

Bear Ecology and Management in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks



Tyler Coleman, PhD

Friday, January 31, 2020

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Music, room 160

For further information:

www.csufresno.edu/biology

Presentation: Modern day National Parks are places that “preserve unimpaired natural and cultural resources.” However, it took time for this concept to take shape. Parks in the Sierra Nevada once treated bears, and other resources, as park attractants or side shows. This was problematic as bears were and still can be a threat to humans. It took over a century for the National Park Service to develop a management strategy that allowed bears to persist in a more-wild state. New challenges often focus on maintaining a more natural existence for park bears while also accommodating high levels of visitation. A constant struggle exists between the desire to allow visitors access to the natural world while still allowing bears the opportunity to live, unimpaired, from the influence of humans.

About the speaker: Dr. Tyler Coleman is the lead terrestrial wildlife biologist at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. He started his career over 20 years ago as a technician on a grizzly bear DNA project in Glacier National Park. Since then Tyler has held a variety of positions as a wildlife biologist in state and federal government. Most of his time has been spent working for the National Park Service. Tyler spent almost ten years in Yellowstone working in the Bear Management Office as well as other wildlife research projects. Tyler received his undergraduate degree from the University of Utah and PhD from Montana State University in Bozeman, MT. His PhD research focused on grizzly bear-human interaction in the Yellowstone backcountry. He currently oversees the bear management program at Sequoia Kings Canyon and all other projects related to terrestrial wildlife. This includes bats, spotted owls, Pacific fisher, Sierra Nevada red fox, bighorn sheep and anything else that crawls, walks, or flies.
