



State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation
Sierra District
Order No. 683-24-014

The following are my appropriately promulgated Sierra District Superintendent Orders, which shall be posted, and specifically pertain to Ward Creek State Park (Park):

Bicycles: Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR) 4360 states that “no person shall operate an operator or gravity propelled device in any unit” when the Department has posted an order prohibiting such activity. Bicycles are allowed to be operated in a safe and controlled manner on all paved and native surface roads and trails at this Park.

Fire Restrictions: No fires, charcoal grills, or camp stoves are allowed at this Park.

Park Hours: All lands, facilities, roads, and trails are closed from one half-hour after sunset to one half-hour before sunrise daily.

Model Aircraft and Unmanned Aerial Systems: Model aircraft and Unmanned (unoccupied) Aerial Systems (UAS or “drones”) are an emergent technology that can have a negative impact on Park resources and public safety and are generally inconsistent with the Park experience. Due to the dramatic growth and popularity of model aircraft and UAS, and based on concerns related to wildlife, aesthetics, visitor safety and privacy, and fire hazards, the following lands and facilities located within the Sierra District are restricted as follows:

No person shall launch, land, or operate a powered unmanned (unoccupied) aircraft or unmanned (unoccupied) aerial system (UAS) within **any** State Park unit owned or operated as part of the Sierra District of California State Parks.

I the District Superintendent, or my specifically named designee, may grant exemptions to this order as determined to be necessary for the proper administration of the Park, and to protect the safety and welfare of its visitors, employees, and resources. Exceptions to this order **may** include:

- Use by trained law enforcement for public safety purposes
- Use by media outlets
- Non-commercial use upon completion of the Park unit’s special event permit application and applicable FAA compliance
- Scientific research with appropriate FAA registration and Park unit permits

If any exception is granted, as described above, all UAS/Drone equipment must be made available for inspection of safety compliance at the time of application. All exemptions, except for emergency personnel, must be obtained in writing. Requests for exemptions may be made by contacting the District Superintendent.

I, the District Superintendent, or my specifically named designee, may grant exceptions to these orders as determined to be necessary for the proper administration of the park, and to protect the safety and welfare of visitors, employees and resources. All exceptions, except for emergency personnel, must be obtained in writing. Requests for exemptions may be made by contacting me Robert W. Griffith Sierra District Superintendent, Sierra District, P.O. Box 266, Tahoma, CA 96142 or robert.griffith@parks.ca.gov.

Nothing herein shall be construed in derogation of other provisions of law, existing contracts or property rights previously granted.

These orders have been posted pursuant to the California Code regulations, Title 14, Section 4301(i).

Signed:  _____ Date: 4/25/2024
25F30252DF68410...
Robert (Rob) W. Griffith
District Superintendent
Sierra District

Authority: California Public Resources Code Sections 5003 and 5008, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 4326, CCR 4300, 4301, CCR 4323, CCR 4326, 4317, 4360, 4455, 4457, 4358, 4660