

There were 2 medivacs by helicopter and a few minor blister and rash problems. I wrote 1 warning and many verbal warnings. Most verbal warnings were related to stock use (tying to trees and grazing restrictions) and People with dogs failing to use the by pass trail. I also turned around 2 backpackers with dogs.

I took care of 1 sick horse (Mineral King Pack Station) and took it out to Mineral King. And also 1 injured NPS horse. (The never ending Bill story- I hope he made it out ok in the fall with Jim Harvey) Bill stepped on a nail.

I attended the First Responder Course in September at Ash Mountain, then brought out the two lost private horses from East Lake before returning to the Kern Canyon.

I used 10 non-rechargeable radio batteries during the season and also 3 used batteries that had been left at the station from last season. I hope the Park checks into getting small solar panels and chargers (ac/dc) for each backcountry station. Also, the "Clam Shell" with replaceable double A batteries for emergency backup would be a good idea. (If this would work on our current radios or for future planning) My vote, for what it's worth, would be to have all Backcountry Stations set up with the rechargeable battery system before any one station is set up with full solar panels, ect. Lets get everyone set up with good dependable communication. (Eric: My radio needs to go to the shop. The Antenna screw broke off in the radio.)

RESOURCE

A large new beaver dam was found on 6-17 at the Upper Funston stock camp area. It diverted water out of the Kern river and through the south end of the meadow and through the main stock camp. The dam was breached and the camp and meadow dried out during late June and early July. There are 10 girdled trees near the river, but I haven't seen a beaver or new repairs since June.

Beaver activity is increasing North of the Upper drift fence at lower funston meadow. The trail through the reeds is damp and boggy in the spring from the old beaver activity and dries out in July as the water recedes. In late August, the water was higher and the trail was boggy than in the spring. Some of this may be due to the "Ash Falls" on 8-15-92 which occurred north of the Hot Springs and the 3 days of rain which also raised the Kern river during this time, but there is also new work on the beaver dams in this area. New work and higher dams are easily viewed from the trail and I'm sure there is more that I was unable to detect.

Meadow Monitoring was done in the Kern this Fall. Mike Neuman walked me through the monitoring process, we looked at the large and small pastures at the Kern R.S. and Upper Funston Meadow. He did the other meadows in the area.

