National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

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## Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release: July 24, 2012 Contact: Dana M. Dierkes Phone Number: (559) 679-2866 (cell) or (559) 565-3131 (office)

## Search for Missing Hiker in Sequoia National Park and Inyo County in/around Mount Langley

The Inyo County Sheriff's Department and Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks are currently conducting a searchand-rescue operation in/around Mount Langley (14,042 feet), in the Inyo National Forest and Sequoia National Park for a missing hiker. The missing hiker is Tom Heng, a 31-year-old male, from San Rafael, CA. Heng, who is 6'0" tall, weighs 166 lbs., and has short black hair, took a day hike to Mount Langley on Sunday, July 22, 2012. He was last seen on the same day on Mount Langley at approximately 13,000 feet at 1 p.m. His hiking route was expected to include Cottonwood Lakes Trailhead through New Army Pass to the summit of Mount Langley, with a return to the Cottonwood Lakes Trailhead. Heng was last seen wearing: a white t-shirt, blue pants, tan full-brimmed hat, and sunglasses. He was also carrying a black-hooded sweatshirt and wearing size 11 North Face mid-rise hiking shoes. Heng has a scar from his left ear to the base of his neck and a large scar on his left arm from elbow to wrist. If you have seen Heng, please contact the Inyo County Sherriff's Department at 760-878-0383 or Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks Dispatch at 559-565-3195. (*See attached flyer for a photo and key information.*)

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park was notified by the Inyo County Sheriff's Department about the missing man on July 23, 2012, at approximately 5:40 p.m. As of 12 noon on July 24, 2012, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks' staffing of this incident included 20 people and one helicopter. An additional helicopter and related staff from Yosemite National Park have recently joined the search.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.