



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sequoia and Kings Canyon
National Parks

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Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release: June 1, 2013

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Missing Man Found at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS, CALIFORNIA—National Park Service rangers and other staff found a missing man at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks today. The 63-year-old man, from Bakersfield, California, and his vehicle were found 300 feet down a mountain approximately ¼ mile north of a popular vista (“Deer Ridge”) in Sequoia National Park. The man, who had been missing since May 28, is alive. The extent of his injuries is unknown at this time. The patient was transported to the roadway by technical rescue via helicopter and then to Kaweah Delta Hospital by Exeter Ambulance, part of the Tulare County Emergency Medical Services.

A full-scale search ensued on May 30-31, 2013. Various other agencies participated in the search for the missing man, including the Tulare County Sheriff’s Office, California Highway Patrol, Fresno County Sheriff’s Office, and the Sequoia National Forest. A total of 25 park staff searched for the man by foot, vehicle, and helicopter on Friday, May 31. A total of 42 park staff searched for the man by foot, vehicle, and helicopter on Saturday, June 1.

The man was originally reported missing by family members on May 28. The parks’ Dispatch Office received a “Be on the Lookout” notice from the Bakersfield Police Department with details about the man’s vehicle on May 28. Family members contacted park staff late in the day on May 30 with the belief that the man may have been traveling to Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks or other public lands in the area. Video surveillance confirmed that the man had entered the southern (Sequoia) entrance of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks via Highway 198.

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SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, which lie side-by-side in the southern Sierra Nevada in central California, serve as a prime example of nature's size, beauty, and diversity. With the world's largest trees (by volume), grand mountains, rugged foothills, deep canyons, vast caverns, and the highest point in the lower 48 states, it is a place that attracts 1.6 million visitors a year from across the U.S. and the world. Visitor activities vary by season and elevation. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/seki or call 559-565-3341.