



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 28, 2012

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Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and Other National Parks Bring Money and Jobs to Local/National Economies

Three Rivers, CA – National parks bring money and jobs to local and national economies. For example, it is estimated that 1.6 million visitors to Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks spent over \$97 million and contributed 1,384 jobs to the local economy in communities within 60 miles of the parks in 2010. Overall, spending by national park visitors in 2010 added \$31 billion to the national economy and supported more than 258,000 jobs across the U.S. This is an increase of \$689 million and 11,500 jobs over 2009. The nationwide figures are based on \$12 billion of direct spending by 281 million visitors in 394 national parks and nearby communities and are included in an annual, peer-reviewed, visitor spending analysis conducted by Dr. Daniel Stynes of Michigan State University for the National Park Service.

“National parks are best known for their incredible beauty and the preservation of America’s historical legacy but they are also the significant, clean, green fuel of economic engines for local communities and our entire nation,” said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis. Jarvis added, “The investment American taxpayers make in their national parks continues to offer a huge return, not only in priceless family experiences but in real jobs and economic growth in our gateway communities that ripples to suppliers across the nation.”

Most of the spending/jobs are related to lodging, food, and beverage service (52 percent). This is followed by other retail (29 percent), entertainment/amusements (10 percent), gas and local transportation (7 percent), and groceries (2 percent).

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The entire National Park Service report, which includes information on visitor spending by park and by state, is online at <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/products.cfm#MGM>. Click *Economic Benefits to Local Communities from National Park Visitation and Payroll, 2010*.

For more state-by-state information on national parks and how the National Park Service is working with communities, visit www.nps.gov/STATE, e.g., <http://www.nps.gov/california>.

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SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, which lie side-by-side in the southern Sierra Nevada in central California, serve as a prime example of nature's size, beauty, and diversity. With the world's largest trees (by volume), grand mountains, rugged foothills, deep canyons, vast caverns, and the highest point in the lower 48 states, it is a place that attracts 1.6 million visitors a year from across the U.S. and the world. Visitor activities vary by season and elevation. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/seki or call 559-565-3341.