



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 – April 21, 2014  
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### Swale West Prescribed Fire Planned

Fire crews plan to ignite the Swale West prescribed fire unit in Kings Canyon National Parks on April 23/24/25, weather and air-quality conditions permitting. The Swale West unit is 191 acres and ignitions will likely occur over two to three days.

Since the unit was last burned in prescribed fires in 1993/1995, this is considered a maintenance burn. This means it has natural levels of fuel accumulation which will result in a relatively low intensity fire emulating historical fire in the southern Sierra Nevada.

Safety is always given the highest priority and choosing a maintenance burn is part of fire manager's strategy during this drought year. In addition to the anticipated low fire intensity, three sides of this unit were more recently burned providing additional security.

The Swale West unit is part of an extensive, long-term commitment by the parks to reduce the risk of damaging wildfire and promote ecosystem health by reducing fire across a large, continuous area in the highly used Grant Grove/Wilsonia area of the park.

The moderate fuel accumulation will also limit smoke production. We do expect some daytime smoke moving towards Hume Lake with smoke settling toward the west in the evenings.

A number of roads and trails are adjacent to or within the planned unit. A number of trails will be closed. See attached maps.

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