

Post-Kneebone Farming Era

In the years following departure of the Kneebones, seven owners held the Bridgeport property. After a 1948 lease to Edward P. Alvarado, Alfred's widow, Lucy, sold the ranch to Mr. and Mrs. Charles N. White in 1951. May 28, 1956 the Whites sold to Mr. and Mrs. Evan K. Harrison. The Harrisons removed the 1919 Kneebone house and started a new house (later remodeled into the current Visitor Center). April 4, 1958 the Harrisons sold to Melvin K. and Carrie Maish. July 21, 1964 the Maishs sold to Jack and Janet Cowan. In June 1966, the Cowans sold to Robert S. Spitzer, and on June 22, 1966 Spitzer, Gillman Y. Murray, and Eugene R. Mastin formed Bridgeport-Ponderosa Corp. with the intent to revive Alfred Kneebone's Resort. The effort failed. On June 28, 1972 Nevada County condemned two acres of land to redirect Pleasant Valley Road across a new concrete bridge and abandon the old road from the Cemetery to the Covered Bridge.

Sequoia Challenge Era

Sequoia Challenge, under the direction of John Olmsted, obtained and held Bridgeport area property from Bridgeport-Ponderosa and private individuals from 1973 to 1986. The Sequoia Challenge property, over 500 acres, was transferred to the State of California in 1986.

State Park Era

The State Department of Parks and Recreation began acquisition of property for the South Yuba River Project in 1978 with the purchase of property near Jones Bar. The South Yuba River Project began in 1986, with a detailed study of the resources, and State Park status occurred in 1997.