Belknap Complex

Sequoia National Forest

Giant Sequoia National Monument Western Divide Ranger District



Belknap is a complex formed from the large McIntyre Grove, Wheel Meadow Grove and the smaller, compact Carr Wilson, or Bear Creek Grove. This grove complex offers beautiful trails through old-growth sequoias along Bear Creek and the Middle Fork of the Tule River. The grove complex is about 2,460 acres.

Recreation Opportunities

There are several trails through this grove, including Forest Trail 31E30 and 31E31. Forest Trail 31E30, the **Camp Nelson Trail**, goes through the heart of the grove along the river and can be started at Belknap or Quaking Aspen campgrounds. You can stop and fish the Tule River along this trail. One large tree in the main grove area has been described as a monstrous umbrella. It is very short for a sequoia, but has a trunk almost as massive as the General Sherman tree (the largest sequoia in the world). Two other large sequoias in this complex have been hollowed out by fires. Amazingly enough they are still alive and growing.

The **Bear Creek Trail** (31E31) climbs from Coy Flat Road to Slate Mountain Ridge along the western edge of the grove. Along this trail you'll find a group of sequoias, as well as beautiful vistas along Slate Mountain Ridge. There are three campgrounds in the area. Belknap Campground is within the grove itself, Coy Flat is adjacent to it, and Quaking Aspen is a 30-minute drive along Highway 190 to the east. These are fee campgrounds with drinking water and vault toilets. There are private cabins allowed under special use permits in two Forest Service Recreation Residence Tracts within the grove as well.

Practice a Leave No Trace! Ethic.

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

PACK IT IN!

PACK IT OUT!



This tree is located on the Camp Nelson Trail east of Cedar Slope. Hikers, mountain bikes, and persons on horseback can pass through it's enormous trunk.

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