



NEWS RELEASE

Sequoia National Forest and the Giant Sequoia National Monument

1839 S. Newcomb Street, Porterville, CA 93257

Centennial 1908 - 2008

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Monumental Outlook Over The Horizon A Centennial Celebration

By Tina Terrell, Forest Supervisor

Porterville, CA.....Hello Sequoia National Forest/Giant Sequoia National Monument Stakeholders!

Come one come all! I invite all to join the Forest Service as we celebrate on Tuesday, July 1, 2008 the establishment of the Sequoia National Forest and 100 years of conservation leadership in your community.

The Sequoia National Forest will become 100 years old in less than one week. Just think, 100 years old (1908 – 2008)! The Sequoia National Forest was established in 1908 from the Sierra Forest Reserve by President Theodore Roosevelt. Five other forests were also established during this time: Kern, Mono, Sierra, and Stanislaus national forests. The Sequoia was the largest unit established at this time (2,935,080 acres) and was named by Chief Forester, Gifford Pinchot. The first forest supervisor was E.A. Sherman. During our 100 year history there have been twenty-one forest supervisors. Yes, currently I am the twenty-second forest supervisor to hold the reins for this 1.2 million acre natural treasure.

We are extremely proud of the Sequoia National Forest's successes and efforts to recognize and promote the history of the Forest Service through the Sequoia's 100 years of conservation stewardship. Previous chiefs and forest supervisors have all remarked how important it is to care for the public's lands, and national forests are treasures for the public to enjoy.

So, all who are interested to learn the history of the Sequoia National Forest, please join the festivities we have planned. If you miss this date, there are four additional events planned over the next couple of months.

- July 1st - The first Centennial celebration will be held at the Supervisor's Office in Porterville on Tuesday beginning at 9 a.m. with the planting of a Centennial Tree. Many additional events are planned from 7 a.m. – noon, including a presentation by the Tule River Tribal Veteran's Color Guard, the cutting of a Centennial Cake, and an Awards Recognition to honor our many partners who help us manage and maintain your national forest.

The three Ranger Districts on the Sequoia National Forest and Giant Sequoia National Monument will also be celebrating our Centennial at various times. Mark your calendars!

- July 3rd - The Tule River/Hot Springs Ranger District will host a Centennial celebration on Thursday at the Springville Office. During this celebration they will announce the Regional Forester's new district name, the Western Divide Ranger District. If you are interested in attending, you can contact the ranger district office for information regarding this event.
- July 5th - The Hume Lake Ranger District in Dunlap (near Fresno) is partnering with the Buck Rock Foundation to celebrate the Centennial on Saturday. Events planned include a pictorial display of historic cabins found on the Sequoia National Forest, an educational tour of the Buck Rock Lookout and numerous photo opportunities.
- September 6th - A second opportunity on the Hume Lake Ranger District to celebrate will be during the tenth annual Celebrate Sequoias Festival, held on Saturday. Contact the Hume Lake Ranger Station for more information about these events.
- August - The Kern River Ranger District in Kern County (near Bakersfield) will be celebrating the Forest's Centennial. Stay tuned for more details about this Centennial celebration.

Over one hundred years ago the national forests were established for the public to use and enjoy. We look forward to continuing our tradition of working with you. The Forest Service mission is to care for the land and serve people, for current and future generations. Together, we are doing that and I look forward seeing how we can continue to manage these lands over the next 100 years.

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Editors note: Historical Photos: additional historical information and photos can be found at www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia.