



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

News Release

For Immediate Release – November 18, 2009

Contact Adrienne Freeman 559/ 565-3131

Public Input Sought on Future Concessions Operations at Kings Canyon National Park

Public comment period open from November 18 to December 21, 2009

The National Park Service is developing an environmental assessment to evaluate alternatives and impacts related to the future concessions operations at Kings Canyon National Park, which includes Grant Grove and Cedar Grove. Current facilities at Grant Grove include a restaurant, gift shop, lodge, shower and laundry facilities, grocery store, and concession employee housing. Current facilities at Cedar Grove include a restaurant, gift shop/grocery store, lodge, shower and laundry facilities, and concessioner employee housing.

The current concessions contract will end October 31, 2011. The NPS is currently developing a prospectus for a new contract; alternatives for the future concessions operations will be explored through this process. The NPS is seeking public input and feedback on the existing facilities at the two areas, and what facilities and activities the public would like to have available at these areas in the future. This prospectus will not include commercial pack stock facilities.

Commercial services are offered in parks to facilitate enjoyable and safe visitor experiences while protecting park resources. Commercial services provide goods and services that are not otherwise available nearby. All commercial services must be authorized; must be deemed necessary and/or appropriate; and must be economically feasible. Commercial service use levels and types are managed to provide high-quality visitor experiences while protecting natural, cultural, and scenic resources.

Public comment may be submitted online by selecting Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks at the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment website, <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/seki>. The public may also direct comments regarding this project to the park in writing by sending an e-mail to seki_planning@nps.gov, or the public may mail or hand deliver their comments to:

Superintendent

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
Attn: Kings Canyon Prospectus
47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271

All comments must be received by December 21, 2009.

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. We will always make submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals

identifying themselves as representatives of or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety. Anonymous comments will not be accepted.

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