



# Media Advisory

## City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

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### LIMITED TRAIL REOPENING PLAN ANNOUNCED FOR GRIFFITH BURN AREAS

**November 2, 2007** With the hydromulching operation complete in Griffith Park, the Department of Recreation and Parks has announced limited trail reopenings beginning Saturday, November 3, 2007

According to Recreation and Parks General Manager, Jon Kirk Mukri, “the challenge is to protect the hydromulch covering and still accommodate some recreational activity. It’s important to keep the hydromulch material undisturbed. Once the hydromulch is disturbed, water can go underneath and undermine it or winds can cause it to flake.”

Hydromulch forms a protective topcoat that shields the topsoil from rain’s erosive forces of falling rain, preventing soil erosion and damage to public and private property during heavy rainstorms that may carry the soil and other debris down into local neighborhoods and down local streets.

“Striking a balance between protecting the park and allowing the people who love it to use it is a high priority with the City,” said Fourth District Councilmember Tom LaBonge, in whose district the park lies, “so we’ve come up with a plan.”

Trails that will be reopening on Saturday November 3:

Mt. Hollywood Dr. from Griffith Park Dr to the Observatory Tunnel  
(bicyclists and hikers only)

Charlie Turner Trail from the Observatory parking lot to the top of Mt. Hollywood Summit only, and then down the West Trail to West Observatory Road, through Captain’s Roost trail.

Foot trail from Observatory Tunnel to Charlie Turner,

Mineral Wells Trail from Mineral Wells to the Old Zoo

East Trail/ Bill Eckert Trail from the Old Zoo to Vista del Valle Dr.

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North Trail from Amir's Garden to Vista del Valle

The trail above the intersection of Griffith Park Dr. /Mt. Hollywood Dr.

Vista del Valle Dr. from the Saddle to the temporary fence

Mineral Wells trail from Mineral Wells picnic area to the Old Zoo (outside burn area)

The Bee Rock and Old Zoo/Mineral Wells Trails within the burn zone remain closed.

All other existing closures remain in place including:

Cadman entrance and Trail

Riverside Trail

Coolidge Trail

Commonwealth entrance

Commonwealth Canyon Rd (from the Tennis Courts to the entrance near the nursery)

Aberdeen Canyon

Bird Sanctuary

Vista del Valle Dr (in the burn zone)

Fern Canyon Trail

Old Zoo Trail (in the burn zone)

Old Zoo

"We want everyone to enjoy the park," Mukri added, "but we ask that they are mindful of the closed signs and fences so we can continue to mitigate the fire damage and prepare for restoration and regrowth."

Hydromulch has been applied to approximately 479 acres of the burn area. The hydromulch consists of wood or other vegetative fibers mixed with a natural organic gum tachifier and water. Applied to the soil, it forms a protective topcoat that shields the topsoil from rain's erosive forces of falling rain, preventing soil erosion and damage to public and private property during heavy rainstorms that may carry the soil and other debris down into local neighborhoods and down local streets.

The hydromulch does not contain any seeds.

The park plant life, reduced to ashes by the May 8 fire, acted as a natural stabilizer preventing erosion of the hillsides and slopes by wind and rain. The

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hydromulch will provide temporary soil stabilization. The hydromulch layer and its effectiveness in controlling erosion and mud and debris flows will be compromised by foot traffic. Areas alongside trails and roads are especially sensitive.

For continuing updated information on Griffith Park, visit the Griffith Recover Blog on the Department's website, [www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org)

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