

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-34**  
**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE**  
**SUPPORTING WILDERNESS AND WILD RIVER DESIGNATIONS FOR THE SAN**  
**GABRIEL MOUNTAINS**

WHEREAS, the Wilderness Society and the "San Gabriel Mountains Forever" — an alliance of community groups, faith leaders, conservation groups, local businesses, and individuals — seeks to increase wilderness areas and improve recreational opportunities in the San Gabriel Mountains and has approached the City Council for a resolution of support; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the City of La Cañada Flintridge to preserve nearby open space and wild areas outside the boundaries of the City for the protection of our region's mountain vistas, air quality, water quality, places for solitude, and vast recreation opportunities; and

WHEREAS, "wilderness" designations have been shown by many studies to increase property values and attract new residents, thereby generating substantial economic benefits for nearby communities through local employment and tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, "wilderness" and "wild rivers" designation would protect areas that encompass steep mountains, winding canyons, free flowing rivers, and rugged desert landscapes, including the proposed Sheep Mountain, Cucamonga, and San Gabriel wilderness additions and eligible wild and scenic rivers; and

WHEREAS, protected public lands will provide local residents and visitors with opportunities for many recreational activities including hiking, horseback riding, rock climbing, photography, camping, orienteering, wildlife viewing, scientific research, and nature study; and

WHEREAS, the first stated purpose of the wilderness area is "recreation," thereby continuing and even in certain cases expanding the recreational uses for the City of La Cañada Flintridge residents; and

WHEREAS, Section 4(d)(1) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. 1133(d)(1)), specifically allows "such measures as may be necessary in the control of fire," with such measures having been used in the recent Station Fire; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, which previously found value in the increase of wilderness designations in 2004, when it adopted Resolution 04-39, concerning the 2004 Draft Angeles National Forest Land Management Plan Revision and accompanying Draft Environmental Impact Statement, continues to find, as it found at that time, that:

1. Reduction in the Back Country, Motorized land use designation will reduce the potential of exposing the forest to more sources of ignition from motorized vehicles, reduce adverse impacts to air quality within and around the forest, reduce the adverse impacts to threatened or endangered species from trampling by vehicles, enhance solitude within the forest by reducing the potential for noise pollution, and restrain potential increases to traffic on city streets from increased vehicle lure to the forest.
2. Increases in Recommended Wilderness within the Forest Management Plan will support the City Council's initiatives to preserve more land as true wilderness within the southern California region. Such a policy is consistent with the City Council's support of the National Wilderness Heritage Areas Act.

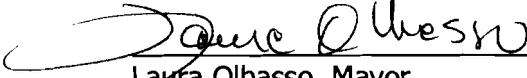
3. Resource Management is a primary issue of concern. The four southern California National Forests include areas that have been described as 'hotspots' of biological diversity. Approximately 3,400 species of plants and animals are known to occur on or adjacent to the four forests. Of these, over 470 species are identified as threatened, endangered, sensitive, or as species of concern. Private land development both within and outside the forest boundaries is steadily reducing the habitat linkages that wildlife species need to connect large blocks of forest lands with other public and private open space and habitat reserves.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council hereby makes the following recommendation to Congress for specific inclusion in any legislation designating Wilderness Areas:

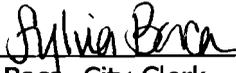
1. That the use of off-road recreational vehicles in the forest be minimized without restricting access to the forest by mechanized fire fighting, fire prevention equipment, or any other disaster preparedness or repair activities, such as for potential mudslides.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE asks Congress to designate new "wilderness" and "wild and scenic rivers" areas in the San Gabriel Mountains and to provide for the expansion of recreational opportunities to promote public health in accordance with this Resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 2nd day of November, 2009.

  
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Laura Olhasso, Mayor

ATTEST:

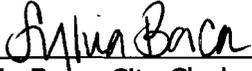
  
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Sylvia Baca, City Clerk

State of California )  
County of Los Angeles ) ss.  
City of La Cañada Flintridge )

I, Sylvia Baca, City Clerk of the City of La Cañada Flintridge, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 09-34 was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of La Cañada Flintridge at a Regular Meeting held on the 2nd day of November 2009, by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Del Guercio, Spence, Voss, Olhasso  
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None  
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: Brown  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: None

Dated: November 3, 2009

  
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Sylvia Baca, City Clerk