



**STATEMENT OF THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY AND THE BACK COUNTRY
HORSEMEN OF AMERICA ON THE USE OF STOCK WITHIN SEQUOIA-
KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS**

February 27, 2012

A recent court decision has once again highlighted the use of stock within Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks. The Wilderness Society and Back Country Horsemen of America issued the following statement reaffirming their commitment to supporting stock use within the park:

“We support the continued and sustainable use of horses within Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks, including within park wilderness in areas where it existed at the time of designation, and believe that properly managed stock use is consistent with the Wilderness Act and protecting wilderness values.

“For over a century, horses have been used to explore and enjoy the parks. Horses allow many Americans to enjoy the parks and park wilderness and are a legitimate use within the parks and park wilderness.

“We are pleased that the court affirmed that stock use is a legitimate use within the parks and park wilderness and look forward to working with the National Park Service to ensure that stock use can continue within the parks, consistent with preserving park resources and wilderness values.”

The Back Country Horsemen of America works to perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America’s back country and wilderness. The Wilderness Society works to protect wilderness and inspire Americans to care for our wild places. The Wilderness Society and Back Country Horsemen of America work together to support continued use of horses in wilderness areas, consistent with preserving wilderness values; advocate for increased funding for trail maintenance; encourage proper stewardship of wilderness areas; and educate Americans about the values of wilderness.

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