



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yosemite National Park

P.O. Box 577

Yosemite, California 95389

By order of the Superintendent of Yosemite National Park and under authority of Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, the following existing closures, public use limits and general regulations are hereby modified:

I. VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USE OR ACTIVITIES

36 CFR § 1.5 – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USES OR ACTIVITIES AND CONDITIONS

(a)(1) The following visiting hours and public use limits are established for all or for the listed portions of the park, and the following closures are established for all or a portion of the park, to all public use, or to a certain use or activity:

All free flowing rivers, creeks, and streams within Yosemite National Park are closed to the use of any type of vessel. Except that vessels may use the following waterways:

- The Merced River from the head waters to the Little Yosemite Valley Camp Ground
- The Merced River from Clark's Bridge to El Capitan Bridge when flows are below 6.5 feet as measured at the Pohono Bridge river gage at the time of launch on the day the river use is to occur.
- The Merced River from El Capitan Bridge to the park boundary when flows are at least 3.4 feet as measured at the Pohono Bridge river gage at the time of launch on the day the river use is to occur.
- The Tuolumne River from Pothole Dome to Pate Valley.
- The South Fork of the Merced River from its head waters to 100 yards upstream from the Wawona impoundment.
- The South Fork of the Merced River from downstream of the Wawona impoundment to the park boundary.
- These areas may be closed if debris or changing river characteristics restrict passage by vessels

The following conditions must be met:

- Vessels must be in good condition and rated for the classification of water users are intending to navigate.
- Use of a trailer or wheeled device to launch or retrieve a vessel is prohibited.
- Dragging vessels on vegetation is prohibited.
- A Personal Flotation Device must be worn while floating or paddling.

- Launching and retrieval is only permitted at the sites listed in this document under 36 CFR §3.8(a)(2).

The Superintendent has determined that management of the park's rivers must meet the needs of all park users, including but not limited to photographers, fishermen, and those wishing to see undisturbed sections of free flowing river. By partitioning the rivers and placing constraints on certain activities, each of the visitor groups can be accommodated, while providing for both visitor and resource protection. This action has been determined not to be a major shift in policy nor a significant change to previous regulatory efforts. These restrictions and conditions are necessary to preserve the natural character of the rivers, creeks, and streams for public enjoyment and safety.

II. GENERAL REGULATIONS

36CFR § 3.8(a)(2) Launching or recovery of a vessel is prohibited, except at the following sites:

- The Merced River:
 - The shoreline of the Merced River from the headwaters to the Little Yosemite Valley Campground.
 - The area downstream from Clark's Bridge for approximately 100 feet or as signed.
 - The area downstream from Stoneman Bridge for approximately 100 feet or as signed.
 - The area of El Capitan Bridge for approximately 100 feet upstream and downstream or as signed.
 - The shoreline downstream from Pohono Bridge.
- The South Fork of the Merced River- the shoreline from the headwaters to 100 yards upriver from the Wawona impoundment.
- The South Fork of the Merced River- the shoreline downriver from the Wawona impoundment.
- The Tuolumne River:
 - Pothole Dome area: downstream of the meadow
 - Glen Aulin within 100' of the bridge
 - Pate Valley: the shore within 100' of the bridge

The designation will remain in place until rescinded or superseded.



Don L. Neubacher
Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

4/24/15
Date