



ANF VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER APRIL 2022

IN THIS ISSUE

Bobcat Fire Closure Revisited

by Lisa Gruber

will reopen with the exception of the Chantry Flats area (including the cabins) and parts of the West Fork area. Both of these areas have suffered extreme damage and are still being closely watched as various agencies are working on mitigation in those areas.

In an effort to open up the area to the public, partial closures will remain in effect in the West Fork area. The West Fork will become available to the public with the new (revised) closure, but the West Fork Road (the road that leads to various destinations along the river) will be closed Monday - Friday for the next 2 years. The road closure is at the request of the Department of Water and Power to assist with sediment removal and fire remediation. It is our understanding that the West Fork Road will be open on the weekends. In addition to the road closure, the South side of the West Fork will remain closed as well. Keep in mind this is subject to change as they continue to work on/in/and around the West Fork Area.

As Forest Service personnel from the Gateway District put it "trails have continued to shift ... in some places there isn't even a trail and there's a 200 ft drop. With steep hills, mudslides will continue for multiple years. It will take time for the area to stabilize. This is nothing new for burn areas."

As of the time of this writing, the final details on the closure area are still being worked out. The map of the closure area is not expected to be released until on/around April 1.

April First!

Effective April 1, 2022, a new Bobcat Fire Closure will be issued. According to Forest Service staff, it will be a much smaller closure area. Most areas

Bobcat Fire – Year 2

This spring season will be especially interesting since it will be the second spring since the Bobcat Fire in September of 2020.

In the first year following a fire, all kinds of fast growing wildflowers (annuals) emerge to form beautiful carpets of color. The fire has cleared the landscape and created open space for wildflowers and other fast growing, opportunistic plants to grow. As these plants die, the space becomes available again and weeds start to set in.

The second year is when we start to see what is really going to happen in a particular area. Seeds from the first year wildflowers are present in the soil and have been nurtured by winter rains. However, this is where the true competition starts to play out- Will the native wildflowers come back? If so, how many? Or will the non-native grasses come back and take over the landscape, choking out everything starting to grow? The second year is critical since it sets the stage for what will happen in years to come.

Lots of times it is in this second year that invasive, non-native plants start to take over. They tend to swoop in and fill the gap when the opportunity presents itself. So what can we do? First, understanding the process of fire followers and plant succession is key. Once we see and understand how this works, we can take action. Staying on trails and cleaning your equipment in the field before moving to a new location can do wonders to help stop the spread of invasive seeds. Cleaning your shoes in the field can help mitigate the spread as well. Learn what invasive plants exist in the forest and how they spread seeds. Educate others. All of these actions can go a long way if we adopt them and share them with others. Adopting even one of these actions can make a tremendous difference in the critical years following a fire. Collectively we *can* help the forest re-establish the natural beauty that existed before such diversity was thrust upon the forest.

* * *

Some seed fire followers are:

Native: phacelia, popcorn flower, golden eardrops, whispering bells, yellow rock rose, dodder, lupine, fire poppy, snapdragon.

Non-native: most mustards, filaree, wild oats and other grasses such as ripgut, cheatgrass, and red brome.

Volunteers in Action



Sherri Craig, Tom Walsh and Dave Baumgartner collecting and recording trash on East Fork San Gabriel River. FRVC partnered with Forest Service to evaluate trash impact on the stream and banks by visitors.

Photo: Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps, 24/Feb/22



Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps volunteers heading out at the end of a long day of collecting and recording trash on East Fork San Gabriel River. The Rapid Trash Assessment will continue throughout the year.

Photo: Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps, 24/Feb/22



Bear Canyon Trail Crew crosscut sawing on big oak in Bear Canyon

Photo: 02/26/22.



Heavy oak took two hours on first cut with under bucking too. Second cut one hour. Thank you, Bear Canyon Trail Crew for keeping Bear Canyon trail is great shape!

Photo: 02/26/22

Wildlife in the Forest



The centipede is an elongated metameric creature with one pair of legs per body segment. All centipedes are venomous and can inflict painful bites, injecting their venom through pincer-like appendages known as forcipules. Despite the name, centipedes can have a varying number of legs, ranging from 30 to 382. Centipedes always have an odd number of pairs of legs. Consequently, no centipede has exactly 100 legs. Like spiders and scorpions, centipedes are predominantly carnivorous.

Their size can range from a few millimeters to about 30 cm (12 in). They normally have a drab coloration combining shades of brown and red. Worldwide, an estimated 8,000 species of centipedes are thought to exist. Centipedes have a wide geographical range, even reaching beyond Arctic Circle. They are found in an array of terrestrial habitats from tropical rainforests to deserts. They are found in soil and leaf litter, under stones and dead wood, and inside logs.

Centipedes have a rounded or flattened head, bearing a pair of antennae at the forward margin. They have a pair of elongated mandibles and two pairs of maxillae. Many species of centipedes lack eyes, but some possess a variable number of ocelli, which are sometimes clustered together to form true compound eyes. The eyes are only capable of discerning light and dark, and have no true vision. Centipedes are mostly nocturnal.

Source: Wikipedia. Photo taken at Dawn Mine Trail.



The eleodes is a genus of darkling beetles, family Tenebrionidae. They are commonly known as pinacate beetle or desert stink beetle.

The pinacate beetle is noted for its defensive tactic of standing on its head and squirting a noxious spray. This has earned it the additional names of clown bug and stink bug, names also applied to other unrelated insects.

Bodies are ovate to oblong, ranging in size between 0/4 and 1/4 inches long, and they are jet black or occasionally dark brown. The head is prominent and slightly narrowed behind the eyes. A few varieties have hair-like structures and what looks like a tail, but is actually elongated wings. Like all insects, they have six legs. Thickened, leathery wing-covers protect the delicate flight wings, which they do not use.

Pinacate beetle can be active year round. From spring to autumn they are crepuscular and nocturnal, but come fall, they revert to a more diurnal lifestyle. Pinacate beetles are one of the great walkers of the desert beetle world and are often encountered, seemingly wandering at random. Studies have shown that they are probably in search of food, which they find by odor. Primarily, they consume detritus of grasses and forbs. In the laboratory, they eat apples, lettuce and dog food.

Source: Wikipedia & Desert USA – Stinkbugs. Photo taken at Dawn Mine Trail

Work For the Forest Service!



The U. S. Forest Service needs you! The forest needs you. Our wilderness, watersheds, our recreation spaces, they all need dedicated men and women to serve by joining possibly the greatest, most rewarding job in the world.

There has never been a better time to work for the U.S. Forest Service! Lots of new jobs are being hired now and in upcoming months.

Learn more: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/working-with-us/jobs/careers>

Be sure to click on the "Hiring and Recruitment Events" tab on the left of the page.

The Ecology Corner

by Lisa Gruber



Photo credit: Post bloom chaparral, Angeles National Forest June 2020, © Lisa Gruber

Butterflies

When it comes to identifying butterflies and moths, there's some really good tools out there.

Generally, there's two routes to go. The first is to download an app and take a picture.

The obvious advantage to using an app is that you can take it with you out in the field. However, depending on the app, the use of it might be limited due to no cell phone reception. You would also need to take a picture to use the app's features.... So, if that elusive butterfly won't stop flying around long enough for you to take a picture, having a butterfly identification app really won't do much good.

Another way to identify butterflies that doesn't require the downloading of an app or a picture can be found on the Calscape.org website. While the Calscape website is mostly known as a database of California native plants*

there is also a butterfly database on the website as well. The two databases are linked and you can search for plants or butterflies by name, location, or map. While the database doesn't give you a ton of information on each species like Wikipedia does, it is useful in identifying all of the various butterflies and moths associated with a particular plant or area.

There are a couple ways you can use the website. You can search an area to see what butterflies and moths are in a specific area.

For example: If you want to know what butterflies are in the Chilao area you can search by

1. Go to Calscape.org
2. Go to the menu and select 'Butterflies'
3. Enter 'Chilao' into the search bar at the top of the page (and hit enter)
4. The result will be a list of butterflies and moths that are native to the Chilao area.

There will be a small picture of each with its common and scientific name.

5. You can click on the picture to see more pictures and a map of the estimated range (yellow squares) as well as where the butterfly has been seen (click on 'observations' at the top of the map). It will also give you a list of host plants for that butterfly in the Chilao area.

You can also search by plant name (or type) to see what butterflies and moths are in a specific area. For this search you would look up a specific plant in the area and see what butterflies use it as a host plant. (Search by location, click on plant you want, click list of butterflies)

For either search, the research is done online and will need an internet connection.

*Calscape.org is a database of California native plants from the California Native Plant Society. The goal is to promote CA native plants in landscape design. In order to do so, they have all kinds of information on each plant, ranging from the amount of sun/water, type of soil, how deep to plant, spacing, types of pollinators, etc. Most CA native plants are listed in the database even if no landscaping information is available at the time of the plant search.

Ask A USFS Employee

This month, we continue our series of interviews with ANF employees.

In March of 2022 We had a chance to sit down with Forest Service Volunteer Liaison David Peebles (virtually of course!) and asked some questions about what he does in the Angeles National Forest and what it's like working with and assisting volunteers.



Interview with David Peebles March 2022

Beth: What is your job title?

David: Heritage and Tribal Relations Program Manager

Beth: What are your current duties? What is a typical workday like?

David: Duties for both these program areas involve managing the Forest activities and operations for compliance with numerous federal laws, policies, and statutes. My program area also is responsible for implementing our heritage preservation program, which works on public outreach, preservation, and rehabilitation and restoration activities for historic and tribal resources on Forest.

Beth: How long do you anticipate you will be in this position?

David: I've been an archaeologist for just over 20 years, with 18 of those working in the Angeles NF. I've been in my current position for 5 years now and see myself staying in this position until I retire in the next 5 to 10 years.

Beth: What group/s do you liaison for?

David: Mt. Lowe/Echo Mtn Group, support both the Old Ridge Route Preservation Org, and four individual archaeology volunteers who specifical support the Heritage Program. We also partner with "Passport in Time", a nonprofit program that helps connect the public and volunteers with our Heritage Program. Normally, we have 8 to 10 volunteers from across the country that come to the Angeles and help with our heritage program. We camp out on the Forest for a week, either doing archaeological surveys, excavations, historic photo archiving, etc.

Beth: How old were you when you knew you wanted to be a Forest Service Worker?

David: Probably around 4 or 5...I've wanted to work outdoors since as long as I can remember...My family took us out into the mountains for vacations regularly and consistently as I grew up, which instilled my appreciation for nature and its resources/wildlife.

Beth: Have you worked for any other government agencies?

David: No. Just Forest Service.

Beth: What is the most exciting part of your job?

David: Most exciting would be getting to explore our Forest, discovering new prehistoric or historic sites and materials that haven't been seen since they were last used or occupied, which could be thousands of years ago. Protecting and preserving these types of resources, those that are non-renewable, and once destroyed are gone forever, for future generations is extremely gratifying...ensuring we manage and protect these resources so they can continue to be around for a thousand more years. (Also, I did a recent interview with the Science Channel Engineering Catastrophes on the St. Francis Dam Disaster, that was also pretty exciting!).

Beth: Is there a part of your job that is particularly frustrating?

David: We'll sure, like any job, there's parts that can be frustrating, but working for the Forest in my capacity, there's a lot more positive and enjoyable aspects (outdoor in the Forest vs. Office), then those parts of my job that can be frustrating.

Beth: What is your favorite part of the forest?

David: Early in my career I spent some time working along Forest Road 3n17, around Messenger Campground. If you walk north of the Campground's access road turnoff, and breakthrough the trees, there is an amazing view as you look North out across the desert. I ate lunch at this spot several times... Not sure why, but this spot has always stayed with me...

Beth: What are you looking forward to in your job as all work and social distancing restrictions are lifted?

David: Working in the field with our volunteers. We've done regular Passport in Time projects over the years (20+ yrs.) working directly on archaeological excavations and surveys with volunteers from across the country. This is probably the most enjoyable and gratifying aspect of my job, and one that's been put on hold over the last two years due to the pandemic.

Beth: Tell us something about yourself that we wouldn't guess.

David: Well, I grew up in El Segundo, so I spent most of my time growing up at the beach, and only saw the San Gabriel Mountains from that perspective, I did junior lifeguards, and planned on working in some way in the ocean, whether with the County as a lifeguard, studying oceanography or marine biology. Not sure when I

flipped this, but at some point, in my twenties, I decided I wanted to spend the next part of my life working in the mountains and looking at the ocean from that perspective.

Beth: Do you have a “trail name” or nickname?

David: No.

Beth: Where is the most exciting/interesting natural place you have visited?

David: This is difficult...Natural place would probably be Yosemite, up at Clouds Rest (higher than half dome), both exciting and interesting. (Lake Louise/Banff and Jasper NP in Canada are right up there too).

Beth: If you had one or two wishes, what would they be?

David: My two wishes would be to travel...and then to travel more.... I have a degree in History (focus: European) and in Anthropology, and in Graduate School I specialized in the Paleolithic Period, so what I'd wish to do is to be able to travel and experience these sites, ruins/remains, and cultures directly, rather than only being familiar with them in an indirect way.

Beth: Well, thank you for your time, David. This was very insightful and always interesting learning more about those who work side by side with us.

David: You're very welcome. Hope everyone enjoys!

Watch out for that Dog-Gone Plant! Poodle-Dog Bush is BACK!



Flowering Poodle-Dog Bush

Poodle-Dog Bush grows in thick patches in several areas of the Angeles National Forest

A quick search on the calscape map reveals that this southern California endemic has been observed all the way from Mexico to Mammoth, and even Death Valley! It seems that this plant pops up almost anywhere there has been a fire in southern California above 2,500 ft. (Remember that article about seeds spreading??)



Some people say it looks like cannabis (very generally speaking) and there's a rumor that some people hiking the PCT tried smoking it. Needless to say that did not end well - don't do that.

It grows from dormant seeds in the seed bank that are activated after a fire. It is an opportunistic fire follower - one of the first shrubs to grow back after a fire and grows back with a vengeance until the understory out competes it, generally about the 10 year mark, plus or minus.

In some areas if the understory recovers quickly, the plant will be pushed out in less than 10 years. Likewise, the opposite is true as well. If the understory plants take longer to recover, Poodle-Dog Bush can be present for more than 10 years.

Poodle-Dog Bush is covered in fine, sticky hairs which can easily be transferred to passing hikers or animals. It can grow almost 10 ft high (3 meters) and has purple, bell-shaped flowers growing on stalks coming from the base of the plant. The plant has several stems connecting to a common taproot. It emits an unpleasant, slightly pungent odor which can be smelled from a distance. It grows in disturbed areas above 2,500 ft and is a frequent fire follower. The official name for Poodle-Dog Bush is *Eriodictyon parryi*.



Fresh growth after the flowers have died. Near Wrightwood - 2019

Poodle-Dog Bush will look different at different times of the year. Even though the leaves and flowers grow during the warm months, it can be just as treacherous in its dormant stage during the winter (similar to poison oak in the winter).



Fresh Poodle-Dog Plant emerging - Charlton Flats June 2021



*New growth on top of old, dead leaves. Plants die back in winter but hairs on the plant may still cause symptoms.
Vetter Mountain - 2016*



Mixed growth stage. Vetter Mountain - 2015

Will I encounter Poodle Dog Bush in the Angeles?

Considering that the Bobcat fire covered roughly 120,000 acres and if you recreate or work in the burn scar area, the answer is more than likely yes.

So what can you do?

- Know how to recognize it
- Avoid it if possible
- Wear long sleeves/ long pants /gloves in case you can't avoid it

If you touch it - We can't give medical advice, but several remedies are suggested on the internet. Caution is advised - benzocaine may worsen the reaction and antihistamines are not effective.

For clothes that have come in contact:

The irritant is passed by tiny hairs on the plant. You will need to treat your clothes accordingly afterwards. Best practices are to remove the clothing immediately and place the contaminated clothes in a plastic bag until you get home and can wash or dispose of them. Remember to handle the clothes with gloves when removing from the bag since they could have the hairs that are easily transferred to other objects. Search online for cleaning instructions.

If you see Poodle-Dog Bush please tell others so they know to avoid it. You can also report it on various nature apps like iNaturalist (<http://www.inaturalist.org>) so others in the area can know that it is there. A little caution can go a long way.

Poodle-dog related links:

Cal Scape distribution map [https://calscape.org/loc-california/Eriodictyon%20parryi\(\)](https://calscape.org/loc-california/Eriodictyon%20parryi())

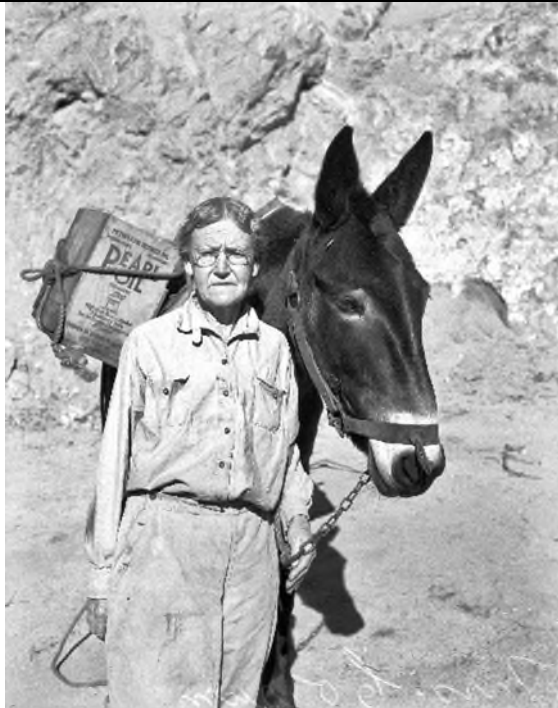
iNaturalist - Poodle-Dog Bush observations -

https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?nelat=34.85539980070258&nelng=-116.23647098058173&place_id=any&subview=map&swlat=33.60650172252847&swlng=-119.92513064855048&taxon_id=82785

Wikipedia - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eriodictyon_parryi

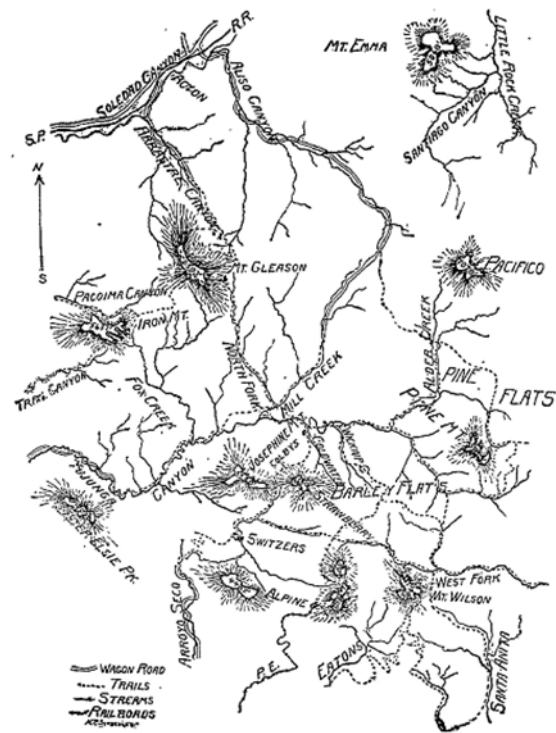
All pictures are ©Lisa Gruber, used with permission.

Angeles National Forest History



Ms. W. B. Corum and her pack mule at the bottom end of the original Sturtevant Trail, Sierra Madre, CA, 12/23/1935, LAT photo; my assumption is that she was packing supplies for a cabin in Big Santa Anita Canyon.

A nice little Angeles Forest trail map published in the LA Times on 7/30/1911. The lost trails recognized on the map are the original Eaton Canyon trail, the original Red Box to Alpine Tavern Trail, the original Switzer to Red Box trail and the Valley Forge to Barley Flats trail. In addition, Vetter Mt. is shown as Pine Mt. and Mt. Lukens is identified by its original name, Sister Elsie Pk



The San Gabriel Mountains Trailbuilders Provided a Life Changing Experience to LA Sierra Club ICO High School Students

As a Los Angeles Sierra Club ICO (Inspiring Connections Outdoors) volunteer hiking leader I would like to share the wonderful experience a group of 20 high school students had being introduced to trail maintenance by the San Gabriel Mountains Trailbuilders while on a pre-pandemic two-night ICO camp out at Crystal Lake above Azusa CA.

On a Friday evening in early May 2019 the ICO bus dropped off a group of about 20 Maywood Academy High School students, faculty and parents at Crystal Lake Campground for a two-night campout. For most of the students, it was their first-time camping. After dinner the ICO leader lead the students on a hike in the dark, an exciting challenge which lead to many screams and much laughter.

On Saturday morning after breakfast, each student packed a lunch and headed to the trailhead to meet the San Gabriel Mountains Trailbuilders. When we arrived, we were greeted by 5 or 6 friendly but focused men who introduced themselves and explained what our group's project would be for the morning. I and the students were impressed by the knowledge, years of experience, dedication and passion expressed by each man's service and commitment to preserving the San Gabriel Mountains.

The SGMTB's team members demonstrated the various tools, and how to use them during the morning trail maintenance project. Students then choose a tool and as a result the type of trail maintenance work they would be doing on the trail. Each SGMTB's team members oversaw training and work being performed with each of the different "tool groups" of students. The students worked in their "tool groups" for a couple hours with some students switching groups and tools with their friends along the way. I worked and learned how to build trail bars to prevent water erosion on the trail. The students enjoyed the challenge of the work, demonstrating determination to see their trail maintenance project completed.

When we gathered back together at the trucks at the end of our work session, you could see the pride and comradery that had developed amongst each "tool group". The SGMTB's team had a huge ice chest filled with water for the students which the students grabbed after they loaded their "tool" onto the back of the truck. The scene was filled with talking, satisfaction and pride of a job well done. I could see such an increase in confidence in both the boys and the girls faces!

It was an experience these students will never forget! It's my guess that we'll never know the far-reaching impact this confidence building experience will have in the future of these young people. What a privilege the SGMTB's team has to offer such a life changing experience to low-income, minority, and inner-city students.

Written by Laurie Woerfel – then teacher at Maywood Academy High School in LAUSD, now retired and a ICO Volunteer Hiking Leader.

The San Gabriel Mountains Trailbuilders enables the Los Angeles Inspiring Connections Outdoors ICO, to fulfill its mission of serving as a bridge that enables underserved youth, disabled individuals, and others to visit and develop an appreciation for our natural environment. Working with schools, community groups, and other agencies to create safe and enjoyable outdoor experiences for persons who might not otherwise have them. ICO outings promote individual growth through group activities and environmental and outdoor skills education.

Situational Awareness

Non-Compliance and Guest Safety

By Fredric Rice

About 6 years ago there was a call over the radio concerning a non-compliant guest at a campground which at the time had just four of the available camp sites occupied. The guest had started a potentially dangerous fire on top of a barbeque box provided by the Forest Service yet had done so in an unsafe fashion, piling trash and tree branches such that wind and gravity had dispersed burning material on to the ground beneath.

A male guest was allegedly erratic, belligerent and had been reported to be **possibly** intoxicated previously in the day. To make the safety issue more complicated, a woman and two children were with the man and there was what appeared to be an air gun among the possessions observed. To make matters even more difficult, the fire became a problem after sunset after law enforcement had vacated the region within which the campground is located, making law enforcement response a minimum of thirty minutes away.

I was able to get to the campground within about two minutes and spoke with the campground host who had called for assistance, and together we approached the non-compliant guest and attempted to assess whether we would be able to extinguish the fire with his assistance or, lacking such assistance, whether it would be safe to extinguish the fire ourselves.

Not being able to get a good feeling about our safety, we retreated and the host continued to discuss the need for assistance with L. A. County Sheriff Dispatch and confirmed again the need for law enforcement assistance.

There was a two-folded difficulty being present: The fire could not be left to burn as it was in the presence of two children and possibly intoxicated adults, yet we did not want the intoxicated guest to pack up his camp and get in to his vehicle and flee down the mountain to avoid law enforcement if the guest suspected that we had called for assistance.

Public safety is **always** the priority, the safety of volunteers arguably comes next, and the safety of the forest itself comes last, so the better choice was to retreat, observe, and report and await LEO response, taking no risks and having no further interaction with the guest.

While we were observing the dynamic changes in the condition of the fire, wind, and the recreating guests, we observed the individuals packing up their vehicle and preparing to leave.

Law enforcement was on the highway heading to the campground by the time that the guests left the campgrounds and was able to perform a traffic stop during which time the fire was quenched with water and the messes left behind were checked for further potentially hazardous materials.

The incident concluded safely yet the results were not entirely what a volunteer might have wished for. The vehicle was apprehended about 7 miles South of the campgrounds which translated to about 15 minutes of driving while apparently intoxicated – with two children on board.

It might have been better to lie to the non-compliant guests and inform them that police would **not** be called, and to conduct communications with law enforcement over the radio **out of sight** of the non-compliant guest, inviting the guest to feel comfortable staying and not leaving the area in a vehicle while possibly intoxicated.

The lesson here is that when there are two unsavory choices of action or inaction to take, recognizing the path of least harm is not always immediately apparent, yet after adopting a plan of action or inaction – discussed with others, if possible – it can be expected that the hoped-for behavior of guests will not transpire, and the **least**-favorable conclusion will be decided to be taken by the guest.

Another lesson is that volunteers are under no moral imperative to always tell non-compliant or otherwise potentially dangerous guests the truth and in fact volunteers are under no obligation to tell non-compliant individuals **anything**. Lacking good options, retreating, observing, and reporting without further interaction with a non-compliant individual may be the safest course of action or inaction.

We do not want to have possibly intoxicated drivers in the forest at night with children in their vehicles, yet we also do not want a hazardous guest's fire to become a wildfire while we stand there and watch because we have judged that extinguishing an illegal or dangerous fire would itself be hazardous to us.

In this case it might have been better planning had we informed the guest that we were not going to call for law enforcement, had the campground host retreat out of sight to work with law enforcement on their approach, and I might have left the campground with my vehicle, parked it out of sight, and returned quietly to observe until law enforcement arrived.

In this case, if a larger fire had started while we waited for law enforcement to arrive, we could have alerted the other campers to be ready to evacuate and called for a fire response, despite knowing that the non-compliant guest would likely flee after seeing that he had accidentally sparking a growing wildfire.

The final lesson is that volunteers should run possible scenarios of interactions with non-compliant guests through their minds to evaluate how they might react to things they might encounter and expect to get involved with while volunteering in the forest. Having some idea of how one might handle a situation before it takes place is a good step toward knowing how to resolve the situation safely.

Invasive Species in the San Gabriel Mountains

Ailanthus altissima /eɪˈlæŋθəs ælˈtɪsɪmə/, commonly known as **Tree Of Heaven**, ailanthus, varnish tree, or in Chinese as chouchun (Chinese: 臭椿; pinyin: chòuchūn), is a deciduous tree in the family Simaroubaceae. It is native to northeast and central China, and Taiwan. Unlike other members of the genus *Ailanthus*, it is found in temperate climates rather than the tropics.

The tree grows rapidly, and is capable of reaching heights of 15 m (50 ft) in 25 years. While the species rarely lives more than 50 years, some specimens exceed 100 years of age. Its suckering ability allows this tree to clone itself indefinitely. It is considered a noxious weed and vigorous invasive species, and one of the worst invasive plant species in Europe and North America. – **Text and photograph from Wikipedia**

The invasive species gets eradicated from the Angeles National Forest when it is encountered. The species is also found within the Dalton Wilderness Area of the City of Glendora which abuts the Angeles National Forest. Eradication efforts involve cutting down, cutting up, and removing the plant's remains to a suitable landfill.



Tree Of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)

America's great Outdoors at the LA County Fair 2022



*We need Volunteers for
interaction with our
County Fair Guests
sharing information & activities
about our
Public Lands!!*



WE NEED YOU!!

- Cross Cut Sawing
- Panning for gold
- Camp Smokey
- Leave No Trace
- Wild Horse & Burro
- Ranger House
- Reptile House
- And more!!

To sign up click on this link: [Sign Up Genius for LA County Volunteers!!](#)

or scan the QR code below

2022 Fair Dates:

Thursday – Sunday: May 5th – 8th

Thursday – Sunday: May 12th – 15th

Thursday – Sunday: May 19th – 22nd

Thursday – Monday: May 26th – 30th



Volunteer standard shifts:

10:30 – 2:30

2:00 – 6:00

5:30 – 9:00

**** shifts can be adjusted as needed, add
comments in Sign Up Genius**

Questions?? Contact Jane Baumgartner jl9743@att.com / 626-241-6497

America's Great Outdoors is gearing up for opening at the Fairplex, May 5 to May 30, 2022. Volunteers begin to clean and setup exhibits. Volunteers are needed now and through May 30. Contact Jane Baumgartner at jl9743@att.com for more information.

Volunteers have already begun cleaning up the fairground's location for America's Great Outdoors! Here's some photographs of some of the effort to make the site ready for visitors throughout May.



Jim weeding out the landscape



Volunteer Painters



Native American area



Johnstone Peak Fire Lookout Tower



Gordon & Dave

ANF Forest Service Volunteer Meetings *

| Date | Time |
|--|--------|
| November 17, 2021 Volunteer Recognition | 5:00pm |
| January 19, 2022 | 5:00pm |
| March 16, 2022 | 5:00pm |
| May 18, 2022 | 5:00pm |
| July 20, 2022 | 5:00pm |
| September 21, 2022 | 5:00pm |
| November 16, 2022 | 5:00pm |
| *The volunteer meeting is <u>tentatively</u> planned for every other month on the 3 rd Wednesday at 5:00pm if it remains on the Microsoft Teams platform. | |

Interesting Articles and Links on the Internet!

R-6 Fuel Treatment Effectiveness Monitoring Dashboard. Region 6 (Pacific Northwest) is experimenting with making information from FTEM (fuel treatment effectiveness monitoring) more accessible to the public

<https://usfs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/66d4c2df8be04e55b70661643a500c99>

NFFE Offers Testimony on Wildland Firefighter Reforms and New Legislation, Protecting FAA Tech Center, NFFE-IAM Members Speak with VP Harris, and more

<https://mailchi.mp/nffe/oct-29?e=7482e8baaf>

New CLT Mill in Durango for Trees From Fuel Mitigation Projects

<https://forestpolicy.com/2021/10/30/new-clt-mill-in-durango-for-trees-from-fuel-mitigation-projects/>

Angeles National Forest to End Free Use Firewood Permits

<https://scvnews.com/angeles-national-forest-to-end-free-use-firewood-permits/>

Map of the Angeles National Forest - San Gabriel Mountains National Monument

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/angeles/maps-pubs/?cid=FSEPRD535505&width=full>

Family Resources - The Nature Institute

<https://www.thenatureinstitute.org/resources/>

Volunteer Website: ** TrailAngeles.org **

Check it out! The volunteer newsletter is included on the website.

About Trail Angeles: Trail Angeles is a project of L.A. Nature for All, Angeles National Forest and the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative, aimed at connecting those who want to volunteer for the forest with existing volunteer groups. Whether you want to hike, mountain bike or help guide visitors, there are volunteer trainings and events for you.

Site history and sponsors: This site was created as a part of the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative's volunteer committee, facilitated in part by the National Forest Foundation with grant funding from REI.

TrailsAngeles.org is looking for all volunteer groups and events to be listed on the website. Please contact Araceli Hernandez at email: araceli@lanatureforall.org.

The Volunteer Newsletter need your stories, images, articles, and events for future publications. Please contact at email: Newsletter@USFSVolunteerTraining.Org.

The Volunteer Newsletter

The E-Mail address for the newsletter is **Newsletter@USFSVolunteerTraining.Org** so if you have corrections to the contact information for the volunteer groups listed here, or if you wish to submit articles for publication, please send what you have to that address – with our thanks!

To let people know of volunteer work events, please submit what you have at least 2 months ahead of the scheduled event so that it can be added to the newsletter.

The various volunteer group's work schedules will be added to the newsletter as they report their work days to us.

This publication can be found on TRAILANGELES.ORG.

ADVENTURE RIDERS MOTO TRAIL CREW

Joel Paez basecamp4adv@gmail.com

We are a group of adventure-minded enthusiasts on who enjoy travelling on dual-sport and/or adventure motorcycles (may be dirty, but not dirt bikes.) We prefer riding through back country roads, forest service roads and other less travelled routes. Our enjoyment involves meeting other people, camping in the outdoors, visiting remote places and supporting local businesses.

Our goals are to promote responsible motorcycle travel, educate other motorcyclists, mentor new riders to become safe and better riders and participate in the public land stewardship.

Ride safe and see you back in camp!

AMERICAN'S GREAT OUTDOORS (AGO)

AGO at the Los Angeles County Fair provides a hands-on outdoor education experience for fair guests of all ages on our Public Lands. AGO is maintained and run by Three Agencies (USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Los Angeles County Fire Department, Forestry Division) along with Volunteers and other partners.

A critical goal of AGO is the promotion of fire prevention education and mitigation practices. Additional goals include providing information related to caring for the habitats in Southern California and the wildlife species that inhabit them, safe recreation, and imparting local historic information, as well as historic agency information.

The exhibits, on 1 ½ acres of land, includes the Reptile House, OHV site, Environmental Magic Show, Urban meets Wild Path, Camp Smokey, Historic Johnston Peak fire lookout, Native American site, Wild Horse & Burro Site, Cross Cut Sawing, Leave No Trace, a General Land Office and more!

The next LA County Fair will be held May, 2022.

Contact: Jane Baumgartner email: j19473@att.com phone: (626) 241-6497

THE ANGELES CREST 100 MILE RUN AND ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST TRAIL RACE TRAILWORK TEAM

Aka The AC 100 & ANF Trail Race Trailwork Team

Contact Gary Hilliard at: GaryHilliard.RD@gmail.com

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION (ANFFLA)

ANFFLA is a non profit volunteer organization dedicated to restoring, maintaining and staffing the remaining lookouts of the Angeles National Forest.

Interested in becoming a Fire Lookout?

It just takes a few classes training and the desire to spend some time in the Angeles National Forest. Training is held once a year, usually in May. For more information about becoming a fire lookout, please go to <https://www.anffla.org/training/>

Website: <http://www.anffla.org>

Email: info@anffla.org

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST MOUNTAIN BIKE PATROL

m.rm McGuire@hotmail.com

Mt. Pacifico , Valley Forge (now closed due to Bobcat fire), West Fork (now closed due to Bobcat fire), and Devore (now closed due to Bobcat fire) are our adopted Campgrounds. The fire roads to get there could change due to major rock slides, debris and fire danger.

Our mission is to provide educational and a responsible image to all trail users. To encourage rider's to obey forest regulations. To help the Forest staff as much as possible. Extra eyes and ears. To educate mtbikers to be responsible trail steward's... and Mike has been a certified B Sawyer since 2001. Robin became a A Sawyer two years ago, so we also do trail work.

ANGELES VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION

<https://angelesvolunteers.org/av/>

Meet us at the Crystal Lake Visitor Center !

The AVA performs a number of volunteer activities in the Angeles National Forest, including staffing Visitor Centers, cleaning up around Visitor Center Parking lots, and assisting the recreating public with whatever questions they might have.

The Angeles Volunteer Association (AVA) is a public service organization dedicated to the preservation and care of the Angeles National Forest and the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. Our volunteers assist the U.S.

Forest Service in its efforts to maintain forest/monument resources and to provide visitors with opportunities to enjoy outdoor activities, such as camping, picnicking, hiking and fishing. AVA was founded in 1993 and is a California 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

Currently, most activities of the Angeles Volunteer Association occur in the San Gabriel River Ranger District. This is the area of the National Forest north of the cities of Azusa, Glendora, San Dimas and Claremont.

ARROYOS AND FOOTHILLS CONSERVANCY

<http://www.arroyosfoothill.org/>

Tim Martinez email: timmartinez@arroyosfoothill.org

For more calendar details go to <http://www.arroyosfoothill.org/event-calendar/>

BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREW

bearcanyontrailcrew@gmail.com

<https://sites.google.com/view/bearcanyontrailcrew/home>

BIG SANTA ANITA CANYON

Currently closed due to Bobcat Fire until April of 2022.

Website: [adamspackstation.com](http://www.adamspackstation.com)

<http://www.bigsantaanitacanyon.com/>

- The Sierra Madre Police Dept. is in charge of locking/unlocking the gate. If you are concerned that the road might be closed you can call them for info: 626 355-1414.
- Adams Pack Station Contact: (626) 447-7356

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Greater Los Angeles Area Council (GLAAC)

<http://glaac-hat.org>

PAT BYLARD – Independent Forest Wide ANF Volunteer

Working on graffiti abatement and mitigation. Pick up litter too.

Contact Pat Bylard at email: patswoodworks@earthlink.net

Coordination maybe be done for Los Angeles Gateway District via Michael Paniaqua or Ray Kidd.

CALIFORNIA TRAIL USERS COALITION (CTUC)

CHILAO VISITOR CENTER – VIS

Volunteering to inform the public: (626) 796-5541

CITY OF GLENDALE

Parks, Recreation & Community Services Dept

(818) 548-3795

<https://www.glendaleca.gov/government/city-departments/community-services-parks/trails-and-open-space>
<https://www.glendaleca.gov/government/department/community-services-parks/volunteer-opportunity-register-here>.

COMMUNITY HIKING CLUB

<http://communityhikingclub.org/>

Dianne Erskine Hellrigel

email: zuliebear@aol.com phone: 661-259-2743

CONCERNED OFF-ROAD BICYCLISTS ASSOCIATION (CORBA)

PHONE: (818) 906-4682

FACE BOOK: <http://www.facebook.com/CORBAMTB>

<http://corbambt.com/>

For schedule go to: <http://corbambt.com/Calendar/index.shtml>

Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association was founded in 1987 to serve the mountain bicycling community of Los Angeles and surrounding areas including southern Ventura County. CORBA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to gaining and maintaining public trail access for mountain cyclists and the public at large. CORBA encourages and promotes the safe and environmentally responsible use of unpaved roads and trails for bicycling and to educate the public about all aspects of off-road cycling and trails.

FISHERIES RESOUC E VOLUNTEER CORPS (FRVC)

Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps (FRVC) is a nonprofit 501© Public Benefit Corporation, operating under the United State Forest Service Volunteers in the National Forests Program, governed by the Volunteers in the National Forest Act of 1972. The FRVC mission is to protect and monitor 16 wild trout streams and rivers in the Angeles and San Bernardino National Forests and educate forest visitors with a smile. Much of our work involves interacting with forest visitors while answering their questions and making them aware of camping, fishing, fire, safety, and wilderness regulations. We also assist the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Forest Service with fisheries and conservation projects, public education, emergencies, sign maintenance, invasive plant and species removal, illegal fire ring, graffiti, and recreational dam removal. Our volunteers also help staff the

Gateway Visitor Center located at the entrance to San Gabriel Canyon in Azusa.

Contact Information:

Tom Walsh

www.frvc.net

<https://www.facebook.com/FRVC-Fisheries-Resource-Volunteer-Corps/353455568388784>

FRIENDS OF ECHO MOUNTAIN

<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofecho>

Contact: Mitch Marich email mitchmmi@earthlink.net (626) 298-0042

Mike Simms

Friends of Echo Mountain is a volunteer group dedicated to helping maintain the Cobb Estate and the Sam Merrill and Echo Mountain Trails. We cooperate with other volunteer groups to cut brush, maintain the tread, pick up trash, and remove graffiti. We also advocate for proper trail etiquette and for improvements to the trail and adjacent Angeles National Forest lands. Contact us if you want to help.

HABITAT WORKS - Kim Clark and Tom Persons

Volunteers Improving Wildlife Habitat on the Angeles and Los Padres National Forests.
National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks and Private Preserves

To sign up on our elist: <https://www.habitatwork.org/get-involved.html>

To contact us: email us at wildlife@habitatwork.org

HARAMOKNGNA AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER

HIGH COUNTRY RIDERS

JPL TRAILBUILDERS

Kathie Reilly 626-379-8429 email: Outrspcklr@att.net

Jack Russell 562-861-3187

LOWELIFESRCC

Contact:

Website: lowelifesrcc.org

Instagram: [@lowelifesrcc](https://www.instagram.com/lowelifesrcc)

Matt Baffert: matt@lowelifesrcc.org

Lowelifes is always willing to take on new volunteers.

Sign up for newsletter: <http://lowelifesrcc.org/volunteer/>

Article on November work: <http://lowelifesrcc.org/2020/11/15/back-to-work/>

Article on start of Lowelifes: <http://lowelifesrcc.org/2021/04/07/lowelifes-respectable-roots/>

Recent Newsletter: <http://lowelifesrcc.org/2021/04/22/lowelifes-techtees/>

MOUNT LOWE RAILWAY HISTORIC COMMITTEE

<http://www.mtlowe.net/>

Brian Marcroft (562) 868-8919 E-mail: EMWORKS@VERIZON.NET

Our mission is to preserve the remnants (structures, trails, artifacts) of the Mount Lowe Railway in the Angeles National Forest. We work with the Angeles National Forest along with a cadre of many other volunteers who help with various projects to protect the Forest.

MOUNT WILSON BICYCLING ASSOCIATION

<http://mwba.org/>

<https://instagram.com/mwbaorg/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MWBAorg/>

Contact: board@mwba.org

MOUNT WILSON INSTITUTE

<http://www.mtwilson.edu/>

P.O. Box 94146

Pasadena, CA 91109

(404) 413-5484

MOUNT WILSON RACE

<http://www.mountwilsontrailrace.com/home.html>

Pete Siberell Chair, Mt. Wilson Trail Race

(626) 574-6373

psiberell@santaanita.com

OHVRC (OFF HIGHWAY VOLUNTEER RESOURCES CORPS)

Instagram: [@ohvrcaf](https://www.instagram.com/ohvrcaf)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ohvrcaf>

Contact: Peter Hultine email: mt.volunteer@earthlink.net

Dale Johnson email: dalepsi@dslextreme.com mobile (626) 353-4223

PACIFIC CREST TRAIL ASSOCIATION

<http://www.pcta.org>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/PCTAFan>

volunteer@pcta.org

Sacramento, CA Phone: (916) 285-1846

Volunteer your passion for the Pacific Crest Trail. Volunteers support trail maintenance, education/awareness, administrative projects and more.

RESTORATION LEGACY CREW

<http://restorationlegacycrew.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/restorationlegacycrew>

Brenda Beck at: e-mail brenda.beck@sbcglobal.net

We are Los Angeles Gateway District volunteer trail builders. We work Tuesdays, Fridays and some Sundays.
Current Project: Dawn Mine Trail

SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS HERITAGE ASSOCIATION (SGMHA)

San Gabriel Mountains Heritage Association (SGMHA) is a 501©3 nonprofit organization dedicated to conservation education. Through a participating agreement with the Angeles National Forest we provide programs for schools, scouts, and the general public at Forest Service educational facilities located in San Gabriel Canyon and at the Mt. Baldy Visitor Center. Our volunteers also staff front counters at the Mt. Baldy Visitor Center and help with the maintenance of public exhibits and educational materials.

Contact Information:

Dave Baumgartner (909) 982-2879

Info@sgmha.org or dabaumgartner@aol.com

SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAIN TRAIL BUILDERS

<http://www.sgmtrailbuilders.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SanGabrielMountainsTrailbuilders>

Twitter: @SGMTrailbuilder

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/SGMTrailbuilders>

And a good time was had by all! If you would like to join us, we perform scheduled work the 1st, 3rd and 5th Saturday of every month, meeting at the Forest Service Gateway Information Center across from Mile Marker 17 on Highway 39 above Azusa at the base of the mountain, leaving promptly at 8:00 a.m.!

Email bwootenwhite@hotmail.com to get on the mailing list since unscheduled volunteer work is often done

during the week as well.

If you would like to volunteer your time, Call: Ben White: 626-303-1078 Or E-Mail:
bwootenwhite@hotmail.com

SIERRA CLUB

SOCAL HIKERS AND TRAILBUILDERS

Contact: Ledy Magno e-mail: wehike2gether@gmail.com

We are basically an advanced hiking group. The group has engaged in events throughout our local mountains, ie, Angeles National Forest, San Jacinto Wilderness and San Geronio Wilderness, including out-of-state events.

We maintain three trails currently, ie, Lower San Merrill, Stone Canyon and Trail Canyon, in order to give back to the community that we love so much.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MOUNTAINS FOUNDATION

TREE PEOPLE

<https://www.treepeople.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/TreePeople1/>

12601 Mulholland Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210 Telephone (818) 753-4600

For calendar details go to: <http://www.treepeople.org/calendar>

TUJUNGA TRAILS POSSE

TTP Crew supports the USFS by providing trails-related volunteer services in the Big-Little Tujunga Canyons area of the Angeles National Forest.

Contact: Kristin Sabo (4ksabo@gmail.com)

VOLUNTEERS OF THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST WRIGHTWOOD, CA

WILLIAM S HART UHSD OF SANTA CLARITA ANF CREW 135

Kevin Sarkissian, Lead Trailboss

<https://www.facebook.com/roptrails/>

W S Hart Union High School District
Angeles National Forest - ANF Crew 135

21380 Centre Pointe Parkway
 Santa Clarita, CA 91350
 661.877.7024
 661.284.3270 X 1438



SOME THINGS WILL NEVER CHANGE.

Paul Comb

Illustrator • Cartoonist • Author • Speaker • Firefighter



[Addressee]
[Street Address]
[City, ST ZIP Code]