

General Sherman tree

September 21, 2021

In news– Two wildfires in California, one called the **Colony fire** and the other called **Paradise – are burning** through the **Sequoia National Park in the Sierra Nevada** that is home to some of the largest trees in the world, which also include General Sherman, the world's largest tree.

About General Sherman tree-

- It is a giant sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) tree located in the Giant Forest of Sequoia National Park in Tulare County, in the U.S. state of California.
- It is the **world's largest in terms of volume (single stem tree) and exists in the Giant Forest sequoia grove** of the national park.
- As per recent estimates, it is **about 2,200 years old**.
- **The General Sherman was named after the American Civil War general William Tecumseh Sherman.**
- It stands at a **height of 275 feet** (taller than the leaning tower of Pisa) and has a diameter of 36 feet at the base.
- While the General Sherman is the largest currently living tree, it is **not the largest historically recorded tree**.
- The Lindsey Creek tree, with more than 90,000 cubic feet (2,500 cubic meters) almost twice the volume of General Sherman, was reportedly felled by a storm in 1905.
- The General Sherman Tree **is neither the tallest known living tree on Earth** (that distinction belongs to the Hyperion tree, a Coast redwood), **nor is it the widest** (both the largest cypress and largest baobab have a greater diameter), **nor is it the oldest known living**

tree on Earth (that distinction belongs to a Great Basin bristlecone pine).

Sequoia National Park-

- Sequoia National Park is adjacent to Kings Canyon National Park in California's southern Sierra Nevada mountains, the USA.
- It's known for its huge sequoia trees, notably the General Sherman Tree dominating the Giant Forest.
- The park was established on September 25, 1890.



- The underground Crystal Cave features streams and striking rock formations.
- Moro Rock is a granite dome offering sweeping park views.
- Sequoia trees in the National Park are fairly fire-resistant.
- It is the only area in the world where giant sequoias occur naturally.
- UNESCO designated the areas as Sequoia-Kings Canyon Biosphere Reserve in 1976.