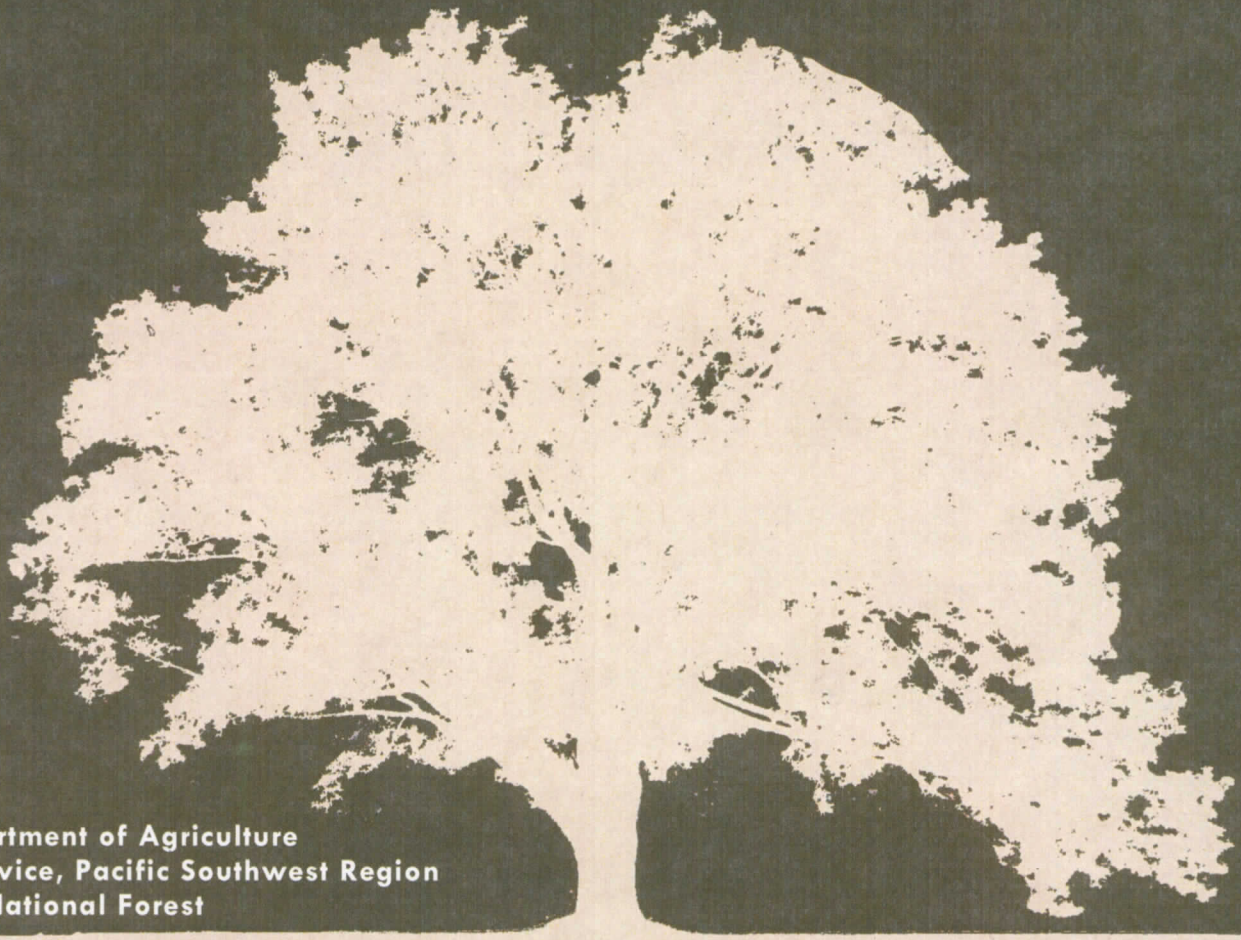
Angeles National Forest
Annual Accomplishments Report
Fiscal Year 2012

Angeles National Forest



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region
Angeles National Forest

Spring 2013

From the Forest Supervisor

The Angeles National Forest was established more than a century ago, changing and developing along with the Southern California culture. During its history, it has attracted countless numbers of outdoor enthusiasts. The Angeles began as the San Gabriel Timberland Reserve in 1892; it was the first national forest in California and the second in the nation. The reserve was later changed to the Angeles National Forest in 1908.

Many changes and challenges have come throughout the decades and we are proud to continue to conserve and protect the 700,176 acres of forest. The Angeles hosts about 4 million visitors each year, making it one of the most visited national forests in the nation. The Angeles' proximity to the greater Los Angeles area makes it the most urban national forest in the country, which leads to increasing demands for multiple uses including telecommunications sites, utility corridors, dams, water sources and conveyances and film-industry locations.

Although this means that we are faced with a tremendous challenge, it also presents us with exceptional opportunities. While we remain committed to the original tenets of forest and watershed conservation, we must at the same time provide for the increasing public-use needs of millions of forest visitors each year.

We are proud to be stewards of the land for all of you, the American public. The employees of the Angeles and I would like to share with you our accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2012. Please take a moment to look through the highlights of our annual accomplishments report. These accomplishments would not have been possible without the tremendous efforts from our volunteers, neighbors, partners and cooperators.

Thank you for your continued support.

Thomas A. Contreras
Forest Supervisor
Angeles National Forest

The Angeles National Forest provides watershed protection and open space for the greater Los Angeles urban area. Within our capabilities, we strive for excellence in resource management and customer service. The Angeles promotes a culture of safety in order to provide a diverse, healthy workforce.

Angeles National Forest Statistics

Fiscal Year (FY): 10/01/2011 thru 09/30/2012

General: Acres of land	700,176
Permanent Full time Employees	356
Seasonal Employees (Approx.)	129
Firefighter Apprentices	25
Student Employees	9
Budget: 5 -Year Average Angeles Budget	$41.16 million
FY 2012	$35.8 million
Recreation: Annual Number of Visitors	4 million
Recreation Residences	463
Picnic Areas	36
Campgrounds	46
Visitor Centers	3
Information Centers	2
Ski Areas	5
Entrance Stations	1
Trails: Trailheads	53
Trails (miles)	548
Off highway vehicle areas	2
Off highway vehicle route miles	270
Fire Management: Number of Wildfires	209
Wildfire Acres Burned	5,535
Cost to Suppress Wildfires	$7.2 million
Number of Engines	28
Crews (Full-Time, On-Call)	10
Acres of Hazardous Terrain Treated	1,417
Natural Features: Wilderness Areas	5
Wilderness Area (acres)	123,000
Wilderness Elevation Ranges (feet)	1,600 to 10,064
Lakes and Reservoirs	10
Rivers and Streams (miles)	240
Sensitive Plant /Wildlife Species	75
Threatened & Endangered Species	14
Infrastructure: Energy Transmission Lines/Pipelines	46
Water Sources and Conveyances	216
Dams and Debris Basins	18
Research	48
Communications Facilities	140
Miles of (Forest Service) Roads	1,032

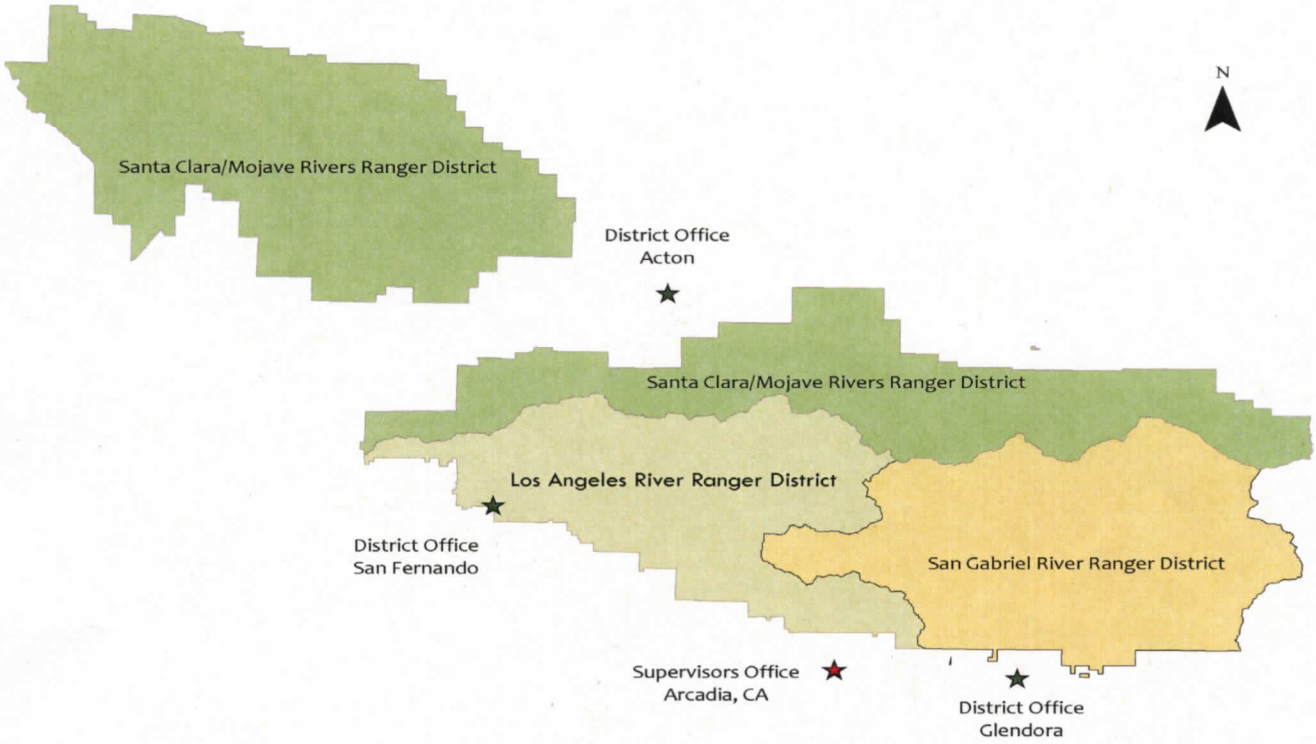
The Angeles is a land of extremes

The San Gabriel Mountains rise up quickly from the lowlands of the Los Angeles Basin to 10,064 feet at the top of Mt. San Antonio. The mountains are steep and fractured, shaped by the San Andreas Earthquake Fault running along their northern boundary. As a result of the wide range of elevations, the forest experiences tremendous variation in climate. The lower elevations are often hot and dry throughout the summer, while the mountains remain cool. The highest peaks are often blanketed by snow in the winter. The Angeles provides not only recreational opportunities but also helps support the infrastructure of the Los Angeles basin. The location of the forest makes it an attractive and economical location for both recreation and non-recreation uses. This land of multiple uses provides 35 percent of the Los Angeles Basin's water and 72 percent of all open space within Los Angeles County.

The forest has five designated wilderness areas that offer quiet refuges within close proximity to urban areas. The Angeles administers over 2,000 special-use permits annually including 728 non-recreational special-use permits that have been issued for purposes including telecommunications sites, utility corridors, dams and water sources.

The Angeles National Forest is spread out over 1,000 square miles and is divided into three districts.

Angeles National Forest District Boundaries



The Los Angeles River Ranger District

The Los Angeles River Ranger District is in the central section of the forest. Comprising about 148,000 acres, it offers a host of recreation opportunities including hiking, camping, water play in the creeks, picnicking and mountain biking.

Chilao Trees

The District is bounded by the San Fernando Valley on the west, the Santa Clara Divide on the north, the Angeles Crest Highway on the east, and the Cities of Pasadena, Altadena, and Sierra Madre on the south.

Elevations in the district range from 1,200 to 8,700 feet. The higher area includes the upper reaches of the San Clara Divide canyons and the 5,700-foot Mount Wilson. The lower elevations are covered with chaparral, oak, sycamore and alders, while elevations above 5,000 feet feature pine, cedar and fir.

Top recreational areas include Chantry Flat Picnic Area and Trailhead, Charlton-Chilao Recreation Area, Switzer Picnic Area and Trailhead, Buckhorn Campground and Lower Big Tujunga Canyon. The District has more than 150 miles of trails including sections of the Pacific Crest, Gabrielino, Silver Moccasin and High Desert trails.

The focus of the District in FY 2012 was to evaluate and identify areas within the Station Fire Closure area, which could be reopened for safe public access after adequate natural recovery had occurred. Forest officials reopened almost half (approx. 42,000 acres) the remaining area within the Closure area to public access. This resulted in the reopening of popular hiking trails. Based on fee collections, the recreation use of the District has been restored to pre-Station Fire levels (with fewer recreation opportunities available).

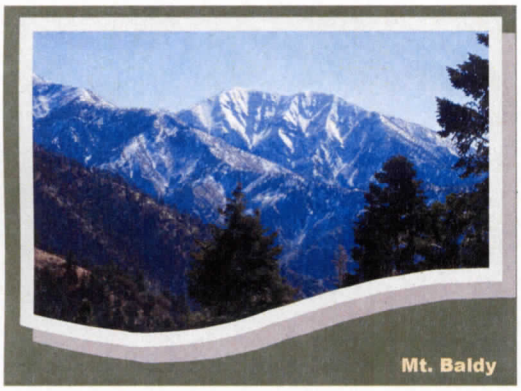
About 144,400 trees on 964 acres within the Station Fire were planted through a grant from the National Forest Foundation (NFF) and Disney Corp., its sponsor, as part of a carbon sequestration project. The grant paid for the site prep, planting, seed costs and seedling costs of planting the trees. This was Year One of a five-year program to reforest conifer stands) (deforested by the Station Fire) working with Disney. Replanting, release, survival exams and tree maintenance are part of this grant. Some 24,939 trees on 1,252 acres received release for survival treatments within the Station Fire area through a grant from the South Coast Air Quality Management District, its sponsor, as part of carbon sequestration. These were for trees planted in 2011.

Another accomplishment included a partnership with TreePeople, in which volunteers were recruited, trained and supervised to plant trees. Follow up watering and tree care are done also. TreePeople planted 10,070 trees with over 1,000 volunteers. One hundred fifty planting supervisors were trained on the district in multiple sessions by TreePeople and the Forest Service.

The LARRD continued the Treasured Landscape partnership with the NFF to help with the post-Station-Fire recovery of the Big Tujunga Watershed. A highlight was the adoption of the Vogel Flats Picnic Area by the Alcoa Corp., which has contributed funding and employee time to restore Vogel Flat for public use.

The San Gabriel River Ranger District

The San Gabriel River Ranger District, covering about 182,000 acres, met its 2012 targets through increased partnerships and shared employee workload. Under the leadership of three successive District Rangers and two permanent Line Officers, District employees helped develop new approaches to fulfilling agency mission while working to address issues resulting from reductions in funding and staffing.


Mt. Baldy

District administration continues to meet complex workloads with ad hoc assistance by Recreation and temporary admin-specific volunteers.

Recreation, operating at 50 percent personnel, provided outstanding service to the public even as the vacant Recreation Officer position continued to be advertised. The department made public contacts in the tens of thousands and removed almost 300,000 pounds of litter. Also of note are two dozen improvement projects completed by Scouts and two Canyon "Supersweep" litter-removal events assisted by 260 volunteers.

Noteworthy highlights included: Environmental Education Program (Half-Day Environmental Science Class), including students from the San Gabriel Environmental Education Center) – 5,061; students from the Mt. Baldy Outdoor Education Center; – 3,952; instructors – 12 (1 Forest Service and 11 half-time volunteers)

In the Volunteer Program: volunteer hours were documented at 31,884; value to government -- $694,752. The full-time staff equivalent is 17.7.

Resources targets were also met with the help of volunteers, including cooperative projects with local agencies and service groups. Projects included 38 acres of planting, 15 acres of release, 86 acres of precommercial thinning, 38 acres establishing vegetation and 101 acres of forest improvement, specifically in Crystal Lake and at developed sites in lower San Gabriel Canyon.

Lands projects included road and bridge repair (Glendora Mountain Road, Mt. Baldy Road, East Fork Bridge, Big Dalton Canyon Road, Highway 39), utilities (Southern California Edison, Verizon), and post-fire rehabilitation projects. Permit administration included 23 communication sites, 32 apiaries, 36 water lines/tanks (private and public), and finalization of the Navy site rehabilitation.

Recreation Special Uses, in addition to administering over 200 permits (including complex uses such as Mt. Baldy Ski Area, Snowcrest Lodge, Burro Canyon Shooting Park, AMGEN bicycle race, and 180 cabins), addressed several Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests with materials in excess of 10,000 pages.

The district oversaw the management of 82,000 acres of federally-designated undeveloped lands and implemented a Wilderness Patrol program in 2012 staffed entirely by volunteers. In 2012, volunteers donated 5,849 hours to trail maintenance projects, the equivalent of 3.25 full-time staff.

The Santa Clara Mojave Rivers Ranger District

The Santa Clara Mojave Rivers Ranger District, at 390,000 acres, is the largest of the three districts on the forest. Located in the north and northwest areas of the forest, elevations range from 1,286 feet to a high of 9,399 feet at Mt. Baden-Powell, the second highest mountain elevation on the forest. The historic Big Pines Information Office, just outside of Wrightwood, sits at 6,862 feet and is the highest elevation on the San Andreas Fault. Terrain on the District ranges from high rugged mountain peaks and pine forests, to the lower foothills of the Mojave Desert with scrub oak and desert sage.

The most popular developed recreational areas include: Jackson Lake area for fishing, camping, hiking, picnicking, and snow play; and Littlerock Reservoir for fishing and picnicking. The Pacific Crest Trail, which winds through the entire district, is a major national attraction for hiking. The District has numerous dispersed recreation areas such as Frenchman's Flat which attracts tens of thousands of visitors annually. The District also has Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) trails and designated areas such as Rowher Flat which attracts thousands of OHV enthusiasts annually.

For FY 2012, a total of 438 Rec permits and 177 Lands permits have been administered to standard. Extensive progress has been made in administration of the districts Recreation Residence tracts including the development of a draft Environmental Assessment covering the 20 year permit renewals for Bouquet Canyon. In addition, great measures have been made in improving the Bouquet Canyon tract by working with concerned cabin owners and law enforcement.

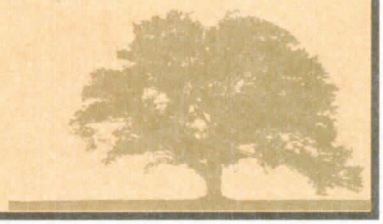
The District administered and monitored approximately 30 recreational events including mountain endurance runs, fishing tournaments, Boy Scout camping events, motorcycle rallies, slope racers, etc. The District worked diligently with our ski resorts to improve efficiency for ongoing summer maintenance and construction work while improving resource protection and best management practices during project implementation. The District continues to work with Mountain High on future development projects. A new permit was issued for Mt. Waterman and Kratka Ridge ski resorts to provide them the time to develop a Master Development Plan.

Completed all fuels and forest health targets associated with the Wrightwood Forest Health project. Secured the award of a new contract to improve forest health and reduce fuel to protection of the community of Wrightwood and key recreation areas near Big Pines.

Implemented Burned Area Emergency Response treatments for the Mint, 5-Mile and Copco fires. Through the cooperation of LA County and Cal Fire inmate crews, approximately 800 man hours were dedicated to the cleaning of numerous large scale dump sites throughout the district. In addition to thousands of pounds of household and construction trash being removed, crews removed 350 tires from the district that were later recycled.

Recreation assisted the Timberline Lions Club in holding a "Firemen's Ball" at the Big Pines Lodge to raise money for the Wrightwood Fire Department and the Lions Club. The event was a huge success and sold out. Camp Fenner finished the amphitheater at Grassy Hollow Visitor Center and assisted recreation by removing tons of trash in the high country due to winter snow play. District and Supervisor's Office staff conducted a Safety Engagement Training session for 18 SCMRRD volunteers. District recreation staff in partnership with the Youth Conservation Corps implemented a restoration project by prepping and painting the east outside wall of the Big Pines Lodge. The staff applied for OHV state grants (Law Enforcement , Ground Operation, Restoration) and was rated the second best grant application in the region.

Resources (Ecological Restoration)



The Angeles National Forest developed the Ecological Restoration Implementation Plan that moves the forest towards healthy and resilient landscapes. Officials also developed an integrated and strategic 2013 Program Work to align the forest with the priorities set forth in R5 Ecological Restoration Leadership Intent. Emphasis was placed on: 1) integrating program budgets and projects to better leverage limited resources, 2) prioritizing opportunities for ecological restoration, 3) identifying critical path items and capacity constraints; and 4) adaptive management so Program of Work adjustments can be made in an effective/efficient manner as conditions warrant.

The forest also reforested portions of the Station Fire through a Partnership with National Forest Foundation and Tree People – planting 1,025 acres of native trees with 965 acres credited as a Carbon Sequestration Demonstration Pilot Project and 60 acres planted by volunteers. It developed comprehensive Mountain Yellow Legged Frog Translocation Program and completed the NEPA planning to implement species recovery actions in 2013

The Angeles negotiated a comprehensive strategy and approach to comply with the *Center for Biological Diversity v. U.S. Fish and Wildlife* court order. Strategy was adopted by all four So Cal Forests and was used as the basis for establishing the timelines and process for meeting the requirements of the Environmental Site Assessment and the Remedy Order. Preparation of the comprehensive Biological Assessment was set for completion in FY2013.

Forest officials accomplished all Resources and Planning Program Targets that significantly contributed to Ecological Restoration across the Forest, including:1) 1,655 acres of forest vegetation established; 2) 1,811 acres of forestland vegetation improved; 3) 50,000 cubic feet of timber sold; 4) 250 acres of highest priority acres treated annually for noxious weeds and invasive plants on Forest Service lands. An additional 1,000 acres of high priority acres were treated, monitored, and inventoried through volunteer groups, grants, and partnerships leveraged by ANF staff (e.g. Sierra Club, Habitat Works, LACC); 5) 643 acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions; 6)19 miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced; 7) 3,236 acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced; and 8) Implemented recovery actions for Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog, Arroyo Toad, California Red-legged Frog, Santa Ana Sucker, California Condor, and Nevins Barberry.

Significant progress was made on implementation of the Inventoried Roadless Area Lawsuit Settlement Agreement. Scoping and two successful public meetings for the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) were completed and a draft EIS is scheduled for release in FY 2013. ANF is proposing nearly 42,000 acres as Recommended Wilderness. Staff also accomplished an integrated fuels and vegetation improvement/Wildland Urban Interface and non-interface target of 1,215 acres

The ANF continued collaborative work in support of sustainable transmission grid development necessary to meet renewable energy goals. Key partners and stakeholders include California Public Utilities Commission, Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power, Southern California Edison, and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. A host of cooperating federal, state and local agencies have been involved. Initial restoration work is complete and is being monitored and maintained for the Antelope Pardee Project. For the Tehachapi Renewal Transmission Project, construction of Segment 6 is underway and a number of mitigation measures are being implemented to protect resources for the project. The Final Environmental Impact Statement was completed for the Barren Ridge Project, a major cost-recovery agreement established with the Department of Water and Power. In addition, utility permittees are putting a substantial investment into the forest transportation system as part of these projects.

Recreation/Lands/Special Uses

The Angeles National Forest reopened 71 percent of the Station Fire Closure for public access in FY2012. The Forest received over 4 million visitors, removed 190-tons of trash from the forest *(The San Gabriel Canyon averages 15,000 to 20,000 visitors in a typical weekend, leaving 160-tons of trash and 100,000-gallons of human waste.)* The Solar Trash Compactor Pilot Project in cooperation with Washington Office is to be implemented in San Gabriel Canyon.

The Angeles collected $1.2 million in Adventure Pass fees, taught approved state certified curriculum to over 20,000 Los Angeles Unified School District teachers and school children in Forest environmental education centers. The forest processes the most film permits in the Forest Service, with 100 permits issued in 2012, and collection of $40,000 in fees.

Recreation officials met the assigned target for recreation sites operated to standard which is 12 percent of the Regional target, and 45 percent higher than any other forest in the Region. They also met the target for recreation sites maintained to standard, for miles of trail improved, and miles of trail maintained to standard.

The ANF partnered with the Youth Conservation Corps to implement ecosystem restoration projects in high impact recreation area. It issued 1,200 land use authorizations with over $5 million dollars collected in fees. Southern California Edison's Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project entered into the construction phase during the fiscal year. The forest is working to establish a separate collection agreement to fund work on existing infrastructure maintenance projects such as pole replacement.

The forest established multiple agreements with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. These included:

- a $69,000 major cost recovery agreement for the Barren Ridge Renewable Transmission Project.
- a $130,000 collection agreement with the DWP for operations and maintenance of existing infrastructure.
- a 5-year collection agreement for $750,000 for operations and maintenance of existing infrastructure.

The ANF further developed a $ 67,000 collection agreement established with the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works for operations and maintenance of existing infrastructure.

The 18-year-long *Cumiskey Innocent Encroachment Project* was completed under the Small Tracts Act. The forest also administered over 95 forest-level, land-use projects.

In Wilderness Management – ANF partnered with the Urban Conservation Corps to conduct wilderness projects in the unexplored Magic Mountain Wilderness with funding from the Washington Office.

In Heritage Management—The forest screened 75 Chapter 106 projects under the Region-5 Programmatic Agreement. Forest officials also consulted on seven projects with California State Heritage Preservation Office and surveyed approximately 450 acres of National Forest system lands.

Heritage and Tribal Relations

Tribal Relations Program

The Angeles National Forest is one of the most urbanized forests in the National Forest System. The history behind the emergence of the Los Angeles urban center includes the fragmentation of the local tribes through the Spanish incorporation into the mission system. As such, there are no federally recognized tribes within the immediate vicinity of the forest. The three closest federally recognized tribes that the forest consults with are located within the sphere of influence for the Los Padres National Forest (Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians and Tejon Indian Tribe) and the San Bernardino National Forest (San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians). The forest consults and maintains a relationship with non-federally recognized tribes, Native American organizations, and individuals within the greater Los Angeles area.

Consultation and collaboration occurred for forest planning and specific projects as well as detailed points of interest such as repatriation of sensitive remains and artifacts or access to areas for traditional gathering. The program also is engaged in a more formal level of consultation on a government-to-government level with the tribal governments of the federally recognized tribes (San Manuel, Santa Ynez and Tejon). Topics discussed in this level of consultation included Forest Land Management Plan revision, planning regulations, and forest projects and programs.

Heritage Program

The Heritage Program of the Angeles National Forest is responsible for ensuring forest operations and projects are in compliance with a number of federal laws (National Historic Preservation Act, National Environmental Protection Act, Archaeological Resource Protection Act, and Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act) enacted for the preservation and protection of cultural resources. To date, approximately 70,000 acres have been inventoried and over 1,300 prehistoric and historic sites have been recorded on the Angeles. In FY2012, the heritage program inventoried 122 acres and recorded 31 new archaeological sites and updated one other site.

In FY2012, in support of the forest's program of work, the heritage program analyzed 88 forest projects involving over 1352 acres. Of these, 44 projects involving 169 archaeological resources required site-specific protection measures or treatments designed to protect both prehistoric and historic resources from potential project related impacts or effects.

The forest continued collaborative partnership with the non-profit Ridge Route Preservation Organization, to preserve and enhance the Old Ridge Route, a National Register District that runs through the Forest. The organization has continued its involvement in protecting and stabilizing efforts by contributing its time and labor on ongoing projects as part of its "Clean Up The Ridge Route" initiative to clear and maintain drainage structures to help prevent failure or impacts to the historic roadway. The effort resulted in a total of 313 volunteer hours, for an estimated value of $6,820. The Forest Fire Lookout Host project contributed another approximately 2,477 hours of volunteer time rehabilitating and staffing the remaining historic lookout (numbers reduced, due to the 2009 Station Fire, and the burning of the Vetter Mountain Lookout), as well as fundraising to rebuild lookouts that burned down in 2002 and 2009; volunteers staffed Slide Mountain Lookout site and part of the Los Angeles County Fair Lookout Exhibit as a living history exhibit. This estimated value is $53,974. The forest also sponsored two Passport-In-Time projects. The projects involved volunteer fieldwork led by Heritage staff in the San Gabriel Mountains, and primarily focused on providing survey opportunities for areas within the Station Fire Burn Area. This effort resulted in 1,040 volunteer hours, for an estimated value of over $22,660.

Engineering

The ANF Supervisor's Office, a $13 million ARRA construction project was completed in 2012, with a move-in that took place in April. The project was certified Silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). In other developments, Engineering completed:

- the Santa Clara Mohave River Ranger District office (Congressional Earmark) in Acton and the facility was certified Gold LEED;
- awarding Fox Field Air Tanker Base (Capital Improvement Project) contracts. Construction began for both contracts (building, site improvement) in Fall 2012;
- all potable water testing to meet regulation (no notices of noncompliance);
- awarding the contract for West Fork Trail Bridge (Capital Improvement Project) which will address a major safety issue.

ROADS:

The update of the Motor Vehicle Use Map was completed. Road maintenance and improvement targets have been met. Engineering performed additional road maintenance in support of reforestation for the Station Fire performed road-related Burned Area Emergency Response work for the Station Fire area. The section also awarded six Emergency Repair for Federally Owned Roads contracts (totaling about $150,000) for repairs of FY 2010 and 2011 storm damage.

FLEET

Engineering completed 85 percent of annual vehicle-maintenance checks. Engineering also completed its FY 2012 Vehicle Replacement Program and all needed fire equipment buildups (adding equipment including lights, whistles and cages for 25 vehicles). The section also hired a Fleet Maintenance Inspector who is a diversity candidate and a vet.

OTHER:

In 2011-2012 a senior project team of Cal Poly Pomona civil engineering students worked on a project related to drainage, hydrology and runoff mitigation at Crystal Lake Campground. Last year, a new team of students spent a few overnight camping sessions at Crystal Lake in order to continue a new phase of similar research, focusing on a different section of the campground. The forest Engineering staff (in collaboration with the Southern California Consortium) continues to be involved with educational presentations for Cal Poly engineering students. Our staff plans to continue this collaboration with the university in the coming years by engaging students and faculty in potential projects that will benefit the Forest Service.

Fire and Aviation

The Angeles Fire, Fuels and Aviation Management **(FAM)** organization is the largest Forest Service Fire Department in the nation. The firefighter production capability and available fire resources are as follows: 28 Type III fire engines, 5 Type I hot shot crews, 5 Type II call-when-needed crews, 1Type I helicopter, 6 Type II water tenders, 2 Type II dozers, 1 Type II 14-person helicopter module, 12 wet prevention patrols, and a 24 hour emergency operations center. In addition to those resources, the Angeles staffs 1 federally- owned air-tanker base year round.

The Angeles Emergency Operations Center handled 6,606 Incidents in 2012.

Aircraft Down	1	Resource Orders	341
Hazardous Materials	14	Search and Rescue	132
Law Enforcement	2,563	Smoke Check	78
Medical Aids	383	Structure Fire Responses	37
Miscellaneous Response	1,541	Traffic Collisions	631
Prescribed Fires	10	Vehicle Fire	177
Public Assists	277	Wildfire Responses	421
Total		**6,606**	

ANF FAM was selected to host the Forest Service's Southern California Night Flying Helicopter module, and coordinated with local cooperators on the "Defensible Space" project in and around the forest. We also updated and finalized 13 annual operating plans and 11 agreements with local cooperators and the National Park Service. Fire staff worked with the U.S. Air Force in training its pilots that fly C-130 air tankers equipped with the Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems (MAFFS). The Forest Service owns the MAFFS equipment and supplies the retardant, while Department of Defense provides the C-130 H and J model aircraft, flight crews, and maintenance and support personnel to fly the fire suppression missions. FAM has partnerships with 2 community colleges and 3 local inner-city community-based organizations for call-when-needed fire crews.

FAM completed modifications and changes to the initial response areas for both federal land and for cooperator response areas; it also developed a forest-level fuels analysis route list and defense zones and an evacuation route list for the forest. The fire organization updated Wildland Fire Decision Support System Geographic Information System data, forest fire historical data, forest retardant avoidance areas, forest aerial avoidance areas and the fire management plan.

The Angeles hosted its 18th Annual Explorer Academy, graduating 45 explorers from Kern County, Los Angeles County, Santa Barbara County, Orange County, West Covina, Oxnard, Fullerton, Alhambra Fire Departments and the Forest Service. This is the only wildland fire explorer academy in the nation. FAM also held the 50th anniversary meeting of the North American Forest Commission Fire Management Working Group in our new SO training center. During the Williams Fire, FAM accommodated a contingent of fire and resources management professionals interested in how we manage fires in Southern California. FAM and Smokey Bear supported the Special Olympics in Long Beach with info booths, games and prizes. FAM also supported two large fairs: the Antelope Valley Fair in Lancaster, and the Los Angreles County Fair "America's Great Outdoors" site, a partnership with the Bureau of Land Management and the Los Angeles County Fire Department Forestry Division.

Law Enforcement and Investigations

Angeles Law Enforcement and Investigations officers conducted the third annual operation against illegal hunting in 2012. This enforcement, conducted with other government agencies, consisted of contacting hunters for hunting licenses and weapons compliance. This started on opening day of deer season. In a 36-hour period, 42 arrests were made for illegal hunting and illegal possession of weapons; 44 weapons were seized from non-U.S. citizens. This operation will continue in 2013.

The Angeles National Forest Law Enforcement in conjunction with Los Angeles County Sheriff Dept. conducted numerous marijuana eradications:

- Plant Count (Year to Date): 116,735
- Plant Weight (Year to Date): 20,299
- Finished Product: 17 lbs.
- Trash Weight (Year to Date): 25,696 lbs.
- Firearms (Year to Date): 4
- Arrests (Year to Date): 4
- Gardens Spotted: 35

Angeles Law Enforcement conducted workplace-violence training for Forest Service staff and will continue the training for forest personnel in 2013.

Law Enforcement personnel are continuing to conduct enforcement of illegal mining operations and illegal homesteading in areas closed to those activities. Forest Law Enforcement officers and a Los Angeles County Sheriff's narcotics unit arrested a local minor for possession and sales of narcotics. Such enforcement has been very successful in eliminating the illegal activity in those areas.

VIOLATION	COUNT OF VIOLATONS
ADMIN	54
CIVIL	255
FELONY	204
INFRACTION	894
MISDEMEANOR	1355
NON CRIMINAL	26
PETTY OFFENSE	1
Grand Total	**2,789**

Civil Rights

As of Sept. 1, 2012, the Angeles held a diversity ranking of No. 1, and a final ranking of 2, as identified on the Pacific Southwest Region Workforce Profile. The Angeles' permanent workforce consisted of 356 permanent employees. Of the workforce, 69 (19.4 percent) were females, and 287 (80.6 percent) were males. This is down from FY 2011 with the permanent employee makeup of 371, which consisted of 73 (19.7 percent) females, and 298 (80.3 percent) males. Although the FY 2012 overall total of permanent workforce is down from FY 2011, diversity has increased from 43.94 per cent in FY 2011, to 46.63 percent in FY 2012.

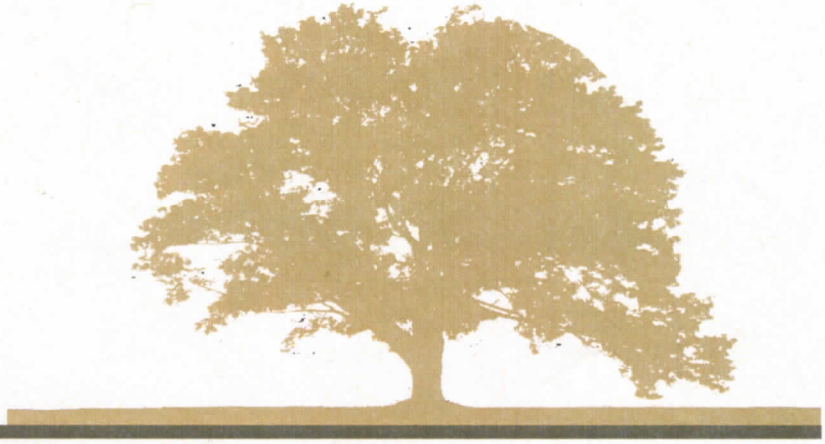
The Civil Rights Office updated ANF Prevention of Sexual Harassment Policy, Anti-Harassment Policy, and EEO Pol icy Statement. The Angeles National Forest has 0 active informal EEO complaints and 0 active formal EEO complaints.

The Angeles had 7 (42.9 percent) new hires, with 5 (71.4 percent) being non-fire and 2 (28.6 percent) being fire. Of the non-fire hires, there were 2 (40 percent) white males, 1 (20 percent) white female, 1 (20 percent) Hispanic female, and 1 (20 percent) "Other" female. Of the 2 fire hires, there was 1 (50 percent) Asian male and 1 (50 percent) White male. The forest also had 54 promotions. Of that group, 27 (50 percent) were temporary Not to Exceed (NTE) promotions and 27 (50 percent) were promotions. Of the promotions NTE, there were 2 (7.4 percent) white females, 11 (40.7 percent) His panic males, 13 (48.1 percent) white males, and 1 (3.7 percent) black male. Of the 27 promotions, there were 4 (14.8 percent) white females, 1 (3.7 percent) Hispanic female, 2 (7.4 percent) American Indian males, 1 (3.7 percent) Asian male, 2 (7.4 percent) Black males, 6 (22.2 percent) Hispanic males, and 11 (40.7 percent) white males. Diversity is iden tified equally as 44.4 percent for both promotions NTE and promotions.

The Civil Rights section worked diligently towards encouraging Angeles employees to work towards reaching the Angel-Es' established goal of reaching 100 percent completion of the 1700 R5 Civil Rights Awareness & Prevention Training by Aug. 31, 2012. On Sept. 25, 2012, the forest was at 97 percent completion. (There are 397 permanent/temporary em-ployees and 13 employees remaining that are in need of completing the training.)

The Civil Rights office implemented quarterly reporting of Angeles Civil Rights accomplishments in accordance with Regional Office requests, to be reported to the Forest Supervisor and the Regional Office. It also developed an Angeles National Forest Outreach Guide for Managers to reference when planning and conducting outreach.

The office worked diligently to get the Angeles National Forest to 100 percent completion of the No Fear Refresher Train ing. The ANF reach approximately 98 percent completion due to 2 employees that were unable to take the refresher training be cause of being out on extended sick leave.



More Highlights

Safety/Healthy Workplace

The Forest Safety Officer worked with district Rangers to appointed safety coordinators for each district on the forest. The Safety Officer facilitates monthly forest-wide Safety Committee meetings. Its members have developed warehouse and office procedures directly related to safety in the workplace. They have also designated an employee trainer for in-house annual fire extinguisher inspection, tagging, repairing, etc. The trainer is California certified. The committee has added a line officer as a member. The forest continues to review and resolve issues identified on our Safety Program Evaluation Checklist.

Public Affairs

The Public Affairs Office responded to over 300 media phone requests for interviews, and inquiries requiring research and preparation (excludes fire information calls), and answered more than 400 citizen-email inquiries via the website.

The office coordinated intergovernmental relations with local Federal, State of California (CAL Fire), Los Angeles County (5 Supervisors – 88 cities located within LA County) and the City of Los Angeles.

The PAO wrote and distributed 50 Forest Service press releases, media advisories, updates and 8 employee newsletters. The staff also provided leadership and support for the Los Angeles County Fair and provided significant site improvements to "America's Great Outdoors" (in partnership with Bureau of Land Management, LA County Forestry, Los Angeles County Fair and others). This county is one of the largest such events in the nation, with more than 1 million visitors annually.

The office maintained congressional relations with the 2 U.S. Senators and 20 Congressional offices, state, county and local government (ANF has about 1/3 of California's Congressmen). PAO maintained the forest-wide mailing database of about 1,000 people and organizations (used for public information/NEPA) and a media database, both electronic and fax, of 83 media contacts.

The PAO supported recreation and fire information throughout the year (fielded several hundred general information calls and visitors). Its staff maintained and prepared content of the internal and external website and worked to develop one of the first zoom maps available for a forest map.

The office conducted front-liner, media center training and maintained a media center cadre of people to staff a media center for fire. It also supported the supported overall forest safety mission, by conducting multiple safety engagement sessions and regular staff safety briefings. PAO staff served on the Safety Committee and the Fire Information Officer supported fire extinguisher annual servicing and training to District and San Dimas Tech Center. No accidents or injuries within office were reported.

More Highlights

Budget

The Angeles managed a $35.8 million budget for Fiscal Year 2012 with no deficit. All funds were effectively utilized to fulfill the Forest Service mission in our 1,000-square-mile area.

Southern California Consortium

The SCC partnered with the National Park Service and community nonprofits (Outward Bound Adventures, Northeast Trees, and Los Angeles Conservation Corps) to graduate 29 adults from the pilot class of the Diverse Outdoor Leadership Institute. Topics included: Physical Assessment, Ecology, Leave No Trace, Navigation, Soft Skills, Equipment, Trip Logistics, Federal Careers in Natural Resources, and Wilderness Leadership Training (including WFA & CPR Certification).

The consortium developed partnerships with Semillas Sociedad Civil, a high school in East Los Angeles, and John Muir High School in Pasadena to develop a Generation Green program on their campuses, creating a visible accessible Forest Service to over 2,500 additional youth and community members. SCC also hired 12 Hispanic and African-American high-school-age urban youth from Muir and Semillas to an 8-week Forest Service YCC crew on the Angeles National Forest. (Partnership with Outward Bound Adventures). Further accomplishments include:

- engaged 32 Hispanic and African-American high-school-age urban youth from Pasadena and Los Angeles schools at the Los Angeles County Fair Leadership Camp—a leadership development program building on the Stewardship Academy learning experience. (Partnership with the Outward Bound Adventures)
- worked with 8 Hispanic and African-American urban youth from San Bernardino in the Los Angeles County Fair Leadership Camp for all of September, helping to run the booths on site and provide visitor interpretation. (Partnership with the San Bernardino National Forest Association-Urban Conservation Corps and Bureau of Land Management)
- engaged 6 Hispanic and African-American urban youth/young adults from the San Bernardino area engaged to accomplish Wilderness inventory and trails on both the San Bernardino National Forest and Angeles National Forest. (Partnership with the San Bernardino National Forest Association-Urban Conservation Corps and the Wilderness Society)

The consortium hosted a "Fun in Nature" community event for over 60 youth from low-income backgrounds in San Bernardino with the Consortium Roundtable for Education Community and Employment coalition.

SCC also outreached to over 5,500 kindergarten-through-college students in the Southern California Province; and developed working relationships with Higher Education Coalitions in the communities of El Centro and Oxnard in an effort to service that province more effectively.

Special Mention

America's Great Outdoors - L.A. County Fair

The Angeles National Forest collaborated with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the Los Angeles County Fire Department Forestry Division for an area at the L.A. County Fair titled "America's Great Outdoors," lasting from September to October 2011. All three organizations set up recreation and educational sites for the public. At least 450,000 visitors came to the site. This included tens of thousands of schoolchildren, who learned about fire prevention and environmental education.

'Grapevine' Starting Up Again for Angeles Staff

The Angeles Public Affairs Office has revived *The Grapevine*, the newspaper that covered forest events in the 1980s. The new version began last year following production of *The Countdown*, a digital publication covering the construction of and move into the new $13 million forest SO building. *The Countdown* was then "morphed" into the *Grapevine*, a quarterly newsletter that will continue to cover the Angeles' people, accomplishments and events. For suggestions or submissions, please contact John D. Wagner, Assistant Public Affairs Officer, at (626) 574-5206.

Amgen Cyclists Race in Angeles

Bike racers soared through the Angeles to Mt. Baldy during the famed 2012 Amgen Tour of California. Top riders from many nations were in the seventh of the eight-day race. They took off from Ontario, pedaled a circuitous 78.3-mile route including Glendora Mountain and Glendora Ridge roads, and finished at Baldy. Cyclist Robert Gesink of the Netherlands won the race in the forest with a time of 3:37:08.

Contact Us

OFFICE LIST

Angeles National Forest Supervisor's Office 701 N. Santa Anita Ave. Arcadia, CA 91006	Mon-Fri 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (626) 574-1613
Los Angeles River Ranger District 12371 N. Little Tujunga Canyon Road San Fernando, CA 91342	Mon-Fri 8 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (818) 899-1900, ext. 221
Santa Clara/Mojave Rivers Ranger District 33708 Crown Valley Road Acton, CA 93510	Mon-Fri 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (661) 269-2808, ext. 221
San Gabriel River Ranger District 110 N. Wabash Ave. Glendora, CA 91741	Mon-Fri 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (626) 335-1251, ext. 221
Big Pines Information Station (Seasonally Open) Highway 2/Big Pines Highway Wrightwood, CA 92397	Fri.-Mon. 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. (760) 249-3504
Chilao Visitor Center (Seasonally Open) Angeles Crest Highway (Hwy 2) La Canada, CA 91011	Fri-Sun. 8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m. (626) 796-5541
Clear Creek Information Station (Seasonally Open) Angeles Crest Highway (Hwy 2) La Canada, CA 91011	Weekends 8 a.m. –4 p.m. (626) 821-6764
Grassy Hollow Visitor Center (Seasonally Open) Angeles Crest Highway (Hwy 2) Wrightwood, CA 92397	Weekends, Holidays 10 a.m.— 4 p.m. (626) 821-6737
Mount Baldy Visitor Center Mount Baldy Road Mount Baldy, CA 91759	Weekends, 7 a.m.—3:30 p.m. (909) 982-2829

Forest Leadership Team

Thomas A. Contreras	Forest Supervisor (626) 574-5215
Daniel Lovato	Deputy Forest Supervisor (626) 574-5215
Lisa Lugo	Executive Assistant (626) 574-5215
Michael McIntyre	Los Angeles River Ranger District Ranger (818) 899-1900, ext. 223
John Thornton	San Gabriel River Ranger District Ranger (626) 335-1251, ext. 250
Wilburn "Bob" Blount	Santa Clara/Mojave Rivers Ranger District Ranger (661) 269-2808, ext. 225
James Hall	Fire Management Officer (626) 574-5223
Sherry Rollman	Public Affairs Officer (626) 574-5205
Jerry Sirski	Resource Officer (Acting) (626) 574-5258
L'Tanga Watson	Recreation and Lands Officer (626) 574-5276
Sonja Bergdahl	Forest Engineer (626) 574-5292
Maria Holguin	Budget Officer (626) 574-5325
Ron Ashdale	Safety Officer (626) 574-5722
Theresa DeLaTorre	Administrative Officer (626) 574-5245
Tana Moreland	Civil Rights Officer (626) 574-5222
Fabian Garcia	Executive Director, Southern California Consortium (626) 574-5349

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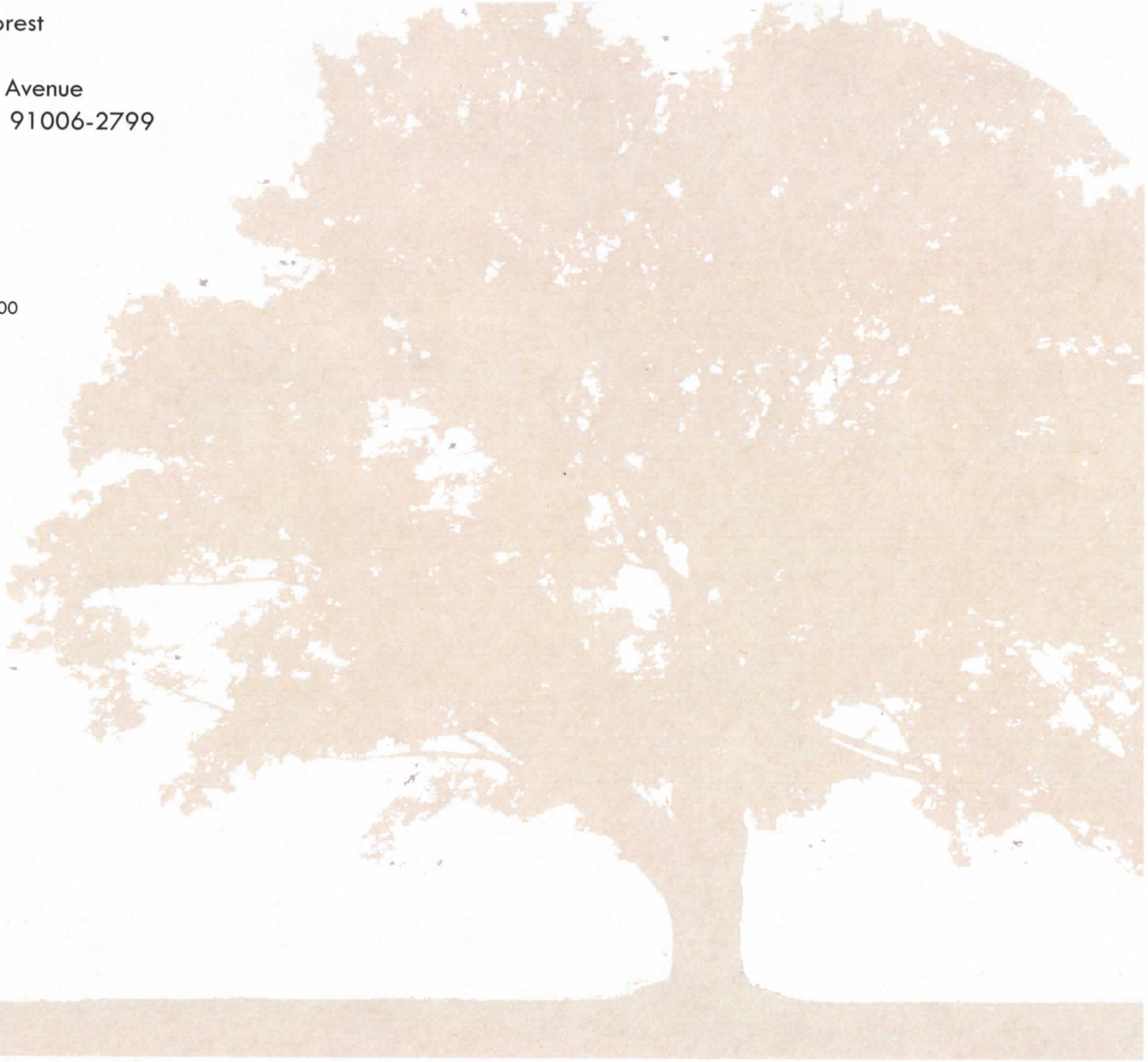

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