

Note that **all** entrance gates to YNP (on Highways 120, 140, 41) are closed and padlocked from 10PM to 6AM daily.

Letter received 04/08/2020 from Yosemite Incident Management Team (IMT):

The Yosemite Visitor and Resource Protection Branch would like to share their concerns regarding homeowners staying in their cabins during the Park Closure.

We ask that you continue to abide by the CA State Stay-At-Home Order and remain at your primary residence. The more people that come to Yosemite, the more difficult it will be for Yosemite's limited EMS, LE, and emergency response system to support the community when it is really needed. Traveling in between counties and communities is not advisable due to the increased possibility of COVID-19 transmission. Emergency response resources are already being taxed and will be more so if and when COVID-19 cases start developing in the park. It is also violation of the State stay-at-home order to leave a primary residence. Please see: <https://covid19.ca.gov/stay-home-except-for-essential-needs/>.

Though highly discouraged, the Park Service is currently allowing property owners to enter the park to access their homes, but only with *immediate* family members. Homeowners may not bring guests, friends, handymen, etc. Relatives of homeowners must be accompanied by the homeowner of record, or have an "authorization to access property" letter from the owner with contact information. We also ask that if you are sick in any way, or are under self-imposed or physician-ordered quarantine or isolation, you refrain from traveling into the park.

Fully licensed and permitted construction contractors with a valid Mariposa County Building permit engaged in significant projects are being allowed into the park to work. Examples of allowable and permitted work include home construction, major remodel, or similar jobs. This is in accordance with the CA State allowable Critical Infrastructure Workers guidance. Contractors, helpers, cleaners, and similar individuals coming in for small jobs will not be allowed into the park.

Yosemite is a small community with limited resources. The adjacent rural counties are also struggling to plan and provide for the potential impacts of a COVID-19 outbreak. Your understanding and thoughtful consideration of accessing your property in the park is greatly appreciated in this unprecedented time.

Letter received 04/12/2020 from Yosemite Incident Management Team (IMT):

The Park IMT understands that access to private homes for the purposes of *essential* or *emergency* maintenance may be necessary. It is not our intent to interfere with homeowners ability to maintain the integrity of their homes or prevent personal access. The state Executive Order provides for "Workers such as plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences." If a property owner has a need for a such individual(s) to access their property for necessary repairs, please provide the park with a written letter of "Authorization to Access Property" stating the name and contact information of the property owner, address of the property, name of the individual(s) being granted access, and expected frequency of access. Entrance into the park will be granted with the letter and a valid identification.

It is our intent to provide for the security of all communities in the park, including under these circumstances, Yosemite West. The Park Safety Closure (Public Health Emergency) and Public Use Limitation (Public Health Emergency) are in place to protect the park and it's communities. In turn the residents living in Yosemite West do not want unauthorized and unknown individuals gaining access to their community, putting them at greater risk for COVID exposure, and putting unoccupied homes at risk for theft and vandalism. Thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation.

Please direct any authorization letter, or questions, to chad_andrews@nps.gov.

Incident Commander
Yosemite COVID-19 Incident Management Team
Yosemite National Park