It is impossible to walk through a sequoia grove without being awe-struck by the beauty of the great giants: General Sherman, the Grant Tree, the Parker Group, the Lincoln Tree, and the many other sequoias that people have come to know and love. You can find a joy and a peace while wandering through sequoias that feels unlike anything else.

Another wonder awaits you in many of the parks’ sequoia groves. Whether walking through the East Fork Grove, Redwood Mountain Grove, or in many locations in Giant Forest, with an observant eye you can spot crops and thickets of small sequoia saplings. Young sequoias are distinctive in their bright green and sharp, scaly needles. Seedlings look stunted and scraggily, but they take on a graceful spire shape as they mature into saplings. They often grow in dense clusters near streams, wet meadows, and sunny gaps in the forest canopy—a testament to this tree’s thirsty and sun-loving nature. They also grow almost exclusively where fire has burned recently.

Virtually all these young trees result from prescribed fires completed over recent years. Giant sequoias are fire-adapted; they thrive with natural fire cycles. Fire opens the cones, releasing the tiny seeds to the nutrient rich ash and mineral soil below—the ideal conditions for this tree’s germination. Fire thins competing plants while opening the canopy above to sunlight.

The odds are strongly against a sequoia seed germinating and growing to maturity. Thousands of seeds scatter after fires, yet most of them will not even take root. The very small number that do, however, still have a lot to contend with. Drought, competition for water and nutrients, floods, and fire all take a toll on these young trees. Occasional dense clusters of saplings can be seen ten years after a fire, but very few of them will last much beyond that.

They cannot all survive if one is to survive. Natural processes wean out the weaker trees and those with less sunlight or less access to water sources. Trees of the same age often vary in size after just a few years. Only those in prime locations grow well. For example, General Sherman stands as the largest — but not the oldest — sequoia. Its size can be attributed in part to the luck of having started in an excellent spot.

Walk along the Congress Trail in Giant Forest or in Redwood Mountain Grove to enjoy sequoias both young and old. While admiring the youngsters, try to determine which will be survivors. Which of these saplings will live through droughts and fires? Which will grow tall, drop their lower limbs to help protect themselves from future fires, and drink deep of the mountain waters? Somewhere out there is the next General Sherman Tree.

~ Deb Schweizer
Land of giants... and more

You expect giant trees and huge canyons—and you won’t be disappointed. Yet the whole of these parks is even greater than the sum of its famous parts. Rising from 1300’ to 14,494’ (the highest elevation in the lower 48 states), these parks protect a spectacular elevational range. This span from low to high means dramatic shifts from warm foothills to cool forests to the cold High Sierra. It means 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.

The caretakers of this landscape are also diverse. A national monument, which is part of a national forest, borders these two national parks. The U.S. Geological Survey conducts research here. The Sequoia Natural History Association runs bookstores at visitor centers and contributes to education and research. The Sequoia Parks Foundation supports important 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 important partner, too! Experience these parks, learn all you can, and help to preserve them. Thank you!

YOUR FEES HELP YOUR PARKS!

Most of your entrance and camping fees stay right here. The parks invest them in projects that improve visitor facilities and protect park resources. Fees have paid for repairing and upgrading roads, campgrounds, trails, picnic areas, and restrooms. They have also improved visitor centers, updated exhibits, and modernized slide programs!

ENTRANCE FEE OPTIONS

• 7-day pass for Sequoia & Kings Canyon and 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 and Hume Lake District of Sequoia National Forest/GSNM: $30 admits all passengers in a private vehicle for one year from month of purchase. Not valid at Crystal Cave.

• 12-Month: America the Beautiful Interagency Annual Pass: $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.) Not valid at Crystal Cave.

• 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 entrance station or visitors center. (Previously issued Golden Access passes remain valid.) Not valid at Crystal Cave.
WHERE CAN I…

Your visit may include both a National Park (NPS) and a National Forest (USFS). Activities that are illegal in the Park may be legal in the Forest (see page 2 for details). Know which area you are in (see back page)!

- **BRING A PET** - In the Parks: Not on any trails. It’s o.k. 100 feet from roads in developed areas (picnic areas, campgrounds). In the National Forest: Pets can go on trails. In both areas: Pets must be on a leash less than 6 feet (1.8m) long. Never leave pets in cars as they may overheat quickly.

- **RIDE BICYCLES** - In the Parks: Stay on roads only, not on any trail (other than designated bike trail in Cedar Grove). In the National Forest: Ask a ranger which trails permit bicycles. In both areas: Be careful: Roads are narrow and RVs are wide. Be careful & courteous near pedestrians & horses. People under 18 must wear helmets.

- **HAVE A FIRE** - In the Parks: Only in fire grills in campgrounds & some picnic areas. In National Forest: Free fire permits required, even for gas stoves/lanterns. Some areas more restricted than others. Get permits at Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center (Grant Grove) or USFS office (Dunlap) on Hwy 180.

- **COLLECT THINGS TO KEEP** - Not in Parks: Leave things where you find them to play their natural role in the ecosystem. In the National Forest: Keeping a few cones or rocks for personal use is permitted. In both areas: Archeological sites and artifacts are protected by law.

- **DRIVE OHVs OFF-ROAD** - Not in the parks: Stay on roads. In National Forest: Get details on available off-highway-vehicle (OHV) roads at USFS Hume Lake office in Dunlap (Hwy 180) or Kings Canyon Visitor Center (Grant Grove).

- **HUNT** - Not in the Parks: Visitors are responsible for understanding and complying with all applicable state, local, and federal firearms laws before entering this park. It is prohibited to discharge a firearm in the parks. In the National Forest: Only during the season with a license: 1-559-243-4005.

- **GO CAMPING** - In the Parks: Only in designated campgrounds. In the National Forest: In campgrounds or, unless posted otherwise, near roadsides. Pull a safe distance off the road but no further.

- **GO PICNICKING** - See symbols on back-page map. Due to bears, never leave food unattended! Most sites have tables, restrooms & fire grills, except: No grills at Foothills & Sandy Cove. No fires permitted at Lodgepole, Crescent Meadow, Grizzly Falls, & Sandy Cove. No water at Halstead, Pow-dercan, Lodgepole, Crescent Meadow, Sandy Cove, & Grizzly Falls.

- **SNOWMOBILE** - Not in the Parks. In the National Forest: Only on designated snowmobile routes at Quail Flat, Cherry Gap, Big Meadows. Call 1-559-338-2251.

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

- **CUT WOOD** - Not in the Parks. In the National Forest: Call Hume Lake Ranger District for permit and guidelines: 559-338-2251.

- **GET CELL-PHONE SERVICE** - See top right of page 5, Be Safe.

- **RIDE HORSEBACK** Hourly rides, backcountry spot trips, or guided trips.

- **Cedar Grove** 1-559-565-3464 summer 1-559-337-2314 off season

- **Grant Grove** 1-559-333-9299 summer 1-559-799-7247 off season

- **Horse Corral** At Big Meadows in Sequoia National Forest 1-559-565-3404 summer 1-559-679-3573 cell

- **FREE WALKS & TALKS** may be offered at Giant Forest, Lodgepole, Grant Grove, Cedar Grove, Mineral King, and the Foothills. See pages 8-9.

- **TEACHERS: Curriculum-based programs for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades on sequoia life cycles and adaptations, species interdependence, and cultural history. E-mail sekiritc@nps.gov.

- **VISITOR CENTERS**: Each one has unique exhibits and a store: books, postcards, maps, posters, and other items. Your purchases support the parks! See pages 8-9.

- **JUNIOR RANGERS**: FREE PROGRAM for all ages! Get a free booklet at any visitor center, finish the activities for your age, and earn a badge.

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**Activities**

**Tour Crystal Cave!**

No tickets are sold at the cave, only at Lodgepole and Foothills visitor centers. Buy tickets at least 1/2 hours in advance (see traffic-delay information on back page).

Crystal Cave Road is 15 miles from Sequoia Park entrance at Hwy 198; 3 miles south of the General Sherman Tree (see back-page map). Maximum vehicle length is 22’ (6.7 m) on this road. Use parking-lot restrooms; the cave has none. Wear sturdy shoes; the 1/2-mile trail (.8 km) to the cave is steep. Wear a jacket; it’s 50°F (10°C) inside. No baby backpacks, strollers, or tripods. Not wheelchair accessible. Ask about group reservations and wild cave tours: 1-559-365-3799.

- **45-minute Cave Tours daily**
  - Times subject to change. Cave may be closed by snow in fall.
  - Weekdays through 9/5: 10:30am - 4:30pm. 9/6 - 11am, noon, 2pm, 3pm. 9/19 - 10/23: 11am, 1pm, 2pm.
  - Weekends through 9/5: 10am - 5pm. 9/6 - 11am, noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm. 9/19 - 10/23: Saturdays noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm; Sundays noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm.
  - Ask about special “Ghosts of Crystal Cave” Halloween tours!
  - Fees: Age 5-12 $7; age 13-61 $13; age 4 and under free; Golden Age (age 62 & up) and Golden Access passholders $12.

- **1/2-hour Discovery Tours**
  - Weekdays - 4:15pm; through 9/2. Enjoy an in-depth tour of this fabulous cave. Limited to 18 people aged 12 & up. Fee: $16 each.

- **1/2-hour Historic Candle-Light Tours**
  - Thursday-Friday, 5:30 pm; Saturday-Sunday 6pm through 9/4. Experience the cave as its discoverers did! Limited to 18 people aged 12 & up. Fee: $16.

  Note: White-nose syndrome is a disease that has killed millions of bats in other states. This summer, the parks may have simple screening and decontamination steps at caves in order to protect these amazing mammals.

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**& SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST / GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT**

LATE SUMMER 2011

3
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: 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 15 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: Fires leave behind a seedbed fertilized with ash and they open the forest canopy, allowing sunlight to reach the seedlings.

Second, the amount of dead wood and dense growth of small white-fir trees increased tremendously. Natural fires used to burn these away frequently. Now, after fire’s long absence, these fuels feed bigger, hotter blazes that are more dangerous for people, plants, and wildlife.

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 the giant sequoia trees, the National Park Service works 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 may ignite prescribed fires or allow lightning 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 realistic perspective is that fires are an 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!

WILDERNESS OVERNIGHTS

A permit is required for all overnight wilderness trips into these parks. Between late May and late September (the quota season), each park trail has a daily entry quota for overnight trips and a wilderness camping fee of $15 is required. The quota and fee are tools to help protect your wilderness environment and experience. Permits are not required for day hikes, or for overnight trips in the adjacent US Forest Service Monarch and Jennie Lakes wildernesses, but a free fire permit is required for any open flame on USFS land.

Outside the quota season, permits are still required, but are on a self-issue basis. Get self-issue permits at the station nearest your trailhead (see pages 8 & 9). Trail condition information is limited; be careful and expect winter conditions.

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

Permits must be picked up either the afternoon before, starting at 1pm, or by 9am on the day of departure at the park permit station/visitor center nearest your trailhead. If delayed, call the Wilderness Office or you may lose the permit.

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.

Camping in the parks’ “frontcountry” is permitted only in campground. 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/sek/planyourovernight.htm or call.

HIGH SIERRA LODGE

• BEARPAW HIGH SIERRA CAMP (DNCP) 1-888-252-5757

Fire in the Sierra usually hug 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

STAR THISTLE

Two immediate 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 here! If you recognize it from your home or travels, make sure not to bring it in. If you see it here, tell 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! They stick on gear, check boots & waders thoroughly for this tiny invader. Common just east of the parks, they could easily be carried into the High Sierra.

Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks

©NPS Photo
**YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR SAFETY!**

Natural areas present hazards. Rocks roll, trees topple, and limbs drop without warning. Icy or uneven ground, wild animals, and changing weather 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 own hands. Keep alert. Read warnings and ask a ranger for advice.

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**Rules of park roads**

**EXPECT TRAFFIC DELAYS** daily on Generals Highway south of Giant Forest and occasionally in other park locations. Details on back page (page 12).

**22’ VEHICLE LENGTH LIMIT** on Generals Hwy between Hospital Rock Picnic Area and Giant Forest Museum due to single-lane road. Between Potwisha Campground and Hospital Rock, advised maximum vehicle length is 22 feet (6.7m). Maximum limit on other parts of the Generals Highway is 40 feet (12 m) for single vehicles, 50 feet (15 m) for vehicle + 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.

**PREVENT CAR FIRES** Hot brakes & mufflers can easily start fires. Stop only on paved areas, not on grasses.

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

**FINDING GASOLINE** No gas stations within the park. Only Grant Grove market sells cans of emergency gas. Fill up in Three Rivers, Clingan’s Junction, or in the National Forest at: Huine Lake Christian Camp: 559-305-7770. Year-round 24 hours with credit card. 11 miles (18 km) north of Grant Grove via Hwy 180.

**Stony Creek Village:** 1-559-565-3909. Available 24 hours with credit card, summer only. Between Wukashi & Grant Grove on the Generals Hwy.

**Kings Canyon Lodge:** 1-559-335-2405. Gas sold 9am-dark, usually. 17 miles (27 km) from Grant Grove on Hwy 180.

**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.

**AVOID OVERHEATING** Check your engine temperature gauge or light. If it starts to go up, especially on an uphill, turn off the air conditioner and turn on the fan. If the engine fails, pull into a paved area, lift the hood, and wait awhile for it to cool. If the problem is vapor lock, this may take care of it.

**GO SLOW FOR WILDLIFE!** Never feed animals along the road. They often get hit by cars.

**NARROW, WINDING ROADS** In Kings Canyon & National Forest, POISON OAK... with whitish berries in fall; bare in winter, leaves in groups of three in spring.

**RATTLESNAKES** found in much of these parks, are especially common in the foothills 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; call a ranger or 911.

**LIGHTNING:** 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 mosquitoes. Human illness is not common, but take steps to avoid mosquito bites.

**CARBON MONOXIDE:** This odorless, colorless gas can be fatal. Most burn charcoal in closed spaces, e.g. a tent, camper, or RV.

**OZONE POLLUTION:** See air-quality 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. The peaks sometimes reach “unhealthy” state/federal standards, and can affect respiratory systems. Ozone forms from gases in car and factory exhaust.

**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 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, the goal is to convince it that you are not prey:

- Don’t run; it may trigger pursuit.
- Try to appear as large as possible. Don’t crouch or try to hide.
- Hold your ground or back away slowly while facing the cougar.
- If any of the above does not work, and if the mountain lion acts aggressively, wave your hands, shout, and throw stones or sticks at it.
- If attacked, fight back!
- Report any cougar sightings.

**BE SAFE.** Avoid going alone. Tell someone your plans and return time. Watch and listen for potential hazards above you, around you, and on the ground. Beware of trails and sidewalks slippery with ice or leaves. Slow down to safely share roads and trails with people and wildlife.

**SAFE DRINKING WATER:** The 13 park water systems are tested to ensure that they meet federal and state standards. Ask at visitor centers about the Annual Consumer Confidence Reports.

**OPERATION NO-GROW** Keep parks safe, natural, and free from illegal activities such as marijuana growing! Report suspicious activities: 1-888-NPS-CRIME.

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**BE SAFE!**

**DROWNING:** The #1 cause of death in national parks! Be extra careful around water, falling in 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.

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

**POISON OAK:** This common shrub grows up to 5000 feet elevation: Red leaves with whitish berries in fall; bare in winter, shiny green leaves in groups of three in spring. 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 lakes and streams can cause 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 at least 3 minutes.

**HYPOTHERMIA:** This life-threatening condition can occur year-round. Stay dry; 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.

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**In Sequoia – Crystal Cave Road:** Maximum vehicle length 22’.

Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow: Ride the shuttle! During shuttle season (5/26-9/25; see page 6), this road is closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and 7/4 & 9/5, from 9am-4pm, to private vehicles (except those with handicap-parking placards or backcountry permits). Before 9am and after 4pm the road is open to all vehicles, except for single vehicles more than 22 feet long and combination vehicles are prohibited; (exception if valid disabled-parking placards are displayed).

Mineral King Road: RVs & trailers not recommended on the road; they are not permitted in campgrounds.

South Fork & Middle Fork roads: Slippery when wet. Partly unsigned.

**BICYCLES** Ride on roads (not trails), single file, and with traffic. Wear light colors after dark. People under 18 must wear a helmet.
GIANT FOREST ROUTE (green): Free. Giant Forest Museum to Sherman Tree to Lodgepole. Every 15 minutes. First bus 9am, last bus 6pm. 8-hour ride one way. Ask about the 7:30am hiker shuttle from Lodgepole to Wolverton and Crescent Meadow, and the 6:30pm pickup at Wolverton bound for Lodgepole. Last day of service 9/25.

- Giant Forest Museum / Transfer Point
- Sherman Tree wheelchair-accessible trail Parking with disabled-placard only.
- Sherman Tree - Main Trail & Parking. Park here to walk down to tree.
- Lodgepole Visitor Center Lodgepole Campground (2 stops)

MORO ROCK/ CRESCENT MEADOW ROUTE (gray): Free. Leaves Giant Forest Museum every 15 minutes; stops at Moro Rock only on the outbound trip. First bus 9am, last bus 6pm. 15-minute ride one way. On weekends & holidays, this road is closed to private vehicles without handicapped placards. Park at any shuttle stop and ride a bus. On holidays (9/3-5), you can also park at Wolverton; the shuttle will stop there regularly. Last day of service 9/25.

- Giant Forest Museum
- Moro Rock - See description below.
- Crescent Meadow - See description below.

LODGEPOLe/ WUKSACHI/ DORST ROUTe (blue): Free. Every ½ hour through 9/25. First bus 9am, last bus 5:30pm. Last day of Dorst section of route 9/7.

- Lodgepole Visitor Center & Market Lodgepole Campground (3 stops)
- Wukaschi Restaurant & Lodge
- Through 9/7 - Dorst Creek Campground (3 stops)

GIANT FOREST TO VISALIA ROUTE: $15 round trip. No additional park entrance fee. Reservations required; call 1-877-BUS-HIKE or www.sequoia shuttle.com. Two-hour ride each way. Buses leave Visalia for Giant Forest at 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10am. Buses leave Giant Forest for Visalia every hour starting 2:30pm through 6:30pm. Last day 9/25.

- Giant Forest Museum
- Lodgepole Market & Visitor Center
- Sherman Tree - Main Trail & Parking
- Moro Rock - Crescent Meadow Route - Free

See bulletin boards for shuttle schedules. Be sure to check what time the last bus leaves to get you back to your car.

Highlights

SEQUOIA PARK

GIANT FOREST

Review safety advice on page 5. You are on your own; travel safely. Use the shuttle for exploring!

GIANT FOREST MUSEUM

The best place to learn about sequoia! Shuttle stop.

BIG TREES TRAIL

A paved, level, 2/3-mile (1 km) loop. Trail-side panels describing sequoia ecology. Start at Giant Forest Museum (parking at the trail is only for cars with placards.) 1 hour round trip.

GENERAL SHERMAN TREE:

Two trails go to the world’s largest tree. The shuttle stops at the beginning of each one:

- Main Sherman Tree Trail & Parking: Trail runs 1/2 mile down to the tree; it has some stairs. It is an uphill walk back to your car. Drive 2 miles (3.2 km) north of Giant Forest Museum (past the small Sherman Tree parking lot only for those with disabled placards) to Wolverton Road. Turn right, then follow signs. If you can walk down but the walk back up is too difficult, you can continue from the tree down the accessible trail to the shuttle stop on the Generals Highway, and ride the northbound shuttle (toward Lodgepole) back to your car.
- Wheelchair-accessible trail from Generals Highway to Sherman Tree - parking here is for those with disabled placards only. If you have no placard but can’t make the walk down the main trail, ask at any visitor center for a temporary permit or take the shuttle to this location.

CONGRESS TRAIL:

A fairly level 2-mile loop (3.2 km) from the Sherman Tree into the grove.

MORO ROCK/ CRESCENT MEADOW

Read shuttle information above. No drinking water is available on this 3-mile, dead-end roads starting at Giant Forest Museum. During that time, single vehicles more than 22 feet long and those towing anything are prohibited, except those displaying valid disabled-parking placards. Road is closed to all vehicles without placards on weekends & holidays. Highlights:

MORO ROCK: A granite dome with a steep 1/4-mile (.4 km) staircase to the summit (300 foot /91 m elevation gain) and a spectacular view. Two miles (3.2 km) from the Generals Highway. Shuttle stop.

TUNNEL LOG: A fallen sequoia that was tunneled through; the only “tree you can drive through” in these parks. There is a by-pass for larger vehicles. 2.7 miles (4.3 km) from the Museum.

CRESCENT MEADOW: A meadow of summer flowers. Use only fallen logs to walk into meadows. Try the 1-mile (1.6 km) route to Harp’s Log, a cabin in a fallen sequoia, or the High Sierra Meadow (71 miles/114 km to Mt. Whitney, 14,494 feet/4417 m). Shuttle stop.

NEARBY TRAILS

TOKOPAH FALLS: 1.7 miles (2.7 km) along a river, ending at cliffs & a waterfall. Be careful by the water! Start in Lodgepole Campground (a shuttle stop). For the 500-foot/152-meter elevation gain, allow 2-1/2 to 3 hours.

THE Foothills

The low elevations host more different plants and animals than the rest of the parks. Watch for ticks and poison oak.

HOSPITAL ROCK PICNIC AREA:

Exhibits about the Western Mono people who once lived here and a very short trail built by the Civilian Conservation Corps leads to a cascade. Careful; drownings often occur here! Always store food from bears.

MARBLE FALLS TRAIL climbs 3.7 miles (6 km) to a waterfall. Park across the main road from Potwisha (no non-camper parking in campground) and follow a trail through the saddle back to the right.

PARADISE CREEK: At Buckeye Flat Campground, take the path across site #28 across the footbridge over the Middle Fork. Follow Paradise Creek (not the Middle Fork) for 1-1/2 miles (1.6 km) until the trail grows faint.

MINERAL KING

See page 8 for information.
GRANT GROVE

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 ½-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 GROOVE LOOP: This lightly traveled, ½-mile (2.4 km) trail offers a close look at Big Trees and a quiet walk in a conifer forest. Start at Grant Tree overflow-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 Grant Tree overflow-parking area for about a mile. The trail branches off, creating a ½ mile (2.4 km) round trip.

BIG BLDY RIDGE: Great views out and down into Redwood Canyon. 2 ½-mile trail (3.2 km) to the summit at 8209 feet (2502m). From Grant Grove, go 8 miles (13 km) south on Generals Highway to trailhead. Noon free to 600-foot elevation gain in the last 2 miles (3.2 km). Park at Road’s End.

KINGS CANYON OVERLOOK: View of the High Sierra wilderness, about 6 miles (9.5 km) south of Grant Grove.

REDWOOD MOUNTAIN OVERLOOK: Six miles (9.6 km) south of Grant Grove, across the Generals Highway from Quail Flat junction, it looks west one of the world’s largest sequoia groves. Studies here proved the positive relationship between fire and sequoia reproduction.

THE KINGS CANYON & CEDAR GROVE

Kings River Bridge to Cedar Grove is being replaced this summer. Detours will be available. Be very careful near the water!

CANYON VIEW: The “U” shape of this canyon, apparent from this viewpoint, reveals its glacial history. 1 mile (1.6 km) east of Cedar Grove Village road.

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

ROARING RIVER FALLS: A very short, shady walk to a powerful waterfall rushing through a granite chute. 3 miles (4.8 km) east of the Village road. Paved, accessible with assistance.

ZUMWALT MEADOW: This 1.5-mile (2.4 km) trail passes granite walls, lush meadows, and the Kings River. First 3 ½ mile offers universal access. Trailhead parking is 6 miles (9.6 km) south of Grant Grove.

HUME LAKE, formed by a rare, historic, multiple-arch dam, supplied water to a flume that floated lumber 67 miles (108 km) to Sanger. An easy 2 ½-mile (4 km) trail circles it. Page 9 lists facilities. Eight miles (12.8 km) north of Grant Grove.

BUCK ROCK LOOKOUT: A 1916 tower, still used for spotting fires, offers 360° views. Approximately 6 miles (9.6 km) off Big Meadows Road 14511, then take Forest Road 13504.

& SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST / GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT

LATE SUMMER 2011 7
FACILITIES IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

Giant Forest Sequoia Grove
6400’ elevation. Home of the world’s biggest trees, with 40 miles (64 km) of trails. Highlights: page 6. Traffic-delays, back page.

- Giant Forest Museum (NPS): Daily 9am-6pm through 9/24, then 9am-5pm. No payphone; closest are at Lodgepole & Wolverton.
- Beetle Rock Nature Center (NPS): Daily 1-4pm. Across the street from Giant Forest Museum. Fun for the whole family. Last day 8/14.
- Giant Forest Shuttle (NPS): 9am to approximately 5:30pm. Stops include Wukshachi, Lodgepole, Sherman Tree, Giant Forest Museum & Moro Rock. Operates through 9/25. Details on page 6.

Crystal Cave
A major park highlight! Buy tickets well in advance at Foothills or Lodgepole visitor centers. Details, page 3.

Lodgepole Village
6700’ elevation. Just north of Giant Forest along the Marble Fork of the Kaweah River.

- Visitor Center: Daily 7am-7pm through 9/5, then 7am-5pm. Starting 9/25, 8am-4:30pm. Bears of the Sierra movie; exhibits on geology & park life; books, maps. 1-559-565-4436. Pay phone.
- Wilderness permits required for overnight trips: Issued in visitor center through 9/24, then self issue. See page 4. 1-559-565-3766.

FOOD, OTHER SERVICES
- Market, Gift Shop, & Laundry (DNCP): Daily 8am-8pm through 9/4, then 9am-6pm. Starting 9/26 10am-4:30pm. Groceries, sandwiches, bear canisters, ice cream, souvenirs. Last laundry in 1 hour before closing.
- Snack Bar (DNCP): Daily 8am-7:45pm through 9/4, then weekends only 9am-6pm. Last day open 9/25.
- Deli (DNCP): Daily 11am-6pm. Last day open 9/5.
- Showers (DNCP): Daily 8am-1pm & 3-7:45pm through 9/4, then 9am-1pm & 3-5:30pm. Starting 9/26, 9am-1pm & 3-4pm.
- Post Office: Year-round. Weekdays 8am-1pm & 2-4pm. 1-559-565-3678. Lobby open 24 hours. Address mail to visitors: c/o General Delivery, Sequoia National Park, CA 93262.
- Lodgepole Campground (NPS): Open all year. See page 11.
- Pay Telephones: Outside visitor center & market.

Wolverton
7200’ elevation. North of Sherman Tree 2 miles. Picnic area.

- Wolverton BBQ & Dinner Theater (DNCP): 6-7pm nightly through 9/5, weather permitting. All-you-can-eat dinner outdoors while you listen to family-friendly tales of park history. Buy tickets at Lodgepole Market or Wukshachi Lodge.

Foothills Area

- Visitor Center (NPS): Daily 8am-6pm through 9/5, then 8am-4:30pm. Exhibits, books, maps, bear canisters, first aid. 1-559-565-4212. Get local wilderness permits at the Wilderness Office (See page 4).
- Camping (NPS): At Potwisha & Buckeye Flat. Details on page 11.
- Pay Telephones (cell phone signals are usually poor): Foothills Visitor Center near front door, Potwisha Campground, Hospital Rock Picnic Area (on restroom wall).

Mineral King Area
7800’ elevation. A steep, narrow, twisting road leads to this sub-alpine valley. No RVs, buses, or trailers. No electricity or gas.

- Ranger Station (NPS): Daily 8am-4pm through mid-to late September. Ask about free ranger-led programs. 1-559-565-3768.
- Pay Telephones: Cold Springs Campground, Sawtooth parking area. Cell phone signals are very poor.
- Silver City Mountain Resort: Cabins/chalets, showers, restaurant, small store: gifts, supplies, ice, no gasoline or fishing licenses. Thursday-Monday 8am-8pm. Tuesday-Wednesday 8am-3pm, pie & coffee only. Pay telephone. 1-559-561-3223; www.silvercityresort.com.
- Camping (NPS): No RVs or trailers. Details: page 11.

Wukshachi Lodge & Dining
7200’ elevation. Year-round lodging & food service (DNCP) in Sequoia, 4 miles (6.4 km) north of Sherman Tree.

- Dining Room: Daily through 9/4: 7-10am, 11:30am-2:30pm, 5-10pm, then 7:30-9:30am, 11:30am-2:30pm, 5-8:30pm. Dinner reservations required. Box lunches available. 1-559-565-4070. Lounge 5-10pm through 9/4, then 5-8:30pm.
- Gift Shop: Daily 8am-8pm. Souvenirs, clothing, crafts.
- Wukshachi Lodge: See page 10 for details. Front desk 24 hours.
- Pay Telephones: At main lodge. Cell-phone signals are poor.

FREE NATURE PROGRAMS

Check bulletin boards and visitor centers for details on these and other ranger-guided programs. No evening programs 8/4.

IN THE FOOTHILLS THROUGH 9/4:
Watch for weekend Jr. Ranger programs. Potwisha Campfire programs: Friday & Saturday evenings; 1 hour.

IN GIANT FOREST & LODGEPOLE:
Join a ranger for walks and talks along the sequoias. Until 9/4, campfire programs Friday through Sunday. Later in September, check bulletin boards for information.

IN MINERAL KING THROUGH 9/4:
Look for short talks, walks, and evening campfire programs Thursday through Sunday.

Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts (DNCP) and the National Park Foundation make it easy for Wukshachi Lodge guests to contribute to these parks. Ask about the Guest Donation Program when you check in!
Grant Grove Village

6600’ elevation. Here you find both a pristine grove & one that was logged in the 1800s. Horseback riding — see page 3.

- Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center (NPS): Daily 8am-6pm through 8/8, then 8am-5pm. Exhibits, movie in English & Spanish. Books, maps, first aid, bear canisters. Local wilderness permits issued until 1/2 hour before closing. 1-559-565-4307.

FOOD, LODGING & OTHER SERVICES
- Restaurant (KCPS): Daily 7am-2pm & 5-9pm through 9/4, then 9am-2pm & 5-7pm (8pm Friday-Saturday).
- Gift Shop & Market (KCPS): Daily 8am-9pm through 9/4, then 9am-6pm (7pm Friday-Saturday). Souvenirs, clothing, ATM.
- Food, supplies, sandwiches, bear canisters, emergency gasoline.
- Post Office: Hours may vary. Monday-Friday 9am-3:30 pm. Lobby open 24 hours. Send mail for visitors to: c/o General Delivery, Kings Canyon NP, CA 93633. 1-559-335-2499.
- Pay Telephones: Kings Canyon Visitor Center (booth by front door) & outside gift shop & market. Cell phone signals are poor.

Cedar Grove Village in Kings Canyon

4600’ elevation. This glaciated valley features towering granite cliffs, tumbling waterfalls, and the powerful Kings River.

- Wilderness Permits (NPS): At Road’s End, 6 miles (9.6km) east of the village. Daily 7am-3pm through 9/24, then self-issue.

FOOD, LODGING & OTHER SERVICES
- Restaurant (KCPS): Counter-service meals & snack bar; not full service. Daily 7am-2pm & 5-8pm. Starting 8/14, weekdays 8-10:30am & 5-7pm; weekends 8am-2pm & 5-7pm.
- Gift Shop / Market (KCPS): Daily 7am-8pm through 8/13, then 8am-7pm. Salads, sandwiches, supplies, bear canisters, gifts.
- Camping & Lodging: See pages 10-11. Front desk 7am-8pm.
- Showers: Daily 7am-1pm & 3-7pm through 8/13, then 8am-1pm & 3-6pm.
- Pay Telephones: Outside lodge & ranger station.
- Horseback Riding: Details on page 3.

Paying Your Entrance Fee at Kings Canyon near Grant Grove

Pay the required park and forest entrance fee in the Big Stump area just inside the park boundary on Highway 180.

Please stop to purchase or show your pass. One fee covers your visit to both parks and the forest!

Construction of a new entrance station on Highway 180 near the park boundary has started. Please slow down and expect brief traffic delays.

USFS: National Forest & Monument

Hume Lake & Big Meadows Areas (FS)

Giant Sequoia National Monument is part of Sequoia National Forest. You are in National Forest when you drive from Lodgepole to Grant Grove and from Grant Grove to Cedar Grove.


PAY TELEPHONES (cell phone signals are usually poor):
- Between Wuksachi Village & Grant Grove: Summer only at Big Meadows trailhead.
- Between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove: Hume Lake (year round; see Hume Lake below); Kings Canyon Lodge (summer only).

LODGING & OTHER SERVICES
- Hume Lake: All year. Facilities on public land open to the public: 24-hour laundry (coin operated) & gas station (with credit card). Market & snack shop. North of Grant Grove 8 miles on Hwy 180; right on Hume Lake Road 3 miles. 1-559-305-7770.
- Stony Creek Resort (FS): On Generals Highway south of Grant Grove. Daily: Market 8am-8pm; restaurant 11am-7:30pm. Open 1 hour later on Friday-Saturdays. Showers 9am-6pm. Laundry 10am-6pm. Gasoline 24 hours with credit card. Lodge. 1-866-KCANYON; 1-559-565-3909.

GASOLINE SALES - See page 3, Rules of Park Roads.

FREE NATURE PROGRAMS

Check bulletin boards and visitor centers for details on these and additional ranger-guided programs. No evening programs offered 8/4.

IN GRANT GROVE:
- Grant Tree Walks: 10am daily through 8/14, then Friday-Monday through 9/5.
- Evening programs: Nightly at the amphitheater by Azalea Campground through 8/14, then Friday-Sunday through 9/4 (except 8/4). Programs may be offered on September weekends.

IN CEDAR GROVE through 9/11:
- Evening programs Friday-Sunday at the amphitheater near the visitor center.
- Zumwalt Meadow Walks: Thursday-Monday.

These rules protect the park & you!

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

FOOD STORAGE REQUIRED
due to black bears. Do it correctly, year-round. See box below.

GROUP SITES & MAXIMUM GROUP SIZES
UP TO 6: Many campgrounds allow only 1 vehicle & 6 people per site. Check locally for slight variations in these limits & parking locations for extra vehicles.

7 TO 19: In summer, Crystal Springs (Grant Grove); first-come, first-served sites, groups of 7-15. Canyon View (Cedar Grove): Sites for 7-19, $35/site.

LARGER: Call in advance for information on requesting summer group tent-camping sites:
For Sunset or Canyon View call 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: 1-877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov.

PROPANE CANISTERS
Please: Do not put propane or other fuel canisters in park trash cans or leave them in the parks. Take them home for recycling.

ROADSIDE CAMPING?
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 about options.

FIRES
These tw o facilities are on

PROPER FOOD STORAGE IS THE LAW!

Bears often get unattended food and even 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. The following reduces, but does not eliminate, the risk of a bear break-in:

• DRIVERS - Never leave any food or scented item in cars.

• 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, 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 infant seats out of cars; the smells they absorb may attract bears.

• PICNICKERS - Never leave food unattended.

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

• BACKPACKERS - Hanging food is not effective in these parks! 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.

• EVERYONE - Don’t let bears approach you or your food. Wave your arms, make loud noises, and throw small rocks (50 ft 8m; avoid hitting the face or head). Keep a safe distance but be persistent. Abandoning your food teaches bears that approaching humans is acceptable, but if a bear does get food, never try to take it back.

QUIET & GENERATOR HOURS
10pm-6am. Generator use: At Lodgepole & Dorst only 8-11am & 5-8pm; at other campgrounds 9am-9pm only. Music should be audible in your campsite only.

TIME LIMITS ON CAMPING
Camping stays: Limited to 14 days between June 14 and September 14, with 30 days total per year.

BE A VOLUNTEER HOST!
Live in and care for park campgrounds, resources, & visitors! For more about volunteer opportunities here and nationwide: www.volunteer.gov.gov.

Sales of Save-a-Bear kits & pins in visitor centers directly support bear management.

PROVIDED TO PUBLIC LANDS BY:


• Big Meadows Cabin (FS) 1-877-444-6777; www.recreation. gov. Open July to mid-October. An historic guard station in the National Monument between Grant Grove & Lodgepole.

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

• Note: These two facilities are on private land and cannot be evaluated, regulated, or endorsed by the National Park or National Forest.

NEIGHBORING TOWNS
Three Rivers, Lemon Cove, Squaw Valley & others offer year-round lodging, camping, & services. Ask at visitor centers or check www.nps.gov/ seki, click PLAN YOUR VISIT then link to LODGING.

WILDERNESS LODGE & PERMITS
See page 4 for details.
Food storage is required: Always read & follow instructions on bulletin boards to help save a bear! See other rules on page 10.

*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.

Food Showers Laundry Dump Nature Riding River Sequoias

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FOOTHILLS AREA Elevation 2100’-3600’. Lowest in elevation, therefore hottest.

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<th>Daily Fee</th>
<th>Restrooms</th>
<th>Food within 2 miles</th>
<th>Showers within 2 miles</th>
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<td>Buckeye Flat</td>
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MINERAL KING AREA Elevation 6650’-7500’. No RVs or trailers. Road closes 11/1.

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<td>Cold Springs</td>
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<td>Vault</td>
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Lodgepole AREA Elevation 6700’. Reservable in summer up to 6 months in advance (see Reservations above.)

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IN KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK (NPS)

GRANT GROVE AREA Elevation 6500’.

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<td>Crystal Springs</td>
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<td>Sunset</td>
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CEDAR GROVE AREA (ON THE FLOOR OF THE KINGS CANYON) Elevation 4600’. Area closes mid-November.

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<td>Sheep Creek</td>
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<td>Canyon View</td>
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SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST/GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT (FS)

HUME LAKE AREA Elevation 4000’-5900’. *Reservable in summer. Most close when snow closes roads.

<table>
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<td>Convict Flat</td>
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BIG MEADOWS & STONY CREEK AREAS Elevation 6400-7500’. *Reservable in summer. Most close when snow closes roads.

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<tr>
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<th>Daily Fee</th>
<th>Restrooms</th>
<th>Food within 2 miles</th>
<th>Showers within 2 miles</th>
<th>Laundry within 2 miles</th>
<th>Dump Station Nearby</th>
<th>Nature Programs Nearby</th>
<th>Pay Phone</th>
<th>Riding within 2 miles</th>
<th>River within 2 miles</th>
<th>Sequoias within 2 miles</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stony Creek</td>
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<td>$20</td>
<td>Flush</td>
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<td>Upper Stony</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>$16</td>
<td>Vault</td>
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<td>Horse Camp</td>
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<td>$16</td>
<td>Vault</td>
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<td>Buck Rock</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>$16</td>
<td>Vault</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$16</td>
<td>Vault</td>
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</table>
**New Cedar Grove Bridge** - expect detours through 11/2011: The bridge between Hwy 180 and Cedar Grove Village is being rebuilt. The village and lodge are accessible via detour on Northside Road. Use Lewis Creek Trailhead as a turn-around for large vehicles and trailers.

**Halstead Meadow bridge construction** - expect 10-minute delays through fall. Obey flaggers or traffic signals. Picnic area open until further notice.

**Generals Highway reconstruction** - expect delays through 5/2012: Daytime: Delays up to 1 hour on weekdays. Night: Possible night closures 9pm-Sam Sunday night - Friday morning with one pass-through at 11:30pm. Traffic signals cause 20-minute delays during non-working hours. Vehicles longer than 22’ long cannot travel between Hospital Rock and Giant Forest Museum due to Federal Highways limits; long vehicles cannot make the tight curves in the one-lane construction zone. Other Road Repairs - through 11/2011: Expect intermittent delays on weekdays in several areas of the parks. 1-2 day closures may affect some single-lane roads and campgrounds. Beware of narrow, rough roads. Use low gears on downhill. See bulletin boards at visitor centers for updates and details. Thank you for your patience.

**STEEP ROADS:**
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 - 1-1/2 hour. Road closed Nov 1 to late May.
- From GIANT FOREST to Grant Grove - 1 hour.
- From Grant Grove to Cedar Grove - 1 hour. Road closed mid-Nov to late April.
- Fresno - 1-1/2 hours.
- Yosemite south entry via Hwy 41 - 3 hrs.

**Foothills Zone -**
- Conifer zone - 5,000 to 8,000 feet. Summer: Warm days & cool nights. Winter: deep snow, cold days.

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

**LATE SUMMER 2011**
**SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS & NEIGHBORING AREAS OF SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST**
47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271-9651

**EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA!**