

National Park Service Department of the Interior

Superintendent's Compendium of Designations, Closures, Permit Requirements and Other Restrictions Imposed Under Discretionary Authority. Devils Postpile National Monument P.O. Box 3999 Mammoth Lakes California 93456

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Approved:

Site Manager/Superintendent

The specific discretionary authority for Park Superintendents to establish reasonable schedules for visiting hours, impose public use limits, and close park areas for all public use or specific use is found in Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §1.5. These park-specific restrictions are also based upon 36 CFR, Chapters 1-7 to protect park resources, visitors, and employees. Under CFR §1.7 notice of all restrictions, closures, designations, and permit requirements will be made available to the general public by a least one or more of the following methods of notifications: maps, brochures, signs, permits, or other appropriate methods, as well as within this compendium.

Written determinations, which explain the reasoning behind the Superintendent's use of discretionary authority, as required by Section 1.5(c), appear in this document identified by italicized print.

36 CFR §1.5 – CLOSURE AND PUBLIC USE LIMITS

Devils Postpile National Monument offers public services and public facilities when vehicle access is available to the public, except as listed below or publicly posted. Vehicle access is generally available between June/July and October pending access limitations due to road conditions, road closures, and seasonal storm weather.

- Seasonal opening and closing of visitor operations and park facilities at Devils Postpile National Monument is
 weather and road condition dependent. The monument opens sometime in June/July once road access has
 been restored and closes in mid to late October once cold weather and snow prevents safe vehicle access via
 Reds Meadow Road. After October 15, roads in the Reds Meadow Valley are subject to closure for the season
 due to snowfall, but will close by the last Sunday in October regardless of weather conditions. Road access will
 remain closed until the road is plowed, cleared of hazard trees and opened to the public by the Inyo National
 Forest who manages road access. Projected road openings and closing will be posted on the www.nps.gov/depo
 website and in press releases that are provided by the National Monument and/or Inyo National Forest. Road
 closures within the National Monument may be required during the field season to repair utility infrastructure
 or for other critical needs. Temporary road closures within the National Monument will be posted onsite and
 may not require additional public notification.
- The Visitor Contact Station, also known as the Historic Ranger Station, is open only when vehicle access is available to the public, during the peak season. Hours of operation will be posted at the front of the Visitor Contact Station during peak season may change due to staff availability.
- Emergency response and other emergency situations may necessitate closing of the Visitor Contact Station at unusual times when staff is needed to help resolve the emergency, and/or for public health and safety.
- Comfort stations and/or portable toilets are open to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week during the
 peak season unless closed for maintenance, repair, construction, and/or for public health and safety. If comfort
 stations and/or portable toilets are not available, the park may implement a full closure or partial closure to
 prevent resource damage.
- The National Monument does not close trails that pass through the monument during winter, but on-site services may not be available from the NPS outside of the peak season. Once the National Monument is open for the peak season, all trails are also open to the public unless otherwise posted. Temporary trail closures may be done to protect visitor safety or protect resources due to weather, fire, or other natural events. Temporary trail closures may also be done to protect visitor and/or resources during trail maintenance activities. Signs and flagging will be used to identify these temporary closures and direct visitors.
- The National Monument campgrounds may be closed to the public as needed to accommodate construction projects, road closures, for administrative uses, and/or to protect resources when water/septic is not adequate to support public campground needs.

Devils Postpile National Monument is located in the Eastern Sierra, where snow and winter road closures occur each winter. Vehicle access to the National Monument is limited by winter weather, steep mountain road, hazardous tree falls, and road construction. Weather and road conditions can change rapidly and are contingent upon road access.

Wilderness use

Groups consisting of more than six people are not permitted off trail in designated wilderness areas within the boundaries of Devils Postpile National Park without an NPS Special Use Permit containing conditions for travel in sensitive areas, signed by the Superintendent of Devils Postpile National Monument.

This restriction is necessary for travel in sensitive areas and to maintain the wilderness character. This group size was established in the 2015 Devils Postpile National Monument General Management Plan (GMP).

Other-Power-Driven Mobility Devices

Only individuals with disabilities may use Other-Power-Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMD), including e-bikes on park trails, however this use is prohibited to all in undeveloped and designated wilderness areas. OPDMD users retain the right of way and duties applicable to pedestrians when used in areas where other vehicles or pack animals are present, however OPDMD users must also yield to pedestrian foot traffic.

OPDMD may be used under the following conditions:

- The OPDMD displays a universal handicap decal (available at visitor centers)
- OPDMD must be a zero-emissions vehicle
- The OPDMD is not greater than 36 inches in width as its widest point
- OPDMD speeds may not exceed 5 miles per hour
- Group size is limited to no more than four OPDMD

OPDMD must be equipped with the following safety mechanisms:

- Front, rear, and side reflectors
- A system that enables the operator to bring the device to a controlled stop
- If operating an OPDMD between half an hour after sunset to a half an hour before dawn, a lamp emitting a white light that is visible from 300 feet in front of the OPDMD is required while the OPDMD is in motion
- A sound emitting device that can be activated from time to time by the operator, to alert nearby persons, as appropriate

These restrictions are necessary for safe travel, due to road conditions and the lack of a paved shoulder, bicycle lane, or the presence of fog lines. The use of OPDMD by able bodied persons is prohibited in the park because they meet the definition of a motor vehicle. An exception is made those for individuals who meet the criteria of a disabled person as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Off road OPDMD use is prohibited for all persons.

Uncrewed Aircraft

Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundaries of Devils Postpile National Monument is prohibited except as approved in writing by the superintendent.

Definition: The term "uncrewed aircraft" means a device that is used or intended to be used for flight in the air without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the device and the associated operational elements and components that are required for the pilot or system operator in command to operate or control the device (such as cameras, sensors communication links). This term includes all types of devices that meet this definition (e.g., model airplanes, quad-copters, drones) that are used for any purpose, including for recreation or commerce.

This restriction is to protect the public from hazards and preserve the park's natural, aesthetic, and scenic values. The use of unmanned aircraft potentially presents unacceptable risks to visitors (collisions between unmanned aircraft and visitors, the uncontrolled fall of unmanned aircraft, contact with spinning propellers or rotors of unmanned aircraft). The use of unmanned aircraft adversely impacts visitor experience by negatively affecting scenic and natural sound opportunities, and/or the avoidance of conflict among visitor use activities. The use of these devices also has the potential to disrupt terrestrial and avian wildlife by interrupting migration, nesting, mating, and acquiring food and other activities.

This restriction is in accordance with NPS Management Policy 8.2 which prohibits recreational uses that conflict with the scenic values and view sheds that the park was designated to protect and the associated activities in which

individuals seek solitude and tranquility with an expectation of privacy. Furthermore, approximately 85% of park lands are designated wilderness and the use in designated Wilderness Areas violates the Wilderness Act, which prohibits motorized equipment.

Additionally, the unregulated use of unmanned aircraft may potentially violate other regulations in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, including Section 2.2 Frightening Wildlife, Sect. 2.12 - Creating an Audio Disturbance, Sect. 2.17 - Delivering or Retrieving an Object by Airborne Means, Sect. 2.34 - Making Unreasonable Noise, Sect. 2.34 - Creating or Maintaining a Hazardous Condition, and Sect. 5.13 - Creating or Maintaining a Nuisance.

Devils Postpile Campground

Devils Postpile National Monument Fee Campground has been closed to public camping since 2016. This closure will be extended throughout the 2024 season. Closure of both loops of this NPS managed campground will accommodate construction staging and administrative use for ongoing infrastructure upgrades, resource monitoring, and maintenance projects. This continued closure will not impede day users and will increase access for day-use visitors along the riverfront picnic areas and improve access for fishing.

An assessment of campground use prior to 2016 determined less than 2% of those visiting the National Monument camped within the park boundaries when the 20 campsites within Campground Loop A and Loop B were open to the public.

Inyo National Forest maintains several campgrounds and concessioner operated overnight accommodations within Reds Meadow, adjacent to the National Monument. A total of 124 campsites are available at the Upper Soda Springs, Pumice Flat, Minaret Falls, and Reds Meadow Campgrounds. Additional accommodations are available at Pumice Flat Group Campground (20-50 people), Agnew Meadows Campground and Pack Station, and at Reds Meadow Resort.

Devils Postpile Geologic Formation

The fallen columns, the cliff face, and the tops of the columns along the cliff face are closed to all recreational use including walking, hiking, scrambling, and climbing on rocks.

The columnar basalt formation known as the Devils Postpile is geologically significant. Every effort is made to protect the formation from potential damage and to allow park visitors to view the formation undisturbed by other humans and to increase the probability of a safe experience. The formation is subject to dramatic seismic and cumulative erosion events when columns may topple posing a significant risk to the visiting public climbing on or near the formation.

Administrative Areas

The following areas and facilities are closed to the public: administrative areas, housing areas, utility areas, as well as all materials staging and maintenance areas.

These areas were identified in the National Monument 2015 General Management Plan.

Park Roads

Reds Meadow Road and the Monument Access Road are subject to closure due to public safety concerns, construction and maintenance projects, snow, and other natural events.

• Reds Meadow Road is located on lands managed by Inyo National Forest. NPS does not manage the access to Reds Meadow Road. Vehicle access to the Devils Postpile Access Road is only available from Reds Meadow

Road.

• The Devils Postpile Access is closed to public motor vehicle traffic whenever public access to Reds Meadow Road is closed to the public. This access road is also closed to the public when the NPS gate on the access road is closed.

The Devils Postpile Road may be closed to public access during emergency situations, overcrowding in the Devils Postpile National Monument parking areas and on adjacent lands to protect resources, for road repairs, utility repairs, maintenance projects, and when snow/ice/flood conditions make for hazardous driving.

Facilities and Buildings

Government administrative buildings, facilities, residences, storage containers, research and monitoring stations, and their signed access roads are closed to the public.

These facilities are closed to public entry to ensure employee and visitor safety, protection of water and utility systems, and security to park equipment.

Boating and Water Use Activities

All free-flowing rivers, creeks, and streams within Devils Postpile National Monument are closed to the use of any type of vessel designed to carry passengers upon the water including air mattresses or inner tubes.

This restriction is necessary to preserve the natural character of the river, creeks, and stream for public enjoyment. Another factor in this restriction is the safety hazard presented to rafters or floaters by naturally fallen trees and waterfalls. Removal of the tree hazards would be contrary to park resource management policy.

In 1991, an eligibility study conducted by the United States Forest Service found river segments within the monument to be eligible for wild and scenic river status. The 2015 General Management Plan recommended designation of the stretch of river within the monument due to its Outstanding and Remarkable Values identified as geology, biodiversity, recreation, and scenery.

Fixed Tension Ropes (Slacklining) Slacklining is prohibited.

The recreational activities associated with installation and use of these lines are in conflict with the scenic purposes for which Devils Postpile National Monument was established.

Jumping or diving

Jumping or diving from any bridge within the monument is prohibited.

This restriction is necessary for the safety of the jumpers and the safety of others who may be recreating in adjacent areas.

Soaps and other detergents

The use of any soap, detergent, or shampoo (biodegradable or otherwise) is prohibited in all waters of the monument.

This restriction is necessary to provide for the highest water quality standards and ecosystem health. Introduction of man-made products may alter water quality and adversely affect micro or macro-organisms.

<u>Wildlife</u>

The use of artificial lights, audio, or mechanical device to attract wildlife is prohibited except for administrative activities and/or permitted activities. This is considered a violation of 36 CFR § 2.2(a)(2).

This is necessary to prevent harassment and poaching of wildlife within the boundaries of the monument. Artificial lighting, audio or mechanical devices used to attract wildlife may induce stress and disrupt mating/nesting activities of wildlife.

Fishing

The State of California fishing regulations found at <u>https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov</u> apply within Devils Postpile National Monument, except, as set out in 36 CFR 2.3(d) and listed below:

- Fishing from any piers or bridges (vehicle, pedestrian, or stock) is prohibited within the National Monument.
- The use of live, dead or scented bait is prohibited.

Definition: "Live, dead or scented bait" is defined as any natural or manufactured product or device that is used to alert and attract fish by sense of taste or smell, including any product or device to which scents or attraction agents have been added or externally applied. Bait includes but is not limited to: scented and flavored liquid paste or gel, scented natural or artificially manufactured fish eggs, and applies to traditional organic baits including but not limited to all worms, grubs, crickets, leeches, stink baits, insects, crayfish, human food, pet food, fish, fish parts, and fish eggs.

The prohibition of fishing from bridges is necessary to protect the safety of those fishing as well as the safety and enjoyment of other visitors, whether on foot, in vehicles, or in or along the streams and rivers that the bridges cross.

Designated Smoking Area

Smoking of cigarettes, cigars, use of E-Cigarettes and similar devices are prohibited within 25 feet of any building, except those used as a residence.¹¹

- Smoking is prohibited in all public buildings
- Smoking is prohibited inside of housing
- Smoking is prohibited in other areas as posted
- Designated smoking areas will be maintained in the day use area (for public use)
- Public smoking areas will be closed when the Fire Danger Rating exceeds the Moderate level

Devils Postpile National Monument is at risk for devastating wildland fires due to high fuel loads combined with hot, dry summers. A wind event in late 2011 toppled hundreds of trees, which dramatically increased the hazardous fuel load within the monument. Smoking on monument trails significantly increases the risk of human caused fires. Fire Danger Ratings include Low, Moderate, High, Very High, and Extreme.

Smoke from burning tobacco and vapors from e-cigarettes may contain harmful substances; Electronic cigarettes contain at least 10 chemicals known to cause cancer or birth defects, according to a report from the California Department of Public Health. Restricting the use of e-cigarettes to areas where smoking is permitted is the least restrictive method of controlling potential impacts to visitors and staff while still allowing their use.

Hiking and Pedestrian Use

Group sizes on trails in wilderness will be limited to no more than 15 per group.

This restriction is necessary to provide conditions for travel in sensitive areas and to maintain the wilderness character. Larger school programs may be separated into smaller hiking groupings for ranger guided excursions.

Groups may apply for a Commercial Use Permit or Special Use Permit. Permits may be issued and approved in accordance with the 2015 General Management Plan and the user capacity standards that are identified as indicators and standards in that plan.

In the 2015 Devils Postpile General Management Plan, in the Determination of Extent Necessary (DEN) of commercial use in wilderness, the number of groups allowable was identified in Table D.2 Groups include both commercial and special use. This plan may be referenced online at <u>https://parkplanning.nps.gov</u>.

Requests for commercial and/or special uses within wilderness that are inconsistent with the 2015 DEN (GMP) may require additional and/or separate compliance and review including a Minimum Requirements Analysis. Information about how to request a permit may be obtained online at <u>https://www.nps.gov/depo</u>.

Vehicle Access and Mandatory Shuttle Bus

A mandatory shuttle is required for access into Reds Meadow Valley and Devils Postpile National Monument from approximately mid-June to mid-September. Vehicles meeting the requirements set forth by Inyo National Forest, may be permitted to drive to Devils Postpile National Monument.

There is no entry fee to Devils Postpile National Monument. However, Eastern Sierra Transit Authority charges a fee for shuttle bus service and Inyo National Forest charges a standard U.S. Forest Service vehicle amenity fee to access Reds Meadow at the Minaret Vista Station.

From approximately mid-June to mid-September, day-use visitors must ride the mandatory shuttle bus, managed by Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA), to gain access to the Devils Postpile National Monument. Visitors accessing the valley in an excepted vehicle may ride the inter-valley shuttle, when running, from their campground or park at Bus Stop #10 (Reds Meadow Resort) to board the shuttlebus to Bus Stop #6 (Devils Postpile National Monument).

Inyo National Forest manages vehicle access to Reds Meadow Road. Inyo National Forest guidelines provide the following criteria for excepting vehicles to drive into Reds Meadow Valley during peak season when the road is open to the public:

- Visitors with a valid Disabled Persons parking placard or plate or those who possess an Access Pass
- Hunters transporting weapons or large game
- Vehicles arriving before 7:00am, after 7:00pm, or any other time when the shuttle buses are not operating.
- Researchers with NPS research permits Student groups who have written consent from the Devils Postpile National Monument Superintendent
- Other permittees as identified on a permit or by written consent of the Devils Postpile National Monument Superintendent

From approximately mid-September until the seasonal road closure in mid-October, shuttle buses may operate within Reds Meadow Valley between Bus Stop #10 and Bus Stop #6 to address limited parking at Devils Postpile National Monument. When the ESTA shuttle busses are not operating, vehicles may drop off passengers at the

Historic Ranger Station / Visitor Contact Station before parking in designated areas within Devils Postpile National Monument or in designated parking areas on adjacent lands managed by Inyo National Forest. About one hundred forty thousand people visit the Reds Meadow Valley and Devils Postpile National Monument each summer. Only one road accesses the valley and there is limited parking available in the area. To accommodate the large number of visitors, a mandatory shuttle bus system has been in place since 1979. This is necessary to provide visitors with a quality experience and to limit impacts to the resource. The mandatory shuttle bus operates via a cooperative agreement with Inyo National Forest and Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA) for exclusive commercial transportation authority on the Reds Meadow/Devils Postpile road system (Public Use Limits --Pursuant to §1.5(d)). More information about the Reds Meadow

Passenger Carrying Buses

Buses must shut down their engines when not underway. Idling must not exceed 5 minutes.

The idling of bus engines adds unnecessary exhaust fumes to the air and diminishes the enjoyment of visitors to the park. The maximum allowable idling time of five minutes is consistent with CA state regulations. Due to the nature of the mandatory visitor service provided by ESTA shuttle buses, they are excluded from this requirement.

All commercial tour buses are required to obtain a commercial use authorization from Devils Postpile National Monument before operating within the National Monument.

Conditions for commercial tour buses on the Reds Meadow Road are under the jurisdiction and management of Inyo National Forest and may be different than those for bus use on the Devils Postpile Road.

Parking

The Devils Postpile National Monument parking area is limited to 65 vehicles.

Sixty-five is the number of parking spaces available within Devils Postpile National Monument when the parking lot is filled with a combination of cars, pickups, recreational vehicles, and motorcycles. When the mandatory shuttle bus is not operating, there are times when the demand for vehicle parking exceeds the space available in the parking lot causing congestion and resource damage. This often results in vehicles parking along roadside slopes, blocking other cars in, parking in campsites, parking in undesignated areas, and driving on vegetation. Congestion also intensifies noise and may result in decibel levels that exceed the legal limit. Congested parking areas may also impact emergency vehicles' ability to respond.

Overnight public parking within the National Monument is prohibited.

Overnight parking is prohibited due to the limited capacity of the parking lots. There is an overnight parking lot on Inyo National Forest managed lands. This Inyo National Forest backpacker parking lot is located 0.4 miles from the Devils Postpile parking area, and a trail connects the backpacker parking lot to parking lots within Devils Postpile National Monument.

<u>Pets</u>

Pets on a leash are allowed only on the primary trails identified in the Devils Postpile National Monument Unigrid map, in the day use area, campground, and residential area. Pets are restricted to on-trail use, must not disturb people or wildlife, must be leashed at all times and under the control of the owner. Pets are prohibited from the Soda Springs geologic site, any trail accessing the Soda Springs site, and the entire Soda Springs Meadow east and west of the river.

Soda Springs, the associated flora/fauna, and the entire meadow system are sensitive and are identified as important ecological and geologic features of the monument. Pets can impact vegetation and wildlife.

Individuals leaving pets unattended or in violation of California Penal Code 597.7(a) are subject to immediate impoundment of their property/pet. If pets are left in vehicles, they must be cared for in such a way as to provide proper ventilation and cooling, and are not to obstruct, harm, or frighten visitors.

Leashing of pets is necessary to prevent harassment to wildlife and/or to ensure that other visitors do not have a negative experience resulting from the pet. Dogs and pets are allowed on adjacent lands, in accordance with policies and guidelines set forth by Inyo National Forest.

36 CFR §1.6 – ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT

When authorized above, the following activities require a permit. Authorizations are listed above under Public Use Limits and throughout this document under the specific 36 CFR Section that authorizes or requires the issuance of a permit.

§2.2(e) Use of artificial lights to attract wildlife

§2.4(e) To carry or possess a weapon that is not otherwise authorized, a trap, or a net

§2.5(a) Specimen collection (taking of plants, fish, wildlife, rocks or minerals)

§2.12(a)(2) Audio Disturbances: Operating a chain saw in a developed area

§2.12(a)(3) Operation of portable motor or engine, or device powered by a one in non-developed areas

§2.12(a)(4) Operation of a public address system in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to §2.50 or §2.51.

§2.15(e) Possession of pets by park residents

§2.17(a)(3) Aircraft and Air Delivery: Delivery or retrieval of a person or object by parachute, helicopter or other airborne means

§2.17(c)(1) Removal of a downed aircraft

§2.23(b) Entering designated entrance fee areas or using specialized sites, facilities, equipment or services, or participating in group activities, recreation events, or other specialized recreation uses for which recreation fees have been established

§2.37 Soliciting or demanding gifts, money, goods or services (pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit issued under §2.50, §2.51, and §2.52.

§2.38(a) Explosives: Use, possess, store, transport explosives, blasting agents

§2.38(b) Explosives: Use or possess fireworks or firecrackers

§2.50(a)Conducting a sports event, pageant, regatta, public spectator attraction, entertainment, ceremony, or similar events.

§2.51(a) Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions or views in groups exceeding 25 people

§2.52 Sale or distribution of printed matter that is not solely commercial advertising (printed material that is solely commercial advertising is prohibited) in groups exceeding 25 people

§2.60(b) Livestock use

§2.61 Residing on federal lands

§2.62(a) Memorialization: Erection of monuments

§2.62 (b) Scattering human ashes from human cremation

§4.11(a) Exceeding of established vehicle load, weight and size limits

§5.1 Advertisements (display, posting or distribution)

§5.3 Engaging in or soliciting any business in park areas

§5.4 Commercial passenger-carrying motor vehicles

§5.5(a) Commercial filming and still photography activities are subject to the provisions of 43 CFR part 5, subpart A

§5.7 Constructing or attempting to construct a building, or other structure, boat dock, road, trail, path, or other way, telephone line, telegraph line, power line, or any other private or public utility, upon across, over, through, or under any park areas

36 CFR §2.1 - PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Collecting natural materials from the park is generally prohibited. However, Traditional gathering practices may be authorized in accordance with 36 CFR §2.6, or where specifically authorized by federal statutory law, treaty, or in accordance with § 2.2 or § 2.3. Collecting by the public may be done in accordance with §2.1(c), for the following fruits, nuts, berries edible fungi or unoccupied seashells to be gathered by hand for personal use or consumption. Edible fungi must be cut (not pulled). This must be done in accordance with the noted size, quantity, collection sites and/or possession and consumption restrictions below.

Collection of any firewood within the monument is prohibited without an NPS issued firewood collection permit. Only dead and down wood may be collected for this use, with a permit.

One (1) pint per person, per day, wherever found, for immediate consumption for:

- Elderberries Sambucus mexicana
- Gooseberries Ribes roezlii var. roezlii
- Currants- Ribes cereum var. cereum, Ribes inerme var. inerme
- Fungi, edible varieties only

It has been determined that the minimal collection of the above edible plants will not negatively impact the plant or habitat.

36 CFR §2.2 - WILDLIFE PROTECTION

The following are conditions and procedures for transporting lawfully taken wildlife through the park:

- The carcass must be tagged in accordance with state law
- Game must be kept out of sight as much as practicable
- Only on established roads or trails
- Carcasses can only be transported by a direct route that avoids areas of high visitation and is not allowed overnight in the park

The following provisions are in accordance with §2.2 (a)(2) to prohibit the feeding, touching, teasing, frightening or intentional disturbing of wildlife nesting, breeding or other activities. Willfully approaching, remaining, viewing, or engaging in any activity within 50 yards of bears, or within any distance that disturbs, displaces, or otherwise interferes with the free unimpeded movement of wildlife, or creates or contributes to a potentially hazardous condition or situation is prohibited.

In accordance with §2.2 (e), all areas of the monument are closed to the viewing of wildlife with the use of artificial light without a permit. This includes the use of infrared lights/beams.

This is necessary to prevent harassment and poaching of wildlife within the boundaries of the monument. Artificial lighting used to attract wildlife may induce stress and disrupt mating/nesting activities of wildlife.

36 CFR §2.5 – RESEARCH SPECIMENS

Taking plants, fish, wildlife, rocks, or minerals is prohibited except in accordance with other regulations of Chapter I of 36 CFR or pursuant to the terms and conditions of a specimen collection permit. Qualifying researchers must be in compliance with the General Condition for Scientific Research and Collecting Permit as described under the National Park Service Research Permit and Reporting System.

All environmental compliance issues and minimum requirement analysis for research conducted in the wilderness, must be resolved prior to commencement of specimen collecting.

36 CFR §2.10 – CAMPING AND FOOD STORAGE

Camping is only allowed with a permit within the following designated areas:

- Camping is not allowed within the National Monument boundaries except within designated sites within Campground Loop A and Campground Loop B
- Camping is only allowed in designated sites in Campground Loops A or B with a valid permit or administrative authorization from the Superintendent
- Ropes and hanging devices may damage trees and prevent safety hazards to humans and wildlife
- Insect traps may kill a variety of wildlife

Reds Meadow Road reconstruction project closures limit access to all campsites within the National Monument. Ongoing infrastructure improvement projects require areas of Campground Loop A for construction staging, workspace, and accommodations for work crews. Other provisions support wildlife protection and human safety. Food-storage lockers must be used where provided. If not provided, the following conditions apply:

- Hard-sided residences and facilities without bear-resistant food-storage lockers: All food items must be stored inside and not be visible from the exterior of the building.
- **Canvas-sided structures:** Food items must be stored in food lockers, refrigerators fitted with latches that are properly latched, or other animal resistant container that is approved for use.
- **Vehicles:** From sunset to sunrise, food items must not be stored inside a vehicle unless food is not visible or odoriferous from the outside of the vehicle. Food items must not be stored in vehicles overnight.
- In all other areas: In a properly closed bear resistant portable food container that is allowed for use in the monument by the NPS. A list of approved animal resistant food storage devices are available on the Devils Postpile National Monument website.
- Disposal of food items and associated trash must be done in fully enclosed locking or bear resistant trash receptacles or dumpsters.

Definition: For the purpose of the following food storage restrictions, "food items" includes any human food, beverage, pet food, grain or other sweet stock food, food tainted garbage, food tainted equipment, toiletries such as soap, toothpaste, and cosmetics, and any creams, ointments, or lotions. Food containers include any object designed to contain food such as ice chests, coolers, food packaging, and grocery bags whether or not they contain food, or any object that contains food such as a pack or stuff sack. Such items shall be stored or disposed of consistent with these regulations.

Use of food-storage lockers and animal resistant storage containers support wildlife protection, human safety and reduce the potential for animal-related property damage.

36 CFR §2.11 – PICNICKING

- Conditions for the storage of food, as noted in section 2.10, are in effect for all picnic areas
- Picnicking in Campground Loop A is not allowed when posted

Ongoing infrastructure projects may require temporary closure of Campground Loop A for picnicking during demolition and construction.

<u> 36 CFR 2.13 – FIRES</u>

The lighting or maintaining of fires is prohibited, except in the following designated areas and/or receptacles under the following conditions.

Designated Areas:

- Devils Postpile Campground for permitted and authorized campers only
- Park residential area for residents only

Additional conditions:

- Fires are only allowed within NPS-provided fire rings
- When the fire danger exceed Moderate Level, all areas of the National Monument are closed to the lighting or maintaining of a fire
- All fires must be completely extinguished with no burning material remaining. If portable barbecue grill is used, all ashes/coals must be thoroughly extinguished and cooled and then removed from the park or placed in a fully enclosed trash receptacle

These conditions are implemented to reduce the potential for uncontrolled fires within the National Monument.

36 CFR §2.14 - SANITATION AND REFUSE

Conditions for the disposal, containerization, or carryout of human body waste are as follows:

- Toilet paper and all other garbage must be packed out
- In non-developed areas, solid human waste must be buried 6-inches deep in the soil, greater than 100 feet from • any body of water or campsite, and out of sight of a trail

This determination was made in support of health, visual quality, and visitor enjoyment.

<u>36 CFR §2.15 – PETS</u>

Pet excrement must be disposed of in accordance with the following conditions:

 Pet feces in all areas of Devils Postpile National Monument must be properly disposed of in trash containers by the person responsible for the pet

This determination was made in support of health, visual quality, and visitor enjoyment.

36 CFR §2.16 – HORSES AND PACK ANIMALS

The use pack animals is prohibited outside of the following trails, routes or areas designated for their use:

- Pack Animals are allowed on the John Muir Trail •
- Pack Animals are allowed on the Pacific Crest Trail
- Pack Animals are allowed on the Kings Creek Trail
- Pack Animals are allowed on the Rainbow Falls hiking trail, up to its junction with the stock trail that leads to the . hitching posts near Rainbow Falls, and downstream of the hitching post, for the trail to Lower Rainbow Falls.
- Pack animals are not allowed in areas designated on the official Devils Postpile Stock Use Map. This includes no • pack animals on the Postpile Loop Trail or on Soda Springs bridge that connects the Postpile Trail to the King Creek Trail. The Devils Postpile Stock Use Map is available online at Stock Use (nps.gov).

Definition: The following animals are designated as pack animals for purposes of transporting people and/or equipment within Devils Postpile National Monument Horses, Mules, Burros, and Llamas.

Other conditions concerning the use of pack animals:

- The use of animals other than those designated as "pack animals" for purposes of transporting equipment is • prohibited
- In the event of injury or fatality of pack animal(s), NPS personnel must be contacted as soon as possible to work with the owner/caretaker of the animal to manage the scene for public safety and humane treatment of the animal. All remains must be removed from the monument.
- The only horse crossing of the upper Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River within Devils Postpile National • Monument is at the Stock Bridge indicated on the Devils Postpile Stock Use Map, along the John Muir Trail, near the middle of the eastern monument boundary
- No river crossings are allowed in open water
- Grazing is not allowed anywhere in the monument
- Off trail/cross country travel is prohibited. Establishing new trails and short cutting trails/switchbacks is prohibited
- Stock parties must travel in single file whenever possible. Stock should be inspected and cleaned by handlers • prior to entering the monument. Stock users must inspect for and remove any plant parts, seeds, or soil that may have adhered to animals, tack, clothing, or equipment. Any foreign material incidentally brought into the monument must be bagged and disposed of in garbage containers.
- Areas that serve as introduction points for invasive or nonnative plants (such as staging areas, hitching posts, or

nearby sites), will be regularly inspected within the Monument and treated as necessary

- Permit holders are responsible for removing accumulated horse manure in the monument throughout the entire operating period. The Rainbow Fall's stock trail and hitching post must be checked for manure in accordance with their permit to transport it out of the monument in a manner which does not disperse seeds.
- Stock users are encouraged to purge their animals on pellets, rolled grains, fermented hay, or certified weed free forage for three days prior to entering the monument
- Stock users are encouraged to use California-certified Weed Free Forage (baled or loose hay, or hay cubes when hay products are used as supplemental forage within the monument. They are also encouraged to use commercially processed pellets, rolled grains, fermented hay, or other feed products that have similarly high levels of mechanical milling, heat treatment, and/or anaerobic fermentation that destroys invasive seeds.

These provisions are in place to reduce potential impacts to resources, offer multiple ways to experience Devils Postpile National Monument, reduce the potential for user conflicts, and promote a safe and enjoyable visit.

<u>36 CFR §2.21 – SMOKING</u>

The following portions of the park, buildings, structures and/or facilities are closed to smoking as noted:

- All public buildings and public areas (including restrooms)
- Within 25 feet of any building, except those used as a residence
- Other areas as posted
- Smoking while traveling on trails is prohibited. Persons who wish to smoke must stop and remain in one location until they have extinguished their smoking material

Smoking in these areas may pose a health hazard to visitors and residents through smoke exposure or increased potential to ignite a fire.

36 CFR §2.35 – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

The following areas are closed to consumption of alcoholic beverages:

- Historic Ranger/Visitor Contact Station and amphitheater unless a temporary permit to sell and/or consume alcoholic beverages has been issued by the Superintendent
- Amphitheaters and other sites designated for interpretive programs unless a temporary permit to sell and/or consume alcoholic beverages has been issued by the Superintendent
- Parking lots

The consumption of alcoholic beverages in the specified locations is contrary to the purpose for which they were established and maintained and is contrary to the interest of public safety for the visiting and traveling public.

36 CFR §2.50 - SPECIAL EVENTS

Information about how to apply for an NPS Special Use Permit or a Commercial Use Authorization permit is available on the Devils Postpile National Monument Website at <u>Devils Postpile National Monument Permits (nps.gov</u>). Written applications for permits must be submitted to the Superintendent by email <u>DEPO_CUA@NPS.Gov</u> or mailed to P.O. Box 3999, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 at least 30 working days prior to the date desired for the event.

- Permits are required for any special event utilizing park areas. A minimum of 30 days advanced notice is requested for approval of the event or activity. See the National Monument website for more information
- Consideration will be given to those activities where there is a meaningful association between the National

Monument resource area and the event, and the observance contributes to visitor understanding of the significance of the park area

- The permittee must abide by all conditions and amendments to the permit
- Special events such as walk-a-thons, training events, races, endurance runs or competitive events, commercial or otherwise, will not be permitted in wilderness areas
- Accredited academic educational groups visiting the monument for purposes of its significance are not required to get a permit. However, if the vehicle length is greater than 25 feet, NPS must be advised of arrival date and estimated time and coordinated with to ensure safer passage on narrow road.

NPS permit processes enable applicants to be aware of and adhere to responsible land use provisions.

36 CFR §2.51 -- DEMONSTRATIONS

Demonstrations of more than 25 people may be allowed within designated park areas with a permit. Groups of fewer than 25 people may not require a permit in accordance with provisions set forth in 36 CFR§2.51. More information about how to apply for a permit is available on the Devils Postpile National Monument website at <u>Devils Postpile National Monument Permits (nps.gov)</u>. Written applications for permits must be submitted to the Superintendent by email <u>DEPO_CUA@NPS.Gov</u> or mailed to P.O. Box 3999, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 at least 30 working days prior to the date desired for the event. The activity must not conflict with any scheduled NPS function or program.

The following location are designated as available for demonstrations:

• The Devils Postpile Amphitheater and its immediate surroundings. The location is shown on the attached map entitled, "Designated First Amendment Site"

Limiting the size of groups and locations to gather reduces the impact on the natural and cultural resources and reduces potential visitor use conflicts.

36 CFR §2.52 -- SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATTER

Sale or distribution activity by 25 persons or fewer may be conducted without a permit within designated park areas in accordance with the provisions set forth in 36 CFR §2.52. More information about how to apply for a permit is available on the Devils Postpile National Monument website at <u>Devils Postpile National Monument</u> <u>Permits (nps.gov)</u>. Written applications for permits must be submitted to the Superintendent by email <u>DEPO_CUA@NPS.Gov</u> or mailed to P.O. Box 3999, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546.

36 CFR §2.62 - MEMORIALIZATION

The scattering of human ashes from cremation is prohibited, except pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit. More information about how to apply for a permit is available on the Devils Postpile National Monument website at <u>Devils Postpile National Monument Permits (nps.gov</u>). Written applications for permits must be submitted to the Superintendent by email <u>DEPO_CUA@NPS.Gov</u> or mailed to P.O. Box 3999, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. This practice may be done in accordance with the following general conditions:

- The remains to be scattered must have been processed by pulverization after cremation. The scattering of human ashes by persons on the ground is to be performed out of sight of park visitors and at least 100 yards from any trail, road, walkway, parking area, developed facility, watercourse, or body of water.
- Scattering of cremated remains from the air is prohibited.
- Ashes must be scattered over an area large enough so that they will not accumulate in one place.
- No marker of any kind may be left to commemorate the event.

- No publicity is to be given to this activity.
- The use of a commercial, for-profit venture to distribute cremated remains in the park is prohibited.
- Except for the permit authorizing person(s) to scatter cremated human remains, nothing shall be construed as authorizing an entry or activity otherwise prohibited or restricted by law or regulation.

This determination was made to ensure that this practice does not pose a risk to resources or hinder others enjoyment of the National Monument.

36 CFR §4.10 - TRAVEL ON PARK ROADS AND ROUTES

Park roads open for travel by motor vehicle are those indicated below. Public Access Roads are indicated on the Official Map and Guide for Devils Postpile National Monument available online at <u>Devils Postpile National</u> <u>Monument Map (nps.gov)</u>.

Public Access Roads:

- Devils Postpile Road: from intersection of Reds Meadow Road extending approximately one third mile to the Devils Postpile National Monument Historic Ranger / Visitor Contact Station
- Loop A Road: dirt road that provides access to the Day Use Areas, Parking, Campground Loops A and B
- Reds Meadow Road: extending eight miles from Minaret Vista Station to the road's end at Reds Meadow Resort and Pack Station. This road is located outside of the NPS Devils Postpile National Monument boundary on lands that are managed by Inyo National Forest.

Non-Public Roads that are only open for Administrative Access:

- Residential Area Access Road: administrative access dirt road that extends from the Visitor Contact Station bus drop-off loop at the end of Devils Postpile Road to the Employee Facility, park housing units, offices, and storage areas
- Maintenance Access Road: administrative access dirt road, located approximately 0.2 miles northeast of the Visitor Contact Station bus drop-off loop at the end of Devils Postpile Road. This road accesses utility, storage, and maintenance staging areas

Specifying where vehicle access is allowable, avoids potential impacts to resources from unauthorized off-road and cross-country vehicle use.

36 CFR §4.11 – VEHICLE LOAD, WEIGHT AND SIZE LIMITS

The following load, weight, and size limits, which are more restrictive than State law, apply to the roads indicated and may be further defined under the terms and conditions of an NPS issued permit.

• Single vehicles over 25 feet long are prohibited on the Devils Postpile Road and Loop A Road without a permit.

The following vehicles are exempt from this permit requirement:

- Government vehicles
- Mandatory ESTA Shuttle Buses
- Vehicles with current/valid handicap placards displayed
- Vehicles with a permit issued by the Superintendent

Visitors with disabilities and Accredited Educational Groups traveling in vehicles over 25 feet should contact the monument to coordinate access and parking options in advance of their arrival at the National Monument.

The Devils Postpile Road is about 1/3 of a mile long and extends from just below the junction with the Minaret/Reds Meadow Road to the Visitor Contact Station. Due to the narrow and winding character of the road, larger vehicles cannot easily negotiate the turns, and therefore may present a risk to other vehicles. Limiting vehicle length to 25 feet decreases the risk of motor vehicle accidents, enhances response times for emergency vehicles on the road, and reduces risks to the resources, for other vehicles and pedestrians within the developed area of the monument.

Vehicles exceeding 25 feet may park at either the Pumice Flat or Reds Meadow Resort parking areas that are managed by Inyo National Forest and ride the shuttle bus during the shuttle bus operating season to visit the monument.

Parking within the developed area is limited and consists of unpaved parking areas situated among numerous trees. Maneuvering and parking large vehicles in confined spaces and high pedestrian traffic presents risks to people, vehicles, and resources. Longer vehicles parked across several parking lanes creates parking lot congestion and may cause resource damage when parked on vegetation and overhanging branches and may inhibit emergency vehicle access.

36 CFR §4.21 – SPEED LIMITS

The following speed limits are established for the routes/roads indicated:

- Speed limit for motor vehicles and bicycles on the Loop A Road from the Visitor Contact Station to parking • areas, Day Use Areas, and Campground Loops is 5 mph
- The speed limit on the Devils Postpile Road is 10 mph or less if safety conditions warrant slower speeds. •

The monument access road (Devils Postpile Road) is approximately 1/3 mile long, has sharp curves and is very narrow in several areas and a slower speed limit decrease risks and increases response time.

36 CFR §4.30- BICYCLES

Except as specified in this Compendium, the use of an e-bike within Devils Postpile National Monument is governed by State law, which is adopted and made a part of this Compendium. Any violation of State law adopted by this paragraph is prohibited. A person operating a bicycle on any park road, parking area, administrative road or designated trail is subject to all sections of this part that apply to an operator of a motor vehicle, except 36 CFR§ 4.4, 4.10, 4.11, 4.14, and 4.15.

Traditional bicycles and e-bikes are not permitted in federally designated wilderness areas, nor on trails where motor vehicles are permitted within the National Monument. Possessing an electric bicycle in a wilderness area established by Federal statute is prohibited. A person operating or possessing an electric bicycle is subject to the following sections of this part that apply to bicycles: CFR 36§ 4.12, 4.13, 4.20, 4.21, 4.22, 4.23, and 4.30(h)(3)-(5).

Within Devils Postpile National Monument:

- Bicycle use is permitted on park roads, parking areas (hardened parking surfaces), and where general motor • vehicle use is allowed by the public.
- Bicycle use is not allowed on trails within the Devils Postpile National Monument. •
- E-bikes are permitted where traditional bicycles are allowed.
- E-bikes are prohibited where traditional bicycles are prohibited. •

Definition: An "Electric Bicycle" (E-Bike) is a two- or three-wheeled cycle with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of not more than 750 watts that meets the requirements of one of the following three classes:

Class 1 electric bicycle: An electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider

is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

- Class 2 electric bicycle: An electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle, and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
- Class 3 electric bicycle: An electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour.

Designating where bicycles are allowed and what types of motorized vehicles are allowed in designated areas reduces the potential for user conflicts and potential injuries.

36 CFR §4.31 – HITCHHIKING

Hitchhiking or soliciting transportation is prohibited except in the following designated areas and under the following conditions:

- The designated location for hitchhiking is at the exit point of the bus drop-off loop area
- Hitchhikers must be off the paved roadway on the shoulder, and visitor safety and traffic flow must not be adversely affected

Designating a single location for this practice within the National Monument reduces the potential for vehicle congestion and pedestrian to vehicle user conflicts.

36 CFR §5.3 – BUSINESS OPERATIONS

Engaging in or soliciting any business in park areas, except in accordance with the provisions of a permit, contract, or other written agreement with the United States, except as such may be specifically authorized under special regulations applicable to a park area, is prohibited.

Commercial use authorizations may be issued only to authorize services that:

- Are determined to be an appropriate use of the park
- Will have minimal impact on park resources and values
- Are consistent with the purpose for which the unit was established, as well as all applicable management plans and park policies and regulations

Commercial use authorizations are required for but not limited to:

- Commercial vehicles arriving in the monument including buses and/or transportation services.
- Outfitter guides.
- Organized events.
- Non-profit institutions and government entities will only be required to obtain commercial use authorization when they generate taxable income from the authorized use, otherwise, they may request authorization through a special use permit application or agreement.

APPENDICES:

- 1) Devils Postpile Stock Use Map <u>https://www.nps.gov/depo/planyourvisit/upload/StockUseSmall-2.pdf</u>
- 2) Devils Postpile National Monument Official Guide and Map https://www.nps.gov/depo/planyourvisit/upload/DEPOmap1.pdf
- 3) Map Designated First Amendment Site <u>https://www.nps.gov/depo/planyourvisit/upload/First-Amendment-Sites-DEPO-2011.pdf</u>

APPENDIX 1: DEVILS POSTPILE STOCK USE MAP

Devils Postpile

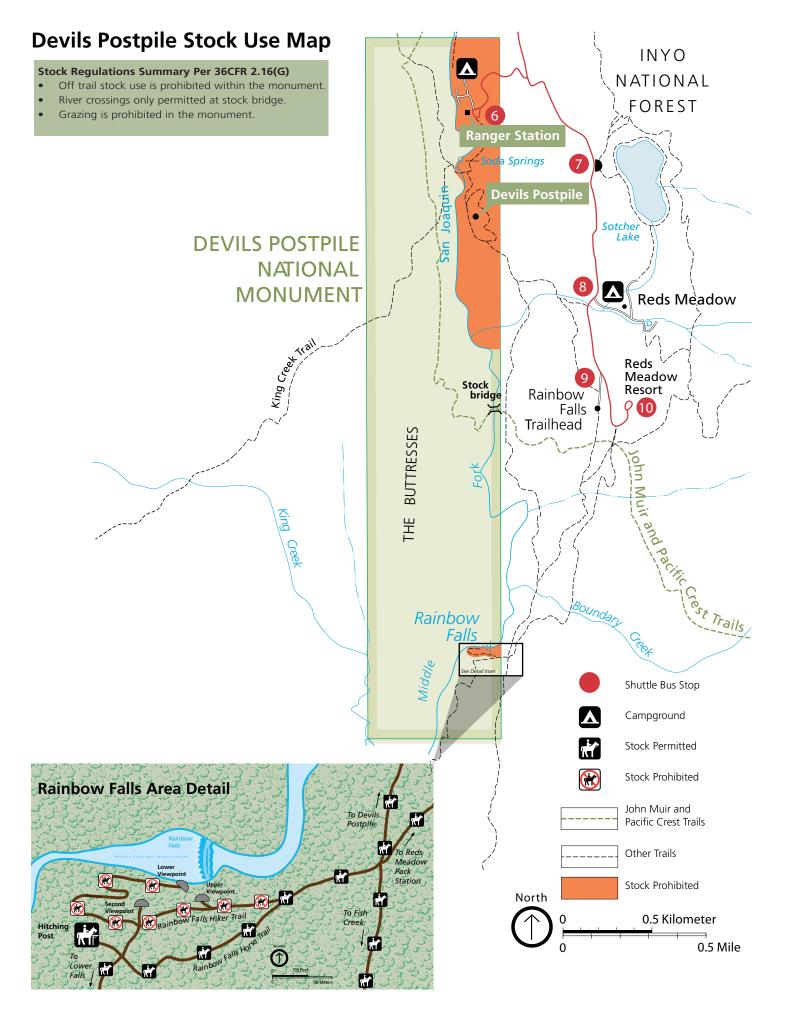
National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

National Monument California

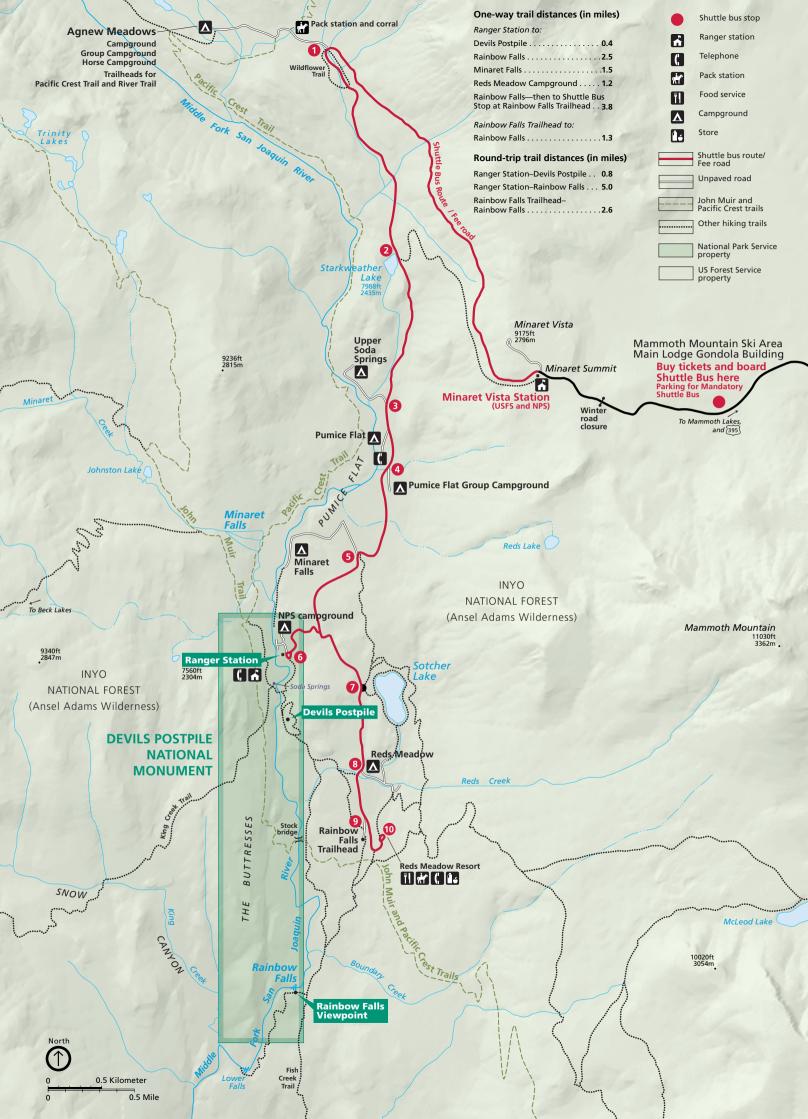


Many people enjoy animal packing in the backcountry. In Devils Postpile National Monument most people on horseback are either visiting the Rainbow Falls area, or are crossing the park on the John Muir or Pacific Crest trails. As you travel with your stock along monument trails, we encourage you to minimize your impact on the land and toward other visitors. Practicing good trail etiquette helps ensure that everyone enjoys their visit; it also establishes a better understanding between the different wilderness users, and that benefits everyone.

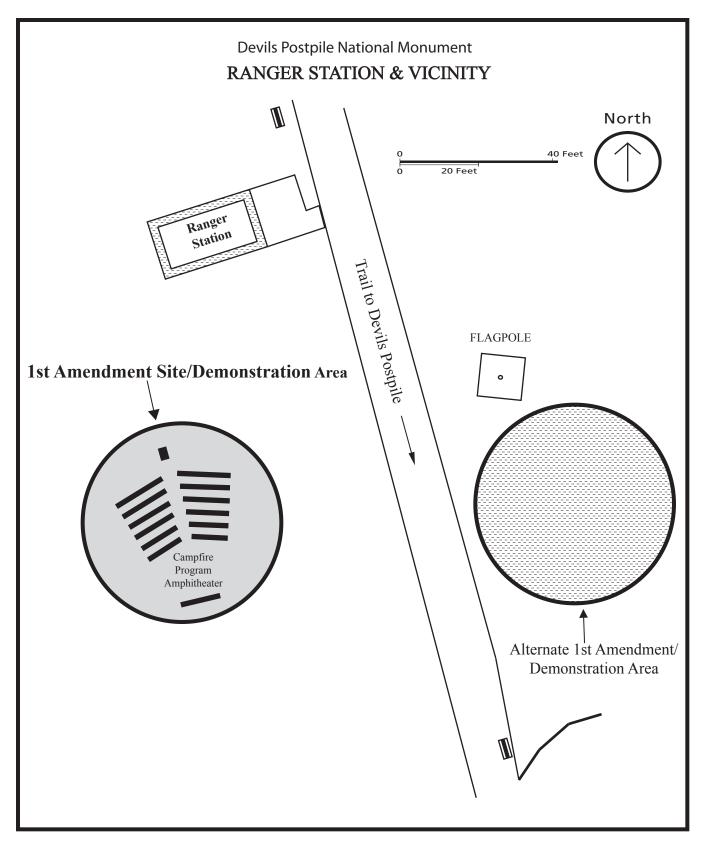
Day Trips: Devils Postpile National Monument	 Where can I park my horse trailer? The best place to access the monument with a horse trailer is from the Rainbow Falls Trailhead. Parking is limited and turnarounds are tight. Horse trailer parking is not permitted at the Devils Postpile parking area and the trail from there to the postpile formation is not open to stock. Where can I cross the river? Cross the upper middle fork of the San Joaquin River at the stock bridge indicated on the map near the eastern boundary of the park. The bridge located near Soda Springs is not designed to handle stock and is closed to stock use. Open river crossings are prohibited for your safety and to reduce the impact to the fragile riparian ecosystem. 	 Which trails can I use within the monument? The John Muir Trail, Pacific Crest Trail, King Creek Trail and most of the Rainbow Falls Trail (see the map on back for details). Can I let my stock graze? Grazing of stock is not permitted anywhere within the monument. Please consider packing weed-free feed for your stock. The spread of exotic plants in the Sierra Nevada has compromised many Sierran meadows, forests, and wildlife. Each year, Devils Postpile spends hundreds of staff and volunteer hours to remove these noxious weeds. Can I travel off trail? Stock are not allowed off trail anywhere in the monument.
Camping with Stock	Can I camp overnight with stock? Backcountry camping is not allowed within the monument. This applies to backpackers as well as stock users. The only place to camp within the monument is in the Devils Postpile Campground. The campground can not accommodate stock. Is there anywhere in the Reds Meadow Valley where I can camp with my stock? Yes. There are three horse campsites provided in the Agnew Meadows Campground.	There are hitching posts, but no corrals and no water troughs. Water faucets are available. Weed free hay is appreciated. For reservations visit www.recreation.gov.
Trail Courtesy and Regulations	Stay on the trails. Monument staff, partners, and volunteers work hard to maintain the monument trails. Your efforts to "Leave No Trace" minimize impact on wildlife, soil, and vegetation. Ride single file on the trail; do not shortcut trails or switchbacks. When traveling on switchbacks and steep trails with limited visibility, travel slowly and be cautious of other approaching trail users. Muddy stretches and most snow covered portions of the trails should be crossed rather than skirted.	Few hikers know that they should pull off to the downhill side of the trail when encountering stock. You may need to ask hikers to stop while you pass. Conversation while passing each other may reduce the chances of frightening the horse. Are you planning a longer trip into the Inyo National Forest? You can get detailed informa- tion regarding wilderness stock use by calling (760) 924-5500, or visiting their website at: www.fs.usda.gov/inyo.



APPENDIX 2: DEVILS POSTPILE NATIONAL MONUMENT OFFICIAL GUIDE AND MAP



APPENDIX 3: DESIGNATED FIRST AMENDMENT SITE MAP



Designated First Amendment Site