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Subject: Yosemite National Park introduces pilot 2025 reservation system -

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News Release

Yosemite National Park introduces pilot 2025 reservation system

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YOSEMITE VALLEY, Calif. – Yosemite National Park will implement a 2025 pilot reservation system to improve visitor access, reduce overcrowding and ensure visitors have the opportunity to have meaningful, safe and enjoyable experiences in Yosemite. Learn how to plan your trip on our website: Plan Your Visit - Yosemite National Park (U.S. National Park Service)

Reservations will be required at all park entrance stations except Hetch Hetchy May 19 through August 31. Hetch Hetchy will be managed on a first come first serve basis, as was done in 2024.

Reservations will be required:

- On weekends between 6 a.m. and 3 p.m. from May 24 through June 15, 2025, and August 16 through August 31, 2025.
- Daily between 6 a.m. and 3 p.m. from June 16 through August 15, 2025.
- Reservations will be valid for three consecutive days.
- Reservations will be open for sale on <u>www.recreation.gov</u> April 17.
- Visitors without a reservation may enter the park before <u>6 a.m.</u> or after <u>3 p.m.</u>, or anytime via public transportation on YARTS.
- Visitors with in-park lodging, camping, wilderness, or special use permits do not require an additional reservation. Simply show your reservation or permit at the entrance station and pay the park entrance fee.
- Visitors participating in a commercial tour, paid program, or arriving via a hotel shuttle bus do not require a reservation but will still pay the park entrance fee.

"We've been implementing various forms of reservation systems since 2020, and we're continuing to learn and adapt. We updated the reservation system this summer to ensure that all visitors -- whether they plan in advance or decide at the last minute -- have the opportunity to experience the park" **said Stephanie Burkhart, acting superintendent of Yosemite National Park**. "We are looking to reduce long wait times at our entrance stations, difficulties finding parking, and crowded trails, so visitors can spend more time exploring and enjoying everything the park has to offer."

This reservation system pilot is a key part of evaluating what type of system will provide a more enjoyable experience for visitors. The park will monitor and measure how successful this reservation system is this summer, including counts of cars at gates, wait times, and available parking, to refine strategies to improve visitor experience in the future.

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