



# Angeles National Forest Annual Accomplishments Report Fiscal Year 2011



Angeles National Forest



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

February 2012

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# From the Forest Supervisor

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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 and 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 668,727 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 locations for the film industry.

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 2011. 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.



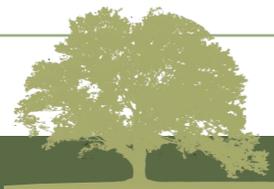
Thomas A. Contreras  
Forest Supervisor  
Angeles National Forest

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**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.**

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# Angeles National Forest Statistics



Fiscal Year (FY): 10/01/2010 thru 09/30/2011

<b>General:</b> Acres of land	668,727
Permanent Full time Employees	350
Seasonal Employees (Approx.)	102
Firefighter Apprentices	41
Student Employees	15
<b>Budget:</b> 5 Year Average Angeles Budget	\$42.5 million
FY 2011 (60% is dedicated to Fire/Fuels)	\$40.5 million
<b>Recreation:</b> Annual Number of Visitors	4 million
Recreation Residences	463
Picnic Areas	36
Campgrounds	44
Visitor Centers	3
Information Centers	2
Ski Areas	5
Entrance Stations	1
Volunteer Hours Contributed	53,208
*approximate annual benefit	\$1.1 million
<b>Trails:</b> Trailheads	53
Trails (miles)	548
Off highway vehicle areas	2
Off highway vehicle route miles	270
<b>Fire Management:</b> Number of Wildfires	169
Wildfire Acres Burned	3,937
Cost to Suppress Wildfires	\$3.3 million
Number of Engines	28
Crews (Full-Time, On-Call)	10
Acres of Hazardous Terrain Treated	1,500
<b>Natural Features:</b> 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
<b>Infrastructure:</b> 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

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# The Angeles is a land of extremes

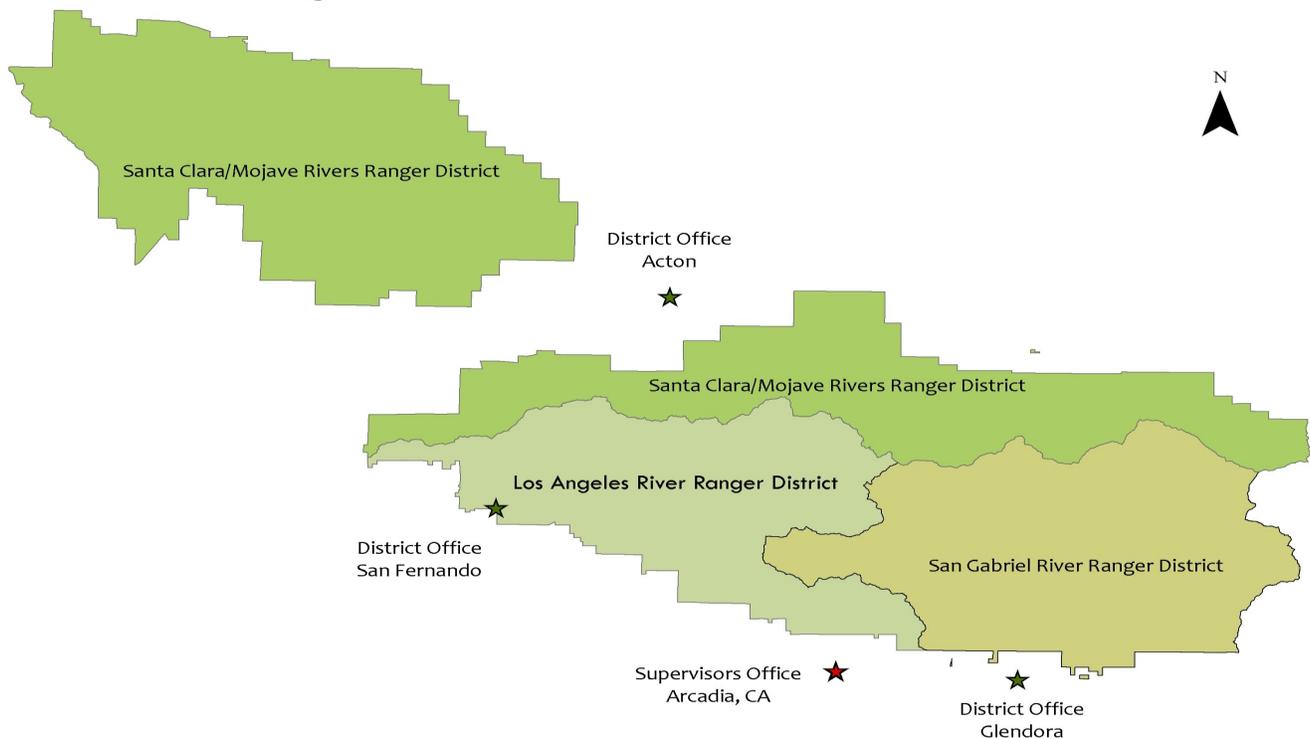
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The San Gabriel Mountains rise up quickly from the lowlands of the Los Angeles Basin to 10,064 feet at the top of Mt. San Antonio. The mountains are steep and fractured, shaped by the San Andreas Earthquake Fault running along their northern boundary. 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 % of all open space within the 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



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# The Los Angeles River Ranger District

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The Los Angeles River Ranger District is in the central section of the forest. Comprising about 200,000 acres, it offers a host of recreation opportunities including hiking, camping, water play in the creeks, picnicking and mountain biking.



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 2011 was to evaluate and identify areas within the Station Fire Closure which could be reopened for safe public access after adequate natural recovery had occurred. Over half (approx. 101,000 acres) of the remaining area within the Station Fire Closure was reopened. This resulted in the reopening of three picnic areas, six day use areas, and ten campgrounds as well as 110 miles of trail. As a result of the exceptional strategic efforts that were undertaken by the employees to reopen the closed areas of the forest to the public, the Los Angeles River Ranger District was named 2011 *District of the Year* by the Regional Forester.

The District took the lead in 2011 to prepare and plant over 4300 acres within the Station Fire in areas where the effects of the Fire jeopardized the ability of the natural regeneration of the native trees. Over 900,000 trees were planted. Through a partnership with the *TreePeople*, volunteers were utilized to help plant over 80 acres with tree seedlings to replace trees destroyed by the Station Fire.

Several popular campgrounds and picnic areas (Buckhorn Campground, Switzer's Day Use area, Charlton Day Use area), through Capital Improvement (CIP) and American Recovery and Recovery Act (ARRA) Funds were modernized to enhance public enjoyment and use.

With additional portions of the District reopened, the District saw an increase of recreation use as well as more specialized uses such as filming, recreation events, apiary sites, etc. It is anticipated that additional acreage within the Station Fire Closure will be reopened in 2012.

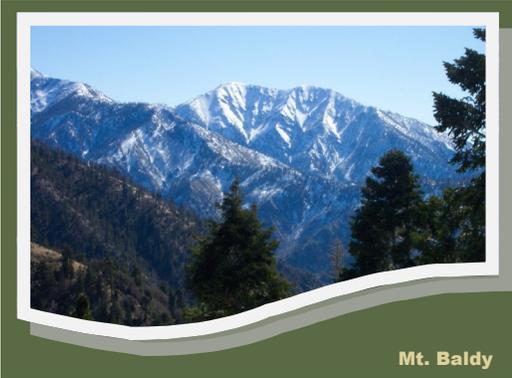


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# The San Gabriel River Ranger District

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The San Gabriel River Ranger District is one of the most heavily visited areas in the National Forest system with more than 1.4 million visitors per year. This District is spread out over 182,511 acres. Its elevation ranges from 840 feet at the San Gabriel Canyon mouth, to 10,064 feet at Mt. Baldy. The District is located along the southeast boundary of the Angeles National Forest. It is bound on the east by San Bernardino forest, on the west by the Los Angeles River Ranger district, and on the north by the Santa Clara Mojave Rivers Ranger District. During the summer thousands of people visit the San Gabriel Canyon to escape the heat and enjoy its cool waters. This canyon's irresistible appeal and close proximity to large populations lends itself to highly concentrated use.



Mt. Baldy

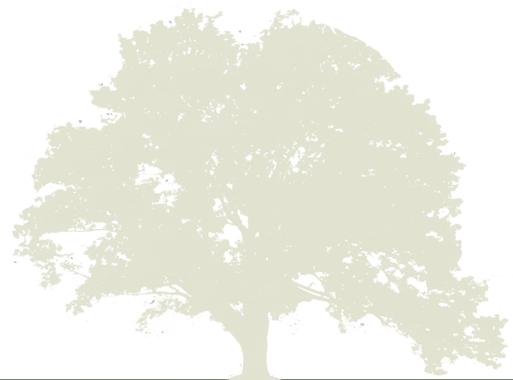
This highly concentrated recreational use compels the use of innovative ways to accomplishing mission goals by using various partners and dedicated employees. For the past five years the Southern California Consortium has worked with the San Gabriel River Ranger District (SGRRD) by providing them with diverse youth groups to help meet district goals, objectives, and other stewardship projects. Some of the projects that they have worked on include tree planting, river cleanup, and the removal of invasive species such as forbs and shrubs.

Pre-commercial thinning and hazardous fuel reduction activities by the SGRRD fire crews were utilized to protect and enhance future forest and administrative site conditions. Over 1,000 acres of district targets were accomplished in 2011. Target accomplishments for the district were met including a number of different types of projects such as wildland urban interface and timber stand improvements.

The SGRRD Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) program continues to provide opportunities for the public from the greater Los Angeles basin. The San Gabriel Canyon OHV area offers the public a unique off road experience which includes river crossings and a challenging terrain. Over 160 acres of rocky, sandy river bottom awaits users of two, three, and four wheeled drive vehicles. Restoration projects funded by state grants will allow us to restore areas that have been impacted by unmanaged recreation activities. The Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation and the Forest Service [are finalizing](#) an OHV obstacle and safety course.

The SGRRD manages over 82,000 acres of congressionally designated Wilderness. These Wilderness areas include the San Gabriel, Sheep Mountain, and a portion of the Cucamonga Wilderness which is shared between the Angeles and San Bernardino National Forest. The SGRRD Wilderness program developed a Wilderness visitor brochure to include Wilderness designations across the Angeles National Forest. This brochure helps visitors identify Wilderness values, principals, and ethical Wilderness behavior. The brochure was processed through the national publications media and serves as a nationwide brochure template for Wilderness education.

Additionally, the SGRRD Wilderness program developed a document titled *Five-Year Wilderness Management Elements* in spring of 2011. The document serves as a guide and reference for forest staff on administration and management of the five Wilderness units throughout the Angeles National Forest.



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# The Santa Clara Mojave Rivers Ranger District

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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.



Big Rock

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.

The focus of the District in 2011 was on developing and enhancing outreach efforts, partnerships, and volunteerism. These efforts involved communities, town councils, individual and group volunteers, fire safe councils, and conservancies. The activities included enhancing community involvement, volunteerism, idea sharing, problem solving, public participation in large projects such as new transmission lines, and participating with local conservation groups to protect undeveloped properties both on and off the District.

The District worked with the Fire Safe Councils in Wrightwood, Green Valley, Canyon Country, and the Elizabeth Lake area, improving communications, adding a communication repeater site for remote communities to use during major emergencies, holding "chipper days" to aid in brush clearance work, and providing opportunities for public input for fuel hazard reduction projects. The District continues to work with the community of Juniper Hills to establish a Fire Safe Council. District Fire staff partnered with Camp Fenner, other camp inmate crews and the County of Los Angeles Fire Department to perform extensive fuels hazard reduction throughout the District. They also harvested and milled burned trees from the Station Fire to become benches for a new amphitheater at Grassy Hollow Visitor Center, and to fabricate and place barriers to stop unauthorized parking near recreation areas.

District recreation staff partnered with the Lakes and Valleys Conservancy Group to hold periodic cleanup/trash pickup days at the Elizabeth Lake day use area. The Organizational Camps provided snow and trash removal, including the removal of cattails from Jackson Lake; Antelope Valley Horsemen did hundreds of hours of trails work; and the Pacific Crest Trail Association provided critical support in reopening sections of the PCT. Other volunteers helped with graffiti removal, facilities maintenance, trail maintenance and many essential activities throughout the District. Local OHV clubs and the County of Los Angeles' Department of Parks and Recreation helped with installing signage, tree removal, trash removal, adding rock crawling and kiddie courses at Rowher Flats. The District held an awards and thank you event at the Big Pines Visitor Center grand hall that was renovated by volunteers coordinating with District staff. The grand hall is now open for limited use by Wrightwood civic organizations. The volunteers at the Grassy Hollow Visitor Center not only operated and cleaned the facility, they also worked with District staff to create two new public displays featuring the geology of the San Gabriel Mountains.

# Resources (Ecological Restoration)



The Angeles National Forest conducted an ecological restoration project to reforest portions of the Station Fire through a partnership with the National Forest Foundation and South Coast Air Quality Management District. A total of 4,306 acres of native trees were planted with 2,320 acres credited as a carbon sequestration demonstration pilot project. An additional 80 acres were planted by volunteers in a partnership with TreePeople.

As a part of this project, the Forest also partnered with UC Riverside and is working to establish climate change plots within the reforested area.

The Angeles continued to treat and remove non-native invasive weeds and focused its efforts within the Station Fire burn area according to priorities established in the Station Fire Invasive Weed Strategy prepared in tandem with the Burned Area Emergency Response Plan. 2,400 acres were treated in Fiscal Year 2011.

The Secretary of Agriculture established a new system for assessing and tracking watershed health and condition in 2011. It is the agency's first national assessment across all 193 million acres of National Forest lands. The process seeks to prioritize and integrate ecological restoration actions and investments on a national scale. In addition, the process relies on involvement with local governments and fosters partnerships and interagency coordination. In 2011, the Angeles completed watershed health assessments for the 53 subwatersheds that make up the forest. We also selected two as priority watersheds and have prepared action plans for 2012 investment.

Working at the Southern California province level, the Angeles began implementation of the Inventoried Roadless Area (IRA) settlement agreement. Developing a framework to work with interested parties on prioritizing decommissioning projects was a primary task in 2011. Additionally the forest is working on preparing a supplemental environmental impact statement to reconsider additional IRA agreements as recommended wilderness, and development of an improved procedure to assess implementation of the land management plan.

Fifteen hundred acres of integrated vegetation improvement projects were completed adjacent to communities at risk within the wildland urban interface and at a landscape scale. Finally, the forest continued its partnership with the National Forest Foundation and designated the Big Tujunga Watershed as a "Treasured Landscape." We developed a strategic plan to outline needed restoration activities and guide investment in improving mission delivery and resource conservation within the watershed. The Nature Conservancy also picked up on the designation and named the watershed one of "California's Treasured Landscapes" in 2011.

# Recreation/Lands/Special Uses

The forest reopened more than half (about 101,000 acres) of the Station Fire closure area for public access. This provided additional recreational opportunities in three picnic areas, six day-use areas, 10 campgrounds and 110 miles of trail. The forest also reopened the Crystal Lake Campground, through a \$6 million grant. The forest received 4 million visitors in 2011.

Angeles officials also removed 190 tons of trash from the forest. San Gabriel Canyon averaged 15,000 to 20,000 visitors in a typical weekend leaving 160 tons of garbage and 100,000 gallons of human waste. The forest plans to implement a solar trash compactor pilot project in San Gabriel Canyon.

The Angeles collected \$1.1 million in Adventure Pass fees. It also processed the most film permits in the Forest Service with 102 issued in 2011 and collection of \$43,450 in permit fees. The forest also issued 1,118 land-use billings resulting in \$6.9 million collected.

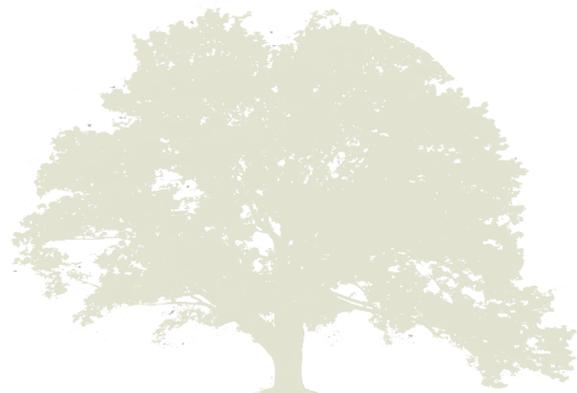
Forest Service personnel taught state-certified curriculum to more than 20,000 Los Angeles Unified School District teachers and children in environmental education centers. The forest has also partnered with the California Trail Users Coalition to complete an off-highway vehicle obstacle course with an all-terrain-vehicle certification track.

The Angeles has been aggressive in developing cost recovery agreements that include: Los Angeles County, \$1.64 million (over 10 years); Southern California Edison, \$500,000 annually; City of Los Angeles, \$400,000 annually.

The forest has partnered with several utility companies on projects:

- Southern California Edison (Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project). A record of decisions was signed for this project, which is currently in the construction phase;
- City of Los Angeles (Barren Ridge Transmission Project). A draft environmental impact statement is currently being prepared.

In wilderness management, forest officials removed seven unauthorized dwellings and developed a public education strategy to help eradicate trespass in the Sheep Mountain Wilderness. Officials also resolved water-pipeline encroachments in Pleasant View Wilderness and developed a five-year management plan in the five wilderness units throughout the forest.



# 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 two 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 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 and Santa Ynez). Topics discussed in this level of consultation included Forest Land Management Plan revision, Community Forest and Open Space Conservation, and Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Manual Revision.

The Forest provided support and authorization for a request from the Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center for the construction and operation of a ceremonial circle to serve the needs of the programs at the Center. The Forest also facilitated access by gatherers into areas still under closure as a result of the Station Fire.

## **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 Forest. In FY2011, the heritage program inventoried 1900 acres and recorded 31 new archaeological sites and updated another 17 sites.

In FY2011, in support of the Forest's program of work, the heritage program analyzed 112 Forest projects involving over 36,500 acres. Of these, 35 projects involving 140 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 ANF is currently the lead agency for NHPA and NEPA compliance for two highly complex, multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional Renewable Energy Transmission Line Projects. Acting as the lead Federal Agency for NHPA and NEPA compliance, the heritage program in FY2011 has reviewed and consulted with the State Office of Historic Preservation on 25 National Register evaluations and determinations of effect, in addition to reviewing and executing two Historic Property Treatment Plans. Each of these Renewable Energy projects have required extensive, and ongoing Tribal and Native American consultation during FY2011, which involved both onsite field meetings with participating members of the local Native American community, and formal Government-to-Government consultations with Federally Recognized Tribes.

# Engineering



Engineering has awarded and administered over 26 million dollars of construction and maintenance contracts this past year. This was accomplished with a staff of six engineers and two technicians. The Engineering section completed a design-build contract for the new Gold Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Supervisor's Office, an American Recovery and Relief Act project. Scheduled move-in date is April 2012.

The section also completed a new Gold LEED office building for the Santa Clara Mojave Rivers Ranger District in Acton and the Rincon and Mill Creek fire stations. A ribbon cutting ceremony for Mill Creek Station took place Aug. 30, 2011, the two-year anniversary after the station burned.

Engineering completed a contract for renovation of Pyramid Lake Recreation Area, Buckhorn Campground, Crystal Lake Campground and Switzer Falls Picnic Area. The Pyramid Lake facility has been turned over to the State Department of Water Resources to be operated by a concessionaire.

The section also completed contracts for five water-improvement projects and forest wide roof replacements, and completed a demolition project at a former Nike missile site. The engineering unit has awarded a contract for the construction of a helibase at Fox Field Air Tanker Base. Construction is expected to begin in the summer of 2012.

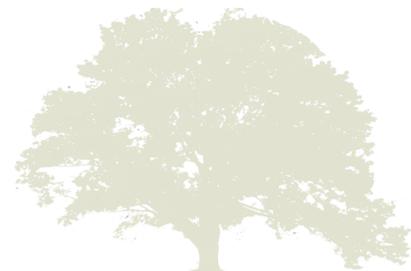
The section has repaired two water systems damaged by the Station Fire and completed potable water testing of 42 water systems to meet regulations.

## **Roads:**

Engineering completed a contract for improvement to a section of the Old Ridge Route and met road maintenance and improvement goals for: improvement of three miles of high-clearance roads, maintenance of 283 miles of road and improvement of over 6 miles of passenger roads. The section also finished its annual update of the National Visitor Use Map to display which roads are open to the public.

## **Fleet:**

Engineering completed annual inspections and maintenance of 331 pieces of equipment and completed 100 percent of required smog tests. The fleet unit also conducted a utilization study. The Forest currently has 12 energy-efficient hybrid vehicles and is looking at opportunities to acquire other alternative fuel vehicles. The Angeles was also the first Region 5 Forest to successfully utilize the California Electronic Pull Notice Program, allowing access to DMV records to accelerate granting of fleet operator qualification licenses (OF-346).



# 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 (FFPC) 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, 1 Type 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 Federal Owned Air-tanker Base year round.

## The Angeles Emergency Operations Center handled 6493 Incidents in 2011.

Aircraft Down	4	Resource Orders	229
Hazmat	17	Search and Rescue	128
Law Enforcement	2,515	Smoke Check	58
Medical Aid	469	Structure Fire	35
Miscellaneous Response	1,680	Traffic Collisions	584
Prescribe Fire	13	Vehicle Fire	164
Public Assist	283	Wildfire	314
Total:			6,493

ANF FAM coordinated with local cooperators on the “Defensible Space” Project in and around the National Forest. We also updated and finalized 13 annual operating plans and 11 agreements with Local Cooperators and the National Park Service. FAM also signed a partnership/memorandum of understanding with the Department of Homeland Security to serve as a test bed for new technology in fire fighting equipment. FAM also has partnerships with 2 Community Colleges and 3 local Inter-city Community-Based Organizations for Call When Needed Fire Crews.

FAM personnel provided information (about 2,000 employee hours) for the Office of Inspector General and Government Accountability Office (GAO) Station Fire Review. They also provided info (about 1,000 employee hours) for 25 Station Fire claims.

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 History Data, Forest Retardant Avoidance Areas and Forest Aerial Avoidance Areas.

The Angeles hosted their 17th 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 US Forest Service. This is the only Wildland Fire Explorer Academy in the Nation.

# Law Enforcement and Investigations



Law Enforcement and Investigations (LEI) personnel are continuing to conduct enforcement of laws regarding illegal mining operations and illegal homesteading in areas closed to those activities. The enforcement has been very successful in eliminating the illegal activity in those areas.

During the summer, once a month area saturation patrols are conducted, consisting of 5 to 6 officers working heavy enforcement in areas of the forest that have extensive use. This enforcement gives high visibility and enforcement to forest visitors and allows officers to limit criminal activity in force. Enforcement has also consisted of working with local agencies, i.e. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. and California Highway Patrol.

The Angeles Enforcement unit conducted the second operation of illegal hunting in 2011. This enforcement was conducted in conjunction with other government agencies. This enforcement consisted of contacting hunters for hunting licenses and weapons compliance. This took place on opening day of deer season in Oct. of 2011. In a 36-hr period, 48 arrests were made for illegal hunting activity and illegal possession of weapons. 41 weapons were seized from non-citizens of the US.

The Angeles National Forest eradicated 92,090 marijuana plants, seized 6 weapons and made 4 felony arrests. Numerous arrests have been made on the forest for a wide variety of offenses – for misdemeanors and felonies as well as infractions.

STATE VIOLATION	ADMINISTRATIVE	7
STATE VIOLATION	FELONY	1
STATE VIOLATION	INFRACTION	1110
STATE VIOLATION	MISDEMEANOR	59
FEDERAL VIOLATION	FELONY	56
FEDERAL VIOLATION	INFRACTION	16
FEDERAL VIOLATION	MISDEMEANOR	755
FEDERAL VIOLATION	NON CRIMINAL	2
		2006

During summer operations, 2 CHP Task Forces worked in conjunction with Angeles LEI on Highway 2 and Highway 39. These Task Forces worked traffic enforcement for illegal motorcycle racing in these high visibility areas. LEI units are continuously working in conjunction with Los Angeles County Sheriff's units in the off highway vehicle areas such as Rowher Flats. This patrol also includes areas of the forest with extensive dirt roads where illegal riding and resource damage has been documented.

The Angeles Law Enforcement group has also enhanced its capabilities through the use of a "crime car" unit which operates with 2 LEO's that patrol the forest for the purpose of arresting individuals committing serious misdemeanors and/or felonies. LEI has also installed Live Scan equipment and it is currently ready to conduct background checks for Forest Protection Officers and volunteers. In addition, Forest Service Law Enforcement regularly sends officers to assist the Bureau of Land Management at their off road area in Glamis, CA during major holidays.

# More Highlights

## **Safety/Healthy Workplace**

Forest safety personnel held safety engagement sessions for all Angeles employees throughout Fiscal Year 2011. It also hosted organizational Risk Management sessions for select managers in conjunction with the Atlanta National Incident Management Organizational team. Training included managing risk in areas including fire prevention, law enforcement, physical training and other areas. Safety officials also completed plans for continuity of operations, emergency medical evacuation and response guide, workplace violence, radio operation, and flu pandemic and presented training on those topics.

## **Public Affairs**

The Public Affairs Office (PAO) responded to more than 300 media requests for interviews or inquiries requiring research and preparation. This included a request for a coordinated law-enforcement-led marijuana site visit.

The office maintained relations with two U.S. Senators and 21 Congressional offices, and coordinated intergovernmental relations with the State of California (CAL Fire), Los Angeles County (five supervisors covering 88 cities). It also maintained a forest-wide-mailing data base of 1,500 people and organizations.

Public Affairs personnel wrote and distributed 20 Forest Service press releases and completed and posted eight stories on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act website.

The PAO assisted with recreational and fire information for the public, answering thousands of phone inquiries and visitors to the Supervisor Office.

The office also migrated data to a new website, and created updated and distributed public information. It also arranged meetings and VIP tours throughout the year, including three Congressional meetings, tours for U.S. Congressional Representatives, and additional tours for the Undersecretary of Agriculture, Chief of the Forest Service and the Regional Forester.

For the Station Fire, the PAO participated in a congressional panel (and produced a subsequent DVD), two Government Accountability Office review tour/meetings and one Office of Inspector General meeting.

# More Highlights

## Budget

The Angeles managed a \$40.5 million budget for Fiscal Year 2011 with no deficit. All funds were effectively utilized to fulfill the Forest Service mission in our 1,000-square-mile area.

## Human Resources/Civil Rights

In the Angeles Fire Explorer Program, 44 Explorers graduated from the Fire Training Academy (68 percent were placed into Fire jobs); they were selected from two Explorer posts on the Angeles that serve over 55 diverse youth Explorers. Explorers participated in over 10 volunteer service events and projects that required technical skill. Twenty nine permanent positions were filled in the forest this year: 24.1 percent female; 75.86 percent male; 3.45 percent Asian; 3.45 percent African-American; 34.48 percent Hispanic; 58.62 percent white.



## Southern California Consortium

The Southern California Consortium (SCC) is an environmental education, minority outreach, and recruitment program of the USDA Forest Service. The SCC serves as a bridge between the USDA Forest Service, underserved areas, and community partners. Our mission is to diversify the Forest Service workforce by encouraging careers in natural resources, higher education, and employment through mentoring, leadership, and community outreach efforts.

The SCC serves communities surrounding the four southern California Forests — Angeles, San Bernardino, Los Padres, and Cleveland — focusing on three program areas: Community, Education, and Employment.

**Community:** The SCC reached out to more than 5000 students throughout southern California introducing them to the National Forest system, many for the first time. This outreach work is done by visiting school campus' to provide conservation education and introductory workshops about the Forest Service mission and structure.

**Education:** With help from partners, the SCC provided 90 paid service-learning opportunities to underserved high-school-aged youth on National Forest lands. The service-learning consisted of rehabilitation work in high-use recreation areas and habitat restoration.

**Employment:** The SCC received more than 400 student applications for its internship program. The SCC placed 17 student interns in the Student Temporary Employment Program, 2 students into the Student Career Experience Program which can lead to permanent employment and placed one apprentice in Fire. The SCC was also a major contributor to the Wildland Fire Explorer program on the Angeles National Forest.

For more information on the Southern California Consortium, please visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/scc/>.



# Special Mention

## **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects:**

The Angeles has been involved in eight ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) projects that have provided many jobs for contract firms. Examples are roofing repairs, cleaning up a former missile site, and renovations of campgrounds. Most of the projects have been completed. The biggest ARRA project is a new \$12 million Supervisor Office, under construction and adjacent to the current building. The new structure will be at least Silver LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certificated, indicating various “green” features friendly to the environment. The building will be 24,000 square feet and house about 100 employees. Completion is expected in March 2012.

## **Big Horn Mine:**

The Angeles National Forest acquired the 277-acre Big Horn Mine, located within the Sheep Mountain Wilderness area, through partnering with the Wilderness Land Trust for \$2 million. The Big Horn mine is the most famous of all the historic gold mines in the San Gabriel Mountains. The parcel is surrounded by National Forest system lands and is the largest forest inholding. The surface of the property is generally undeveloped, and retains much of its natural appearance. The historic site will be converted to public land and become part of the Forest. The Angeles received funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund in 2009 to purchase the property from the trust. The fund is a federal program that provides funding for the conservation of land and water based recreational opportunities.

## **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. About 450,000 visitors came through the site including over 10,000 school children who were educated on fire prevention and environmental education.

## **Get to Know Contest**

Angeles and other forest officials gathered in Griffith Park to give awards to talented, artistic youngsters. The ceremony was for winners of the Robert Bateman Get to Know Contest, which invites youth to submit writing, paintings, video or photos of wildlife or plant life. Seventeen boys and girls came up one by one to receive a winner’s certificate and a 2012 Get to Know Contest Calendar, which contained many of the winning entries. These included poems and colorful pictures of a whale, an elk, an osprey and sea lions. “We were very impressed with the caliber and quality of the entries,” said Thomas A. Contreras, Forest Supervisor of the Angeles. “All of them are winners in my book.”



# Special Mention

## **Award for Weed Removal**

Forest botanist Katie VinZant and a team she led won the 2010 National Forest System Invasive Species Program Award for extensive removal of weeds on 3,400 acres of the Angeles. The team worked many hot, dirty days pulling hundreds of the weeds, without herbicides, that threatened watershed recovery and sensitive plant species. Infestations were selected based on size, proximity to sensitive biological areas, level of invasiveness, overall presence and practicality/possibility of removal. Their efforts continued in 2011 and VinZant was profiled in the Los Angeles Times.

## **District Wins Regional Award**

The Angeles' Los Angeles River Ranger District has been named 2011 *District of the Year* by the Regional Forester for its major efforts in healing the forest since the 2009 Station Fire. The district developed a restoration strategy where 11,000 acres would be replanted over three years. It also developed partnerships with organizations including TreePeople, the National Forest Foundation and the South Coast Air Quality Management District, which have helped replant 4,306 acres. The foundation and Forest Service have also pooled \$3.7 million for watershed restoration, tree planting, weed removal and recreation facility improvement. In 2011, the district reopened about 101,000 acres, more than half of the previously closed burn area, for public access.

## **AMGEN Cyclists Race in Angeles**

Bike racers soared through the Angeles to Mt. Baldy during the famed Amgen Tour of California competition last year. Top riders from many nations were in the seventh of the eight-day race, started in Claremont, pedaled through a circuitous 122-mile route including Glendora Mountain and San Gabriel Canyon roads, and finished at Baldy. Cyclist Levi Leipheimer won the race in the forest with a time of 3:33.



# Contact Us

## OFFICE LIST

<b>Angeles National Forest Supervisor's Office</b> 701 N. Santa Anita Ave. Arcadia, CA 91006	Mon-Fri 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (626) 574-1613
<b>Los Angeles River Ranger District</b> 12371 N. Little Tujunga Canyon Road San Fernando, CA 91342	Mon-Fri 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (818) 899-1900
<b>Santa Clara/Mojave Rivers Ranger District</b> 33708 Crown Valley Road Acton, CA 93510	Mon-Fri 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (661) 269-2808
<b>San Gabriel River Ranger District</b> 110 N. Wabash Ave. Glendora, CA 91741	Mon-Fri 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (626) 335-1251
<b>Big Pines Information Station</b> Highway 2/Big Pines Highway Wrightwood, CA 92397	Fri.-Mon. 8:30 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. (760) 249-3504
<b>Chilao Visitor Center (Seasonally Open)</b> Angeles Crest Highway (Hwy 2) La Canada, CA 91011	Fri-Sun. 8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m. (626) 796-5541
<b>Clear Creek Information Station (Seasonally Open)</b> Angeles Crest Highway (Hwy 2) La Canada, CA 91011	Weekends 10 a.m. –4 p.m. (626) 821-6764
<b>Grassy Hollow Visitor Center (Seasonally Open)</b> Angeles Crest Highway (Hwy 2)	Weekends 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (626) 821-6737 Wrightwood, CA 92397
<b>Mount Baldy Visitor Center</b> Mount Baldy Road Mount Baldy, CA 91759	Mon-Fri. 8 a.m.—3:30 p.m. Weekends 7 a.m.—3:30 p.m. (909) 982-2829

# Forest Leadership Team

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Michael McIntyre	Los Angeles River Ranger District Ranger (818) 899-1900, ext. 223
Darrell Vance	San Gabriel River Ranger District Ranger (Acting) (626) 335-1251, ext. 250
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Arturo Delgado	Resource Officer (Acting) (626) 574-5258
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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
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Fabian Garcia	Executive Director, Southern California Consortium (626) 574-5349



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