crystal Springs in Grant Grove has first-come, first-served sites for groups of 7-15 & Canyon View in Cedar Grove has sites for 7-19, for \$35.

LARGER: Call in advance for information on reserving group tent-camping areas in the parks: For Sunset or Canyon View - 1-559-565-4335 (5/1-10/31: 565-3792 for Canyon View). To reserve a group site in Dorst or in the national forest/monument: call 877-444-6777 or go to www.recreation.gov.

TIME LIMITS ON CAMPING

Camping is limited to 14 days between June 14-September 14, with 30 days total per year.

QUIET HOURS

10pm-6am. At Lodgepole & Dorst use generators only 8-11am & 5-8pm. At other campgrounds 9am-9pm only. Music should be audible in your campsite only.

RVS & TRAILERS

No hookups are available.

Dump stations: See chart on page 11.

Trailers are permitted in all but four park campgrounds; check the chart on page 11. Many sites are not suitable for trailers or RVs. Vehicles over 30 feet long can fit in a small number of sites.

Length advisory: On Generals Highway in Sequoia Park, from Potwisha Campground to Giant Forest Museum, a vehicle length limit of 22 feet is advised. See page 5 for other limitations & warnings.

PROPANE CANISTERS

Do not throw propane or other fuel canisters in park trash cans or leave them in the parks. Take them with you when you leave.

BE A VOLUNTEER HOST!

Live in the park, take care of campgrounds & resources, & meet great people! Learn about volunteer opportunities; contact the Park Volunteer Coordinator, 47050 Generals Highway, Three Rivers, CA 93271-9651.

YOU MUST STORE ALL FOOD!

BEARS quickly learn to get food from cars, picnic tables, and backpacks. They then become destructive and sometimes aggressive. They want our food, not us, but people can get hurt. Too often these bears must be killed. This is why you may be fined if you do not store food properly.

• **DRIVERS:** Never leave any food or scented item in cars. Take infant seats out of cars; the smells they absorb may attract bears.

• **CAMPERS:** Store food day and night in the metal boxes provided (see page 11 for box sizes; avoid bringing coolers that won't fit).

Store ALL food, coolers, related items, and anything with an odor (even if it's not food) -- including unopened cans and bottles. Latch the box completely. Food not stored properly will be impounded. Where boxes are not provided, store food in the car trunk (seal food to reduce odors). If the car has no trunk, put everything on the floor, cover it well, and close the windows. Keep a clean campsite. Deposit garbage immediately in bear-proof containers or store it like food.

• **PICKNICKERS:** Guard your food at all times.

• **LODGE GUESTS:** Keep cabin doors closed any time you leave.

• **BACKPACKERS:** Store all food in a portable canister. Less than 3 pounds, it holds up to 5-day's food for one and fits in a pack. Metal boxes in a few backcountry locations offer backup storage. Rent or buy a canister at park visitor centers or markets. Bears defeat most attempts to hang food in trees.

• **EVERYONE:** Don't let bears approach you or your food. Wave your arms, make loud noises, and throw small rocks in their direction (avoid hitting the face or head). Keep a safe distance but be persistent. If a bear does get food, never try to take it back.



save a bear!

Sales from the Save-a-Bear Kit & color pin (above) directly support bear management. See the pins at visitor centers.

Each campsite has a table & fire ring with grill; no hook-ups.

Food-storage regulations: Always read & follow instructions on bulletin boards to help save a bear!

Summer reservations for Dorst & Lodgepole (in Sequoia NP) & for reservable campgrounds (marked * below) in the National Forest (USFS) may be made up to 6 months in advance of the date desired.

Contact www.recreation.gov or 1-877-444-6777 (7am -9pm PST from 3/1-10/31. Customer service: 888-448-1474.

CAMP GROUNDS

KEY TO SYMBOLS

- "Nearby"-Within 2 miles/ 3.2
- ✓ -Year-round
- ☀ -Summer only

FOOD STORAGE

Avoid bringing items that won't fit. Symbols on the chart tell the size of bear-proof food-storage boxes available in each campground:

- # One small box per site (47" long x 17" deep x 16" high);
- ◆ One large box per site (at least 47" long x 33" deep x 28" high);
- ⊠ A mix of box sizes;
- + Additional boxes available for sites to share.

IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK (NPS)

	# of sites	Daily Fee	Rest-rooms	Food within 2 miles	Showers within 2 miles	Laundry within 2 miles	Dump Station Nearby	Nature Programs Nearby	Pay Phone	Riding within 2 miles	River within 2 miles	Sequoias within 2 miles
	#	\$										
FOOTHILLS AREA Elevation 2100'-3600'. Lowest in elevation, therefore hottest and usually snowfree.												
Potwisha ◆ - Open all year.	42	\$18	Flush				✓	☀	✓		✓	
Buckeye Flat ◆ - Closed. No trailers or RVs.	28	\$18	Flush				at Potwisha	☀			✓	
South Fork # Non-potable water. Last night 10/11.	10	\$12 May -Sept.	Vault								✓	
MINERAL KING AREA Elevation 6650' - 7500'. No RVs or trailers.												
Atwell Mill # - Last night 10/10.	21	\$12	Vault	☀	☀			☀			✓	✓
Cold Springs # - Last night 10/10.	40	\$12	Vault	Silver City	Silver City			☀	✓		✓	
LODGEPOLE AREA Elevation 6700'. *Summer reservations up to 6 months in advance (see Reservations above.)												
*Lodgepole ⊠ + - Open all year.	214	\$20/18 \$20 during summer reservation period then \$18.	Flush	☀	☀	☀	☀	✓	☀		✓	✓
*Dorst ⊠ + - Closed	204	\$20	Flush				☀	☀	☀		✓	✓

IN KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK (NPS)

	# of sites	Daily Fee	Rest-rooms	Food within 2 miles	Showers within 2 miles	Laundry within 2 miles	Dump Station Nearby	Nature Programs Nearby	Pay Phone	Riding within 2 miles	River within 2 miles	Sequoias within 2 miles
	#	\$										
GRANT GROVE AREA Elevation 6500'.												
Azalea ◆ - Open all year	110	\$18/10	Flush	✓	☀			✓	at village	☀		✓
Crystal Springs ◆ - Closed Sites for groups of 7-15 (see page 10):	36 14	\$18 \$35	Flush	✓	☀			✓	"	☀		✓
Sunset ◆ - Closed	157	\$18	Flush	✓	☀			✓	"	☀		✓
CEDAR GROVE AREA (ON THE FLOOR OF THE KINGS CANYON) Elevation 4600'.												
Sentinel ◆ + - Last night 10/9.	82	\$18	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	at visitor center	☀	✓	
Sheep Creek ◆ + - Last night 11/13.	111	\$18	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	"	☀	✓	
Canyon View ◆ - Last night 10/9. No RVs or trailers. Sites for groups of 7-19	23	\$18 \$35	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	"	☀	✓	
Moraine ◆ - Open only as needed.	120	\$18	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	"	☀	✓	

SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST/GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT (FS)

	# of sites	Daily Fee	Rest-rooms	Food within 2 miles	Showers within 2 miles	Laundry within 2 miles	Dump Station Nearby	Nature Programs Nearby	Pay Phone	Riding within 2 miles	River within 2 miles	Sequoias within 2 miles
	#	\$										
HUME LAKE AREA Elevation 4000' - 5900'. *Reservable in summer.												
*Princess - Closed	88	\$17 single	Vault				☀ \$7	☀			✓	✓
Dump station not recommended for vehicles over 30 feet long.												
*Hume Lake + Closed	74	\$19 "	Flush	✓		✓		☀	✓		✓	
Tenmile No water -Closes when snow falls.	13	\$15	Vault								✓	✓
Landslide - Closed	9	\$15	Vault								✓	✓
Convict Flat No water. Last night 11/13	5		Vault								✓	
BIG MEADOWS & STONY CREEK AREAS *Reservable in summer. Elevation 6400-7500'.												
*Stony Creek # Closed	49	\$19 single	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	at lodge		✓	✓
Upper Stony # Closed	18	\$15	Vault	☀	☀	☀		☀	at lodge		✓	✓
Horse Camp No water Close mid-November 5+			Vault								✓	
Buck Rock No water Close mid-November 11			Vault								✓	
Big Meadow No water Close mid-November 40			Vault						by trailhead	✓	✓	

PARK ROADS

-  Campground
-  Picnic Area
-  Lodging
-  Horses/riding
-  Gas station

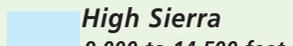
 Major paved road

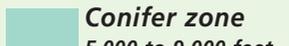
 Minor paved road

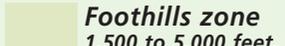
 Unpaved road

 Park boundary

LIFE ZONES:

 **High Sierra**
9,000 to 14,500 feet.
Summer: Warm to chilly days; nights down to low 30s. Winter: frigid.

 **Conifer zone**
5,000 to 9,000 feet.
Summer: Warm days & cool nights. Winter: deep snow.

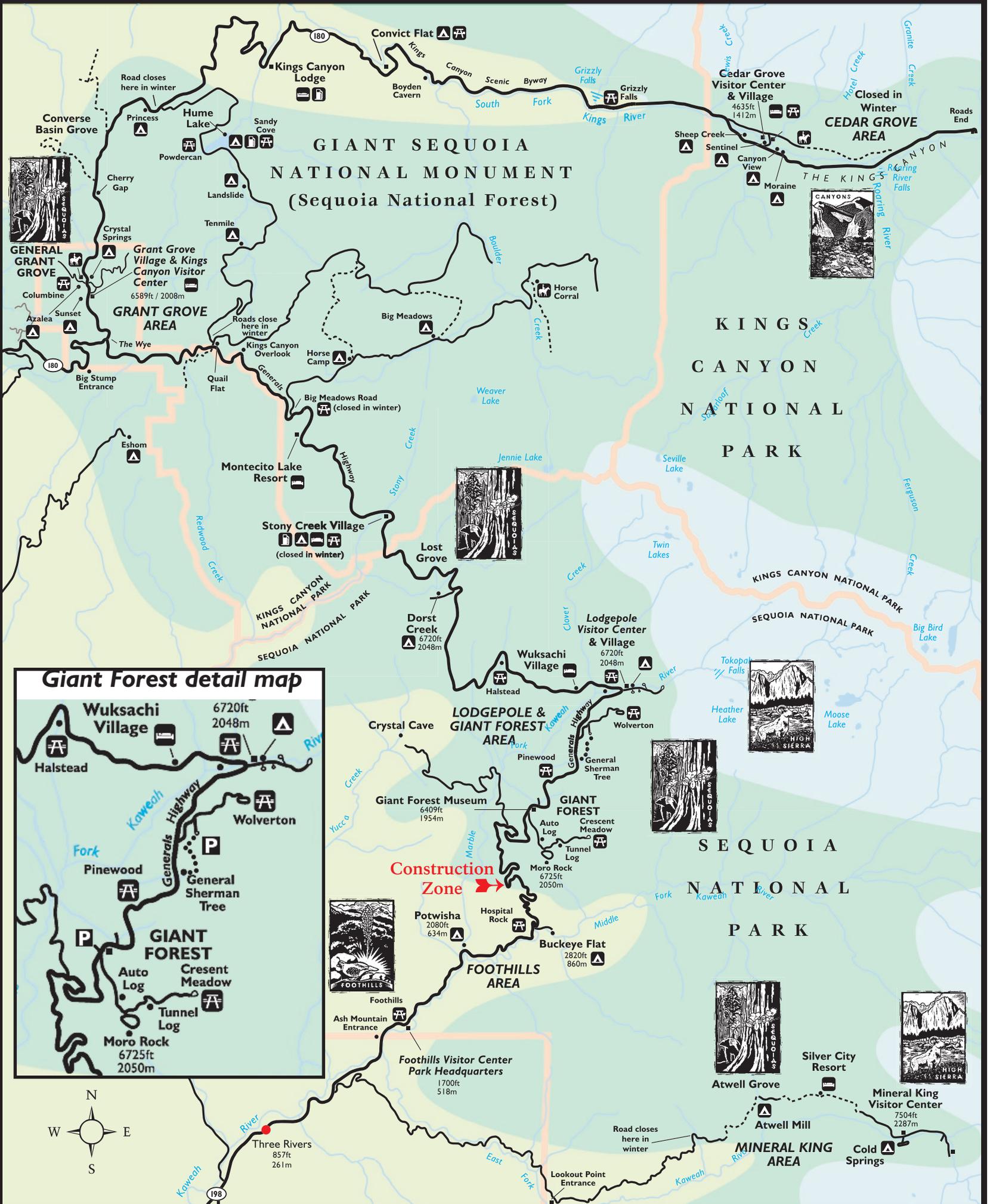
 **Foothills zone**
1,500 to 5,000 feet.
Mild, wet winters; hot, dry summers. Cedar Grove is cooler than the foothills, hotter than Grant Grove.

STEEP ROADS:

Grades of 5-8%.
Downshift to avoid overheated or failed brakes. See page 5.

DRIVING TIME IN GOOD WEATHER:

- FROM FOOTHILLS TO:**
- Giant Forest - 1 hour
 - Lodgepole - 1 hour
 - Visalia - 1 hour
 - Mineral King - 1-1/4 hours. Road closed Nov 1 to late May.
- FROM GIANT FOREST TO**
- Grant Grove - 1 hour
- FROM GRANT GROVE TO:**
- Cedar Grove - 1 hour. Road open mid-April to Nov. 13.
 - Fresno - 1-1/2 hours.
 - Yosemite south entry via Hwy 41 - 3 hours.



FALL 2007
SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS
47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271-9651

Third Class Mail
Postage & Fees Paid
U.S. Department of the Interior G-83

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA!