Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks 47050 Generals Highway Three Rivers, CA 93271

559 565-3341 phone 559 565-3730 fax

## Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release – August 24, 2012 Deb Schweizer (559) 565-3703

## **Faculty Flat Mechanical Thinning Project Planned**

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks fire crews plan to complete the 5-acre Faculty Flat Thinning Project in Sequoia National Park starting on Monday, August 27, barring fire response that would take priority over the thinning project.

This unit, in the community of Mineral King, builds off of previous thinning and prescribed fire projects to provide improved wildland fire protection for the Mineral King area.

Crews will thin the forest stand and removed ladder fuels (vegetation that can carry fire from the forest floor to the canopy) for this project. Trees and limbs less than eight inches in diameter as well as dead and downed trees will be removed.

The intent is to provide protection from unwanted fire near these developments by reducing the amount of available vegetation to fuel a fire. This will provide an additional measure of defensible space for Mineral King as well as helping firefighters make a safer stand in the case of a wildfire.

-NPS-