

June 30th, 2015

National Park Service
570 W. Avenue 26 #175
Los Angeles, CA 90065

Subject: SSFL Community Advisory Group Comments to Rim of the Valley Corridor Draft Special Resource Study and Environmental Assessment.

The Santa Susana Field Laboratory Community Advisory Group (CAG) is pleased to contribute comments regarding the Rim of the Valley Corridor draft study. The CAG provides a public forum for stakeholders to discuss issues and concerns relating to the cleanup of the former rocket engine and nuclear development facility which is located within the study area. Our volunteer members represent a cross-section of interested and affected neighbors from the surrounding communities.

The CAG membership knows the SSFL as an expanse of wildlife and native beauty, protected from development by the nature of the research historically conducted there. The SSFL site hosts wildlife from birds to bees while mountain lions and other animals rely on the mostly undeveloped areas as a wildlife corridor.

Both the NPS and surrounding community members are aware of the environmental contamination that must be removed from the SSFL. The community is concerned that key areas of the SSFL cleanup have been uniquely prohibited from a routine evaluation which balances the negatives of extensive soil and vegetation removal to the positives of leaving portions of habitat in place. Regardless of the outcome of the controversy, all areas of the former SSFL will exceed the standards set for parkland when the cleanup is complete.

The largest landowner of the former SSFL site (The Boeing Company) has declared their intention to designate the property as open space, so the company is set to contribute a valuable link to the Rim of the Valley effort. Looking beyond, we believe the unique cultural, environmental and historical features within the Santa Susana Field laboratory site rise to the level of a National Monument.

Accordingly, the majority of CAG membership supports *Alternative D: Regional Rim of the Valley Boundary Adjustment and Cooperative Conservation Areas*, which would add acreage to the Santa Monica Mountain Recreational Area with an emphasis on protecting regional wildlife corridors.

Endorsed by the following members of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory Community Advisory Group:

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