Finding aid for the Division of Resource Management and Science Records

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Finding aid for the Division of Resource Management and Science Records

Collection number: SEKI 22369

Museum and Archives
Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks
Three Rivers, California

Processed by:
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Date Completed:
August 2011

Encoded by:
Tammy Fishman

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Division of Resource Management and Science records
Dates: 1874-2003
Bulk Dates: 1964-1999
Collection number: SEKI 22369
Collector: Sequoia National Park (Calif.). Division of Resource Management and Science.
Collection Size: 50 linear feet.
Repository: Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, Museum and Archives
Three Rivers, CA 93271-9700
Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English
Abstract: Records generated within the organizational divisions of Sequoia Kings Canyon National Park concerning Park management, planning and development.

Access
Collection is open for research by appointment.

Publication Rights
Many collections are former federal government records and are in the public domain. Other collections are from private sources; copyright has been transferred to the NPS on most. Some collections have publication restrictions. Researchers are required to properly credit all materials used. The researcher assumes responsibility for acquiring copyright permissions when needed.

Preferred Citation
Division of Resource Management and Science records, SEKI 22369. Courtesy of the National Park Service, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks.

Biography / Administrative History
By the 1930s, the Parks' superintendent was beginning to grapple with the complexities of park resource management. Under John R. White, Sequoia was one of the first parks to address the cumulative effect of visitation and development on the ecosystems the Parks were meant to protect. Following the publication of the Leopold Report in 1963, Park staff began to include larger numbers of ecologists, biologists, and botanists, and a wide range of research projects were undertaken. In 1976, the Division of Natural Resources Management was established out of the consolidation of work functions drawn from throughout the Parks administration.

Vanguard efforts at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks have included the development of prescribed fire as an ecological tool, early attempts to manage visitation to minimize impacts to wilderness areas, and the promotion of parks as a place for scientific research.

Scope and Content of Collection
The collection consists of correspondence, planning documents, permits, reports, field data, and photographs. Important topics include the advent of prescribed fire, forest ecology, the development of meadow monitoring and the limitation of stock use, the effects of visitors on the wilderness, baseline data for species distribution, the protection of Park caves, documentation of Park landscapes, and the emerging importance of science to Park management.

**Arrangement**

The collection is organized into eight series: Series I Division Plans and Reports; Series II Scientific Research Permits; Series III Wilderness Impact Records; Series IV Natural Resources Inventory; Series V Cave Records; Series VI Wildlife and Ecology Records; Series VII Forestry Records; and Series VIII Aerial Photography

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.
- Sequoia National Park (Calif.) Division of Resource Management and Science.
- Preservation of caves.
- Natural resources--Management.
- Conservation of natural resources.
- Wildlife conservation.
- Grazing--Environmental aspects.
- Vegetation surveys--Sequoia National Park (Calif.)
- Environmental pollutants--Adverse effects.
- Fire management--Sequoia National Park (Calif.)
- Archeological investigations.
- Natural history collections--Management.
- Scientific research--Permissions.
- Wilderness areas--Recreational use--Environmental aspects.
- Plants, Protection of.

**Separated Material**

Steven DeBenedetti Collection (unprocessed); Harold Werner Collection (unprocessed)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder 001-177</th>
<th>Series 1. <strong>Division plans and reports 1986-1998</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Series Scope and Content Summary</strong></td>
<td>The series consists of plans, reports, and budgets. Important topics include the management of Parks’ natural and cultural resources, including specific plans for: fish and wildlife, vegetation, air, water, and fire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arrangement</strong></td>
<td>Chronological.</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Series Scope and Content Summary</strong></td>
<td>The series consists of correspondence, status reports, and forms relating to the permitted collection of specimens for scientific research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arrangement</strong></td>
<td>Arranged alphabetically by principal investigators last name.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 615-845</td>
<td>Series 3. <strong>Wilderness impact records 1939-1989</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series Scope and Content Summary</td>
<td>The series consists of field notes and data sheets, compiled Park resource management records, reports, and research studies. The bulk of the material relates to pioneering work in evaluating stock use impacts upon montane meadows. Other topics include: trail rehabilitation; campsites inventory, and campsite rehabilitation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrangement</td>
<td>Original order. Arranged in the following three groups, each roughly chronological: curated Park resource management records (including district ranger reports, grazing files, soil and moisture crew files, and meadows data); field notes and data sheets for specific meadows; and late projects and publications.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder 846-869</th>
<th>Series 4. <strong>Natural resources inventory 1985-1999</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Series Scope and Content Summary</td>
<td>The Natural Resources Inventory was a project to document the distribution of vascular plants throughout the Parks. It lasted from 1985 to 1996. The series consists of field notes and data sheets relating to baseline biological survey data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrangement</td>
<td>Chronological.</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder 870-891</th>
<th>Series 5. <strong>Cave records 1955-1974</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Series Scope and Content Summary</td>
<td>The series consists of correspondence, maps, publications, and photographs and negatives relating to the Parks' caves.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrangement</td>
<td>Arranged alphabetically, mainly by cave name.</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Series Scope and Content Summary</td>
<td>The series consists of black-and-white prints and negatives, color prints and negatives, color diazopositives, color transparencies, and films. The majority of this material consists of aerial photographs. A smaller group consists of motion picture film.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrangement</td>
<td>Chronological.</td>
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