



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sequoia and Kings Canyon  
National Parks

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## Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

**For Immediate Release:** December 3, 2012

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### **The National Park Service Completed an Environmental Assessment for the Rehabilitation/Resurfacing of a Section of the Generals Highway and Wolverton Road within Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks**

The National Park Service (NPS) has completed an environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed rehabilitation and resurfacing of 7 miles of the Generals Highway, one of two main access roads into Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and the only year-round access to Sequoia National Park. Specifically this project, with a tentative start date in 2014 pending funding approval, will be completed along the Generals Highway from Deer Ridge (12.5 miles from the Sequoia National Park entrance off of Hwy. 198) to Wolverton Road (19.5 miles from the Sequoia National Park entrance off of Hwy. 198). In addition, the project will include the 1.3-mile Wolverton Road, with access to the main (large) parking lot for the General Sherman Tree and the Wolverton Trailhead parking lot. This project will involve excavation and replacement of the roadbed and surface; replacement of existing pavement; rehabilitation or replacement of drainage structures, such as culverts and drop inlets; redesign of drainage at locations where existing drainage is inadequate; replacement of asphalt curbs; replacement of guardrails; and the rehabilitation and building of the road shoulder, where needed. The historic roadway would be re-established, and rehabilitation work would be done on selected turnouts and scenic overlooks.

The Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) statement, signed by Acting Regional Director Martha Lee on August 30, 2012, and the EA constitute the record of the environmental impact analysis and conservation planning for this project. To obtain these documents, visit <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/seki>.

**-continued on page 2-**

–continued from page 1–

The EA was prepared by the NPS and was released for a 30-day public review ending on July 6, 2012. The park received four comments during the review period. Comments were generally supportive of the project. None of the comments provided any additional, new, or substantive information or new alternatives that would require revising the EA for additional public review or that would change the determination of effects.

*Additional Background:* This project is part of the large-scale Generals Highway rehabilitation project, which started in the early 1990s and is expected to continue for an additional 5 to 6 years.

–NPS–

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## **SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS**

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, which lie side-by-side in the southern Sierra Nevada in central California, serve as a prime example of nature's size, beauty, and diversity. With the world's largest trees (by volume), grand mountains, rugged foothills, deep canyons, vast caverns, and the highest point in the lower 48 states, it is a place that attracts 1.6 million visitors a year from across the U.S. and the world. Visitor activities vary by season and elevation. For more information, visit [www.nps.gov/seki](http://www.nps.gov/seki) or call 559-565-3341.