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Former NPS Director Jonathan Jarvis Supports New Recovery Fund To Help Protect Giant Sequoia Groves

THREE RIVERS. Calif. September 23, 2021 – In response to the climate-related disaster occurring in Sequoia National Park, Sequoia Parks Conservancy has launched the KNP Complex Fire Recovery Fund for Sequoia National Park. Several years of exceptional drought and record high temperatures have created potentially catastrophic conditions for giant sequoias across the park's boundaries. After last year's SOF fire destroyed 10–14% of giant sequoias in the world, it's clear that the future of giant sequoias is in question.

As the fire continues to swell to over 33,000 acres, firefighters are working to protect the iconic giant sequoias and park infrastructure, but there will be much restoration work to do once the flames are gone. Even after only two weeks, this is the worst fire in Sequoia's 131-year history, having burned more than 8% of the park's land.

Jonathan Jarvis, the 18th Director of the National Park Service, recently emphasized the scope and urgency of the situation, "These majestic trees stood tall before the fall of the Roman Empire. They have seen many forest fires, but nothing like the intense flames of today. Never in their past has the combination of drought and climate threatened their future existence. Their future lies in our hands now, as well as many other plants and animals that call Sequoia National Park their home."

Sequoia Parks Conservancy has a goal of raising \$1 million. You can learn more and donate to the fund at www.sequoiaparks.org/firefund.

About the Fund

Donations to the KNP Complex Fire Recovery Fund for Sequoia National Park will fund efforts to rebuild trails, protect sequoia groves and meadows, safeguard cultural and historic features, reestablish access to Crystal Cave, restore wildlife habitat, and more.

About Sequoia Parks Conservancy

Sequoia Parks Conservancy is the official nonprofit partner of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and Lake Kaweah, working hand-in-hand with the National Park Service to support projects including trail improvements, educational programs for the public, and the protection of wildlife and their natural habitat.

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This is a photo of firefighters in the Giant Forest with a massive smoke plume in the background from Sept. 18, 2021. Photo by @cv__zach of Instagram



This is a photo of giant sequoias known as the the Four Guardians wrapped in protective foil during the KNP Complex fire taken on Sept. 10, 2021. Photo by NPS



This is a photo from Amphitheater Point of the KNP Complex fire taken Sept. 19, 2021. Photo by Mike Theune

Sequoia Parks Conservancy is the official 501(c)(3) nonprofit partner to the National Park Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and Lake Kaweah.

