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News Release

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Recreation Update for Giant Sequoia National Monument

SPRINGVILLE, California, August 5, 2015 – A lot of information has been disseminated over the past couple of days regarding wildland fires. Most areas in the Giant Sequoia National Monument and Sequoia National Forest, outside the Golden Trout Wilderness, remain open to visitors.

Popular locations such as the Boole Tree, Hume Lake, Trail of 100 Giants, and the forested area around California Hot Springs are all open to the public. Smoke from wildland fires may be visible; however none of the areas outside the Golden Trout Wilderness are currently threatened by fire in the Forest or Monument.

Inside the Golden Trout Wilderness, backcountry travelers can continue to access the area northeast of Lewis Camp Trailhead. Travel is limited to those areas east of the Old Hockett Trail (33E01) which begins near the Lewis Camp Trailhead, travels through Trout Meadow, and ends near the Kern Canyon Ranger Station located in Sequoia National Park. Areas west of this trail, within the boundaries of the Golden Trout Wilderness, are closed due to the Cabin Fire.

This provides backcountry users access to the Kern River from Lewis Camp, Jerkey Meadow and Forks of the Kern Trailheads. Areas along the Kern River, including the Inyo National Forest, and south towards Bakersfield all remain open.

Neighboring recreational areas such as Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Mountain Home State Forest, and Balch Park all remain open. If you are planning a backcountry trip into the Golden Trout Wilderness, please call (559) 539-2607 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. for latest fire information and to obtain your wilderness permit.

For information specific to the Cabin Fire, please call (559) 462-0088 or look on Inciweb <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4423/>. A map of the closure area within the Golden Trout Wilderness can be found on Inciweb under the maps tab and will be posted on the Sequoia National Forest website <http://www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia/> later today.

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