



Scenic Vista Management Program Work Plan 2013 - Addendum

March 12, 2014

This past fall, while Scenic Vista operations were scheduled to occur, the park forestry crews were occupied with Rim Fire containment, the following clean-up efforts, and removing burned tree hazards. Vista management was deferred until Rim Fire efforts were completed in Mid-November. At that time crews were able to do initial clearing on four of the eight sites, until snow and colder temperatures returned. Tree work during colder temperatures increases the risk of mortality to hibernating animals and operations were halted for the year.

At this time initial clearing on the remaining four sites will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Initial clearing at Mirror Lake will take place in the next week. Park wildlife staff have evaluated the site and determined that the risk to hibernating animals is minimal given the type of trees being removed, and the warmer temperatures in the Valley at this time. The management plan states that the preferred time to remove trees is in the fall, generally about mid-September to mid-November, but can take place outside of this time if evaluated and approved by park natural resource staff.

The remaining three sites will be evaluated if crews are available, but at this time it is likely the three remaining sites will be done in the fall of 2014. The three remaining sites are:

1. Cascade Bridge, Big Oak Flat Road
2. G1 overlook, Glacier Point Road
3. Crane Flat Helibase Tower