

For Immediate Release November 3, 2009
Contact Adrienne Freeman: (559) 565-3113

Cedar Grove Bridge Replacement proposed in Kings Canyon National Park

Public Invited to Comment on Environmental Assessment

The National Park Service in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration is proposing to replace the Cedar Grove Bridge near Cedar Grove Village in Kings Canyon National Park. The environmental assessment (EA) was released today and is available for public review and comment.

The Cedar Grove Bridge was constructed in 1939. In its current condition, the bridge does not provide a safe, durable, sustainable passage for vehicles at Cedar Grove, is unsafe for pedestrians and bicycles, and restricts the free-flowing character of the South Fork of the Kings River, particularly during high water and flood events. This environmental assessment evaluates two alternatives: alternative A, the no action alternative and alternative B, the management preferred alternative. Alternative B includes the replacement of the existing 142-foot bridge with a new 280-foot bridge in the same location. The bridge would be designed to accommodate vehicles and pedestrians. Lengthening the bridge and removing the hardened materials from the embankment would reduce constriction and improve the natural processes in this segment of the river.

The EA may be reviewed and public comment submitted online at the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment website, <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/seki>. You may also request a printed or CD version of the EA by calling (559) 565-3102. If you do not have website access, you may direct comments regarding this project to the park in writing by sending an e-mail to seki_planning@nps.gov, or by mail or hand delivery to:

Superintendent
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
Attn: Cedar Grove Bridge Project
47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271

All comments must be received by December 4, 2009.

Commenters should be aware that your entire comment including your personal identifying information may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Anonymous comments will not be accepted.

-- NPS --