#### Ranger Ben May 2014

"It is exceptionally important for the visitor to understand the ramifications of their actions on the park's wildlife."

Ranger Ben Cunningham-Summerfield,
 Interpretive Park Ranger and Cultural
 Demonstrator at Yosemite

Here, Ranger Ben wears the skin of a black bear killed in Yosemite to help illustrate the importance of interacting appropriately with wildlife. Look for his full story within the exhibit.

# Main Parking Lot at Curry Village

November 2014

- "Kulikauskas' work in Yosemite People fulfills what photography does best: it reveals what is already there but is no longer seen."
- Carol McCusker, PhD, Curator of Photography at the Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida

# Gift Shop at Curry Village July 2014

No matter the position, staff at Yosemite interact with visitors from across the world who enter the park with different expectations and lived experiences.

"That's a very powerful experience, to save on the baggage fees and travel all around the world just by standing at a desk and having the world come to you."

- Shelton Johnson, Interpretive Park Ranger

# Hotel Grounds at the Ahwahnee Hotel

November 2014

"The ultimate gift of being in a place like this is a shift in vision, where you realize that the park is a doorway into the earth itself."

- Shelton Johnson, Interpretive Park Ranger

### Photos after the Ride April 2010

"Sometimes [visitors] act like they're still in the city, and they carry that attitude with them." – Phil Johnson, Interpretive Park Ranger Tunnel View 1 Tunnel View 3 Tunnel View Wall February 2014

"We see the famous view, the diversity of the people, diversity of activity, but I also like to offer a view and perspective people don't consider: the crowd itself looking over the ledge or the bronze view marker."

- Jonas Kulikauskas, photographer

#### Half Dome Trail View October 2014

In the past, overcrowding at Half Dome could lead to dangerous conditions. On peak days there could be as many as 1,200 hikers on the trail — in 2009, two people died while climbing the cables. In 2010, Yosemite instituted a permit system, granting only 300 Half Dome hiking permits per day in advance, plus 50 by daily lottery. Fines of \$5,000 and a possible 6 months in jail await hikers who try to sneak through.

### Discarded Climbing Gloves October 2014

A pile of gloves lies at the base of Half Dome's famous cable ascent. The gloves are in a constant rotation between hikers on the way up who find themselves unprepared when they get to the cables, and those coming down happy to lighten their load and leave the gloves behind.

### Lake Tenaya 4 Volunteer Collecting Trash August 2014

During an extended federal government shutdown in 2019, Yosemite garnered headlines for a trash problem that went unchecked while Park staff was furloughed. But waste removal is a year-round concern for the many staff and volunteers tasked with keeping the Park beautiful.

# Housekeeping Camp 1 April 2014

"There is a feeling when you are in Yosemite Valley, that you are somewhere. The giant granite cliffs are a reminder of how tiny you are. The only other place that makes me feel so small, so humble, is New York, where the skyscrapers do the job of the granite cliffs, reminding you that you are just a tiny human." – Orlando Soria, raised in Yosemite

# Housekeeping Camp 2 August 2014

"I learned about social status in America when the only job I could find for the summer was night janitor at Yosemite Lodge." – Kevin Starr, Historian and California State Librarian Emeritus Cook's Meadow
November 2014
Ahwahnee Meadow
December 2015

Ongoing restoration projects are ubiquitous in Yosemite, and meadow protections are particularly visible in the Valley. Park management must constantly balance its stated mission to let natural processes prevail with the demands of visitor access and enjoyment. Though walking off trail in Yosemite's meadows is almost universally banned, it is common to see people doing just that.

#### Valley View April 2014

Although the National Park Service works to instill a "leave no trace" mentality in all its visitors, sights like this intentionally-scarred log are still common throughout the National Parks. President Theodore Roosevelt advised, "Leave it as it is. The ages have been at work on it and man can only mar it."

#### Glacier Point Parking Lot August 2014

In recent years, over 8,000 cars and a potential 23,000 tourists have been counted in Yosemite on a single summer day, with horror stories of two-hour traffic standstills common among anyone who has tried getting into the park on a sunny Saturday. The park's website and social media accounts advise would-be visitors to "Pack your Patience," plan to arrive early and stay late, and encourage use of public transit into and around the park.

## View from Glacier Point October 2014

Starkly carved out of the forest, a parking lot caters to hikers who drive to a trailhead located within the park.

#### Southside Drive, El Capitan November 2014

"People need to understand that they're not going to get a wilderness experience in Yosemite Valley." – Scott Gediman, Yosemite's Chief of Media & External Relations Public Affairs Officer

Yosemite Valley is paved with miles of asphalt. It can be hard to picture what the Valley's original inhabitants, the Ahwahneechee people, would have seen and experienced prior to the construction of roads like this one.

## Glacier Point 3 October 2014

The park's natural wonders sometimes inspire romance from its visitors.

"This winter I watched a man propose to his girlfriend on the ice rink, balancing carefully to drop to his knee in front of her. A swarm of middle schoolers cooed around them, taking pictures to send to their friends. It was too dark to see Half Dome, but it stood quietly on the scene."

Jessica Kennedy, writer and former
 Yosemite employee

## Badger Pass December 2015

- "One of the most historic and important ski areas in the American West...people have been sliding on the snow at Badger [Pass] for the better part of a century."
- Tom Medema, former Interpretive Park Ranger

## Mariposa Grove March 2014

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias reopened to the public in 2018 after a multi-year restoration project, and now offers half a mile of trails and boardwalks that provide universal access to visitors of differing abilities. With the stated goal of providing physical access to the greatest number of individuals, Yosemite continues work to correct and resolve accessibility deficiencies throughout the park.

### "Dead Giant" or Tunnel Tree (former), Tuolumne Grove July 2015

"My childhood in Yosemite was literally a Disney cartoon. Most of my afternoons were spent running all over the woods, as in Pocahontas, and then singing until a bird landed on my fingertip, as in Snow White."

- Orlando Soria, raised in Yosemite

#### Mule Train

#### August 2014

A wrangler brings supplies from one High Sierra camp to another, a practice that remains largely unchanged since the camps opened in the 1920s. Before trails, pavement, and the railroad, most tourists visited Yosemite on beasts of burden. Many continue the tradition today, saying it's the best way to see Yosemite — particularly its rugged backcountry — but there are fewer and fewer outfits offering such trips.

### Ranger Phil Johnson Flint Knapping an Arrowhead April 2014

Flint knapping is the process of chipping away material from stones like flint and obisidian, gradually shaping the stone into tools or weapons. For over 10,000 years, many Native peoples have practiced flint knapping. This includes the original residents of Yosemite Valley, the Ahwahneechee people.

### Mist Trail October 2014

"There is no end to the beauty here and no limit to the scale of it. David and I watch a coyote devour a deer beside the river. Aaron and I ride our bikes to the El Cap meadow in the middle of the day. Walking home from work, we see the tips of the cliffs turn gold as the sun sets, the last light rich and enflamed — and all mine, fully witnessed, fully noted." – Jessica Kennedy, writer and former Yosemite employee

#### Ansel Adams

American, 1902-1984

#### El Capitan, Sunrise, 1957

This reproduction of Adams' 1956 photograph was used as the cover of the May 5, 1957 Ahwahnee dinner menu. Inside, diners viewed their options for the evening, including crabmeat cocktail supreme, fried mountain brook trout, baked sugar-cured Hawaiian ham, salads, and plenty of desserts.

Adams' photographs graced the covers of Yosemite hotel menus as early as 1937.