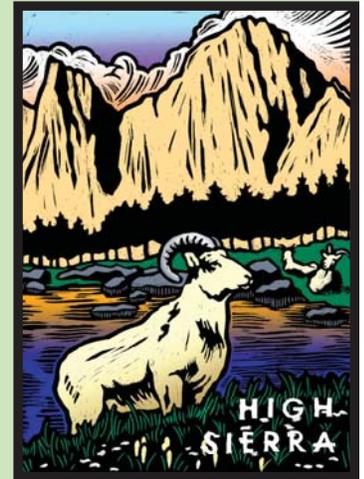
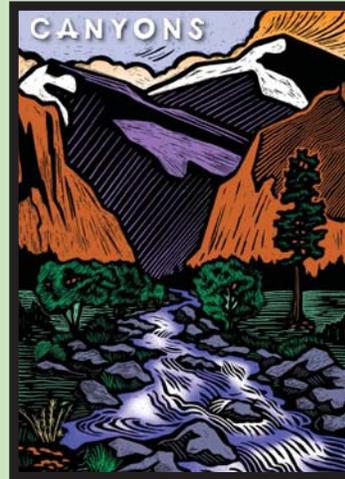


# Late Spring 2014 - Visitor Guide

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks & Sequoia National Forest/Giant Sequoia National Monument



## Celebrate wilderness

• Like national parks, wilderness areas are part of our heritage, held in trust for us and for our descendants. These landscapes protect natural and cultural treasures, undimmed skies and sounds, wildlife and its wild habitat. In wilderness lives America's frontier past, side by side with a future that still has room for nature, wide-open spaces, challenge, and exploration.

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wilderness Act. The result of this law, the National Wilderness Preservation System, preserves lands where "man himself is a visitor who does not remain." It adds, even within places like these parks, an important layer of protection to the wildest array of the national terrain.

• **Dark Sky Festival** - Speaking of wilderness, join us July 25<sup>th</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup> to revel in the wild spaces overhead. Seeing millions of stars wheeling in a sky free of unnatural light stands as one of the great experiences in large natural parks such as these. A week-

end of events designed to inform and delight includes meeting astronomers, using large telescopes for deep-sky viewing, making solar observations, and more. See [www.sequoiahistory.org](http://www.sequoiahistory.org) for details, and plan to visit then!

• Our weather remains undomesticated and variable, too! **California's**

**drought** challenges us all to conserve water—and to not be surprised if it runs short in places. After three very dry years, limited water may affect availability of some park facilities this summer. Your help in reducing water waste—in campgrounds, lodgings, RVs, and showers—can make a big difference. Thanks for your efforts!



*Celebrate the untamed landscapes and experiences protected in wilderness: its solitude, challenge, inspiration, and beauty.*  
White Chief Lake ©Holly Griffith

### See details inside

Bears & food storage.....	11
Camping .....	4
Crystal Cave Tours.....	5
Exploring on your own:	
Sequoia & Shuttle.....	6
Kings Canyon & USFS .....	7
Facilities & hours .....	8-9
Lodging .....	5
Map .....	8
Nature & ecosystems .....	3
Phone numbers .....	2
Ranger programs .....	5
Road information, delays..	12
Safety .....	10
Shuttle in Giant Forest.....	6
Visitor centers .....	2
Wilderness permits .....	11