



NEWS RELEASE
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HOT WEATHER HAZARDS FOR DOGS IN THE PARK

Chico, CA Park Rangers would like to remind park visitors that hot weather can be extremely hazardous to dogs. Dogs do not cool down as easily as humans and can suffer heat exhaustion, burnt paw pads, and potentially fatal heat stroke. Big Chico Creek flows are high and hazards exist that can trap dogs under water.

The best time to visit the park is in morning and evening hours when temperatures are cooler. During periods of high temperatures please remember the following:

1. Bring extra water specifically for your dog, don't just count on taking them to the creek for a drink.
2. Take lots of breaks, stay in the shade as much as possible. Your dog will not tell you that he/she is tired and may not show immediate warning signs of heat exhaustion until it's too late.
3. Be aware of hot surfaces. Touch the areas your dog is walking on, if it's too hot for your bare skin, it's too hot for your dog's paws.
4. Dogs are not allowed in designated swim areas such as; Sycamore Pool, Alligator Hole, Day Camp, Bear Hole, Salmon Hole and Brown's Hole. Dogs must be on leash even when playing in the creek.
5. Dogs can succumb to strong water current and get stuck on or under rocks or tree limbs. Choose an area where the water is calm and free of potential hazards.
6. Keep track of how long you are in the heat. Short visits are best in high temperatures.

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