

**Table 3. Preliminary Draft Alternatives by Key Topic – Campfires, Food Storage, and Human Waste  
October 2012**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Common to All Action Alternatives</b>	<b>Alternative 1 – No Action - Current Management Practices Continue.</b>	<b>Alternative 2 – Protect wilderness character while accommodating increased visitor use and allowing for expanded facilities for visitor and administrative support.</b>	<b>Alternative 3 – Protect wilderness character by balancing visitor access, development, and restrictions.</b>	<b>Alternative 4 – Protect wilderness character and reduce need for development by decreasing visitor access and increasing restrictions.</b>	<b>Alternative 5 – Substantially reduce development and protect wilderness character by reducing visitor use and increasing restrictions.</b>	<b>Alternative 6 – Provide for the most unconstrained wilderness experience and protect wilderness character by significantly reducing visitor access.</b>
<b>CAMPFIRES, FOOD STORAGE, AND HUMAN WASTE</b>							
<p><b>Campfires –</b></p> <p>The National Park Service (NPS) restricts campfires to protect down-wood resources, and for other ecological purposes.</p> <p>Elevation limits are established for resource protection and to provide for ease of understanding for public compliance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No campfires would be allowed in Zone A.</li> <li>The use of stoves in wilderness would be highly recommended.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Common to All Zones – Current campfire restrictions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No campfires above 10,000 ft in Kings River drainage.</li> <li>No campfires above 9,000 ft in Kaweah River drainage.</li> <li>No campfires above 10,400 ft in Kern River drainage</li> <li>There are additional site specific closures in Kings, Kaweah, Kern, and Tule River drainages.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Common to All Zones –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as No Action but evaluate specific areas where campfires would be allowed above existing elevation limit:</li> </ul> <p>-Kings Canyon National Park (KICA) examples: Charlotte Lake Meadow below drift fence, PCT crossing of South Fork Kings River, Shorty’s Meadow.</p> <p>-Sequoia National Park (SEQU) examples: Sandy Meadow, Tyndall Creek, Upper Kern-Kaweah, Upper Big Arroyo, Lost Canyon, Rattlesnake Creek, Rock Creek, Whitney Creek, Wallace Creek, and Upper Kern Basin.</p>	<p><b>Common to All Zones –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No campfires above 8,500 ft in SEQU (Kern/ Kaweah/Tule river watersheds).</li> <li>No campfires above 10,000 ft in KICA.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Common to All Zones –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No campfires above 8,500 feet in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks (SEKI).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Common to All Zones –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No campfires in wilderness.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Common to All Zones –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fires prohibited in Zone A. Generally no fire restrictions in other zones except for resource protection in specific areas.</li> <li>The use of stoves in wilderness would be highly recommended.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Food Storage –</b></p> <p>Food storage requirements provide resource protection by preventing wildlife from obtaining human food.</p> <p>“Container” is the general term used to describe those storage vessels that effectively keep human food from bears and other animals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NPS would not consider installation of bear poles or bear wires under any alternative, and would remove any remnant poles or wires.</li> <li>Posting of “alert” guard as a food-storage technique is prohibited throughout the parks.</li> </ul>	<p><b>See Common to All</b> (and the following) – commercial guides (stock and hiking) are required to only use self-provided portable containers – wilderness wide. They are not allowed to counter-balance hang or alert guard food items.</p> <p><b>Zone A –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No portable container requirements for day use.</li> </ul>	<p><b>See Common to All</b></p> <p><b>Zone A –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A food storage locker at North Dome would be added.</li> </ul>	<p><b>See Common to All</b></p> <p><b>Zone A –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Portable containers would be required for overnight use at North Dome.</li> </ul>	<p><b>See Common to All (and the following) –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All food storage lockers would be removed.</li> <li>Portable containers would be required for all overnight users in all zones.</li> </ul> <p><b>Zone A –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No portable containers would be required for day users.</li> </ul>	<p><b>See Common to All (and the following) –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All food storage lockers would be removed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Zone A –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as Alt 4.</li> </ul>	<p><b>See Common to All (and the following) –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All food storage lockers would be removed.</li> <li>No food storage lockers would be provided.</li> <li>Self-determined appropriate food storage wilderness wide.</li> </ul> <p><b>Zone A –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as Alt 4.</li> </ul>

**Table 3. Preliminary Draft Alternatives by Key Topic – Campfires, Food Storage, and Human Waste  
October 2012**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Common to All Action Alternatives</b>	<b>Alternative 1 – No Action - Current Management Practices Continue.</b>	<b>Alternative 2 – Protect wilderness character while accommodating increased visitor use and allowing for expanded facilities for visitor and administrative support.</b>	<b>Alternative 3 – Protect wilderness character by balancing visitor access, development, and restrictions.</b>	<b>Alternative 4 – Protect wilderness character and reduce need for development by decreasing visitor access and increasing restrictions.</b>	<b>Alternative 5 – Substantially reduce development and protect wilderness character by reducing visitor use and increasing restrictions.</b>	<b>Alternative 6 – Provide for the most unconstrained wilderness experience and protect wilderness character by significantly reducing visitor access.</b>
<p>Types of containers currently allowed are: food storage lockers installed by the NPS; certain backpacker canisters; certain stock panniers; and metal drums/barrels with locking lids. Note that new technologies may emerge that may be allowed in the future.</p> <p>“Self-determined appropriate food storage” allows for visitor discretion in determining the most appropriate method of food storage (excluding alert guard) such that wildlife cannot obtain it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NPS would respond to food storage problems as warranted. Food storage regulations would be considered on a case-by-case and/or area specific basis as warranted.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone B –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 89 food storage lockers are currently located in the wilderness (most in Zone B and in SEQU; not as many in KICA, outside Rae Lakes Loop). In some areas containers are required.</li> <li><u>Summer Regulations (Effective 5/01 to 10/31):</u> Portable, park-allowed, food-storage containers (including canisters or panniers with the capacity to store all garbage, scent and food items) are required for all overnight parties entering and or exiting the following areas:   <u>-Rae Lakes Loop &amp; Vicinity</u>                      All users must use park-allowed, portable food-storage containers or panniers or camp at sites with food-storage lockers and use the lockers. Long distance through hikers on the PCT and the JMT may use either portable containers or food storage lockers.   <u>-Dusy and Palisades Basins –</u>                      All users must use portable containers.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone B –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The existing food storage lockers would be retained but locations may shift based on need; numbers may be increased in key areas.</li> <li>Existing food storage requirements would be modified based on the locations of additional food storage lockers.</li> <li>Additional portable container requirements would be implemented in specific areas.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone B –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain food storage lockers in select locations (e.g. Rae Lakes Loop, High Sierra Trail (HST), and potentially designated stock camps).</li> <li>All lockers determined to be unnecessary would be removed.</li> <li>Existing food storage requirements would continue to apply.</li> <li>Additional portable container requirements would be implemented in specific areas.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone B –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Portable containers would be required for all overnight users.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone B –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as Alt 4.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone B –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-determined appropriate food storage would be required.</li> </ul>

**Table 3. Preliminary Draft Alternatives by Key Topic – Campfires, Food Storage, and Human Waste  
October 2012**

Topic	Common to All Action Alternatives	Alternative 1 – No Action - Current Management Practices Continue.	Alternative 2 – Protect wilderness character while accommodating increased visitor use and allowing for expanded facilities for visitor and administrative support.	Alternative 3 – Protect wilderness character by balancing visitor access, development, and restrictions.	Alternative 4 – Protect wilderness character and reduce need for development by decreasing visitor access and increasing restrictions.	Alternative 5 – Substantially reduce development and protect wilderness character by reducing visitor use and increasing restrictions.	Alternative 6 – Provide for the most unconstrained wilderness experience and protect wilderness character by significantly reducing visitor access.
		<p><u>-Rock Creek Area</u> – All users must use park-allowed, portable food-storage containers or panniers or camp at sites with food storage lockers and use the lockers. Long distance hikers on the PCT may use portable containers or food-storage lockers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The technique of counterbalancing or hanging food is prohibited in the above areas except in winter.</li> </ul>					
		<p><b>Zone C –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A few food storage lockers are located in this zone; portable containers may be required in certain areas.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone C –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The existing food storage lockers would be retained. Consider increasing the number of food storage lockers in key areas.</li> <li>• Portable containers would be required in certain areas.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone C –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some of the existing food storage containers would be retained and some would be removed. Portable containers would be required in certain areas.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone C –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portable containers would be required for all overnight users.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone C –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same as Alt 4.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone C –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-determined appropriate food storage would be required.</li> </ul>
		<p><b>Zone D –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No food storage lockers; portable containers are highly recommended and required in some areas.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone D –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-determined appropriate food storage would be required.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone D –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same as Alt 2.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone D –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portable containers would be required for all overnight users.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone D –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same as Alt 2.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone D –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same as Alt 2.</li> </ul>

**Table 3. Preliminary Draft Alternatives by Key Topic – Campfires, Food Storage, and Human Waste  
October 2012**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Common to All Action Alternatives</b>	<b>Alternative 1 – No Action - Current Management Practices Continue.</b>	<b>Alternative 2 – Protect wilderness character while accommodating increased visitor use and allowing for expanded facilities for visitor and administrative support.</b>	<b>Alternative 3 – Protect wilderness character by balancing visitor access, development, and restrictions.</b>	<b>Alternative 4 – Protect wilderness character and reduce need for development by decreasing visitor access and increasing restrictions.</b>	<b>Alternative 5 – Substantially reduce development and protect wilderness character by reducing visitor use and increasing restrictions.</b>	<b>Alternative 6 – Provide for the most unconstrained wilderness experience and protect wilderness character by significantly reducing visitor access.</b>
<p><b>Human Waste Management (Recreational Use)</b>– The goals of human waste management are to reduce development by removing unnecessary toilet facilities; protect natural and cultural resources; reduce litter created by improperly disposed of toilet paper; and, increase visitor knowledge of appropriate sanitation and toilet paper disposal in wilderness.</p> <p><b>Waste Terminology Defined – Privy</b> (or privies) – a dug hole(s) or small toilet(s) with small privacy structure. Waste is left to break down naturally.</p> <p><b>Vault toilet</b> –a self-contained vault where waste is deposited, then removed or cleaned out.</p> <p><b>Restrooms</b> – Larger facilities such as at Emerald and Pear Lake (may be composting type).</p> <p><b>Cathole</b> – a small user-dug hole at least 6” deep where waste is deposited, covered with soil and left to break down naturally</p> <p><b>Pack-out waste kit</b> – a user carried waste kit composed of a bag(s) with a chemical agent where waste is deposited. Kit is carried out by user and disposed of in a waste receptacle (e.g. WagBag®, or Restop®).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NPS would consider implementing new technologies in the future.</li> <li>• No toilet paper is to be left behind or buried in wilderness.</li> <li>• Prior to installing new toilet facilities, or moving existing toilet facilities, cultural and natural resource surveys would be conducted.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Common to All Zones –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NPS currently recommends that users carry out all toilet paper.</li> </ul>	<p><b>See Common to All Zones</b></p>	<p><b>See Common to All Zones</b></p>	<p><b>See Common to All Zones</b></p>	<p><b>See Common to All Zones</b></p>	<p><b>See Common to All Zones (and the following) –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All existing privies and restrooms would be removed from all zones (including Emerald and Pear Lake restrooms), except those affiliated with administrative structures.</li> <li>• No additional privies, vault toilets, or restrooms would be constructed.</li> <li>• Catholes would be required in all zones, unless visitors elected to use Pack-out waste kits.</li> <li>• Pack-out waste kits would not be required.</li> </ul>
		<p><b>Zones A, B, and C –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some privies and restrooms are located in these zones.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zones A, B, and C –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Privies would be considered for high day use areas (e.g. Heather Lake) and considered in high use overnight areas.</li> <li>• Small vault toilets would be considered for specific locations.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zones A, B, and C –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Privies would be considered for high day use areas (e.g. Heather Lake).</li> <li>• Evaluate existing privies and remove those beyond reasonable repair or in inappropriate locations [to be determined (TBD)]; maintain those determined to be retained.</li> <li>• No new privies or restrooms would be constructed.</li> <li>• Small vault toilets would be considered for installation at specific locations.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zones A, B, C –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All existing privies and restrooms would be removed from all zones (including Emerald and Pear Lake restrooms) except those affiliated with administrative structures.</li> <li>• No additional privies would be allowed.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zones A, B, and C –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same as Alt 4.</li> </ul>	
		<p><b>Zone D –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No toilet facilities.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone D –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No toilet facilities would be constructed.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone D –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same as Alt 2.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone D –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same as Alt 2.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Zone D –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same as Alt 2.</li> </ul>	
		<p><b>Catholes</b> – are required where there are no privies/restrooms.</p>	<p><b>Catholes</b> – would continue to be required in areas with no privies/restrooms.</p>	<p><b>Catholes</b> –Same as Alt 2.</p>	<p><b>Catholes</b> –would be required except in high use areas with pack-out waste kit requirements.</p>	<p><b>Catholes</b> – no catholes would be allowed.</p>	
		<p><b>Pack-out waste kit</b> – recommended in the Mt. Whitney area.</p>	<p><b>Pack-out waste kit</b> –would be required in the Mt. Whitney area.</p>	<p><b>Pack-out waste kit</b> –would be recommended in high use areas in Zone B.</p>	<p><b>Pack-out waste kit</b> would be required in high use areas as warranted.</p>	<p><b>Pack-out waste kit</b> –would be required in all zones.</p>	