

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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UPPER MADERA CANYON PARKING TEMPORARILY LIMITED **Most of Madera Canyon Remains OPEN; Weekday Visits Encouraged**

TUCSON, AZ (September 10, 2003)-- Most of the popular Madera Canyon Recreation Area in the Santa Rita Mountains remains open to visitors in spite of renovation work that already has begun at the upper end of Madera Canyon road.

“We want people to continue visiting the canyon so we developed a map that shows open as well as temporarily closed areas,” said Debby Kriegel, Coronado National Forest landscape architect. Kriegel said that due to the reconstruction work at Left and Right Roundup Picnic Areas at the southernmost end of Madera Canyon road, parking spaces in the canyon would be limited to 90 vehicles at one time. Parking capacity information will be available at the welcome station at the mouth of the canyon.

The 90-vehicle at-one-time capacity may not be problematic during weekdays; however, weekends are generally more crowded so visitors may run the risk of being turned away if they arrive at the canyon after the 90-vehicle limit is reached.

“For safety reasons, the construction area at the end of Madera Canyon road will be closed to public access,” said Kriegel. “We don’t want anyone to be injured as workers rebuild the site.” Kriegel said pedestrian access to both the Super and Old Baldy Trails remains open.

[\(map attached\)](#)