



# Yosemite National Park DRAFT Re-opening Plan

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Yosemite Gateway Partners  
May 18, 2020

## DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Staying Aligned with Gateway Communities
- Proposed Approach to Re-opening
- On-the-Ground Management



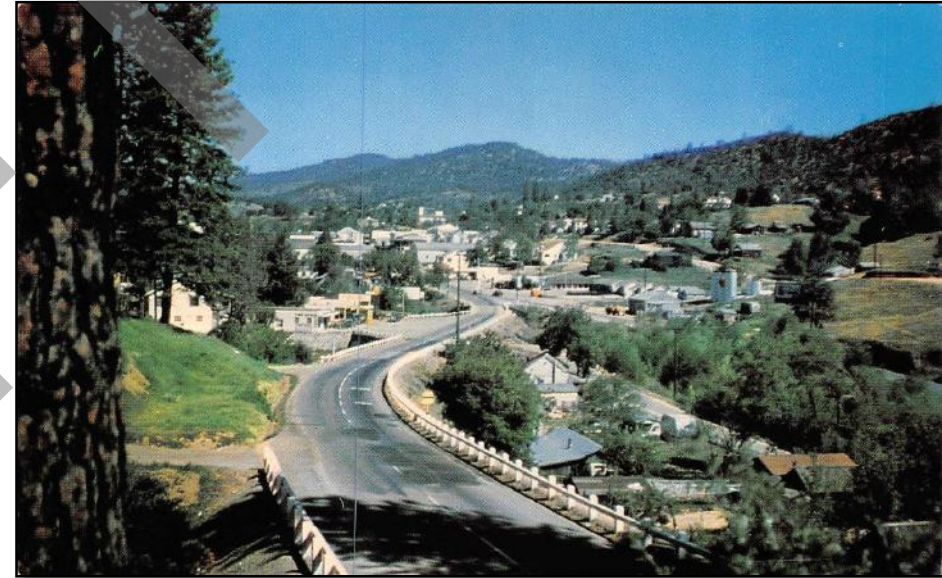


## STAYING ALIGNED WITH GATEWAY COMMUNITIES — DRAFT YOSEMITE RE-OPENING PLAN

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Draft plan aligns the following:

- President's Opening Up America Again Guidelines
- DOI Secretary Guidance
- California Pandemic Roadmap
- Yosemite Gateway Area Coordination Team



# STAYING ALIGNED WITH GATEWAY COMMUNITIES — DRAFT YOSEMITE RE-OPENING PLAN

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## Approach to adaptively re-opening:

- Stay in frequent communication and coordination with state and local leaders to ensure alignment in re-opening.
- Test management approaches and adapt quickly.
- Build on successes to make progress toward full re-opening.
- Work with park partners, gateway communities, and adjoining federal land management agencies to offer alternatives and expand recreational and open space opportunities.





# STAYING ALIGNED WITH GATEWAY COMMUNITIES

## Park Focus and Primary Considerations:



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# PROPOSED APPROACH TO RE-OPENING

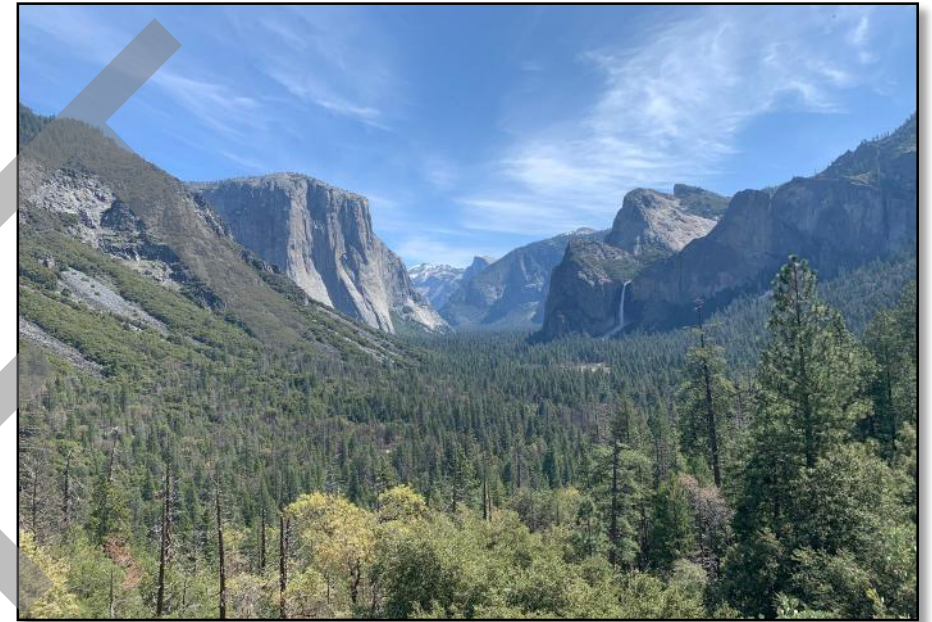
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*When California enters Stage 3, anticipated in June...*

The Park will re-open at approximately 50% of capacity with mix of overnight and day-use.

## Multiple access opportunities:

- Overnight reservation at concession-operated lodging
- NPS Campground Reservation
- Wilderness or Half Dome permit
- Commercial Tour (smaller vans)
- YARTS
- Manage Entry of Day-use Private Vehicles
- Overnight short-term lodging in Wawona, Foresta, and Yosemite West

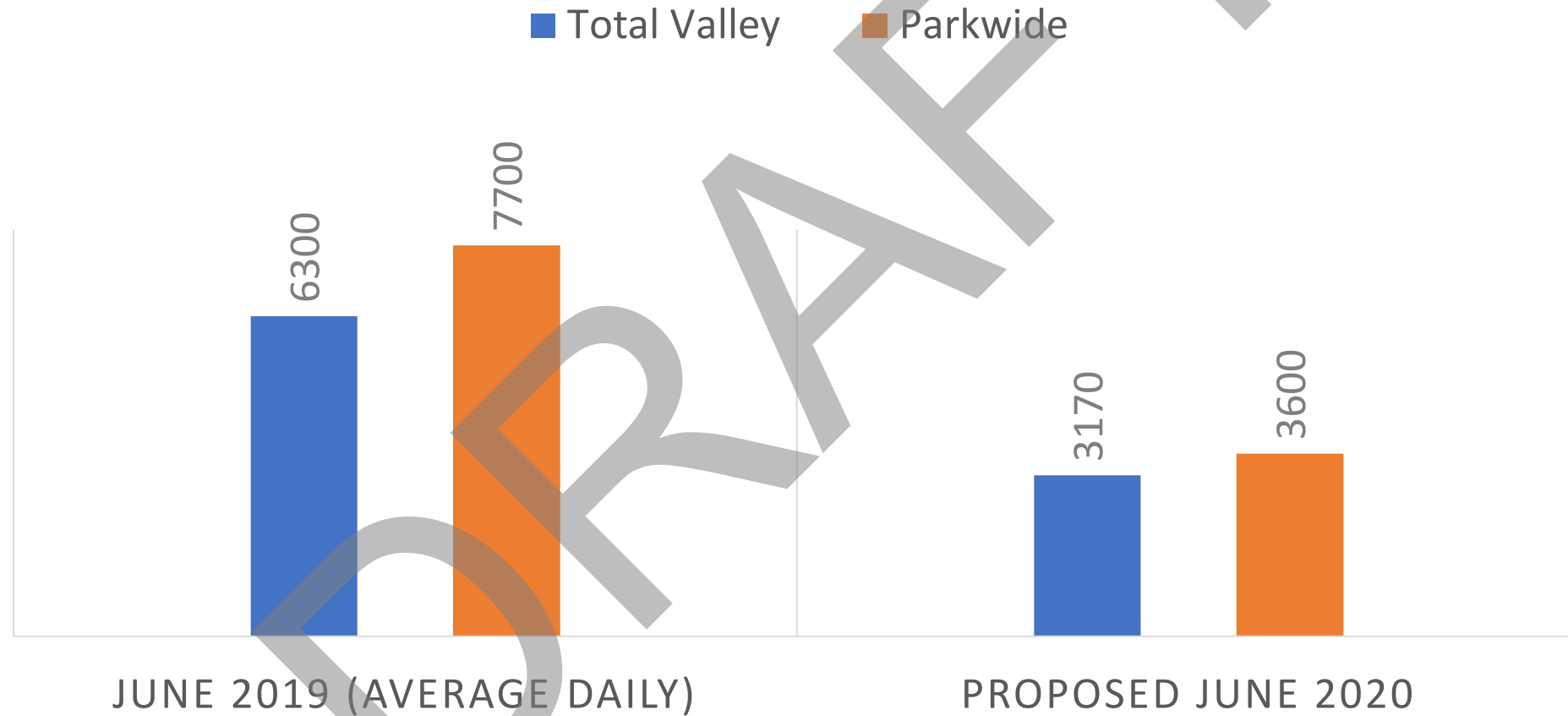


## PROPOSED APPROACH TO RE-OPENING – PROPOSED INITIAL VEHICLE NUMBERS

Private Vehicle Entry Calculations	
Valley Day-use Parking (MRP) to-date	1,961
Valley Roadway Vehicles	400
Total Valley Day-Use Vehicle Accommodation	2,361
50% of Total Valley Day-use	1,180
Inflate to account for 30% not visiting Valley	1,686
Parkwide Vehicle Day-use Vehicle Level (Initial Phase)	<b>1,700 Vehicles/Day</b>
Estimated Parkwide Overnight Vehicles	<b>1,900 Vehicles/Day</b>
Parkwide Total:	<b>3,600 Vehicles/Day</b>

# PROPOSED APPROACH TO RE-OPENING – PROPOSED INITIAL VEHICLE NUMBERS

*PROPOSED INITIAL INBOUND VEHICLE NUMBERS, 2020 VS. 2019*





# PROPOSED APPROACH TO RE-OPENING – DAY USE ENTRANCE STATION MANAGEMENT

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- Visitors will be encouraged to pre-pay park fees online, but on-site fee collection will still be necessary.
- Studying modifications to kiosks to improve operations
- Ability to purchase a ticketed entry for day-use through recreation.gov
- Focus during initial re-opening is on simplicity, adapting quickly, and building on successes.



# PROPOSED APPROACH TO RE-OPENING – OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

## Camping

- Opening Lower Pines (60 sites) and North Pines (81 sites) at first
- Opening backpackers campgrounds for Yosemite Valley, Tuolumne Meadows and Hetch Hetchy
- Will evaluate other areas such as Hodgdon Meadows, Crane Flat, and Bridalveil Campground later

## Lodging

- Opening the Ahwahnee Hotel, Yosemite Valley Lodge, and Half of Curry Village
- Modified food operations throughout the park

## Other

- Retail Outlets, Grocery Stores, The Ansel Adams Gallery, Bikes, Rafts, and pay-at-pump gas stations open



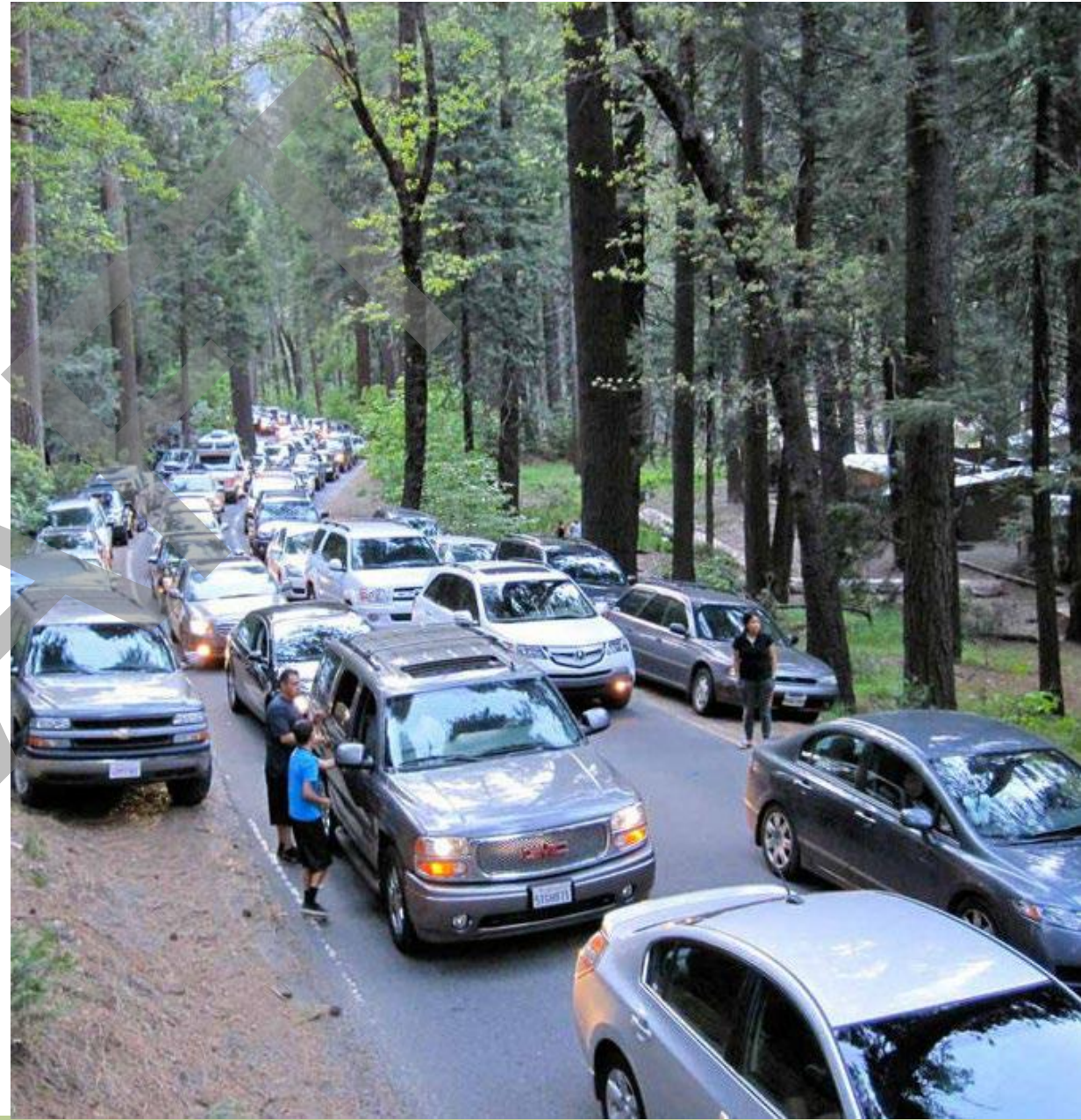


# PROPOSED APPROACH TO RE-OPENING

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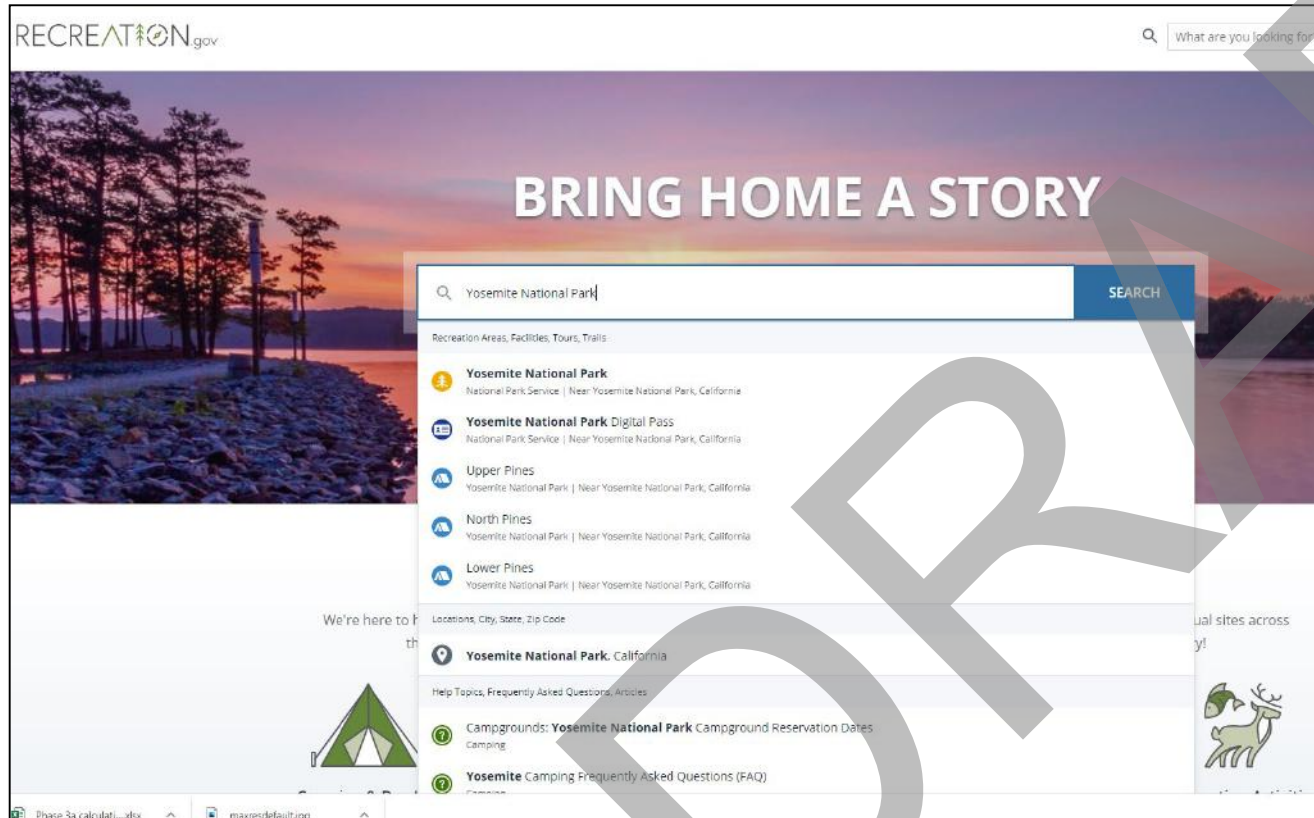
## Why manage entries?

- Concerns that demand will overwhelm gateways and park, creating crowded and unsafe conditions
- Provides certainty for day use visitors and predictability of visitation levels for local communities
- Provides data to actively manage demand through re-opening phases.
- Reduces close contacts between gate staff and visitors through pre-payment of entrance fees

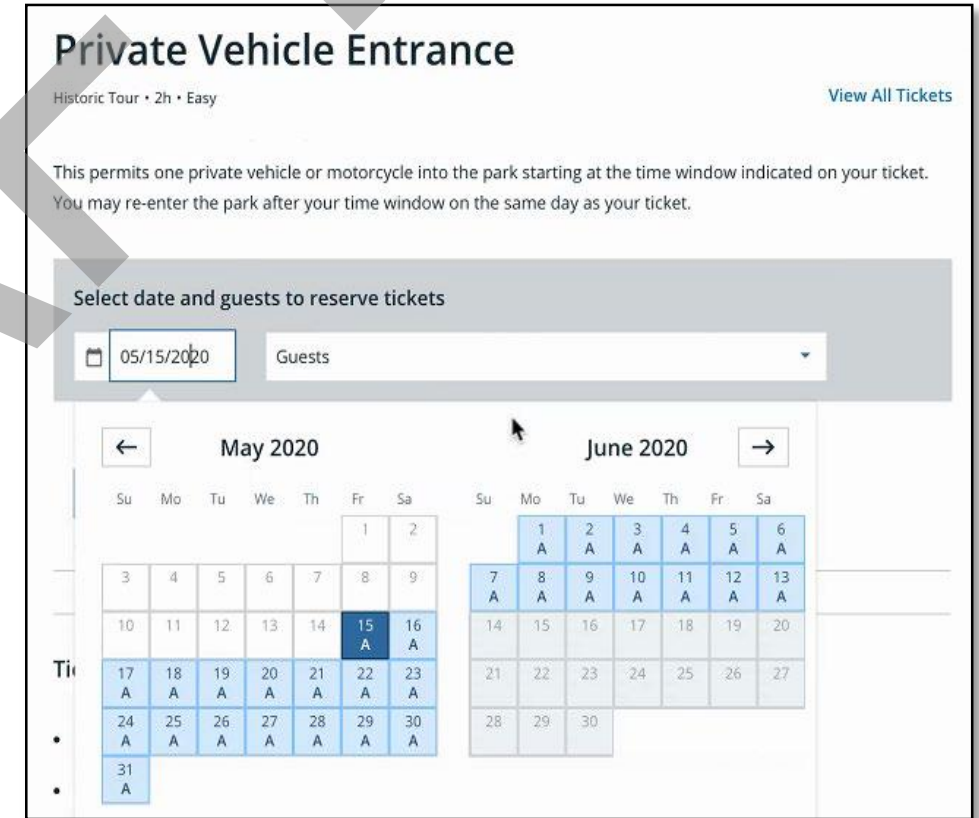


# ON-THE-GROUND MANAGEMENT: HOW THE SYSTEM WOULD WORK:

## 1) Log into Recreation.gov



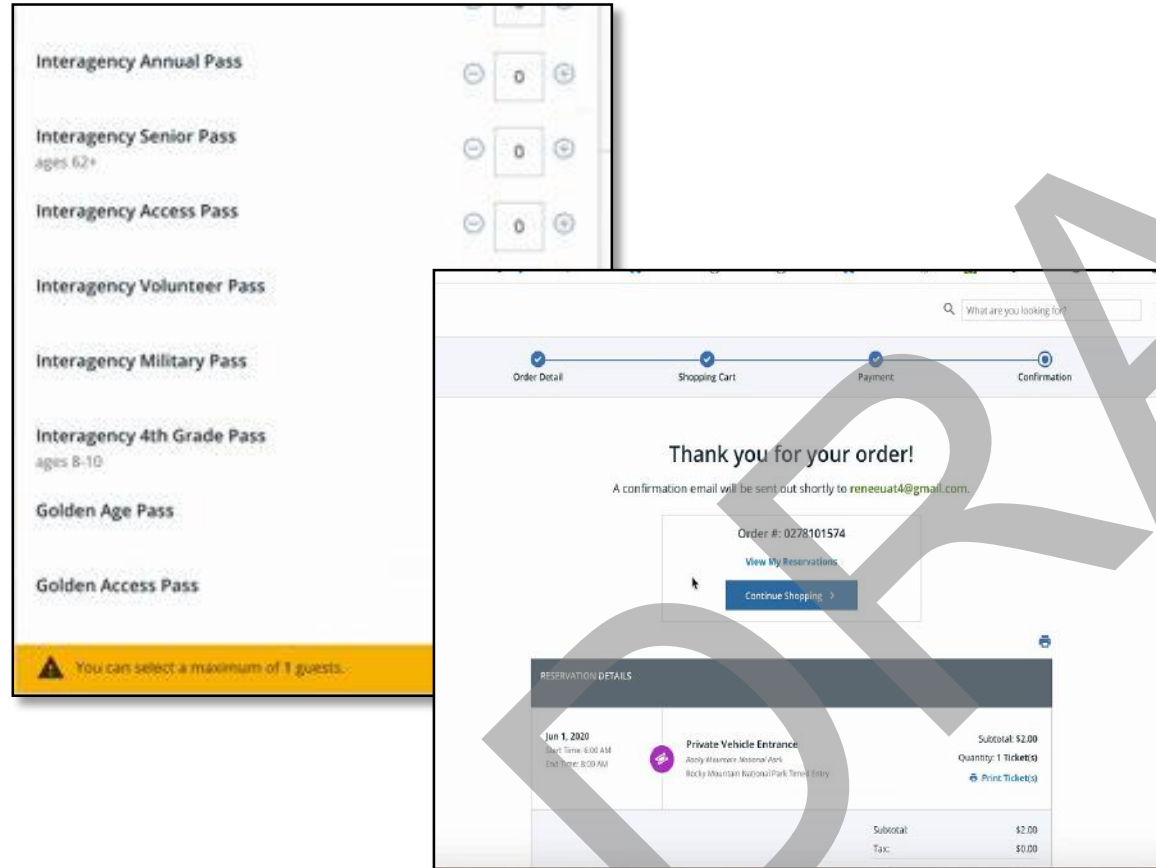
## 2) Select date of arrival



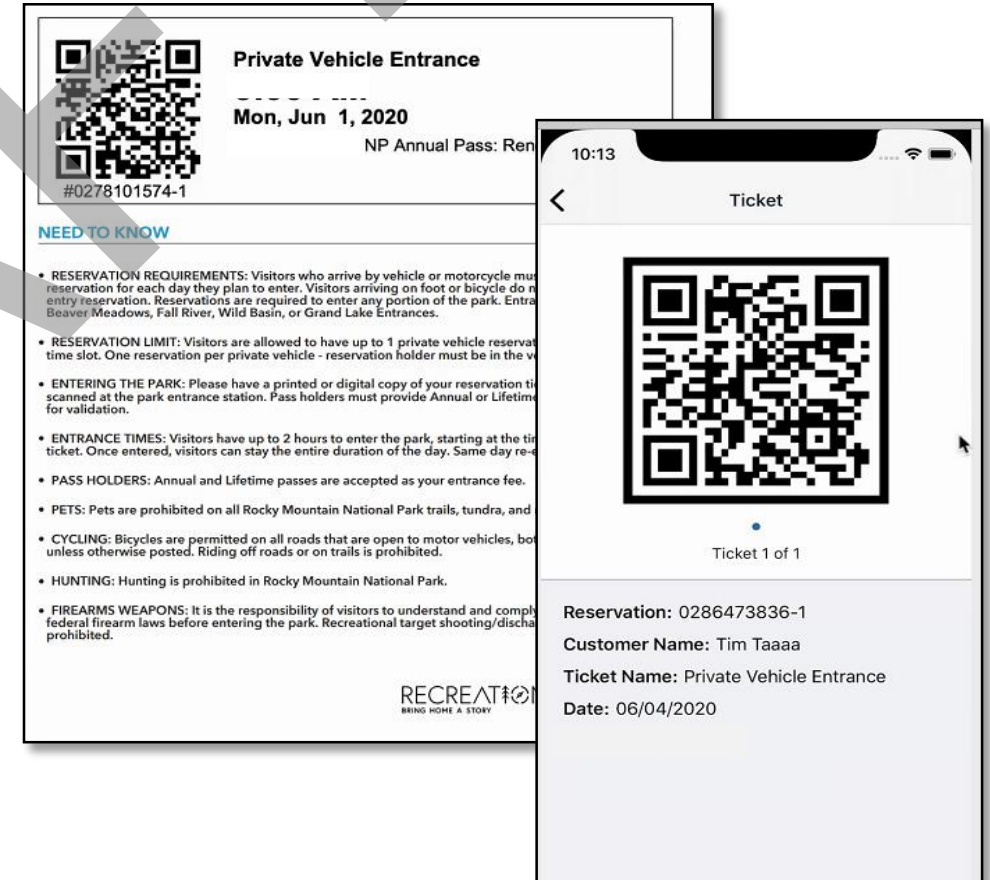


# ON-THE-GROUND MANAGEMENT: HOW THE SYSTEM WOULD WORK:

## 3) Select Passes and Purchase Permit



## 4) Permits/QR codes emailed and texted:



## ON-THE-GROUND MANAGEMENT

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Some potential adaptive approaches to managing visitor concentrations:

- Convert some trails to one-way
- Move some visitor services outdoors
- Limit number of entries into confined spaces
- Install social distancing signs
- Encourage use of face coverings whenever possible







## RE-OPENING AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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The park has a continued focus on managing wildlife and other natural and cultural resources, including:

- Bear management, to reduce human-bear conflicts
- Peregrine nest monitoring, to maximize the routes open for climbing
- Habitat restoration and caring for the park's resources

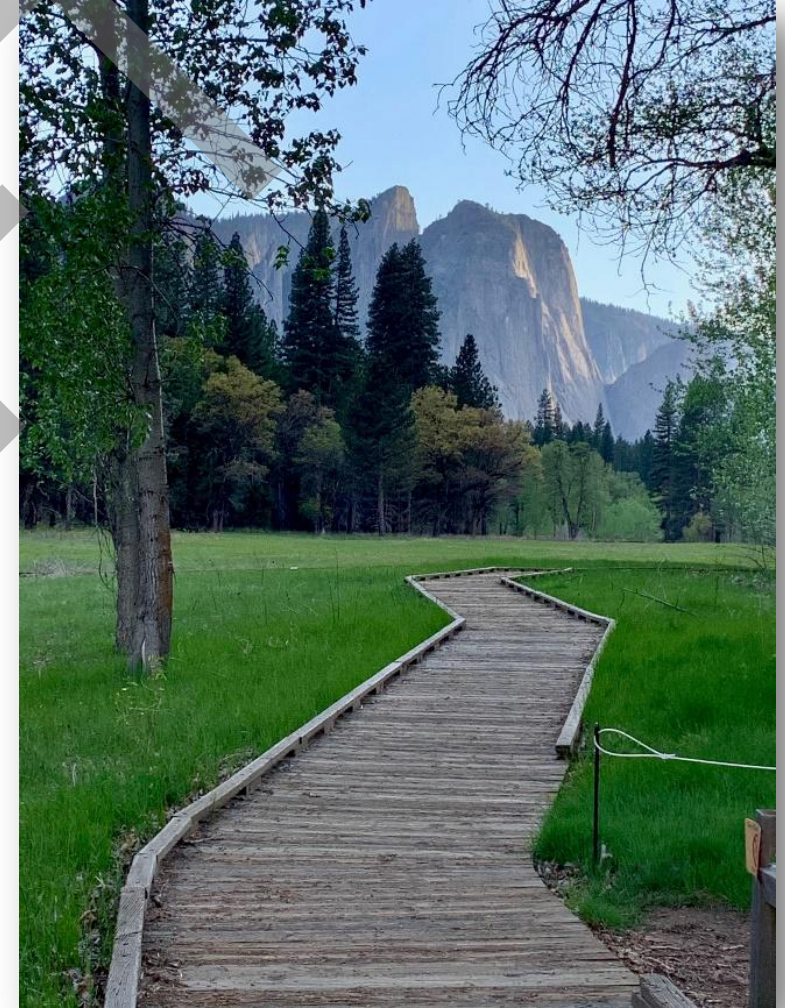


## STAYING ALIGNED WITH GATEWAY COMMUNITIES — DRAFT YOSEMITE RE-OPENING PLAN

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### Successful re-opening will require:

- Protection of public safety
- Sustained access to park's primary attractions
- Re-invigorate gateway economies







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QUESTIONS?

