ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST SIGNAGE PROJECT

Angeles National Forest Signage Initiative

The Angeles National Forest and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Partnership

San Francisquito Canyon / Copper Fire Impact Area

In 2016, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) undertook a cooperative partnership with the U.S. Forest Service – Region 5 and the Angeles National Forest (ANF) to address the impacts of the Copper, Ranch, and Sayre Fires in a holistic way that will lead to compounded benefits for the impacted landscapes and watersheds. For this partnership, the Forest Service dedicated approximately $17 million for planning and restoration projects in the lands burned and affected by the Copper, Ranch, and Sayre fires. Amigos de los Rios received a grant to develop multi culturally appropriate signage to highlight including: San Francisquito Canyon’s Place within ‘Our Greater LA Basin Watersheds’, information on the Fire Ecology Cycle of the forest, highlight sign including Local Features, and a sign featuring the Saint Francis Dam and tragic history of this structure.

San Gabriel Mountains National Monument

In 2018, NFWF provided Amigos de los Rios – Emerald Necklace Group with the opportunity to develop a system of signage for the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. This signage is meant to be multi-culturally appropriate to the diverse visitors to the Angeles National Forest. We worked
collaboratively with Forest Service Staff and members of the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative to develop this signage for a number of key trailhead sites within the San Gabriel National Monument including trail heads at Baldy, Big Pine Areas, Crystal Lake and San Gabriel River West Fork. Signage was also created for specific scenic site spots such as Chantry Flats, Red Box, Mount Wilson, Switzer Falls and others. The signage will be translated into Spanish in situ and available in nine other languages including French, Chinese (Simplified), Tagalog, Vietnamese, Japanese, Korean, German, Russian, and Turkish digitally. The Signage will be located at key trail heads and highlight trail features, biodiversity of the area, cultural & natural history and key site’s location with Our Greater Watershed region.

Significance of the Angeles National Forest

The Angeles National Forest serves as the picturesque backdrop for one of the country’s largest and most diverse urban centers, providing access to approximately 700,000 acres of open space in the greater Los Angeles metropolitan area. Each year, the ANF hosts over 3.5 million visitors, giving them the opportunity to explore a variety of landscapes including chaparral, oak thickets, high desert, pine woods, steep and rugged mountains, and numerous lakes, streams, and rivers. The first national forest in California, the ANF is located within one of the world’s vital biodiversity hot spots, and contains many natural and cultural resources unique to Southern California. It is home to a variety of wildlife, including the California condor, spotted owl, bighorn sheep, and numerous threatened and endangered species. The watersheds of the ANF support the natural environments within the boundaries of the Forest and are also the source of one-third of Los Angeles’s drinking water, and the eighteen dams and debris basins support a massive flood control system to protect and provide for the millions of people that live downstream.
Rivers and streams in our forest are an important source of water for wildlife, plants, and people. 30 percent of our regional water supply comes from mountain springs and streams fed by snowmelt. The Angeles National Forest filters and regulates this water from upper watersheds, providing clean water to communities and habitats within the Los Angeles River, San Gabriel River, San Francisquito Creek, Santa Ana River, Santa Clara River, and Antelope Valley watersheds, among others.

Our mountain ranges and the Angeles National Forest contain some of the greatest biodiversity in the country, including five wilderness areas that provide critical habitat for threatened and endangered species. Forest habitats are not only key to ecological function but also vital to human health. Without these resources provided by the forest, the Greater Los Angeles Metro Area and high desert communities would not be able to support the more than 18 million residents who live here.

Los ríos y arroyos de nuestro bosque constituyen un importante recurso de agua para animales, plantas y personas. Tienen por ciento de nuestro suministro regional de agua proveniente de los manantiales montañosos y arroyos alimentados por el deshielo. El Bosque Nacional de Ángeles filtra y regula esta agua de las cuencas superiores, suministrando...
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Las cuencas y arroyos de nuestro bosque constituyen un importante recurso de agua para animales, plantas y personas. Tienen por ciento de nuestro suministro regional de agua proveniente de los manantiales montañosos y arroyos alimentados por el deshielo. El Bosque Nacional de Ángeles filtra y regula esta agua de las cuencas superiores, suministrando estos servicios a comunidades y ecotópicos en la cuenca del río Los Ángeles, río San Gabriel, río Santa Ana, río Santa Clara y arroyo Seco, entre otros.

CHANTRY FLATS

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Crystal Lake is a sag pond, which is a rare and unique body of water found high in the mountains formed from one of the largest landslides on record in southern California. A sag pond is created when fresh water collects in the land depression between two sides of an active fault zone. It is home to flowers such as globe gilias, golden poppies, and silver lupine and fish species like the Eagle Lake trout, Brown trout, Rainbow trout, and Eastern brook trout.

CRYSTAL LAKE

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DEVILS CANYON

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*ICESH OUSE CANYON*

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Mt Baldy Resort has been in operation since the 1960s and is the closest alpine ski environment to the Los Angeles Area. It offers scenic off-season trips on the lifts to access many of the best trails around Mt. Baldy. From the summit of the lifts, at Baldy Notch, one can access many trails including the Devil's Backbone and Maniker Flats paths. The Resort is open year round and has played an important role in bringing people to the San Gabriel Mountains. and continues to steward the range as an important stakeholder in management efforts.

Crystal Lake es un estanque, es un cuerpo de agua que puede ocupar un espacio del suelo que tiene un estado natural. Entre las montañas formadas por uno de los deslizamientos de tierra más grandes registrados en el sur de.
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MT. WILSON
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**RED BOX CANYON**

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Rivers and streams in our forest are an important source of water for wildlife, plants, and people. 30 percent of our regional water supply comes from mountain springs and streams fed by snowmelt. San Francisquito Canyon is in the Sierra Pelona Mountains and is part of the Santa Clara River Watershed. Water in the canyon drains into San Francisquito Creek and then joins the Santa Clara River on its way to the ocean. Other major watersheds in our region include the Los Angeles, San Gabriel, and Santa Ana River watersheds.

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WEST FORK TRAIL

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Wildfire is one of the biggest challenges to National Forests in Southern California. Although the cycle of fire and flooding is an important part of a healthy ecosystem, human population growth and development, drought and climate change have contributed to more frequent and intense wildfires. This has led to loss of wildlife habitat and the spread of non-native plant and animal species.

Before Fire
Soil is kept in place by vegetation, slowing and absorbing rainwater.

Wildfire
The heat and intensity of wildfires cause burned vegetation and charred soil to form a repellent layer, blocking water absorption. This layer is referred to as “hydrophobic soil.”