

The Trail head

A Publication of GLAAC HAT

Stephen Dodson, Chair

Craig Triance, Editor

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From the Editor

This edition continues the geographic updates from around California and points beyond. HAT team news, STEM Nova events and other information is covered as well.

Suggestions and input are more than welcome. Contact us at trailhead@glaac-hat.org

Hat Team News

Congratulations to Oscar Madrigal for being awarded the HAT Grand Ham Award. This is given to a scouter to brings high adventure to their unit and leads by example. Well done!

The March team meeting was held on Zoom. Team events and trainings were reviewed and discussed. ALBT, our major training, featured 33 students and 17 staff over the first weekend in March at Cabrillo Scout Center. Scout Leader Backpack training had 5 attendees and Wilderness First Aid Training had 60 trainees.

The districts were involved in Camporee planning for the spring camporees. In addition, advanced first aid kids and suicide awareness were topics for discussion. The 2025 University of Scouting in Santa Fe Springs has been penciled in for Saturday, November 4.

The team has obtained several bear cannisters which are now available to rent. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

The April team meeting reviewed trainings. An excellent point made in the safety minute was a reminder to review annual medical forms over the next couple of months as camping season is fast approaching. For an excellent source of first aid supplies, check out MFASCO (www.mfasco.com) especially their individually packaged items.

The district reports included a reminder that being fully trained includes completing the required AB506 course and fingerprinting. Additional information may be found here: <https://californiascouting.org/training/>.

The May meeting was highlighted by Beth Miles being presented with the High Adventure Award, meaning that she has completed all of the core HAT training courses. Congratulations!

Wilderness Woman training was held with 8 attendees. Rock, rope and rescue was cancelled with no signups. The climbing course was moved from HESR to Cushman Watt, with students rappelling off the parking garage. Good times!

National Jamboree is looking for qualified climbing instructors. The Jamboree will be held in July 2026 at Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. Those interested in volunteering may find more information at <https://jamboree.scouting.org/staff/>

The 2025 training calendar is attached.

The HAT Team has been working with the district STEM-NOVA team to combine science and high adventure and additional information on this will be available later this year. In the meantime, upcoming STEM-NOVA events will be held on July 14, July 26, August 9 and September 10. For additional information, please contact Karen Baumgartner at karen@caltech.edu or 213-407-1765.

Forest Reports

Angeles National Forest: Most of the fire closure areas remain closed. There was another reminder that the Eaton Canyon area is closed until at least December 31, 2025.

The Williamson Rock area remains closed for the benefit of the mountain yellow legged frog until December 31, 2026. This primarily impacts the Pacific Crest Trail. This has been a long term closure, but it remains in effect. A map of the closure area is attached.

When hiking near fire areas, please remain alert for poodle dog bush. This smells a bit like marijuana and has pretty purple flowers, but touching it produces a nasty itchy skin rash like poison oak.

The bush looks like this:



The Highway 39 reopening project has completed environmental review and is pending further action by Caltrans.

San Bernardino National Forest:— the vicinity of Upper Big Falls, from the viewing area at the north end of the trail to the top of the falls is closed until May 2026. The closure area map is attached. The Line Fire closure remains in effect until at least September 30, 2026.

Cleveland National Forest – The Airport Fire area remains closed until May 2026. The pump is broken at Penny Pines Trailhead, so there is no water available at the faucet. There is no estimated repair date.

Desert Report

Joshua Tree National Park – If you are planning on rock climbing, be aware there is a new permit required, the commercial use authorization. This is required for both certification classes and day trips. You can read all the depressing details here: <https://www.nps.gov/jotr/planyourvisit/commercial-use-authorization-cua.htm>

Anzo Borrego State Park - The park is open with the exception of the following, which are closed until September 30: Coyote Canyon above the third gate, Vern Whitaker Horse Camp, Tamarisk Grove Campground. The visitor center is open on weekends and holidays only.

Death Valley National Park – The gas station at Panamint Springs resort are now closed from 9:30 pm to 7:00 am daily. 24 hour gas is still available at Furnace Creek and Stovepipe Wells. No campfires at Thorndike, Wildrose or Mahogany Flats campgrounds, although stoves are allowed. There is no water at Wildrose campground.

High Sierra Report

There is now a public comment period until July 31 for proposed new or increased fees for use within the Inyo National Forest. The proposed fees are:

Under the proposal, Glass Creek and Big Springs campgrounds will have a new single site fee of \$25 per night and a new extra-vehicle fee of \$5.

Hartley Springs, Grandview, Upper and Lower Deadman Campgrounds will have a new single site fee of \$20 per site, per night, and a new extra vehicle fee of \$5 as well. Also, the Whitney Portal Trailhead permit fee will increase from \$15 to \$25 per person. Please note, reservation fees for the trailhead are outside of this proposal and will remain \$6, available on Recreation.gov.

Public comments may be directed to:

Inyo National Forest, Attention: Andrew Kennedy, 351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200, Bishop, CA, 93514 or by email at sm.fs.r5_fee_prop@usda.gov.

For those with the desire to climb Mt. Whitney, Mono County has consolidated all you will ever need to know about the process of getting a permit here:

<https://www.monocounty.org/things-to-do/hiking/mount-whitney/>

Best of Luck with the permits!

Points East

Grand Canyon: The seasonal campgrounds are now open. Plateau Point Trail, River Trail and Silver Bridge are closed until October 1, 2025. A high heat warning is also in effect.

Near Phoenix, check out the Cholla Trail near Paradise Valley. Write up here:

<https://www.outdoorproject.com/united-states/arizona/cholla-trail>

For those visiting Las Vegas, check out Mary Jane Falls near Mr. Charleston.

Details here: <https://www.gomtcharleston.com/mary-jane-falls/>

Trail Food

You can do more with ramen than just adding the mystery flavor package and hoping for the best. Try this instead. You will need:

- Dried Ramen Noodles
- Jerky
- Freeze dried vegetables (of course available through Amazon)
- Dried Shitake Mushrooms (available at grocery stores)
- Boullion cubes or powder
- Soy Sauce, Sesame oil and for the more adventurous Siracha
- Fried Onions – like you find on top of the green beans at Thanksgiving.

Instructions: Boil the jerky and mushrooms for 5 minutes. This rehydrates these ingredients and creates the flavor base. Add the noodles and vegetables, and cook an additional 3-5 minutes, depending on your noodles. Stir in Boullion, sesame oil and soy sauce. Finish by topping off with fried onions and siracha.

Enjoy!

Go Take a Hike



Valley Forge is another local classic that is a bucket list item for hiking and backpacking units. With the closure of nearby Mt. Lowe Trail Camp, this has become a popular destination, so if you are planning on camping overnight, get an early start.

Directions: From Interstate 210 in La Canada, exit Angeles Crest Highway and drive north 14 miles to Red Box Saddle (Mt. Wilson Road). Park in either of the parking lots. This is a permit area, so a parking pass is required to park. The trailhead is located in the stone wall at the rear of the left side parking lot. Go down the stone steps and onto the trail.

The trail itself is in good condition and easy to follow. You will cross the access road, pass abandoned Camp Hi-Hill, pass some still in use cabins, and arrive at the campground. The trail is well marked by signs. It is about 3 miles from the

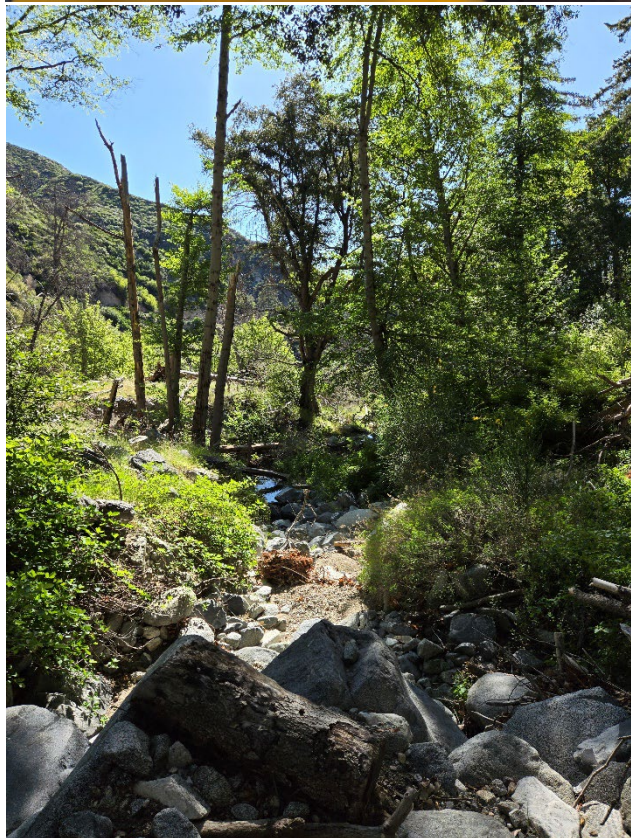
trailhead to the campground. There is a good amount of sun exposure due to the fires, so a hat is recommended.

Camping is on the first come-first served basis and there is a single pit toilet. Water is from a nearby stream when available. The stream tends to dry up as summer continues so be aware of that issue. The water must be treated before use.

On May 10-11, in the first heat wave of the season, a brave group of ALBT trainees completed this hike and supplied the following pictures, as well as the night view at the top of this newsletter. Thank you for the pictures and the companionship!











You Need a Patch for That!



Size: 2" x 2"

This is the patch everyone reading this newsletter can earn. For most scouts and scouters, this is the first high adventure patch earned. It's the training hike award, by far our most popular award.

The requirements to earn this are simple and straightforward:

- Backpacking trip may be taken in any location.
- One night of camping is required.
- The backpack distance must be five or more miles, round trip.
- There is no mileage offset for elevation gain.

Both of this year's featured hikes (Little Jimmy and Valley Forge) will qualify you for this award on one weekend.

What are you waiting for?

For more information on the HAT awards program, see Hike Aid 6, located here:

<https://glaac-hat.org/HikeAids.html>

All patches can be purchased here: <https://glaac-hat.org/store/>

Useful Links

Campfire Permit: <https://permit.preventwildfiresca.org/>

Campfire permits are valid January 1 to December 31 of each calendar year. For repeat offenders, the training video was last updated this year.

Bob808knight cooking playlist:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKJRQgIAG8Sqo0rdbYStcCzyZMpQDAHQj>

Bob hikes along the Missouri River where fire restrictions are not an issue. When we eventually reach that state here in California, see what you can do with a little extra gear. Be sure to watch the aluminum dog bowl Dutch oven baking.

Angeles National Forest Website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/angeles>

San Bernardino National Forest Website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf>

Cleveland National Forest Website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/cleveland>

Glendora Natural History: <http://glendoranaturalhistory.com/>

Dick Swinney of Glendora has spent a lifetime in the mountains, and this page is the go to reference for anything that grows, crawls, walks or exists within the local mountains. What bird did you see? You will find it here.

Dan's Hiking Pages: <https://www.simpsoncity.com/hiking/>

The editor was overjoyed at seeing this site still up and running. Covers any hike worth doing in the local mountains.

SGM – The Waterfalls: <https://tchester.org/sgm/lists/waterfalls.html>

A comprehensive list of waterfalls within the San Gabriels. Getting to some of this is quite difficult and is attempted at your own risk.

Windfinder: https://www.windfinder.com/forecast/los_angeles_california_usa

A website with comprehensive wind information that will help keep you safe from being hit by widow makers or deadfall.

Have any ideas on useful websites, pass them along!

2025 HAT Calendar

Date	Event	Time	Location
1/6	Snow Shoeing and Cross-Country Skiing Seminar	7:30 – 10:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
1/7	HAT Meeting	7:30 – 10:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
1/11	Cross Country Skiing Field Experience	Day Outing	TBA
1/18	Snow and Ice Travel Field Experience	Day Outing	Mount Baldy Area
1/25	Snow Shoeing Field Experience	Day Outing	TBA
02/01 & 02	Winter Camping and Travel Field Experience	Wkend Outing	Mount San Jacinto
2/4	HAT Meeting	7:30 – 10:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
2/8	Canoe Training	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Bonelli regional park San Dimas
02/28-03/02	Adult Leaders Backpack Training Seminar	Wkend Outing	Cabrillo Beach Youth Center
TBA	Adult Leaders Backpack Training Field Experience	Wkend Outing	TBA
3/4	HAT Meeting	7:30 – 10:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
3/8	Scout Leaders Backpack Training Seminar	8:00 – 4:00	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
TBD	Scout Leaders Backpack Training Field Experience	Wkend Outing	TBA
3/21&22	B.S.A. Level II Climbing Instructor Course	8:00 am - 4:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
3/23	B.S.A. Level II Climbing Instructor Course	7:00 am - 4:00 pm	Stoney Point
TBA	CPR and First Aid	TBA	La Verne Church of the Brethren
03/29 & 30	Wilderness and Remote First Aid	8:00 am - 4:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
4/1	HAT Meeting	7:30 – 10:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
4/11-13	B.S.A. Level I Climbing Instructor Course	Wkend Outing	Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation
4/14	Rock Climbing and Rope Use/Rescue Training Seminar	7:00 - 10:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
TBD	Rock Climbing and Rope Use/Rescue Training Field Experience	Wkend Outing	Joshua Tree National Park
5/3	Trail Boss (Advanced)	Day Outing	TBA
5/6	HAT Meeting	7:30 – 10:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
5/24	Wilderness Woman	8:00 am-12:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
6/3	HAT Meeting	7:30 – 10:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
6/7	Trail Boss	Day Outing	TBA
9/2	HAT Meeting	7:30 – 10:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
9/6	Trail Boss (Advanced)	Day Outing	TBA
9/20	Desert Camping and Travel Training Seminar	8:00 am - 4:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
TBD	Desert Camping and Travel Training Field Experience	Wkend Outing	Joshua Tree National Park
10/7	HAT Meeting	7:30 – 10:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
10/17-19/2025	B.S.A. Level I Climbing Instructor Course	Wkend Outing	Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation
TBA	CPR and First Aid	TBA	La Verne Church of the Brethren
10/25 & 26	Wilderness and Remote First Aid	8:00 am - 4:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
10/27	Wilderness Woman (male version)	7:30 – 10:30 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
11/1	Winter Camping and Travel / Snow & Ice Travel Training Seminar	8:00 am - 6:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
11/4	HAT Meeting	7:30 – 10:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
11/8	Navigation & Orienteering Training Seminar	Day Outing	Firestone Scout Reservation
11/14&15	B.S.A. Level II Climbing Instructor Course	8:00 am - 4:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center
11/16	B.S.A. Level II Climbing Instructor Course	7:00 am - 4:00 pm	Stoney Point
12/2	HAT Meeting	7:30 – 10:00 pm	Cushman-Watt Scout Center

For more details on the above Listed Trainings, go to our website - glac-hat.org – and click on the Training or flyers tab.

Some of the above trainings have field outings, see individual flyers for details.

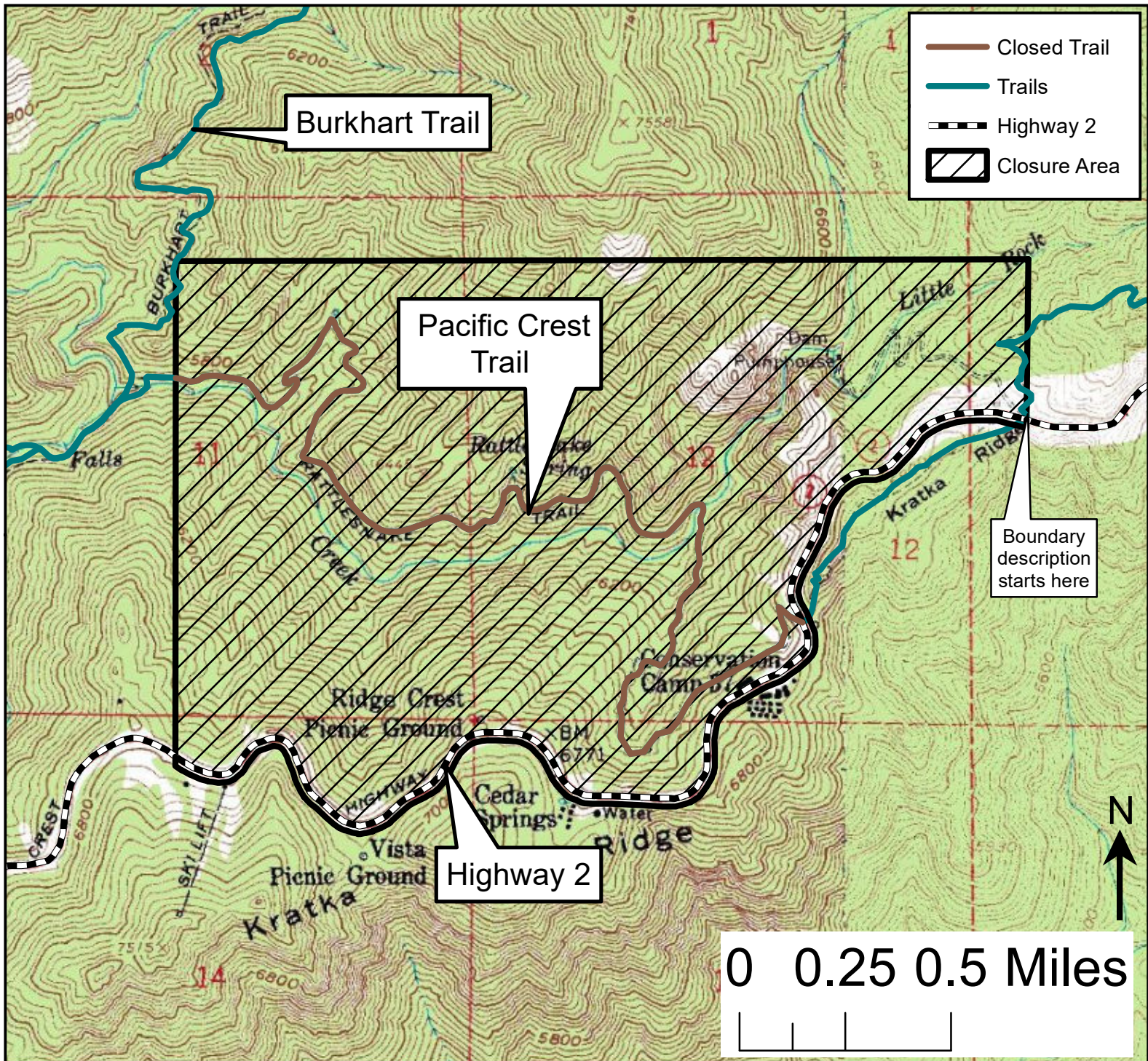
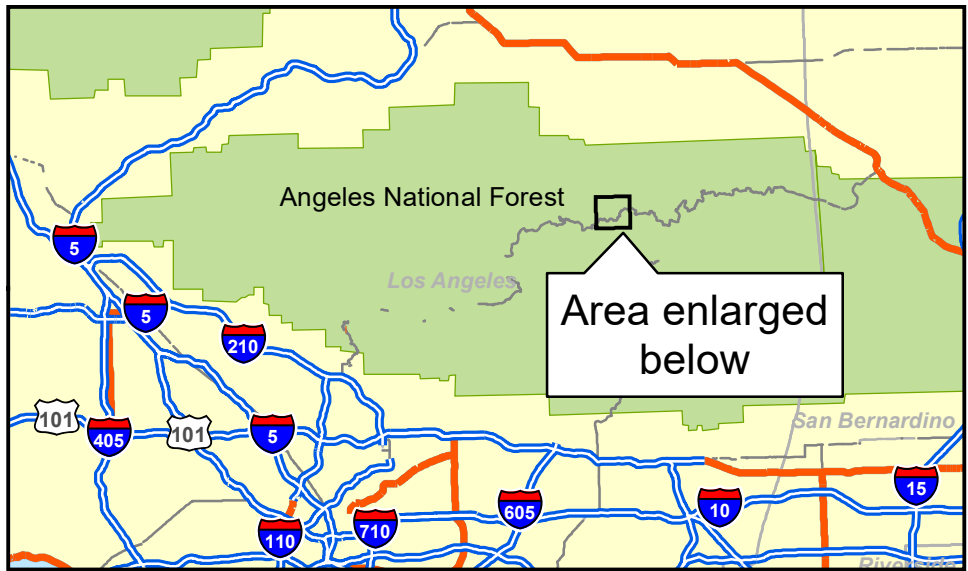
2026 HIGH ADVENTURE TEAM CALENDAR

01/05	Snow Shoeing and Cross-Country Skiing Seminar	1 st Monday
01/06	HAT Meeting	1 st Tuesday
01/10	Cross Country Ski Field Experience	2 nd Saturday
01/17	Snow and Ice Travel Field Experience	3 rd Saturday
01/24	Snowshoe Field Experience	4 th Saturday
02/03	HAT Meeting	1 st Tuesday
02/07 & 08	Winter Camping and Travel Field Experience	1 st Weekend
02/14	Canoe Training	2 nd Saturday
02/27-03/01	Adult Leaders Backpack Training Seminar	4 th Weekend
TBA	Adult Leaders Backpack Training Field Experience	TBA
03/03	HAT Meeting	1 st Tuesday
03/07	Scout Leaders Backpack Training Seminar	1 st Saturday
TBD	Scout Leaders Backpack Training Field Experience	TBD
03/20-22	B.S.A. Level II Climbing Instructor Course	TBD
03/21-22	Wilderness and Remote First Aid	3 rd Saturday and Sunday
04/07	HAT Meeting	1 st Tuesday
04/11	CA Trails Day/Trail Boss	2 nd Weekend
04/13	Rock Climbing and Rope Use/Rescue Training Seminar	2 nd Monday
04/17-19	B.S.A. Level I Climbing Instructor Course	TBD
05/02	Trail Boss (Advanced)	1 st Saturday
05/05	HAT Meeting	1 st Tuesday
05/16	Wilderness Woman Seminar	3 rd Saturday
TBD	Rock Climbing and Rope Use/Rescue Field Experience	TBD
06/02	HAT Meeting	1 st Tuesday
06/06	National Trails Day/Trail Boss	1 st Saturday
09/01	HAT Meeting	1 st Tuesday
09/05	Trail Boss (Advanced)	1 st Saturday
09/19	Desert Camping and Travel Training Seminar	3rd Saturday
TBD	Desert Camping and Travel Field Experience	TBD
10/06	HAT Meeting	1 st Tuesday
10/16-18	B.S.A. Level I Climbing Instructor Course	TBD
10/24-25	Wilderness and Remote First Aid	4 th Weekend
10/26	Wilderness Woman (male version)	4 th Monday
11/03	HAT Meeting	1 st Tuesday
11/07	Winter Camping and Travel Training & Snow and Ice Travel Training Seminar	1 st Saturday
11/14	Navigation & Orienteering Training Seminar	2 nd Saturday
11/20-21	B.S.A. Level II Climbing Instructor Course	TBD
12/01	HAT Meeting	1 st Tuesday

Williamson Rock Area and Trail Closure

Angeles National Forest
Forest Order No. 05-01-24-04

Exhibit B



Upper Big Falls Closure

San Bernardino National Forest
Front Country R.D.

T. 1S., R. 1E., Section 17, SBM

Forest Order Number: 05-12-53-25-01

Legend

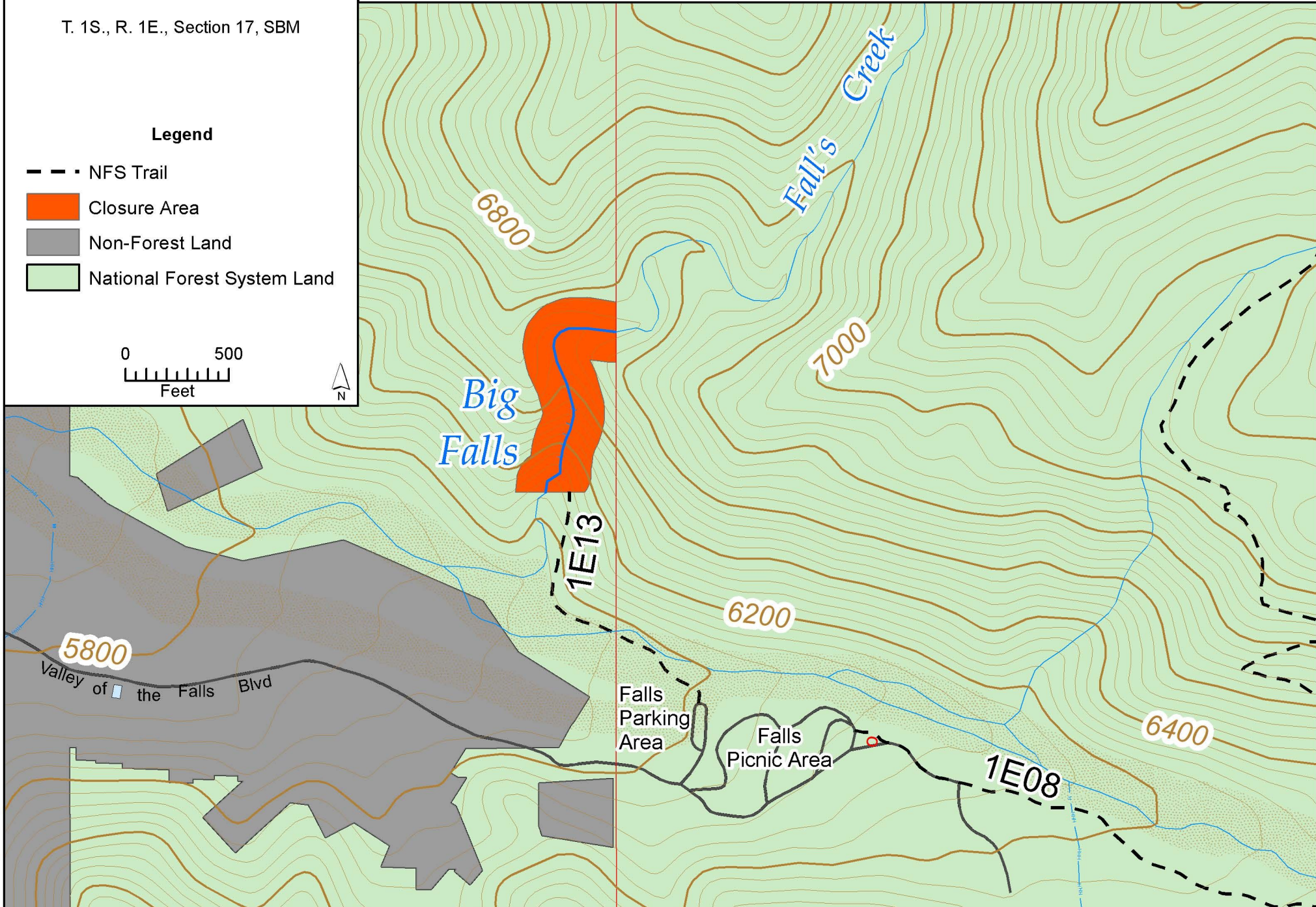
--- NFS Trail

Orange Closure Area

Gray Non-Forest Land

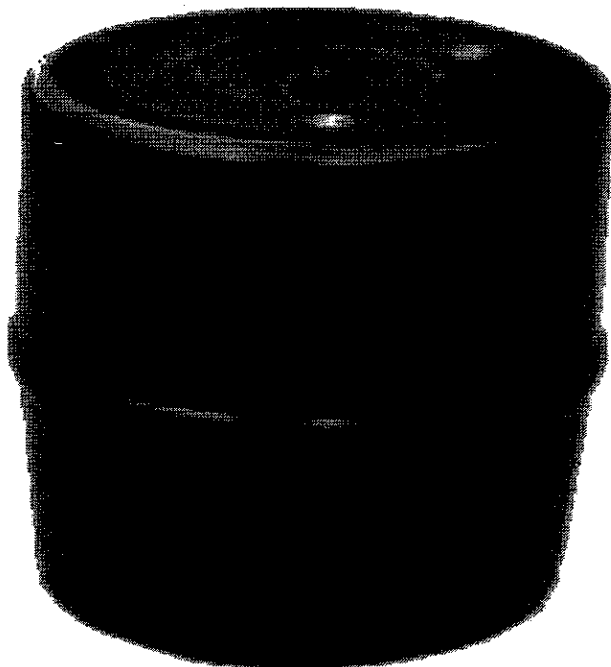
Light Green National Forest System Land

0 500
Feet



GLAAC HAT BEAR CAN RENTALS

The Greater Los Angeles Area Council-High Adventure Team (GLAAC-HAT) is pleased to announce the availability of Bear Cans for rent to qualified Units. Each can hold about four a day food supply. A qualified Unit is one that has a leader trained in Adult Leader Backpack training. As we all know, Bear Cans are required when backpacking in State Parks, National Parks, and National Forest.



The fee per can is \$5.00 per outing. An outing can be for a weekend hike or for a long-term hike (10 days maximum). For a weekend hike pick up the bear can(s) in the Cushman-Watt Scout Store, M-F after 10:00 a.m. Return it seven calendar days later to the Scout Store. For a long-term hike pick up the bear can(s) in the Cushman-Watt Scout Store, M-F after 10:00 a.m. Return it fourteen calendar days later to the Scout Store. The late fee is \$1.00 per bear can per calendar day. The Unit will be billed for the cost of replacing a can if the complete can is not returned or has been misused or abused during the outing.

A can is reserved by submitting the form on page 2 of this document to Stephen Dodson via e-mail at sedodson1@roadrunner.com. For assistance contact Stephen Dodson, (818) 967-1323. Full payment for the rental is due when picking up the bear can(s). (checks payable to "GLAAC"), must be submitted to Lilly Aramas in the Scout Store. The can will not be issued without payment. Remember, the Scout Store closes from 1:00-1:30 for lunch.

Additional information about the Bear Can Rentals may be obtained by contacting Stephen Dodson via e-mail at sedodson1@roadrunner.com

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