



Forest, Monument, or Park?

Sequoia National Forest

You may see signs for Sequoia National Forest, Giant Sequoia National Monument, and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks... and wonder what is the difference between these places? Are all on federal land? Each exists to benefit society. Yet each has a different history and purpose. Together they provide a wide spectrum of uses.

The Difference:

The **U.S. Forest Service** was created in 1905. Forest employees work for the U.S. Forest Service, an agency in the **Department of Agriculture**.

National Forests, managed under a "multiple use" concept, provide services and commodities that may include lumber, livestock grazing, minerals, and recreation with and without vehicles.

National Monuments can be managed by any of three different agencies: the **U.S. Forest Service**, the **National Park Service**, or the **Bureau of Land Management**. They are created by presidential proclamation and all seek to protect specific natural or cultural features. Giant Sequoia National Monument is managed by the U.S. Forest Service and is part of Sequoia National Forest. It was created by former President Bill Clinton in April of 2000.

The **National Park Service** was created in 1916. Park employees work for the National Park Service, an agency in the **Department of the Interior**. National Parks strive to keep landscapes unimpaired for future generations. They protect natural and historic features while offering light-on-the-land recreation.

Forests, Monuments, and Parks may have different rules in order to meet their goals. Read "Where can I..." to check out what activities are permitted within the Sequoia National Forest, Giant Sequoia National Monument, and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks. Despite confusion over names, these areas provide a wide range of opportunities.

Where Can I?



Walk a Pet? In National Forest & Monument: Pets are allowed on trails. In Parks: Not on trails but it's ok in developed areas (campgrounds, picnic areas, roads). In both areas: Pets must be on a leash less than 6 feet (1.8m) long. Don't leave pets in hot cars, It's against the law.

Go Camping? In National Forest & Monument: In campgrounds or, unless posted otherwise, near roadsides. Pull safely off the road & no further. In Parks: Only in numbered sites in designated campgrounds.



Have a Fire? Regulations change during mid-to late- summer and early fall; always check before starting a fire. In National Forest & Monument: Fire permits are required for all campfires and barbecues. Get a permit at any Forest Service, California Department of Forestry, Bureau of Land Management Office, or online at preventwildfireca.org. In Parks: Only in fire grills in campgrounds & some picnic areas.

Cut Wood? In National Forest & Monument: Call Hume Lake Ranger District ([559-338-2251](tel:559-338-2251)), Western Divide Ranger District ([559-539-2607](tel:559-539-2607)), or Kern River Ranger District ([760-376-3781](tel:760-376-3781)) for permit & guidelines. It's not allowed in the Parks.



Collect Things? In National Forest & Monument: Gathering one or two cones or rocks for personal use is allowed without a permit. Not in Parks: Leave everything to play its natural role in the ecosystem. In both areas: Archeological sites & artifacts are protected by law to collect.

Feed Wildlife? Not in any area! Animals become unnaturally dependent. Some can be dangerous and may have to be killed. Some can carry disease. Roadside beggars get hit by cars.



Go Fishing? Fishing is regulated by the California Department of Fish & Game. In all areas: Permitted during fishing season; a California fishing license is required for ages 16 & up. Get copies of park-specific regulations at any office. For information: [559-243-4005](tel:559-243-4005).

Hunt? Hunting is regulated by the California Department of Fish & Game. In National Forest & Monument: During hunting season with license. For information: [559-243-4005](tel:559-243-4005). Not in the Parks.



Drive Off-Road? In the National Monument, stay on designed paved or dirt roads only. NO OFF ROAD DRIVING. National Parks, On Paved Roads only. In the National Forest: Ask a ranger about designated routes and/or maps on local areas.

Practice a Leave No Trace! Ethic.

When you leave your campsite,
Take all garbage, large and small.

PACK IT IN!
PACK IT OUT!

Ride a Bicycle? In the National Forest and Monument: Ask a ranger which trails permit bicycles. In Parks: Keep bikes on roads only, not on any trail. In both areas: Be careful & courteous near pedestrians & horses. People under 18 must wear a helmet. Bicycles are never allowed in designated Wilderness Areas.



Go Picnicking? All areas have designated picnic sites. Never leave food unattended! Most picnic sites have tables, restrooms, water & fire grills.

Thank you for your help in making forest visits enjoyable and safe! Plan ahead by obtaining a National Forest map at one of the following offices:

Hume Lake Ranger District
35860 East Kings Canyon Road
Dunlap, CA 93621
[559-338-2251](tel:559-338-2251)

Kern River Ranger District
11380 Kernville Rd.
Kernville, CA 93238
[760-376-3781](tel:760-376-3781)

Western Divide Ranger District
32588 Hwy 190
Springville, CA 93265
[559-539-2607](tel:559-539-2607)

Forest Supervisor's Office
1839 S. Newcomb Street
Porterville, CA 93257
[559-784-1500](tel:559-784-1500)

For information on National Park rules and regulations, Please contact:

Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks
Ash Mountain Headquarters
Three Rivers, CA 93271
[559-565-3341](tel:559-565-3341)
www.nps.gov/seki

