

December 15, 2016

Randy Moore, Regional Forester
Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region
Regional Office, R5
1323 Club Drive
Vallejo, CA 94592

Subject: Support for Chilao Campground and Visitor Center Waterline Replacement Project

Dear Mr. Moore,

The San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Collaborative Group would like to extend our support for the proposed Waterline Replacement Project in the Chilao Campground. This water system is extremely old and needs to be replaced to prevent the impacts to the drinking water quality, which is regularly comprised, posing public health and safety concerns.

Chilao Campground is one of the largest recreation areas located in the center of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument and its importance to the management and success of the Monument is essential:

- It is a feature along the Angeles Crest Highway – National Scenic Byway.
- The water system serves the Chilao Visitor Center, a popular destination for the Every Kid in the Park Program, which reaches underserved school children by providing interpretive and educational programs emphasizing such topics as geology, natural resources, and climate change. It is also a highlighted destination for the online educational (App) “Agents of Discovery,” which allows users to learn by finding hidden educational challenges.
<https://discoveryagents.net/missions>
- It supplies the Chilao Fire Station and barracks, a key facility safeguarding the core of the Monument.
- The water system also serves the Coulter and Manzanita Campground, with combined visitor capacity in the hundreds.

It is our sincere hope that this project proposal will be funded as an essential component of the enhancing visitor services to the public, especially given the public health and safety concerns. We truly appreciate the opportunity to add our support for the important and necessary project.

Sincerely,



Joseph Lyons, Steering Committee Chair, on behalf of the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative

Enclosure: SGMCC Membership List