

I. 36 CFR §1.5 – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES. AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USE OR ACTIVITIES

(a)(1) The following visiting hours and public use limits are established for all or for the listed portions of the park, and the following closures are established for all or a portion of the park to all public use or to a certain activity:

Public Use Limits:

- **The Pinewood Picnic Area is closed to all use from dusk to dawn, except by permit.**

The Giant Forest area has a long history of bear problems that goes back to at least the 1920's. It typically was one of the worst areas in the park for bear problems of every type: bears breaking into cars, cabins, and the cafeteria; bears bluff charging visitors; bears stealing food; and occasionally bears injuring visitors. When the buildings were removed the human food source was eliminated and the bear problem decreased significantly. The bears, however, did not leave the area and they will be attracted to food items in the Pinewood Picnic Area. Keeping food items away from bears at night is more difficult than during the day because staff is not on duty to patrol and provide food storage information, and trash may not be properly disposed of.

- **The Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow Road, when the Park's shuttle bus system is in operation and closure signs are posted, is closed to single vehicles over 22 feet long and all combination vehicles.**

The closure provides increased visitor safety by decreasing the chances of motor vehicle accidents; and reducing emergency response times by limiting the number of large vehicles on this narrow rough road, while still providing access opportunities to all park visitors.

- **The Mineral King Road is closed to motorized vehicles, except where provided by permit, deed of right-of-way, or administrative use, from November 1 until the Friday preceding Memorial Day Weekend at the Mineral King Road Gate near the Sequoia National Park boundary.**

The purpose of this gate is to deter access to illegal marijuana growing, to insure public health and safety, and to protect natural and cultural resources.

Closures:

- **The following roads are closed to public vehicular traffic during the winter months:**
 - The Mineral King Road, above the Conifer Gate at milepost 17.64, from November 1 until the Friday preceding Memorial Day weekend.
 - The Middle Fork Road from Hospital Rock to Buckeye Flat Campground and to the old corral area at the Middle Fork Trailhead.
 - The Crystal Cave Road.
 - The Crescent Meadow / Moro Rock Road.
 - The Redwood Saddle Road.
 - The Panoramic Point Road.
 - All roads within the Cedar Grove area.

These roads are closed due to snow accumulations and/or muddy conditions, and there is no winter maintenance on these roads to keep them passable to vehicular traffic. Trash collection service, water, and other visitor services are not available along these road corridors during the winter months. Staff to meet these needs, provide for visitor services and resource protection throughout the winter months is cost prohibitive. Unlimited vehicular access on an unmaintained road during the winter months can adversely affect the condition of the road surface, damaging it, and increasing both the time and cost needed to recondition the road in the spring

- **All roads within the Dillonwood Grove area beyond locked gates.**

Dillonwood is a recent acquired property with Sequoia National Park. The area was a small community is owned by the park. All properties are currently under evaluation for use. The roads, buildings and use areas are not maintained. For visitor safety, the area is closed to vehicular traffic.

- **The following areas are closed to public entry, except when accompanied by a park official, or when entry is authorized by the Superintendent:**
 - All facilities and buildings used for the storage, treatment, or transmission of electricity, gas, telephone, waste disposal, and domestic water. The roads that service these facilities are also closed to public access when gated and posted.

These facilities are closed to public entry to ensure both employee and visitor safety.

- All park helibases and helispots.

The reason for this closure is for both employee and visitor safety. Operations involving helicopters, especially during takeoffs and landings, are regarded as hazardous. Standard operating practices set forth in both the Department of Interior Manual and the Interagency Helicopter Operations Guidelines require that the access of persons and their movement around helicopter operations be strictly controlled.

- All management class 4, 5, and 6 caves. Reference: Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks Cave Management Plan, approved January 1999.

These caves are closed to public entry because for the following reasons:

Class 4 – These caves have been recently discovered and require further exploration and/or inventory of features to evaluate how they should be managed, or they have been known for years but have not been sufficiently inventoried.

Class 5 – These caves contain paleontological, archeological, biological, or other resources of special scientific value that would be easily altered, even by careful use of the cave.

Class 6 – These caves are closed to all use because of extreme, unavoidable hazards (rockfall, disease, dangerous atmosphere, etc) for even the most skilled caver.

- **The demolition and construction areas of Giant Forest are closed to public entry where posted.**

This temporary closure is in effect to protect park visitors from the hazards associated with demolition, construction, and rehabilitation efforts.

- **The following former roads, which are located in proposed wilderness or being considered for wilderness suitability, are closed to public vehicular traffic, including bicycles:**
 - The Colony Mill Trail from the Crystal Cave Road to the Sequoia National Park boundary.
 - The North Fork / West Boundary Trail from Yucca Flat to Hidden Spring.
 - The Redwood Canyon Trail.

These former roads, which are located in proposed wilderness or being considered for wilderness suitability, have been closed by locked gates and/or boulder placements to protect natural and cultural resources from illegal activities and the effects of uncontrolled vehicle tracks. It is also necessary to protect the backcountry experience of park visitors seeking solitude and quiet. The Colony Mill Trail, the North Fork / West Boundary Trail, and the Redwood Canyon Trail are located in an area proposed

for wilderness designation, and are presently being managed as wilderness. The Wilderness Act prohibits wheeled vehicle access.

- **Areas around and on Moro and Chimney Rocks are subject to seasonal closures in order to protect nesting Peregrine Falcons. The closures will be from April 17 through August 30, unless otherwise posted.**

- **CHIMNEY ROCK SEASONAL AREA CLOSURE DESCRIPTION:**
Being within ¼ mile of the border between the United States Forest Service (USFS) and the National Park Service (NPS) occupied by Chimney Rock as defined by the following points along this border:

The following describe a triangle that encompasses the area closure:

From 332897e, 4058397n southeasterly along the USFS/NPS border to 333321e, 4057713n (GPS Data Format UTM NAD83)

From 333321e, 4057713n northwesterly, in a straight line to 332486e, 4058128n (GPS Data Format UTM NAD83)

From 332897e, 4058397n in a straight line southwesterly to 332486e, 4058128n (GPS Data Format UTM NAD83)

See attached map of the area

This closure includes, but is not limited to, the following climbing areas: Chimney Rock and Chimney Spire, The Monk, Camp Ridge (Crystal Wall), and Chartreuse Dicephalon. Access to Sasquatch Spire, Moccasin Ridge, and Moccasin Spire would also be closed at this time.

- **MORO ROCK SEASONAL AREA CLOSURE DESCRIPTION:**
The entire rock structure is closed to climbing except the area accessed by stairs that is enclosed by railings.

If it is determined that an area is not occupied by Peregrine falcons, the closure will be lifted and posted as open.

Chimney and Moro Rocks has been a traditional nesting site for Peregrine Falcons, a species endangered in California. These areas are expected to continue to be a nesting site for the foreseeable future. Peregrines are extremely sensitive to human activity and may abandon their nests if disturbed. When upset they have been known to dive bomb intruders. This a safety issue for visitors as well as the falcon.

- **Climbing or attempting to climb the giant sequoia (Sequoiadendron giganteum) trees.**

Giant sequoia trees are found only on the western slope of the southern Sierra Nevada. Many of the world's finest specimens are located within Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. Every effort is made to protect them from potential damage and for park visitors to view them undisturbed by other humans.

- **Soda Springs Creek drainage, in southern Sequoia National Park, is closed to fishing.**

Soda Creek is closed to all fishing to protect a sensitive population of Little Kern golden trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss whitei).

(a)(2) The following areas have been designated for a specific use or activity, under the

conditions and/or restrictions:

- **The use of flotation devices, boats, or rafts is prohibited on the South Fork of the Kings River from Bubbs Creek Bridge downstream to the Kings Canyon National Park boundary.**

The management of this portion of the South Fork of the Kings River must meet the needs of all park users; including but not limited to photographers, fishermen and those visitors wishing to see undisturbed sections of a free-flowing river. This closure is also necessary due to safety hazards, such as fallen trees, to rafters or floaters. Removal of these hazards would be contrary to park resource management policy.

- **Generators may not be used in the following areas of Lodgepole and Dorst Campgrounds: Sites 36- 60 (RV's and tents) and sites 69 – 150 (tents only) in Lodgepole; and sites 74 – 127 (tents only) in Dorst.**

The use of generators adds an unnatural sound to a natural setting and experience. By restricting the areas in which generators may be used parties using generators and those preferring a natural ambiance will both receive opportunities to enjoy their park camping experience.

- **Generators maybe used in Lodgepole and Dorst Campgrounds only during the following hours: 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. and in designated sites.**

The use of generators adds an unnatural sound to a natural setting and experience. By restricting the hours during which generators may be used; parties using generators and those preferring a natural ambiance will both receive opportunities to enjoy their park camping experience.

- **Passenger buses are subject to the following conditions/restrictions on all park roads within Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks:**

Buses must shut down their engines when not underway. Idling shall not exceed 5 minutes. Buses are allowed to idle up to 15 minutes to allow the driver to complete their legally required Pre Trip Vehicle Inspection.

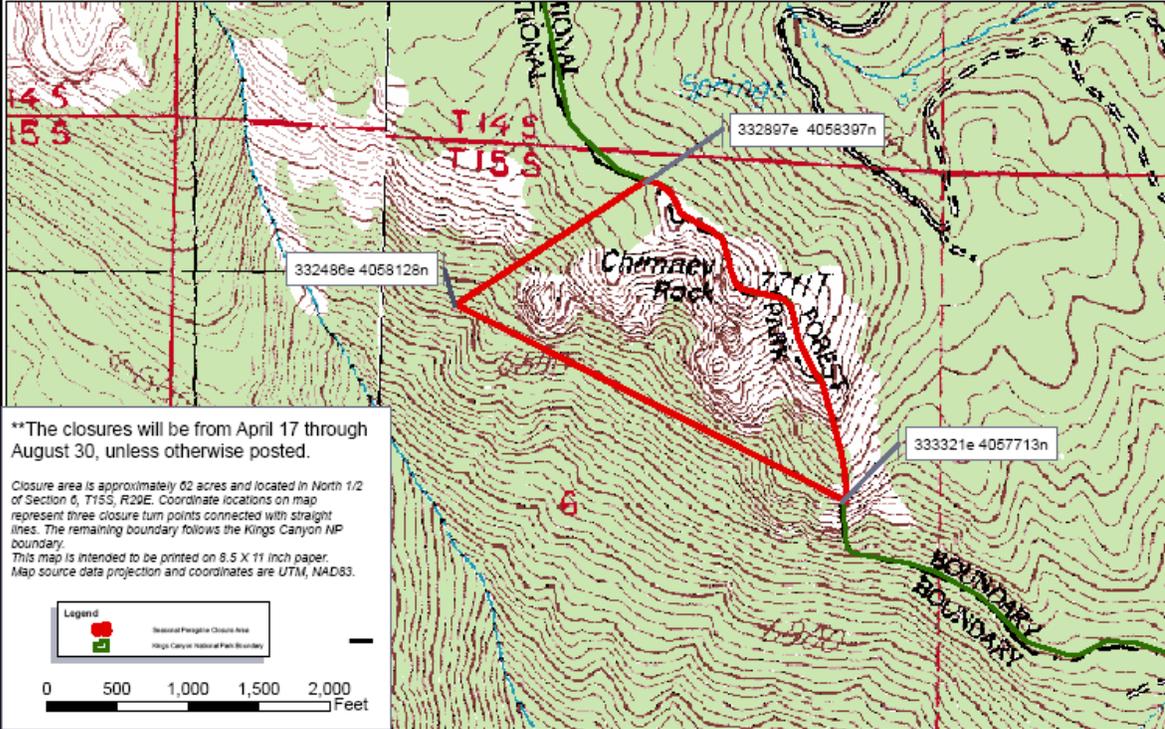
The idling of bus engines adds unnecessary exhaust fumes to the air and diminishes the enjoyment by park visitors of the peace and tranquility of the park. This regulation conforms to the state bus regulations.

36 CFR §7.8 – SPECIAL REGULATIONS, SEQUOIA and KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

1. CHIMNEY ROCK SEASONAL PEREGRINE CLOSURE AREA MAP



Chimney Rock Seasonal Peregrine Closure Area** - Kings Canyon National Park



**The closures will be from April 17 through August 30, unless otherwise posted.

Closure area is approximately 62 acres and located in North 1/2 of Section 6, T15S, R29E. Coordinate locations on map represent three closure turn points connected with straight lines. The remaining boundary follows the Kings Canyon NP boundary.
This map is intended to be printed on 8.5 X 11 inch paper.
Map source data projection and coordinates are UTM, NAD83.

Legend

- Seasonal Peregrine Closure Area
- Kings Canyon National Park Boundary

