

Welcome

to the

North Rim Recovery

Open House



Meeting Purpose

This meeting provides an opportunity for you to contribute to recovery planning for the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. Participants will:

- Understand the past and ongoing work that has been completed to restore the North Rim.
- Learn about how the National Park Service (NPS) is working to maintain high-quality visitor experiences while protecting resources.
- Discuss preliminary concepts to rebuild the North Rim.

Get Oriented

We encourage you to take time to review the posters, connect with park staff and other community members about the plan, ask questions, and contribute to the planning process.

Have a Conversation

NPS staff are here to answer your questions about the North Rim, fire recovery, the presented ideas and to ensure you have the information that you need to make comments.

How to Provide Comments

To share your comments and learn more about the recovery planning efforts, please visit the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/NorthRimRecovery>. Or, scan the QR code with a smartphone.



Project Website QR Code

Purpose, Need, and Goals for the Plan



Background: In 2025, a lightning strike ignited the Dragon Bravo Fire, which burned across the Kaibab Plateau and below the rim of the canyon from July to September 2025. The fire altered the North Rim landscape, burning approximately 71,130 acres of park-managed land and infrastructure in the developed area.

Purpose: Guide the North Rim’s recovery following the Dragon Bravo Fire—not just by rebuilding what existed before, but by using the opportunity to create a more cohesive built environment, reimagine and enhance visitor access and experience, and modernize infrastructure with sustainability and resilience at the forefront.

This plan is needed to:

- Guide postfire development of visitor and administrative services, facilities, and structures on the North Rim.
- Reimagine recreational and educational opportunities across the North Rim.
- Reduce congestion and resource impacts at trailheads and in other developed areas.
- Increase accessibility while maintaining the North Rim’s character.
- Address backcountry vehicle use and vehicle-based camping.
- Improve visitor orientation, information, and sense of arrival.
- Respond to evolving weather trends.

Plan Goals

- Advance opportunities for Tribal engagement, first voice interpretation, and Indigenous perspectives in North Rim recovery and long-term management.
- Develop reliable infrastructure that supports safe and engaging visitor experiences.
- Leverage partnerships and business relationships to provide visitor opportunities and services.
- Enhance accessibility of North Rim facilities, services, and experiences.
- Improve pedestrian and vehicle circulation, orientation, and wayfinding.
- Establish guidance for backcountry vehicle use and at-large vehicle-based camping.
- Improve visitors’ understanding and stewardship of resources and maintain opportunities for meaningful connection to the park.
- Preserve natural and cultural resources by reducing and mitigating the impact of the North Rim built environment.
- Define appropriate visitor and administrative uses and opportunities on the North Rim by location and season.





Fire Recovery Project Accomplishments and Timeline



Impacts from the fire, including the loss of the historic Grand Canyon Lodge and over 100 other structures, necessitated stabilization, demolition, and a long-term rebuilding process.

The accomplishments and projects presented here ensure that the National Park Service can be ready to receive your feedback and help to rebuild the North Rim.

Where we have been

August 2025: Burned Area Emergency Response and Burned Area Rehabilitation

Fall 2025 – present (ongoing): Hazard Tree Removal & Pipeline Stabilization

October 1, 2025 – November 15, 2025: Partial Reopening of North Rim

Fall 2025 – Fall 2026: Removal of Unstable Structures, Burned Vehicles and Equipment

May 15, 2026: North Rim Reopens to Visitors

Where we are going

Summer 2026 – Fall 2026: Road Repairs

Summer 2026 – Winter 2026: Lodge Site Feasibility

Fall 2026 and Summer 2027: Critical Utilities Restoration

Fall 2026: Start Temporary Wastewater Treatment Plant Project

Fall 2027: Start Legacy Restoration Fund Projects





Actions Common to All Concepts (A, B, and C)

There are three preliminary concepts—Restore and Modernize, Transform, and Expand—that represent a spectrum of approaches that range from restoration of the preexisting facilities and seasonality to year-round opportunities that enhance and expand visitor access. Each concept is a starting point for conversation, designed to help you visualize what is possible.

The actions presented on this poster are common to all three concepts.

Lodging:

- Explore converting staff cabins adjacent to the campground to rentable cabins.

Camping:

- Change campground reservations to rolling reservations with different windows (e.g., two days, two weeks, twelve months).
- Add electric hook-ups to some campsites.
- Retrofit campground lights to dark sky standards.
- Convert the Backcountry Information Center building for campground operator use.

Visitor Services

- Develop visitor services facilities on CC Hill (size and scale vary by concept) that include visitor orientation and information, indoor and outdoor exhibits, and programming and multiuse space.
- Develop a paved parking area on CC Hill plus a gravel parking lot for overflow and overnight use (size and scale vary by concept).
- Realign and improve the road to CC Hill.
- Relocate the North Kaibab Trailhead to the new parking area at CC Hill.
- Relocate the backcountry information center from the campground to CC Hill.
- Develop a picnic area and accessible trail on CC Hill.
- Improve wayfinding and signs at the North Rim entrance station and Lindbergh Hill picnic area.

- Explore options to increase visitor orientation and information at Jacob Lake Visitor Center.

Trails and Unpaved Roads

- Enhance trail connections between the campground and other areas of the park by adding new trails or formalizing existing trails.
- Improve trails to match and be compatible with their intended uses.
- Expand accessible trail opportunities.
- Enhance promotion of hiking opportunities in areas away from the Bright Angel Peninsula.
- Realign the Arizona Trail away from the utility corridor, improve the crossings at Highway 67, and upgrade it to National Scenic Trail standards.
- Convert Fire Point Road to a hiking trail within the park boundary and install a vehicle barrier at the NPS/USFS boundary.
- Improve unpaved roads for multiuse recreational opportunities and to function as fire breaks.

Visitor Activities

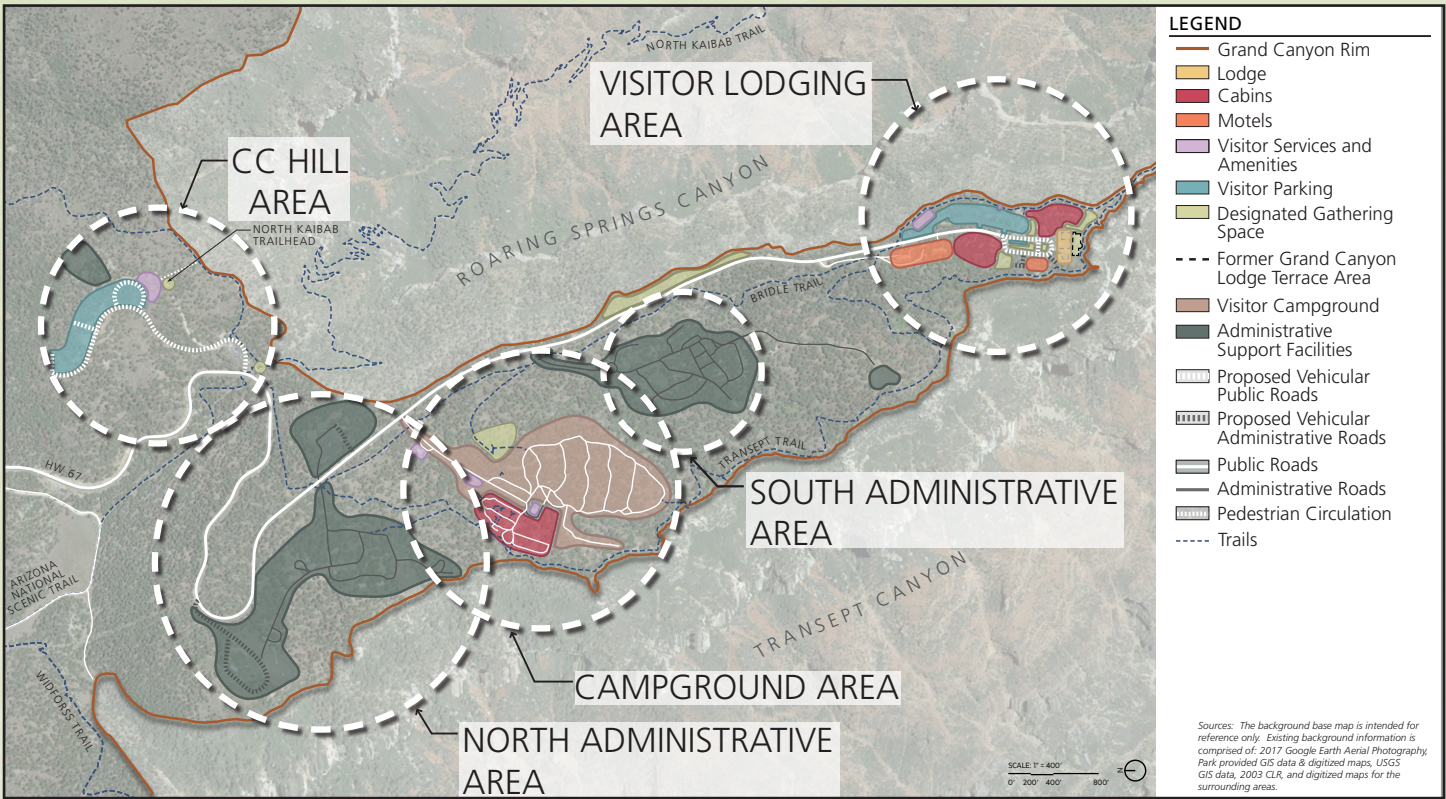
- Explore options to retain, reduce, or eliminate commercial stock use that originates from the North Rim.
- Establish a hiking/biking-only period on the Cape Royal and Point Imperial Roads (i.e., close the road to vehicles for a limited time).



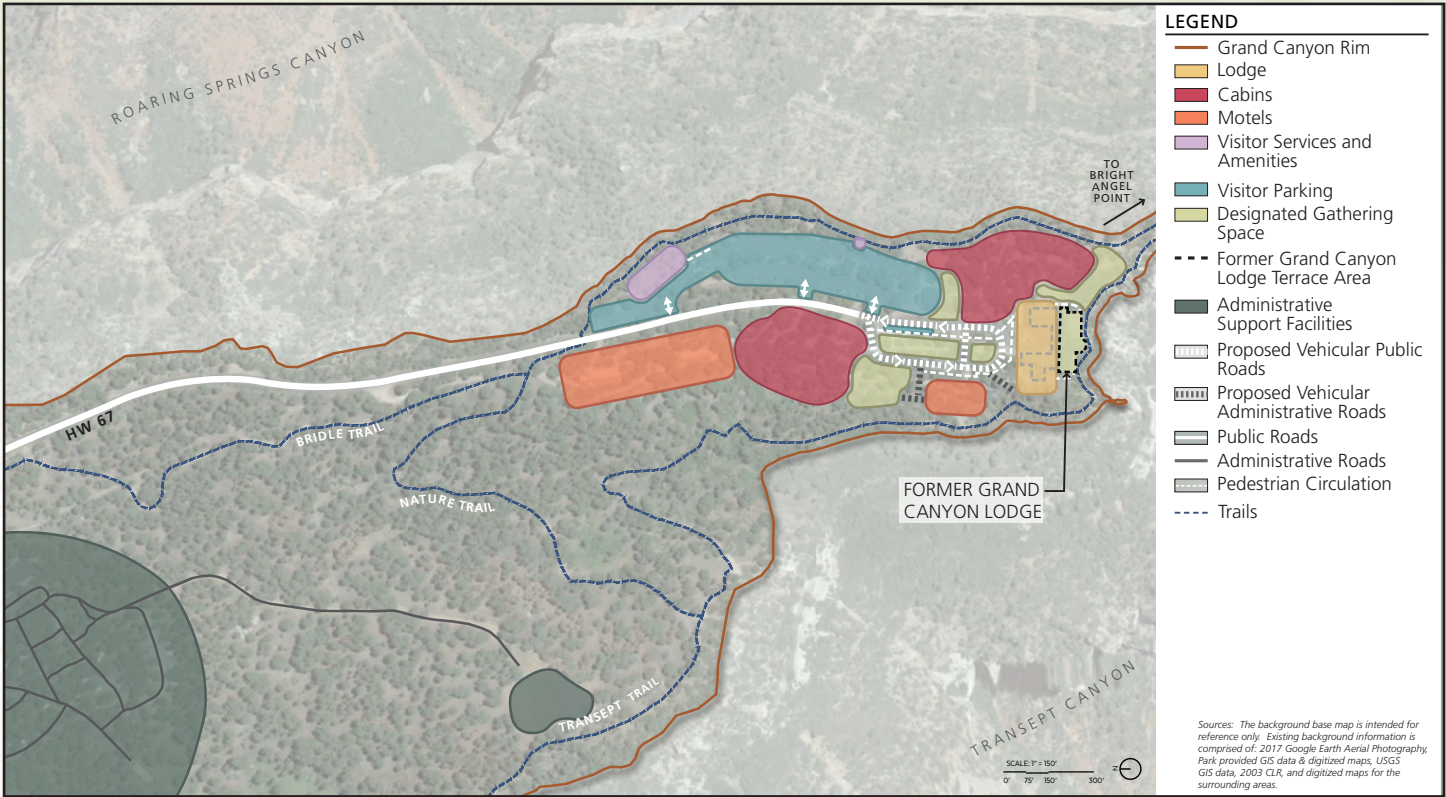
Concept A: Restore and Modernize

Summary: A full replacement of developed areas and key destinations with modernization as needed to meet current safety, accessibility, and operational standards. Prefire activities, services, and functions are restored, and the primary visitor season is approximately May 15–November 30.

Concept A - Restore And Modernize



Concept A - Restore and Modernize: Southern Bright Angel Peninsula





Concept A: Restore and Modernize

Lodging

- Rebuild the lodge as close to its original footprint as possible, with the potential to repurpose the previous lodge’s terraces and the moon room if feasible.
- Construct new motels and cabins in addition to the remaining structures.
- Restore lodging capacity to approximate prefire numbers.

Camping

- Maintain the campground in its current size.

Visitor Services

- » **Southern Bright Angel Peninsula**
 - Construct a visitor contact station with retail; establish indoor and outdoor programming space.
 - Provide comprehensive food service options—including sit-down dining, counter service, and bar service—along with retail and gift operations (to be operated by a concessioner).
 - Provide parking for both day-use and overnight guests.

Visitor Services

- » **CC Hill**
 - Construct a visitor contact station at CC Hill.
 - Construct a paved parking area accommodating vehicles for trailhead parking, supplemented by a gravel overflow lot that also supports overnight parking needs.

Trails and Unpaved Roads

- Construct a multiuse (hike/bike) trail connecting the CC Hill parking lot to the Bridle Path.

Visitor Activities

- Install a vault toilet at the Lindbergh Hill picnic area.

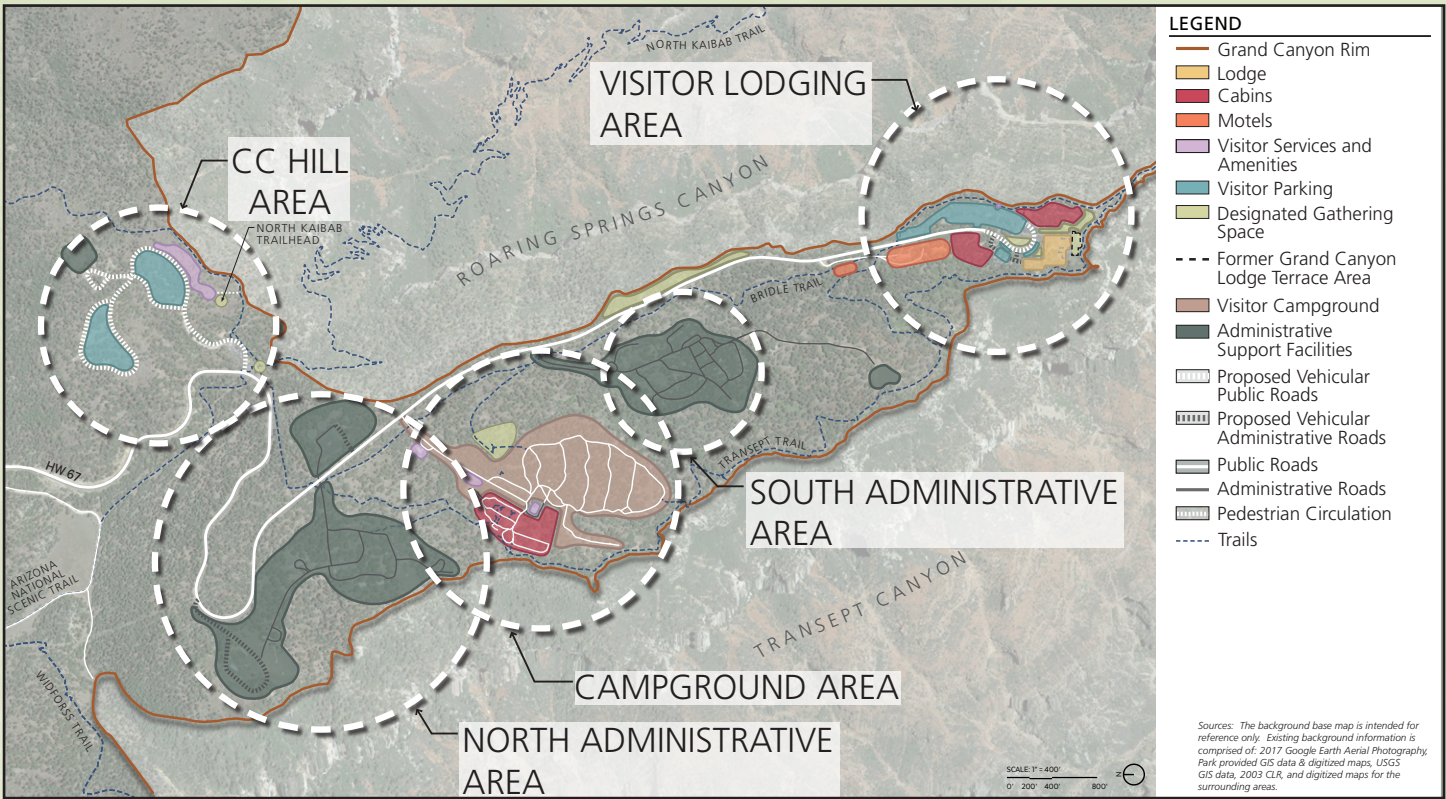




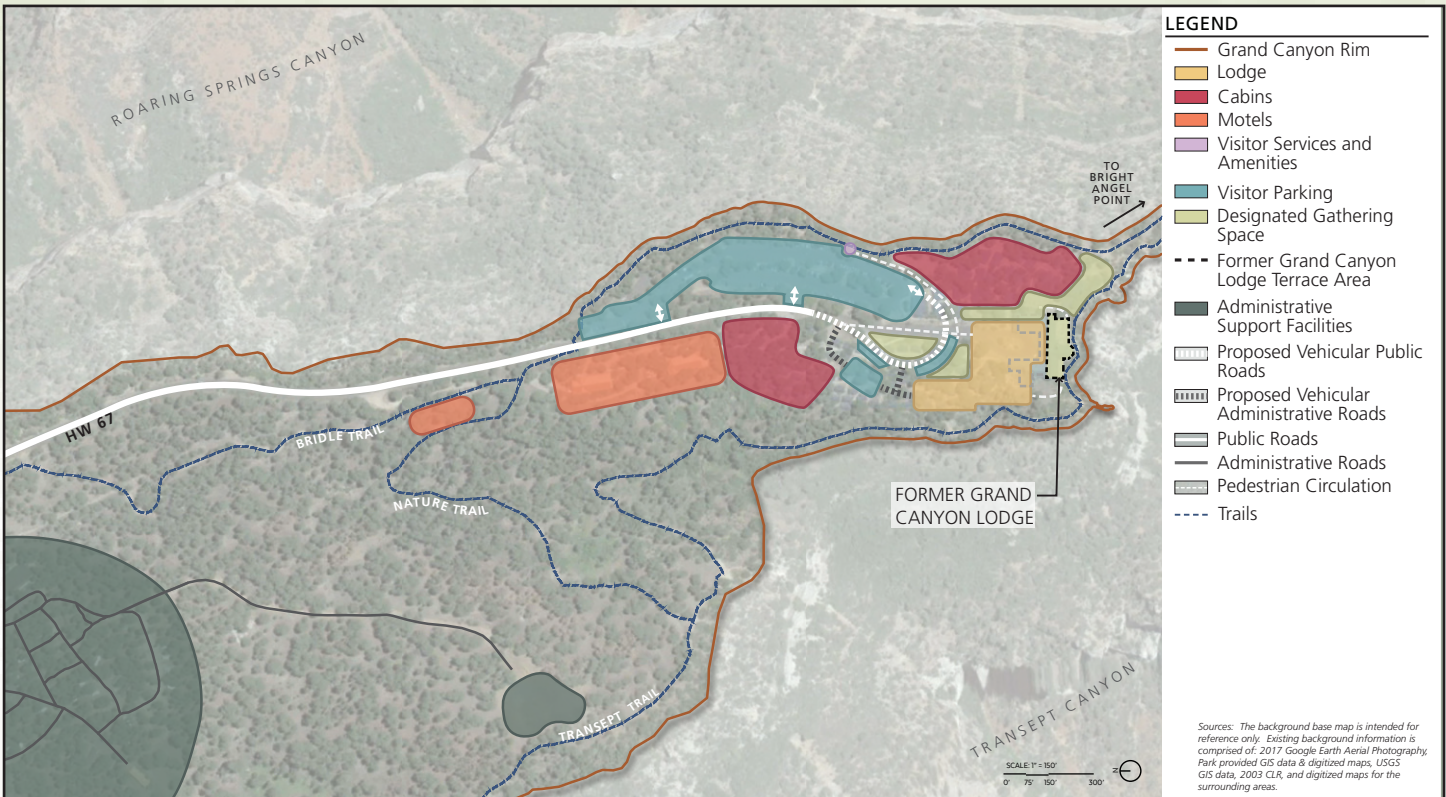
Concept B: Transform

Summary: The North Rim is reimagined as a four-season visitor destination through major infrastructure upgrades. Primary visitor season is approximately April 1–January 5.

Concept B - Transform (4 Season)



Concept B - Transform (4 Season): Southern Bright Angel Peninsula





Concept B: Transform

Lodging

- Construct a new lodge facing Transept Canyon; the facility would provide the functions of the previous lodge and include hotel rooms.
- Dedicate the southern rim area as pedestrian space, with the potential to repurpose the previous lodge’s terraces and the moon room if feasible.
- Construct new motels and cabins in addition to the remaining structures.
- Restore lodging capacity to approximate prefire numbers, or slightly increase.

Camping

- Maintain the campground in its current size.
- Upgrade campground utilities for winter use; define winter camping areas within the campground and designate van/small RV camping sites.

Visitor Services

- » **Southern Bright Angel Peninsula**
 - Construct a visitor contact station with limited retail; establish indoor and outdoor programming space.
 - Provide expanded food service options—including sit-down dining, counter service, and bar service—along with retail and gift operations (to be operated by a concessioner).
 - Provide parking for day-use and overnight guests.
 - Establish a dark sky viewing area and/or a night sky observatory.

Visitor Services

- » **CC Hill**
 - Develop a visitor center that includes indoor and outdoor exhibits, programming space, and visitor orientation and information services.
 - Construct a paved parking area with spaces to accommodate trailhead access supported by an overflow lot.
 - Provide food service offerings (operated by a concessioner).
 - Provide seasonal gear rentals (e.g., bicycles, snowshoes) for summer and winter activities (operated by a concessioner).

Trails and Unpaved Roads

- Construct a multiuse (hike/bike) trail connecting the CC Hill parking lot to the Bridle Path.
- Mark Transept Trail, Bridle Path, and Uncle Jim Trail for winter recreational use.

Visitor Activities

- Open, and consider maintaining, the Scenics for nonmotorized winter recreation as conditions allow.
- Promote Lindbergh Hill parking area as a launch point for winter recreation. Install and maintain a four-season vault toilet.
- Designate winter routes for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in meadows and establish criteria for closing trails when snow levels are low to prevent resource damage.
- Mark the campground loop road for winter use (e.g., snowshoeing).

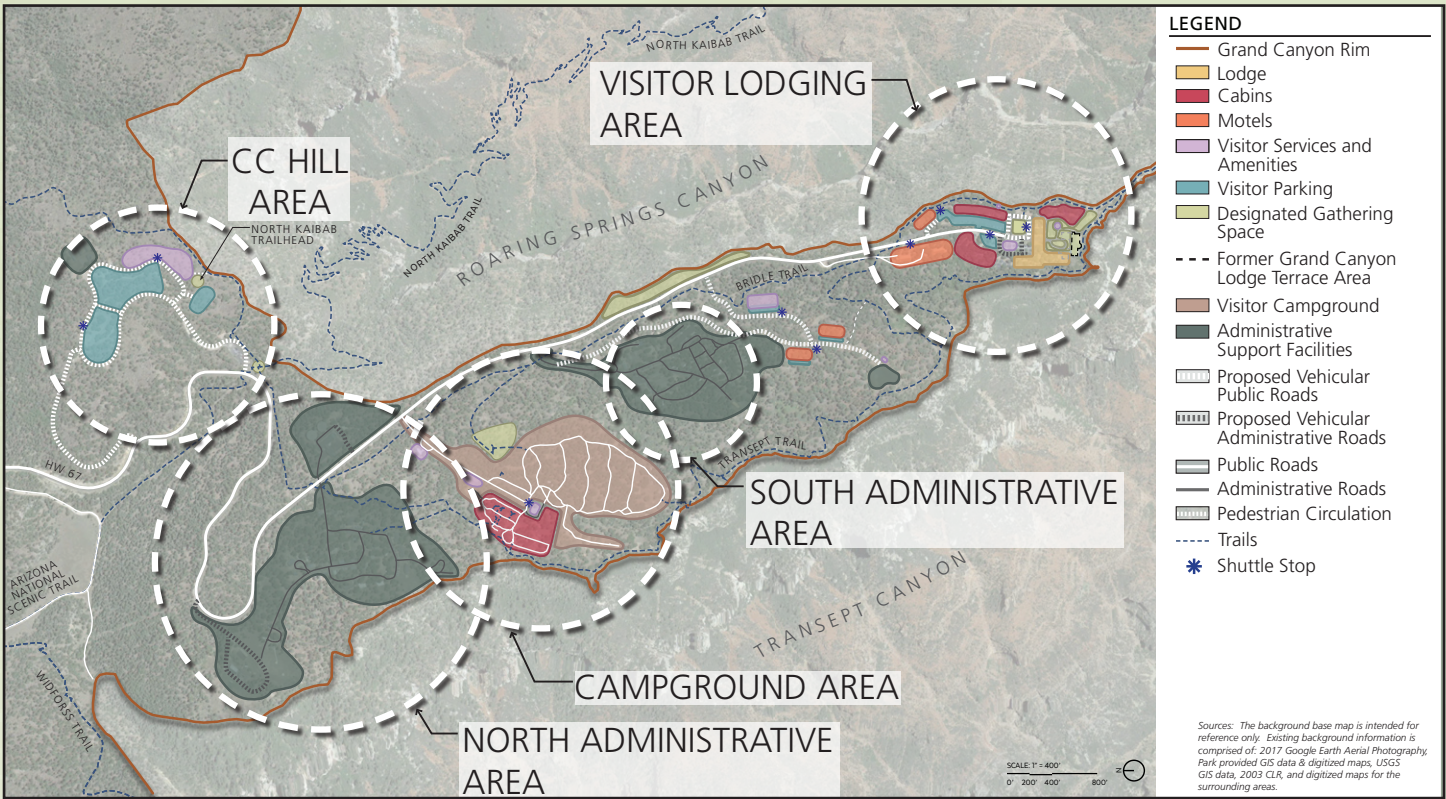




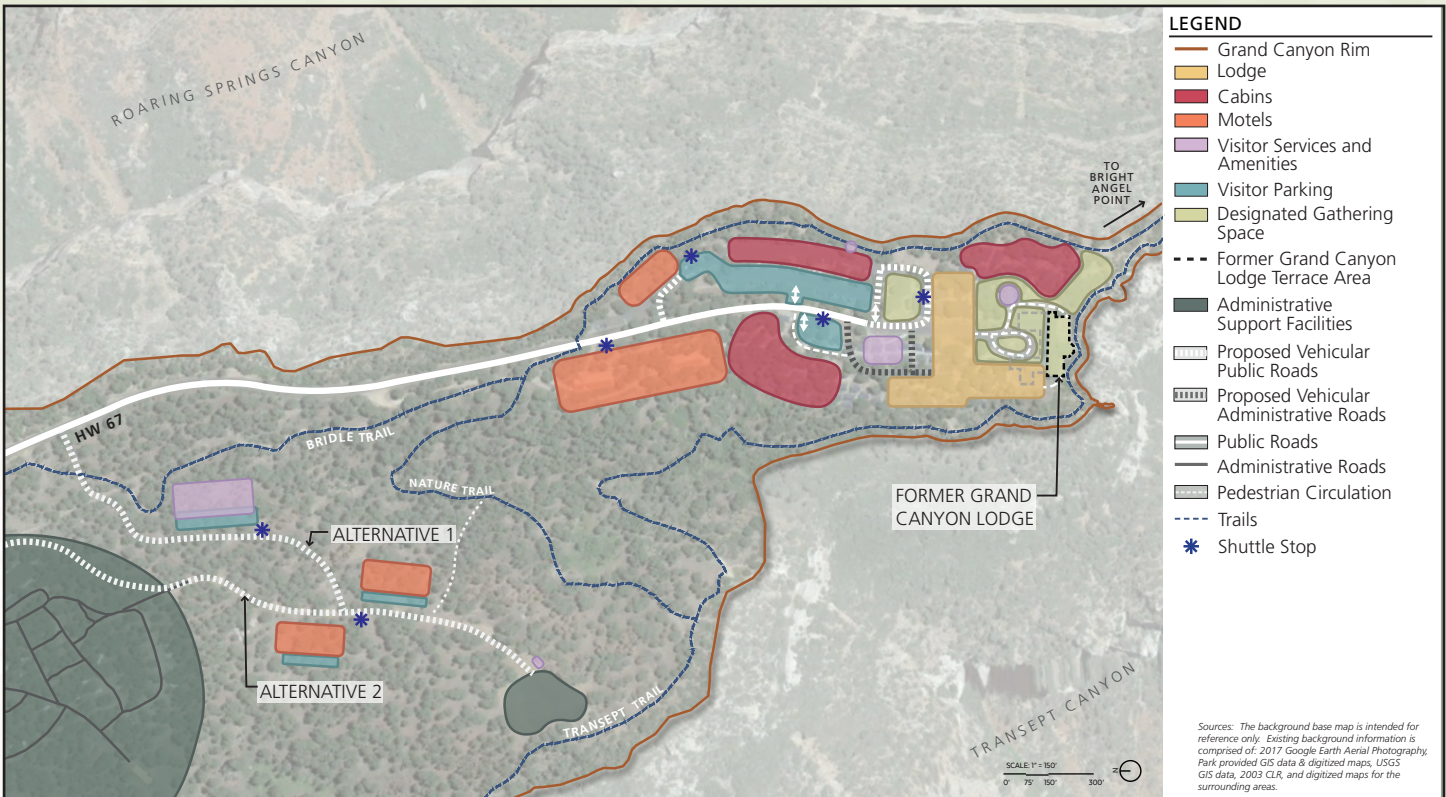
Concept C: Expand

Summary: A combined approach offering year-round access while growing the developed footprint to increase peak-season capacity. Visitor services and overnight stays would be available throughout the year.

Concept C - Expand (4 Season)



Concept C - Expand (4 Season): Southern Bright Angel Peninsula





Concept C: Expand

Lodging

- Construct a new lodge north of where the previous lodge was located; the facility would provide the functions of the previous lodge and include hotel rooms.
- Dedicate the area south of the new lodge as pedestrian space; potentially repurpose the previous lodge’s terraces and the moon room if feasible.
- Construct new motels and cabins in addition to the remaining structures.
- Expand lodging capacity.

Camping

- Upgrade campground utilities for winter use; define winter camping areas within the campground and designate van/small RV camping sites.
- Develop additional campsites at the campground and/or establish dry camping at Cape Royal.

Visitor Services

» Southern Bright Angel Peninsula

- Construct a visitor contact station with limited retail; establish indoor and outdoor programming space.
- Provide expanded food service options scaled to the capacity of overnight accommodations—including sit-down dining, counter service, and bar service—along with retail and gift operations (operated by a concessioner).
- Reduce parking past the campground; visitors would access the Southern Bright Angel Peninsula via a shuttle system.
- Establish a dark sky viewing area and/or a night sky observatory.

Visitor Services

» CC Hill

- Construct a visitor center that would include indoor and outdoor exhibits, expanded programming space, gallery and demonstration space, and visitor orientation and information.

- Develop a secondary entrance/egress to CC Hill and paved parking area, plus an overflow lot for overnight parking. The paved parking area would serve as a park-and-ride transit center for access to the Southern Bright Angel Peninsula.
- Provide food service offerings (operated by a concessioner).
- Provide seasonal gear rentals (e.g., bicycles, snowshoes) for summer and winter activities (operated by a concessioner).

Trails and Unpaved Roads

- Construct a multiuse (hike/bike) trail connecting the CC Hill parking lot to the Bridle Path.
- Mark Transept Trail, Bridle Path, and Uncle Jim Trail for winter recreational use.
- Reestablish the Old Bright Angel Trail to create a loop trail option with the North Kaibab Trailhead.
- Establish a Walhalla Rim Trail connecting Point Imperial to Roosevelt Point to Cape Royal.
- Establish a connector trail from the Bridle Path to the Widforss Trail.

Visitor Activities

- Open, and consider maintaining, the Scenics for nonmotorized winter recreation as conditions allow.
- Promote Lindbergh Hill parking area as a launch point for winter recreation. Install and maintain a four-season vault toilet.
- Designate winter routes for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in meadows and establish criteria for closing trails when snow levels are low to prevent resource damage.
- Mark the campground loop road for winter use (e.g., snowshoeing).
- Develop yurts for winter use within parking lots along the Cape Royal and Point Imperial Roads (operated by a concessioner).

Summary of Concepts with Key Differences

As you review the concepts, the planning team would like to hear your feedback. Comments that are most helpful include those that:

- Share how the actions and ideas would align or detract from your desired experiences at the North Rim
- Identify actions or ideas that the planning team has not yet considered, but that you would like to see evaluated
- Describe facilities and amenities that you feel are essential for a visit to the North Rim
- Consider resource protection and fire resiliency when providing input on long-term management of the area.

For more information on the planning effort and details about these concepts, scan the QR code to view additional project details.



	 Concept A – Restore and Modernize	 Concept B – Transform	 Concept C – Expand
Overall Intent	Rebuild generally as the North Rim was, updated to today's standards	Reimagine as a four-season destination with major upgrades	Combine year-round access with expanded lodging and more visitor activities and services
Primary Visitor Season	May 15–November 30	April 1–January 5	Year-round access
Lodge Placement	Rebuild a new lodge as close to the original footprint as possible	» Construct a new lodge facing Transept Canyon	Construct a new lodge north of previous lodge's location
Lodging Capacity	Restore capacity to prefire levels, with motels and cabins	Restore capacity to near prefire levels, or slightly increase, with motels, cabins, and hotel rooms in the new lodge	» Expand lodging capacity by including hotel rooms in the new lodge » Construct new motels and cabins
Parking and Access to the Lodge	Provide day-use and overnight parking near lodge and at CC Hill	Same as A	» Reduce parking by lodge to accommodate expanded capacity » Require most visitors to park at CC Hill and ride shuttle services to the peninsula
Visitor Services – Southern Bright Angel Peninsula	» Develop a basic visitor contact station with limited retail » Provide full food service	In addition to A, develop a dark sky viewing area	In addition to B, provide expanded food service and retail
CC Hill	Develop a visitor contact station and parking area	» Construct a visitor center with exhibits, programming, and orientation » Develop parking » Provide food service and gear rentals	» Build a park-and-ride transit hub for access to Bright Angel Peninsula » Construct an expanded visitor center with additional amenities » Provide food service and gear rentals
Camping	Maintain current size of campground	» In addition to A, upgrade utilities for winter use » Designate van/small RV sites	Develop additional campsites and upgrade utilities for winter use
Winter Use	No changes from prefire conditions	Designate winter routes for nonmotorized use (e.g., snowshoeing)	In addition to B, develop winter yurts at parking areas along the scenic highways