



Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks & Sequoia National Forest/Giant Sequoia National Monument



The park after dark

Accustomed as we are to a brightly lit world, when we find ourselves in the dark—even in a familiar place—it can feel unsettling. But give your senses time to adjust, and darkness offers a chance to “see” these parks in a different light.

Darkness somehow makes that mouse scuffling in dry leaves sound like something alarmingly large, and hoots, howls, and squeaks add to the strangeness of the night. Soon, however, it feels more comfortable to join, for a while, the diverse nocturnal life of the parks.

Ten species of owl here can rend the night with screeches or soothe it with gentle hoots. Larger animals move around after dark, too, even if they aren't strictly nocturnal.

The quiet, non-descript yucca moth flies at night, carrying pollen from plant to plant. Without this insect, there would be no yuccas; this dark-adapted moth is its only

pollinator. Because many nocturnal insects are plentiful here, so are bats—some 16 species of them! And so are bug-eating nocturnal birds, such as nighthawks and poorwills.

High above all this activity, uncountable stars shine down from the park's remarkably dark skies. People thousands of years ago and around the world witnessed the same spectacle and embodied their stories in the shapes outlined by stars. More recently, night skies inspired van Gogh's painting, *Starry Night*, Van Morrison's song, *Moon-dance*, NASA's Hubble Telescope, the explorations of astronauts, and so much more.

The dark sky connects us with the rhythms of the Earth's rotation, with animals that navigate by the stars, and with the fun, fascinating ways that we, too, can respond to the night. That's what the annual Dark Sky Festival, July 21-23, is all about. It offers so many ways to

relate to the night and experience how it enriches life on Earth.

Then, on August 21, we get to experience a different kind of dark: a solar eclipse. As seen from these parks, the moon will cover about 3/4 of the sun. In that peculiar, muted daylight, we'll listen to hear if the birds get quieter. We'll watch millions of tiny images of the crescent sun projected in every dapple of dim light on the ground.

If you'd like to experience the *complete* absence of light, take a tour of Crystal Cave. Once deep inside the cavern, your guide extinguishes (briefly) all lights. Compare that total blackness to the not-so-dark of night above ground!

Truly dark skies: one of the increasingly rare resources offered by national parks such as Sequoia and Kings Canyon. Enjoy an evening program in the park and make yours a marvelous night. Look up!

Look inside for hours & options:

Activities & programs	5
Bears & food storage	11
Camping & lodging	4-5
Exploring: Sequoia NP	6
Kings Canyon NP & USFS ..	7
Facilities & hours	8-9
Map of park roads	8
Nature & ecosystems	3
Phone numbers	2
Rules & regs: some basics.....	9
Road delays & details	12
Safety	10
Visitor centers	2
Wilderness permits	11

Telephone & Internet

911 EMERGENCY — DIAL 911
No coins needed in payphones.

To Report a Wildfire — 559-565-3195

Limited Cell Signals & Service

See pay-phone locations by area, pages 8-9.

Sequoia & Kings Canyon (NPS)

1-559-565-3341 (24 hour): Press 1 for an information menu then: for roads/weather/fire, press 1; camping/lodging 2; wilderness 4; and more.

GPS, Web & Social Media

GPS programs often misdirect travellers here.

Use maps and signs, or ask for directions.

The only official park information sources online:



Website:
nps.gov/seki



Facebook:
Sequoia and Kings
Canyon National Parks



Twitter:
SequoiaKingsNPS

Sequoia National Forest/Monument (FS)

1-559-338-2251, fs.usda.gov/sequoia

Yosemite National Park (NPS)

1-209-372-0200, nps.gov/yose

California Road Conditions (CalTrans)

1-800-427-7623, dot.ca.gov

Wi-Fi Locations

At Wuksachi Lodge and Montecito Sequoia Lodge (see page 5).

Translations

Welcome - You may borrow a Braille copy of the park map & guide at visitor centers.

Bienvenidos - Hay un folleto en español disponible en los centros de visitante.

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

Willkommen - Eine Landkarte ist auch in deutscher sprache im Besucher-zentrum erhältlich.

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

Visitor Centers, Park Stores, & Information Desks

Each center offers orientation, varied exhibits and films, and many sales items: books, maps, gifts, cards, and more. All profits from stores in park visitor centers support these parks!

All visitor centers except Giant Forest Museum have a payphone outside.

Foothills Visitor Center (in Sequoia)

(NPS) Daily 8am-4:30pm. Exhibits on life in the low elevations. 1-559-565-4212. *Muchas veces hay rangers aqui quienes hablan español.* Local wilderness permits issued 8am-4pm at the Wilderness Office weekdays & Saturdays of holiday weekends; when closed, available outside the visitor center.

Giant Forest Museum (in Sequoia)

(NPS) Daily 9am-6pm. Exhibits on sequoias. 1-559-565-4480. For local wilderness permits, see Lodgepole Visitor Center below. No payphone here (closest outside Lodgepole Market & at Wolverton restrooms).

Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center

(NPS) In Grant Grove. Daily 8am-6pm. Exhibits & movie in English & Spanish. 1-559-565-4307. Local wilderness permits 8am-4:30pm. Payphone outside visitor center and at the market.

Hume Lake District Office (USFS)

35860 Kings Canyon Road (Hwy 180) in the Forest Service office in Dunlap, 19 miles west of Kings Canyon park entrance at Big Stump. Weekdays 8am-4:30pm. 1-559-338-2251, fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia

Lodgepole Visitor Center (in Sequoia)

(NPS) Daily 7am-6pm. Films, exhibits. 1-559-565-4436. Local wilderness permits issued until 4pm; 1-559-565-4408.

Cedar Grove Visitor Center (in Kings Canyon)

(NPS) Daily 9am-5pm. 1-559-565-3793. Local wilderness permits issued at Road's End Permit Station, 7am-3:30pm.

Mineral King Ranger Station (Sequoia)

(NPS) Daily 8am-4:30pm. Information, local wilderness permits. 1-559-565-3768. Payphone in Cold Springs Campground.



Partners in the Parks

The following work together to protect these lands, provide services, and publish this guide, which was first printed in 1974 as the *Sequoia Bark*.

- Editor: NPS - Malinee Crapsey.
- Publisher: SPC (see below).
- Printer: Willems Commercial Printing, Inc.

National Park Service (NPS) - federal agency in the Dept. of the Interior: 1-559-565-3341, nps.gov/seki



Forest Service (USFS) - federal agency in the Dept. of Agriculture: 1-559-784-1500, fs.usda.gov/sequoia

Geological Survey (USGS) - federal agency in the Dept. of the Interior: 1-559-565-3171, werc.usgs.gov



Delaware North Companies (DNC) - the concessioner providing lodging & food services: 1-888-252-5757, visitsequoia.com

Sequoia Parks Conservancy (SPC): This nonprofit park partner formed by the merger of Sequoia Natural History Association and Sequoia Parks Foundation. SPC members get a discount on some activities, including SFI! See below or sequoiaparksconservancy.org & exploresequoiakingscanyon.com for activities and programs or to donate. 1-559-561-4803.



**Connect to
your national park!**

The Sequoia Parks Conservancy (SPC) works with these parks to enrich your experience and promote awareness of public lands. They offer educational programs, publications, and financial support for preserving the natural and cultural history of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Devils Postpile National Monument, and Lake Kaweah.

Support the Conservancy in all it does:

- Seeks funding for park improvement projects, resource protection, and research;
- Provides activities & tour-guide services through Sequoia Field Institute (SFI; page 5);
- Supports park programs & activities;
- Increases accessibility of park trails;
- Conducts Crystal Cave tours;
- Expands park outreach;
- Accepts donations for search & rescue efforts;
- Manages the Pear Lake Winter Hut;
- Funds park books, maps, & this guide!



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.



Prescribed fire in a sequoia grove

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 often as every 5 to 15 years.

As time passed, we saw unanticipated consequences from this practice. Fire suppression blocked important natural processes, which led to big problems:

First, sequoias were not reproducing. We learned that fires create the conditions that sequoias need to regenerate: Fires leave behind a seedbed fertilized with ash and they open the forest canopy, which allows sunlight to reach the seedlings.

Second, the amount of dead wood and dense growth of small white-fir trees increased tremendously. In the past, frequent natural fires burned these away. Now, after fire's long absence, these serve as fuels, feeding bigger, hotter blazes that are more dangerous for people, plants, and wildlife.

For over 40 years at these parks, we have studied fire and its effects on the land. To protect human safety and benefit giant sequoia trees, we now work with fire to restore the benefits it brings.

We still put out fires that threaten life and property but when and where it's appropriate, we ignite prescribed fires or allow lightning fires to spread naturally, reducing fuels and improving resource conditions. Strong evidence shows we are succeeding.

Why is this important? The national parks exist 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.

Note: The effects of the 2015 Rough Fire continue to influence this area. See page 7 for more.

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. This is because the competitors, predators, and diseases that keep them in check in their home communities are not here. This imbalance breaks links in the local web of life, badly disrupting native species that depend on each other. Sometimes the non-native aliens completely replace local 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!

Imminent Alien Threats!

Star thistle is one of the most damaging non-natives in the state. Dense, thorny growth completely excludes native plants and limits wildlife movements. It is not yet established in these parks, but it is close!



If you recognize its yellow flower and thorny spines from your home or travels, make sure not to bring it here. If you see it here, take photos, note the location, and show them to a ranger.

New Zealand mud snails completely



take over and change waterways that they invade. Due to their biology, just one snail can start a huge population! These tiny light-brown animals—less than 1/8-inch long—stick to your gear. Check boots, waders, and boats thoroughly for this little invader. Common just east of the parks, they could easily be carried into the High Sierra.

For more information on fire management, visit <http://go.nps.gov/sekifire>. To report a wildfire: 559-565-3195.

Check regulations at each campground; fire restrictions are in place. Rules vary between the Park and National Forest (see page 9). Each standard campsite has a table and fire ring with grill. No hook-ups.

You must store food correctly all year due to black bears. The park supplies bear boxes; most are 47" long x 33" deep x 28" high. See page 11.

Summer reservations: See * on chart and below for reservable campsites in these parks (NPS) and in National Forest (USFS). Reservations available up to 6 months in advance: www.recreation.gov; 1-877-444-6777 (7am -9pm PST, 3/1-10/31). Customer service: 1-888-448-1474.

Group Sites & Maximum Group Sizes

- **Up to 6 people:** Most campgrounds limit a site to 1 vehicle & 6 people. Check locally for variations in these limits & parking locations for extra vehicles.
- **7 to 19 people (mid-size):** Summer only at *Crystal Springs, *Canyon View (reservations, see above).
- **Large-group sites:** Reservable (see above) in the national park at *Dorst Creek, *Sunset, or *Canyon View campgrounds, or in the national forest.

Fire Restrictions, Campfires, & Firewood

- Check for restrictions before lighting a fire.
- Gather only dead & down wood; do not cut limbs off trees. Please don't transport firewood. It can carry insects/diseases that threaten living trees. Find/buy wood close to where you will use it. Please burn any wood you brought in.
- Fires must be out cold before you leave.
- On Forest Service (USFS) land, free fire permits are required. Ask at Hume Lake Office, Kings Canyon Visitor Center (Grant Grove), a USFS ranger, or download at fs.usda.gov/sequoia.

Roadside Camping?

Not permitted in the park. Camp only in designated sites in campgrounds. In National Forest & Monument (USFS): Permitted unless posted otherwise; see fire-permit requirement info above.

Quiet & Generator Hours

Music and noise should be audible in your site only. Quiet hours 10pm-6am (no generators). At Lodgepole & Dorst, generator use 8-11am & 5-8pm only.

RV & Trailer Length Limits

Check limits & advisories on back page.

Propane/Fuel Canisters

Recycle at home. Do not put them in park trash-cans or leave them here.

Campgrounds: Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks (NPS)

Foothills Area	Elevation 2100' - 3600'	Low-elevation oaks and chaparral.
* Potwisha - 40 sites Open all year.	\$22. *Some sites reservable all year.	River nearby. Pay phone, flush toilets, dump station.
* Buckeye Flat - 28 sites Open to 9/27.	\$22. *Sites reservable for 5/24 through 9/26.	No RVs or trailers. River nearby. Flush toilets. Other facilities nearby at Potwisha.
South Fork - 10 sites Open all year.	\$12. No drinking water.	Vault toilets. Non-drinkable water only. River nearby. Food-storage boxes ~47" long, 17" deep, 16" high.
Mineral King Area	Elevation 6650' - 7500'	No electricity or gas. Conifer forest. Road closes Oct. 25, 2017.
Atwell Mill - 21 sites Open to 10/25.	\$12.	No RVs or trailers. River, sequoias. Vault toilets. Food, pay showers nearby at Silver City (summer only).
Cold Springs - 40 sites Delayed opening.	\$12. Delayed due to standing water. Last night 10/24.	No RVs or trailers. Pay phone. River. Vault toilets. Food-storage boxes in varied sizes. Check www.nps.gov/seki/
Lodgepole Area	Elevation 6700'	*Reservations available in summer. Conifer forest.
* Lodgepole - 203 sites Open.	\$22. Sites reservable 5/24 through 9/26.	Pay phone, flush toilets. River. Food services nearby. Generator use: 8-11am & 5-8pm only. Dump station. Near Giant Forest.
* Dorst Creek - 212 sites Open 6/21-9/6.	\$22. Sites reservable 6/21 through 9/5.	Flush toilets, dump station, pay phone. Generator use 8-11am & 5-8pm only. Large group sites for 15-50 \$70, for 15-40 \$60, for 15-30 \$50.
Grant Grove Area	Elevation 6500'	Conifer forest near sequoias.
Azalea - 110 sites Open all year.	\$18. Self-register near site #29.	Flush toilets. Village nearby with food services. Pay showers (summer).
Crystal Springs - 49 sites. Open 6/28 - 9/6.	\$18 Standard sites close 6/8-6/27. *Group sites stay open.	Food; pay showers nearby in summer. *14 mid-sized group sites (7 to 19) \$40, reservable late May to late September. Flush toilets.
* Sunset - 156 sites Open 6/7 - 9/6.	\$22 standard site. *Large-group sites (15-30) \$50.	Flush toilets. Nearby food service; pay showers in summer. Regular & large-group sites reservable. Opening delayed due to hazard trees.
Cedar Grove Area	Elevation 4600'	No RV-tank dump stations. Road closes Nov. 13, 2017.
* Sentinel - 82 sites Open to 11/13.	\$18.	Flush toilets. Food, pay showers & laundry nearby in summer. Sites reservable starting 8/16 to 9/26.
Sheep Creek - 109 sites Open to 9/20.	\$18.	Flush toilets. Food, pay showers & laundry nearby in summer. Many dead trees have been cleared.
*Canyon View: 16 group sites No RVs or trailers. Open.	*\$40 mid-size groups (7-19); *\$50 large groups (15-30); *\$60 large groups (15-40).	No RVs or trailers. Flush toilets. Food, pay showers & laundry nearby. No standard sites. Last night reservable for mid-size sites is 9/5; last night for large sites is 9/26.
Moraine - 121 sites Closed.	\$18. Ask for updates on opening.	Flush toilets. Food, pay showers, laundry nearby. Opening delayed due to removal of many dead trees. Once open, open until 9/6.

Note: Opening and availability depend on weather, tree removal, and other conditions.

Campgrounds in Sequoia National Forest (Forest Service)

Hume Lake Area	Elevation 4000' - 5900'	Between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove. *Reservable in summer.
* Princess - 88 sites Open.	\$24 single, \$48 double Reservable in summer.	River, sequoias. Nature programs (summer). Vault toilets. RV dump station \$10. Extra car \$7.
* Hume Lake - 74 sites Open.	\$24 single, \$48 double Reservable in summer.	Nature programs. Flush toilets. Lake, food, pay phone, laundry & gas nearby. Extra car \$7.
* Tenmile - 13 sites Open.	\$20 single, \$40 double. Reservable in summer.	River & sequoias nearby. Vault toilets. No potable water. Reservations only. Maximum RV length is 22'.
* Landslide - 9 sites Opening delayed.	\$20 single, \$40 double Reservable in summer.	River & sequoias nearby. Vault toilets. Extra car \$7. Delayed opening due to many dead trees.
Convict Flat - 5 sites Open.	Free. No water.	Vault toilets. River nearby.
Big Meadows & Stony Creek	Elevation 6400 - 7500'	Between Grant Grove and Wuksachi Lodge.
* Stony Creek - 49 sites Open.	\$24 single, \$48 double. Reservable in summer.	Flush toilets. Pay phone, food, laundry, showers nearby at lodge (summer). Extra car \$7. Food-storage boxes ~47" long, 17" deep, 16" high.
* Upper Stony - 18 sites Open.	\$20 single, \$40 double. Reservable in summer.	Nature programs (summer). Vault toilets. Food, laundry, showers nearby. Extra car \$7. Food-storage boxes ~47" long, 17" deep, 16" high.
Horse Camp - 5, Buck Rock - 11.	Free. No water.	Vault toilets. Food-storage boxes ~47" long, 17" deep, 16" high.
* Big Meadow - 45 sites	\$21 single site, \$42 double.	Vault toilets. Big Meadow food boxes ~47" long, 33" deep, 28" high. These campgrounds will open when the road is passable.

Lodging

Three park areas offer lodging, as do several sites in the nearby national forest. For hours, see pages 8 & 9.

In these National Parks (NPS)

IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK:

• Wuksachi Lodge

All year. Reservations 1-866-807-3598; www.visitsequoia.com. North of Lodgepole two miles at 7200'. Lodge, restaurant, lounge, gifts, ATM, wi-fi.

IN KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK:

Reservations 1-866-807-3598; www.visitsequoia.com. Lodging in two areas:

• Grant Grove Cabins & John Muir Lodge

All year. Hotel (with wi-fi), cabins, restaurant, market, gifts, ATM. Register at John Muir Lodge. 6500' elevation. 1-559-335-5500.

• Cedar Grove Lodge in the Kings Canyon

Mid-May to mid-October. Motel, restaurant, & market at 4600' elevation.

Sequoia National Forest (USFS)

Montecito Sequoia Lodge (FS permittee)

All year. Reservations 1-800-227-9900; 1-559-565-3388; www.mslodge.com. On Generals Hwy 9 miles south of Grant Grove. Cabins, buffet restaurant, hotel (wi-fi), seasonal & children's activities.

Stony Creek Resort (USFS permittee)

Mid-May to mid-October. Reservations 1-800-227-9900; 1-559-565-3909; www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com. On the Generals Highway 13 miles south of Grant Grove. Hotel, restaurant, gasoline, market, showers, laundry.

Big Meadows Cabin (USFS)

July to mid-October. 1-877-444-6777; www.recreation.gov. Historic station south of Grant Grove.

On Private Land within Park

* **Note:** These lodges, on private land surrounded by national park, cannot be evaluated, regulated, or endorsed by these agencies. Details, pages 8-9.

* Silver City Mountain Resort (private)

Open late May into late September. www.silvercityresort.com; 1-559-561-3223. Cabins, restaurant, bakery, gifts, showers. No gas.

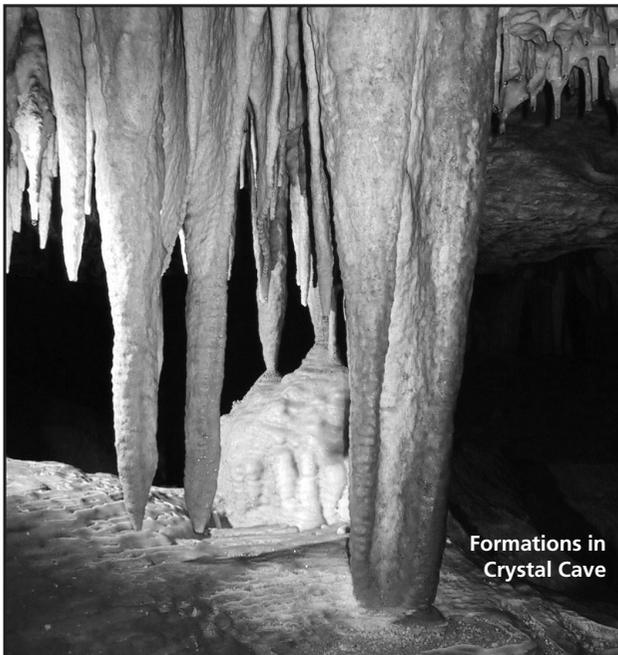
* Kings Canyon Lodge Closed.

Neighboring Towns

Three Rivers, Lemon Cove, Squaw Valley & others offer year-round lodging & camping. Ask at visitor centers or see www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit.

Programs & Tours - Summer 2017

5



Crystal Cave Tours

Reserve tickets online at www.recreation.gov at least 48 hours in advance. Need a ticket today? Check first thing in the morning at Lodgepole or Foothills visitor centers (*not at the cave*). Plan time for delays in getting through the park entrances, especially on weekends and holidays.

Crystal Cave Road is 15 miles from Sequoia Park's entrance at Hwy 198; 3 miles south of Sherman Tree (map, page 8). Maximum vehicle length on this narrow, winding road is 22'. No restrooms at the cave itself. Wear sturdy shoes; the 1/2-mile trail to the cave is steep. Wear a jacket; it's 50°F (10°C) inside. No strollers, tripods or bags/packs of any kind; no flash/lighted photography/video. Not wheelchair accessible. Tours times are subject to change. For school tours & groups larger than 21, visit www.explorecrystalcave.com.

Family Cave Tour Daily - 45 minutes

Extra tours on holiday weekends (Friday-Monday).

June 5 - September 4:

- Saturday: Every 1/2 hour 10:30am-6pm
- Sunday: Every 1/2 hour 10:30am-5pm
- Weekdays: Every 1/2 hour 10:30am-4:30pm

Fees: Age 5-12 \$8; 13-61 \$16; 62 & up \$15. Ask about veteran, military & SNHA member discounts! National Park & Interagency passes do not apply.

Special tours for special interests:

- **Junior Caver Tour** 6/21-8/17, Wednesday-Thursday 1-3:30pm. Ages 10 to 15. \$30.
- **Discovery Tour** 6/19-8/20. Monday-Friday at 5:15pm, Sundays at 5:45pm (except holiday weekends). \$18.
- **Family Tour** Age 13 & up only. 6/5-9/4. Daily 10am, 12:30pm, 3:30pm (except holiday weekends).

Free Ranger Walks & Talks

Offered in the Foothills, Giant Forest, Lodgepole, Grant Grove, Mineral King, Cedar Grove, and other locations! See bulletin boards for schedules of these varied ranger-led activities.

Junior Ranger Program - free

For ages 5 to 105! Pick up a free booklet at any visitor center, complete the activities, & earn your badge. (See Junior Caver tours, left.)

History Alive!

Park history comes to life! Come hear stories from mountain folk of the past! Check bulletin boards for schedules of these free reenactments.

Sequoia Field Institute (SFI)

Over 60,000 visitors yearly explore the parks and Lake Kaweah with SFI. These experts guide you through the night sky, Crystal Cave, and park trails. They even bring park history to life! SPC members (see page 2) may get a discount on SFI activities. 559-565-4251; exploresequoiakingscanyon.com

Touring on Horseback

See page 9 for details on pack stations in Cedar Grove, Grant Grove, and Horse Corral.

Teachers & Parents, Take Note!

Expand your classroom: Invite a ranger to your class, visit the parks with your school group, download lesson plans, and participate in distance learning. All education programs are standards-based and free! Visit nps.gov/seki/learn/education.

Try Volunteering

Would you consider sharing your time and skills with a national park? Explore some of the options at www.nps.gov/getinvolved!

Dark Skies & Starry Nights

See activity schedules on bulletin boards and in visitor centers for a variety of free night programs! These include 9pm programs on Wednesdays & Fridays at Wuksachi and on Saturdays at John Muir Lodge. On July 21-23, join us for the annual **Dark Sky Festival**: walks, talks, telescopes, fun, and awe!



The sun as expected to appear from these parks during the August 21, 2017 solar eclipse, courtesy of the Astronomical Association of Queensland.

Review safety advice on page 10, including warnings about tree hazards. Be extra careful near rivers. Carry water and a map (sold at visitor centers). Orient yourself before going and tell someone your plans. Always store food properly before leaving your car or campsite.

The Foothills

The low elevations host more different plants and animals than the rest of these parks combined!

Foothills Visitor Center

Exhibits on the diverse foothills. Hours on page 2.

Marble Falls Trail climbs 3.7 miles (6 km) through chaparral to a waterfall. Park across the highway from Potwisha (no non-camper parking in campground). Near site #14, follow the dirt road across the concrete ditch; the trail starts along the steep bank to the right.

Hospital Rock Picnic Area

Exhibits about the Western Mono people who once lived here. A short trail built by the Civilian Conservation Corps leads to a cascade. Please be careful; drownings occur here too often!

Paradise Creek

Park at Hospital Rock Picnic Area (not in campground). Walk 0.8 miles to Buckeye Flat Campground. Take the path across from site #28 to cross a footbridge over the Middle Fork. Follow Paradise Creek (not the Middle Fork) for 1 mile (1.6 km) until the trail grows faint.

Mineral King

The steep, winding road ends at 7800', the park's highest road. No gasoline or electricity. Use the machine at Lookout Point entrance to pay your fee.

Giant Forest

Giant Forest Museum & Lodgepole Visitor Center

See details on page 2. Shuttles stop at both centers.

Big Trees Trail

A level, 2/3-mile (1km) paved loop with trailside exhibits about sequoias. Start your walk at Giant Forest Museum (parking at the trail is only for cars with disability placards). 1 hour round trip.

Congress Trail

A fairly level 2-mile loop (3.2 km) through the heart of the grove. Begins at the Sherman Tree.

General Sherman Tree

Two trails lead to the world's largest tree:

- **Main Trail** - This 1/2-mile trail down to the tree has some stairs; the walk back is uphill. Drive 2 miles north of Giant Forest Museum (past the small Sherman Tree parking lot on the Generals Hwy only for those with disability placards). Turn right on Wolverton Road; follow signs. See page 12 about construction delays. Shuttle stop.

-  **Wheelchair-accessible trail** from the Generals Hwy to the Sherman Tree. Parking here is only for those with disability placards. If you have no placard but can't walk the hill on the main trail, ask at a visitor center for a temporary permit. Shuttle stop.

Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow Road

Open. No drinking water is available along this

3-mile dead-end road that begins at Giant Forest Museum. Road is closed during the day on weekends & holidays, 8am to 7pm, until 9/4:

- **Moro Rock** - A granite dome with a steep 1/4-mile staircase to the top (300-foot elevation gain). Spectacular mountain views. Two miles from Generals Highway. See lightning warning on page 10. Shuttle stop.
- **Tunnel Log** - A fallen sequoia that was tunneled through, and the only "tree you can drive through" in these parks. Bypass for larger vehicles. 2.7 miles from the Museum.
- **Crescent Meadow** - Sequoias surround this fragile wetland. Stay on designated trails; use fallen logs to walk into meadows. Several trails start here, such as the 1-mile (1.6 km) route to Tharp's Log, a cabin in a fallen sequoia; and the High Sierra Trail (60 miles/97 km) to Mt. Whitney (14,500'/4419 m), highest in the lower 48 states. Shuttle stop.

Sequoia By Shuttle

Check bulletin boards at shuttle stops for details.

• Giant Forest: Green Route 1 - Free.

Giant Forest Museum to Lodgepole, stopping at the Sherman Tree in each direction. 1/2-hour ride one way. Every 1/2-hour 8am & 8:30am; every 15 minutes 9am - 6pm.

• Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow: Gray Route 2 - Free.

Giant Forest Museum, Moro Rock, Crescent Meadow, Giant Forest Museum (stops at Auto Log and Tunnel Log on weekends only). 1/2-hour round trip. Weekdays: 8am, 8:45am, then every 20 minutes 9am-6pm. Weekends 8am, 8:45am, then every 10 minutes 9am-6pm. Road closed to private vehicles on weekends & holidays (page 12).

• Lodgepole /Wuksachi /Dorst: Purple Route 3 - Free.

Leaves each stop every 20 minutes 8am - 6pm. The Dorst portion starts when Dorst opens in June.

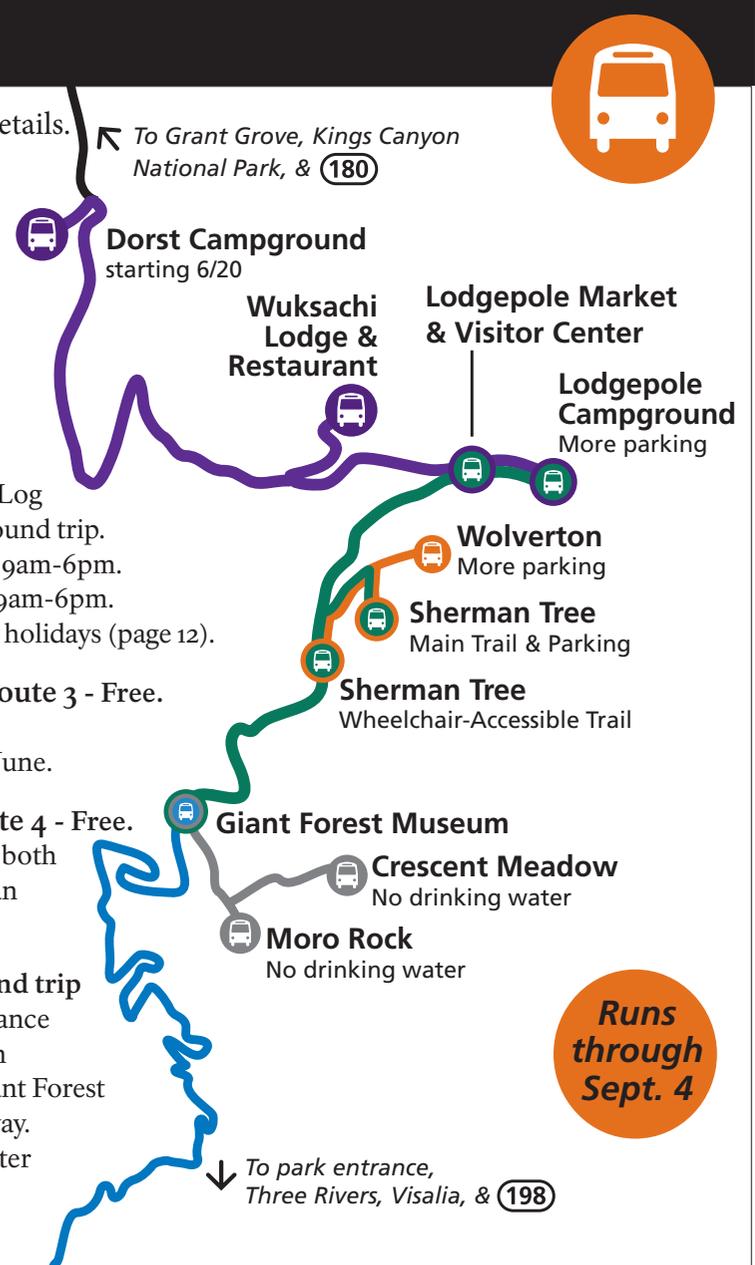
• Wolverton/ Sherman Tree: Orange Route 4 - Free.

Connects Wolverton picnic area & trailhead to both the main and the accessible trails to the Sherman Tree every 15 minutes 9am - 6:30pm.

• Giant Forest /Foothills/ Visalia - \$15 round trip

Visalia to Giant Forest (no additional park entrance fee). Reservations required; sequoiashuttle.com or 1-877-BUS-HIKE. Buses leave Visalia for Giant Forest every hour from 6am-10am; 2-hour ride each way. Buses leave Giant Forest for Visalia Transit Center every hour from 2:30-6:30pm.

In-park shuttle questions: 559-565-4436.



In 2015, the large Rough Fire burned in this area. Winter's rain and snow may have increased erosion in burned areas. Stay on trails. Look and listen for danger: Burned-out stumps and ashy ground can be unstable and dead trees can fall any time. Obey closed-area signs.

Review safety advice (page 10), including warnings about tree hazards. Be careful near rivers and with fire. Always store food properly before leaving your car or campsite. Carry a map and water.

Grant Grove

Kings Canyon Visitor Center - See page 2.

Grant Tree Trail

General Grant, the world's second largest tree and a national shrine, grows along this 1/3-mile (.5 km) paved trail. Trail guides are sold at visitor centers & the trailhead. One mile/1.6km from the visitor center; go north on Hwy 180 then follow signs left.

North Grove Loop

This 1/2-mile (2.4 km) trail offers a close look at Big Trees and a quiet forest walk. A great place to see effects from the Rough Fire. Start at Grant Tree overflow-parking.

Panoramic Point Road

A narrow road to a trail to a beautiful Sierran vista. Trailers & RVs prohibited. Go east through the visitor-center parking lot & follow signs. The paved, accessible trail climbs gently to an overlook. Park Ridge Trail (4 miles/6.4 km round-trip) begins here.

Redwood Mountain Sequoia Grove

Not plowed; opens with snowmelt. Rutted dirt road to one of the world's largest Big Tree groves. Research here revealed the positive link between sequoias and fire. Across Generals Hwy from Quail Flat/Hume Lake junction; 7 miles south of Grant Grove. Turn right (west) at Redwood Saddle; 2 miles to parking lot. Loop trails up to 10 miles long.

Kings Canyon & Cedar Grove

Here in the canyon of the South Fork of the Kings River, many drought-weakened trees succumbed to insects. Be very aware of the potential for falling trees and branches, and be careful with fire!

Canyon View

The "U" shape of this canyon, apparent from this viewpoint, reveals its glacial history. One mile (1.6 km) east of Cedar Grove Village on Hwy 180.

Knapp's Cabin

During the Roaring '20s, a California businessman stored gear for lavish fishing trips in this small cabin. East of the village 2 miles on Hwy 180.

Roaring River Falls

A very short, shady walk to a powerful waterfall rushing through a granite chute. East of the Village 3 miles on Hwy 180. Trail work underway in June will affect the pavement temporarily.

Zumwalt Meadow

This 1.5-mile (2.4 km) loop passes high granite walls, lush meadows, and the Kings River. Parking is 4 1/2 miles east of Cedar Grove Village. Buy a trail guide at trailhead or visitor center. The start of the trail is accessible.

Mist Falls

One of the park's largest waterfalls. Don't get close to the edge! Allow 4-5 hours; 9 miles (14.4 km) round trip from Road's End. Moderately strenuous; 800' elevation gain (mostly in the last 2 miles).

Hotel Creek Trail to Cedar Grove Overlook

Starts 0.2 mile north of the market at North Side Drive & Cedar Lane. 5 miles (8 km) round trip; 1200ft (365 m) elevation gain. Strenuous; allow 3 -4 hours. Return via Lewis Creek Trail for an 8-mile (12.9km) loop.

National Forest / Monument

Giant Sequoia National Monument is part of the Sequoia National Forest next to these parks. Page 9 has details on how national parks and forests differ.

Converse Basin

North of Grant Grove 2 miles. Virtually every mature sequoia in this huge grove was felled early in the 1900s. Ask at the visitor center about trails.

Indian Basin

A one-mile accessible trail & one-mile unpaved trail. On Highway 180, go 7 miles north of Grant Grove; turn into Princess Campground. Drive past the dump station to the trailhead parking area.

Hume Lake

Formed by a historic dam, this lake supplied water to a flume that floated lumber 67 miles (108km) to Sanger! An easy 2 1/2-mile (4 km) trail circles it. Page 9 lists facilities. Eight miles north of Grant Grove on Highway 180; 3 miles 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 Road 14S11, then take Forest Road 13S04.



The Kings Canyon

The Generals Highway

Driving this 80-year-old roadway is part of the park experience. It carries you up almost a mile in elevation and connects the General Sherman Tree to the General Grant Tree, hence its name.

An intense effort to upgrade the highway is underway. For decades, a skin of pavement barely improved the original wagon road. Today's work is building a route that can handle large numbers of modern vehicles without losing the joys of a mountain road. See page 12 for details on traffic delays.

Wayside exhibits at overlooks along this historic road offer insight into the landscape:

Kings Canyon Overlook

View the High Sierra wilderness from this overlook about 6 miles (9.5km) south of Grant Grove.

McGee Vista

Not on the Generals Hwy, but close to it, on 180 north of Gant Grove Village 3 miles. Sunset views.

Redwood Mountain Overlook

Six miles (9.6 km) south of Grant Grove on the southwest side of the Generals Highway. Views of one of the world's largest sequoia groves.

Eleven Range Overlook

South of the Giant Forest, this turnout offers views to the west over the foothills and the distant valley.



The Generals Highway in Giant Forest

Exploring on Horseback

Hourly rides, spot trips, or guided trips:

- **Grant Grove Stables:** One- & two-hour rides, 6/12 - 9/7, 9am-4pm, 1-559-335-9292.
- **Cedar Grove Pack Station:** Daily 9am-4pm, to 10/9. 1-559-565-3464.
- **Horse Corral near Big Meadows (USFS):** Delayed opening; call 1-559-565-3404 or 559-338-2251

Grant Grove

6600' elevation. Experience a pristine sequoia grove and one that was logged in the 1800s.

Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center

See page 2. Movie, exhibits in English & Spanish.

Grant Grove Village (DNC)

- **Market:** Daily 7am-9pm. Grab-&-go prepared food, groceries, supplies, ATM.
- **Temporary Food Service:** Daily at the Market & at John Muir Lodge 7-10am, 11:30am-3:30pm, 4:30-10pm: pizza, sandwiches, &

salads until the new restaurant opens.

- **Gift Shop:** Daily 7am-9pm. Food, supplies, clothing, ATM.
- **Lodging:** 1-559-335-5500. Register at John Muir Lodge. Details, page 5.
- **Showers:** Open daily to campers 9:30am-12:30pm & 2:30-5:30pm.

U.S. Post Office Monday-Friday 9am-4pm; 24-hour lobby. Send visitor mail c/o General Delivery, Kings Canyon NP, CA 93633. 1-559-335-2499.

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work) In the village outside the visitor center & market.

Cedar Grove

4600' elevation. On the South Fork of the Kings River in the glacially carved Kings Canyon.

Cedar Grove Visitor Center (NPS)

By Sentinel Campground. See page 2.

Pay Telephones (cell phones do not work) Outside lodge & visitor center.

Village Center & Lodge (DNC)

- **Grill:** Snack bar. Daily 7-10am, 11:30am-2:30pm, 5-9pm. BBQ daily 11:30am-5pm.
- **Gift Shop/Market:** Daily 7am-10pm. Sandwiches, supplies, groceries, souvenirs.
- **Showers & Laundry:** Daily 7am-1pm & 3-8pm. Buy tokens at the market.

Wilderness Permits at Road's End (NPS)

A permit station 6 miles east of the village. Daily 7am-3:30pm.

National Forest & Monument

Hume Lake & Big Meadows are in Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of Sequoia National Forest. You pass through the monument when you drive between Lodgepole and Grant Grove and between Grant Grove and Cedar Grove.

Lodging - Details on page 5.

USFS Hume Lake District Office (USFS)

35860 Kings Canyon Road (Hwy 180) 19 miles west of park entrance. Weekdays 8am-4:30pm. Maps, books. 1-559-338-2251; www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia

Pay Telephones (cell phones rarely work)

- Between Wuksachi Village & Grant Grove: Summer near the Big Meadows trailhead.
- Between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove: Hume Lake (year round; see Hume Lake below).

Hume Lake (on private land)

All year. Open year-round to the public. **Gasoline** available with credit card (no international cards) during store hours. General Store daily. Hours vary. North of Grant Grove 8 miles on Hwy 180, then right on Hume Lake Road 3 miles. 1-559-305-7770.

Montecito Sequoia Resort (USFS permittee)

All year. Daily. On Generals Highway 9 miles south of Grant Grove. Buffet meals 7:30am-9am, 12-1:30pm, 5:30-7pm. Cabins, hotel, children's activities. 1-800-227-9900; 1-559-565-3388.

Stony Creek Resort (USFS permittee)

Market 8am-7pm; restaurant 4-6:30pm (later on Friday & Saturday). Showers & laundry 9am-6pm. On Generals Hwy 13 miles south of Grant Grove. **Gasoline** 24 hours with credit card. 800-227-9900; 559-565-3909.

Boyden Cavern Tours (USFS permittee)

Opening to be determined; for updates call 1-559-338-2251. Daily 45-minute tours. On Hwy 180 between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove. Group reservations: 1-888-965-8243.

Basic Rules: National Parks & National Forests lie next to each other here. Some activities are illegal in the Park but legal in the Forest.

Can I...	In National Parks 	In National Forest 
Walk my leashed pets?	Not on any trails. OK 100 feet from roads in developed areas (picnic areas, campgrounds, roads). Certified service dogs only (not assistance or therapy animals); see www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010	Pets can go on trails. In both areas: Pets must be on a leash less than 6 feet (1.8m) long.
Collect things to take home?	Leave things where you find them to play their natural role in the ecosystem. In both areas: Archeological sites and artifacts are protected by law.	You may keep a few cones or rocks for personal use.
Hunt?	Not in the Parks. Visitors are responsible for understanding & complying with all applicable state, local, and federal firearms laws before entering this park.	Only during the season with a license: 1-559-243-4005.
Drive off-road?	Not in these parks. Stay on roads.	Get specific information on off-highway-vehicle (OHV) routes at USFS Hume Lake office in Dunlap or Kings Canyon Visitor Center.
Cut wood?	Not in these parks.	Call Hume Lake Ranger District for wood permits & guidelines: 559-338-2251.
Build fires?	Restrictions are in effect in the park and forest; always check locally for up-to-date information. In park, only in fire grills in some campgrounds & some picnic areas.	Free fire permits are required, even for gas stoves & lanterns. Get permits at visitor center in Grant Grove or USFS in Dunlap.
Go fishing?	In both areas: Permitted during fishing season. California fishing licenses are required for ages 16 & up. Ask for copies of park regulations.	
Ride a bicycle?	Keep bikes on roads only, not on any trail (other than the designated bike trail in Cedar Grove). In both areas: Under 18 years old must wear helmets.	Ask a ranger which trails permit bicycles.
Snowmobile?	Not in these parks.	Only on designated snowmobile routes. Trailheads are at Cherry Gap, Big Meadows, & Quail Flat. Information: 1-559-338-2251.
Fly a drone?	Not in any national park.	Only in accordance with FAA guidance, and not in wilderness areas.

You are Responsible for Your Safety

Natural areas present hazards. Hot and cold temperatures, slippery or uneven ground, wild animals, and changing weather all pose dangers. Rocks roll, trees topple, and limbs drop without warning. People create other hazards via campfires, traffic, snowplay, and poor decisions. GPS directions may mislead you here.

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

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

DROWNING

The #1 cause of death in national parks! Be careful around water; 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. Currents are always stronger than they appear, even during low water. Ask at visitor centers about river conditions.

PLAGUE, HANTAVIRUS & WEST NILE

Do not feed or touch ANY wild animals. Avoid areas of rodent activity, as fleas on rodents can carry *plague* and deer mice feces can carry *hantavirus*. *West Nile virus* is passed by bites from infected mosquitoes. Human illness is not common, but take steps to avoid mosquito bites.

TICKS are common in foothill and Kings Canyon grasses; check yourself for these little animals after a walk. Their bite is painless, but some carry *Lyme disease*. Remove them carefully with tweezers and seek a doctor's advice.



GIARDIA

This protozoan in lakes and streams causes intestinal upset. Iodine and other chemicals may not be as reliable as heat in killing bacteria and Giardia, but can be effective if used properly. Boil drinking water from waterways for at least 3 minutes.

POISON OAK

A common shrub up to 5000 feet elevation. Shiny green leaves in groups of three in spring, red leaves and whitish berries in late summer and fall; bare in winter. If you touch any part of it, wash skin and clothes right away.



HYPOTHERMIA

This life-threatening condition can occur year-round. Stay dry; snack often. If others don't react 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 clothes, sleeping bags, and shelter. Keep an eye on children who are wet or cold.

RATTLESNAKES

Found in much of these parks; especially common in the foothills, in the Kings Canyon, and near water. Watch where you put your hands and feet! Do not harass or kill them; this is when most bites occur. Bites are rarely lethal, but tissue damage can be severe. If bitten, avoid panic and call 911.



LIGHTNING

See dark clouds or lightning? 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 your surroundings, 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.

CARBON MONOXIDE

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

OZONE POLLUTION

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

GPS & WEAK CELL SIGNALS

Cell phones rarely work here, and GPS may misdirect you. Don't rely on them. Note location of pay telephones (pages 8 & 9), and use maps.

MOUNTAIN LIONS

Cougars roam throughout these parks, but you are unlikely to see one. Attacks are rare, but be aware. Watch children closely; never let them run ahead. Cautiously move away if you find a partially buried animal carcass. If you see a cougar, don't act like prey:

- Don't run; that may trigger pursuit. Pick up children.
- Try to appear as large as possible. Don't crouch or hide.
- Hold your ground or back away slowly while facing the cougar.
- If the cougar acts aggressively, wave your hands, shout, and throw stones or sticks at it.
- If attacked, fight back! Report any sightings.



DRINKING WATER

We test the 13 park water systems to ensure that they meet federal and state standards. Annual Consumer Confidence Reports are available.

ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES

Keep parks safe, natural, and free from illegal activities, including marijuana growing and fireworks! Report suspicious activities: 1-888-NPS-CRIME.

KEEP ANIMALS SAFE

Wildlife, ticks, and overheating in vehicles can harm pets. Keep wildlife safe from pets, too.

TREE HAZARDS

Branches and trees may fall, whether or not they are dead, even when there is no wind. Keep eyes and ears open. Run if you hear cracks or snapping from roots, trunks, or branches (sometimes there is no sound). Don't linger under dead, cracked, broken, or hanging branches. Avoid spending any time under trees that are rotten at the base or have cracked bark that is peeling off the trunk.

Explore Safely

- Avoid going alone, and tell someone your plans and return time.
- Take a map, water, flashlight, and layers of clothes.
- Watch and listen for potential hazards above, around, and on the ground.

Bear Habitat: Proper food storage is the law!

Bears can grab unattended food or easily break into cars that have food in them. They become bold and sometimes aggressive in attempts to get more. Too often these bears must be killed.

This is why you may be fined if you do not store food properly. Follow the rules below to reduce (but not eliminate) the risk of a bear break-in.

Drivers

Never leave any food or scented item in cars where food-storage boxes are provided.

Picnickers

Never move away from coolers and tables when food is out. Stay within arm's length of food.

Lodge Guests

Remove food from your vehicles.

Campers

Store food day and night in the metal boxes provided (avoid bringing coolers that won't fit; most boxes are 47" long x 33" deep x 28" high. Store ALL food, coolers, related items, and anything with an odor (even non-food) — including unopened cans and bottles. Latch the box completely. Food not stored properly will be impounded. Where boxes are not provided, seal food to reduce odors, cover it well, and close the windows. Keep a clean campsite. Deposit garbage immediately in bear-proof containers or store it like food. Take baby seats out of cars; the smells they absorb may attract bears.

Backpackers

Hanging food often fails! Store all food in a portable container. Less than 3 pounds, it holds up to 5-day's food for one and fits in a pack. Metal boxes in a few wilderness locations offer backup storage. Rent/buy a container at visitor centers or markets.

Everyone

Don't let bears approach you or your food, picnic area, or campsite. Wave your arms, make loud noises, and throw small rocks toward them (avoid hitting the face or head). Keep a safe distance but be persistent. Easily abandoning your food teaches a bear that it is acceptable to approach humans; it may hurt someone in the future. If a bear does get food, however, *never* try to take it back.



Wilderness

11

In the high Sierra, snow remains on all or part of many trails. It will take some time before the condition of all bridges, trails, and other features are known. Check www.nps.gov/seki for updates.



Thank you for following minimum-impact, no-trace guidelines to protect the wilderness!

Wild places include hazards, and help may not be available. Be prepared to be fully self-reliant. Many trees have died from drought, which may increase hazards from falling trees and branches; be careful where you linger or camp. See *Be Safe*, page 10

Permits are required for all overnight trips, and they are limited during the summer quota period (May 26 through September 23, 2017). The permit fee during that time is \$10 plus \$5/person. Permits can be reserved by email or U.S. mail beginning March 1. Outside of the quota period, permits are free and can be self-issued at the permit station or visitor center closest to your trailhead (see page 2).

Jennie Lakes & Monarch wildernesses in the National Forest (USFS): Permits are not required but please complete a registration card at Jennie Lakes trailheads; information is used to manage the wilderness effectively. USFS requires a free fire permit for any open flame; downloadable from www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia.

Camping in the park's "frontcountry" is permitted only in campgrounds. Camping or sleeping in vehicles is not allowed in parking lots, pullouts, picnic areas, or trailheads in the park.

See nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/wilderness or:

Wilderness Permit Reservations
Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks
47050 Generals Highway Unit 60
Three Rivers, CA 93271
Telephone: 1-559-565-3766
seki_wilderness_reservations@nps.gov

Seasonal Wilderness Lodgings

• **Bearpaw Meadow High Sierra Camp (DNC):** Open mid-June to September 24, conditions permitting. A tent hotel and restaurant 11 miles out on the High Sierra Trail. Reservations (required) taken by phone starting 7am on the first business day in January; 866-807-3598. See www.visitsequoia.com.

• **Pear Lake Ski Hut (SPC):** Winter only. High above Lodgepole at 9,200' elevation. Six strenuous miles on skis/snowshoes get you to its stove and 10 bunkbeds. Reservations required: 1-559-565-3759.

Entrance fees help the Parks!

Your fees get invested here on projects related to your park experience: roads, exhibits, and more. Save time at the entrance by paying for your pass in advance at www.yourpassnow.com/parkpass. Ask about passes for 4th graders. Note: No passes are valid at Crystal Cave.

Passes to Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks (NPS) plus Hume Lake District of Sequoia National Forest (USFS):

• **7-day pass:** \$30 per vehicle (private, non-commercial). \$15 per person on foot, bicycle, or bus; \$25 per motorcycle (not per person).

• **12-Month Pass:** \$50 admits all passengers in a private vehicle.

Passes to National Parks & Interagency Federal Recreational Lands Nationwide:

• **Annual:** \$80. Valid for entrance fees nationwide.

• **Annual Military:** Free to active-duty members and their dependents with a CAC or DD1173. Crystal Cave has its own fee, but offers a discount.

• **Seniors:** \$10 one-time fee buys lifetime entrance for U.S. citizens & permanent residents 62 or over. *Take note! A price increase is pending due to new legislation.*

• **Accessibility:** Free to blind or permanently disabled U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Take appropriate documents to entrance stations.

Gas Up *Outside* the Parks

No gas stations are within park boundaries. Fill up in Three Rivers (5 miles from Hwy 198 park entrance), Clingan's Junction (20 miles outside the Hwy 180 park entrance), or at:

- Hume Lake Christian Camp: 559-305-7770. Year-round during business hours with a credit card (no international cards). Gas & diesel. 11 miles (18 km) north of Grant Grove via Hwy 180.
- Stony Creek Village: 1-559-565-3909. 24 hours with credit card (other hours on page 9). Gas & diesel. On Generals Hwy between Wuksachi & Hwy 180; 13 miles south of Grant Grove.
- Kings Canyon Lodge: Closed.

Rules & Recommendations

Don't Lose Your Brakes

Keep a foot on the brake for too long, and brakes will fail. Instead, always downshift when going downhill (in automatic vehicles, put the gearshift on 1, 2 or L). The engine gets louder but it saves your brakes and prevents accidents.

Use Turnouts & Prevent Car Fires

Hot brakes & mufflers easily start car and forest fires. Stop *only* on paved areas, not on grass, and let cars behind you pass.

Emergency Car Repairs

For a tow: 559-565-3341 then press 9 (24 hours). In Sequoia Park only, 24-hour AAA for lock outs, jump starts, out-of-gas, minor repairs: 565-4070.

Bicycles

Ride on roads, not trails. Obey traffic rules. Wear light colors at night. Under age 18: helmet required.

Go Slow for Wildlife!

And never feed them.

Firearms in these National Parks

Visitors with firearms are responsible for understanding and complying with all applicable California, local, and federal firearms laws. People who can legally possess firearms under federal, California, and local laws may possess them in this park.

Winding Narrow Roads

Keep to the right, go slow, and look out for wildlife. Use pullouts to let traffic behind you pass. As of June 1st:

In Kings Canyon:

- **Panoramic Point Road:** Motorhomes and trailers not permitted.
- **Redwood Mountain Road(NPS):** Unpaved, rough.

In National Forest: Updates 1-559-338-2251

- **Quail Flat & Ten Mile roads - Open.**
- **Converse Basin - Unpaved, rough.** Road to Chicago Stump open. Road to Boole Tree trailhead to be determined.
- **Big Meadows & Buck Rock roads:** Opening to be determined.

In Sequoia National Park:

- **Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow:** Vehicle-length limit 22'; no trailers or towed units. *Through early September, the road closes to private vehicles on weekends & holidays, 8am to 7pm.* Take the shuttle (see page 6), walk, or bicycle at those times. Exception: those with valid disabled-parking placard or a current local wilderness permit. No drinking water available along this road.
- **Crystal Cave Road:** Maximum vehicle length 22' (6.7m).
- **Mineral King Road:** Page 2 for station hours.
- **South Fork & Middle Fork roads:** Partially unpaved. Slippery when wet.

Fire Danger & Restrictions

Restrictions will increase during summer as fire danger increases. Always check bulletin boards, visitor centers, or www.nps.gov/seki for the latest fire restrictions.

Remember: Never stop a car in dry grass. Fireworks of any kind are not permitted in the parks. Always put cigarette butts and matches in ashtrays or pockets, not on the ground. Thank you!

Generals Highway: Delays start mid-June

Construction is between Amphitheater Point and Crystal Cave Road in Sequoia National Park (see the map on page 8). Traffic is held at either end of the zone on the following schedule:

- **Weekdays from 7am to 8pm** (7am to 5pm on Fridays): One-hour delays. Pass through on the hour, uphill lane going first.
- **Weeknights from 9pm Sunday to 5am Friday morning:** The road closes at 9pm, with one pass-through at 11:30pm. Road reopens at 5am.
- **Weekends & holidays:** No delays except when the road is limited to one lane. Then expect delays up to 20 minutes as traffic lights control uphill then downhill travel. On holidays: There will be no roadwork over the **July 4th** weekend noon Friday to 7am Tuesday or over Labor Day weekend.

In September, Wolverton Road may have delays.

For updates and estimates on timing your travel to minimize wait times at the construction zone, check at visitor centers for posted information.

Always use low gear on downhills. Beware of narrow, rough roads in construction areas, especially for motorcycles or bicycles. Do not stop in the construction zone.

By repairing a few miles at a time, we prevent the need to close the entire road for an entire year. Thank you for your patience!

Driving Times

When roads are clear and open (see delay schedule above):

From Foothills to:

Giant Forest	1 hour
Lodgepole	1 hour minimum
Visalia	1 hour
Mineral King	1½ hours

From Giant Forest to Grant Grove

via Generals Hwy 1 hour

From Grant Grove to:

Cedar Grove	1 hour
Fresno	1½ hours
Yosemite south entry	3 hours
(via Hwy 41)	

Note: GPS often misdirects travellers in this area. Follow signs, use maps, or ask.



Be careful with fire!