Arcadia, CA, April 3, 2020 – In alignment with current Federal, state, and local guidance for social distancing and to ensure health safety of its visitors, volunteers and employees, the Angeles National Forest will temporarily shut down portions of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument and Los Angeles Gateway Ranger District, effective April 4, 2020 through April 30, 2020.

Impacted by this announcement, to include the following trails and access points to trails:

**Trailheads:**
Millard
San Antonio Falls (Baldy Bowl)
Icehouse Canyon
North Devil's Backbone

**Trails:**
1311W13 KENYON DEVORE
1311W14 GABRIELINO NRT
1311W22 MT. WILSON
1311W28 RIM TRAIL
1312W09 VALLEY FORGE
1312W14.1/.2/.3 SAM MERRILL TRAIL
1312W18/.1 SUNSET RIDGE
1312W24 SAN GABRIEL PEAK
1312W27 EL PRIETO
237W08 ONTARIO PEAK TRAIL
237W12A BEAR CANYON LOOP TRAIL
These closures will be in effect until April 30, 2020 and will address public health and safety concerns to trail related recreation. A violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than $5,000 for an individual or $10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571, and 3581. Forest Order No. 05-01-20-03
The USDA Forest Service may need to temporarily suspend access to additional recreation areas that attract large crowds and cannot meet social distancing guidelines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Visitors to national forests are urged to take the precautions recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) so that these areas can remain open for everyone’s enjoyment.

To protect public health and safety all visitors to the forest are encouraged to:

- Avoid visiting the forest if you are sick and/or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Follow CDC guidance on personal hygiene and social distancing before and during your visit to the forest.
- If an area is crowded, move to a less occupied location. Also consider avoiding the forest during high-use periods.
- Take your trash with you when you leave. Trash overflowing the receptacles becomes potential sources for the spread of COVID-19.
- Please make arrangements to use the restroom before or after your visit to the forest. Unmanaged waste creates a health hazard for other visitors and employees.

For tips from the CDC on preventing illnesses like the coronavirus, go to: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention.html. Information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture is available at: www.usda.gov/coronavirus

For up-to-date information on the Angeles National Forest, visit: https://www.fs.usda.gov/angeles/

The mission of the U.S. Forest Service, part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. Public lands the Forest Service manages contribute more than $13 billion to the economy each year through visitor spending alone. Those same lands provide 20 percent of the nation's clean water supply, a value estimated at $7.2 billion per year. The agency has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 80 percent of the 850 million forested acres within the U.S., of which 100 million acres are urban forests where most Americans live.

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