



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Pinnacles National Park
5000 Highway 146
Paicines, California 95043-9770

IN REPLY REFER TO:

10D (PINN-VRP)
Closure Order #: 20-12 (Closures and Fire Restrictions)
October 9, 2020

Closures, restrictions and public use limits:

Closure Order – Portion of a Park Area: Under the authority provided to the Superintendent in 36 CFR 1.5, the follow park areas and facilities are closed, effective immediately, until further notice:

- The Bear Gulch Caves and Balconies Cave are closed.
- The Bear Gulch Nature Center in the East unit of the park and Pinnacles Contact Station/Visitor Center in the west unit of park are closed.
- The West Entrance of Pinnacles National Park is open for day-use from 07:30 AM until 8:00 PM. It is closed at all other times.
- The park shuttle system on the East side of the park will not be in operation, parking will be limited to available and designated parking spaces. Once parking areas beyond the campground on the East side of the park are full, parking will be limited to the overflow parking area behind the campground store.

Authority: 36 CFR 1.5(a)(1)

Fire Restrictions: Under the authority provided to the Superintendent in 36 CFR 2.13, the following activities are restricted in Pinnacles National Park, effective immediately, until further notice:

- No building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or cooking fire (including charcoal fires) within Pinnacles National Park.
- Use of charcoal grills, either park provided or personally owned, is prohibited within the park.
- Smoking is only allowed within enclosed vehicles, RVs or trailers or within buildings where smoking is allowed.
- Use of propane or gas stoves for cooking purposes only is restricted to designated campsites in the Pinnacles Campground and park residential areas. Use of propane or gas

stoves elsewhere within the park is prohibited. Use of propane or gas fire pits is prohibited.

- Fireworks and pyrotechnic devices are prohibited within the park.
- Driving or parking vehicles off road and on vegetation is prohibited.
- Use of any flame or spark producing device (e.g. lighters, matches, candles, lanterns, fire pits, etc.) in the park is prohibited except as needed to light gas stoves in designated campsites and residential areas or within park residences. This restriction does not apply to gas powered water heaters or furnaces in self-contained recreational vehicles.

Authority: 36 CFR 2.13(c)

Notice: This administrative order applies to all individuals subject to the regulatory authority of the National Park Service (NPS) within the boundaries of Pinnacles National Park, including park visitors, government employees, concession employees, park residents and stakeholders, except as follows: trail, road, and area closures do not apply to park employees requiring access to perform essential operational functions and park residents accessing park housing and common areas.

Finding: The NPS issues this administrative order for the purposes of maintaining public health and safety and providing for resource protection during the COVID-19 pandemic emergency and the current period of high fire danger in the park, the local area, and throughout California. This order is consistent with San Benito County, Monterey County, State of California and U.S. Government public health directives. Current public health directives require social distancing to slow the spread of COVID-19. Limiting visitors in areas where social distancing is not possible under the current access restrictions will best allow that persons outside of a household or living unit stay at least 6 feet from each other. This will best provide protection to park visitors and park staff from virus transmission and allow adherence to current CDC, state and local health agencies' guidance.

Most of California remains under the threat of unprecedented and dangerous fire conditions with a combination of extreme heat, significant wind events, dry conditions, and firefighting resources that are stretched to the limit. Due to these conditions, the NPS is implementing these temporary fire restrictions to provide for public safety, resource protection, and reduce the potential for human caused fire starts.

This order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until further notice. This order rescinds all previously issued park closure notices. The effectiveness of this order will be assessed on an ongoing basis, and the order will be modified or rescinded when conditions warrant.

Approval: _____

_____10-xx-2020_____

Superintendent

Date