

Restoration of the Mariposa Grove Of Giant Sequoias Yosemite National Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Project Update
Open House
May 30, 2012

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Project Need

The Mariposa Grove is a popular all-season destination for visitors to Yosemite. Comprehensive restoration actions are needed to ensure the long-term health of this special resource, and to improve the overall experience for visitors.



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Project Purpose

- Restore degraded Grove habitat
- Enhance the visitor experience
- Sustain long-term health of the Giant Sequoias

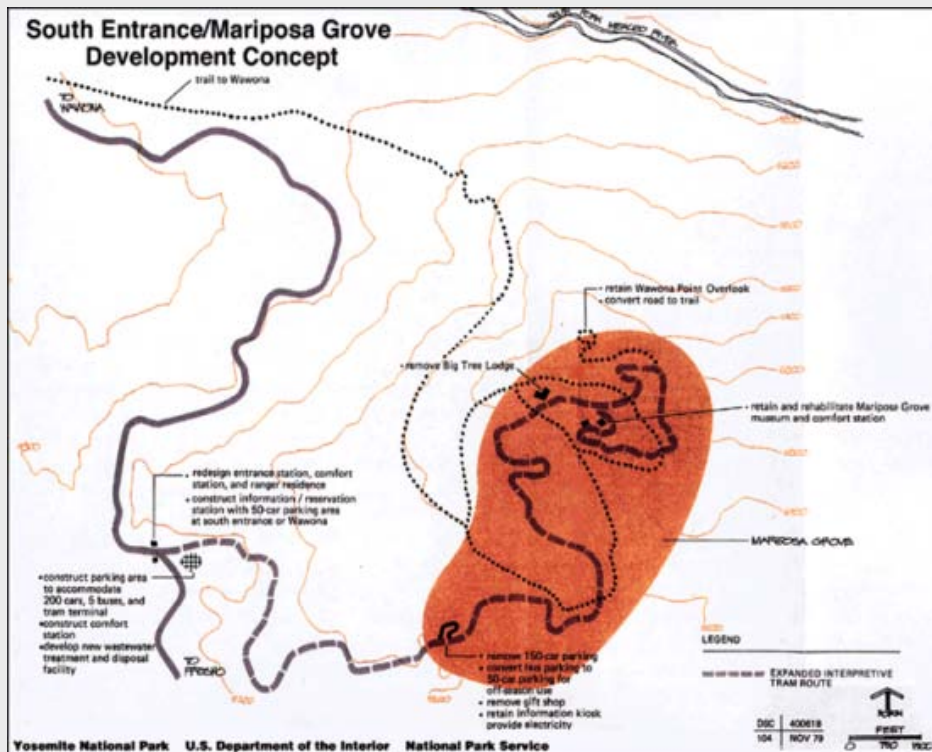


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General Management Plan (NPS, 1980)



Mariposa Grove Goals:

- Provide only visitor facilities consistent with preservation of the unique ecosystem;
- Remove all other facilities not necessary for the enjoyment of the resources

South Entrance Goals

- Provide park orientation and information/reservation system
- Provide staging facilities for Mariposa Grove
- Provide adequate road to Mariposa Grove for buses

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Project Milestones

2010

Begin Resource Data Collection
to Inform Planning

2011

May 27

Internal Scoping Kick-
off/Site Visit

August 15

Initiate Consultation
w/ Agencies and Tribes

August 30

**Public Scoping- Open
House/Webinar**

October 14

Public Site Visit

December 3

Federal Register
Notice of Intent to
Prepare an EIS



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Developing Design Concepts



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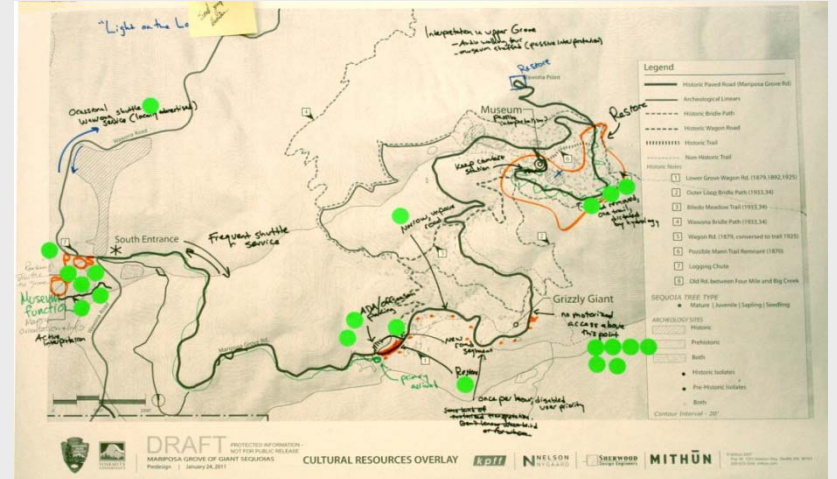
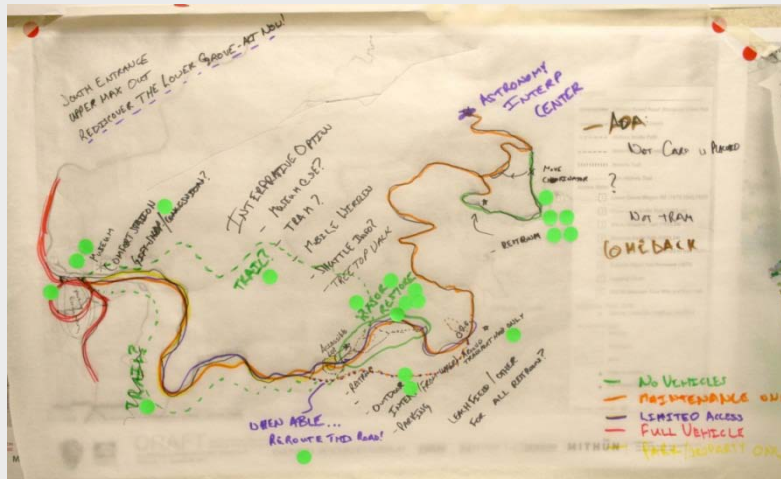
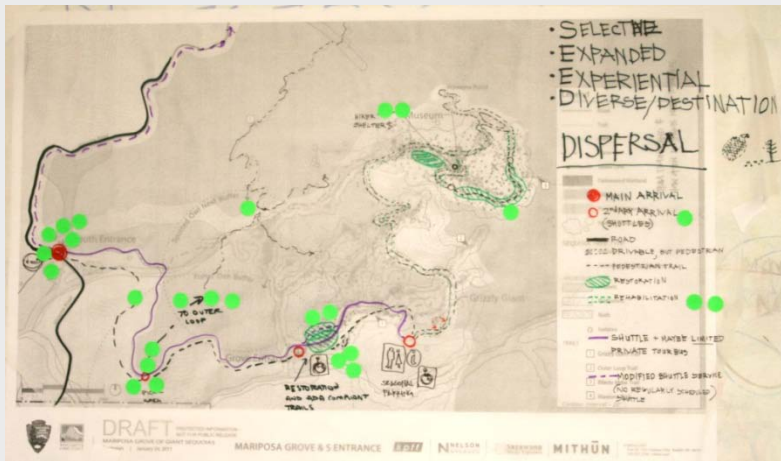
Design Workshops

- Helps generate ideas and solutions while engaging diverse points of view
- Interdisciplinary discussion
- Addresses design problems
- Typically breaks into sub-groups to address the range of issues
- Reporting out ensures all groups are aware of issues and discussions



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Developing Alternative Concepts

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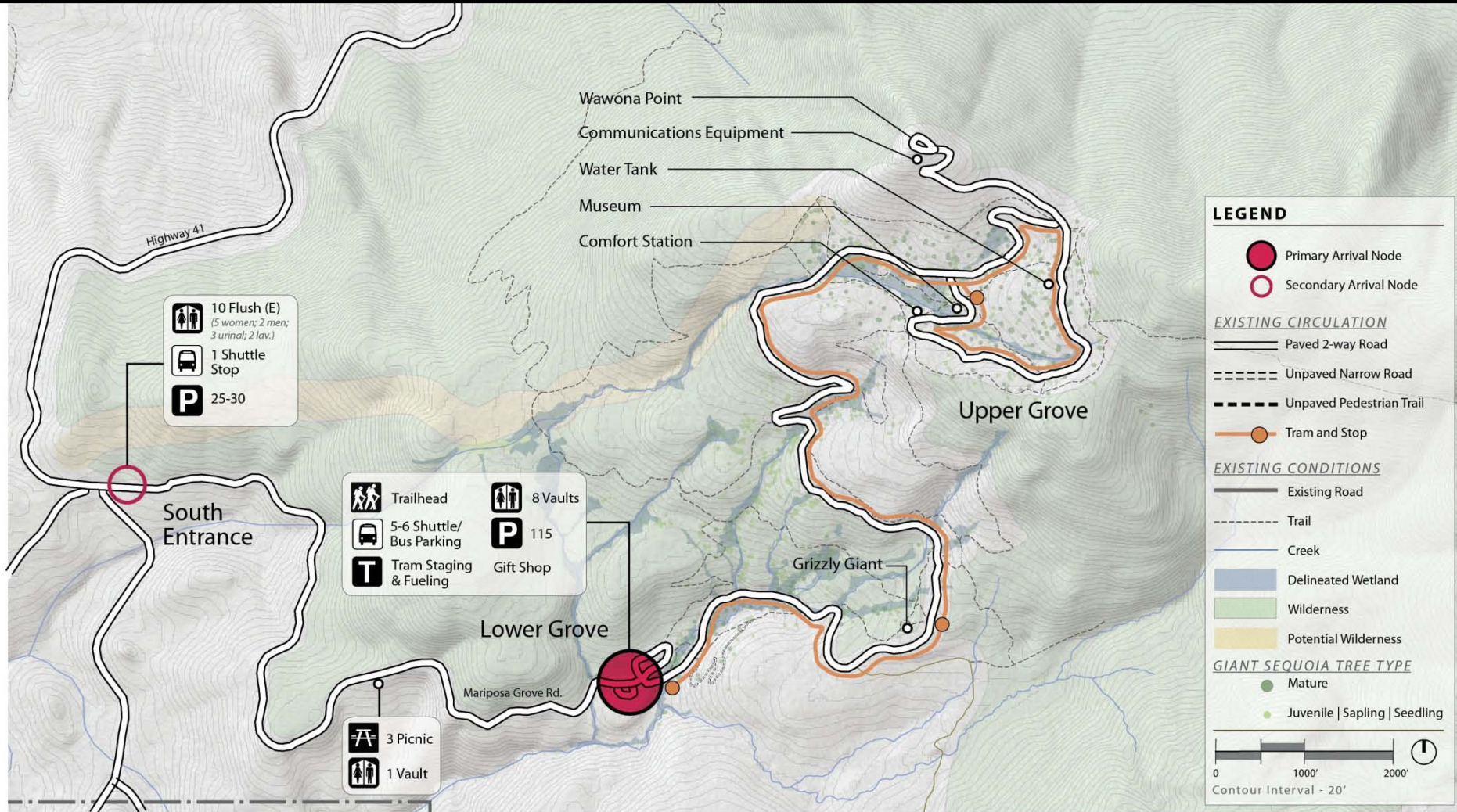
Common Themes Identified

- Improve visitor understanding of the Giant Sequoia ecosystem
- Improve/restore grove hydrology
- Improve orientation and wayfinding for visitors
- Interpret cultural resources and history of human stewardship of the grove
- Rehabilitate historic rockwork at Wawona Point
- Remove unnecessary utilities and operations from the Grove
- Consolidate trails, improve connectivity and accessibility
- Fix tight curve at the entrance/Three Sentinels



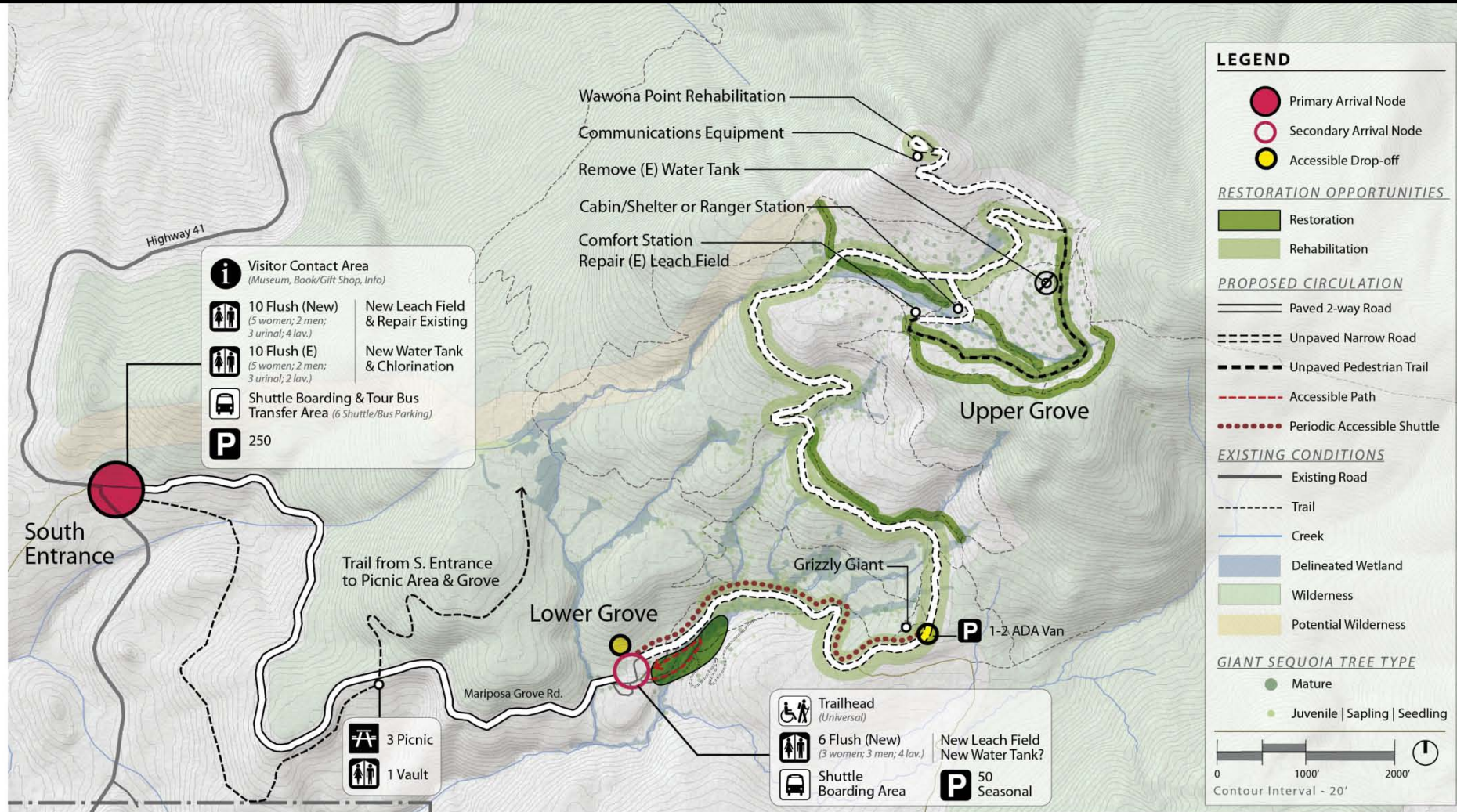
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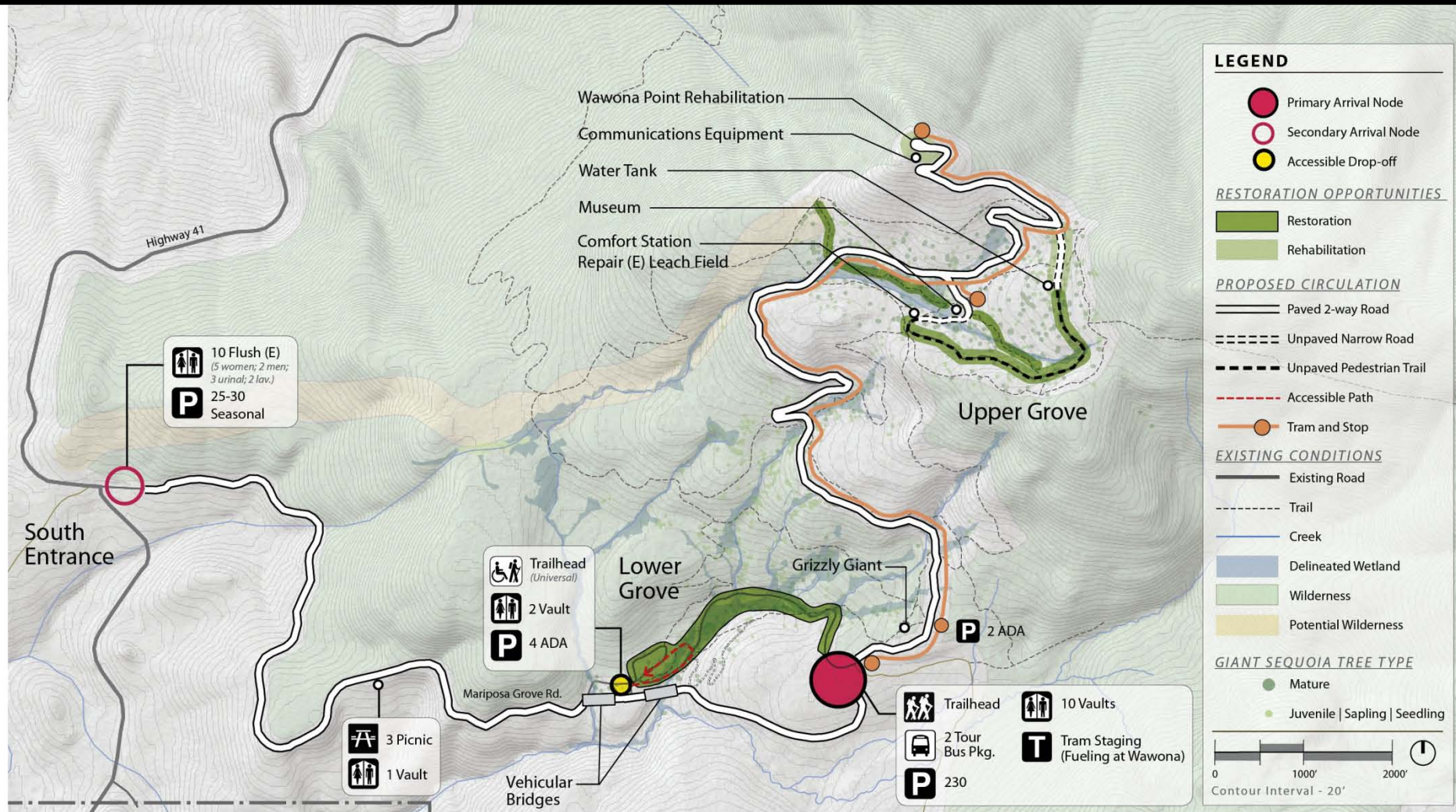
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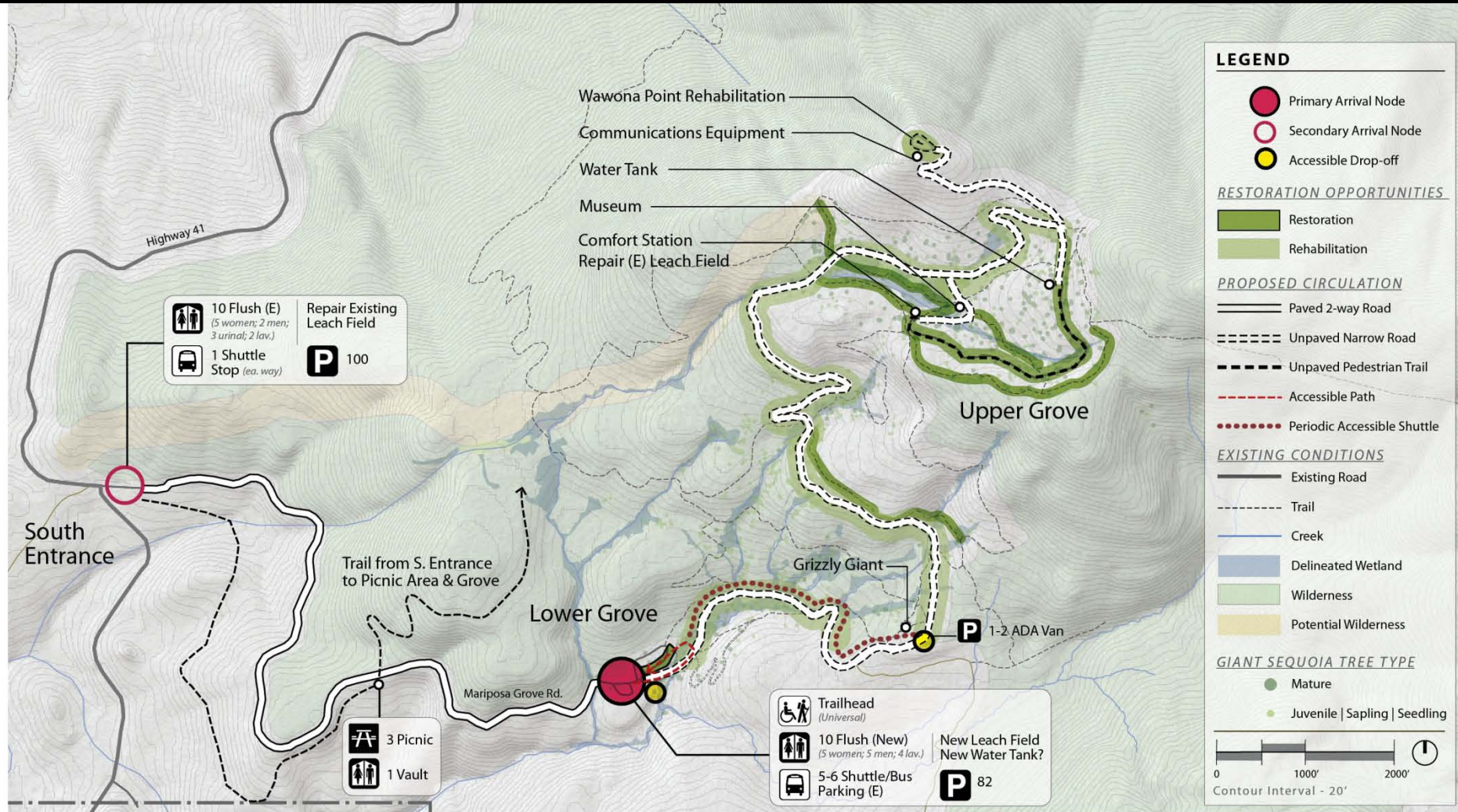
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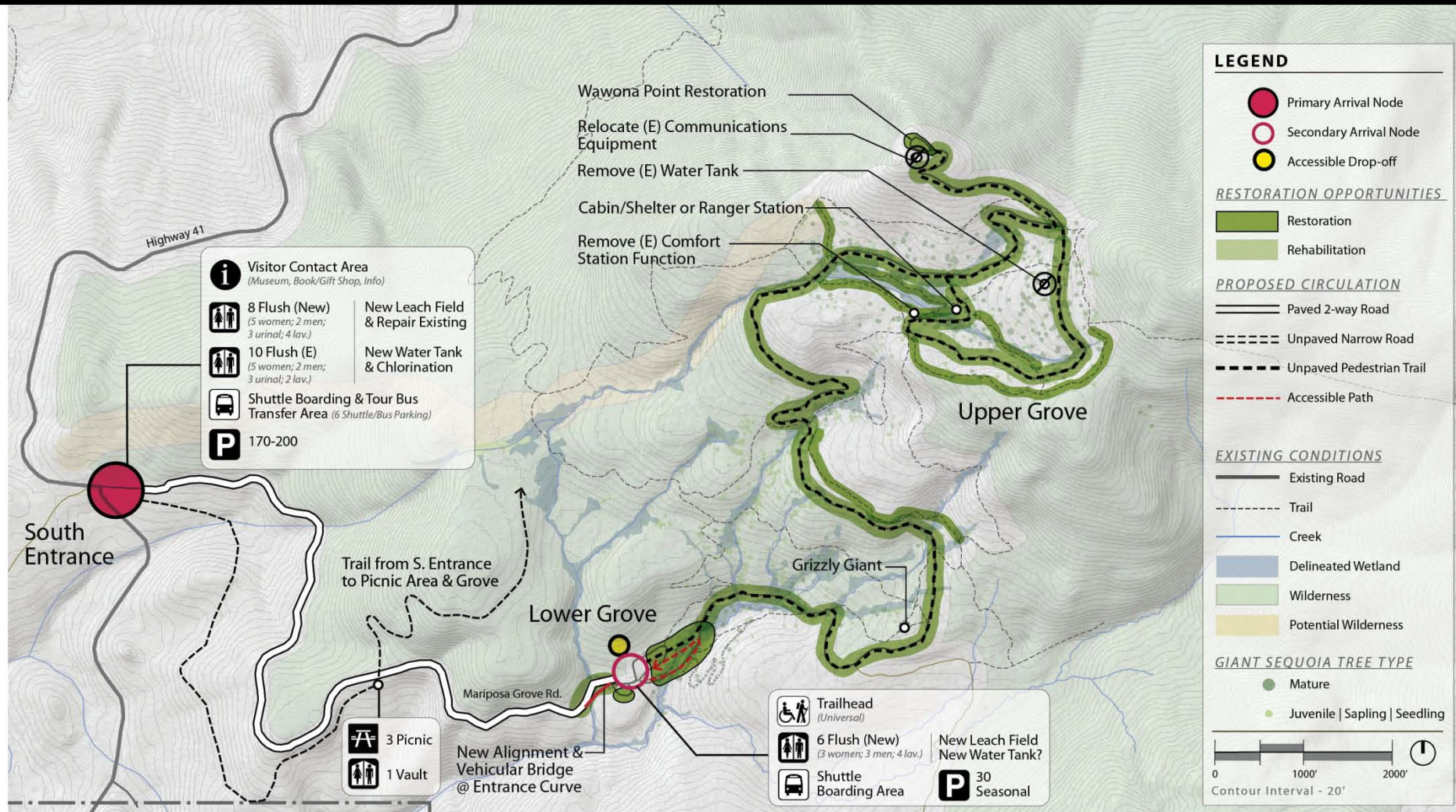
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A photograph showing a massive, reddish-brown sequoia tree trunk on the left, with a large, layered rock formation on the right. The background is filled with dense green forest. The text "Opportunities for Restoration" is overlaid in white at the bottom.

Opportunities for Restoration

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Relocating Infrastructure



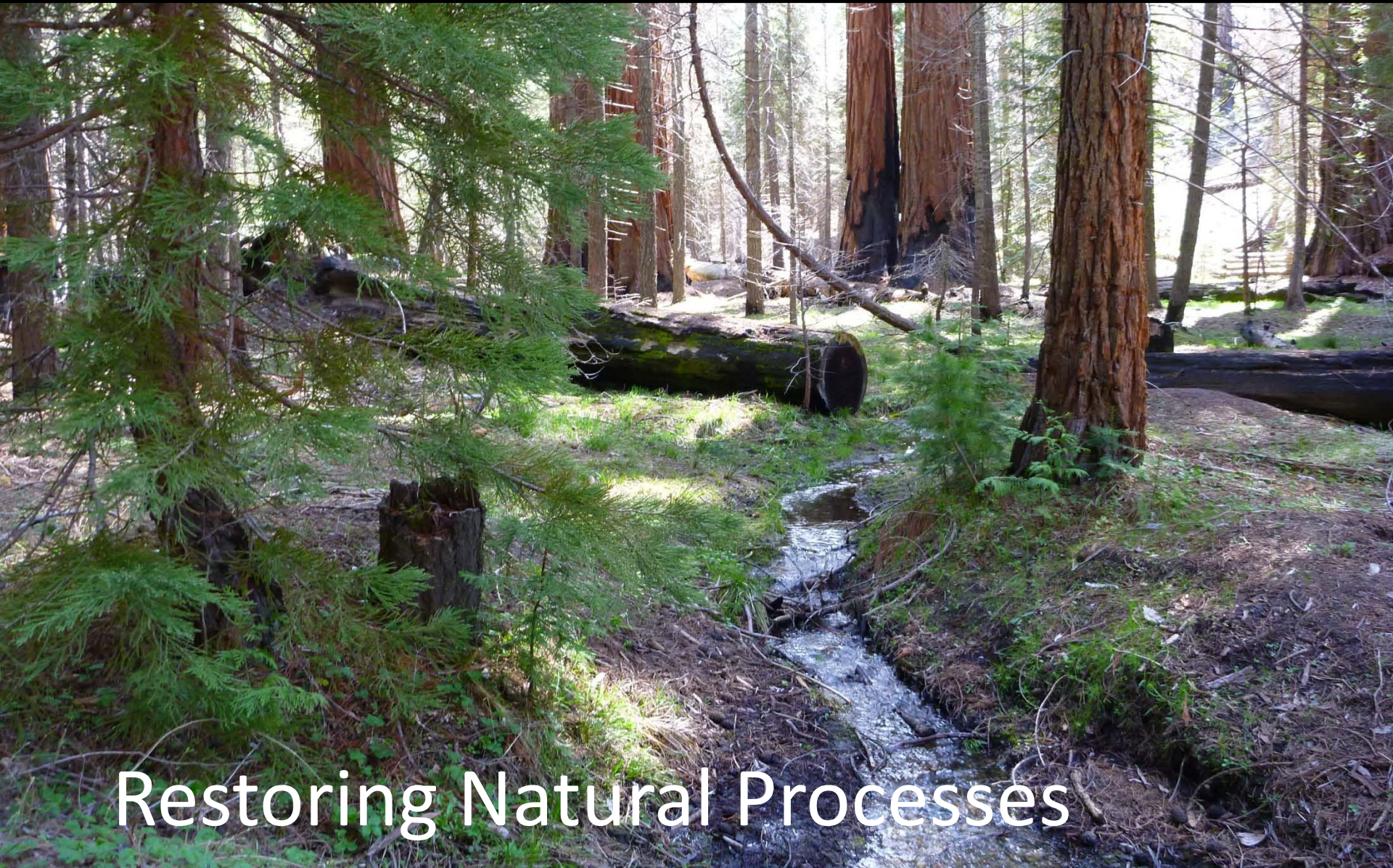
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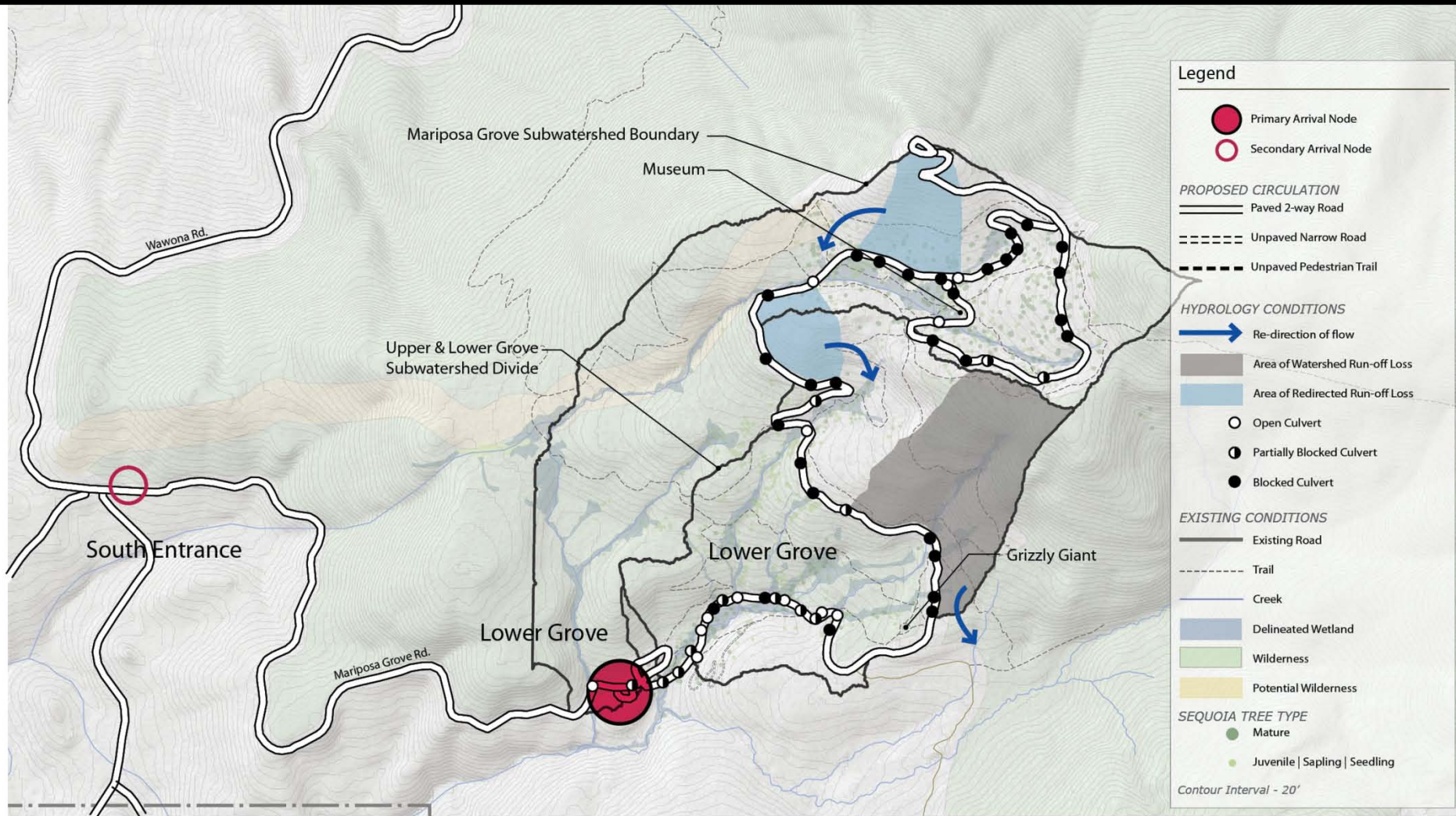
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Restoring Natural Processes

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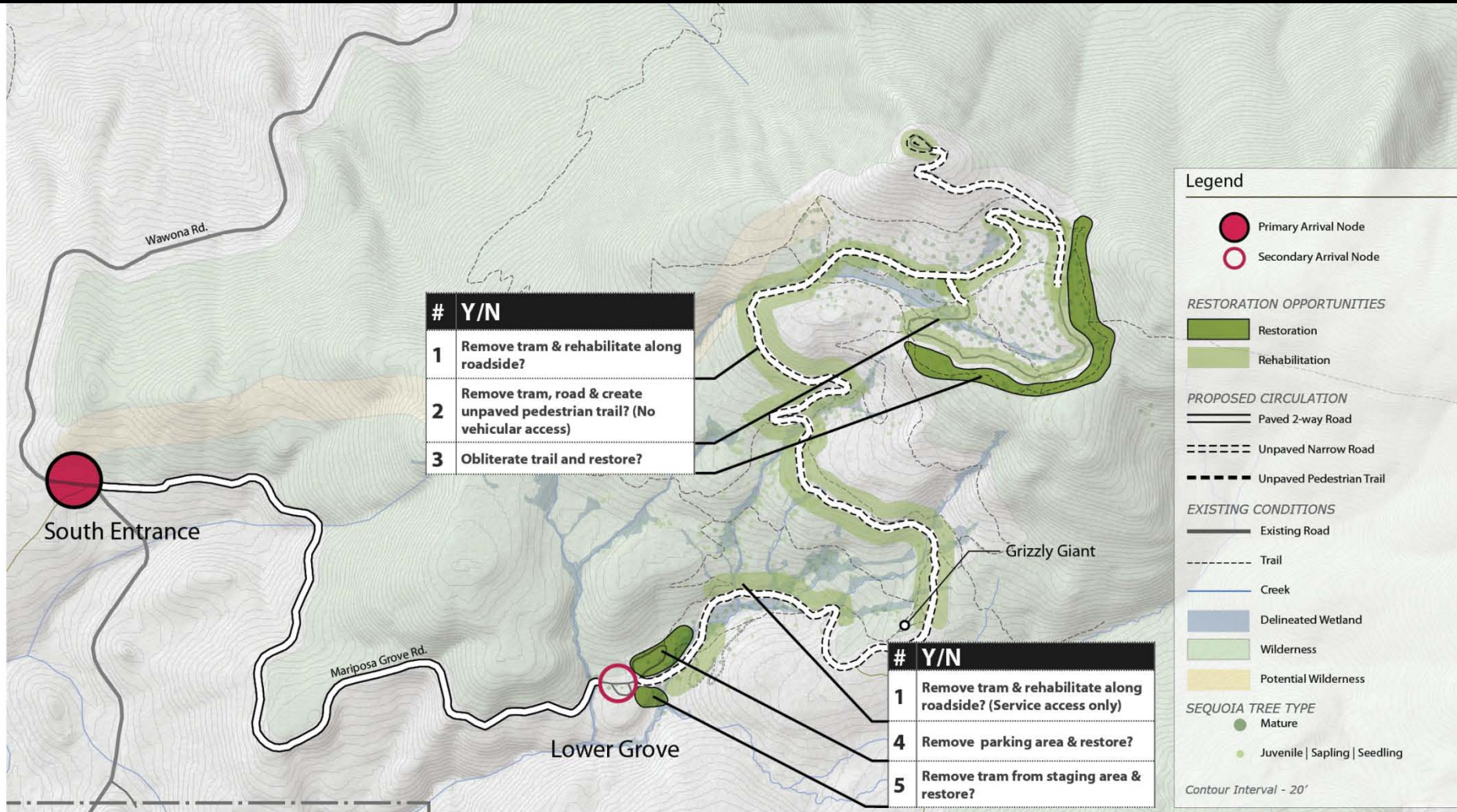


(A) NO ACTION | HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION



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Providing habitat for sensitive species



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GIANT SEQUOIAS THAT COMPRISE MARIPOSA GROVE	RUSTIC / VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE	NATURALISTIC LANDSCAPE DESIGN	LAYERS OF CIRCULATION
			

Cultural Resources: Opportunities

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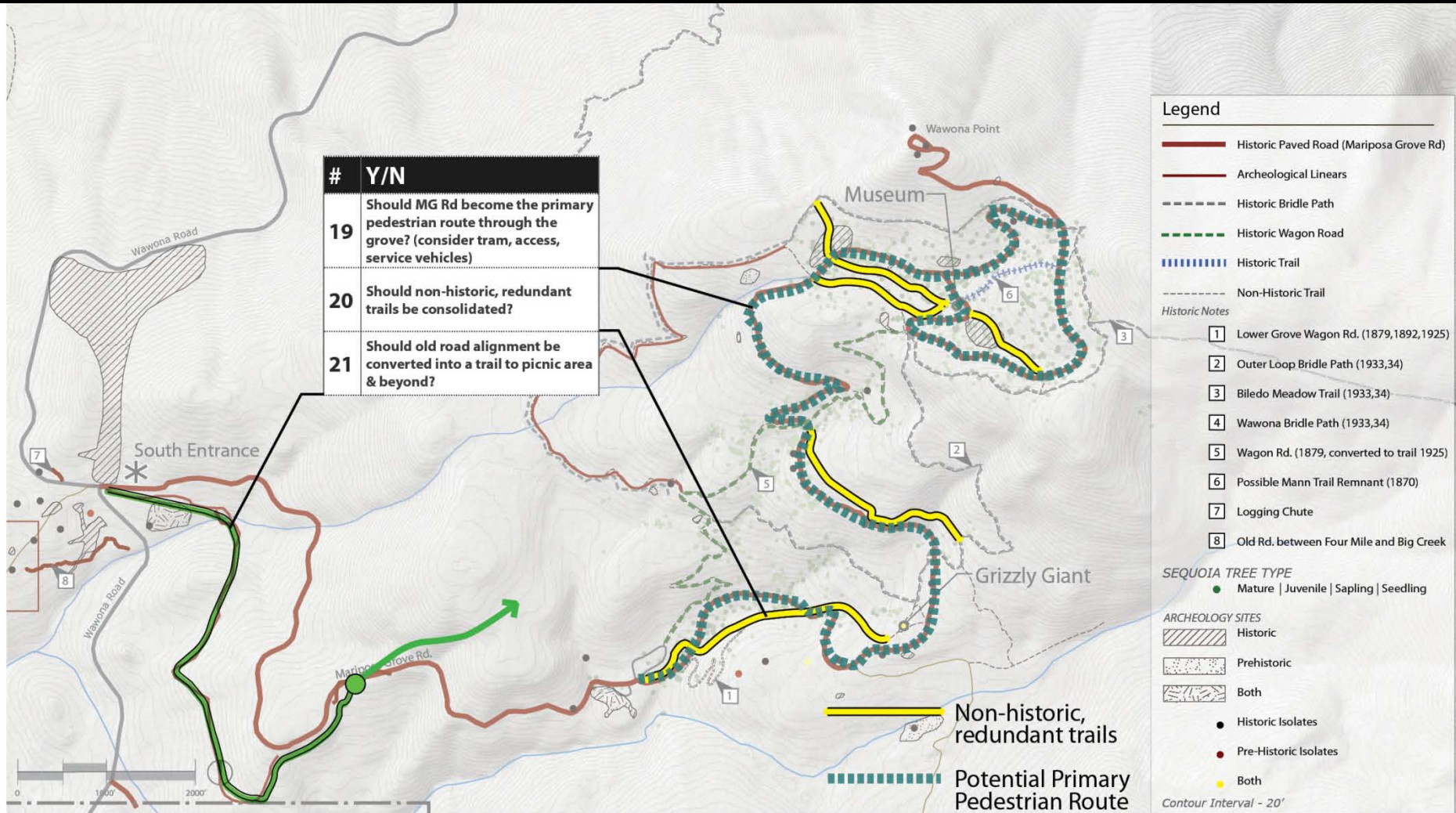
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Improving Trails

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B C D | TRAIL ALIGNMENT

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Improving Site Accessibility

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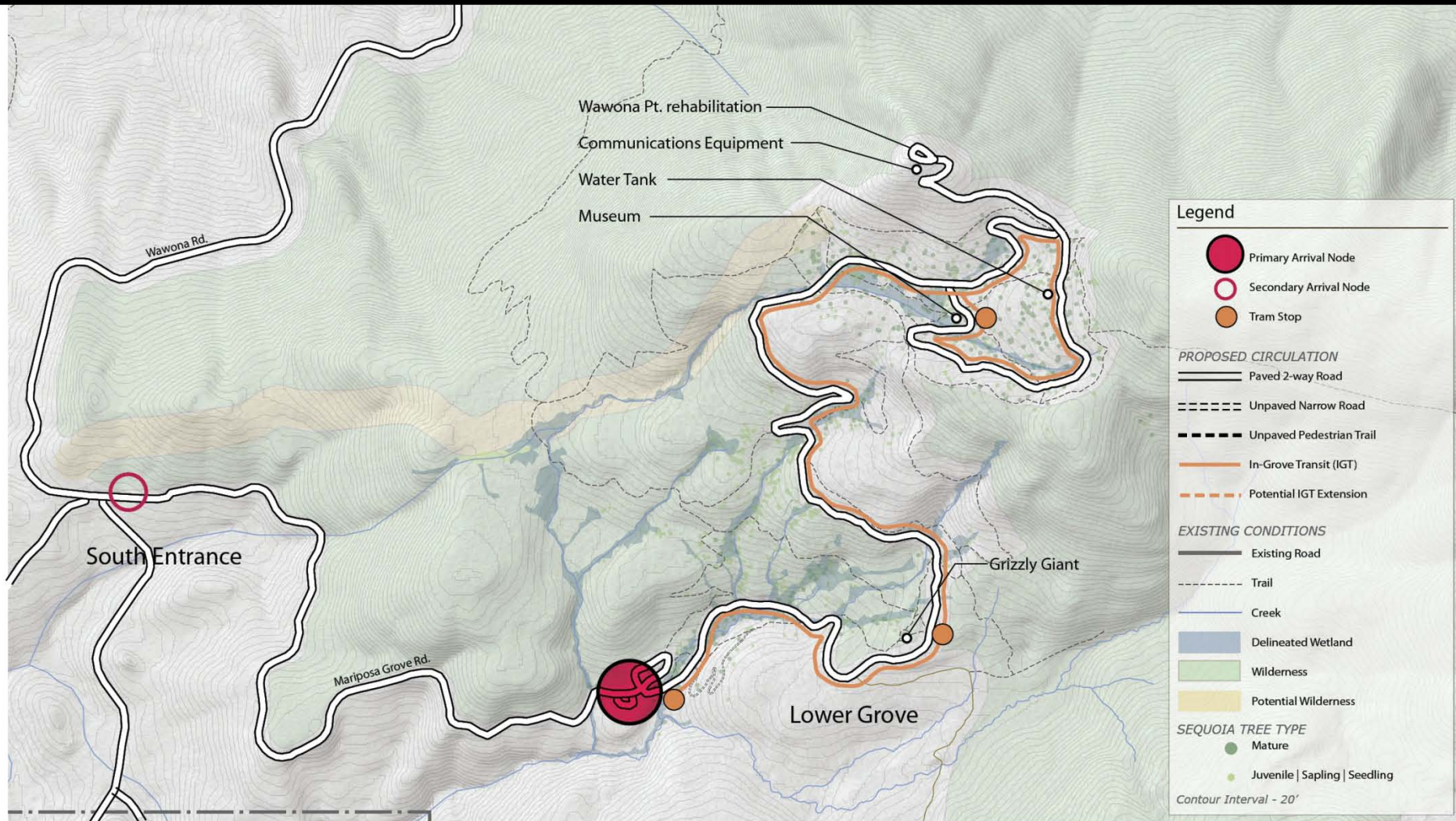
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Transportation

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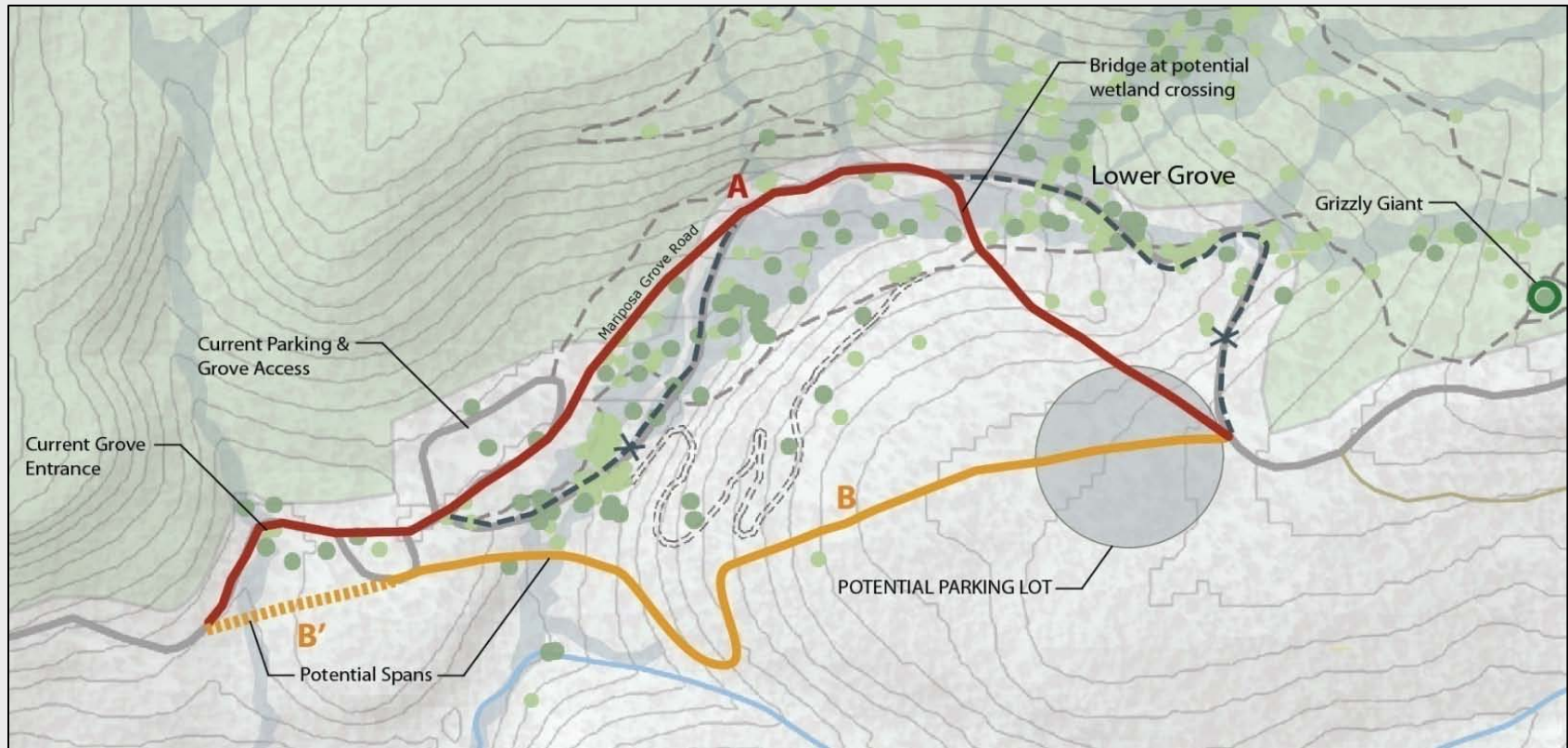
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A NO ACTION | TRAM

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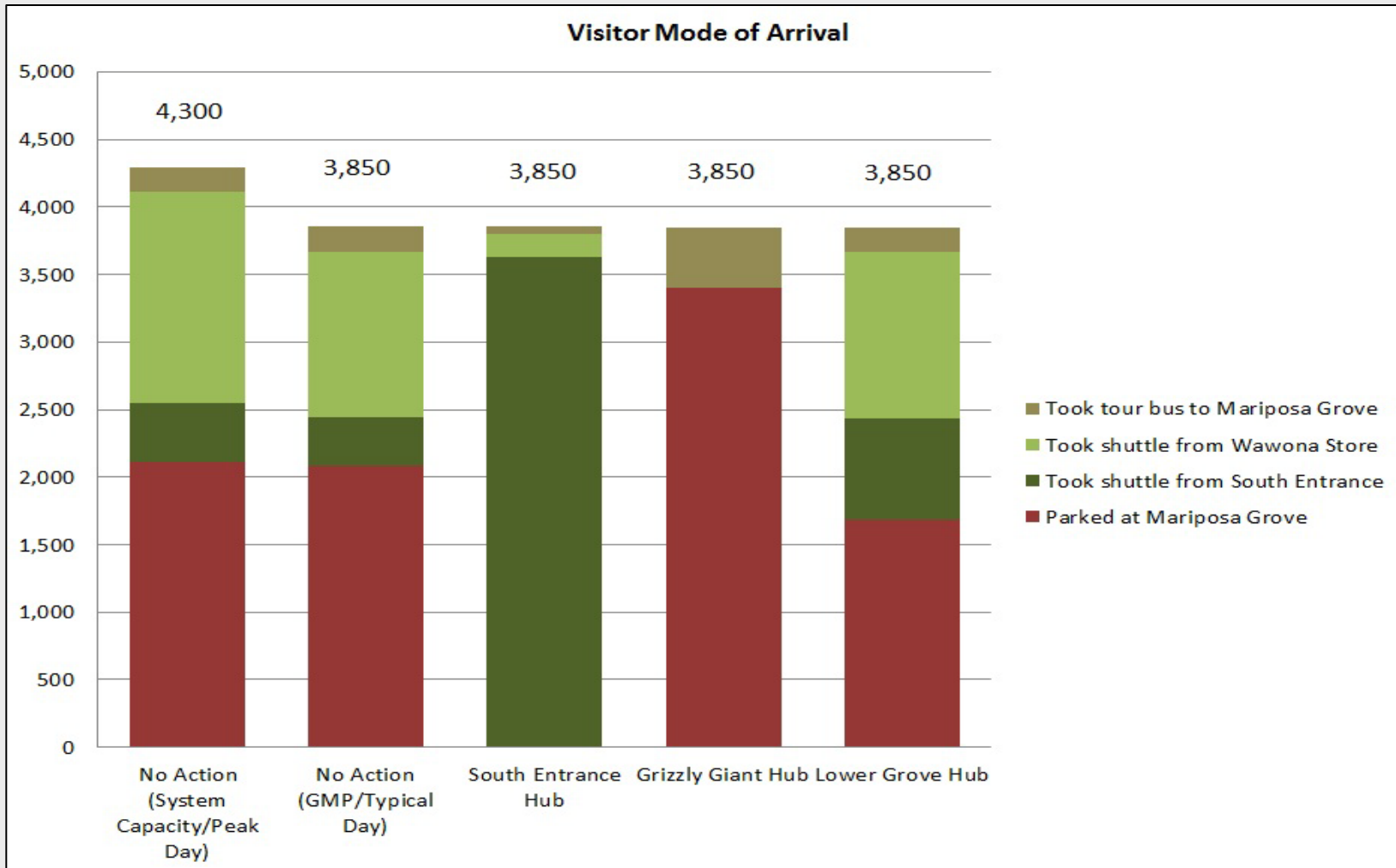
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Exploring Site Design Options: Road Access

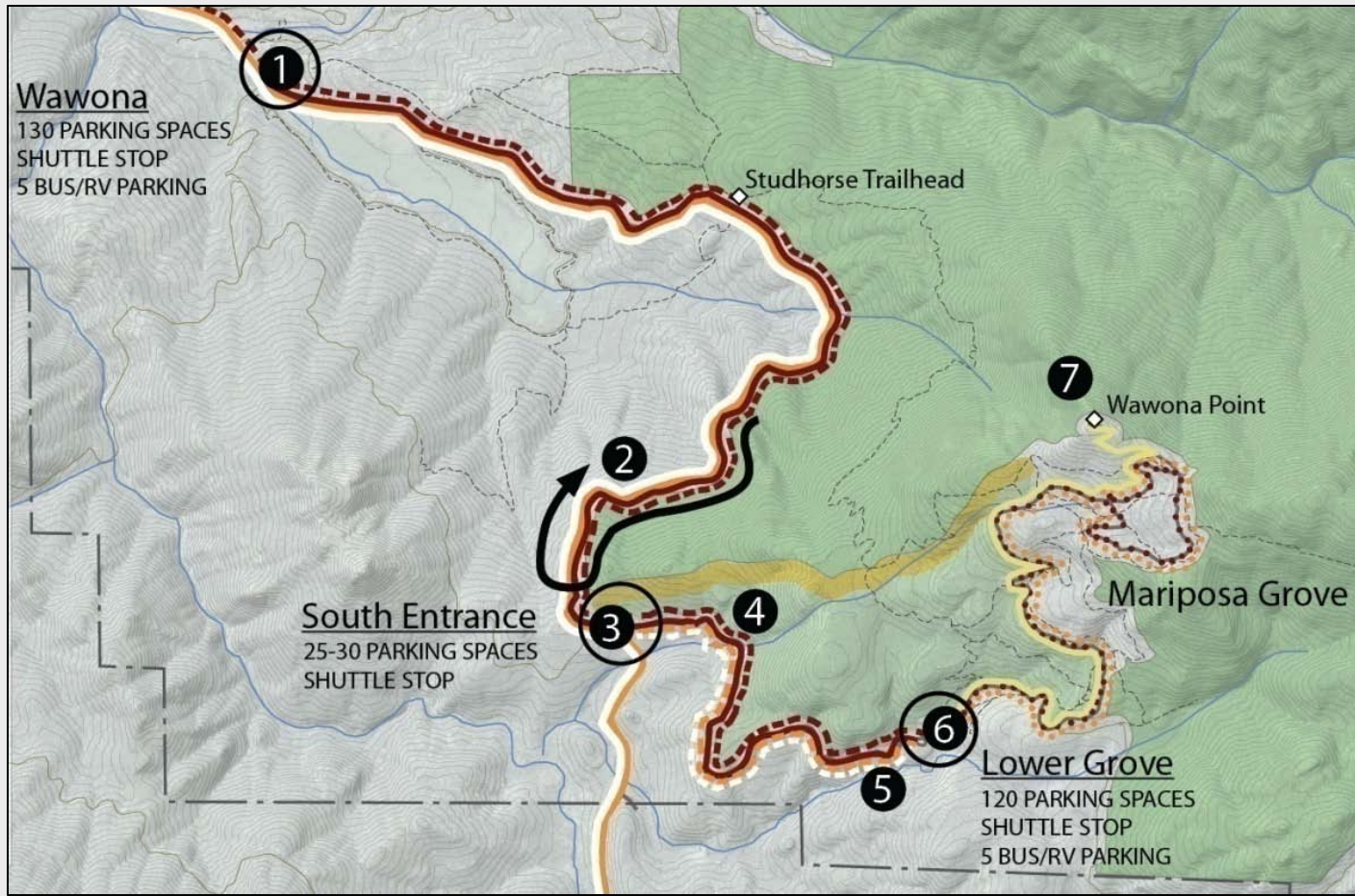
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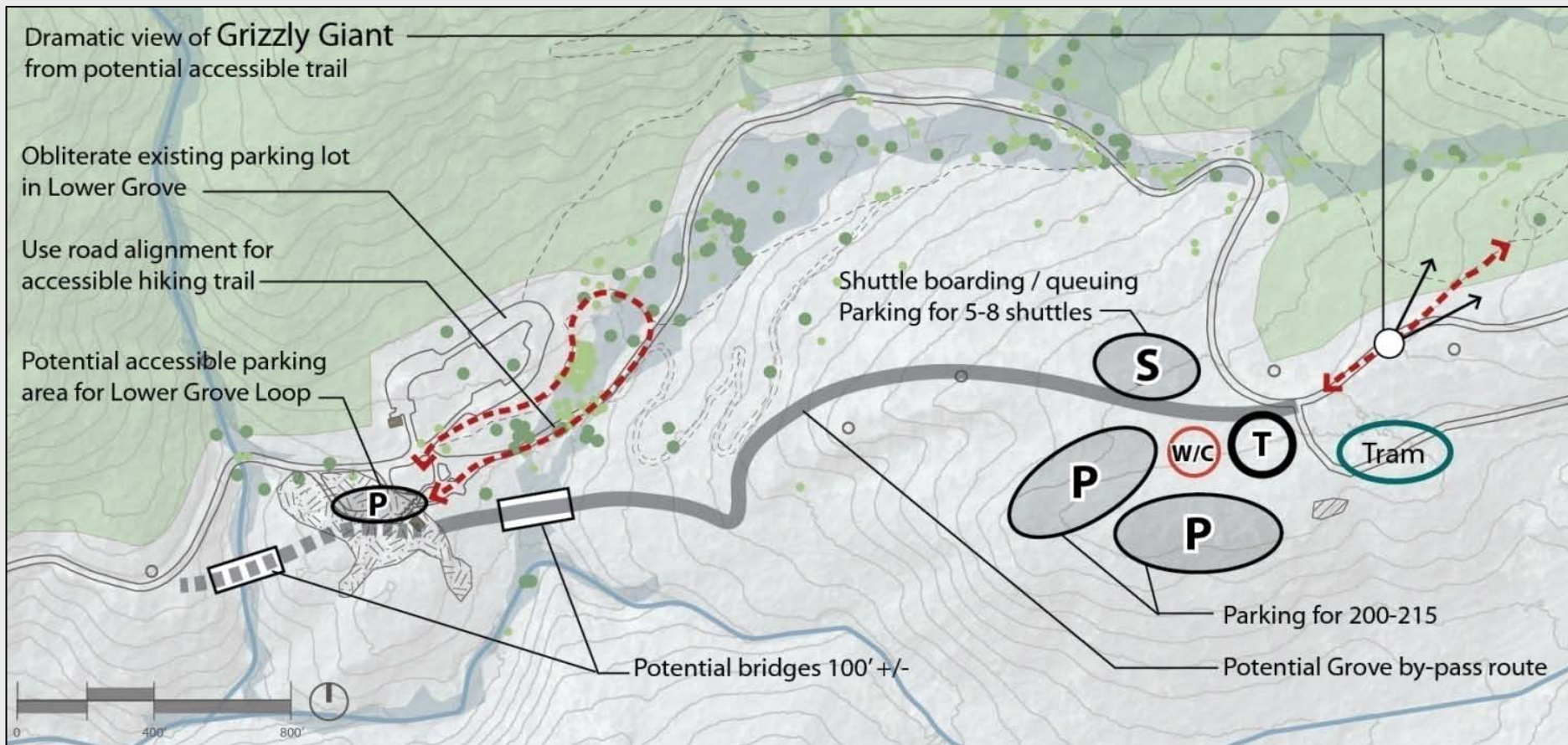
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Parking Assessment

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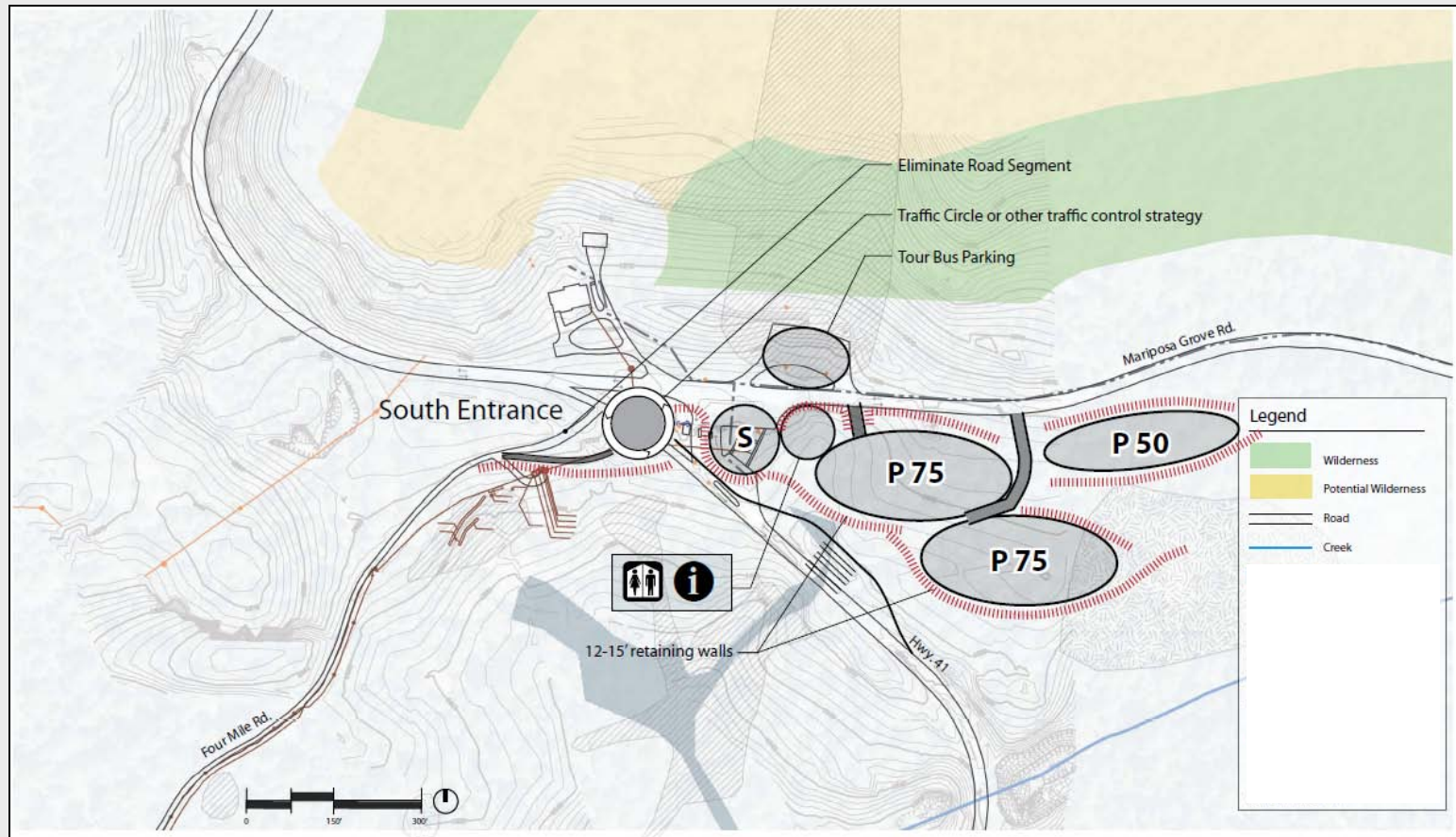
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Site Test-Fits: Parking for the Grizzly Giant

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Site Test-Fits: Parking at South Entrance

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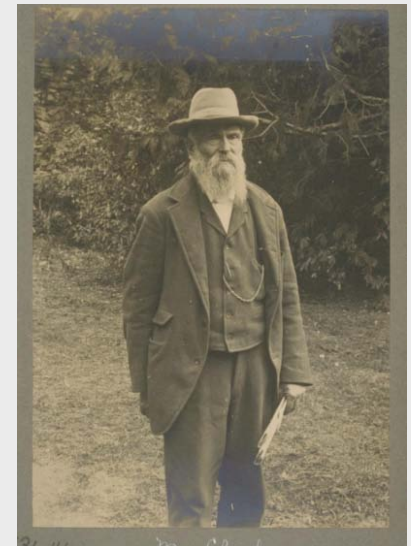
Project Milestones

2012

June 5/6	Choosing by Advantages (CBA) Workshop (Identify Preferred Alternative)
June 27	Public Open House
July	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Consultation Site Visit (tentative)
July	Consultation with Tribes
Late Summer	Public Review DEIS (60 days) (Public Open House, Site Visit)
December	Comment Analysis and EIS Revision

2013

Winter	Final EIS published (anticipated)
Spring	Record of Decision (anticipated)



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