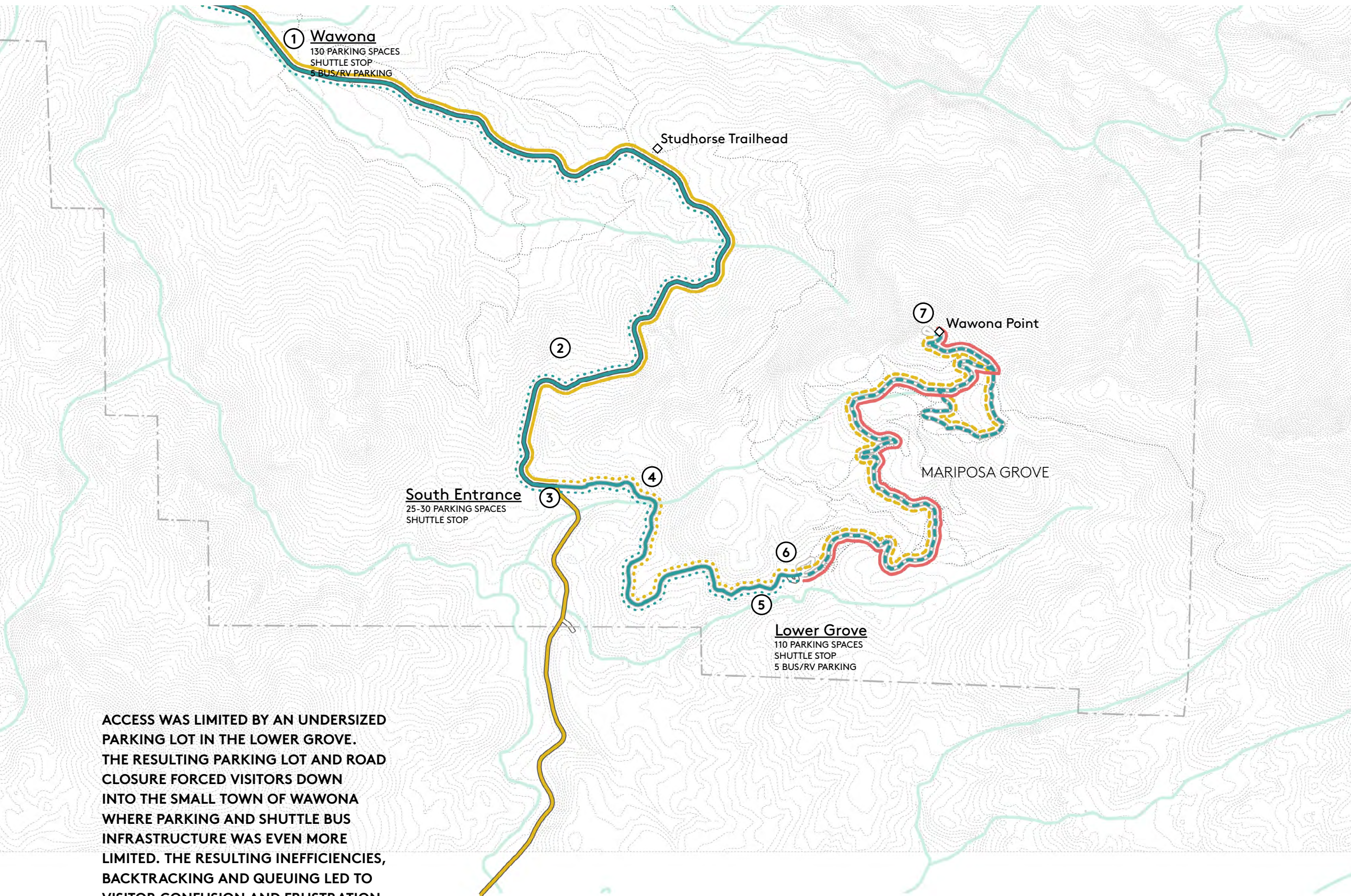


GIANT SEQUOIA DISTRIBUTION





ACCESS WAS LIMITED BY AN UNDERSIZED PARKING LOT IN THE LOWER GROVE. THE RESULTING PARKING LOT AND ROAD CLOSURE FORCED VISITORS DOWN INTO THE SMALL TOWN OF WAWONA WHERE PARKING AND SHUTTLE BUS INFRASTRUCTURE WAS EVEN MORE LIMITED. THE RESULTING INEFFICIENCIES, BACKTRACKING AND QUEUING LED TO VISITOR CONFUSION AND FRUSTRATION.

LEGEND

PRIVATE AUTO

- FULL ACCESS
- - - NO ACCESS WHEN MG LOT FULL
- · - · - DISABLED ACCESS ONLY

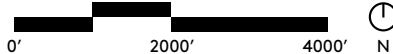
PARK TRANSIT

- WAWONA-MG SHUTTLE (FREE)
- · - · - YOSE VALLEY-MG SHUTTLE (PAY)
- · - · - MG TRAM (PAY)

SERVICE VEHICLE

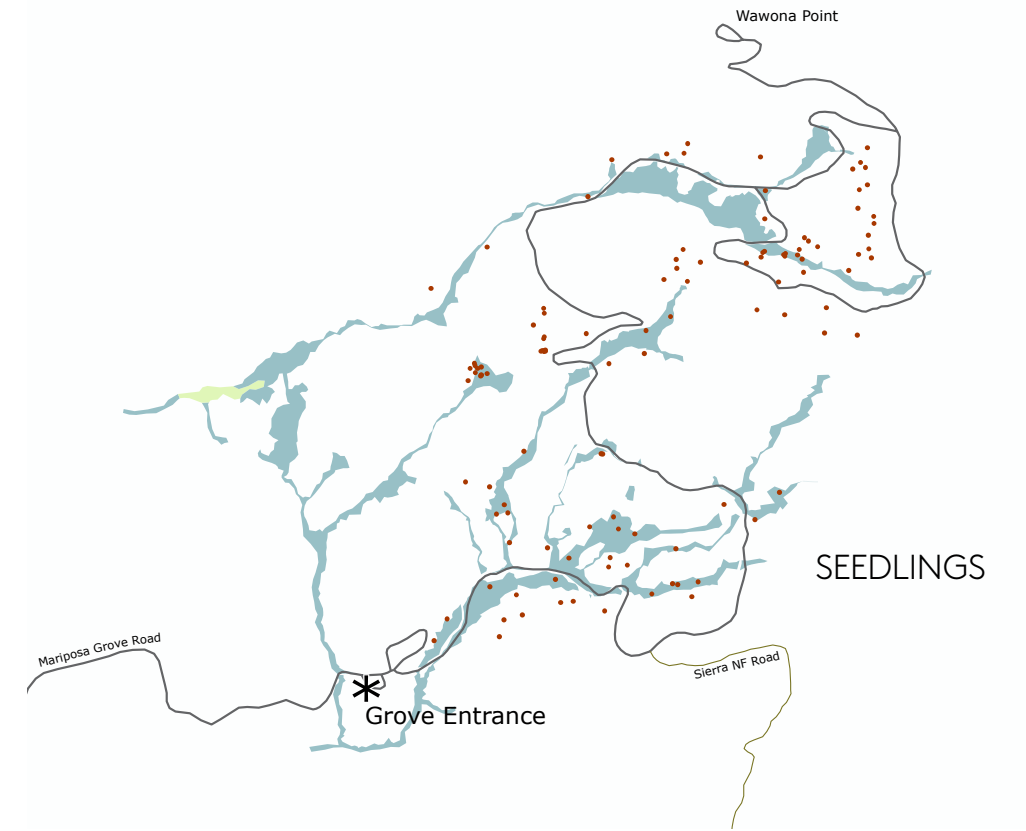
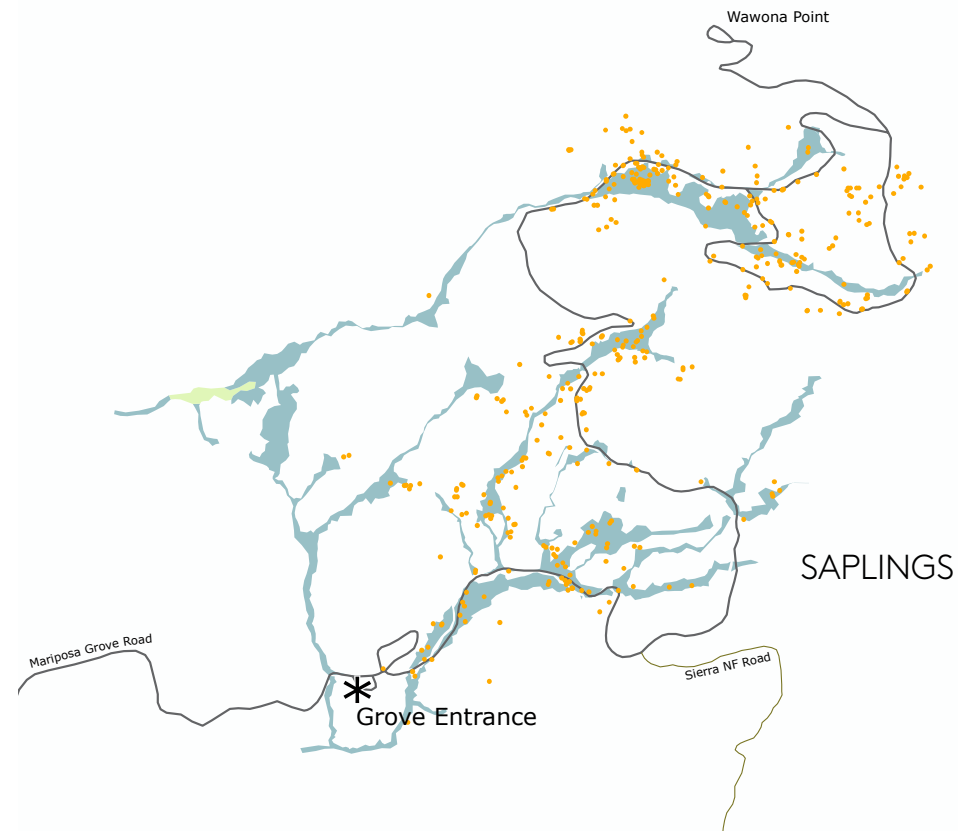
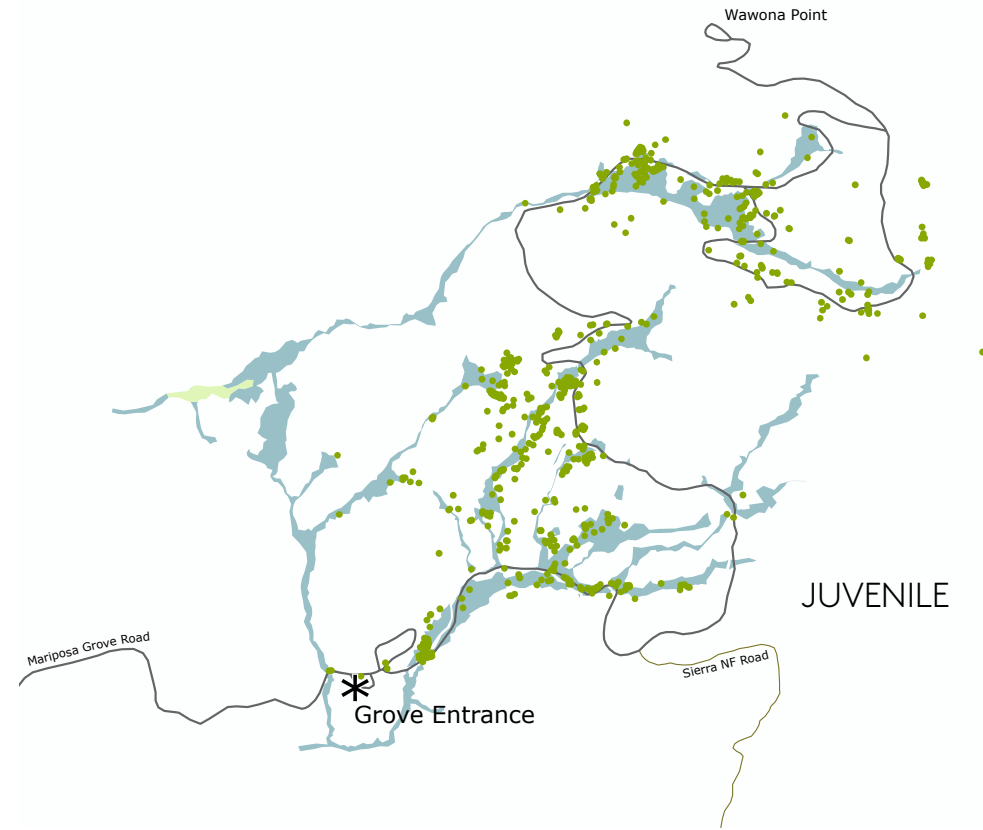
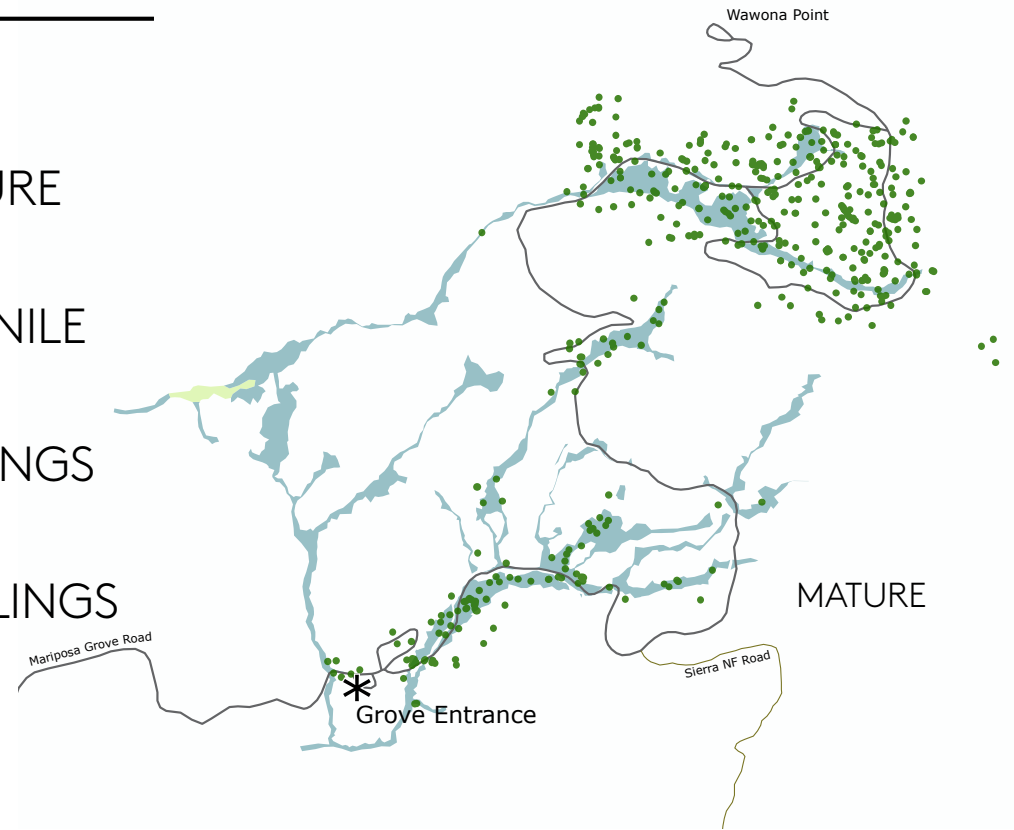
- FULL SERVICE

- ① WAWONA LOT
Fills to capacity
No info about MG road closures
Long shuttle waits
- ② INEFFICIENT + TIME CONSUMING VEHICLE CIRCULATION WHEN MG ROAD CLOSES
- ③ SOUTH ENTRANCE
Vehicle congestion
Circulation Challenges
Proposed improvements
Parking fills to capacity
Long shuttle waits
- ④ MG ROAD
Closed when parking lot full
- ⑤ TIGHT CURVE CONSTRAINT FOR 45' TOUR BUSES
- ⑥ MG PARKING LOT
Fills to capacity
Visitor experience degraded by engine noise and exhaust
Parking congestion
- ⑦ REQUIRED SERVICE ACCES TO WAWONA POINT

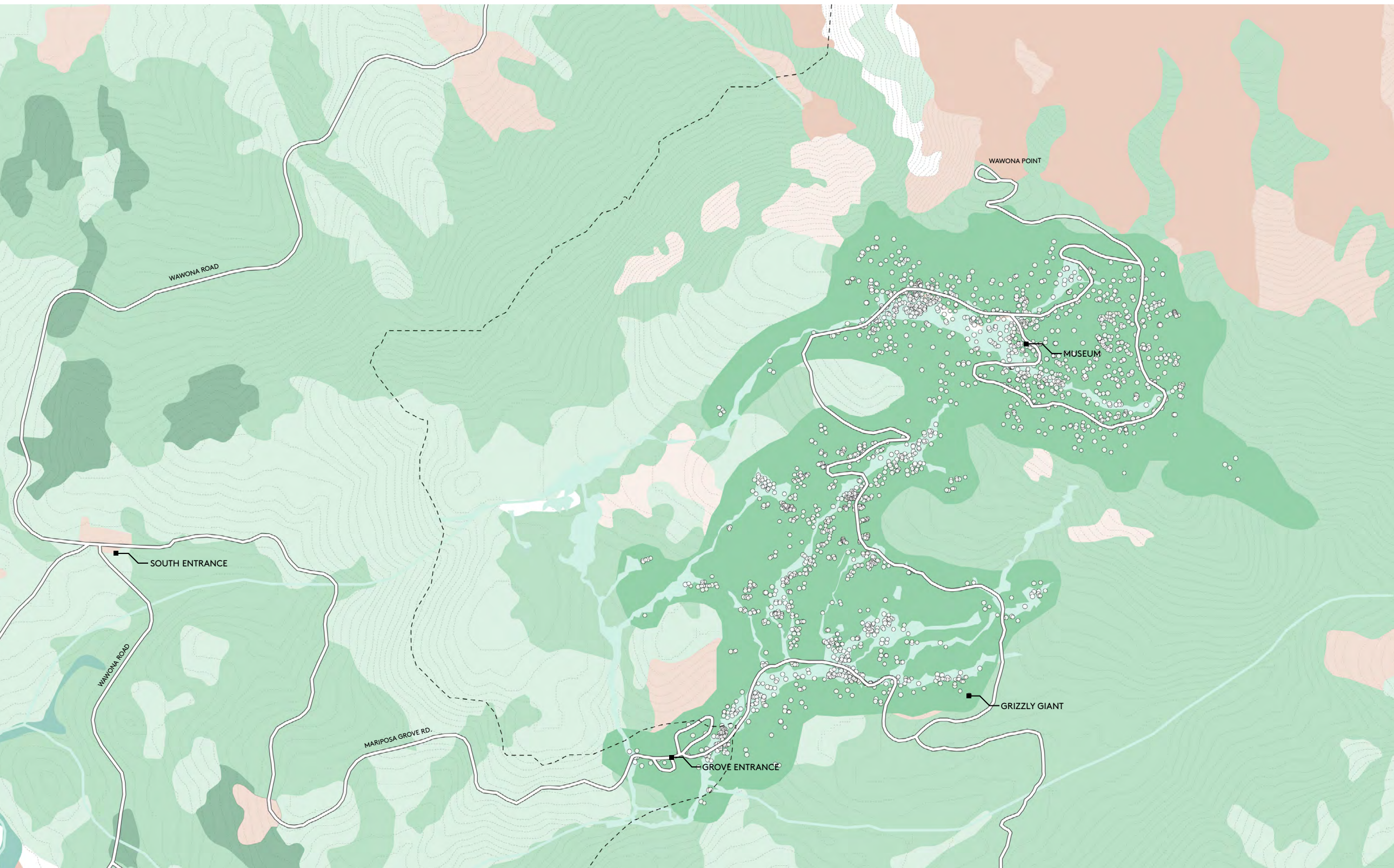


LEGEND

- MATURE
- JUVENILE
- SAPLINGS
- SEEDLINGS



SEQUOIAS OF ALL AGE CLASSES ARE STRONGLY ASSOCIATED WITH WETLAND STREAM SYSTEMS THAT ARE FED BY SNOWMELT. IMPROVING STREAM HYDROLOGY WILL BUILD RESILIENCE INTO THE SEQUOIA ECOSYSTEM AS IT FACES THE NOVEL STRESSORS OF A CHANGING CLIMATE.



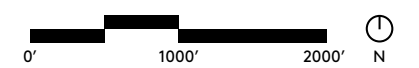
LEGEND

HYDROLOGY

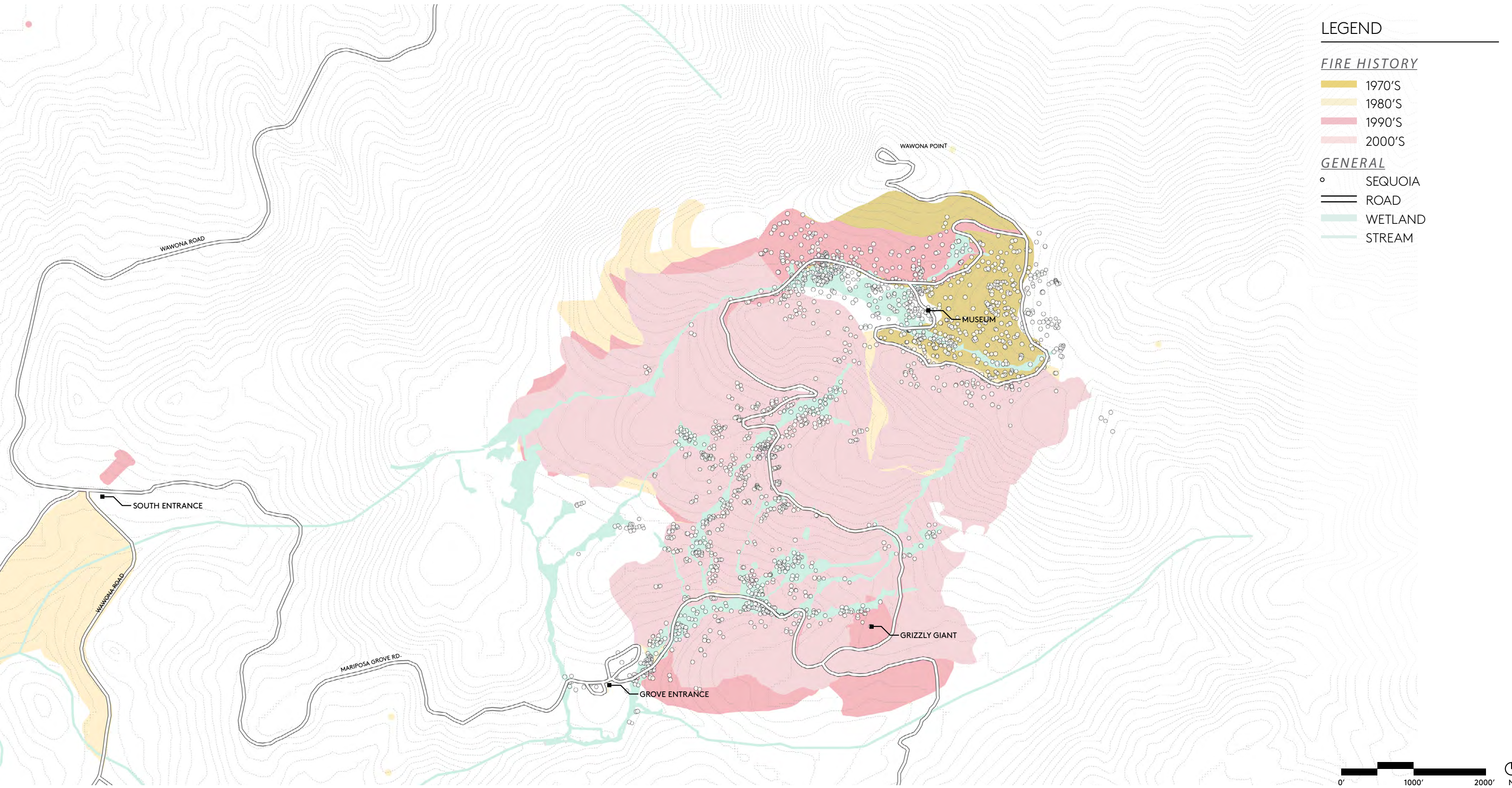
- GIANT SEQUOIA-SUGAR PINE
- WHITE FIR-MIXED SIERRA CONIFER
- PONDEROSA PINE-ASSOCIATIONS
- CALIF. BLACK OAK-ASSOCIATIONS
- CALIF. RED FIR-ASSOCIATIONS
- DOUGLAS FIR-ASSOCIATIONS
- SHRUBLAND
- SNOWFALL/RAINFALL TRANSITION

GENERAL

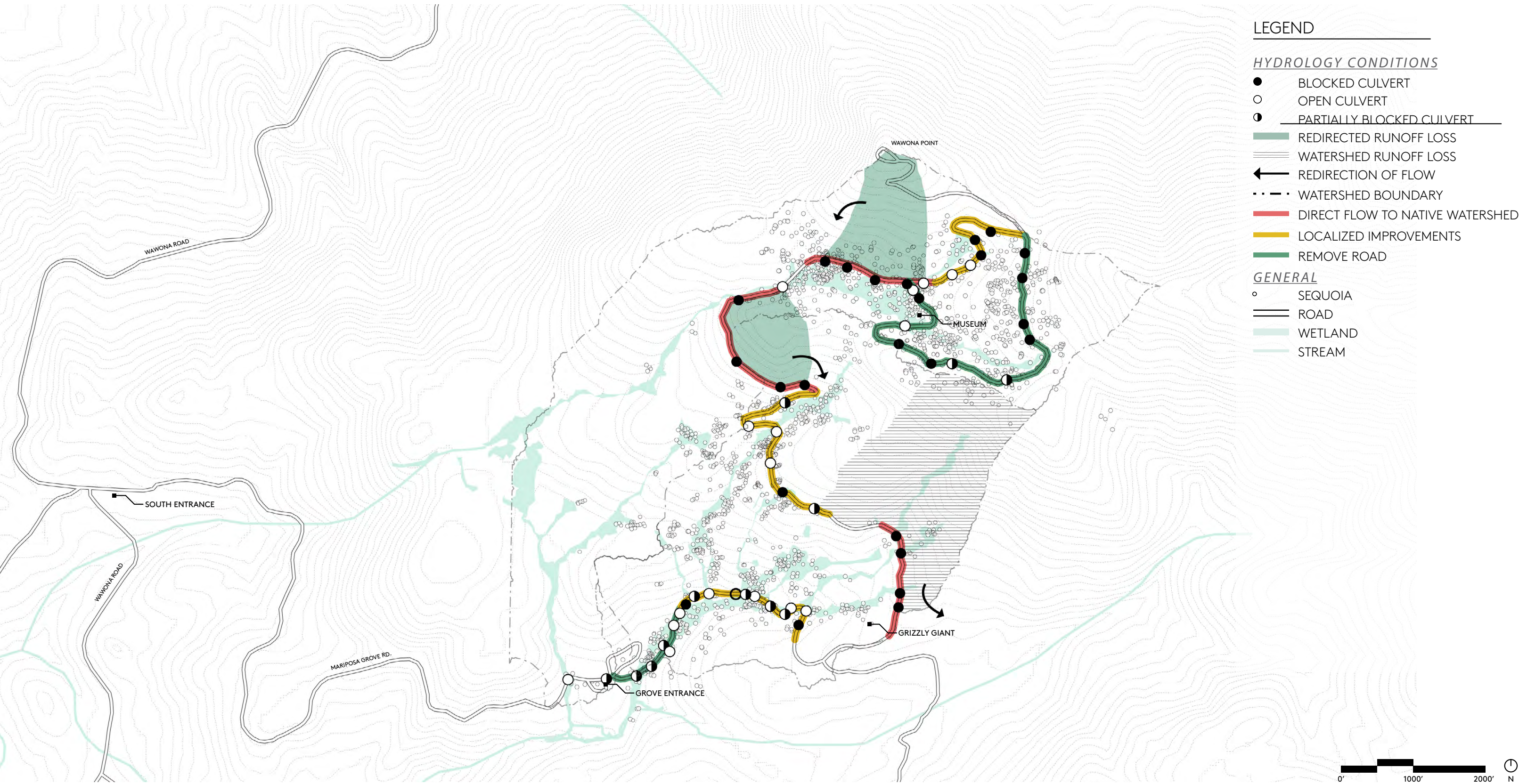
- SEQUOIA
- ROAD
- WETLAND
- STREAM



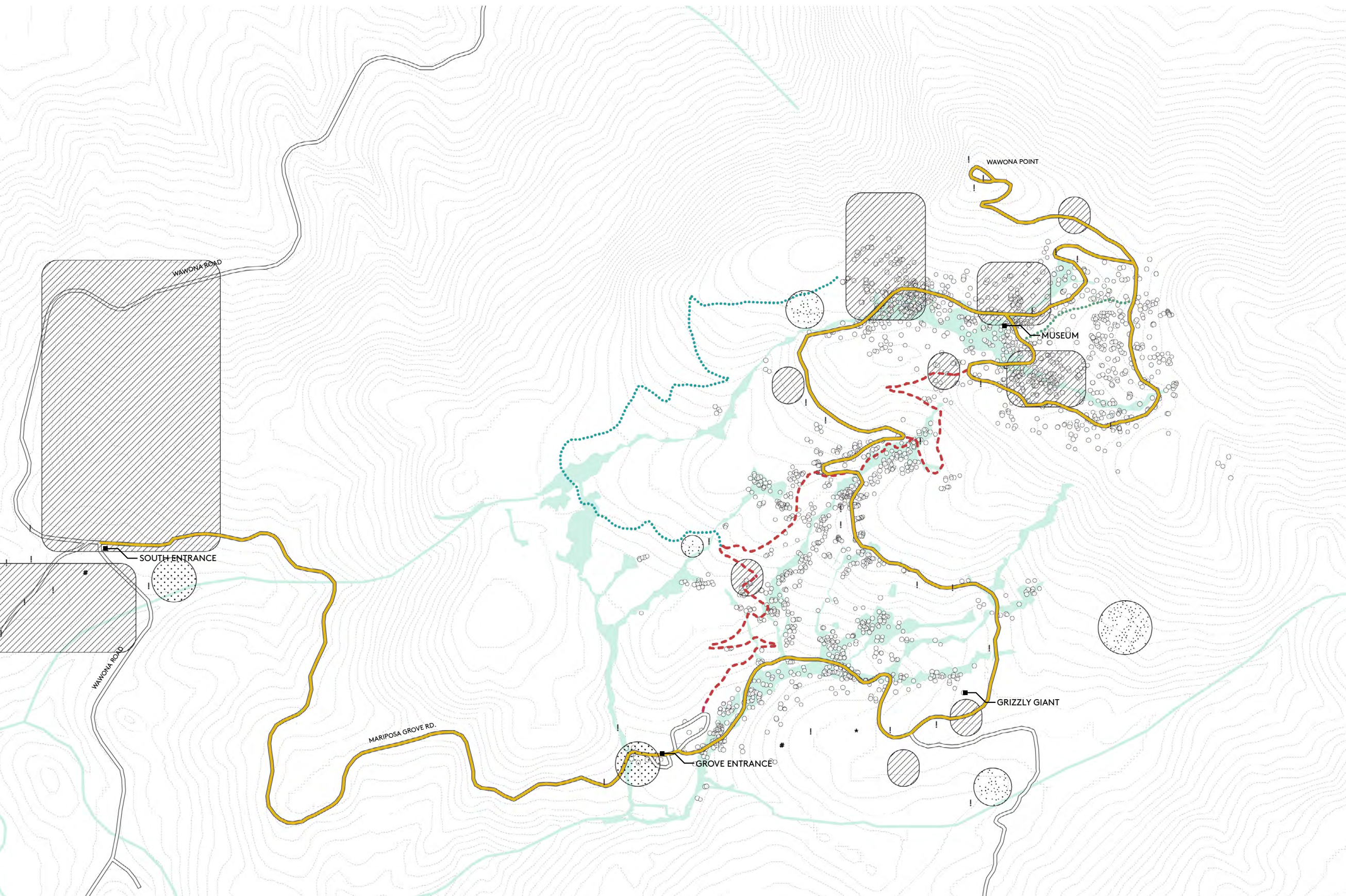
THE MARIPOSA GROVE LIES WITHIN A COMPLEX MOSAIC OF VEGETATION TYPES AND BETWEEN THE RAIN/SNOW TRANSITION ZONE AND NEARBY RIDGETOPS.



FIRE PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE IN PROMOTING SEEDLING REGENERATION AND IN MAINTAINING THE OVERALL HEALTH OF MATURE GIANT SEQUOIA POPULATIONS. TODAY, A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE PARK AND TRIBES KEEPS THE CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC PRACTICE ALIVE IN THE GROVE.



MARIPOSA GROVE ROAD SIGNIFICANTLY ALTERED WETLAND AND STREAM HYDROLOGY.



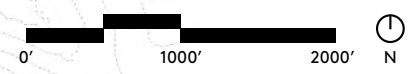
LEGEND

CULTURAL RESOURCES

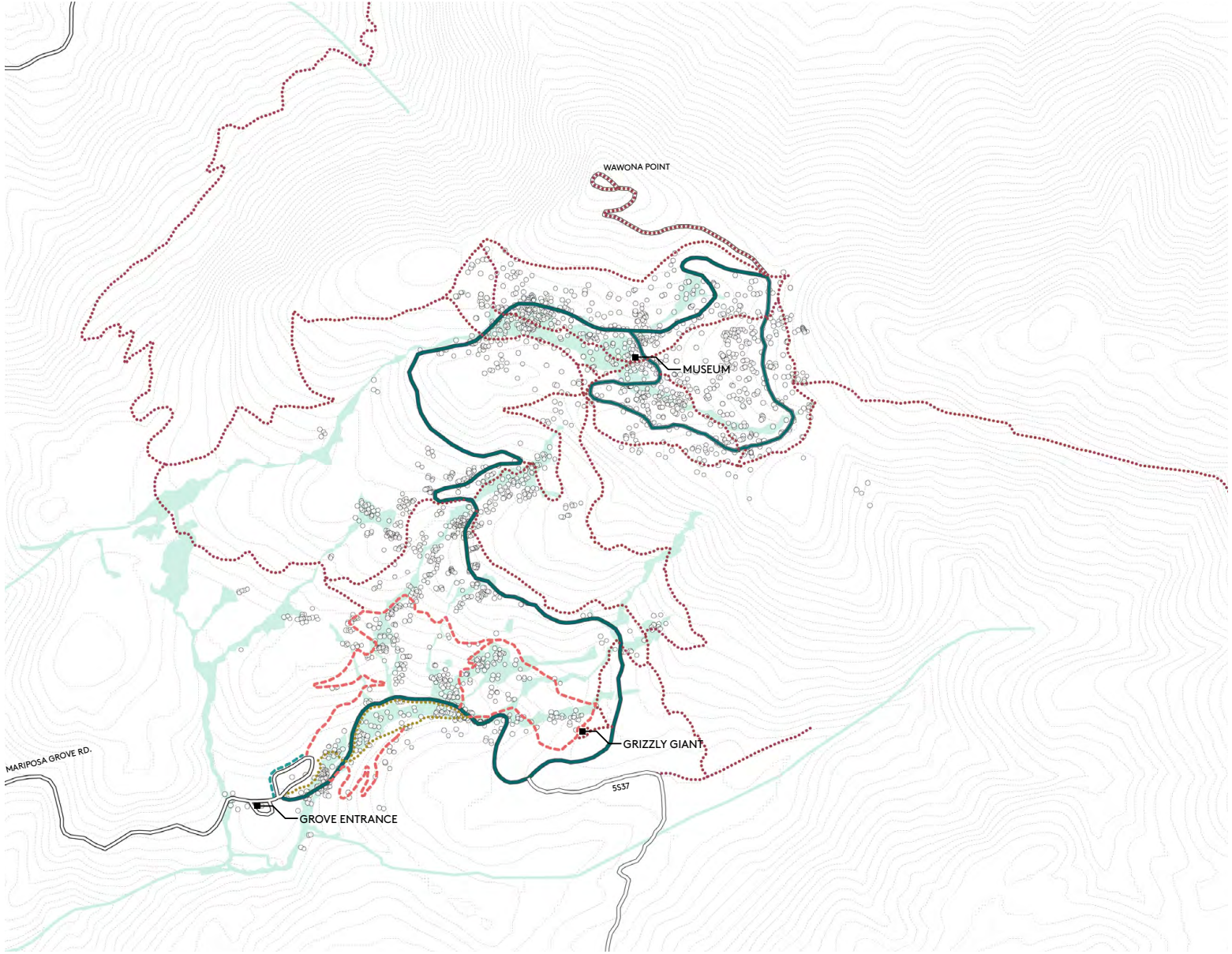
- HISTORIC PAVED ROAD
- - - HISTORIC WAGON ROAD
- ⋯⋯⋯ ARCHAEOLOGICAL LINEARS
- ⋯⋯⋯ HISTORIC TRAIL
- PRE-HISTORIC SITE
- HISTORIC SITE
- BOTH PREHISTORIC + HISTORIC SITES
- ! PRE-HISTORIC ISOLATE
- # HISTORIC ISOLATE
- * BOTH ISOLATES

GENERAL

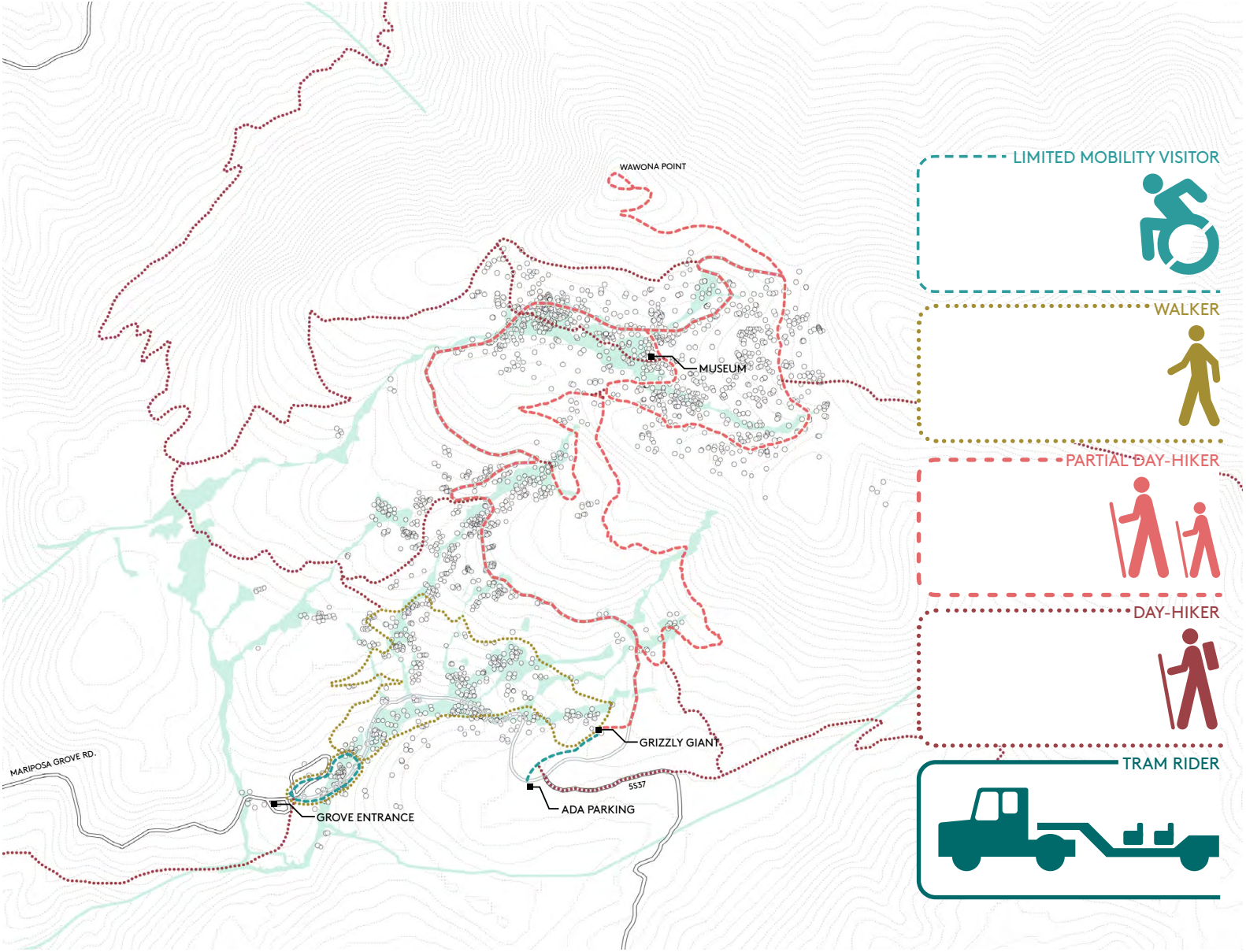
- o SEQUOIA
- ROAD
- WETLAND
- STEAM



HISTORIC ARTIFACTS FROM BEFORE AND AFTER EUROPEAN CONTACT CAN BE FOUND THROUGHOUT THE AREA. THE TEAM WORKED WITH TRIBES TO AVOID IMPACTING THESE SENSITIVE RESOURCES DURING PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION.



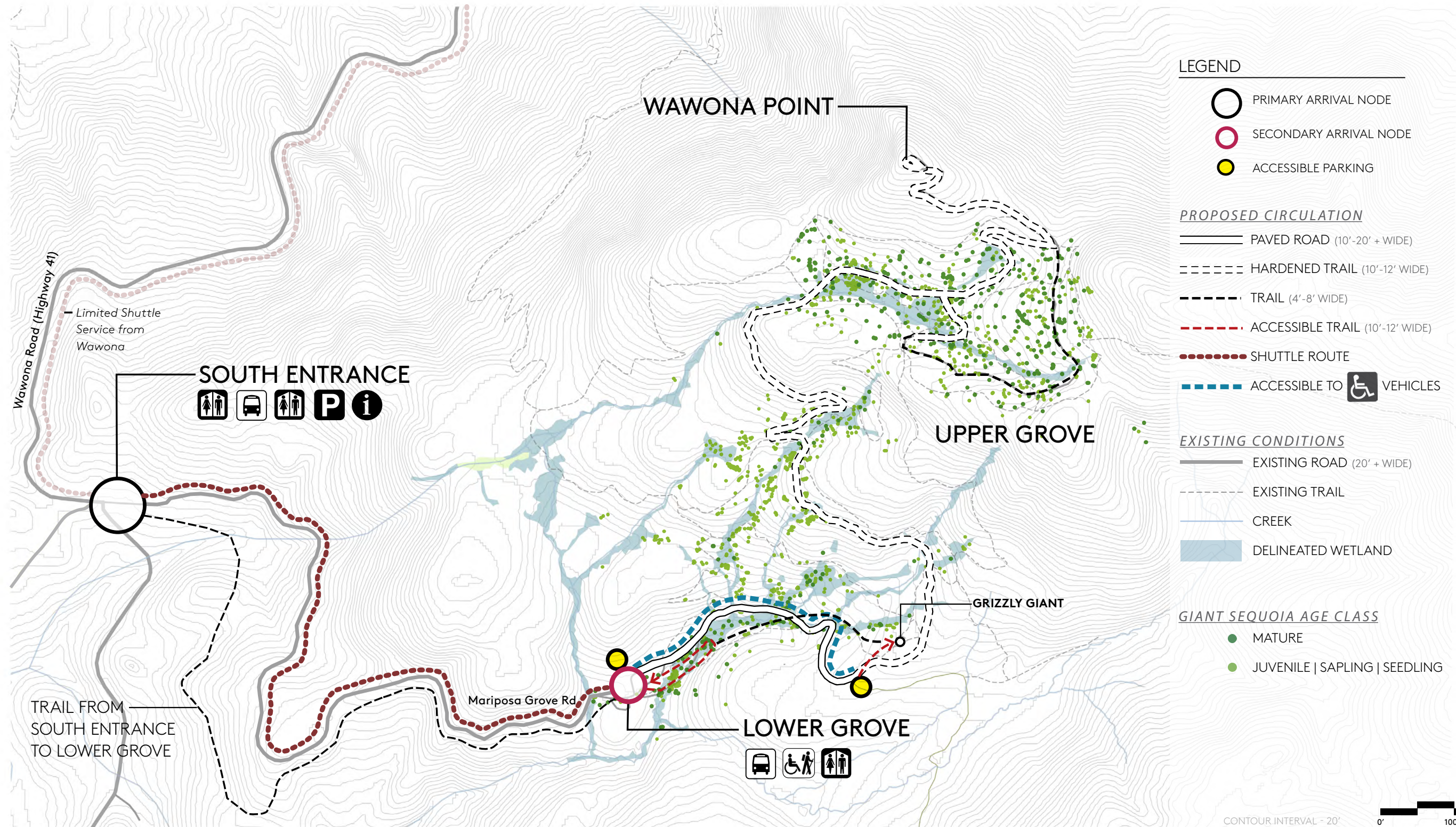
BEFORE



AFTER



THE PLANNING TEAM ANALYZED EXISTING VISITOR USE PATTERNS AND CONFLICTS AND PROPOSED A NEW TRAIL MASTER PLAN THAT REDUCED REDUNDANT TRAILS AND IMPROVED WAY-FINDING AND TRAIL HIERARCHY.



LOWER GROVE SITE PLAN





THIS BEFORE/AFTER MONTAGE HIGHLIGHTS THE DRAMATIC TRANSFORMATION OF THE LOWER GROVE. A FORMER TRAM PARKING AND REFUELING AREA IS NOW THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO AN ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN TRAIL AND BOARDWALK THROUGH A NEWLY RESTORED SEQUOIA GROVE.

A group of people is gathered on a modern wooden boardwalk that spans across a stream and wetland area. The boardwalk features a metal railing with a mesh infill. In the background, a steep, sun-dappled hillside is covered with dense green vegetation and tall, slender trees. The foreground shows a dark, muddy stream bed with exposed tree roots and some green plants. The overall scene is a lush, natural forest environment.

A NEW ACCESSIBLE
BOARDWALK IS
CONSTRUCTED WITHIN
THE FORMER ROAD BED
AND FLOATS ABOVE
A DAYLIT STREAM,
RESTORED WETLAND
PLANTINGS AND GIANT
SEQUOIA ROOTS.



VISITORS WITH LIMITED MOBILITY
ACCESS THE ICONIC GRIZZLY GIANT
TREE VIA A NEW ACCESSIBLE TRAIL
AND A SMALL ADA PARKING LOT.



THE HALFWAY POINT OF THE NEW ACCESSIBLE LOOP TRAIL IN THE LOWER GROVE MARKS WHERE THE OLD MARIPOSA GROVE ROAD WAS REMOVED AND RE-VEGETATED. A SLICE OF A FALLEN GIANT PROVIDES RESPITE AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INTERPRETATION.

GRIZZLY GIANT 0.6
WAWONA POINT 3.4

MARIPOSA GROVE TRAIL
GRIZZLY GIANT LOOP TRAIL

AREA CLOSED

AREA CLOSED



THE SOUTH ENTRANCE ARRIVAL PLAZA IS THE FIRST STOP ON THE JOURNEY TO THE MARIPOSA GROVE. THE CENTRAL PLAZA IS AN ACTIVE HUB THAT FEATURES WAYFINDING SIGNAGE, AS WELL AS TACTILE HISTORIC AND ECOLOGICAL INTERPRETATION.