



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Sequoia
National
Forest

900 West Grand Avenue
Porterville, CA 93257
(559) 784-1500
(559) 781-6650 TDD



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Dear Friend:

Last week you received a letter from me announcing the Future of Giant Sequoia Forum on Saturday, March 18, 2000 (10 a.m. – 5 p.m.) at the Fairgrounds in Fresno. Due to a high level of public interest, we have scheduled a second forum to be held at the Visalia Convention Center the evening of March 17, 2000 (5 p.m. – 10 p.m). Both meetings will follow the same format, and have the same purpose which is twofold -- first, to provide a listening forum on the spectrum of views for stewardship of the giant sequoia groves, and second to provide an opportunity for the people of the United States to share their ideas for the protection, preservation, and restoration of the giant sequoia groves on the Sequoia National Forest. You will have the opportunity to hear several panels, representing a wide range of interests. Each panelist has been asked to address the following three questions:

1. What land area is ecologically necessary for the proper care and management of the giant sequoia and their ecosystems?
2. Are there historic, prehistoric, or ecological values that should be considered for inclusion in a national monument designation?
3. What sort of management actions are needed for the proper care of giant sequoia and their ecosystems?

At the conclusion of the panel presentations the audience will have an opportunity to provide both oral and written input.

Our web site will provide more in-depth information on the meetings and linkages to important background information on giant sequoias. I encourage you to visit this web site and take advantage of the information provided. The web address is <http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/sequoia>.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Mary Chislock-Bethke at (559) 784-1500 ext. 1112 or Denise Alonzo ext. 1256. E-mail can be sent to [giant sequoia/r5_sequoia@fs.fed.us](mailto:giant_sequoia/r5_sequoia@fs.fed.us). I look forward to your participation. Information regarding the location and directions to both meetings are enclosed.

Sincerely,


ARTHUR L. GAFFREY
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

