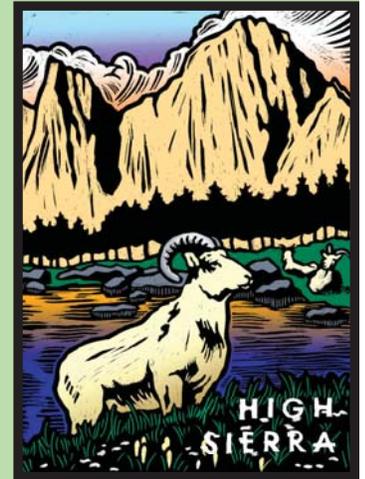
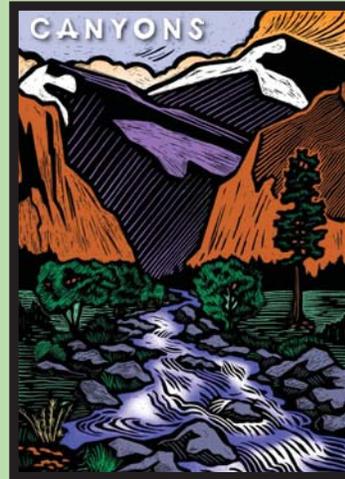




Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks & Sequoia National Forest/Giant Sequoia National Monument

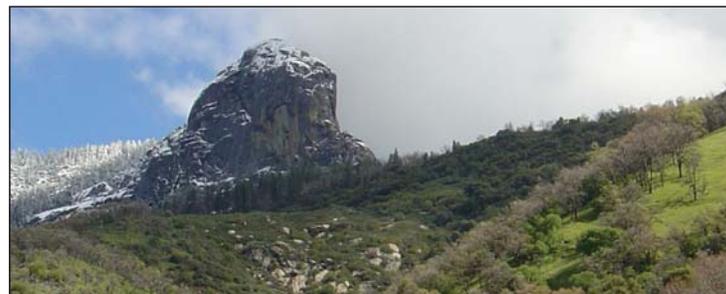


Did you know that:

- The temperature drops some 3½° F for every 1000 feet you go up in elevation? When it's 70° F in the San Joaquin Valley below, it may be in the 40°s in the Giant Forest. Be prepared!
- Because of this drop in temperature, you can go back in time as you go uphill. Flowers that have bloomed and dried in the foothills may just be getting started in the sequoia groves.
- **Interesting evidence** is coming from sediments at the bottom of some high-country lakes in the Sierra. It indicates that the lakes were more challenged by acidic rain, snow, and dust during the mid-1900s than they are now. The improvement started around 1970, when the Clean Air Act went into effect.
- **Sequestration:** Due to these mandatory, across-the-board federal budget cuts, some visitor services in these parks have changed. See pages 8 and 9 for facility schedules. Ask for updates at visitor centers.

- The newly named *Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers National Monument* in Ohio has strong ties to these parks. In the course of his groundbreaking career, Col. Young served as the first African-American superintendent of a national park right here, in 1903. He and the Buffalo Soldiers under his command made great strides in preparing these young parks for a long, healthy future. Look an exhibit about them in Lodgepole Visitor Center.

- Visitors like you contribute almost \$122,000,000 to the economies of cities and towns within 60 miles of these parks. Nationwide, \$13 billion is spent by people from all over the world when visiting our country's national parks!
- Cedar Grove Road opens April 26 to *day use* only. Take drinking water and food with you; none is available until May 22, when camping and lodging open for the season. See page 9.



SPRING MAY BRING VERY DIFFERENT CONDITIONS AT DIFFERENT ELEVATIONS: Moro Rock and the Giant Forest may still wear white above the green skirts of their foothills. Significant snowstorms have hit these parks as late as June. Icy spots may linger on roads in the shade. Don't be too surprised if there are times when tire chains are required on park roads.

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