



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park
Media Relations Office

P.O. Box 577
Yosemite, CA 95389
www.nps.gov/yose/news
209 372-0248 phone

The Yosemite Fund
www.yosemitefund.org
415-434-1782



THE YOSEMITE FUND®
Providing for Yosemite's Future

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Contacts: Peter Bartelme, Media Relations, The Yosemite Fund, 415-664-1503
Scott Gediman, Media and External Relations, Yosemite National Park, 209-372-0248

\$5.8 Million Donated to Yosemite National Park by The Yosemite Fund

Contribution Goes to Trail Repair, Habitat Restoration, Wildlife Protection and Improving Visitor Services

San Francisco, October 26, 2009 – Yosemite National Park's meadows, trails and wildlife are better off thanks to a \$5.8 million contribution by the nonprofit Yosemite Fund.

"People care deeply about preserving Yosemite," said Mike Tollefson, president of The Yosemite Fund. "Without help from our generous donors, many of these projects would not be possible."

A check was presented to Acting Park Superintendent Dave Uberuaga, at the Fund's Donors Day event in Wawona last Saturday. Donors paid for 56 projects in 2009 to improve the park. The Fund's signature project this year was the \$800,000 rehabilitation of the Half Dome Overlook, which improved vehicle and pedestrian access, educational signage and viewing terraces, and protected natural habitat. Donors also funded projects to restore Wawona Meadow, repair the Red Peak Pass backcountry trail and Valley Loop trail, protect Peregrine Falcons and restore amphitheaters near several Valley campgrounds.

"Visitors to Yosemite are surrounded by Fund-sponsored projects," said Acting Park Superintendent Dave Uberuaga. "The Fund is a great way for donors to make a lasting difference for today's visitors and for future generations."

Since 1988, The Yosemite Fund has granted over \$55 million for more than 300 projects in Yosemite. Fund donors include individuals, foundations and corporations – people who have a real love for Yosemite.

"Donors to the park share the same belief in the power of nature to restore and inspire, and the fear that something precious will be lost if these special places aren't protected," added Tollefson.

The Yosemite Fund is a nonprofit organization that provides broad-based private funding and resources for projects that preserve, protect or enhance Yosemite National Park. Contributors provide a margin of excellence in Yosemite, extending a long-standing tradition of private philanthropy in National Parks. Results of the Fund's work on major projects can be seen most notably at the approach to lower Yosemite Falls (\$13.5 million), Glacier Point (\$4 million), Happy Isles (\$2 million) and Olmstead Point (\$1.2 million). Learn more at www.yosemitefund.org 1-800-4-MY-PARK.

-NPS-THE YOSEMITE FUND-

Photo captions:

- Ken and Aiwen Nakamoto of Sunnyvale, CA, take a perfect picture at the redesigned Half Dome Overlook, an \$800,000 project by The Yosemite Fund.
- Yosemite Fund contributions paid for improvements to the Red Peak Pass trail in Yosemite's backcountry.



Ken and Aiwon Nakamoto of Sunnyvale, CA, take a perfect picture at the redesigned Half Dome Overlook, an \$800,000 project by The Yosemite Fund.



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