



SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

& SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST/GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT

FALL 2006 GUIDE



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Know before you go!

WEEKDAY TRAFFIC DELAYS ~
 Major repairs are underway to a 1-1/2-mile section of the Generals Highway in Sequoia Park. Between Hospital Rock Picnic Area and the Giant Forest, it includes the Amphitheater Point overlook.

Planned work schedule: Monday-Friday 6am up to 6pm, with traffic permitted to pass once per hour. Uphill traffic will start through on the hour, then downhill traffic will pass. Aim to be at the work zone 10 minutes before the hour. Directions may come from flaggers or pilot cars or after hours automatic lights (a nine-minute wait).

Signs will be posted when periods of night work are needed on Sundays - Thursdays, 8pm to 6am. Traffic will be able to pass through at midnight only. The day schedule remains the same.

While waiting, put the car in park and keep your foot off the brake so that brakes don't overheat! Last restrooms before the construction are at Hospital Rock and at Giant Forest Museum.

NEW PATHS & PARKING TO SEE THE SHERMAN TREE ~

To find the main trail, take the Wolverton Road (off the Generals Highway between the Sherman Tree and Lodgepole) and follow signs to the parking area. From there you walk *down* to the tree.

A handicapped-accessible parking area and trail are along the Generals Highway; from there you walk *up* to the tree on a gentler slope, but you need a permit to park there (ask at visitor centers if you need one). See *Highlights* on page 6 for details on the best way to get to this giant tree.



DRIVE TIME TO CONSTRUCTION ZONE FROM:
 Highway 198 Entrance (above Three Rivers) - 30 minutes
 Foothills Visitor Center - 25 minutes
 Potwisha Campground - 16 minutes
 Hospital Rock Picnic Area - 10 minutes
 Giant Forest Museum - 15 minutes
 (See details in "Weekday Traffic Delays" to the left.)

Above: The Foothills Entrance Station off Highway 198 in 1927. NPS Photo.

NEW EXHIBITS FOR KINGS CANYON ~ New exhibits at the renamed Grant Grove Visitor Center showcase not only the big trees, but the expansive High Sierra and the huge canyon that gave the park its name. They were funded by entrance fees, donations, and grants. Stop in and learn about preserving the three great natural landscapes of this park.

BIG TREE CLOSES BIG STUMP ~ The Big Stump entrance station at Highway 180 has moved to the Big Stump Picnic Area for much of this fall. See page 9 for details.

WE GET BY WITH A LOT OF HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS ~

The Sequoia Fund has a long track record of helping these parks meet the challenges of tight federal budgets. Basic needs are covered, but

there is much still to do. This is where the Sequoia Fund comes in. Its mission is to find ways to do important things that the parks could not otherwise afford. The list of such projects is long and always growing: Without the Fund, there would be no Beetle Rock Education Center and Family Nature Program in Giant Forest. Other projects include summer staffing for bear management programs, restoring vegetation, and a mobile exhibit about the park fire program. An ongoing initiative explores the parks through art and new perspectives about the meaning of these parks. A major new project will place our rangers in Central Valley classrooms to help teach about science and the national parks. Learn more by visiting www.sequoiafund.org or contact their office at 559-739-1668.