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- The San Gabriel Mountains National Monument is the eighth Forest Service national monument. The Antiquities Act of 1906 grants the President or Congress the authority to designate national monuments in order to protect “objects of historic or scientific interest.”
- Located primarily in the Angeles National Forest, the monument is 346,177 acres. The forest, including the monument, provides 70 percent of the open space to more than 15 million people living within 90 minutes of the area, and provides a third of Los Angeles’ drinking water.
- The mighty San Andreas Fault and other geological forces have shaped these steep and rugged mountains. The highest point in the San Gabriel Mountains is the 10,064-foot Mt. San Antonio, nicknamed Mt. Baldy.
- Deep canyons, many with perennial streams, provide crucial habitat for rare and unique wildlife, including the California condor, spotted owl, bighorn sheep, and 1,000-year-old limber pines.
- The monument is rich with cultural and historic sites. There are more than 600 archeological sites within the monument, including two Native American rock art sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Science and research have been and continue to be an integral part of the monument. The historic Mt. Wilson Observatory has hosted world-class scientists, including astronomer Edwin Hubble. The San Dimas Experimental Forest provides crucial scientific insights into watersheds and aquatic science.



- The National Monument is the heaviest used area on the Angeles National Forest, which receives more than 4 million visitors per year. This number is expected to increase now that the area has been designated a national monument. Hiking, biking, horseback riding, off-highway vehicle use, fishing, hang-gliding, hunting and picnicking are just a few of the recreational activities on the monument.
- In a region with limited open space, the mountains are the backyard for many highly urban and culturally diverse communities. National monument designation will also vastly enhance recreational access, interpretive and environmental education and bolster already strong partnerships between the Forest Service and neighboring communities.
- The Forest Service mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.

For more info go to <http://go.usa.gov/wcCH>



