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May 4, 2017

The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano
U.S. House of Representatives
1610 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Napolitano:

We are writing to express our support for legislation that protects the designation of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

On April 26, 2017, President Trump signed an Executive Order that directed a review of all national monuments established under the Antiquities Act over the past 21 years. This Executive Order could impact at least 20 and possibly up to 40 national monuments, including the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

Efforts to establish the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument began in 2003, with the enactment of the San Gabriel River Watershed Study Act, which was undertaken to determine whether any portion of the San Gabriel Watershed and Mountains would be eligible to be designated as a unit of the National Park Service.

In October 2014, President Obama declared 346,177 acres of existing Federal land as the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. The designated area covers the Angeles National Forest and a portion of the neighboring San Bernardino National Forest. The designation provided additional resources for the San Gabriel Mountains, and ensured that thousands of miles of streams, hiking trails and other outdoor recreation opportunities would be protected. President Obama's declaration also required public input, which resulted in the creation of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Community Collaborative. This nonprofit partner of the U.S. Forest Service has 40 diverse members who work with the Forest Service to discuss priorities, resources, investments, management objectives and implementation practices related to the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

President Trump's Executive Order could wipe away the over 10 years of work that has been done to establish the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument, including the previous and ongoing community engagement to ensure that stakeholders are all involved.

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We respectfully urge you to support legislation that would protect the designation of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

Thank you for your consideration on this important issue.

Sincerely,



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Chairman of the Board
Supervisor, Second District



HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District



SHEILA KUEHL
Supervisor, Third District



JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, Fourth District



KATHRYN BARGER
Supervisor, Fifth District