

WHEEL MEADOW GROVE

WHEEL MEADOW GROVE OVERVIEW

Relative Overall Vulnerability

HIGH
8.0

This grove is ranked **HIGH** for Relative Overall Vulnerability due to:

Wildfire Vulnerability

LOW - 0.5

Regen Vulnerability

HIGH - 8.0

See the [Grove Health & Resilience](#) section below for more information.

Relative Management Priority

HIGH
8.0

This grove is ranked **HIGH** for Relative Management Priority due to:

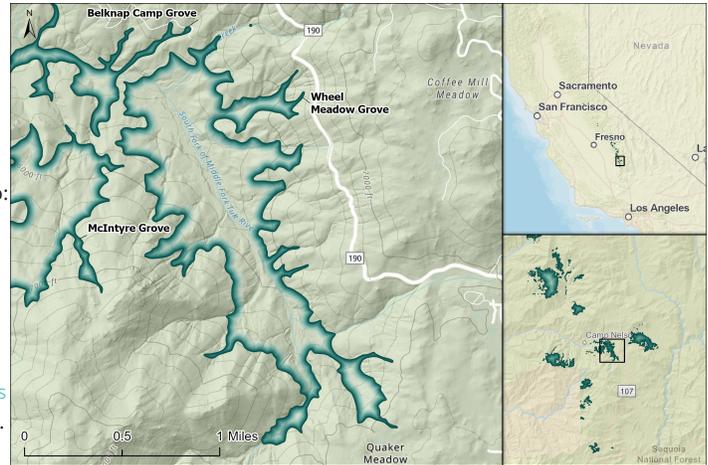
Overall Vulnerability

HIGH - 8.0

Treatment Feasibility

GOOD - 10.0

See the [Management Considerations](#) section below for more information.



Grove Map - click map for more detailed spatial information

Grove Information

Grove Size (Acres)	576
Location	Tule and Kern River Watershed, Tulare County
Management Unit(s)	Giant Sequoia National Monument / Sequoia National Forest
Land Steward(s)	USFS SQF GSNM

About Wheel Meadow Grove

Wheel Meadow Grove is a 576-acre grove in the Tule and Kern River Watershed region situated between 5,344 - 7,113 feet elevation at 36.12781°N. It is part of the Belknap Complex and managed by Giant Sequoia National Monument/Sequoia National Forest. Wheel Meadow Grove is located along the South Fork of the Middle Fork of the Tule River, very close to Nelson road. Much of the grove burned at high severity during the 2020 Castle Fire. There are at least three locally-named sequoia trees but they are not tracked by the Forest Service.

WHEEL MEADOW GROVE HEALTH & RESILIENCE

HIGH
8.0

Wheel Meadow Grove is ranked **High** for Relative Overall Vulnerability because it is at a **Low** risk of being negatively impacted by the effects of severe wildfire and at **High** risk for inadequate natural regeneration.

Relative Overall Vulnerability

Additionally, Wheel Meadow Grove is at **Moderate** risk for negative impacts from drought stress, **High** levels of tree mortality have been detected in the grove, and the presence and activity of beetles in the grove is **Unknown**. 100% of Wheel Meadow Grove has burned in large fires since 1984. See below for more detailed information.

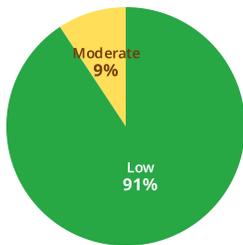
Components of Relative Overall Vulnerability

Relative Overall Vulnerability is based on **Wildfire Vulnerability** and **Regeneration Vulnerability** using an area-weighted calculation. See [Grove Assessment Analysis Methods](#) for more details.

The pie charts below provide the percentage of the grove with high, medium, and low vulnerabilities. Click on the charts to view interactive maps of these vulnerabilities within the grove.

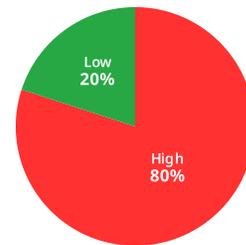
Wildfire Vulnerability

LOW - 0.5



Regeneration Vulnerability

HIGH - 8.0



Additional Grove Health & Resilience Information

Below is additional information about Wheel Meadow Grove's Health & Resilience. These data, their inputs, and any available notes and updates may be found in the [Grove Resilience Datasheet](#).

Relative Drought Stress

MODERATE



Relative Drought Stress in Wheel Meadow Grove is Moderate based on an area-weighted average. Click on the chart for an interactive map.

Beetle Activity

UNKNOWN

Beetle Activity in Wheel Meadow Grove has not been determined. Please see the [Grove Resilience Datasheet](#) for details.

Tree Mortality

HIGH

Tree Mortality in Wheel Meadow Grove is High according to the most current available USFS dead canopy data.

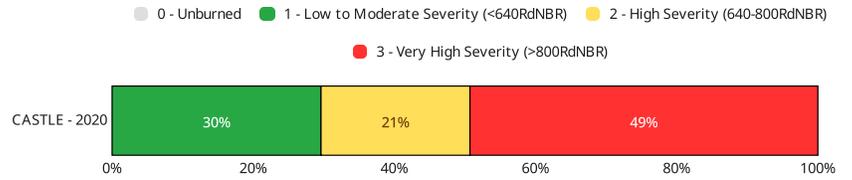
Please see the [Grove Resilience Datasheet](#) for details.

Wildfire History

The table below provides information about large wildfires in this grove recorded since 1984. See [this map of wildfires and locations of high severity fire](#).

Wildfires	CASTLE - 2020
% of grove burned	100%
% of grove unburned	0%
Fire Return Interval Department	High

The chart below provides the percentages of the grove burned at different levels of severity for each wildfire since 1984.



MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

HIGH
8.0

Relative Management Priority

Wheel Meadow Grove is ranked **High** for Relative Management Priority because it has **High** Relative Overall Vulnerability and **Good** feasibility for implementing management actions toward restoration goals.

Additionally, the grove is 0.1 miles from a community and is 0.5 miles from recreational infrastructure. The grove has both historic and prehistoric resources. There is also a 100-year cabin tract; the long-term goal is to move it out of the grove. Pacific fisher denning activity has been observed under the cabin. See below for more detailed information.

Components of Relative Management Priority

Relative Management Priority is determined by combining the **Relative Overall Vulnerability** and **Treatment Feasibility** ranks. See [Grove Assessment Analysis Methods](#) for more details.

Relative Overall Vulnerability

HIGH - 8.0

See the [Health & Resilience section](#) above for the component metrics for the Relative Overall Vulnerability rank.

Treatment Feasibility

GOOD - 10.0

Special Land Designation	None
Grove Manager Opinion	Fuel Treatments are Possible
Remote	No

Additional Management Considerations

Below is additional information relevant to Wheel Meadow Grove's Management Considerations. These data, their inputs, and any available notes and updates may be found in the [Grove Resilience Datasheet](#).

Treatment History

The table below lists treatment projects in and 90 meters around this grove implemented **since 2022**. See this [map of grove treatments](#).

Treatment Type	% of Grove	Acres
Mechanical Treatments	2.3%	23.3
Prescribed Fire	0.2%	1.7
Pile Treatments	1.4%	14.2
Pile Burns	48.2%	483.1
Replanting	0%	0

Management Recommendations

The table below provides an estimate of the percentage and acreage of the grove that are recommended for evaluation for treatment based on the Vulnerability Models. See this [map of Grove Vulnerability Models](#).

Treatment Need	% of Grove	Acres
Fuels Reduction/Restoration	0%	0
Reforestation	80%	460.8

WHEEL MEADOW GROVE REFERENCES

Willard, D. 1994. Giant Sequoia Groves of the Sierra Nevada: A Reference Guide.

Giant Sequoia Health & Resilience Assessment [Glossary](#) 

[How to Use the Giant Sequoia Health & Resilience Assessment](#) 

[Giant Sequoia Health & Resilience Assessment Analysis Methods](#) 

Find more giant sequoia science by searching the [GSLC Scientific Publications Library](#) .

Explore more groves or learn about the Giant Sequoia Lands Coalition.

DISCLAIMER

The information presented in the Giant Sequoia Grove Health & Resilience Assessment is intended to supplement on-the-ground knowledge of giant sequoia groves for use in conjunction with current on-the-ground knowledge of grove condition and management activities when planning fuel treatment and reforestation projects. It should not be considered the only source of information about the condition of groves.