



SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST
Giant Sequoia National Monument
RECREATION REPORT

www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia



CONTACT: VISITOR INFORMATION
TELEPHONE: 559-784-1500 ext. 0
OFFICE HOURS: 8 A.M. - 4:30 P.M., MONDAY - FRIDAY

SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST
GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT
1839 SOUTH NEWCOMB STREET
PORTERVILLE, CA 93257

APRIL, 2009

CARING FOR THE LAND AND SERVING PEOPLE

CAUTION: After freezing temperatures and snow fall, visitors need to be cautious and aware of black ice on the roadway. Be aware of snow removal equipment. Road conditions can change unexpectedly, please carry tire chains with you and watch for chain requirement signs. Exercise extreme caution when hiking in the snow as well as next to streams and rivers as the snow can cover them over. When in the forest be wary of dead trees or snags as the snow makes them heavier and they may fall at anytime. When heading for the mountains bring extra clothing, food, and water and let someone know your destination.

CAMPFIRE PERMITS: Campfire permits are required May 1st through December 31st and may be obtained free of charge from any Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, or California Department of Forestry offices. Now also available online!

ROAD CONDITIONS: Please call the ranger district offices for current road conditions, or the Highway Patrol (559) 445-6702 or the CALTRANS Road Conditions recorded message number (800) 427-7623 for current road conditions in California. PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY AND BE PREPARED FOR THE UNEXPECTED!!!

RIVER PERMITS: Whitewater boating permits are required for the Kern River. Permits are free of charge and can be obtained from district offices in Springville, Kernville, and Lake Isabella.

PERSONAL USE WOODCUTTING: Fuelwood cutting is OPEN for the season. Wood permits are available for purchase at the District Offices: Hume Lake, Springville, Kernville, Lake Isabella and Supervisor's Office in Porterville. Price is \$10.00 per cord with a minimum purchase of 2 cords. Roads may be closed in some areas, check with local district for current information.

OHV: For the purpose of protecting the objects included in the Monument, motorized vehicle use will be permitted only on designated roads; motorized vehicles are not permitted on trails or cross country; and non-motorized mechanized vehicle (bicycles) use will be permitted only on designated roads and trails.

HUNTING AND FISHING: Public land in the Giant Sequoia National Monument and Sequoia National Forest is open to hunting and fishing with a valid California hunting or fishing license. Check your California fishing or hunting regulations booklets for information. NO SHOOTING FROM VEHICLES, ACROSS ROADS, OVER STREAMS/BODIES OF WATER, WITHIN 150 YARDS OF A CAMPGROUND OR OTHER STRUCTURES, OR ENDANGERING ANY PERSON OR PROPERTY. Fishing season is open year-round in Kern County and on the Tule River drainage. It is the responsibility of those fishing to know the rules and regulations. Check your California Fishing Regulations booklet for information.

The National Recreation Reservation Service is accepting reservations for the 2009 Recreation Season. Campsite and some Cabin reservations can now be made a year in advance. Daily operating hours are 8 a.m. to 12 midnight EST. The toll free number to call: 1-877-444-NRRS (6777). The reservation fee is \$9.00. Reservations can be made on the internet 24 hours a day at this web site: www.recreation.gov. Be prepared to provide some information when making a reservation such as: which campground you prefer, what type of site you want, camp by what means (tent or trailer), what days you plan to travel, and method of payment.

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HUME LAKE RANGER DISTRICT

HUME LAKE RANGER DISTRICT
35860 East Kings Canyon Road
Dunlap, CA 93621

559-338-2251 (voice and TDD)

Office Hours: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. , Monday – Friday

For specific and up-to-date information on trails, roads, campgrounds, and activities, please call the District Office.

CAMPGROUNDS:

The following campgrounds are **CLOSED** for the winter season:

Princess (water, vault toilet)	\$17/night (Available by reservation)
Stony Creek (water, flush toilet)	\$19/night (Available by reservation)
Upper Stony Creek (water, vault toilet)	\$15/night
Landslide (water, vault toilet)	\$15/night
Hume Lake (water, flush toilet)	\$19/night (Available by reservation)
Eshom (water, vault toilet)	\$17/night
Convict Flat, King’s Canyon (no water, vault toilet)	no fee
Big Meadow, Horse Camp and Buck Rock (no water, vault toilet)	no fee

All Group campgrounds are CLOSED

Aspen Hollow	\$181.50/night
Logger Flat	\$93.50/night
Cove	\$93.50/night
Fir	\$181.50/night

To make reservations: 1-877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov

The following campgrounds are open year-round:

Mill Flat, Camp 4, Camp 4½ and Green Cabin Flat, Lower Kings River (no water, vault toilet) no fee.

KING’S CANYON AND SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK:

In the Grant Grove area, Azalea Campground is **open**, Crystal Springs and Sunset are **closed**. Big Stump Day Use is **open**. In Sequoia National Park, Lodgepole, Potwisha Campgrounds are **open**. Dorst, South Fork and Buckeye Campgrounds are **closed**.

WILDERNESS:

Deer Cove Trailhead for access into Monarch Wilderness is **closed**. Trailheads into Jennie Lakes Wilderness are **Closed**.

CAVERN:

Boyden Cavern is **closed**. Call 866-762-8237 for further information.

LODGING:

Camp 4 1/2 Cabin: Located along the scenic Kings River

This renovated and fully furnished "Ranger's Cabin" is available for rental year round and can accommodate individuals, families and groups up to 12 people. It's the perfect location for fishing, swimming, and kayaking. In the spring and summer, several rafting companies offer white water rafting. It is equipped with a generator to provide electricity, and has a propane stove and refrigerator, and a heater and swamp cooler.

Reservations can be made through the National Recreation Reservation Service at 877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov. Please call the District Office for more details, 559-338-2251.

Rental Cabin: Big Meadow Guard Station is Closed for the winter season:

The historical Big Meadows Guard Station and its facilities is available for rental from June 15 to October 15. Depending on weather, reservations may be extended. Individuals, families and groups up to 12 persons will enjoy the cabin which is equipped with electric hot water heater, cook stove, refrigerator, base board type heater, and a wood stove. Reservations can be made through the National Recreation Reservation Service at 877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov. Please call the District Office for more details, 559-338-2251.

Montecito-Sequoia Lodge: Open Year-Round! Under Special Use Authorization with the Sequoia National Forest, Montecito-Sequoia offers lodging and recreation opportunities for families, groups and individuals. It is open year-round and is located on The General’s Highway at an elevation of 7,600’. For reservations and more information call 1-800-227-9900.

Stony Creek Lodge is closed for the winter season : Under Special Use Authorization with the Sequoia National Forest, Stony Creek Lodge offers lodging, dining, market, gas, diesel and showers. The Lodge is located on General’s Highway between Big Meadows Road and Stony Creek Campground. For reservations or additional information call 1-866-522-6966 or www.kcanyon.com. Lodging rates include television, internet and telephones in the guest rooms.

PACK STATION:

Horse Corral Pack Station is Closed for the winter season: Under Special Use Authorization with the Sequoia National Forest, Horse Corral Pack Station offers a variety of horseback riding opportunities. Day, half-day, one hour, extended trips, spot trips and all-expense trips are available. For more information please call 559-564-6429 (winter number). The Pack Station is located on Big Meadows Road.

ROADS:

Hwy 180 into Cedar Grove will open April 24. Most forest roads are **Closed** for the winter. Please call the District Office for up-to-date information on road conditions. Always check road and weather conditions before departure 1-800-427-7612.

WOODCUTTING:

Season is **Open**, however roads are still **Closed**. Contact district office for current information.

OTHER:

For up-to-date road and weather information for Sequoia National Park, please call 559-565-3341 and select #4. For information on the Grant Grove area, please call 559-335-2856. Gas and diesel is available at Hume Lake Christian Conference, 24 hours with a credit card. The store is open 7 days/week from 8 am to 5 pm, except Holidays.

WESTERN DIVIDE RANGER DISTRICT

SPRINGVILLE RANGER STATION
32588 Hwy 190
Springville, CA 93265

(559) 539-2607
Denise Alonzo - contact
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

For specific and up-to-date information on trails, roads, & campgrounds, please call the Springville Ranger Station.

CABIN RENTALS:

The Poso Station Cabin and Wishon Cabins are available for overnight stays year-round. The Mountain Home Cabin, Frog Meadow Cabin, and Quaking Aspen Cabin are **CLOSED** for the season, but are due to open May 15, 2009, weather depending. For general questions about the cabins, call the Springville Ranger Station at (559) 539-2607. **For reservations, please call NRRS toll free at (877) 444-6777 or www.recreation.gov**

CAMPGROUNDS:

The following campgrounds are **OPEN** at this time. The others will open (May 15, 2009 weather depending). There is a \$5 fee for an additional vehicle. No more than 6 people (or one family) are allowed at each campsite, unless it is a group site. There are limited spots for first-come, first-served or you can make reservations. **For reservations, please call NRRS toll free at (877) 444-6777 or www.recreation.gov**

Leavis Flat	OPEN	\$18/night, open year-round
Wishon	OPEN	\$18-36/night, open year-round
Belknap	CLOSED	\$18/night, 15 sites, no trailers
Coy Flat	CLOSED	\$18-36/night, 19 sites
Quaking Aspen	CLOSED	\$18-36/night, 32 sites
Redwood Meadow	CLOSED	\$18/night, 15 sites
Lower Peppermint	CLOSED	\$16/night, 17 sites, no reservations
White River	CLOSED	\$18/night, 12 sites
Holey Meadow Group	CLOSED	\$135.00, max 60 people
Long Meadow Group	CLOSED	\$81/night, max 36 people
Quaking Aspen Group	CLOSED	\$27/\$56.25/\$112.50, max 12/25/50 people

PICNIC/DAY USE:

Lower Coffee Camp is **open**. DAY USE HOURS - 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. A \$10 parking fee is charged at both Coffee Camp Day Use Areas. Upper Coffee Camp is **closed**. The Trail of 100 Giants is **closed**, with a \$5 fee day use area parking, winter snowfall forced Tulare County to close the roads.

TRAIL OF 100 GIANTS:

This trail is one of the most popular hiking trails in the Giant Sequoia National Monument. It's accessible by road during the summer months (**May 15 – Nov. 15**, weather depending). It provides an easy walk on a fully accessible trail of short travel duration. The trail is a self-guided interpretive trail about 1.3 miles long. The Grove contains 125 giant sequoias over 10 feet in diameter and 143 sequoias fewer than 10 feet in diameter. The largest tree in the grove has a diameter of 20 feet and is 220 feet in height. The age of the trees are estimated to be between 500 and 1,500 years old.

TRAILS & WILDERNESS:

The Jerkey Meadow and Forks of the Kern Trailheads off of Road 22S82 (Lloyd Meadow Road) are **closed**, The Lewis Camp, Click's Creek, and Summit Trailheads Road 21S50 (North Road) are currently **closed**. Trailheads are closed with the first significant winter snowfall. Recent snows have been as low as 3,000' so most of the trails in the Golden Trout Wilderness will have snow covering them.

Permits are required for overnight stays in the Golden Trout Wilderness. They can be obtained free of charge by stopping in or calling our offices. Changing weather conditions this time of year could bring snow even at the lower elevations. Always check the weather forecast before you go and tell someone you trust of your plans. Please exercise extreme caution when crossing streams and rivers. **Check with the ranger station for current information and weather conditions prior to travel.**

Remember that on trails, firearms and dogs are NOT allowed in Sequoia National

Park. Dogs and firearms ARE allowed in the Sequoia National Forest.

ROADS:

Most Forest Service Roads are **closed** at this time due to winter snowfall. Call the ranger station about the status of particular roads before heading out. Changing weather conditions this time of year could bring snow even at the lower elevations. Always check the weather forecast before you go and tell someone you trust of your plans. Carry tire chains in your vehicle as well as extra food, water, and warm clothing.

PACK STATIONS:

Golden Trout Wilderness Pack Station: Under Special Use Authorization with the Sequoia National Forest, the Golden Trout Wilderness Pack Station offers a variety of horseback riding opportunities. The Pack Station is located off the North Road, Forest Road 21S50, north of Quaking Aspen Campground. For more information please call (559) 535-5304 or visit www.goldentroutpacktrains.com

Balch Park Pack Station: Located near Balch County Park and Mountain Home State Forest, the Balch Park Pack Station offers a variety of horseback riding opportunities. For more information please call (559) 539-2227 or visit www.balchpark.com

FISHING AND HUNTING:

Fishing season is open in some areas year around, such as the Tule River Drainage. Other areas open the last Saturday in April through November 15. Be sure and check the Fish and Game regulation book (available at district offices) for specifics and current rules and regulations. You must have a valid fishing license in possession. This information is also available on the California Department of Fish and Game website: www.dfg.ca.gov .

OTHER CAMPGROUNDS:

Balch Park Campground is **CLOSED**: Phone (559) 539-3896 or (559) 733-6291.

Mountain Home State Forest Campgrounds are **CLOSED**: Phone (559) 539-2321 or (559) 539-2855.

Cholollo Campground on the Tule River Indian Reservation: Phone (559) 781-4271

**GLASS BOTTLES NOT
ALLOWED ON THE
TULE RIVER**

In response to large amounts of broken glass found along the Tule River the Forest Service has closed a portion of the River to alcoholic beverages in glass containers. This needed to be done in order to protect public health and safety for visitors in the "area," said District Ranger Priscilla Summers. Possessing or storing alcoholic beverages in glass containers is prohibited along the Tule River from Wishon Campground to its intersection with Highway 190 and from the Forest Service boundary along Highway 190 to the Moorehouse Fish Hatchery located just below Camp Nelson.

KERN RIVER RANGER DISTRICT

KERNVILLE OFFICE
 105 Whitney Road, Kernville, CA
 PO Box 9, Kernville, CA 93238
 Office Hours: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday
 Contact - Sherry Montgomery 760-376-3781

LAKE ISABELLA OFFICE
 4875 Ponderosa Dr.
 P.O. Box 3810, Lake Isabella, CA 93240
 Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 7 days a week
 Contact - Geri Adams 760-379-5646

For specific and up-to-date information on trails and roads please call the District Office.

UPPER KERN RIVER CAMPGROUNDS:

The following campgrounds are **open** and available by reservation NRRS (877) 444-6777 or first come, first served: Contact the District Office for more information.

Headquarters	\$18.00 per night	OPEN	additional vehicles \$5/night.
Fairview	\$18.00 per night	OPEN	additional vehicles \$5/night.
Limestone	\$16.00 per night	OPEN	additional vehicles \$5/night.
Camp 3	\$18.00 per night	CLOSED	additional vehicles \$5/night.
Hospital Flat	\$18.00 per night	CLOSED	additional vehicles \$5/night.
Goldledge	\$18.00 per night	CLOSED	additional vehicles \$5/night.

LOWER KERN RIVER:

The following campgrounds are **open** and available on a first come first serve basis.

Hobo	\$18/night	OPEN
Sandy Flat	\$18/night	OPEN

DISPERSED CAMPING:

Along the Upper Kern Canyon there are dispersed camping areas, free of charge, which are great for campers with self-contained units or large groups of people. **Campfire permits are required** when camping in these areas and reservations are not accepted. **However, camping and the use of campfires are not permitted within 25 feet of the river's edge, streams or trails.** On the Lower Section, to protect the Kern River, no camping is allowed from Live Oak Day Use Area up-canyon 6 miles (mile mark 24), within 100 feet of the water's edge.

PLATEAU CAMPING:

Horse Meadow, Troy Meadow and Fish Creek are **CLOSED**. **Kennedy Meadow Campground** is **OPEN**. **There is a fee of \$17.00** per night. This campground has no water.

GREENHORN MOUNTAINS:

Evans Flat and **Alder Creek** campground are **CLOSED**. **Cedar Creek** is **OPEN**. NO RESERVATIONS/NO FEES, it has limited or NO services. Pack It In, Pack It Out!

PIUTE MOUNTAIN:

Due to the Piute Fire all areas on the **Piute Mountains** remain **CLOSED** to woodcutting and O.H.V use.. The roads are **CLOSED**.

LAKE ISABELLA:

The following campgrounds are **open** and available by reservation NRRS (877) 444-6777 or first come, first served: Contact the District Office for more information.

Pioneer Point	\$20/night	OPEN	additional vehicles \$5/night
Tillie Creek	\$20/night	OPEN	additional vehicles \$/night
Paradise Cove	\$20/night	OPEN	additional vehicles \$5/night
Boulder Gulch	\$20/night	OPEN	additional vehicles \$5/night
Hungry Gulch	\$20/night	CLOSED	additional vehicles \$5/night
Main Dam	\$20/night	CLOSED	additional vehicles \$5/night

Camp 9 is on a first-come, first-served basis at a cost of \$17/night for a single family unit. Additional vehicles are \$5/night.

The following group campgrounds are available by reservation only through NRRS (877) 444-6777: **Tillie Creek, French Gulch, Live Oak South & Camp 9**. Fees vary from \$75, \$90, and \$160 per night depending on site.

- SOUTHERN SIERRA PASS:** Lakeshore camping is permitted at Auxiliary Dam, Old Isabella Road, and the South Fork Recreation Area. These areas are referred to as High Impact Recreation Areas (HIRA), and require the Southern Sierra Pass. The Southern Sierra Pass can be purchased from the Kernville Ranger Station or Lake Isabella Visitor Center. The pass can be used at both the Lake Isabella HIRA's and at the Camp 9 day use area.
- The Daily Southern Sierra Pass is \$10/per vehicle.
The Annual Southern Sierra Pass is \$50/a year.
One additional vehicle pass will be available for \$10 with the purchase of the Annual pass.
Interagency passes that will also be accepted in the area include the America the Beautiful Interagency Annual Pass, the Senior Pass, and the Access Pass. The Golden Age and the Golden Access will also be accepted.
- PICNIC/DAY USE:** Along the upper River, **Roads End Day Use** is **open**. **Upper Richbar**, **Delonegha** and **Democrat Day Use** areas are **open**. Lower Richbar and Live Oak picnic areas are **OPEN**.
- TRAILS:** All of the OHV trails on the Kern Plateau are **CLOSED**. OHV trails on Greenhorn, & Breckenridge are **CLOSED**. OHV trails on the Piutes are **CLOSED**. For more information please visit, www.ohv.parks.ca.gov.
- OHV TRACK:** **Cyrus Canyon OHV Track** is located on the east side of Lake Isabella. The motor cross track is great for family outings, race practice or even organized motorcycle events. All OHV's are required to have a green or red sticker, spark arrestor, and meet the OHV noise requirement. For more information please visit, www.ohv.parks.ca.gov.
- GOLF COURSE:** Kern Valley Golf Course is open daily to the public and is under a Special Use Permit with the Forest Service.
- MARINAS:** French Gulch Marina 760-379-8774 and North Fork Marina 760-376-1812.
- OAK FLAT LOOKOUT:** The lookout tower is **OPEN**.
- TARGET RANGE:** Target Range, located on the northeast end of Lake Isabella near Cyrus Canyon, is operated by the Kern River Valley Gun Assn. under a Special-Use Permit. It is open to the public on Sundays from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. year-round, weather permitting, except for holiday weekends.
- ROADS:** **Please call the District Office for specific road information.** Sherman Pass and Cherry Hill roads are **CLOSED**. All roads on the Piutes are **CLOSED**. Always check road and weather conditions before departing. 1-800-427-7612 for county roads, and 760-376-3781 for Forest Service roads on our district.
- WILDERNESS:** Wilderness permits are required for the Golden Trout Wilderness if you plan to stay overnight. These may be obtained at any Forest Service Office on the Sequoia National Forest or by mail. You will also need a **Fire Permit**.
- PUBLIC PASTURES** **Public pastures are CLOSED.**
- FISHING:** Fishing season is **open** year-round in Kern County. In Tulare County fishing season is open year-round along the Kern River from the Kern/Tulare County line north to the Johnsondale Bridge and along the Tule River drainage. Special fishing regulations are in effect from the Johnsondale Bridge north to Sequoia Kings Canyon National Parks (barbless hooks and artificial lures). Check with California Department of Fish and Game for current regulations.
- WOODCUTTING:** **Fuelwood cutting is OPEN for the season.**

WHITEWATER FUN:

Permits for whitewater boating on the Upper and Lower Kern River runs are required year-round. Permits must be obtained in person and a picture I.D. is required. Permits for whitewater boating on the Forks of the Kern River run are required May 15 to September 15 each year. For a list of approved outfitting commercial companies that operate day and overnight-guided tours on the Kern River contact the District Office.

BLACK ROCK:

The Blackrock Visitor Center is CLOSED.
