



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:** February 29, 2016

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### Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks Seek Public Comments on Proposed Generals Highway Rehabilitation Project

*SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS, CA*—The National Park Service (NPS), in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) at the Sequoia National Forest, Giant Sequoia National Monument, is initiating public scoping on a proposal to rehabilitate and resurface 17.4 miles of the Generals Highway, which is the main road between Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. The work would be done from Little Baldy to one mile south of the intersection of the Generals Highway and Grant Grove Road (Hwy. 180). The project would occur on both NPS and USFS portions of the Generals Highway. All written comments about this project must be transmitted, postmarked, or hand-delivered by March 31, 2016. To make electronic comments or to learn more about this project, visit <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/seki>. To submit written comments, send them via mail or hand-deliver to: Superintendent, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Attn: Generals Highway Project, 47050 Generals Highway, Three Rivers, CA 93271. Faxed comments will be accepted at (559) 565-4202. *Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.* If you have any specific questions regarding this project proposal, you may contact Nancy Hendricks, environmental protection specialist, at (559) 565-3102.

The first phase of the project, which would start in 2018, is a 7.4-mile section from Little Baldy north to Pythian Camp. The second phase of the project would include the remaining 10 miles of road and would likely start in 2019 or 2020, depending upon funding. The project would entail excavating and replacing base and

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sub-grade materials, and grinding and reusing the existing pavement to resurface the roadway. Drainage structures (e.g., culverts and drains) would be rehabilitated, replaced, or redesigned at locations where existing drainage is inadequate. The project would include replacement of asphalt curb and guardrails, reconstruction of retaining walls and guardwalls, restoration of the road shoulder, and rehabilitation of turnouts and scenic overlooks. As part of the project, the Kings Canyon Overlook would be expanded slightly and redesigned to improve traffic flow and pedestrian access. In addition, as part of this project, the park is considering the possibility of redesigning the parking area and adding a new trail and/or viewpoints that would allow visitors to more closely experience the monarch giant sequoias in the Lost Grove. Upon completion of roadway rehabilitation, site restoration and re-vegetation would occur in disturbed areas adjoining the road.

Both the NPS and the USFS are interested in any public concerns, potential issues, or opportunities related to the proposed project. After analyzing comments received during scoping, the NPS and the USFS will determine the level of analysis necessary.

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