



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Sequoia & Kings Canyon  
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## Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release – September 5, 2013  
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### Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks Ease Fire Restrictions

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks are easing fire restrictions from Stage 2 to Stage 1 based on shorter days, cooler temperatures, and moderated weather and fuel moisture readings.

However, restrictions remain in place due to continued drought conditions and fire danger. Beginning on September 9, the following restrictions are in place:

- No wood or barbecue fires are permitted below 6,000 feet, except in designated campgrounds. This includes Ash Mountain Picnic Area, Hospital Rock Picnic Area and Wilderness/backcountry travel below 6,000 feet. Gas or propane stoves may be used at all elevations.
- No smoking below 6,000 feet is permitted, except within a developed area, a campground, an enclosed vehicle, or a designated smoking area.

Previous restrictions included a prohibition on wood or charcoal fires in the lower elevation campgrounds and at all elevations for Wilderness travel.

Fire restrictions reduce the possibility of an accidental human-caused fire that could threaten visitors and employees during times of high fire danger. Most human-caused fires are along roadsides, near developed areas, and where visitor come to enjoy the parks.

These restrictions will remain in effect until further notice.

Like most of California, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks has experienced a long, dry summer.

Visitors to these parks, by following these steps, can help ensure that their visit is safe, enjoyable, and helps to protect these beautiful parks from unwanted fire.

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