



# A virtual tour of Grover Hot Springs State Park after the Tamarack Fire

***The following photos show the parts of the park that are usually accessible to the public when the park is open. The structures that were lost are in an area separate from the rest of the park and are not pictured.***

*Photos taken 7/31/21 by Ranger McCallan.*



**This photo was taken just down the road in front of you, looking west. The main meadow, one of the defining natural features of Grover, is still green and intact. The pool complex is visible in the distance. The mountainous slopes in the background are burned.**



**Along the road to the pools, this photo shows just how close the fire burned along the south edge of the park road.**





**The burned area (left side of photo) came close to the pool complex (right side of photo), but the pool complex remains intact! (next photo). It will take some time to restore the infrastructure needed to reopen the pools, such as water line repair, replacing equipment and supplies, and bringing back displaced employees.**



**The pool complex remains intact! It will take some time to restore the infrastructure needed to reopen the pools, such as water line repair, replacing equipment and supplies, and bringing back displaced employees.**





**From the back parking at the trailhead of the Hot Springs Cutoff trail looking northwest, you can see that some of the western portion of the meadow burned. Much of the area along and around Sawmill Creek trail also burned.**



**Now our tour heads up the road to your right, toward the campground. The view from the “sunset bench” looking west across the meadow is nearly unchanged, except for the burned mountain slopes in the background.**





**Most of the recently completed boardwalk across the meadow remains**





**As we move into the campground, you see there are a few campsites that were scorched. Though a couple campsites were nearly encircled by flames, and a few sites may be closed in the future due to hazard trees, the rest of the campground was untouched.**





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**Much of the campground was untouched.**





**Just north of the campground, from the vantage of the extra vehicle lot looking East. While most of these trees will survive well into the future, the trail now contains potential hazard trees. Hazard trees are trees that have been partially or completely burned and may be at risk of falling in a public use area. Because of this danger, the trails will be closed until the hazard trees can be assessed and safely removed.**





**Along the north edge of the meadow, fire burned on both sides of the Burnside Lake trail (a portion of which is often called the “waterfall trail”), the most popular trail in the park. While most of these trees will survive well into the future, the trail now contains potential hazard trees. Hazard trees are trees that have been partially or completely burned and may be at risk of falling in a public use area. Because of this danger, the trails will be closed until the hazard trees can be assessed and safely removed.**





**Additional views of the Burnside Lake trail (a portion of which is often called the “waterfall trail”), the most popular trail in the park. While most of these trees will survive well into the future, the trail now contains potential hazard trees. Hazard trees are trees that have been partially or completely burned and may be at risk of falling in a public use area. Because of this danger, the trails will be closed until the hazard trees can be assessed and safely removed.**







**The recently completed ADA trail along the north side of the meadow did suffer some damage. A short section of boardwalk burned, leaving behind only the white concrete footings.**





**The recently completed ADA trail along the north side of the meadow did suffer some damage. This photos showed the burned footbridge over Buck Creek**





**Fortunately, the park's main water tank on the slope north of the meadow survived, despite the fire burning the area all around it.**





**Over two weeks after the fire began, there are still several hot spots of smoldering stumps and logs.**





**Finally, just steps from the same vantage point of the Burnside Lake trail photos, looking south across the meadow, we are reminded of all that survived. The pool complex is seen in the distance with the burned mountain slope behind it.**

***As you can see, much of Grover Hot Springs is a green island, surrounded on all sides by burned areas. The survival of the park can be credited to:***

- The forestry crews from Sierra District of California State Parks, who for many years have created defensible space and hazard tree removal around park structures, such as the campground, remaining residences, and water tank.***
- Many firefighters from myriad agencies who worked around the clock to protect the park.***

***We are grateful for their hard work that has preserved this California State Park gem for future visitors like you.***