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Park Officials Ask for Public's Help Protecting Newly Opened Areas

CALABASAS, Calif. -- As California State Parks prepares to re-open most of Point Mugu State Park Friday, park officials are encouraging the public to take a few simple steps to help nature recover from the Springs Fire, which burned more than 12,000 acres within the park.

"We're putting our trust in the public to enjoy the park responsibly and to stay on authorized marked and mapped trails and respect the closures," said Craig Sap, district superintendent for the Angeles District of California State Parks. "We'll be monitoring the situation closely and if we find that the visitors are creating negative impacts on these very sensitive resources, we'll have to look at closing the backcountry trails and fire roads until it's not quite so fragile."

Friday marks the re-opening of the majority of Point Mugu State Park's trails and facilities, including Sycamore Canyon and La Jolla campgrounds, as well as the Chumash Trail and all the major backcountry routes. Trail repairs will continue for the next several weeks, with updated signage on trail status and condition posted at each trailhead.

In addition to temporary rules that prohibit trail users from wandering off track and trampling plant and animal communities as they try to recover, the park will close daily from sunset to sunrise until further notice.

Point Mugu State Park is located on the western end of the Santa Monica Mountains and features five miles of ocean shoreline and more than 70 miles of trails.

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