

Yosemite National Park

Big Meadow Review – Final

The final Big Meadow Prescribed Fire Review is available via the internet at:

<http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/bigmeadowfirefaq.htm>

The report identifies underlying reasons for the fire escape as well as lessons learned. Yosemite National Park has received guidance for the Pacific West Regional Office on implementation of its findings. The report does not call for any disciplinary or personnel actions of fire personnel or park managers. Although the Prescribed Fire Plan met policy, the review team noted that the park needs to strengthen its planning and implementation process. There is no single action that can eliminate all of the risk of managing a Wildland fire; however, the report and implementation of its findings are vital to sustaining a Wildland fire program in a fire dependent ecosystem. The review makes possible the ability of Yosemite National Park to resume its prescribed burning program.

The review identifies lessons learned and methods for sustaining those lessons. The review is being shared widely among fire managers as the lessons learned have broad application in assisting other Superintendents and fire managers in minimizing the potential for future escaped prescribed fires.