Giant Sequoias

Giant sequoias are icons of resilience. They were once well-adapted to survive thousands of years in a landscape visited by fire, drought, and beetle attacks, but climate change is putting them at risk from all three! The 2020 Castle Fire and 2021 KNP Complex Fire burned so intensely that thousands of large sequoias were killed. Hotter droughts and beetle attacks are taking their toll as well. Park scientists fear that despite their incredible toughness, without action, more of these magnificent giants may die in alarming numbers.

More low-intensity wildfire, prescribed fire, and other approaches to reduce unnatural accumulations of dead trees and other vegetation will help restore groves to healthier conditions, though more research is necessary to understand what sequoias need to survive for the next two millennia. But perhaps the most powerful defenders of sequoias are those who come to the parks and learn, teach others, and take steps toward a world where the sequoias visible today stand for hundreds or thousands of years more, for future visitors to stand beneath in awe.

The 2021 KNP Complex Fire killed thousands of mature sequoia trees in the Redwood Mountain Grove. © Daniel Jeffcoach

COVID Safety

Masks may be required in federal buildings or on park shuttles. Please check signage outside visitor centers and other buildings and at shuttle stops. These requirements are based on CDC’s COVID-19 Community Level tool. When nearby counties are at low-medium risk, masks are optional in buildings.

Construction Projects

This summer, two construction projects are underway to improve park roads and utilities.

Beginning May 9, work is scheduled along the road corridor in Cedar Grove, where sections of underground electrical lines will be replaced. Expect average delays of 15 minutes, with traffic control.

Also, a road preservation project is scheduled this year throughout Sequoia National Park. Work will tentatively begin in June or July in the Foothills. Short stretches of road will be sealed and resurfaced. If you encounter one of these construction zones, please plan on a delay of up to 30 minutes. Stop at Foothills Visitor Center to learn where construction is happening during your visit.
Contacts
Cell service
Cell service is extremely limited here, and is mainly available for some networks near entrance stations.

EMERGENCY — DIAL 911
No coins are needed in pay phones for 911 calls.

Sequoia & Kings Canyon (NPS)
(559) 565-3341 (24 hour): Recorded information is available for road conditions, weather, current fires, and more.

Sequoia National Forest/ Monument (USFS)
(559) 338-2251, fs.usda.gov/sequoia
Yosemite National Park (NPS)
(209) 372-0200, nps.gov/yose
California Road Conditions (CalTrans)
(800) 427-7623, dot.ca.gov

GPS
GPS programs often misdirect travellers here. Use maps and signs, or ask for directions.

Web & Social Media
www.nps.gov/sekivisitwww.seki
@sequoiakingsnps
@sequoiakingsnps
@sequoiakingsnps

Frequently Asked Questions
Pets
Pets are not permitted on any trails in Sequoia and Kings Canyon. Pets must be kept on a leash at all times, or appropriately crated or caged. Pets cannot be left tied and unattended at any time. The leash must be no longer than 6 feet (1.8 meters) long.

Drones
Unmanned aircraft are not allowed in these parks. This includes drones and other remotely piloted vehicles.

Marijuana
Possession or use of marijuana and other controlled substances inside the national parks is prohibited. While California law provides for limited possession and use of marijuana, it remains an illegal drug under federal law, which is enforced within the parks.

Fire Restrictions
Fire restrictions may be in place at any time to reduce the possibility of accidental human-caused fire. Prohibited locations for wood or charcoal fires will be posted, especially in park campgrounds and in picnic areas.

Restrictions may increase throughout the summer as fire danger increases. Check for updates on park bulletin boards, at visitor centers, or by visiting go.nps.gov/sekifirerestrictions.

Firearms in these National Parks
People who can legally possess firearms under federal, California, and local laws may possess firearms here. You are responsible for understanding and complying with all applicable California, local, and federal firearms laws. Discharge of firearms in the parks is prohibited.

Free Mobile App
Install the NPS app for trip-planning information. Search for National Park Service in the iTunes or Google Play stores, and then choose Sequoia and Kings Canyon. Be sure to download content for use offline during your visit, as WiFi is limited in the parks.

Free Public WiFi Locations
Foothills Visitor Center (Sequoia National Park), Kings Canyon Visitor Center (Grant Grove).

Campground Reservations
Visit Recreation.gov or call (877) 444-6777 (TDD: 877-833-6777).

Delaware North (Authorized Concessioner)
Visit www.visitsequoia.com or call (866) 807-3598 for lodging reservations.

Cedar Grove Pack Station
(Authorized Concessioner)
Grant Grove: (559) 335-9292
https://grantgrovestables.com/
Cedar Grove: (559) 565-3464
cedargrovepackstation.com

Accessibility
We are committed to a continuing effort to improve the accessibility of our trails and facilities so they can be enjoyed by all. If you have questions or suggestions about accessibility, please email us at SEKI_Interpretation@nps.gov or call us at 559-565-3341.

Accessibility Guide
Ask at any visitor center for a printed accessibility guide. This new publication offers details about accessible park features by area and for different user groups. The information in the guide is also available online at go.nps.gov/SEKI-accessibility.

Visitor Centers
All visitor centers and museums have paved, flat paths leading from parking areas to information desks, exhibits, bookstores, water bottle filling stations, and restrooms. Cedar Grove Visitor Center is small, and may be difficult for people in wheelchairs to navigate. Mineral King Ranger Station has steps leading to the entrance and may not be accessible to people with mobility impairments.

Wheelchairs may be borrowed at no cost at Kings Canyon and Cedar Grove visitor centers, or at Giant Forest Museum. They can be used anywhere in the parks but must be returned by the end of the day, before each visitor center closes. Be prepared to provide your address and phone number.

Open captioning is available for films. Assistive listening and audio description are also available at Kings Canyon Visitor Center when the theater is open. Ask for a receiver at the information desk.

Wheelchair-Accessible Trails
General Sherman Tree Trail (Giant Forest): This short trail leads a few hundred feet from an accessible parking area to the General Sherman Tree, the largest tree on earth.

Big Trees Trail (Giant Forest): This level trail is a 0.75-mile (1.2 km) loop. It circles a meadow surrounded by giant sequoias.

Panoramic Point Trail (Grant Grove): This paved trail leads to views that reach deep into park wilderness. RVs are not permitted on this road.

Roaring River Falls (Cedar Grove): A 528-foot (160 m), shady walk features a powerful waterfall rushing through a granite chute. Park 3 miles (4.8 km) east of the Village road. Paved, relatively accessible.
You are Responsible for Your Safety

Beautiful, yet remote and rugged, these parks present hazards. Mountain weather changes quickly, trees fall without warning, and wild animals pose dangers. People cause other hazards by driving poorly, leaving campfires burning, and making bad decisions. Cell phones can’t be relied on and GPS directions may send you in the wrong direction. Every day, we help visitors who have emergencies. 

Please help us by being prepared—review these safety warnings. Your safety is in your own hands!

Explore Safely

- Avoid traveling alone. Tell someone your plans and expected return time.
- Take a map, water, flashlight, and extra layers of clothes. Do not rely on your phone's map or flashlight.
- Be alert for potential hazards above, around, and on the ground.

River Safety

While swimming in the parks’ lakes and rivers can be tempting, drowning is the primary cause of death here!

Rivers present great danger due to their swift currents and slippery rocks. In river-related deaths, many people did not intend to swim, but fell in. Currents are strong even during low water. Drop-offs and undertows are ever-present. Be vigilant.

Once in a river, getting out can be nearly impossible. Cold water rapidly saps your strength and hypothermia can set in quickly even if it is warm outside.

- Do not swim in areas with strong currents, or steep drop-offs.
- Do not swim near submerged trees or vegetation. They can trap you underwater.
- DO NOT leave children unattended.
- Swimming and alcohol or drugs do not mix. Swim sober.
- Wear sturdy shoes. Sharp objects in the water can cut bare feet.
- During storms, get out of the water and exit beach areas.
- NEVER SWIM ALONE.

Tree Hazards

Branches and trees may fall, whether dead or alive, and when there is no wind. Keep eyes and ears open. Run if you hear cracks or snapping from roots, trunks, or branches (sometimes there is no sound). Don’t linger under dead, cracked, broken, or hanging branches. Avoid spending any time under trees that are rotten at the base or have cracked bark that is peeling off the trunk.

West Nile Virus & Tick Bites

West Nile virus is passed by bites from infected mosquitoes. Human illness is not common but take steps to avoid mosquito bites. Ticks are common in grassy, brushy low-elevation areas. They can carry diseases that harm humans. Check yourself for these insects after walks; their bite is painless. Remove them carefully with tweezers and seek a doctor’s advice.

Rattlesnakes

Rattlesnakes are common in the Sequoia foothills and in the Kings Canyon at low elevations. Watch where you put your hands and feet! Do not harass or kill them; this is when most bites occur. Bites are rarely lethal, but tissue damage can be severe. If bitten, don’t panic and call 911.

Poison Oak

This common shrub grows up to 5,000 feet (1,524 m) in elevation, and can cause an itchy rash if you touch it. Poison oak has leaves in groups of three. Leaves are red and berries whitish in fall. The plant is bare in winter, and has shiny green leaves in spring. If you touch any part of it, wash skin and clothes with soap and warm water right away.

Air Quality

Poor air quality often affects the parks, especially during the summer. In summer months, ozone concentrations often exceed federal health standards. Ozone can have negative health effects, particularly for sensitive groups such as children, older people, and those with heart or lung disease.

For air quality forecasts, visit the park website or follow @SequoiaKingsAir on Twitter.

Plague & Hantavirus

Plague and hantavirus are associated with wildlife here, but cases of human infection are rare.

Rodents and their fleas may carry plague, which may infect humans when bitten. Hantavirus is an airborne virus that comes from infected deer mice. Typically people contract hantavirus after they clean areas or are in enclosed spaces with deer mice feces.

Keep Pets Safe

To keep pets and wildlife safe, animals must be on a leash at all times. Pets are vulnerable to tick and snake bites. Bears and deer have also been known to charge or attack dogs. Pick up all pet waste and dispose of properly. Pets are not allowed on any park trails. Do not leave pets unattended or in vehicles where they can easily overheat.

Don’t Lose Your Brakes

If you keep a foot on the brake for too long, brakes may fail. Instead, always downshift when going downhill. In automatic vehicles, put the gearshift on 1, 2, or L. The engine gets louder, but your brakes won’t overheat.
Camping

**Campgrounds Are Open By Reservation Only**

Reservations will be required for ALL park campgrounds, except South Fork. No first-come, first-served sites will be available. Due to increased demand, we expect campground availability to be limited. Make camping reservations at Recreation.gov or call (877) 444-6777; TDD: (877) 833-6777; or customer service (888) 448-1474. Reservations can be made up to one month in advance, with same day reservations allowed subject to availability.

**Campsite Amenities**

Each campsite has a table, food storage box, and accommodates up to six people and one vehicle. There are no RV hook-ups in the parks.

**Check-in and Check-out**

Check-in and check-out is at noon. If you have not checked in by noon on the second day of your reserved period, your site may be considered unoccupied and checked in by noon on the second day of your reserved period.

**RV and Trailer Length Limits**

If you’re driving an RV or trailer, check length limits on park roads and at campsites.

**Dump Stations**

RV dump stations are available at Potwisha and Lodgepole campgrounds, or for a fee at Princess Campground in Sequoia National Forest.

**Quiet and Generator Hours**

Noise should be audible in your site only. Quiet hours are 10 pm–6 am (no generators).

**Roadside Camping**

Roadside camping is not permitted in the park. Camp only in designated sites in campgrounds. In the national forest, it’s permitted unless posted otherwise.

**Fire Restrictions**

Fire restrictions may be in place at any time and can change when there’s a danger of wildfire. Campfires must be out cold before you leave. If it’s too hot to touch, it’s too hot to leave.

**Propane and Fuel Canisters**

Please recycle fuel canisters at home. Do not put them in park trash cans or leave them in the campground.

**Showers and Laundry**

Showers and laundry facilities are not available in the parks in 2022.

**Sequoia National Forest (U.S. Forest Service) Campgrounds (Near Grant Grove)**

**Hume Lake Area Campgrounds**

Princess, Hume Lake, Ten-mile, Landslide, Logger Flat Group, Aspen Hollow Group, and Convict Flat campgrounds (Reservation Only)

**Big Meadows & Stony Creek Area Campgrounds**

Stony Creek, Upper Stony Creek, Horse Camp, Buck Rock, Fire Group, Cove Group, and Big Meadow campgrounds

**Dispersed Camping**

Self-contained camping, with no water, restrooms, trash cans, or other amenities is permitted in the national forest (not in the national parks). Check with Sequoia National Forest for time and group size limits. Please follow Leave No Trace principles.

Free fire permits available at www.readyforwildfire.org/permits. If fire danger is high, open fires may not be allowed outside campgrounds. Permits are also available at Hume Lake Ranger District office.

**Lake Kaweah (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)**

**Near Three Rivers, California**

Horse Creek Campground

**Activities**

**Ranger Walks & Talks**

Free programs may be offered in the Foothills, Giant Forest, Grant Grove, Cedar Grove, and other locations. Check bulletin boards for schedules of ranger-led activities or ask a ranger at a visitor center.

**Junior Ranger Program**

Pick up a free booklet at any visitor center, complete the activities, and earn your badge!

**Interested in volunteering?**

To learn more about volunteering in the parks, please contact the Volunteer Office at (559) 565-4232 or seki_volunteer@nps.gov. Volunteers are needed for invasive plant control, special events, routine clerical and maintenance tasks, and much more! Individuals and groups welcome.

**Teachers & Parents, Take Note!**

Invite a ranger to your class, visit the parks with your school group, or download lesson plans. We also have activities for students and families that can be used before and after your visit, creating a more immersive experience. All education programs are standards-based and free! Visit nps.gov/seki/learn/education. And ask about the Every Kid Outdoors free pass for 4th-graders and their families!

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**Sequoia Parks Conservancy**

Sequoia Parks Conservancy, the official nonprofit partner to Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, welcomes you! We work hand-in-hand with the National Park Service to provide tours and retail services, fund critical projects, and protect and preserve park treasures for future generations. We help you make a deeper connection to the parks, so visit us online to learn more about everything we do. We've saved a place for you—come join us!

@SequoiaParksConservancy

@SeqParksCon

Shop our online store!

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**Crystal Cave**

Due to impacts from the KNP Complex Fire to the road and trail that lead to Crystal Cave, it will be closed for the 2022 season. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2023 when repairs are completed!

**Sequoia Parks Conservancy Adventures**

We’re here to help you have a fun and memorable journey in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. Join one of our park Adventures and we’ll connect you to the biggest trees, the darkest skies, and the wildest wilderness. Everything is here waiting. The only thing missing is you.

For more information, call (559) 565-4251, or visit www.sequoiaparks.org/adventures.
Safety in Burned Areas

Watch for falling trees.
Branches and trees may fall, whether dead or alive, even when there is no wind. Keep eyes and ears open. Listen for cracks or snapping from roots, trunks, or branches. Don’t linger under dead, cracked, broken, or hanging branches. Avoid spending any time under burned trees.

Don’t enter closed areas.
There are identified risks in these areas, including burned bridges, hazard trees, and sections of trail that are unstable due to erosion. Many of these hazards may be hard to spot.

Drive carefully.
Rocks, debris, and even downed trees may be present on roads at any time. Be alert and drive slowly, especially during rainy or windy weather. Follow tire chain requirements when they are in place. Watch out for animals.

Stay on trails. Turn back if dangers are present.
Though it may be tempting to wander, off-trail areas have hazards such as rolling rocks, holes, and unstable soils. Conditions in burned areas can change quickly. Turn around if you have difficulty following the trail, or encounter a problem that makes it unsafe to continue. Burned stumpholes or bridges may be common on some trails. Report dangerous conditions to park staff.

Be especially careful if it’s rainy or windy.
Whether you plan an auto tour, a walk around the sequoias, a wilderness trip, or camping, storms and wind make many burned area hazards even more dangerous. Consider waiting until the weather is better before you travel.

If you encounter dangerous conditions, turn back.
Conditions in burned areas can change quickly. Turn around if you see a problem and you’re not sure if it’s safe to continue. Report dangerous conditions to park staff.

Check at trailheads for information about potential hazards or closures.

Keep Bears Wild and Safe

Bears will grab unattended food and break into cars where food is visible. Some bears have become bold and aggressive because they have obtained human foods. Too often, these bears must be killed as they become dangerous. Food storage is key to keeping humans safe and bears alive.

In Wilderness
Hanging food often fails! Store all food in a bear-resistant storage container. These containers weigh less than 3 pounds (1.3 kg), hold up to 5 days of food, and fit in a backpack. Rent bear-resistant storage containers at park visitor centers. A list of approved containers can be found on our website. Metal boxes are located in a few wilderness locations.

Everyone
Don’t let bears approach you, your food, picnic area, or campsite. Wave your arms, make loud noises, and throw small rocks toward them (avoid hitting the face or head). Keep a safe distance, but be persistent. Abandoning your food teaches bears that foods come from humans; the bear may hurt a person in the future to get food. If a bear does get your food, NEVER try to get it back.

Touring and Picnicking
Food items MUST be stored in food storage boxes when provided. If no food storage box is available, food items must be inside your car trunk. If your vehicle doesn’t have a trunk, place food items low in the vehicle, out of sight, and keep windows closed. While picnicking, never move away from coolers and tables when food is out. Stay within arm’s length of food.

Campgrounds
Store food day and night in the metal food storage boxes provided (avoid using coolers that won’t fit; most boxes are 47" long x 33" deep x 28" high). Store ALL food, coolers, related items, and anything with an odor. Even non-food items must be stored 24 hours a day when not in use. This includes unopened cans and bottles. Make sure food storage boxes are completely latched. Food not properly stored will be impounded. Keep a clean campsite. Deposit garbage immediately in trash cans or dumpsters. Do not leave garbage unattended! Take child safety seats out of cars—the smells they absorb may attract bears.

Lodges
Remove all food and child safety seats from your vehicle.

Wildlife Viewing & Safety

Keep Wildlife Safe
Do not feed or touch ANY wild animals. All animals in the parks are wild. View animals at safe distances (the length of two city buses) or through binoculars. Never disrupt, approach, or disturb animals from behaving normally.

Keep Bears Wild and Safe

Bears can smell anything with a scent—such as hand sanitizer, cosmetics, toiletries, trash, and cleaning supplies—and will mistake these items for food. Store anything with an odor.

Mountain Lions and Bobcats
Rarely seen, bobcats are larger than house cats and have bobbed tails. Mountain lions (cougars) are much larger and have long tails. Cats usually run when seen. If you see a mountain lion that doesn’t run:

• Do not run; running may trigger pursuit.
• Pick up children.
• Try to appear as large as possible—don’t crouch down.
• Hold your ground or back away slowly while facing the mountain lion.
• If the mountain lion acts aggressively, wave your hands, shout, and throw stones or sticks at it.
• If attacked, fight back! Report any sightings.
Foothills

Explore the foothills, home to more species of plants and animals than the rest of these parks combined. Chaparral, oak woodlands, and river canyons offer spring wildflowers, hot summers, and mild winters.

Services and Facilities

Foothills Visitor Center & Sequoia Parks Conservancy (SPC) Park Store
Visitor center staff are available most days for information and trip planning. Exhibits are open with limited indoor capacity. Free WiFi is available, no password required. The SPC Park Store sells maps, books, clothing, and other items and rents bear canisters when open.

Wilderness Permits
Local permits for overnight travel are available 8 am–4 pm, at the Wilderness Office. Follow the dirt path to the right of the visitor center. Go to the Fire Management and Wilderness Office across the parking lot.

Marble Falls Trail
For a walk that offers short or longer options, park across the highway from Potwisha Campground (not in the campground). Near site #14, follow the dirt road along canals. Climb 3.7 miles (6 km) to reach the waterfall. High temperatures and little shade or water can make this trail dangerous.

Paradise Creek Trail
For a creekside walk, park at Hospital Rock Picnic Area and walk 0.6 miles (0.9 km) to Buckeye Flat Campground. Take the path across from site #28 and cross a footbridge over the river. Follow Paradise Creek (not the river) for 2 miles (3.2 km) until the trail grows faint.

Mineral King

Beginning May 25, climb the steep, winding road, the parks' highest, to its peak at 7,800 feet (2,377 m). Enjoy this remote, rugged place, or follow a trail into a vast wilderness.

Services and Facilities

Mineral King Ranger Station
Open 7:30 am–4 pm. Get trail and local information. Pay phones nearby at Cold Springs Campground and the Sawtooth Trailhead parking area.

Wilderness Permits
Local wilderness permits for overnight travel are issued at the ranger station, 7:30 am–4 pm.

Silver City Mountain Resort (private)
Cabins, gifts, showers, store, restaurant with a bakery and WiFi. No gas. Open 8 am–7 pm Monday–Thursday and 8 am–8 pm Friday through Sunday. Call 559-561-3223.

Cold Springs Nature Trail
Stroll through meadows and aspen groves on this slightly sloped, 1-mile (1.6 km) trail. Start at Cold Springs Campground.

Eagle Lake
Ascend the west side of the Mineral King Valley to a glacially carved tarn. This steep trail is 3.6 miles (5.7 km) one way, and begins at the end of Mineral King Road. After 2 miles (3.2 km), the trail splits. Turn left for Eagle Lake, or take the right-hand trail another 1.6 miles (2.5 km) for Mosquito Lake.

Paradise Ridge
Hike through sequoias to a ridge with views of the Great Western Divide. Park in the lot east of Atwell Mill Campground and walk past the campground to the trailhead. Climb 3.7 miles (5.9 km) to the peak of the ridge, or continue into wilderness.

Atwell-Hockett to Deer Creek
Walk through sequoias and an old sawmill to a waterfall. Park in the lot east of Atwell Mill Campground and walk toward the campground to the trailhead. This trail heads far into wilderness. Turn back in 1.5 miles (2.4 km) at Deer Creek.

Monarch Lakes
Upper and Lower Monarch Lakes lie at the foot of Sawtooth Peak, at the end of a 4.2 mile (one-way) hike. Since the trail follows a west-facing slope, it is best to get an early start. The trail passes through meadows, red fir forest, and the avalanche-scoured Chihuahua Bowl.

Protect your car from marmots!
Marmots in this area sometimes chew through vehicle wires and fuel lines. Drive over your tarp and then wrap it around your vehicle, covering wheel wells. Extra tarps may be available at the ranger station.
Welcome to the big trees. Here, free park shuttles will take you through the world’s biggest unlogged sequoia grove, home of the world’s largest tree. Park your car and discover serene meadows, rocky streams, and towering forests. Shuttles travel throughout the Giant Forest and Lodgepole area.

**General Sherman Tree**
Two trails lead to the world’s largest tree:
- **Main Trail** - Park at Main Sherman Tree Parking. This 0.5-mile (0.8-km) trail down to the tree has stairs and the walk back is uphill. If someone in your group can’t manage the uphill hike, consider hiking the accessible trail (see below), park at Lodgepole or Wolverton, and ride the shuttle.
- **Wheelchair-accessible trail from the highway** - A disability placard is required to park here.

**Congress Trail**
Park at Wolverton or Lodgepole shuttle parking. From the Sherman Tree, continue along this fairly level 2-mile (3.2-km) loop through the heart of the Giant Forest sequoia grove.

**Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow Road**
This 3-mile (4.8-km), dead-end road begins at Giant Forest Museum. Expect congestion and limited parking; this road is closed to vehicles on weekends and holidays. When the road is closed, ride the shuttle or hike to access Moro Rock and other features. If you have a disability placard or wilderness permit, you can be granted access—inquire at Giant Forest Museum.
- **Col. Young Tree** - Park at the Auto Log and walk to a sequoia named for a notable Buffalo Soldier. Charles Young was the park’s first Black superintendent, and was recently promoted (posthumously) to Brigadier General.
- **Crescent Meadow - Sequoias surround this fragile wetland. Several trails start here, including the 1-mile (1.6-km) route to Tharp’s Log.**

**Beetle Rock**
A short walk along a wheelchair-accessible trail from the Giant Forest Museum parking area. Take in spectacular views with ample space.

**Big Trees Trail**
This level loop has trailside exhibits about sequoias. Start at Giant Forest Museum for a 1-mile (1.6-km) round-trip walk. If you have a disability placard, park at the trailhead for a 0.75-mile (1-km) loop.

**Tokopah Falls**
Park at Lodgepole Campground parking lot, just past the campground kiosk. The 1.7-mile (2.7-km) trail starts in Lodgepole Campground and ends at a viewpoint near the cascades of Tokopah Falls. Return the same way for a 3.4-mile (5.5 km) round-trip hike. Be careful around the water; cold, swift currents are difficult to escape.

**Beetle Rock**
A short walk along a wheelchair-accessible trail from the Giant Forest Museum parking area. Take in spectacular views with ample space.

**Little Baldy**
This 3.4-mile (5.5-km) out-and-back trail has 700 feet (200 m) of elevation gain and offers one of the best views in the park. The trailhead is 1.5 miles (2.4 km) south of Dorst Campground. Parking is limited, so get here early or later in the day.

**Panther Gap**
Parking available at Wolverton. Under 6 miles (10 km) round trip, this trail follows the Lakes Trail before veering off to Panther Gap. Ascend 1000 feet (300 m) to the gap and amazing views.

**Sunset Rock**
Park at Giant Forest Museum where this level, 1.4-mile (2 km) round-trip trail begins. It ends on top of a granite dome with sweeping views of the foothills.

**Cahoon Meadow**
This 5-mile (8-km) out-and-back starts at Lodgepole Campground. Park at Lodgepole Campground parking lot, just past the campground kiosk and cross the bridge. Hike along the Twin Lakes Trail on your way to this secluded meadow.

**Bear Hill Trail**
Park at Giant Forest Museum and walk toward the Big Trees Trail. The Bear Hill Trail junction will be on the right. Check maps at the museum’s Trail Center kiosk for more information.

**Parking Areas**
See shuttle routes on page 12 of the newspaper. By parking at these parking areas, you can take advantage of touring Sequoia by shuttle.

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**Services and Facilities**

**Giant Forest & Sequoia Parks Conservancy (SPC) Park Store**
The museum will be open most days for information and trip planning. Exhibits are also open, with limited indoor capacity. The SPC Park Store sells maps, books, and other items and rents bear canisters when open.

**Wilderness permits**
Local permits for overnight travel are issued at the museum from 7 am to 3:30 pm.

**Sequoia Shuttle**
Beginning May 26, take the free, wheelchair-accessible Sequoia Shuttle to sites throughout Giant Forest and Lodgepole. Turn to page 12 for more information.

**Lodgepole Market**
Open daily. Supplies, clothing, groceries, ATM, and pay phone.

**Wuksachi Lodge (including food services)**
The lodge sits at an elevation of 7200 feet, 2 miles north of Lodgepole Visitor Center. Open year-round, 24 hours a day. Payphones, WiFi, and ATM available. Reservations are recommended: call (866) 807-3598.

Food services (indoor and outdoor seating, and full-serve bar):
- Breakfast: 7 am–10 am
- Lunch: 11:30 am–3:30 pm
- Dinner: 5 pm–8:30 pm.

Gift Shop: Open 8 am–8 pm. Souvenirs and minimal supplies.

*Operated by Delaware North Concession*
Grant Grove

Wander through shady sequoia groves and hike to bird’s-eye views of distant wilderness. From busy Grant Grove Village to lofty Panoramic Point, Grant Grove offers a chance to explore with amenities nearby.

Grant Tree Trail
This 0.3-mile (0.5 km) paved, loop trail leads to the world's second-largest living tree. Drive 0.1 mile north of Grant Grove Village and look for road signs to access parking area. On the trail, look for tactile exhibits about sequoias.

North Grove Loop
This lightly traveled, 1.5-mile (2.4 km) loop offers a close look at sequoias and a quiet forest walk. Start at the Grant Tree bus and RV overflow parking area.

Panoramic Point
A narrow road leads to a short, paved trail to a viewpoint with beautiful Sierra vistas. RVs and trailers are not permitted on the road, which begins behind John Muir Lodge. Park Ridge Trail (2.4 miles/3.8 km) also begins here.

Big Stump Basin
Visit the site of a historic, 19th-century lumber mill and count the tree rings of the Mark Twain Stump. Start the 1.5-mile (2.4-km) round-trip trail from Big Stump Picnic Area. Trail construction will be occurring on weekdays.

Buena Vista Trail
Take a 2-mile (3.2-km) round-trip hike to a spectacular view. The trail gains 400 feet (121 m) through mixed forest and wildflowers and onto granite slickrock for scenes of Redwood Canyon and Sierra Crest summits. From Grant Grove Village, go 6 miles south on Generals Highway to the trailhead.

Cedar Grove

The remote area of Cedar Grove sits deep in Kings Canyon, surrounded by sheer granite cliffs. Listen for the rushing Kings River, bird songs, and wind rustling through stands of cedar trees.

Roaring River Falls
Take a short, shady walk to a powerful waterfall. The paved, moderately-sloped trail begins 3 miles (4.8 km) east of Cedar Grove Village.

Mist Falls
Travel through forest and chaparral along the Kings River to one of the park’s largest waterfalls. The 9-mile (14.4-km) out-and-back hike begins at Road's End and climbs 800 feet (250 m) to the cascade.

Canyon View Roadside Exhibit
The "U" shape of the canyon, apparent from this viewpoint, reveals the area's glacial history. This roadside feature is 1 mile (1.6 km) east of Cedar Grove Village.

Zumwalt Meadow
This 1-mile (1.6 km), out-and-back trail follows the river, crossing to a view of the meadow. For a longer hike continue on, traversing a rocky slope that overlooks the meadow before connecting on the River Trail to Roads End or Roaring River Falls. Park at the trailhead 4.5 miles (7.2 km) east of Cedar Grove Village. Please enjoy the view of meadows from formal trails and do not enter the meadow. Stepping on meadow plants damages leaves and roots, preventing growth and causing lasting effects.

Don Cecil Trail to Sheep Creek Cascade
Park in the visitor center parking lot or the large pullout east of the visitor center turnoff on Highway 180. Take the Don Cecil Trail about 0.8 mile (1.3 km) to a cascade and bridge across Sheep Creek. This out-and-back hike is 1.8 miles (2.8 km) but can be extended past the cascade for a longer trek.

Services and Facilities

Grant Grove Village
- Market*: Open 8 am–8 pm. Groceries, supplies, ATM, and grab-and-go food.
- Courtyard*: Indoor/outdoor seating, to-go meals. Open 7 am–10 am, 11 am–4 pm, 4 pm–9 pm.
- Gift Shop*: Open 10 am–7 pm. Souvenirs, supplies, clothing, and ATM.
- Post Office: Open Monday–Friday, 9 am–4 pm; 24-hour lobby. (559) 335-2499.
- John Muir Lodge and Cabins*: Located behind the village meadow. Reservations are recommended: call (866) 807-3598.

Cedar Grove Village & Lodge
- Market*: Open 7 am–9 pm. Groceries, supplies, ATM, and pay phone.
- Grill & Snack Bar*: Open 7 am–10 am, 11:30 am–2:30 pm, 5 pm–9 pm.
- Cedar Grove Lodge*: Reservations are recommended: call (866) 807-3598.

*Operated by Delaware North
Explore Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of the Sequoia National Forest. Although not managed by the National Park Service, this area connects immense protected landscapes.

Services and Facilities

Sequoia National Forest-Hume Lake District Office
Located at 35860 Kings Canyon Road (Highway 180), 19 miles (30 km) west of the Big Stump park entrance. Open weekdays, 8 am – 4:30 pm. Visit www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia or call 559-338-2251 for more information. Visit Recreation.gov for camping reservations (all sites require reservations).

Dispersed Camping

Dispersed camping is available in some areas. Fire permits are available at www.readyforwildfire.org/permits. Permits are also available at Hume Lake Ranger District office, when open.

Montecito Sequoia Lodge (permittee)
This lodge has cabins, a restaurant, hotel, WiFi, and seasonal and children’s activities. Call (559) 565-3388 for reservations and information. The lodge is located on the Generals Highway, 9 miles (14 km) south of Grant Grove.

Hume Lake Village (on private land)
Gas, market, snack shop, and a pay phone are available at this privately-run camp. Hours vary seasonally and gas pumps may close. Area conditions may also cause closures here. Travel north of Grant Grove on Highway 180, then turn right, following signs to Hume Lake. For more information, call (559) 305-7770 before you travel here.

Stony Creek Resort (permittee)
The resort offers camping and room rentals, a market, and gasoline (available when the market is open and may be available after hours with a credit card). The resort is on the Generals Highway 13 miles (20 km) south of Grant Grove. Call (559) 565-3909 for more information.

Boyden Cavern
Explore a marble cave! Guided tours are offered daily and each tour lasts 45–60 minutes. Buy tickets online at https://boydencavern.com. Walk-ups are not recommended as availability is limited. The cave is on Highway 180 between Grant Grove and Cedar Grove.

Summer Wilderness Permits
During the summer quota season, May 27, 2022 – September 17, 2022, wilderness permits must be obtained in person. During this time, the number of people beginning trips each day is limited by entry point and a recreation fee is required. Quota season reservations are available for most entry points on www.recreation.gov/permits/445857. Reservations can be made up to six months in advance of your trip.

Day hikers do not need permits.

We thank you in advance for following minimum-impact, leave-no-trace guidelines to protect the wilderness!

Fire impacts have created unsafe conditions in some wilderness areas. Visit https://www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/maps.htm to view a closure map. When planning your trip, be sure that both the entry and exit trailheads you plan to use are open.

Check weather forecasts before your trip. Mountain weather can be unpredictable. Wild places include hazards, and help may not be available. Be prepared to self-rescue in case of an emergency.

Want to Camp in the Frontcountry?
Camping in the “frontcountry” of the parks is permitted only in campgrounds. Dispersed camping is only allowed in the National Forest. Camping or sleeping in vehicles is not allowed in parking lots, pullouts, picnic areas, or trailheads in the parks.

USFS Wilderness Camping
For information on designated wilderness areas within Sequoia National Forest, please contact the Hume Lake District Office at (559) 338-2251 or visit www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia. The Forest Service requires a free fire permit for any open flame; these are available online at www.readyforwildfire.org/permits.

Park waterways may contain bacteria, including Giardia. Properly filter or treat water before drinking.

Hypothermia can occur year-round. Stay dry and snack often. If symptoms of confusion or drowsiness appear, drink warm sugary drinks and get into dry clothes, sleeping bags, and shelter.

Can I... In National Parks In National Forests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Can I...</th>
<th>In National Parks</th>
<th>In National Forests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walk my leashed pets?</td>
<td>Pets are not allowed on trails. They are allowed in parking lots, paved roads, picnic areas, and campgrounds. Pets must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet (1.8 m).</td>
<td>Pets are allowed in developed areas and on trails. Pets must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet (1.8 m).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collect things to take home?</td>
<td>Collecting objects is not allowed in parks. This includes natural objects, such as pine cones, rocks, plants, or animals, and cultural artifacts such as arrowheads, beads, or pottery shards.</td>
<td>You may keep a few cones or rocks for personal use. Collecting artifacts such as arrowheads, beads, or pottery shards is prohibited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunt?</td>
<td>Not in the parks. You are responsible for understanding &amp; complying with all applicable state, local, and federal firearms laws before entering this park.</td>
<td>Only during the season with a license. Call 559-243-4005 or visit <a href="https://wildlife.ca.gov/hunting">https://wildlife.ca.gov/hunting</a> for more information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drive off-road?</td>
<td>Not in the parks. Stay on the roads.</td>
<td>Get off-highway-vehicle (OHV) route information at USFS Hume Lake office in Dunlap.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut wood?</td>
<td>Wood cutting is prohibited, though campers may gather downed wood when not in sequoia groves.</td>
<td>Allowed. Please contact the nearest Forest Service office for guidance and a permit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Usted es responsable de su seguridad

Estos parques hermosos, aunque remotos y accidentados, presentan ciertos peligros. Por ejemplo, el cambio de temperaturas, los árboles que caen sin previo aviso y los animales salvajes presentan peligros. Otros peligros son de origen humano: manejo imprudente, abandono de fogatas y otras malas decisiones. No se puede confiar en los teléfonos celulares y el GPS, podrían dar indicaciones erróneas. Todos los días ayudamos a visitantes que tienen emergencias. No se puede confiar en los teléfonos celulares y el GPS, podrían dar indicaciones erróneas. Todos los días ayudamos a visitantes que tienen emergencias.

Le rogamos que nos ayude preparándose para su visita: familiarícese con estos avisos de seguridad y pidale consejo a los guardaparques. ¡Su seguridad está en sus manos!

Seguridad en el río

Los lagos y ríos de estos parques pueden dar tentación, y mas durante días calurosos, pero debe saber que ahogos son la principal causa de muertes.

Los ríos son muy peligrosos debido a sus rápidas corrientes y rocas resbaladizas. Muchas de las muertes relacionadas con los ríos ocurrieron, no porque las personas tenían la intención de nadar, sino que se cayeron. Las corrientes son fuertes incluso cuando los niveles de agua son bajos. Las pendientes abruptas y las corrientes de retorno son un peligro constante. Manténgase alerta.

Una vez que se ingresa en un río, puede resultar casi imposible salir de él. El agua fría puede debilitarle rápidamente y es posible que le dé hipotermia incluso si afuera hace calor.

- No nade en zonas con corrientes fuertes o pendientes inclinadas.
- NO deje a los niños sin supervisión.
- No nade si ha consumido alcohol o drogas. Nade siempre en estado de sobriedad.
- Use zapatos fuertes. Los objetos afilados que hay en el agua podrían provocar cortes.
- Durante una tormenta, salga del agua y aléjese de las zonas de playa.
- NUNCA NADE SOLO.

Peligros relacionados con los árboles

Es posible que caigan ramas y árboles cuando no hay viento, ya sea que estén vivos o secos. Mantenga los ojos y oídos bien abiertos. Corra si oye chasquidos o crujidos provenientes de raíces, troncos o ramas (aunque a veces no emiten sonido alguno). No se detenga bajo ramas secas, agrietadas, rotas o colgantes. Evite detenerse bajo árboles que estén podridos en la base o que presenten una corteza agrietada que se desprende del tronco.

Virus del Nilo Occidental y picaduras de garrapatas

El virus del Nilo Occidental se contagia a través de la picadura de mosquitos infectados. Si bien esta enfermedad no es común en humanos, tome precauciones para evitar las picaduras de mosquitos. Las garrapatas abundan en zonas de pastos tupidos y de baja elevación. Pueden portar enfermedades que son dañinas para los humanos. Tras sus caminatas, fíjese de no tener garrapatas; su picadura es indolora. Si tiene alguna, retirela cuidadosamente con unas pinzas y consulte con su médico.

Serpientes de cascabel

Las serpientes de cascabel son comunes en las faldas de Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks a poca elevación. ¡Tenga cuidado en dónde pone los pies y las manos! No las fasticie ni las mate; es entonces cuando se dan la mayoría de las mordeduras. Las mordeduras pocas veces son letales, pero el daño que ocasionan en los tejidos puede ser grave. Si recibe una mordedura, no entre en pánico y llame al 911.

Roble venenoso

Se trata de un arbusto común en elevaciones de hasta 5,000 pies (1,500 m). El roble venenoso tiene hojas en grupos de tres. En otoño, sus hojas son rojas y sus bayas blanquece; en invierno, la planta pierde sus hojas; y, en primavera, tiene hojas de un color verde brillante. Si toca alguna parte de la planta, lave de inmediato la piel y la ropa que hayan estado en contacto ella con jabón y agua tibia.

Explore de forma segura

- Evite viajar solo. Cuéntele a alguien cuáles son sus planes y a qué hora espera regresar.
- Lleve un mapa, agua, una linterna y prendas de abrigo adicionales.
- Preste atención a los posibles peligros que provengan de arriba, de su alrededor o del suelo.

Calidad del aire

Los parques pueden verse afectados por una calidad del aire pobre, especialmente en verano. En los meses de verano, las concentraciones de ozono suelen exceder aquellas establecidas por los estándares federales de salud. El ozono puede tener impactos negativos en la salud, en particular en grupos más sensibles como los niños, las personas mayores y aquellas con enfermedades cardíacas o de pulmón. Para conocer las predicciones de la calidad del aire, visite el sitio web del parque.

La peste y el hantavirus

La peste y el hantavirus están relacionados con los animales salvajes que habitan estos parques, pero los casos de infecciones en humanos son excepcionales. Los roedores y sus pulgas pueden ser portadores de la peste, y los humanos pueden contagiarse si reciben la picadura de una pulga infectada. El hantavirus se transmite por aire y proviene de los ratones venado infectados. Los humanos suelen contraer un síndrome pulmonar por hantavirus tras limpiar o encontrarse en espacios cerrados en los que hay heces de ratón venado.

Vele por la seguridad de sus mascotas

Para asegurarse de que sus mascotas, así como los animales salvajes, estén a salvo, deben llevar correas en todo momento. Las mascotas son propensas a las garrapatas o a ser mordidas por serpientes. También ha habido casos de ataques a perros por parte de osos y siervos. Recoja las heces de su mascota y deshágase de ellas adecuadamente. No deje mascotas en su vehículo, ya que este podría sobrecalentarse con facilidad.

No pierda los frenos

Si mantiene el pie en el freno durante demasiado tiempo, es posible que fallen. En su lugar, siempre baje la marcha cuando avanza colina abajo. Si tiene un vehículo automático, ponga la palanca de cambios en 1, 2 o L. El motor hará más ruido, pero evitará el sobrecalentamiento de los frenos.
Seguridad COVID

Es posible que se requieran máscaras en los edificios federales o en los autobuses del parque. Verifique la señalización fuera de los centros de visitantes y otros edificios y en las paradas de transporte. Estos requisitos se basan en la herramienta de verificación del COVID-19 por condado del CDC. Cuando los condados cercanos tienen un riesgo bajo a medio, las máscaras son opcionales en los edificios.

Proyectos de construcción de verano

Este verano, dos proyectos de construcción están en marcha para mejorar las carreteras del parque y los servicios públicos.

A partir del 9 de mayo, el trabajo está programado a lo largo del corredor vial en Cedar Grove, donde se reemplazarán secciones de líneas eléctricas subterráneas. Espere retrasos promedio de 15 minutos, con control de tráfico.

Además, un proyecto de preservación de carreteras está programado este año en todo el Sequoia National Park. El trabajo comenzará tentativamente en junio o julio en las estribaciones. Los tramos cortos de carretera serán sellados y repavimentados. Si se encuentra con una de estas zonas de construcción, planifique un retraso de hasta 30 minutos. Deténgase en el Foothills Visitor Center para saber dónde se está llevando a cabo la construcción durante su visita.

Mantenga a los osos salvajes y seguros

Nuestra comida puede significar la muerte para los osos.

Estos animales inteligentes aprenden a obtener comida de los campamentos, automóviles y contenedores de basura. Luego de probar una vez, regresan por más. Se vuelven atrevidos y agresivos, y pueden que los maten para protegernos.

¡Guarde su comida!

Guarde todos los alimentos y cosas que despidan olor en cajas de almacenamiento metálicas. Nunca los deje en su vehículo.

Los árboles secuoyas gigantes

Los árboles secuoyas gigantes son iconos de resiliencia. Alguna vez estuvieron adaptados para sobrevivir incendios, sequías y ataques de escarabajos, ¡y ahora el cambio climático los está poniendo en riesgo otra vez! El incendio Castle del 2020 como el incendio KNP Complex del 2021, ardieron tan intensamente que miles de secuoyas gigantes murieron. La sequía extrema y los ataques de escarabajos también los están dañando. Los científicos del parque temen que, a pesar de su increíble dureza, sin acción, más de estos magníficos gigantes puedan morir en números alarmantes.

Se necesitan más incendios forestales de baja intensidad, incendios prescritos por el manejo y otros enfoques para ayudar a restaurar las arboledas a condiciones más saludables. Se necesita más investigación para comprender qué necesitan los secuoyas para sobrevivir durante los próximos dos milenios. Pero los defensores más poderosos de los secuoyas son las personas que vienen a los parques y aprenden y enseñan a otros sobre estos árboles.

Seguridad en las zona quemadas

Preste atención a la caída de árboles.

Es posible que caigan ramas y árboles cuando no hay viento, ya sea que estén vivos o secos. Mantenga los ojos y oídos bien abiertos. Preste atención para oír chasquidos o crujidos provenientes de raíces, troncos o ramas. No se detenga bajo ramas secas, agrietadas, rotas o colgantes. Evite permanecer bajo los árboles quemados.

No ingrese a las zonas cerradas.

Existen riesgos en estas zonas que han sido identificados, como puentes quemados, árboles peligrosos y tramos de sendero inestables debido a la erosión. Puede ser difícil identificar muchos de estos peligros.

Conduzca con cuidado.

En cualquier momento puede haber rocas, escombros e incluso árboles caídos en las carreteras. Esté atento y conduzca lentamente, especialmente cuando lueve o haya viento. Ceda el paso a los vehículos que estén despejando las carreteras y respete los requisitos de uso de cadenas en los neumáticos cuando lo haya. Cuidado con los animales.

Permanezca en los senderos.

Aunque puede ser tentador pasear, las zonas fuera de los senderos tienen peligros como rocas sueltas, tocones quemados, hoyos y terreno inestable.

Tenga aún más cuidado si llueve o hay viento.

Las tormentas y el viento hacen que muchos de los riesgos sean todavía más peligrosos. Considere la posibilidad de esperar a que mejore el clima antes de viajar por una zona quemada.

Si se encuentra con condiciones peligrosas, regrese.

Las condiciones en las zonas quemadas pueden cambiar rápidamente. Regrese si ve un problema y no le parece que sea seguro continuar. Informe sobre las condiciones peligrosas al personal del parque.

Tenga cuidado cerca de los ríos.

Los ríos son muy peligrosos debido a sus rápidas corrientes y rocas resbaladizas. Muchas de las muertes relacionadas con los ríos ocurrieron, no porque las personas tenían la intención de nadar, sino que se cayeron. Las corrientes son fuertes incluso cuando los niveles de agua son bajos.
Parking in the Giant Forest

In summer, parking may be difficult to find in popular areas. Free park shuttles stop at each of the locations shown on the right frequently, between 8 am and 6 pm. Masks may not be required on the park shuttle. Please check signage at shuttle stops for mask requirements. Consider the tips below when planning your trip.

If you have a couple hours

If you’d like to visit the General Sherman Tree, park at the Main Sherman Tree Trailhead and Parking.

If you’d like to visit Giant Forest Museum, park in the lots on the opposite side of the highway. Information and a Park Store are available here, though exhibits may be closed.

If you have a half or full day

Park at our large lots at Wolverton or Lodgepole Campground and ride the shuttle to your destinations. The last shuttles that will return you to your vehicle are at 6:00 pm.

A Giant Forest Museum
This lot usually fills by 10 am.

B Main Sherman Tree Parking
Take Wolverton Road and follow signs. This lot usually fills by 12 noon.

C Wolverton Picnic Area & Trailhead
This lot is at the end of Wolverton Road.

D Lodgepole Campground
Park just beyond the entrance kiosk.

E Wuksachi Restaurant & Lodge
Continue past the lodge for parking.

Vehicle Length Limits

Generals Highway in Sequoia National Park:

- Foothills Visitor Center to Potwisha Campground: vehicles longer than 24 feet are not recommended.
- Potwisha Campground to Giant Forest Museum: vehicles longer than 22 feet are not recommended.

Alternatives: Highway 180 from Fresno is straighter, less steep, and wider.

- Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow: This road is closed on holidays and weekends. Vehicle-length limit is 22 feet; no trailers or towed units. Very limited parking. Consider walking or bicycling.
- Crystal Cave Road: This road is closed in 2022 due to damage from the KNP Complex Fire.
- Mineral King Road: RVs and trailers are not advised. Campgrounds do not offer RV sites.
- Panoramic Point Road: RVs and trailers are not permitted.

Gasoline

No gas stations are available within the parks. Fill up before you enter or if you’re already in the parks, fill up at:

- Hume Lake Christian Camp: Near Grant Grove. Open all year. Hours may vary and pumps may close at any time. Call before you drive here for gas: (559) 305-7770.
- Stony Creek Village: Gas is available when the market is open and may be available after hours with a credit card. Other services are listed on page 9. The village is between Wuksachi and Grant Grove on the Generals Highway. Call (559) 565-3909 for more information.

Emergency Car Repairs

The NPS does not tow or repair vehicles. Use a pay phone to contact a towing service. If you are blocking traffic, call 911 or contact the emergency communications center: (559) 565-3341, extension 9.