



SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

& SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST/GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT

SUMMER 2006 GUIDE

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What's new in the parks?



SHIFTS AT THE SHERMAN TREE ~ New parking lots and trails now lead to the General Sherman Tree. You'll find the main route to the tree off the Wolverton Road between the Sherman Tree and Lodgepole. From there you walk down to the tree. The handicapped-accessible parking and trail are along the Generals Highway; from there you walk up to the tree on a gentler slope, but you need a permit to park there. See *Highlights* on page 6 for details on the best way to get to this giant tree. Soon new trailside exhibits will complete the scene.

KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK VISITOR CENTER ~

This fantastic national park finally has a visitor center of its own. For 40 years, the Grant Grove Visitor Center exhibits focused mostly on the sequoias. Large though they be, sequoias live in a very small part of Kings Canyon National Park! New exhibits showcase not only the big trees, but the expansive High Sierra and the huge canyon that gave the park its name. Funded by entrance fees, donations, and grants, the exhibits even include interactive computer programs about local air quality. Stop in to explore, and see how the choice to preserve these three great natural landscapes – and the experiences they offer – has held them in trust for us all, now and in the future.

BIG TREE CLOSES BIG STUMP ~ A very large, very hollow sequoia leaned over the old Big Stump park entrance station on



Don't miss the new exhibits, murals, sculpture, and film at the Kings Canyon Visitor Center in Grant Grove!

Highway 180. The threat of it falling on the station – and on visitors waiting to enter the park – meant cutting it down or moving the station. Since these parks exist to protect sequoias, the station had to find a new home. It now resides in what was the Big Stump Picnic Area. Until a better site can be built for it, take your picnic basket to Columbine (or see the park map for other picnic areas). If you want to explore another area that has been logged, try Converse Basin, north of Grant Grove in the National Forest.

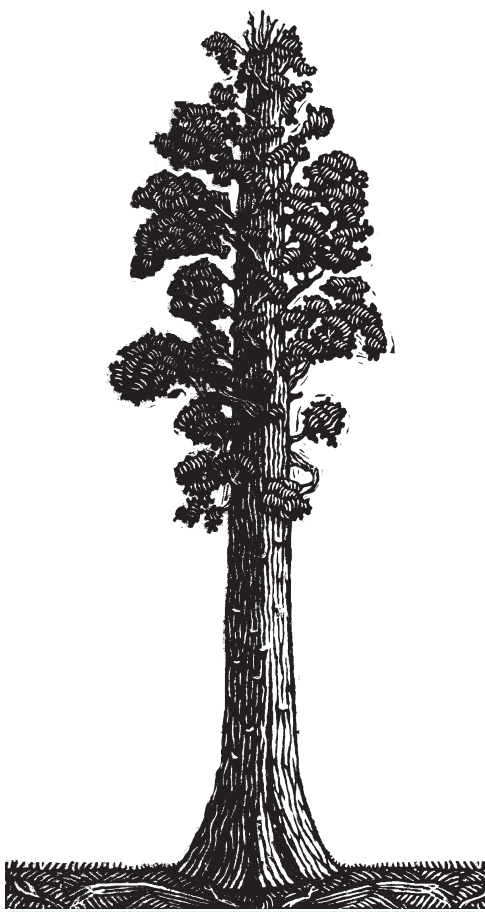
FAMILY NATURE PROGRAM AT BEETLE ROCK ~

Exhibits and activities for folks of all ages await you at Beetle Rock! From July 1

through August 20, check it out between 10 am and 4 pm, or join in a specific activity (see *Nature Programs* on page 8). Across the road from the Giant Forest Museum, the Beetle Rock Education Center houses several educational functions, thanks to our park partners – the Sequoia Fund and the Sequoia Natural History Association!

ROAD WORK AHEAD! ~ Major repairs to a stretch of the historic Generals Highway are scheduled to start in mid-July. The roadway involved is in Sequoia Park, between Hospital Rock Picnic Area and the Giant Forest. It includes the Amphitheater Point overlook. Ask at visitor centers for details, including the timing of traffic delays. Delays will be kept as short as possible, especially on weekends and holidays. Thank you for your patience as we work to preserve this old road!

WELCOME TO SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON



INFORMATION NUMBERS

EMERGENCY — DIAL 911
(no coins needed)

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

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

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

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

Partners in the Parks

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

- **National Park Service (NPS)**
Malinee Crapsey, Editor
1-559-565-3341
www.nps.gov/seki
- **Sequoia Natural History Association (SNHA)**
1-559-565-3759
www.sequoiahistory.org
- **Forest Service (USFS)**
1-559-784-1500
www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia
- **Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts (DNCPR)**
1-888-252-5757
www.visitsequoia.com
- **Kings Canyon Park Services (KCPS)**
1-866-KCANYON (522-6966)
www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com
- **US Geological Survey (USGS)**
1-559-565-3171
www.werc.usgs.gov

Page 1 illustrations ©SNHA by Rick Wheeler

Know your parks

Doubtless you expect giant trees and huge canyons — and you won't be disappointed. Yet the whole of this place is even greater than the sum of its great parts!

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

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

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

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

FEES HELP YOUR PARKS!

Part of your entrance and camping fees stay in the park to improve the experience here. Congress allows the parks to invest these funds in projects that enhance visitor facilities and protect park resources.

Fees have paid for repairing roads, campgrounds, trails, picnic areas, and restrooms. They have funded updated exhibits, improved visitor centers, and modernized naturalist slide programs. See page 4 for more of these projects!

On January 1, 2006, park entrance fees increased to \$20. This will permit even more of these repairs and improvements.

ENTRANCE FEE OPTIONS

- **7-day pass** for Sequoia, Kings Canyon, & the Hume Lake District of Sequoia National Forest (Giant Sequoia National Monument):
\$20 per vehicle or \$10 per person on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or bus.
- **Annual pass** for Sequoia, Kings Canyon, & the Hume Lake District of Sequoia National Forest (Giant Sequoia National Monument):
\$30 admits all passengers in a private vehicle for one year from month of purchase.
- **National Parks Pass:** \$50 pass admits all passengers in a private vehicle to U.S. national parks that charge an entrance fee, for one year from month of purchase. Not redeemable at Crystal Cave. Also available via 1-888-GO-PARKS and www.nationalparks.org.
- **Golden Eagle Pass:** \$65 pass not only for national parks, but also for entrance fees at all federal recreation areas including monuments, historic sites & wildlife refuges. Valid for one year from month of purchase.
- **Golden Age Passport:** One-time \$10 fee buys a lifetime pass for park entrance fees for U.S. citizens & permanent residents 62 or over.
- **Golden Access Pass:** Free to blind or permanently disabled U.S. citizens & permanent residents. Take appropriate documentation to any park visitor center.

WELCOME

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

BIENVENUE

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

BIENVENIDOS

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

WILKOMMEN

Eine Landkarte ist auch in deutscher sprache im Besucherzentrum erhältlich.

BENVENUTI

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

PARK, FOREST, OR MONUMENT?

You see signs for Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Sequoia National Forest, and Giant Sequoia National Monument. What is the difference between these places?

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

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

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

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

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



Crystal Cave Rocks!



Explore fabulous cave formations! ©NPS

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

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

Use restrooms at the parking lot; there are none at the cave. Wear sturdy shoes; the 1/2-mile trail (.8 km) to the cave is steep. Bring a jacket; the cave is 50°F (10°C). No strollers, baby backpacks, or tripods. Not wheelchair accessible. Ask about **Wild Cave Tours and group reservations!** Tours operated by SNHA: 1-559-565-3759.

45-minute cave tours (check details above)

Daily on the half hour, 10:30am - 4:30pm; additional tours at 10am & 5pm on Saturday & holidays. Extra tours may be added. See SNHA insert in this paper for fee information.

1-1/2 hour Discovery Tours

6/24 -9/1 at 4:15pm Monday through Friday. Try an in-depth, 1-1/2 hour tour of this amazing cave! Limited to 16 people aged 13 & up. Fee: \$18.95 each (\$17.95 seniors, \$16.95 SNHA members).

CELEBRATE SEQUOIAS!

The 8th Annual Celebrate Sequoias Festival returns to Grant Grove Village on September 9, 2006. Enjoy walks to less-visited groves, music, arts and crafts, kid's activities, and talking to experts about the awesome giant sequoias.



Activities

WALKS & TALKS Free ranger-led walks or talks may be offered at Giant Forest, Lodgepole, Wuksachi, Grant Grove, Cedar Grove, & the Foothills. Check bulletin boards and visitor centers to see what is scheduled. Pages 8 & 9 have more details, or ask a ranger.

VISITOR CENTERS Each one offers different exhibits to enjoy. They also sell a wide variety of books, maps, postcards, posters, & other items. Remember: All your purchases at visitor centers help to support the parks! See pages 8 & 9 for hours and locations.

TEACHERS: BRING YOUR CLASS TO THE PARKS!

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

FIELD CLASSES & SEMINARS

See the exciting list of options for you on the back of the Sequoia Natural History Association insert found in this paper.

JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM

People of all ages earn a patch while learning to protect resources. Those 5 to 8 years old earn the Jay Award. If you are 9 to 12 years old, work for a Raven Award. Ages 13 to 103 earn a Senior patch! Purchase a Jr. Ranger booklet in any visitor center. Follow the instructions & have fun!

*Hey kids-
Bring your family to Beetle
Rock Nature Center & receive
a free sticker (one per kid)!*

*Open daily July 1 through August 20,
10 am to 4 pm. See page 9 "Nature
Programs" for more details. Stop by!*



WHERE CAN I...

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

- **WALK A PET?** In Parks: Not on trails but it's ok in developed areas (picnic areas, campgrounds, roads). In National Forest: Pets can go on trails. In both areas: Pets must be on a leash less than 6 feet (1.8m) long. Don't leave pets in hot cars.
- **FEED WILDLIFE?** Not in either area! Animals become unnaturally dependent. Some can be dangerous and may have to be killed. Some can carry disease. Roadside beggars get hit by cars.

- **GO CAMPING?** In Parks: Only in numbered sites in designated campgrounds. In National Forest: In campgrounds or, unless posted otherwise, near roadsides. Pull safely off the road & no further.
- **HAVE A FIRE?** In Parks: Only in fire grills in campgrounds & some picnic areas. In National Forest: Fire permits are required outside picnic area grills & campgrounds. Get one at Grant Grove Visitor Center or the USFS office in Dunlap on Hwy 180.
- **COLLECT THINGS?** Not in Parks: Leave everything to play its natural role in the ecosystem. In National Forest: Gathering a few cones or rocks for personal use is permitted. In both areas: Archeological sites & artifacts are protected by law.
- **DRIVE OFF-ROAD?** Not in either area. Stay on roads.

- **CUT WOOD?** Not in the Parks. In National Forest: Call Hume Lake Ranger District for permit & guidelines: 559-338-2251.
- **GO FISHING?** In both areas: Permitted during the season; a California fishing license is required for ages 16 & up. Get copies of park-specific regulations at any visitor center.
- **RIDE A BICYCLE?** In Parks: Keep bikes on roads only, not on any trail. In National Forest: Ask a ranger which trails permit bicycles. In both areas: Be careful & courteous near pedestrians & horses. People under 18 must wear a helmet.
- **GO PICNICKING?** See picnic symbols on map (back page). Never leave food unattended! Most sites have tables, restrooms & fire grills, except: No fire grills at Foothills & Sandy Cove. No fires permitted at Lodgepole & Crescent Meadow. No water at Grizzly Falls, Halstead, & Powdercan.

Note: Big Stump Picnic Area in the Grant Grove area of Kings Canyon National Park is temporarily closed while serving as the park entrance station. The original station had to be moved due to a dangerously leaning sequoia. Ask at visitor centers for details.

• RIDE HORSEBACK

Rides by-the-hour, backcountry spot trips, & guides.

Cedar Grove

1-559-565-3464 summer
1-559-337-2314 off season

Grant Grove

1-559-335-9292 summer
1-559-337-2314 off season

Horse Corral (at Big Meadows in Sequoia National Forest south of Grant Grove)

1-559-565-3404 summer
1-559-564-6429 off season
1-559-679-3573 cell

Mineral King - closed.

1-559-565-3103

Expect Change

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 activity.

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 Long-Lost Partner

Have you ever accused someone of something only to discover that you were wrong? In parks and forests nationwide, we have learned that an accused vandal is actually an important partner. That partner is fire.



Fire in the Sierra usually hugs the ground. Its low flames clear dangerous built-up fuels. Without this, the 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

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

As time passed, we saw unanticipated consequences for park resources. It turned out that fire suppression blocked important ecological processes and caused many problems. Two stand out:

First, sequoias were not reproducing. We learned that fires are critical to sequoia regeneration. They create a fertile ash seedbed and open the forest canopy, allowing sunlight to reach the seedlings.

Second, a vast accumulation of dead wood and small, dense white fir trees now increase wildland fire hazards. Natural fires used to burn away these excess fuels. Now, after fire's long absence, these fuels cause bigger blazes that are more dangerous for people, plants, and wildlife. They burn hotter and are harder to put out.

To protect human safety and benefit giant sequoia trees, the National Park Service has taken steps to end this misunderstanding about fire. For over 40 years at Sequoia and Kings Canyon, we have studied fire and its effects on the land. When and where it's appropriate, we ignite prescribed fires and allow lightning-caused fires to spread naturally and improve resource conditions.

We see strong evidence that working with this powerful natural partner is better than resisting it — we are successfully reducing fuels and stimulating sequoia growth with the help of fire.

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

Fees work for the parks

For each dollar collected at the entrance station, 80 cents supports projects here in these parks!

So far, these funds have built a bicycle path; repaved roads; fixed campground sinks, tables, parking, and fire grates; improved picnic areas; and made restrooms handicapped accessible. New exhibits and a film funded by fees and donations are now open at Grant Grove in the newly named Kings Canyon Visitor Center.

A future project is a shuttle transportation system for the Giant Forest area to reduce parking problems, vehicle traffic, and pollution in the parks.



Picnic area restroom built with fee dollars.

WILDERNESS OVERNIGHTS

Each park trail has a daily entry quota for overnight trips. There is also a backcountry camping fee between mid-May and late September. These help to protect the wilderness environment and your experience. (Permits and fees are not required for park day hikes or for overnights in the US Forest Service Monarch and Jennie Lakes wildernesses.)

A permit is required for each solo or group. First-come, first-served permits can be issued the morning of your trip or after 1pm the day before at the park ranger station nearest your trailhead (see pages 8 & 9). If the quota for your desired trail is full, you can choose another trail or another day to start. Permits are not issued late in the day as minimum distances must be reached before you camp.

Permits on hold must be picked up between the afternoon before and 9am on your day of departure. If delayed, call the ranger station or you may forfeit your permit on hold.

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

Requests to put a permit on hold for a certain date are accepted beginning March 1 and at least 3 weeks before your trip's start date.

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

Get a free copy of *Backcountry Basics* at visitor centers or by mail for details on wilderness, or see www.nps.gov/seki/bcinfo.htm.

BACKCOUNTRY LODGES

- **BEARPAW MEADOW CAMP (DNCRP)** www.visitsequoia.com
Reservations for next summer (required) are taken starting January 2: 1-888-252-5757. Open mid-June to early September, weather permitting. This tent hotel is at 7800' on the High Sierra Trail, an 11-mile hike from Giant Forest.

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR SAFETY!

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

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

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

Be Safe!

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

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

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



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



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

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

PREVENT CAR FIRES
Hot brakes & mufflers start fires in dry grass. Do not stop in grassy areas; used paved turnouts only.

STAY ON PAVEMENT
Park & travel on pavement only.

GASOLINE
No gas stations are within the parks themselves. Only Grant Grove market sells cans of emergency gas. Fill up in Three Rivers, Clingan's Junction or in the National Forest at:

- Hume Lake Christian Camp 559-335-2000: Year-round 24 hours with credit card. 11 miles (18 km) north of Grant Grove via Hwy 180.
- Stony Creek Village 1-559-565-3909: Available 24 hours with credit card. Between Wuksachi & Grant Grove on the Generals Hwy.
- Kings Canyon Lodge 1-559-335-2405: Call to confirm availability. 17 miles (27 km) north from Grant Grove on Hwy 180.

Rules of the road

SLOW DOWN & GIVE WILDLIFE THE RIGHT OF WAY & LIFE!

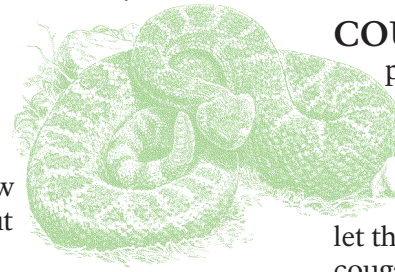
DON'T LOSE YOUR BRAKES
Frequent braking overheats brakes, causing them to fail. Instead, *always* downshift when going downhill. In automatic vehicles, put the gearshift on 1, 2 or L. The engine gets louder as it slows you down, but it will save your brakes.

TRAFFIC DELAYS - SEQUOIA
Starting in mid-July, expect delays on the Generals Highway between Hospital Rock Picnic Area and the Giant Forest. Slow down in work areas. Check at visitor centers for current information.

LET OTHERS PASS
Slower vehicles *must* use paved turnouts to let traffic pass.

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MOTORCYCLES
Avoid oil buildup in uphill lanes.

CELL PHONES rarely work well in these mountains. Don't rely on them, but note where pay phones are available.

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

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

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

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

OPERATION NO-GROW

- Prevent illegal marijuana growing.
- Protect visitor & employee safety.
- Preserve your natural resources.

Keep your parks safe and free from illegal activities! Report suspicious activities to 1-888-NPS-CRIME.

NARROW, WINDING ROADS IN KINGS CANYON & NATIONAL FOREST/ SEQUOIA MONUMENT –

- Panoramic Point Road: Views toward High Sierra.
- Redwood Mountain Road: Unpaved, rough.
- Big Meadows, Quail Flat/Ten Mile, Converse Basin (FS): All or partially unpaved.

IN SEQUOIA –

- Crystal Cave Road: Maximum vehicle length 22' (6.7m). No trailers. Closes in October.
- Mineral King Road: Steep. RVs & trailers strongly discouraged (not permitted in campgrounds).
- Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow Road: RVs & trailers not recommended. Limited parking.
- South Fork Road: Partially unpaved. Slippery when wet.

ROAD CONDITIONS
24-hour recording: 559-565-3341 then press 9, then 4.



@NPS Photo

Highlights

SEQUOIA PARK

GIANT FOREST



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

GENERAL SHERMAN TREE:

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

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

GIANT FOREST MUSEUM:

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

BIG TREES TRAIL:

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

CONGRESS TRAIL:

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

ALONG MORO ROCK - CRESCENT MEADOW ROAD

This 3-mile (5 km), begins at the Giant Forest Museum on the Generals Highway and explores the southwest portion of the grove. Not recommended for trailers or RVs. Some highlights include:

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

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

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

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

NEARBY TRAILS

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

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



MINERAL KING

The winding, steep road to this valley ends at 7800' (2380 m), the park's highest road. Many trails lead to even higher country and excellent — if hilly — hiking. Some passes may remain snowy well into summer; ask a ranger for information. No gasoline or electricity is available along this road. Be sure to learn about marmots, as they often damage cars in early summer. Road open Memorial Day weekend through October 31.

THE FOOTHILLS

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



HOSPITAL

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

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

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

MIDDLE FORK: Leading through chapparral to highcountry, the first miles offer views of Moro Rock and Castle Rocks. Take the Buckeye Flat Campground road and turn left on the dirt road before the campground. Go 1.3 miles (2 km) to a parking area. Panther Creek Falls is 3 miles (5 km) beyond that. Park at Hospital Rock if Buckeye Flat is closed; it will be open by 5/20.

SOUTH FORK

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

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

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

Highlights

KINGS CANYON



@Peter Stekel

GRANT GROVE

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

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



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

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

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

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

NEARBY TRAILS & POINTS OF INTEREST

PANORAMIC POINT ROAD:

Spectacular vista of the high Sierra. Go east through the visitor center parking lot, left around the meadow, then right at the intersection signed "Panoramic Point, 2.3 miles (3.7 km)." Walk 1/4 mile (.4 km) up to the viewpoint. Trailers and RVs not recommended on this steep, narrow road. The 4-mile (6.4 km) round-trip Park Ridge Trail begins here.

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

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

BIG BALDY: Great views and a look down into Redwood Canyon from this ridge. The trail winds 2 miles (3.2 km) to the summit at 8,209 feet (2502 m). From Grant Grove, drive 8 miles (13 km) south on the

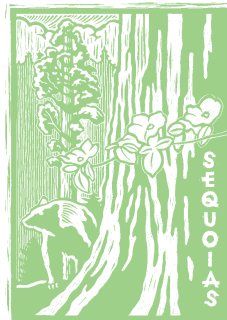
Generals Highway to Big Baldy Trailhead. Elevation gain 600 feet (183 m); round trip 4 miles (6.4 km).

KINGS CANYON OVERLOOK:

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

REDWOOD MOUNTAIN OVERLOOK:

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



KINGS CANYON & CEDAR GROVE

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

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

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

ROARING RIVER FALLS: A shady five-minute walk to a powerful waterfall rushing through a narrow granite chute. 3 miles (4.8 km) east of the Village turnoff. Paved, relatively accessible.

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

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



TAKE TIME FOR A HIKE

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

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

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

USFS NATIONAL FOREST

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

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

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

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

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

FACILITIES IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

Giant Forest Area

GIANT FOREST SEQUOIA GROVE

6400' (1950m) elevation. Home of the world's biggest trees, it offers 40 miles (64 km) of walking trails. See page 6 for highlights. Check page 3 and your map (back page) for picnic areas.

- **Giant Forest Museum (NPS):** Daily 8am-6pm through 9/3 then 8am-5pm. Explore exhibits about the amazing Big Trees. Books, maps, first aid. 559-565-4480.
- **Family Nature Center at Beetle Rock (NPS):** Daily 10am-4pm from 7/1 through 8/19. Programs and exhibits for all ages. See page 3 for a fun coupon! Near the main Giant Forest Museum parking lot.

CRYSTAL CAVE - Daily tours

This cavern is one of the highlights of the park! Tickets are **not** sold at the cave! See page 3 and the SNHA insert for details and schedule.

Lodgepole Area

LODGEPOLE VILLAGE

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

INFORMATION (NPS)

- **Visitor Center:** Daily 7am-6pm through 9/3, then reduced hours. Crystal Cave tickets sold 8am-4pm. Exhibits on geology & forest life; books, maps, first aid. See the new "Bears of the Sierra" movie. 1-559-565-4436.
- **Wilderness Permits:** Required for backcountry overnight trips. Daily 7am-3:45pm at visitor center. 1-559-565-4408.

FOOD & SHOPS (DNCPR)

- **Lodgepole Market & Gift Shop:** Daily 8am-8pm through 9/3, then 9am-6pm. Supplies, bear canisters, gifts, sandwiches, ice cream.
- **Harrison Grill:** Daily 8am-8pm until 9/3, then weekends only 9am-6pm. Breakfast, hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, & barbeque.
- **Watchtower Deli:** Daily 11am-6pm until 9/3, then closed for the season. Sandwiches, salads.

OTHER SERVICES

- **Lodgepole Campground (NPS):** Open all year. Details on page 11.
- **Laundry & Showers (DNCPR):** Daily 8am-8pm through 9/3, then 8am-7:45pm. Last load of laundry in 1 hour before closing. Showers 8am-7:45pm through 9/3, then 9am-5:45pm. Showers closed daily 1-3pm for cleaning.
- **Post Office:** Weekdays 8am-1pm & 2-4pm. 1-559-565-3678. Lobby with stamp machine open 24 hours. Address mail to visitors: c/o General Delivery, Sequoia National Park, CA 93262.

WUKSACHI VILLAGE

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

FOOD, SHOPS & LODGING (DNCPR)

- **Dining Room:** Daily 7-10am, 11:30am-2:00pm & 5-10pm through 9/3. Starting 9/4: 7:30-9:30am; 11:30am-2pm; 5-8:30pm. Dinner reservations required. Box lunches available. 1-559-565-4070. Lounge daily 5-10pm through 9/3, then 5-9pm.
- **Gift Shop:** Daily 8am-8pm through 9/3, then 8am-7pm. Film, souvenirs, crafts, clothing, art, snacks.
- **Wuksachi Lodge:** See page 10 for details.

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

WOLVERTON MEADOWS

7200' (2160 m) elevation. This open grassy area is just 2 miles (3.2km) north of the General Sherman Tree.

- **Wolverton BBQ (DNCPR):** Friday-Sunday weather permitting through 9/3. All-you-can-eat barbeque, served outdoors starting at 6pm.

Foothills Area

500-3500' (457-1067 m) elevation. A land of oaks, chaparral, and river canyons, hot summers and snow-free winters, the foothills have the greatest biological diversity in these parks. Park headquarters is here at Ash Mountain. In addition to picnic areas (page 3), the foothills offer:

- **Visitor Center (NPS):** Daily 8am-6pm. Crystal Cave tickets sold until 3:45pm. Exhibits, books, maps, bear canisters, first aid, local wilderness permits. 1-559-565-3135.
- **Potwisha Campground (NPS):** Year-round. Details on page 11.

Mineral King Area

Be aware: In spring & early summer, marmots chew on hoses & wiring in cars parked in upper Mineral King. Ask for information.

7800' (2380 m) elevation. This beautiful subalpine river valley at the end of a steep, narrow, difficult road (no RVs, buses, or trailers, please) has no electricity or gasoline. Mineral King offers:

- **Ranger Station (NPS):** Daily 8am-4pm through 9/24 (register for wilderness permits on the porch after that). A small visitor center with exhibits on area history, books, maps, local wilderness permits, first aid, & bear canisters. 1-559-565-3768.
- **Silver City Mountain Resort:** Through 10/15. Cabins, chalets. Restaurant, bakery, showers & small store (gifts, limited supplies & ice; no gasoline or fishing licenses) 8am-8pm Thursday-Monday, Tuesday-Wednesday 8am-3pm (restaurant closed). Summer 1-559-561-3223; winter 1-805-461-3223; www.silvercityresort.com.
- **Camping (NPS):** No RVs or trailers. Details: page 11.

FREE NATURE PROGRAMS

This list is not complete - check bulletin boards for more!

Note: No programs available on Tuesday, July 11.

GIANT FOREST, LODGEPOLE, DORST & WUKSACHI

Programs 6/30 - 8/19; some continue into September.

- **Daily 10:30am & 4:30pm - Sherman Tree Talk:** Tales about the largest tree in the world! Meet at base of the tree. Plan at least 20 minutes to walk from parking lot. 30 minutes.
- **Daily 11am - Moro Vistas:** Meet a ranger on top of Moro Rock. Plan at least 15 minutes to climb the historic staircase! 30 minutes.
- **Daily (starting 7/1) 1pm - Beetle Rock Rollick:** Kids! Discover a secret about Sequoia. Activities vary daily. At Beetle Rock Education Center, next to the main Giant Forest Museum parking lot. 1 hour.
- **Daily 1:30pm - Bears of the Sierra:** Learn about these strong, smart, yet vulnerable animals. In front of Lodgepole Visitor Center. 30 minutes.
- **Daily 2:30pm - Realm of Giants:** Explore the world's largest trees. Meet in front of Giant Forest Museum. 1-1/2 hours.
- **Nightly - Lodgepole Campfire:** Learn more about the park! Lodgepole Campground Amphitheater. 1 hour.

THE FOOTHILLS - Programs given through 9/4

- **Daily 12:30pm - At Hospital Rock:** Learn about this cultural feature! 1 hour.
- **Daily 5pm - Picture with a Ranger:** Come to the historic Sequoia Park sign carved like an Indian head & plan your visit. 30 minutes.
- **Daily 10am & 3pm - Ranger's Choice:** 15-minute talk; Foothills Visitor Center.
- **Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 8:30pm - Potwisha Campfire:** Meet at the campground amphitheater for family fun. 1 hour.
- **Sábado / Saturday 6:30pm - Caminata Crepuscular / Twilight Walk*:** *Disfrute la frescura del atardecer en compañía de un guardaparque bilingüe, caminando las orillas del río Kaweah. Ofrecido en inglés y español. Se reúnen en el anfiteatro de Potwisha Campground, y deben traer foco. 1-1/4 hora.*
* Explore the Kaweah River with a bilingual ranger. In English & Spanish. Meet at Potwisha Campfire Circle & bring a flashlight. 1-1/4 hour.

MINERAL KING - Programs given through 9/3.

Check bulletin boards for times, locations, & other details.

- **Thursday & Saturday - Campfire Traditions:** Thursday at Silver City Resort, Saturday at ranger station amphitheater. 1 hour.
- **Friday evening - Night Hike or Campfire Traditions:** 1 hour.
- **Friday & Saturday 4pm - Meet Mineral King!** Fridays at Cold Springs Campground entrance, Saturdays at Atwell Mill Campground entrance. 20 minutes.
- **Saturday 1:30pm - Fun for Kids or Extraordinary Happenings.** 1 hour.
- **Sunday 10am - Ranger's Choice:** Atwell/Hockett trailhead parking lot. 1 hour.
- **Sundays 11am-3pm - Alles Cabin Open House:** Check locally for dates.

FACILITIES IN KINGS CANYON PARK & USFS AREAS

Grant Grove Area

GRANT GROVE VILLAGE

6600' (2008 m) elevation. This was originally General Grant National Park, created in 1890 to protect sequoias from logging. Here you can see both a pristine grove & one that was logged in the 1800s. In addition to picnicking and horseback riding (see page 3), the village offers:

INFORMATION

- **Kings Canyon Park Visitor Center (NPS):** Daily 8am-6pm through 9/3, then 8am-5pm. New exhibits and 15-minute orientation movie! Books, maps, first aid. Local wilderness permits issued 8am-5pm through 9/3, then 8am-4pm. 1-559-565-4307.

FOOD & SHOPS (KCPS)

- **Restaurant:** Daily 7am-2pm & 5-9pm through 9/3, then 8am-2pm & 5-7pm (Friday & Saturday until 8pm).
- **Gift Shop:** Daily 8am-9pm through 9/3, then 9am-7pm (Friday & Saturday until 8pm). Souvenirs, film, clothing. ATM in lobby.
- **Market:** Daily 8am-9pm through 9/3, then 9am-7pm (Friday & Saturday until 8pm). Supplies, bear canisters, emergency gasoline.

OTHER SERVICES

- **Camping & Lodging:** See page 10-11 for details.
- **Showers (KCPS):** Daily 11am-4pm.
- **Post Office:** Hours may vary. Monday-Friday, 9am-3:30pm, Saturday 9-11:30am. Lobby & stamp machine 24 hours. Visitor mail: c/o General Delivery, Kings Canyon NP, CA 93633. 1-559-335-2499.

Cedar Grove Area

CEDAR GROVE VILLAGE

4600' (1410 m) elevation. This glaciated valley features towering granite cliffs, tumbling waterfalls, and the powerful Kings River — “a rival to the Yosemite,” according to John Muir. In summer the area offers picnicking and horseback riding (see page 3), as well as:

INFORMATION & CAMPING (NPS)

- **Visitor Center:** Daily 9am-5pm through 9/4, then closed for season. 1-559-565-3793.
- **Wilderness permits:** At Road's End, 6 miles (9.6 km) east of the village. Daily 7am-3pm through 9/24.
- **Camping (NPS):** Details on page 11.

FOOD, LODGING & SHOPS (KCPS)

- **Restaurant:** Counter-service meals & snack bar (not a full-service restaurant). Daily 7am-2pm & 5-9pm through 9/3. Starting 9/4 weekdays 8-10:30am & 5-7pm; weekends 8am-2pm & 5-7pm.
- **Gift Shop & Market:** Salads, sandwiches, bear canisters, souvenirs, film, supplies. Daily 7am-9pm through 9/3, then 8am-7pm.
- **Lodging:** See page 10 for details.
- **Showers & Laundry:** Daily 7am-7pm through 9/3, then 8am-6pm. Last laundry load in by 1 hour before closing. Get shower key at market. Shower closed 1-3pm daily for cleaning.

BIG STUMP PICNIC AREA & TRAIL CLOSED

Big Stump Trail and Picnic Area is temporarily closed and no public parking is available there. Please check the map on the back page for other picnic areas nearby, such as Columbine. Ask at visitor centers or ask a ranger for current information.

USFS: National Forest & Monument

HUME LAKE & BIG MEADOWS AREAS (FS)

Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of Sequoia National Forest, borders much of the western edge of these National Parks. You are in National Forest when you drive between the park areas of Lodgepole and Grant Grove, and between Grant Grove and Cedar Grove (see page 2 for more on Parks and Forests). It was sold to the government as a Forest Reserve in 1935. It is an excellent place to see recovery from intensive sequoia logging in the late 1800s. Snowy in winter, in summer it offers picnicking & horseback riding (see page 3) as well as:

INFORMATION

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

OTHER SERVICES

- **Camping (FS) & Lodging (private):** See pages 10 & 11 for details.
- **Boyden Cavern:** On Hwy 180 between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove. Cave tours on the hour 10am-5pm. \$10 ages 14 & up; \$5 ages 3-13; under 3 free. AAA discounts. On Hwy 180 between Grant Grove & Cedar Grove. 209-736-2708.
- **Stony Creek Village (FS):** Lodging, market, showers. Market 7am-8pm (9pm Friday-Saturday); restaurant Tuesday-Sunday 11:30am-2pm & 5-8pm (9pm Friday-Saturday); closed Monday. Showers 8am-7pm. Reduced hours after 9/4. 1-866-KCANYON or 1-559-565-3909.
- **Montecito-Sequoia Resort: (FS):** A permitted resort on public land open year-round. On Generals Highway, 9 miles (14.5km) south of Grant Grove. Breakfast 7:30-9am, lunch 12-1:30pm, dinner 5:30-7pm. Cabins, hotel, children's activities. 1-800-843-8677 or 1-559-565-3388.
- **Historic Guard Station at Big Meadows: (FS)** See page 10.
- **Boat & Bicycle Rentals, Swimming, Fishing:** Private facilities open to public at Hume Lake, 8 miles (13km) north of Grant Grove on Hwy 180 then 3 miles (5 km) south on Hume Lake Road. 24-hour laundry (coin operated) & gas station (with credit card). Market: Sunday-Thursday 7am-11pm; Friday 7am-9pm; Saturday 7am-7pm. Snack bar: 11am-11pm daily. Reduced hours starting 9/5. Call for details: 1-559-335-2000.

GASOLINE SALES

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

FREE NATURE PROGRAMS

IN GRANT GROVE These free programs are offered through August 20, but some will continue into September. Check visitor centers & bulletin boards for additional activities & details. **Note: No programs available Tuesday, July 11.**

- **Daily 2pm - Grant Tree Walk:** Stroll this paved trail beneath the giant trees. Meet at Grant Tree parking lot. 1 hour, 1/3 mile.
- **Daily 3:30pm - Ranger's Choice:** Let us introduce you to some of the area's special features on an easy walk or talk. Check bulletin boards for topics. 1 hour.
- **Nightly - Evening Campfire:** Spend time under the stars learning about these parks. Meet at campground amphitheater. Check bulletin boards for times.

IN CEDAR GROVE Daily programs are given June 30 through August 20 (no programs on Tuesday, July 11); some may continue into September. Check locally for times, locations, & topics!

- **Daily Ranger Walks:** Join us in exploring the natural and cultural wonders of the canyon, such as Zumwalt Meadow, Kanawyer's Camp and Coppermine, and the Kings River. 1-2 hours.
- **Wednesday through Saturday - Evening Campfires.** Enjoy an hour together at the amphitheater near Cedar Grove Visitor Center.



Staying Overnight

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

NOTE: Some rules vary from the Park to the National Forest. Check page 3 & bulletin boards.

KEEP FOOD FROM BEARS!

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

CAMPFIRE RESTRICTIONS

Gather only dead & down wood; do not cut limbs from trees. Better yet, bring wood or buy it at a market. Fires must be out cold before you leave.

In the national forest & monument you must get a free campfire permit from the Hume Lake District Office, Grant Grove Visitor Center, Big Stump entrance station, or a Forest Service ranger.

CAMPGROUND OR ROADSIDE CAMPING?

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

NO HOLDING CAMPSITES

In first-come, first-served campgrounds, you may not hold a site for someone who has not arrived. Sites not occupied for 24 hours are considered abandoned; property may be impounded.

GROUP SITES & MAXIMUM GROUP SIZES

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

6 TO 18: At Crystal Springs in Grant Grove there are first-come, first-served sites for groups of 7-15 & at Canyon View in Cedar Grove for 7-18, for \$35.

LARGER: Call in advance for information on reserving group tent-camping areas in the parks: Dorst 1-800-365-2267; Sunset 1-559-565-4335; Canyon View 1-559-565-3792. In the national forest/monument: call 877-444-6777 or go to www.ReserveUSA.com.

TIME LIMITS ON CAMPING

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

QUIET HOURS

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

RVS & TRAILERS

No hookups are available.

Dump stations: See chart on page 11.

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

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

PROPANE CANISTERS

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

BE A VOLUNTEER HOST!

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



save a bear!

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

LODGING

SEQUOIA PARK

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

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

KINGS CANYON PARK

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

- **Cedar Grove Lodge (KCPS)**
Reservations: 1-866-522-6966
Front Desk: 1-559-565-0100
www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com. *Mid-May to mid-October in the Kings Canyon. Motel, restaurant, public showers, gifts, laundry.*

SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST/MONUMENT

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

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

- **Historic Guard Station (FS)**
Reservations: 1-877-444-6777 or www.reserveamerica.com
Open mid-June into October, weather permitting. A cabin in the National Monument between Grant Grove & Lodgepole.

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

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

NEIGHBORING TOWNS

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

WILDERNESS LODGES & PERMITS

See page 4 for details.

YOU MUST STORE ALL FOOD!

BEARS quickly learn to get food from cars, picnic tables, and backpacks. They then become destructive and sometimes aggressive. They want our food, not us, but people can get hurt. Too often these bears must be killed.

This is why you may be fined if you do not store food properly.

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

- **CAMPERS:** Store food day and night in the metal boxes provided (see page 11 for box sizes; avoid bringing coolers that won't fit). Store **ALL** food, coolers, related items, and anything with an odor (even if it's not food) -- including unopened cans and bottles. Latch the box completely. Food not stored properly will be impounded. Where boxes are not provided, store food in the car trunk (seal food to reduce odors). If the car has no trunk, put everything on the floor, cover it well, and close the windows. Keep a clean campsite. Deposit garbage immediately in bear-proof containers or store it like food.

- **PICKNICKERS:** Guard your food at all times.
- **LODGE GUESTS:** Keep cabin doors closed any time you leave.
- **BACKPACKERS:** Store all food in a portable canister. Less than 3 pounds, it holds up to 5-day's food for one and fits in a pack. Metal boxes in a few backcountry locations offer backup storage. Rent or buy a canister at park visitor centers or markets. Bears defeat most attempts to hang food in trees.

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

Each campsite has a table & fire ring with grill; no hook-ups. Food-storage regulations: *always* read instructions on bulletin boards.

Summer reservations for Dorst & Lodgepole available starting 01/05/06 for up to 5 months in advance of camping date, 4am - 4pm PST:
1-800-365-2267
<http://reservations.nps.gov>
International calls: 1-301-722-1257
TDD: 1-888-530-9796
Fax: 1-301-784-9079

for National Forest/Monument:
Reservations* 1-877-444-6777 or www.reserveusa.com
Information 1-559-338-2251

CAMP GROUNDS

KEY TO SYMBOLS

“Nearby”
✓ -Within 2 miles (3.2km)
-Year-round
☀ -Summer only

FOOD STORAGE

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

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

	# of ites	Daily Fees	Rest- room Facilities	Food within 2 miles	Showers within 2 miles	Laundry within 2 miles	Dump Station Nearby	Nature Programs Nearby	Pay Phone	Riding within 2 miles	River within 2 miles	Sequoias within 2 miles
	#	\$										

IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK (NPS)

FOOTHILLS AREA Lowest in elevation, therefore warmest and below the sequoia groves.

Potwisha ◆ 2100' - Open all year.	42	\$18	Flush				✓	☀	✓		✓	
Buckeye Flat ◆ 2800' - No trailers or RVs.	28	\$18	Flush				at Potwisha	☀			✓	
South Fork # 3600' - Open all year. No drinking water.	10	\$12 May -Sept.	Vault								✓	

MINERAL KING AREA No RVs or trailers. Last night open: 10/31.

Atwell Mill # 6650' - Open.	21	\$12	Vault	☀	☀			☀			✓	✓
Cold Springs # 7500' - Open.	40	\$12	Vault	Silver City	Silver City			☀	✓		✓	

LODGEPOLE AREA *Summer reservations available. See Summer Reservations above.

*Lodgepole ⊠ + 6700' - Open all year.	214	\$20/18 \$20 during summer reservation period then \$18.	Flush	☀	☀	✓	☀	✓	✓		✓	✓
*Dorst ⊠ + 6700' - Open 6/29.	204	\$20	Flush				☀	☀	☀		✓	✓

IN KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK (NPS)

GRANT GROVE AREA

Azalea ◆ 6500' - Open all year.	110	\$18/10	Flush	✓	☀			✓	at village	☀		✓
Crystal Springs ◆ 6500' - Open	36	\$18	Flush	✓	☀			✓	"	☀		✓
Sites for groups of 7-15:	14	\$35										
Sunset ◆ 6500' - Open	157	\$18	Flush	✓	☀			✓	"	☀		✓

CEDAR GROVE AREA Down in the Kings Canyon itself.

Sentinel ◆ + 4600' - Open as needed.	82	\$18	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	at visitor center	☀	✓	
Sheep Creek ◆ + 4600' - Open.	111	\$18	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	"	☀	✓	
Canyon View ◆ 4600' - Open.	23	\$18	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	"	☀	✓	
No RVs or trailers. Sites for groups of 7 - 19:	5	\$35										
Moraine ◆ 4600' - Open as needed.	120	\$18	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	"	☀	✓	

IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST / GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT (FS)

HUME LAKE AREA *Reservable in summer: see Summer Reservations above.

*Princess 5900' - *Reservations	88	\$15/17	Vault				☀ \$7	☀			✓	✓
Dump station not recommended for vehicles over 30 feet long.												
*Hume Lake + 5200' - *Reservations	74	\$17/19	Flush	✓		✓		☀	✓		✓	
Tenmile 5800' - No water.	13	\$13/15	Vault								✓	✓
Landslide 5800'	9	\$13/15	Vault								✓	✓
Convict Flat 4000' - No water.	5		Vault								✓	

BIG MEADOWS & STONY CREEK *Reservable in summer: see Summer Reservations above.

*Stony Creek # 6400'	49	\$17/19	Flush	☀	☀	☀		☀	✓		✓	✓
Upper Stony # 6400'	18	\$13/15	Vault	☀	☀	☀		☀	✓		✓	✓
Horse Camp 7500' - No water.	5+		Vault						✓		✓	
Buck Rock 7500' - No water.	11		Vault					☀	✓			
Big Meadows 7600' - No water.	40		Vault					☀	✓	✓	✓	

AREA MAP

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

Major paved road

Minor paved road

Unpaved road

Park boundary

LIFE ZONES

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

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

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

STEEP ROADS

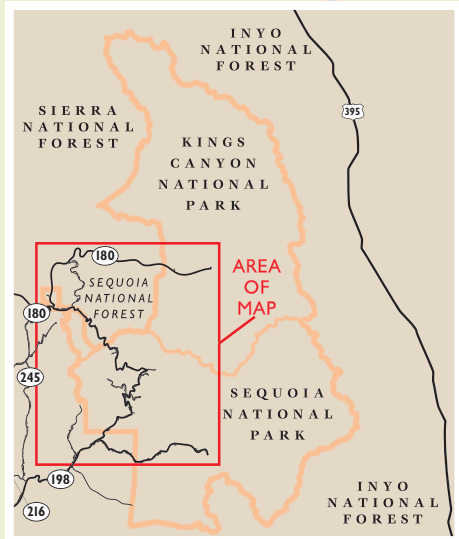
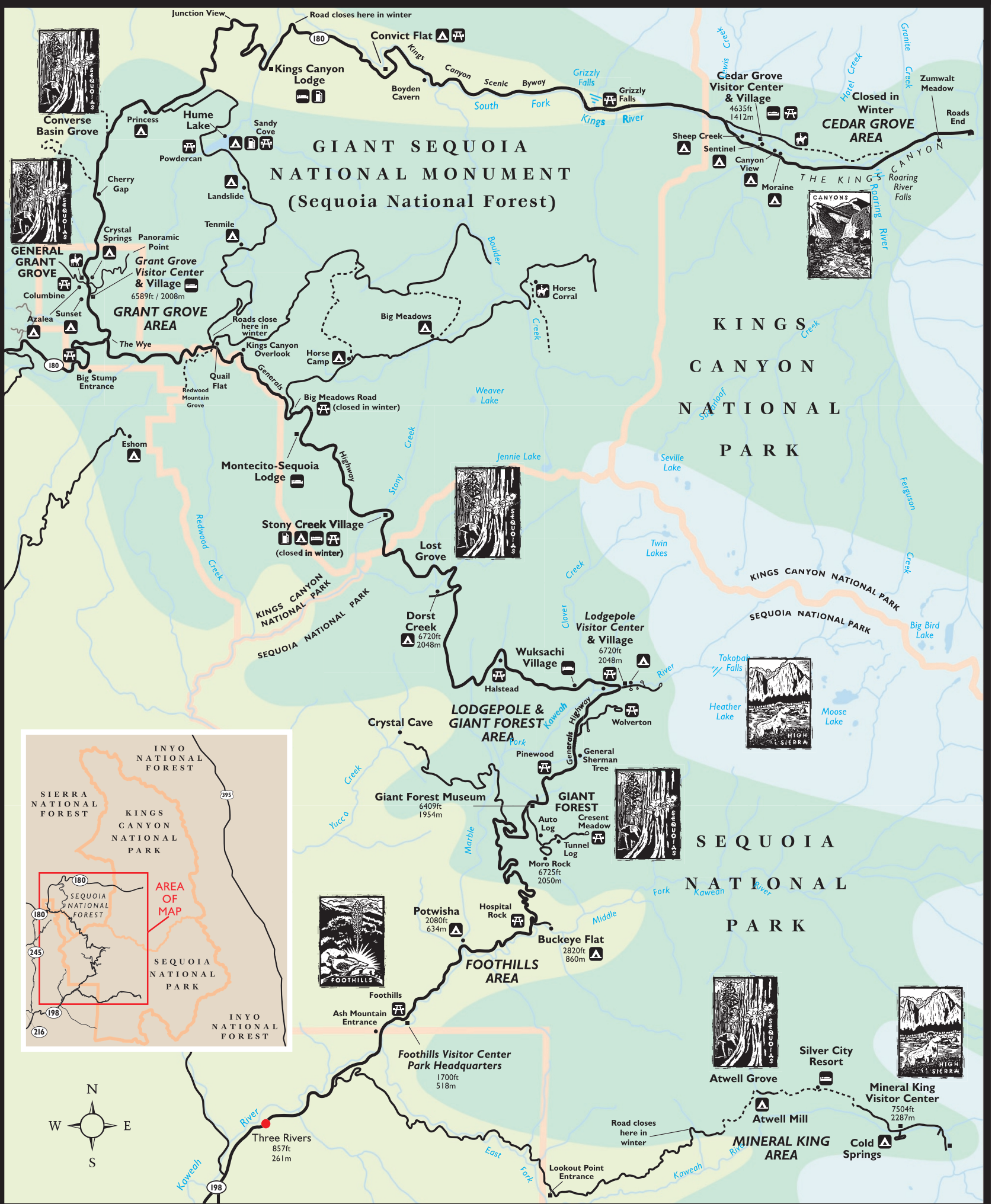
Grades of 5-8%.
Downshift to avoid overheated or failed brakes. See page 5.

DRIVING TIME IN GOOD WEATHER

FROM FOOTHILLS TO:
Giant Forest 1 hour.
Lodgepole 1 hour.
Visalia 1 hour.
Mineral King 1-1/4 hours. Road closed Nov 1 to May 26.

FROM GIANT FOREST TO:
Grant Grove 1 hour.

FROM GRANT GROVE TO:
Cedar Grove 1 hour.
Road open mid-April to November.
Fresno 1-1/2 hours.
Yosemite's south entry via Hwy 41 3 hours.



SUMMER 2006

SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271-9651
www.nps.gov/seki

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