

Daily Report - Yosemite National Park Friday, April 16, 2010

Weather

Yosemite Valley

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 69. Calm wind becoming west between 7 and 10 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 34. Calm wind becoming east between 6 and 9 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 70. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 35. South southwest wind around 8 mph becoming east.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 71. East wind around 8 mph becoming south southwest.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 36.

El Portal

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 72. Calm wind becoming west between 7 and 10 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 39. Calm wind becoming east northeast between 5 and 8 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 73. East northeast wind at 9 mph becoming west southwest.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 39. Southwest wind 6 to 8 mph becoming east northeast.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 76. East northeast wind around 8 mph becoming south southwest.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 40.

Wawona

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. Calm wind becoming west between 6 and 9 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 31. North northeast wind between 3 and 7 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 74. Calm wind becoming west southwest between 5 and 8 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 37. South southwest wind 6 to 8 mph becoming east.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 75. East wind 6 to 8 mph becoming south.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 35

Safety Slogan of the Week: Save tomorrow. think safety today

Park News

Yosemite Volunteer Supervisors: You're Invited!

On Thursday, April 29, from 8 a.m. to noon, at the East Auditorium in the Valley, the Yosemite Volunteer Program will be hosting a workshop on the "where the rubber meets the road" issues of volunteer management at Yosemite:

- Where do you find uniforms? Who gets one?
- How do volunteers get reimbursed? How much?
- Whom do you ask about housing?
- Do we have thank-you gifts for volunteers?
- How do you recruit volunteers?
- Where can you find forms?

Learn the answers to these questions and more! This short course is open to any person involved with the Yosemite volunteer program -- NPS employees, volunteers, partners, or other interested parties. **Please RSVP to Heather by Friday, April 23** so that we can plan materials accordingly. heather_booth@nps.gov or 379-1855.

(NOTE: This course will follow the two-day How to Succeed with Volunteers in Parks course on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 27 and 28. There are still two open slots for this course. If you are interested in attending Tuesday and Wednesday, please contact Heather Boothe ASAP.) (H Boothe 4/16/10)

Yosemite Association Bookstore Sale. This weekend (Friday through Sunday – April 16th-18th), in conjunction with the mall Earth Day festivities, the Yosemite Bookstore in the Valley Visitor Center will be having a sale on select titles by and about John Muir, whose birthday is April 21st, 1838. A 15% discount will be offered on select John Muir related publications. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the man who has come to symbolize the conservationist and environmental movements.

(T Arfsten 4/16/10)

Nationwide when people have emergencies they call 9-1-1 seeking immediate help. In Yosemite, the dispatchers at the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) are the ones who answer the call. Yosemite ECC is celebrating National Public Safety Telecommunications Week April 11-17th. This week of dispatcher appreciation honors the thousands of men and women who respond to emergency calls, dispatch emergency professionals and equipment, and render life saving assistance.

Last year Yosemite's dispatchers handled **76,930** phone calls for Lassen Volcanic NP, Devils Post Pile NM, and Yosemite NP combined. That includes **22,033** total incidents * **2,529** 9-1-1 calls * **702** Medical Assistance calls * **252** Search and Rescue Incidents * **637** Motor Vehicle Accidents * **17** Fatalities * **34** Wildland Fires * **8,909** Vehicle Stops * **224** Structure Fire page outs * ...just to name a few.

Although our dispatchers are appreciated year-round by the public they serve, I would like to take this week to show my gratitude for each of the dispatchers in Yosemite and thank them for the hard work they perform each day. (N Bismeyer 4/15/10)

Laptop Users: Bring or send your laptop & power supply to the Help Desk to be encrypted. If received early AM we can usually have them done the same day. Walk-ins welcomed. (D. Sohn 4/15/10)

Glacier Point Road update as of 4-14-09. Wawona Crews have started the glacier point road plowing and the average depth of snow is 7 feet at the gate at badger pass turn off. Total miles plowed to date is 2/10 of a mile. (T Brochini 4/15/10)

Updates

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS WINTER CONDITIONS UPDATE

April 14, 2010

Weather: (April 8 through April 14)
High temp: 53° (April 9)
Low temp: 3° (April 13)
New Snow: 14"
Total settled snow depth: 53" as of April 14

Ski Conditions and Weather: This week was a mixed bag of warm, sunny weather and a windy, cold storm. We picked up over 4 feet of new snow since the beginning of April, not feeling very much like spring. The sun is out again but temperatures are still on the cool side. Trail breaking is still difficult since the new snow has not set up yet. The snow has a breakable crust on top and sticky soft snow beneath the crust. Another few days and it should improve. However the NWS is predicting more unsettled weather through the week, but as yet, nothing as big as we have been getting. There is a very firm base underneath all this new snow, so when the snow does set up, there should be some fine spring skiing. The spring thaw has been put on hold due to our winter weather. Everything here is still encased in its winter cloak. Caltrans has started to plow Highway 120 from the east side (Lee Vining), so be prepared to walk the first several miles beyond the gate.

Avalanche and Snowpack Conditions: For the latest avalanche advisory for this area go to www.esavalanche.org for the Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center and click on advisory. The ESAC site is updated several times a week and more often during weather events.

Wildlife:

We saw our usual Coyote, Pine Marten, Weasel, Chickaree, White-tailed Jack Rabbit, and many tiny rodent tracks.

We are still seeing the occasional Painted Lady Butterfly come through.

Birds heard and seen this week include Cassin's Finch, Dark-eyed Junco, Mountain Bluebird, Mountain Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Clark's Nutcracker, Common Raven, Northern Flicker, Violet-green Swallow, and Red Crossbills.

REMINDER: BEAR RESISTANT CONTAINERS ARE REQUIRED FOR OVERNIGHT TRAVEL IN THE BACKCOUNTRY .

Questions: We have no land line telephones or cell tower operating and the power is still out. Sorry for the inconvenience. (Jeff and Kathi, the Tuolumne winter rangers).

NPS Weekly Construction Report

IUMP 3B Contractor Mozingo Construction will continue utility work in the Ahwahnee Hotel area this week. Mozingo will also be doing water tie in work in the Upper and Lower Tecoya area.

On Friday Mozingo will have another short **(2 hour) shut down of the Ahwahnee Hotel loading dock** road for utility excavations.

Mozingo will be putting out temporary portable toilets in the water shut down/ new water connection areas.

IUMP 3B contractor Mozingo Construction is in the process of relacing failing water, sewer and electric utilities in Yosemite Valley. Everything is being done to make the water outages as short as possible. Any questions please call Don Coon, NPS Project Management at 372-0475. (D Coon 4/15/10)

Yosemite News Release
April 14, 2010
For Immediate Release

Media Contacts:
Scott Gediman 209-372-0248
Kari Cobb 209-372-0529

Yosemite National Park Celebrates National Park Week and Earth Day with Special Programs and Activities
National Park Week April 17 – April 25
Earth Day April 22

Yosemite National Park will celebrate National Park Week and Earth Day beginning Saturday, April 17 through Sunday, April 25. Many special events and activities are being sponsored by the National Park Service (NPS) and DNC Parks and Resorts at Yosemite, Inc. (the park's primary concessioner).

To help celebrate National Park Week and Earth Day, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, has announced entrance fees will be waived for Yosemite, and all other national parks for the entire week. Camping fees, and all other fees will still be applicable.

This year, the focus of National Park Week will be on fitness. Many of the programs and events during this week will encourage visitors to participate in fun physical activity such as hiking, biking, and other family outdoor activities.

Events and activities occurring during National Park Week include:

Saturday, April 17th

- 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.: Yosemite Village Mall Celebration and Children's Tent
- 5:30 p.m.: Poetry Walk with a Park Ranger

Sunday, April 18th - Wednesday, April 21st

- 8:30 p.m., nightly: Screening of Episode 1-4 of *The National Parks: America's Best Idea* by Ken Burns

Earth Day Thursday, April 22nd

- 9:00 a.m.: Stewardship Project
- 2:00 p.m.: Earth Day Bike Ride
- 8:30 p.m.: Screening of Episode 5 of *The National Parks: America's Best Idea* by Ken Burns

Friday, April 23rd

- 8:30 p.m.: Screening of Episode 6 of *The National Parks: America's Best Idea* by Ken Burns

Junior Ranger Day Saturday, April 24th

- 11:00 a.m. Junior Ranger Walk
- 12:00 p.m. Exploration Fair
- 1:00 p.m. Kids Photography Walk
- 2:00 p.m. Learn and Serve / Wee Wild Ones
- 7:30 p.m. Astronomy Day Activities
- 8:00 p.m. Ranger Slide Presentation

Acting Designations

Madelyn Ruffner will be acting for Elexis Mayer, Environmental Planning & Compliance Program Manager the week of April 19 - 23, 2010. Madelyn can be reached at 209-379-1226.

Sonny Montague is Acting Branch Chief for Anthropology & Archeology on Friday April 16.

While Randy Fong is out of the office, Gretchen Stromberg will be Acting Branch Chief for the Design Branch of Project Management from Monday, April 19, 2010 through Thursday, April 22, 2010.

Gretchen can be reached at 379-1006 or you may leave a message with Tricia Radmacher at 379-1221.

Historical Architect Gabrielle Harlan (379-1470) will be acting Branch Chief for History, Architecture & Landscapes Monday April 19 thru Thursday, April 22, 2010 - submitted by D. Humphrey.

Historical Landscape Architect Amy Hoke (379-1416) will be acting Branch Chief for History, Architecture & Landscapes on Friday April 16, 2010 - submitted by D. Humphrey.

Shane Fairbanks will be Acting Corrals Supervisor from April 10 until April 21. Shane can be reached at the NPS Corrals for any stock related matters at 372-0524 or 372-0575.

Ed Appling will be acting Roads & Trails General Foreman on April 9-18 while Tim Ludington is on leave. Ed can be reached at 372-0560 or you can leave a message with Beth Benitag @ 379-1057.

Jim Allen will be acting Utilities Branch Chief from April 7 through April 26th, while Paul Laymon is out of the park. He can be reached at 379-1039 or leave a message with Katie Bablitch 379-1055.

Ed Dunlavy will be the acting Operations Branch Chief and Deputy Chief Ranger until further notice.

Until further notice, Lorene Schafer (379-1873) will be the Acting Chief for Contracting and Procurement . If you have contracting related questions and don't already have a point of contact, please call either Helli Tucker or Tim Donnellan at 379-1368 or 1207, respectively. Please continue to route purchase request (PR) packages to Lorene for Acquisition Approval in IDEAS.

Cindy Whitten will be the acting Human Resources Officer until further notice, you may contact her at (209) 379-1878

Happening This Weekend

El Portal Residents: The **El Portal 5th Annual Earth Day Spring Clean is this weekend (April 17-18)**. Three large Dumpsters will be placed across from the train in Old El Portal and ready for you to bring those large items that you have been meaning to clear out of your yard or home. Want to help others? Meet by the dumpsters at 9am Saturday. Bring gloves and help us haul. Need help or have questions? Call Mark or Allie at 379-2616 before 9 am on Saturday and the team will come by your house to haul your stuff away. (N Nicholas 4/14/10)

"Fuel the Ride!" Fundraiser, Fri. April 16th, 7:30 pm-12 am, El Portal Community Hall, sliding scale \$7-15 **Come out for an evening of good music, good company and good beer!** 7:30 Bluegrass Jam Band 8:30 Genny Rice 9:00 Raffle/Auction/Games 10:00 DJ Dynamike Questions? Please contact (T. Briggs 4/14/10)

Downtown Merced Art Hop

Date 17 April 2010

Time 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location Downtown Merced

Contact Kevin Hammon

Contact Phone (209) 722-6972

Join Us! Meet local artists, visit downtown stores, have a night of shopping, network in your community, display your art, sing, rap, read poetry, display body art, share your style, get inspired, share techniques, demo your work, volunteer, and have fun! The Theme is "Spring".

Spring in your step. Spring forward. Spring has sprung. Spring sale. Spring into action.

Spring is not just a season or an action.

It's a feeling, a message, a movement. It is life. It is hope. It is optimism.

This Art Hop, show the world what Spring is to you.

Be deep. Be silly. Be free.

Be genuine.

Be Springy. (K Baker 4/16/10)

Community News

The LAST SHOW of the **EI Portal Travel Series...** Don't miss this one! Japhy rode his bike for 2 years **from California to South America!** As always, TUESDAYS at 7:00pm, EI Portal Community Hall.

April 20th - Japhy Dhungana "Transformundo: A Journey to the Far Edge of the World"

Join Japhy as he recounts his experiences cycling more than 22,000 kilometers from the USA to Tierra del Fuego, Argentina, the Southernmost tip of South America! Guided by a desire to push a little, to explore a little, and to practice a human -powered brand of sustainability, this is a story of self-motivation, setting small targets to achieve outrageous goals, the rewards of risk, the power of communication & trust, the magnificence of our world, and a call to arms that nothing is achieved without being bold enough to begin it. Come along on this astounding adventure, and experience his lessons from the road. (P. Amstutz 4/15/10)

Entries must be in by 7:00am the day of publication. There are no weekend or holiday editions.

Submissions must be 150 words or less and will be posted for 2 days, then on the day of the event. Submissions: email yose_daily_report@nps.gov

Yosemite's *Daily Report* is an internal memorandum of long standing intended to provide timely administrative information needed for daily park operations. The primary purpose of the report is to serve as a communication tool for park management to pass specific operational information to field employees of Yosemite National Park, park partners, concessioners, and related government agencies in a fast and efficient manner and offer a format for interdivisional, interagency, and general intra-park notifications. Although the *Daily Report* is intended exclusively as an internal memorandum, it is posted here in an effort to extend timely operational information to the communities surrounding the park